

NOTES FROM THE APRIL 19, 2015 COLONNADE
PUBLIC TOUR TO KICK OFF THE PLANNING AND DESIGN PROCESS

Written by Art Tuftee, who led the tour; edited by Chris Leman

1. The existing paved pathway from E. Newton St. to the Howe St. steps is very well used, mostly by people passing through.
2. The Howe St. steps are probably the most used feature. Facilitating the exercise aspect with more features would be worthwhile.
3. Adding an additional set of stairs would create a loop option and could be done with a “parkour” influence to add a different experience.
4. More flat space for exercise can be created at the landings of the existing steps with terraces for yoga or other activities.
5. Trails that provide the “illusion of going somewhere” are more interesting for those using the open space as a park and not just passing through.
6. Acknowledging and enhancing Colonnade's role as a node in the larger connection of parks and green spaces is desired.
7. A connection to Capitol Hill through the green space below St. Mark's is desirable.
8. The un-programmed flatter terrain next to Lakeview Blvd. at north end of Colonnade is suitable for a variety of skate features and members of that community are excited about using it.
9. Skate features are also a possibility in the central area below the palm tree and could co-exist with the existing ADA pathway.
10. Skate features can be linear and more trail like as contrasted with unconnected localized features.
11. Even just a flat dry space of smooth concrete is useable by skaters.
12. The granite circular seating feature, known as the “Granite Gathering Area” has been used for impromptu performances such as fire juggling.
13. The Granite Gathering Area needs to have anti-graffiti sealer applied to the stone work as well as other repairs.
14. The artwork incorporated with the bike features on the Tqalu trail are important and should be retained even if the features are relocated.

15. There is a desire for more flowy dirt single track such as the Fisher trail located just below Tqalu.
16. The Fisher trail could extend south across the E. Blaine St. access below the dog area to the E. Galer St. entrance.
17. A paved pump track used by both skaters and bikes is a proven concept and would be welcome at Colonnade.
18. The current pump track, located near the off-ramp, is a great feature but needs to be rebuilt.
19. Some of the existing bike features in the south part (phase two of the bike project) are little used and can go away.
20. The bike feature known as 'Pip's Hips' can be removed to make way for the north-south commuter trail.
21. The gentle grade of the proposed north-south commuter trail is preferable to the loss and gain of elevation along Eastlake Ave.
22. Sections of the commuter trail could be paralleled with single track trail for mountain bikes.
23. The wide covered area under the freeway south of E. Nelson Pl. has potential for a skate area but may be limited by the need to maintain access for WSDOT trucks.
24. Locating the commuter trail under the freeway canopy where it is dry, or out in the open for sun and greenery both have advantages.