



November 12, 2015

The Honorable Edward B. Murray, Mayor
The Honorable Sally Bagshaw, Councilmember
The Honorable Mike O'Brien, Councilmember
Diane Sugimura, Office of Planning & Community Development
Jesus Aguirre, Parks & Recreation
City of Seattle
600 4th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: University District Parks Plan Update 2015

Greetings:

The U District Partnership Board of Directors wishes to thank you for the City's efforts toward a better, safer and more successful University District. The City's support of planning and organizing efforts in the U District have been invaluable.

From September 2014 to January 2015 the Open Space Steering Group of the U District Partnership engaged community members in defining values, objectives, opportunities, and recommendations for upgrading open space and public realm assets to meet current and future needs in the U District. Public engagement included a series of three workshops to create a community owned plan for providing and improving parks and public realm elements in the U District. Additional public comments were received during Urban Design Committee meetings, via the UDP website, and during the Report Out Session to the Neighborhood held on November 5, 2015. The attached document presents the results of that effort and is the 2015 update of the University District Parks Plan.

The U District Partnership Board of Directors in the spirit of cooperation endorses the 2015 Parks Plan Update. The need for open space in the University District poses complex challenges. While we support the overall goals in the Parks Plan, we ask that you consider public safety, the needs of business and property owners, and the absolute necessity for thoughtfully planned and managed open space.

We are committed to finding open space solutions that rely on a continued partnership with the City. We remain hopeful that there is a mix of social services, eyes on the street, space activation, and enforcement that will work for the unique needs of our area. Thank you for your continued support in making our vision for the neighborhood a reality.

Respectfully,



Theresa Doherty
Co-Chair



Andrew McMasters
Co-Chair

cc: Chip Nevins
Dave LaClergue
Janet Shull