

A Resolution Endorsing the Concept of a Public Town Square in the University District, Above or Adjacent to the Sound Transit Station Now Being Constructed.

Whereas, a Sound Transit station is now being constructed below ground in the University District; and

Whereas, this may be the last opportunity for developing a large, dynamic open space in the University District for community festivals, celebrations and rallies; for fairs and exhibitions; for an open air theater; for a permanent place at set times for the Farmers' Market, arts and crafts fairs, and a whole range of other public activities; and for an outdoor space where individuals may meet and gather; and

Whereas, Sound Transit estimates that 24,000 people will come and go on an average day; this multitude of users will prevent the park from becoming a hang-out for untoward activity and will provide required relief space to comfortably handle large group surges; and

Whereas, U District planning, now in process, envisions a dense core of mid-rise buildings in the immediately surrounding area. The large influx of new residents and workers make such a public open space all the more urgent in order to preserve and build a sense of community; and

Whereas, the University District Livability Partnership, Seattle Parks Department, City of Seattle's' Comprehensive Plan, and the Puget Sound Regional Growth Council recognize a deficit of public open space in the University District; and

Whereas, U District area organizations have urged further study (through the EIS process) of open space needs and civic plaza at U-District Square Concept (over Light Rail Station): Northeast District Council, Roosevelt Neighborhood Association, Roosevelt Neighbors' Alliance, CUCAC, University Park CC, Seattle Planning Commission, University District Community Council, University District Livability Partnership, University District Square, University of Washington;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 43rd District Democrats endorse the concept of developing and identifying funding sources to maintain a public square in the heart of the University District above or adjacent to the Sound Transit Station abutting Brooklyn Ave NE, possibly to University Way NE, between NE 43rd and 45th Streets; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Mayor of the City of Seattle, the University President and the President of the Board of Regents of the University of Washington, the Executive Director of Sound Transit, and the legislators representing the 43rd District in the Washington State Legislature.

Adopted by the 43rd District Democrats on February 18, 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Forbes".

Scott Forbes, Chair