

Pike Place Public Market Constituency

Executive Committee Regular Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

January 27, 2022, 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Held via phone and Zoom (See Appendix Item #1)

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Pike Place Public Market Constituency Executive Committee meeting for January 27, 2022, was called to order by Vice-Chair Jerry Baroh at around 6:30 pm, delayed to address reported difficulties logging in to Zoom.

Roll Call

Those attending included:

Constituency Board Members Executive Officers: Jerry Baroh (Vice-Chair), Bruce Rutledge (Secretary-Treasurer); PDA Reps: David Ghoddousi, Gordie McIntyre, Nick Setten, Russell Monroe; Officers At Large: Joan Paulson

Constituency Non-board Members Ruth Danner, Bob Messina, Haley Land, Christine Vaughan, Colleen Bowman

Members of the Public Pike Pine Streetscape presenters: Thérèse Casper, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) & Office of the Waterfront & Civic Projects; Steve Pearce, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) & Office of the Waterfront & Civic Projects; David Grant, ZGF Architects; Kenneth Loen, Toole Design; Wayne Flowers, EnviroIssues

Executive Committee Members present: 7. A quorum of 6 was confirmed. This a simple majority per Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised of the 11 committee members.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by acclamation with special note that a presentation and discussion of Pike Pine Streetscape plans which are nearing completion will be incorporated into Public Comments at the beginning of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Ruth noted that the June ExCom draft minutes were approved at the January 18th Constituency General Membership meeting. She apologized saying that was probably bad form, but since most if not all members of the Executive Committee were in attendance, she was just mentioning it now to get it into the record.

Ruth moved the July 29th Executive Committee minutes for approval. She said she emailed several corrections for spelling and punctuation to Bruce and had added attachments to this meeting of documents that were mentioned.

Bruce said he had reviewed Ruth's edits and thought they were all very good correction, with nothing that would spark debate.

Hearing no objections, the July Executive Committee minutes were approved by acclamation as amended.

Public Comments

Jerry asked Ruth to introduce our guests.

Ruth explained that she had attended a public outreach meeting the week before, hosted by EnviroIssues on behalf of the Waterfront Group, to present an update of what used to be called the Pike Pine Renaissance. They presented an overview of the whole waterfront access project that received funding from the Waterfront LID, but with special attention paid to the 100 block of Pike between 1st and 2nd Avenues. Ruth thought the Constituency would be particularly interested to see what's going to happen right outside their front door and the opportunity to provide additional thoughts and ideas before they reach 100% design.

With that, Ruth passed the floor to Wayne Flowers of EnviroIssues who thanked the Constituency for giving them the opportunity to share this latest design update of Pike Pine Streetscapes and Bicycle Improvements, addressed who would need to share their screen, and confirmed how long the Chair had allocated for the presentation. Then he passed the floor to Therese Casper.

Therese Casper is the project manager for the Pike and Pine Streetscape and Bicycle Improvements Project, which been many, many years in the making. Construction is expected to start later this year or early next year. Therese said, "We're excited to share with you where we are and what you'll be seeing in front of you very soon." Then, she asked David to begin the slide presentation. Here are the key points from Therese's presentation:

- As Ruth mentioned, this used to be called the Pike Pine Renaissance Project. It came out of the Downtown Seattle Association, Pike Pine Renaissance work begun many, many years ago, and has been combined it with some of the bicycle improvements that the Seattle Department of Transportation is doing, so the name has been broadened to take that into account.
- The first slide shows the footprint of the full 24-block project to give the bigger picture of the whole corridor, so while the focus is on the 100-block of Pike which likely is of most interest to the Market, it also includes:
 - Extending the one-way couplet of Pike and Pine all the way up to Capitol Hill is one (next slide) project under the Office of the Waterfront and the whole portfolio of projects that are going on downtown to connecting the waterfront to the rest of the city.
 - (next slide) This is the bike network downtown. We're connecting some important gaps in the bike network, which you can see here on Pike and Pine Street.
 - (next slide) The guiding principles for the project:
 - The East - West flow of Pike and Pine has the highest pedestrian volumes in the city. We want to offer generous, safe, and continuous pedestrian experience with places to linger and enjoy city life
 - Fostering stewardship and activation with the adjacent property owners and tenants.

- Acknowledging that things have obviously changed in the last couple of years with the pandemic, but this is a 50-year investment that we're making. So we're hoping in a few years things will look more like they do in this picture.
 - (next slide) What will that actually mean for Pike and Pine? We're looking to have it be more comfortable and predictable for all users, more dynamic, and better connected, with a consistent character and identity from Capitol Hill all the way through the downtown towards the waterfront. And obviously, Pike Place Market being a key piece of that.
 - We have a "Sounding Board" that has been meeting very robustly on the design as we've been going forward through the process, and the Pike Place Market PDA has a seat on that Sounding Board, as does the Newmark Tower, which hosted the briefing that Ruth mentioned. We have a lot of investment and involvement with local businesses, residents, organizations, and interests in the area that have been working with us as we've been going through design.
 - (next slide) During the pandemic, we've been working to get even deeper into the community social service agencies. We did a briefing with The Pike Place Market Senior Center. which was very helpful and illuminating in advancing our design.
- We are almost at final design. And we are projecting to start construction in the Fall / Winter of this year. So, we wanted to make sure that we had a touch point with all the groups in the corridor so that you're not surprised when the construction vehicles pull up, potentially, later this year.

To provide the higher level of where we are with the design, and specifically the 100 block of Pike, Therese turned the presentation over to David Grant, the lead urban designer.

- Elements of Continuity are the design elements in the corridor that are meant to stitch it together and feel cohesive. They are similar from block to block from first step on to Capitol Hill.
 - Sidewalk improvements where needed, including ramp accessibility, is a really important component of this project.
 - Formalized Bicycle lanes to fill in the gaps; bicycle lanes that are separated from traffic by either concrete buffers or planted buffers.
 - We heard a lot from the public about the importance of landscape in the corridor. And to that, and we'll also be doing infill plantings of trees where there's gaps in the corridors canopy.
 - Seating throughout the corridor, and some other site furnishings.
 - We also have engaged public artists, so we'll see their touches throughout. Their work transitions from Puget Sound up to the summit of Capital Hill, "Sound to Summit."
 - Bicycle lanes west of Fifth Avenue will be separated from vehicle lanes by ground plantings. That's where we felt we needed the most lift with landscape.

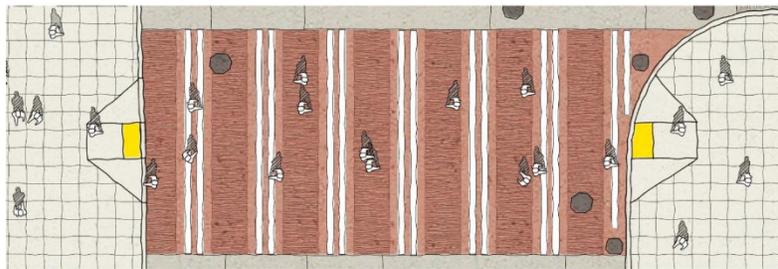
- When you get east of Fifth, the Convention Center has robust landscape. A lot of the trees are in better condition with a fuller canopy. So we plan to spend our resources with regards to planting west of Fifth.
- This nicely planted buffer that creates that separation, emphasize texture, color, seasonality. A lot of these plants are evergreen, so we get a nice effect year-round.
- East of Fifth, where we've got some of the larger trees in place and bigger landscape gestures existing at the convention center, we show concrete buffers separating the cyclist from vehicles. This is one of those places where we apply the artists motif of Sound to Summit, embedded into the concrete buffers. And we also have planters that will provide some degree of separation as we approach intersections.



- Going through the corridor, we'll be providing a suite of bicycle amenities including new bicycle racks and bicycle leaning rails at each intersection so that when a cyclist is stopped, they have something to lean up against.
- And then a really big move that we're making is to actually replace the crosswalks in the corridor with a new red crosswalk design, which you see here, all the way from Second Avenue up onto the hill. This is a full, roadway-depth slab replacement where we replace existing

CROSSWALK DESIGN

pavement with colored concrete that has alternating textures. We have piano-key style, white striping for reflectivity the red



Crosswalk Design with alternating smooth and raked finish

has a raked finish. We actually pulled the red color from the intersection of First and Pike to leverage the character of the Market and pull that up into downtown and up onto the hill.

- The color study we had done, tried to strike a balance with the Reds we see at Westlake Park, which is also a significant open space in the corridor.

- We've heard a lot about the need for seating in the corridor from the public, so we are proposing some nice Generation 50 Bench by Landscape Forms. It's a wood bench. It's comfortable to sit on and push up out of. We'll be providing about 23 locations for additional seating beyond what already exists.



- Those first design elements I showed you are echoed throughout the corridor, but the 100 block of Pike is one of a few special places where we'd like to focus our design attention. This location is an important one, both as the forecourt to the Market and as a point of arrival into the downtown environment from the waterfront as people come up through the Market. We wanted to provide a design that was flexible in its use, allowing events from the Market to spill out into this block. We'd like to create a design where the street is able to be closed to accommodate events like that.

- The existing single lane of traffic does take up quite a bit of width between the tree lines with a separated bike lane. By putting a single lane down the center of the street, we get more generous circulation next to the buildings in the pedestrian realm and can really invite businesses to spill out into the sidewalks with seating to really liven it up.
- In looking at the block, we noticed that the existing cherry trees are in decline, they're at the end of their lifespan.
- When thinking about how best to replace them for the next century, we favor a tree that's taller and gets up out of the sight line of the Market signage. That's an iconic view and a really solid anchor to the corridor, so it's really important.
- Getting the canopy up and out of the sight line, also, that does something else. It gets the trees up out of the way of the lights so that the space feels more illuminated and more comfortable at night.

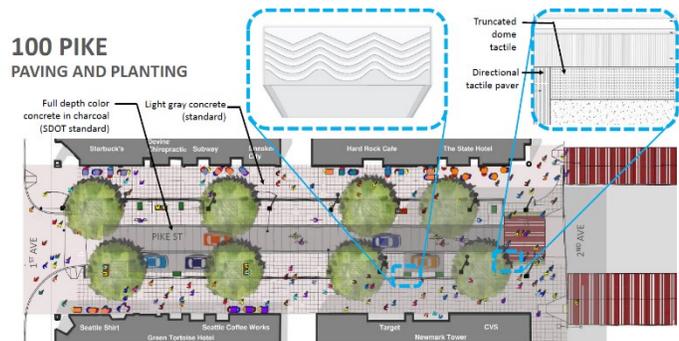
- So what you see here is a rendering of what that might look like.
- We are proposing to raise the middle of the street up to sidewalk level so that it basically becomes a plaza with a drivable surface down the middle, which we denote in a number of ways.



- The charcoal color of the traffic lane is edged by very shallow valley gutters that create a sense of separation between the vehicular realm and the pedestrian realm.
- We have proposed some passenger pickup and drop off spaces on the south side of the street.

- On the north side of the street, we have a generous flex lane that pedestrians can cross, but it's also meant to accommodate cyclists that aren't comfortable bicycling in a vehicle lane.
- Again, you see generous sidewalks, space for seating, etc.
- This is what the block will look like at maturity.
- We've reduced the tree count to eight larger taller trees so that we get pools of sunlight midblock.
- The tree we're interested in is an elm. It's a new hybrid that's disease resistant. It grows up and then spreads out. So really opens up the sightlines to the Market signage and lets the lights do their work.

- Here's that block in plan view. Like I said, we have fewer but larger trees, that open up pools of sunlight in the three locations along the block.



- Along the south side of the street, you see those drop offs I mentioned. There's a two-car drop off on the west half of the block and a single car on the east half. And you'll see that we do delineation of the space not only through the color treatment on the ground plane, but also through vertical elements.
- We've got trees lights, and planters with that artists motif again here.
- We won't be doing any work on the West End in the crosswalk or intersection we want to keep that existing brick in that market character intact. But on the east end we repeat the red crosswalks that are meant to match the brick to the West in terms of color.
- Again, with spill out space and generous sidewalks, really, we think have a flexible and improved space.

- A few other things we're doing in the corridor as special treatments:

- The 300 block of Pine:
 - This is another place that's gone through a lot of transformations over the years,
 - It had a transit facility there
 - Then it had diagonal parking
 - Then this interim amenity which was meant to accommodate sidewalk life down in the street.
 - It was quite pinched here in front of McDonald's in the transit entrance.

- We've widened that to be a much more generous sidewalk and provided again that protected bicycle lane. We have a very generous plant buffer here. So really nice opportunity to make this feel like a comfortable city sidewalk and not a pinched experience where pedestrians are pressed up against the building.



- This also has a pickup and drop off. So that's a nice amenity for the transit tunnel as well as the housing that's in the area, of loading and unloading.

○ At the Pike and Pine Street I-5 bridges:

- We heard a lot from the public about how uncomfortable it is to walk across these bridges currently kind of feels vacant, noisy from the interstate below.
- The new convention center is going to do a lot to really lift the area. Our project will also be doing a lot on the other side of the street.
- This is Pine St looking west. So moving from the where the cars are to the left, you see that we have a row of these raised planters. So you really do feel separated from

traffic as you ride your bike westward.

- And then we are expanding the sidewalk. The band in the middle indicates the edge of the existing sidewalk, so



we're actually just about doubling the width of the sidewalk.

- We're raising the pedestrian rail that creates separation from the sidewalk to the freeway below and applying an artistic treatment to it. You can also walk farther away from that edge so that you're away from the noise and the movement below.
- The railings will be washed with downlighting at night.
- We repeat that distinctive crosswalk design at Boren and similar treatment on the Pike Bridge. The improvements are along the north side of the street on Pike. And this is a little more detail about the railing I was talking about. Some pickets will change in color, a gradient from the blue of Puget Sound to the green of the Summit. We've got a gripping rail that will have puck downlighting

bedded on the underside of it. So it'll create a really nice, soft glow, making the space feel just a little more accommodating, more comfortable, a little more safe.

David returned the mic to Therese to talk about what might be expected during construction.

- We have 24 blocks for this project, with improvements on every block. But the work to be done in the 100 block of Pike is a little bit more extensive, because it is from building face to building face.
 - We are expecting that block to take about two to three months to complete.
 - We are hoping to close the street to local access only, to accommodate business access, garbage trucks, for residents to get to their parking garages, and that sort of thing. But if we're able to limit the traffic, then we can also work faster and more efficient and get in and out quicker.
 - Obviously emergency access will also be available at all times.
 - There will be normal construction noise and dust.
 - Sometimes sidewalk closures on one side of the street at a time and partial intersection closures on Second Avenue will be necessary to build those concrete crosswalks that David was showing us.
 - We work very closely with the adjacent businesses on their load / unload needs during construction and also their access needs.
 - We have a weekly construction newsletter, so if anyone is interested in getting on that email list, we're happy to start creating that email list now or once construction starts
 - We have a downtown construction moratorium between Thanksgiving and New Year's to support the retail businesses during the holidays. We will not be doing construction during that time. So I would anticipate that the 100 block of Pike would not be in construction until sometime next year (2023), because of the moratorium. All of that is still to be determined, but I wouldn't expect the 100 block of Pike to happen probably until sometime next year

Therese opened the floor for Questions.

- Haley: I had a few questions.
 - (1) It's reasonable to assume that First and Pike is the most iconic entrance to the Market. But the 100 block of Pine is also very important. And I wonder if you can give us any idea of what to expect in terms of changes there.
 - (2) I was also interested in the First and Pike intersection, just so that I understand this. Is this project going to have any impacts of traffic patterns through the First Avenue intersection, during construction?
 - (3) About the trees that would be replaced on Pike to First Avenue, how long will it take for them to reach the maturity that is represented in the images?
- David Grant:

- (1) The 100 block of Pine Street has pretty solid bones. The pavement is generally in good repair. It's got very great frontage. There is a lot of good activity. And the tree canopy is mostly really good.
 - There are two trees missing in front of the H Mart Building, which we're working with the SDOT arborists. They're going to replace those as part of their downtown tree replacement project.
 - We are going to be adding seating and in particular on the west end of the block two west-facing benches that look out over Puget Sound across the Market, and that Public Market sign with Elliott Bay beyond. We love that view and want to capitalize on that.
 - We'll clean it up: remove all those broken tree grates and put in a porous base under the trees that allows water and air to pass into the soil. This provides a walkable surface that will be much cleaner in appearance than the broken grates.
- (2) As Therese mentioned, we don't plan on impacting the 1st and Pike intersection at all. Our scope of work begins just east of that.
- (3) As to time to maturity, the elm trees will probably begin to sort of knit together over the block in their third decade or so. These are a tall, slower growing tree that's really got a long lifecycle. That's what we wanted is a bit of permanence. Something that will grow into their second century. This is a design that's meant to last and so it is a slow growing tree. And but it will probably take around 30 to 40 years for them to meet across the top and create that sense of a ceiling over the block. Kind of a cathedral like effect that we think is really dramatic and makes it feel very comfortable to be under.
- Bob, regarding the parking pull-outs on Pike nearest 1st Avenue:
 - Did you take into account, at First and Pike, going northbound to reach the corner and turn right on Pike: are you assuming that there is going to be a hotel there. What is the length of the parking limit for that parking cut-outs for somebody to fall out of the main line of traffic and how many cars or taxis can fit there?
- Grant: We have generous space for two cars. The intent is for anybody to be able to pick up or drop off a family member or rideshare. We heard a lot of enthusiasm for this idea from the accessibility community. There aren't a lot of drop offs that don't have curbs at them. A lift can set somebody down and then they can move directly into the pedestrian realm without having to find a ramp, a real positive benefit for accessibility in the corridor. But yes, it serves the businesses to the south -- it would serve a hotel -- it would serve any kind of function. We see this as a neighborhood amenity. We are aware of the potential for loss of parking on 1st Avenue if the streetcar project goes forward. We want to be able to provide a bit of that on this block.
- Bob noted that if the streetcar goes forward as planned on First Avenue reducing northbound vehicle traffic to one lane there is a potential for cars turning right onto a single lane on Pike to be obstructed by vehicles pulling in an out of the drop-off zone. Further east, with the hotels up on Third or Fourth Avenue, traffic can at least pull around a parked vehicle because there's

another lane. But in this case, if those two spaces on Pike are full, and people start stopping at the corners, that'll create a traffic bottleneck.

- Grant said the problem would be the same if the pullout wasn't there at all. We've got accommodation for three cars to do pick up and drop off. This is short term. It's not parking. They come, people get out of the vehicle, pay if they need to if it's a taxi, and move on. Rapid cycling is assumed here. If the pullouts weren't there, but you still have the potential for somebody to pause and pick up and drop off and block traffic. So I'm not sure that it creates a different scenario.
- David Ghoddousi commented about the trees on First and Pike, the cherry trees that apparently has have used their life. In your survey of different stakeholders, were there any comments about replacing them with the same kind of trees that are historic to the site?
- Grant said: We didn't get a lot of detailed support from the general public in terms of cherry trees. And even if we had, I'm a landscape architect by training and so I would have a hard time recommending that tree to be honest.
 - I don't think they're well suited to urban environments, they're definitely not well suited to pavement. And if we're going to be doing this brand new pavement building face to building face across the street, I feel like it just wouldn't be an appropriate plant choice and that we would be sort of setting the timer ticking on the pavement heaving because they do have shallow and thick roots.
 - And then we have heard a lot about the importance of those sightlines to the market. The existing trees really do block the signage, and it is such an important visual anchor to the corridor. It's a wayfinding device for tourists.
 - And then the thing we heard probably most about in the corridor is the need for a feeling of personal safety. And I just can't overemphasize the importance of getting the canopy up out above the lights so that it feels comfortable. The lights have a historic charm to them. If we can get them exposed a bit more, it feels safer. There's a charm to them.
 - I just think it's a win in every way if we can get a taller tree that is, you know, sidewalk friendly, and really opens up sightlines makes the place feel safe.
- Ruth asked David Grant if the proposed elm would drop sap on the sidewalk like the trees around the corner on Second.
- Grant: The trees on Second are not elms. They are Lindens. I agree with you. They do not make good street trees because they have that problem of aphids, which then drop honeydew, that sticks to your shoes and gets all over cars. I agree. We favor a tree that's got a proven track record as urban tree a street tree. These new hybrid elms are resistant to Dutch elm disease. That was the one knock on the Elm. And there's been a lot of work in the last 40 years or so on developing these new hybrids that resist that disease and are otherwise really strong urban trees.
- Ruth: Do they flower in the spring? Flowering trees -- the existing cherries -- have been wonderful and they have such a sentimental tie to Pike Place Market because of our pre-World War II tie to the Japanese American community. It really means a lot to us. There are much taller

cherry trees in UW. And so it's not that you couldn't create a cathedral effect with cherry trees or other blossoming trees.

- Grant: The strength of the Elm is in its it's stately grandeur, its beautiful form. It has this upswept sort of a vase like form. Down close to the pedestrian, it has a beautiful exfoliating bark. As the bark peels a bit, it creates a puzzle pattern where you get these beautiful orange and red colors coming through. The leaves are very attractive. It's what we call a serrate leaf. It's got sharp teeth that make a really striking foliage, not unlike the cherry actually, or the Zelkovas on Pine. The Elm creates a cohesiveness between Pike and Pine. So you do get that corridor character. But it's just a bit more stately than the Zelkova, which we think is appropriate for this setting in front of the Market.
- Ruth asked about the curbless combination of bikes and cars and pedestrians all sharing the same space. You may have heard that there's a movement to get rid of the cars in our own Pike Place.
 - (1) Mixing bikes and cars is a bad thing. Seattle has worked hard to get away from that.
 - (2) Also, the curbless sidewalk creates an impediment to people who are sight impaired.
 - You need to make sure that your plans are something we can live with.
- Grant: Working backwards:
 - (2) Regarding folks with visual impairment, we've provided contrasting color and textures to provide tactile cues. There's a dark band in the sidewalk on both sides of the street just outboard of the trees. That's a tactile wayfinding tile systems so that a person with a cane can detect that and that walks them through the space safely out of conflict with cars. Closer into the cars, we also do have that valley gutter, which is a shallow depression in the pavement. It not only conveys water to drain inlets, but it is another tactile cue not only to pedestrians, but to motorists. You'd feel a very shallow depression. If you were to drive across it, you'd know that you were leaving your realm. So we use those elements to create some, some differentiation.
 - (1) And then with regard to mixing, we've gone for flexibility here for what we know about cyclists in general, there's different degrees of comfort with cars, some folks are very comfortable sort of mixing it up with vehicular traffic. They can ride with the cars. Those are often the faster cyclists. But then again, we space, just north of the vehicular lane that's quite wide, about eight feet, which allows a cyclist to ride in an area that's not totally pedestrian in nature. It's a zone between the pedestrian realm against the buildings and the carriageway, where the cars drive. So we've tried to accommodate all of those modes. And then finally, we've built a design that we think is flexible that could be made permanently a plaza in the future, there's nothing to say that you couldn't close it permanently. It doesn't need to be a road necessarily if there's the political will at some point in the future to do so.
- Jerry: The lovely cherry trees have a historic value because they were given to us from Japan. And they were planted there, I want to make sure that we're looking at maybe transplanting them to another location rather than destroying something that has some history to it.

- Grant: Our current recommendation is to transplant the oak that's been planted where one of the cherries has recently died. I think you probably must know that almost all of these trees are dying. A cherry is a very short-lived tree, and these are at the very end of their life span. So, given the project's limited resources, we've chosen not to go to the expense of transplanting a mature tree and to be honest I don't think they would survive that move.
- David's connection froze, but Therese said she and the others on her team would fill in.
- Jerry: Regarding the benches, I'm hoping they're not benches that you can lay on so that street people are going to you be attracted to them.
- Therese: They're not totally flat. They have armrests. There's two middle armrests, so someone can push off to raise themselves off the bench, which is something that some of our older population has requested. That would help prevent your concern in terms of someone lying on the bench.
 - The other thing that I wanted to mention is the Downtown Seattle Association is a major partner with us on this project. And when it comes to ongoing maintenance of the planted areas and the benches, that will be something, you know that we'll continue to work with them on. We actually have a pilot program in a different part of downtown and the Downtown Seattle Association Ambassadors are keeping an eye on the benches to make sure that they're being used appropriately. We anticipate that they would continue to provide those eyes on the street for those sorts of things as well.
 - And these benches are surface mounted. If we really needed to, we could move them or remove them if they really become a problem. We hope that wouldn't be the case, but that is an option, if we need it.
- Nick: Regarding the trees, I'm just curious if there was any factoring in of using local plants, foliage, native plants. And if there's any plans to be using native foliage and plantings up and down the corridor or anything like that.
- Therese asked Steve Pearce, the Urban Design Manager at the Office of the Waterfront, to respond.
- Steve: The corridor has a lot of different trees in it today. And of course, most of those are going to just stay, we wouldn't want to touch them. Where we are planting new trees, we are planting some native trees, and there is quite a lot of native planting up towards the convention center. So it's a bit of a mixed bag, to be honest, I think it's a mix of some native plantings, and then some very robust species that just do very well in cities that are great street trees. So I think we are looking at some native plants for the planting buffers for the bikelanes. I think, again, though, it's a mix.
- Haley offered three questions:
 - (1) If the cherry trees aren't going to be there a potential or has it been discussion of having some sort of plaque denoting the history of the trees?
 - (2) What is the view on trashcans? We don't see as many trash cans, recycle cans, any of that on the streets as we used to.
 - (3) We used to have drinking fountains downtown. Has there been any discussion or desire for drinking fountains in in the corridor?

- Steve responded.
 - (3) We haven't heard much about drinking fountains and we don't have them in the design.
 - (2) Regarding trash cans, that's an interesting question. I don't know that we are changing that. That's something we should be looking at. To be honest there. There obviously is a system for not only trash cans, but also service to empty the trash cans. We had assumed that that would continue. We'll take a look at that and see if we need to supplement that, certainly on some of these busier blocks. That's a good point.
 - One of the things that we are going to do as we all open up the project just to go through the whole corridor and do a cleanup. And, you know address things like graffiti, fix or replace anything that's broken. There's a lot of things that are staying in this corridor, we're really sort of supplementing What's there in many cases. And I think what we're going to be doing is looking at the existing infrastructure and making sure that it's clean, functional and in good shape. And I think as part of that, we should be looking at the trash cans.
 - (1) Your first question was about a plaque. I think we can consider that. For sure, I think those trees have been there since about 1980, as I recall.
- Joan provided some historical background, noting that Marvin Black was Seattle's first arborist.
 - (1) The history of Elm has not been received well. Elms were planted along Third Avenue for Century 21 to link the Seattle Center to the rest of the downtown. Because of the drippiness of Elms, most all of those trees along Third Avenue were removed in the 1990s. They damaged cars and the sidewalk and had to be cleaned up after. So is the intention of putting Elms on Pike Street intention so that the sidewalks have to be cleaned in order to get rid of the residue from the trees.
 - (2) Does your program include anything to do with the planning of the First Avenue streetcar?
- Therese said without David, who hasn't been able to log back in, she can't comment on the past history of Elms on Third Avenue, so she will defer to him on that.
 - (2) Regarding the streetcar, they are aware of that project, and when it was in design, they were coordinating with the project manager, but it is not moving forward at this time. It's a little bit tricky, just because it's not moving forward at this time. Okay, thank you.
- Steve added: We work closely with the city arborist and the city landscape architect in SDOT. The elms that we're planting is one of two or three highly recommended trees recommended by Shane DeWalt, the landscape architect. So we think we have a good path forward.
- With thanks all around, Therese welcomed further questions via email from anyone might more to share. Her email is therese.casper@seattle.gov.
- Jerry asked if there was more Public Comment.
- Bob: I still have a little steam boiling in me from the PDA meeting over the master plan.
 - They finally published a timeline.
 - This is the PDA and they have their own committee. It's not a PTA council committee.

- This PDA executive committee has been meeting on several occasions, and they're going to hire a consultant at the end of April.
- My question was, if this committee has been meeting over several times, what are some of the ideas that they themselves tossed out and discussed?
- Why can't they tell us, so that we can react to any of these big ideas, rather than hiring a consultant to do the traditional coming in, and identifying the stakeholders, and they're invited to a meeting, and then they have a flip chart. And they ask you, What do you think the strengths of the market are? What do you think the weaknesses are? What do you think the market should look like in 20 years?
- We have been there and done that many times. With the Waterfront, and the retreats.
- I would like to get closer to what the ideas are, that this committee tossed out, that made them say, we may have to change the PDA charter. And they put in bullet points about real estate capacity. I don't know what that means.
- If you asked, What do you think about real estate in the market? What do you think about capacity? -- There must have been discussing of issues about that.
- This is why I'm saying I'm kind of steamed. That's where I think we want to know what they have been discussing.
- Let us you know, let us react to that now rather than prolonging it.
- I'm just tossing that out for everyone to think about, not think about a situation where you have a parallel committee meeting. At the same time, the stakeholders are invited to go to meetings. But the parallel masterplan committee meeting also is has its own ideas. And I would like those ideas to come out.
- Jerry asked if Bob was asking for something like a public disclosure.
- Bob: I like the word transparency. I think I'm bordering on really offending that particular committee for calling attention to them not saying what the ideas were that created this. These ideas of real estate capacity, changing the PDA charter, what would do that? What are they talking about that would do that? And I don't want to be too demanding or be annoying. I'm generally not like that. But I don't want to go through another flip chart thing where I have to list strengths and weaknesses of the Market.
 - Maybe some more strong-minded people might want to run with this. I'm trying to build consensus, and we have our PDA reps are right here. I don't mean to put you on the spot, but I believe it's going to go further in that direction, the longer we don't hear what these ideas were. I would be very happy, if one of our reps would say what I said, but maybe in a better tone. I think that's where the action lies in this thing.
 - It's going to be a long time. People may retire and not even be around. But when they get started with this consultant, what's the consultant going to do? The committee has their own ideas that they maybe don't want to make public, because it's maybe a confidential kind of thing. But if you are going to make big changes, just say what you're thinking of. Nobody's going to blame you. We just want to know.
 - I hope people can share it and move forward on it.

- Russell said he was in the same meeting that Bob was in and that twice Bob said, about changing the PDA charter. I did not hear that phrase, once, in the in the entire meeting, not a single thing about changing the PDA charter.
 - I guess, my thoughts are this: This is something that Mary is doing through the executive branch of the PDA and it's well within her authority to do. This is obviously something that -- it may not be obvious, but if for those of you who have listened to Mary talk about this -- this is something that she was a part of, during her time, at the Seattle Center. Having a master plan for sprawling organizations that involve a lot of people, property, and social programs, is not a bad thing. I hope that there isn't any kind of negativity towards there being a master plan put in place to begin with. We should welcome that, especially in the current situation of things.
 - We were all caught off guard with the pandemic and whatnot. So, it makes sense to have kind of this wide-scoped, 50-year plan put in place, as well, what may happen in the future.
 - Russell defended Mary's decision to follow the steps she has chosen. He said she could have done these initial first steps, and then brought it to the council rather quickly, saying "This a 50-year master plan that I have an idea for. This is the person or group that I want to help me suss it out."
 - I think she was on the right side of things by giving us an idea of what it is that she wants to see happen.
 - I think we need to just let this committee of four or five people just do the beginnings of this work. And then, as they have promised, they will come to us with what their ideas are -- not even decisions, what their ideas are -- to the council which will then make the decisions with the input of other stakeholders.
 - The beginning of every project does not need to be ran past every single stakeholder. These are ideas that are going to come to fruition without any decisions being made until they are brought forward to the council and other stakeholders.
 - I think we just need to calm down about the master plan a little bit. It isn't even going to be adopted for at least another year. So I think we should all just take a breath. And we will see the results of this very initial process in a couple of months. That's when we can start really looking into what the overall clues of what this master plan is going to be.
- Joan: I heard the presentation that Mary made at the PDA meeting. And I was shocked that she took credit for the time of the planning process of Century 21 when her own resume said that she wasn't even here in Seattle.
- Russell broke with decorum, interrupting Joan to defend Mary. When Joan attempted to continue, he broke in again.
- Jerry tried to restore order and return the floor to Joan.
- Joan said, "And you can see where the controversy is going to go. Thank you."
- Haley: I think that the comments about all of this are just demonstrating that there's some wisdom in waiting and seeing, but if we don't wait and see with some kind of active interest, then I think the questions and the alarm and all of that will continue.

- I don't think it's inappropriate to ask questions. I think Bob's questions are perfectly good.
- By way of comparison, I was involved quite intimately with the development of the PC1-North MarketFront. I chaired meetings with stakeholders for three years. There are times when people will come to you and say, with complete sincerity, we want to talk about the finishes. They show you three finishes. Clearly, they had decided in advance what they could afford, what they thought was the best choice of best choices, and then you might get to choose among the three rather than get in on the ground floor of the discussion. I think there has to be room sometimes for the constituency to feel like they can be on the ground floor with all of this.
- I don't know about everything, but I think that is a worthy discussion to have.
- That maybe not the exactitude of what Bob said, but I heard things that raised my eyebrows in that meeting too about this. It wasn't like my hair was on fire, but I feel like I'd like a follow up question on that, too.
- I'm glad they talked about it some. I think that it is perfectly appropriate for us to have continued interest.

Bylaws Review and Revision Committee Update

In Christine Vaughan's absence, it was decided that the update from the Bylaws Committee could be deferred until the next General Membership meeting.

Elections Update

Bruce reported that: We will be sending out the Election Audit Report to the Constituency membership. I know Ruth had a concern about whether her addendums and critiques would be attached. My proposal is, like the bylaws, I would post it on our blog, where we now have one post and will soon have a second post and that people could leave their comments on the blog. So, it'd be one long chain of discussion. I would like to send the Election Audit out soon with a notice that we will be discussing at the February General Assembly.

Ruth asked if the survey was being sent out to accompany the Report as discussed earlier.

Bruce: We are just sending the Election Committee Audit Report, because survey questions have not been vetted by anyone in the Constituency. We were expecting to send out a survey about the election, but I think that will be separate and it will be vetted at a separate time.

Ruth: That sounds great. If there's the blog and we have the report posted on the blog, and then people can comment, I can make my comments there. And other people can make comments. Everybody can see the discussion there before responding to the survey. I think that's really a good compromise.

PDA Committee Reports

Nick: I think we did a pretty good rundown of committees at the last meeting. We just had our full council meeting earlier today. I'll defer to David, Russell, or Gordie with any other topics or anything that I'm missing here.

But public comment tonight was a fair amount of conversation. Chef Traci Calderon from the Atrium Kitchen described a series of break-ins she has experienced. It sounds like the PDA's gonna be picking up this conversation at a subsequent meeting to find out what happened and what to do next.

There was a project report about the PC1-South elevator and exterior stair project review. That project has gotten significantly more expensive. And the PDA Council voted unanimously to accept that increased fee schedule to make sure that the project is done right.

Some of you may have heard a brief report about the master plan. It's really in a super-duper preliminary stage from the sound of it, where they're really just working on sort of figuring out a very, very general scope of work, and are working on finding a partner to help midwife that process. There were a significant amount of questions around all of that. I'm pretty sure that we covered everything else. In the previous meetings, PDA reports, there was just a state audit report. That was totally clean, no recommendations whatsoever.

Regarding the digging up of Pike Place to fix that sewer pipe, the city has not yet closed that street. They're expecting to start that on Monday.

There's ongoing conversation around the PDA having at least a general plan in place, if Councilman Lewis decides to move forward with his plans to close the Market off to traffic. There have been a number of different community groups that I'm aware of that have reached out both officially and on a one-on-one basis to connect with him about that, as well as a number of Market crafters and Market business owners.

As far as the Programs report, we covered that last time. FAM report: we covered that. The Market Foundation: They just saw Sharon Shaw and Cora Carter from Starbucks, honored by the Kraken at a couple of consecutive nights of hockey. And that I think, more or less wraps it up. Gentlemen, do you have anything to add?

Gordie: I think Nick got pretty much everything there. I can make a couple comments.

I was at the audit meeting, and our audit came out totally clean this year. Last year, there were a few recommendations. This year, they didn't really have any recommendations. I was interested to see that we actually spend \$22,000 each year to have that audit done. I don't know if that's expensive or not, but it was odd that we have to pay the State \$22,000 for them to audit us.

I was also at the Pike Pine Corridor meeting. And I do have a whole slate of questions to ask. I'm hoping Jerry will send me that email address so that I can put those questions in writing and see if I can get a few more answers about, like the LID, and how the Target Building is doing, and that sort of thing.

And then I did want to say that like Bob Messina, I'm a little disturbed that, that we have this master plan -- I don't know if it's a committee or a working group, but it basically consists of Mary, John Turnbull, Devin, Paul, and Gundeep, and there's no Constituency representation on that. They say that it's a PDA project, but three of the five are volunteer members from the council. I think if they're gonna

have three volunteer members from the council, they ought to have Russell or Nick or somebody on there, along with them. Anyway, that's, that's my take.

Jerry said he might even send a note to Mary about that.

New Business

Jerry: I attended a meeting of Greenway. And I'm gonna tell you, they are not very organized and have no idea what's going on right now. As far as that walkway, or the road at the Market. And I know that Nick was there, and I think there was some others there. But that is what I got out of it

Nick: Yeah, that was the impression that I got as well. If anybody remembers -- I think it was the Seattle Weekly that had the Uptight Seattleite column -- it was a lot of those kinds of folks. A lot of people who, not to sound like that guy, but don't get the poetry of the Market and don't get the ebb and flow of the Market. There was a handful of folks who unofficially spoke on behalf of the Market community, all of whom unanimously encouraged the Seattle Greenways folks to go and beat the streets and talk to people in the community who will be affected by this sweeping, top-down change.

Ruth: Regarding Greenways, I spoke with Gordon from Greenways by phone. I really tried to stretched -- to see both sides. Because Gordon said when he spoke with Andrew Lewis -- and when I've heard Mary talk about this -- it seems like the Greenways folks and/or CM Lewis have really opened Pandora's box. Now that this is a public discussion, we're gonna have to see it through.

I think they're nuts, frankly, because if you take any dozen cars, all of them are either delivering, picking up, or dropping off, or have an elderly or ambulatory person onboard. Both Lewis and Greenways say those are all people that they're not intending to impact.

I don't think 10% of the vehicles on Pike Place are people who trying to find a short-cut to Western.

So, I think we might be ahead of the game. Rather than assuming Greenways knows exactly what they want to do, if we created a committee, or thought about creating a committee to reach out and work with Gordon to figure out what he is asking for -- When I spoke with him today, he said he would be happy to participate and talk about the plan ahead. And he doesn't sound like an unreasonable, young man. I think that we could get him to see things our way, if we could demonstrate that we know how to listen, first. The things that he was suggesting -- I don't know how they can fix traffic in Pike Place to be better than it is, because it's already so darn fantastic.

So anyway, that's just my recommendation. I think we should get in front of this and demonstrate that we are open to hearing input from anybody. So, if you really care about this threat to Pike Place, and you can make time for one more meeting a month, you should maybe raise their hands or something, and we should put something together.

Nick asked if Ruth was making a motion, but Ruth said she didn't think it needed to be a formal motion. She just wanted to see if we could get anybody on board.

Jerry recommended that it could be brought up at the General Meeting.

Nick: Speaking of getting more people involved, was this impromptu presentation tonight -- was this noticed in any way, shape or form? Or was our meeting effectively hijacked during public comment?

Jerry said they had gotten hold of us and no decision was made right away. In the end, he made the decision to let them talk a little bit because it was an interesting topic and there wasn't a lot the agenda.

Nick said he was sure there were other members who would have been interested in hearing that guy as well. So in the future ... But we should just make sure we're assessing appropriately.

Agenda for Next Constituency Meeting

Haley suggested we give some thought to redesigning the membership card. April 30 is coming up. There could be ways to make it so people could opt in or opt out, give us more information, give us less information, maybe have a way to do an online membership. Haley recommended maybe we can have a discussion of that and make some advances in our next full membership meeting.

Jerry agreed to add it to the General Membership meeting agenda and asked for other recommendations for the agenda for that meeting?

Public Comments

Nick: I see that we've got a blog on our website. I wasn't aware of that until this evening. Would it be at all possible with some of these new features to just have a tiny blurb about it on the agenda notices to help drive some traffic to it?

Bruce agreed. He said, it's a good place for us to go, in between the meetings, to keep our discussions going.

Haley said this is "the bouquet section."

I've attended the last two meetings of the Bylaws Committee. They asked me there to talk about the last election and see what thoughts I had. I really enjoyed being in the meetings. I feel like they are so sincere and dedicated to an open process. They explore so many different avenues. The conversation is something where everyone supports each other. If they change direction, there's no rancor about anything. I am just so thoroughly impressed with the style in which they do things. And regardless of how things end up, that is something to be appreciative of. And so there's that.

And then in those meetings, it's finally come out how much work Nick did on creating guidelines for the elections in, I think it was 2019. He wrote things up and made them clear, I had a hard time accessing some of that at one point. Nick sent something to me, and I couldn't find a paper copy of it. Eventually I found it. And everybody was trying to be helpful, but some of those things haven't always been easy to find. But once found, Nick laid out so many things. And a lot of the questions that the, the committee had for me, were probably there in the work that Nick did in terms of answers, and structure and history and all of that. So, my hat is off to Nick again, for the work that he did that in the past. It certainly helped me.

And finally, I want to thank Bruce, for putting up the minutes for the meetings It's so nice to be able to access them and to be able to look at things and it refreshes my memory. I think it's got to help the officers in terms of moving along and approving meeting minutes and everything. It's just wonderful. So thank you, Bruce, and thank you all.

Thank you, Haley. I couldn't have done it without Gloria <somebody>'s elections handbook, which I think is somewhere down at the office still. But it was that foundational stuff that I just transcribed.

Bob asked where we are in terms of hiring a web administrator? I'm not sure. Bruce has mentioned how much his time is limited under the load that he's carrying. And I thank him so much for what he's done. But we can't rest on this luxury.

I'm saying this as a question, maybe for Adora as Chair. and the rest of us. Should we be actively searching for a future web administrator? There's a blog, there's an agenda that has to be produced. We need to go through the whole thing about what a contractual person and cannot do, how they cannot speak for the agency unless authorized, all that kind of stuff. We need a skilled person who will do it for the money that we think we can spend. Jerry, you're the next peg down. Do you have a thought on that, or maybe anybody else?

Jerry responded saying, we are currently working on that with Mary to get the dollar amount to help out with him. And I think we've established it now. We're working on getting that person. to let you know.

Ruth wanted to add on to what Bob just said. I'd like to see an employee who also can help with the Minutes. They are a huge responsibility. I'm mindful of our accounting problems and our lack of understanding about where we are relative to our budget. And there's absolutely no reason that Bruce should be put upon to be are the actual typist and the actual accountant for our organization. This is a volunteer position. But it's also important to me that whoever we hire is an employee of the Constituency, not of the PDA. That will just be one more reason for lack of trust if we don't have authority over our own presence on the Internet and our own financial and historical presence.

There being no further comments from the floor, Jerry said he wanted to add a comment of his own. I want to thank everybody for our last few meetings. We've been very cooperative. We've been moving forward. We've had some good agendas and some good interest in everything. And I just want to keep it going that way. I know Adora wants this and I think the rest of us do, too.

Adjournment

With that said, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Presented by Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Rutledge on 3/24/22.

Posted in draft to website 3/24/22. Adopted with/without edits _____.

Appendix

Appendix Item #1 – Zoom / Telephone Login

PPPM Constituency General Membership meetings are routinely scheduled with the same Zoom meeting link and meeting ID, plus direct dial-in option. Please feel free to add this information to your Contacts.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82963087048>

Meeting ID: 829 6308 7048

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,82963087048# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/k6EvUTQ9s>

Appendix Item #2 – Attendance / Compliance Rules

Constituency non-PDA Officer attendance is noted for compliance with Bylaws Article 4, Section 6 attendance requirement of eight (8) General Membership meetings and eight (8) Executive Committee meetings per year.

Constituency PDA Rep absences are noted for compliance with Bylaws Article 4, Section 7 attendance requirement of six (6) General Membership meetings and six (6) Executive Committee Meetings per year.

A minimum of four (4) Council members is required for delivery of PDA reports per SMC 3.110.270 (D) which states that the Council may attend and report at Constituency meetings:

“... , so long as the number of the council's representatives attending and making the report to the Constituency equal or exceed two voting members when the voting membership of the council is five (5) or less, or the nearest integer to thirty (30) percent of the council's voting membership.” For a 12-member council, 30% is four (4) members.

Corporate officials and employees are noted to monitor compliance with SMC 3.110.560 Prohibited conduct which says, in part:

A. No current corporate official or employee shall:

1. Engage in any transaction or activity that is, or would to a reasonable person appear to be, in conflict with or incompatible with the proper discharge of official duties, or that impairs, or would to a reasonable person appear to impair, the officer's or employee's independence of judgment or action in the performance of official duties.

Attendance / Compliance Log

Generally, new officers should be seated in August. The 2021 election was delayed by a membership list audit. Then the results of the election were challenged due to several factors and the new Chair was not seated until November. Attendance for this year begins with the November meetings.

