

I-5 Willamette River Bridge Project Design Enhancement Steering Committee

Meeting Summary - DRAFT

June 21, 2013 10:15 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CAWOOD conference room, 1200 High Street, Suite 200

Attendance: Chris Henry; Bob Kline; Vicky Mello; Joe Valasek; Scott Wylie; Charlotte Behm; Frannie Brindle, ODOT; Karl Wieseke, ODOT; Justin Lanphear, Cameron McCarthy.

Prepared by: Nichole Hayward, CAWOOD.

Meeting purpose: Discuss costs for north bank concepts. Review and discuss south bank storm water filter strip and seating area possibilities and refined Canoe Canal concepts. Provide updates on opening celebrations.

Update on north bank concept cost

Karl Wieseke and Justin Lanphear received initial pricing from the CM/GC. The budget for the area is \$93K, and initial estimates came in at approximately \$160K. There are questions that Karl and Justin need to discuss with the CM/GC to make sure estimates are on point. The concrete surfacing and plant bed areas are largest budget items. There are opportunities to reduce costs, but DESC should realize that could extend the time taken to make a decision that has the potential to ultimately cost more for time spent.

The estimated cost is solely for construction and does not include Justin's design time. The cost for less slope paving doesn't offset the cost for custom concrete work and finishes. There are probably ways to be more efficient, but Karl and Justin need to have that discussion with the CM/GC.

Karl also informed the committee that the cost for Devin Laurence Field's footing will need to be revisited and will be more than anticipated. He encouraged DESC to keep in mind that as enhancements progress, other changing costs may require difficult decisions.

Next steps

Karl and Justin will review the estimates closely with the CM/GC and ask for refined, itemized costs to assist the DESC in making better, more informed decisions with regard to spending the budget. The committee would also like to see what simple concrete scoring and placed boulders would cost.

Canoe Canal refinements

Justin and his team developed two concepts.

Notes for both concepts:

- Have approximately 5-foot grade change.
- Minimize bold concepts.
- Incorporate some planting.

- Give a sense of place that fits with the other enhancements. Reduce emphasis on the area, but still address safety and security.

Concept 1 highlights:

- Idea represents the flow and ripple of the river.
- Extended slope-paving concrete and can occur with additional horizontal scoring.
- Edge along path is at grade, but scallops as the grade goes down toward the canal.
- Strategic placement of boulders to deter cruising down the slope.
- Brown indicates use of sealed decomposed granite, which is softer, and similar to the bark path. It will break up all of the concrete.
- Stopping space.
- Transition of plantings.
- Recessed lettering in front of scallop to trigger contemplation, “Past, present, future”

Concept 2 highlights:

- Still includes curves, but a little more simple paving design.
- Used rock blanket (cobble set into concrete), rather than decomposed granite, for safety, security, and to avoid breaking up.
- Included an extension of the design between curb and path.
- Has potential to do scallop or rock blanket as in the first concept.
- Rock blanket would have cost associated.

Committee feedback:

Scott Wylie asked if decomposed granite comes in a variety of color. Justin intended to have something in a brown, beige, or buff tone, but confirmed there is a lot of variation. The rock blanket will be subtle, but granite might be more economically viable. Scott would look towards less contrasting colors of granite. Scott asked if differentiating factor could be in the scallops? Constructability cost is a potential concern. A flat space is a concern of parks. Scott also suggested the waves flow in the opposite direction, to flow with the moving canal. Chris and Charlotte agreed.

Charlotte Behm preferred the first concept and liked the green areas, as long as maintenance is agreeable. She'd prefer not to emphasize the Kalapuya were in the past since they are still here. She also doesn't suggest putting words down there if people aren't desired there. Justin is unsure whether the words will affect camping or not, and feels camping is more of a comfort issue and less an accessibility issue.

Vicky Mello thought both concepts look nice and innovative, but shared concerns about the associated budget. She would like to see a flatter area with some rocks. She would also prefer to see the design without words since it's a natural area. She preferred simplicity and noted that the Canoe Canal area will have less pedestrian traffic than on the north bank. She would like to see the cost without scalloping.

Joe Valasek preferred concept number two for a variety of reasons, including how the mural becomes the “star of the show”. He liked the quiet feeling and the effect it created. The concept was inviting and complementary of the surrounding areas. Joe suggested that the scalloped edge with words added to the contemplative feeling of the area.

Bob Kline preferred the second concept. Bob suggested Justin keep the curve closest to the path, but eliminate some of the others near the soft path. He would like to see the scallop design without words and loved the boulders.

Chris Henry was not worried about the things out of the committee’s control, such as camping, biking and skateboarding in the area. Chris asked Justin to confirm if scalloping applied to concept two. It is not necessary, but possible. Concept two is simpler, and he is concerned that the constructability of option one with the scallops and words will cost more. He agreed with Joe and liked the other elements of concept two.

Frannie Brindle commented on both designs. She thought the first concept was very nice, but agreed that concept two was simpler.

Next steps

Justin and Karl will work together to provide quantities in order to obtain itemized estimates, to include cost difference of flat versus scalloped grade and rock blanket versus decomposed granite. They will also continue discussions with the parks.

South bank seating area

Refined designs were based on concepts discussed at the onsite meeting between Justin, Karl and the committee. Justin reviewed the layout and pointed out highlights:

- Basalt formation is similar to Judkin’s Point formation.
- Transition will be less obvious once growth occurs. He still needs to converse with the storm water engineer to determine the boulder placement on the filter strip.
- There may be an opportunity to skim from other areas to transport and place existing boulders, which might lower boulder cost. The caution with a truckload of rock is that not all contents are usable.
- A range and diversity of stone can be accommodated. Would like some conformity in some stones so not completely random.
- There is an option to include larger native species to make the flat area less inviting, but the trade off is the potential for limited views once plantings mature.
- Shrubs will be planted further down on the slope and the refined design replaced upper shrubs with seeding.
- Concern about encouraging people to go to water.
- Justin does not see this as a place for either of the interpretive signs. There might be opportunities looking south toward Franklin Boulevard overpass.

Next steps

Karl and Justin to confirm if interpretive signage planting budget can be used in the south bank seating area. Karl and Justin to talk with engineers to confirm costs.

Opening ceremonies

A very brief update on planned activities was provided, but cut short to remaining meeting time.

Op-Ed pieces by DESC

Frannie Brindle informed the committee of the Register-Guard insert that will be produced for the opening celebration and invited DESC members to write Op-Ed pieces to be included. Nichole to confirm schedule, due dates, word counts, etc.

Upcoming meeting schedule

July 22, 2013, 2 – 4 p.m. at CAWOOD

Action items

- Karl and Justin to review the north bank concept estimates closely with the CM/GC and ask for refined, itemized costs to assist the DESC in making better, more informed decisions with regard to spending the budget. The committee would also like to see what simple concrete scoring and placed boulders would cost.
- Justin and Karl to work together to provide Canoe Canal concept quantities in order to obtain itemized estimates, to include cost difference of flat versus scalloped grade and rock blanket versus decomposed granite. They will also continue discussions with the parks.
- Karl and Justin to confirm if interpretive signage planting budget can be used in the south bank seating area. Karl and Justin to talk with engineers to confirm costs for proposed south bank seating area.
- Nichole to confirm schedule, due dates, word counts, etc.