## South Lake Union Design Guidelines

Seattle City Council Planning, Land Use, and Zoning Committee September 5, 2018





#### **Design Review Program**

- Seattle's Design Review Program was established in 1994.
- Over 1,500 projects reviewed since the program began – (about 111 projects per year).
- Design review takes place before a new development can apply for construction permits.



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#### **Design Review Program**

#### The Purpose of Design Review

- Encourage better design and site planning to ensure new development sensitively fits into neighborhoods.
- Provide flexibility in the application of development standards to better meet the intent of the Land Use Code.
- Improve communication and understanding among developers, neighborhoods and the City.

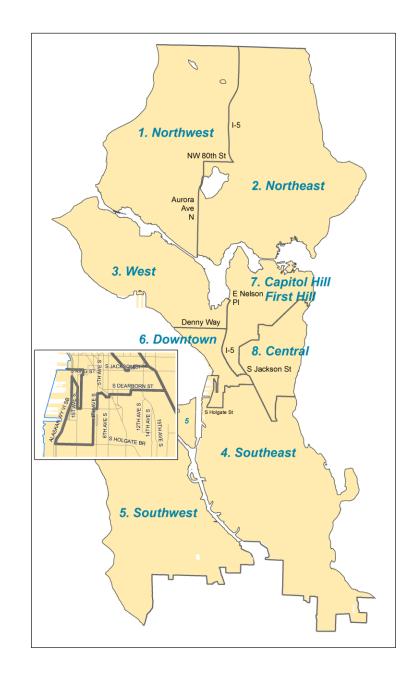




#### context

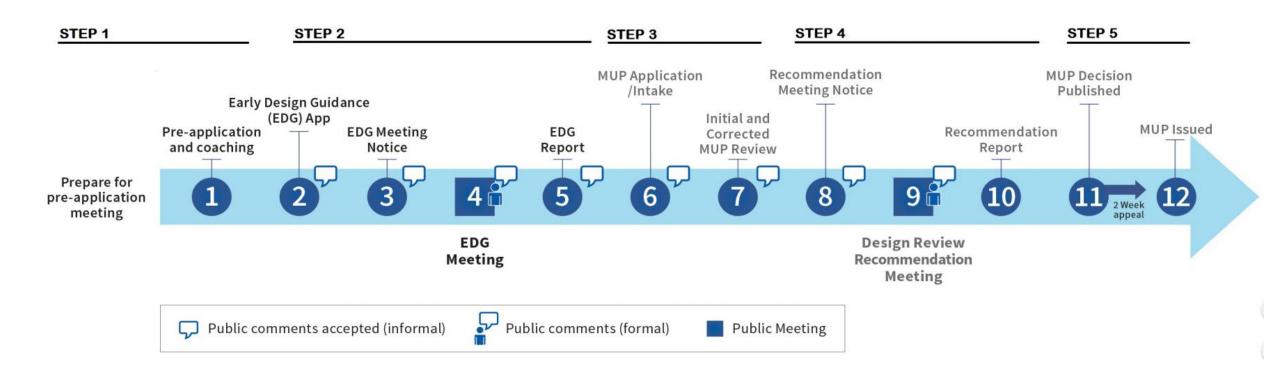
#### Design Review Boards & Districts

- The South Lake Union Neighborhood is located within the West district
- Each district board consists of volunteers appointed by the Mayor and City Council.
- Their duties include: synthesizing community input; providing early design guidance; recommending conditions of approval; and ensuring fair and consistent application of design guidelines.



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#### **Design Review Process**





#### **Design Guidelines Format**



Main body of page:

- Guideline number and title
- Citywide Guideline
- Supplemental Guidance
- Photos portraying the primary idea behind the guideline
- Drawings with captions—to illustrate key / points



# Guideline Categories and Organization

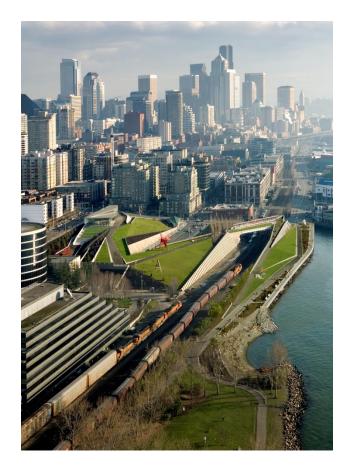
Categories:

- Ontext and Site
  - CS1. Natural Systems and Site Features
  - CS2. Urban Pattern and Form
  - CS3 Architectural Context and Character
- Public Life
  - PL1. Connectivity
  - PL2. Walkability
  - PL3. Street-Level Interaction
  - PL4. Active Transportation
- Oesign Concept
  - DC1. Project Uses and Activities
  - DC2. Architectural Concept
  - DC3. Open Space Concept
  - DC4. Exterior Elements and Finishes





#### **CS** - Context and Site

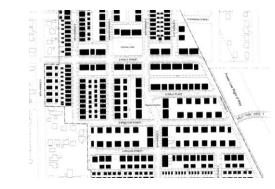


**CS1.** Natural Systems and Site Features

**CS2. Urban Pattern and Form** 

**CS3.** Architectural Context and Character





Every site has a context. Each project contributes to, and is part of, the greater context that defines the character of the city.



#### **PL** - Public Life



PL1. Connectivity

- PL2. Walkability
- **PL3. Street-Level Interaction**
- **PL4.** Active Transportation





The amount and quality of public life is one measure of a community's livability. Seattle's success in creating a walkable, active, attractive city is fundamental to a sustainable future.



### **DC** - Design Concept



**DC1.** Project Uses and Activities

**DC2.** Architectural Concept

**DC3. Open Space Concept** 

**DC4. Exterior Elements and Finishes** 

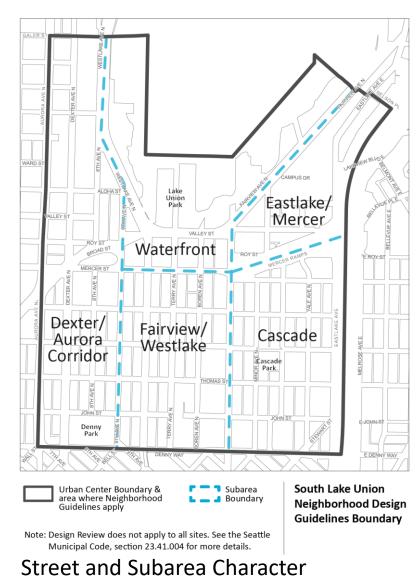


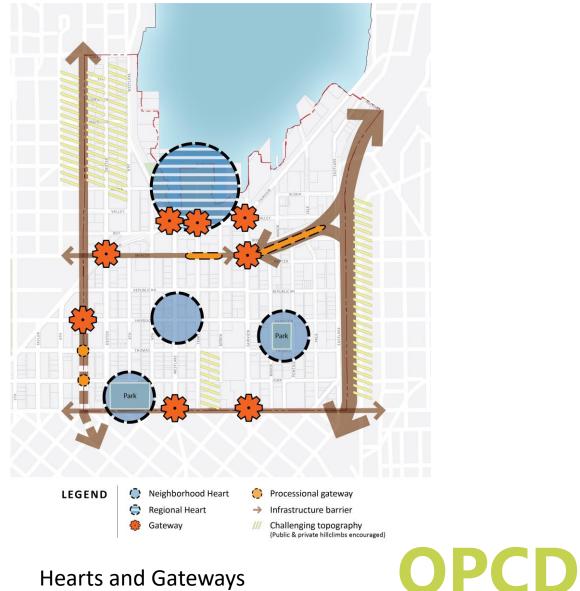


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A strong design concept is more than the sum of its parts. A welldesigned building is an essential building block to a livable and sustainable city.

#### **Guidelines Specific to South Lake Union**

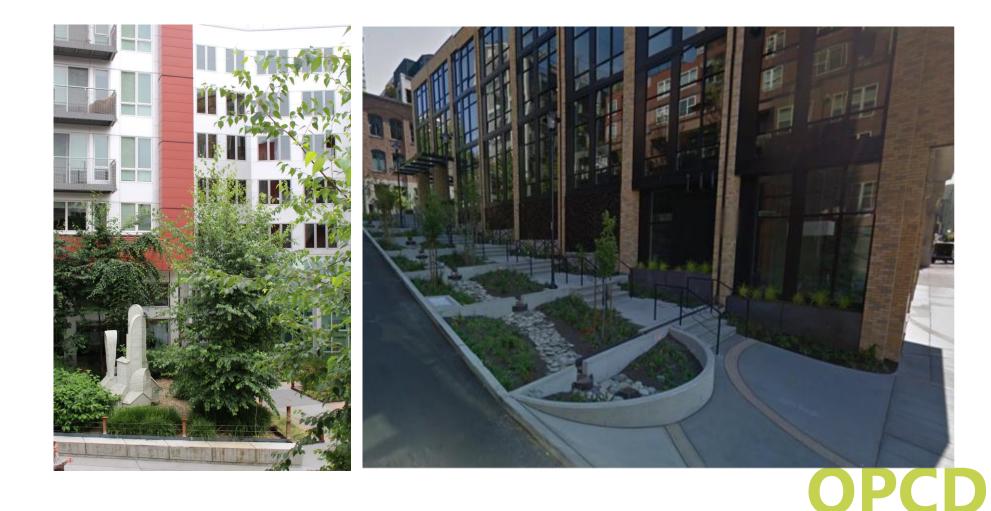




Hearts and Gateways

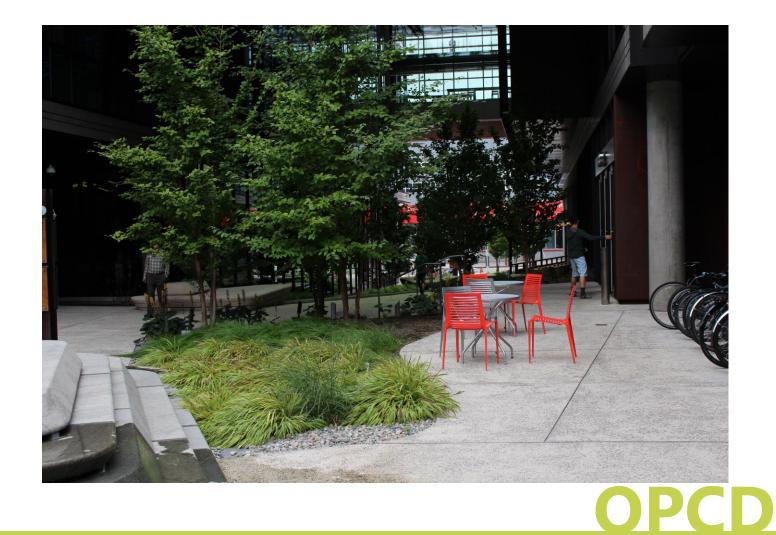
#### **CS1 Natural Systems and Site Features**

- Energy Use
- Sunlight and Shadows
- Topography
- Plants and Habitat



#### **CS2 Urban Pattern and Form**

LEGEND Neighborhood Heart Processional gateway Regional Heart → Infrastructure barrier 🏶 Gateway /// Challenging topography



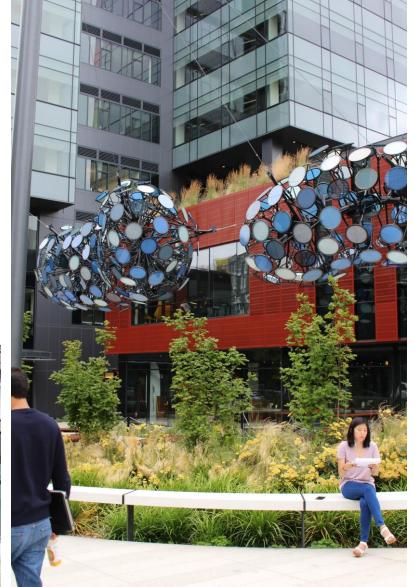
#### **CS3 Architectural Context and Character** – fitting old and new together





#### PL1 Public Life Connectivit Y



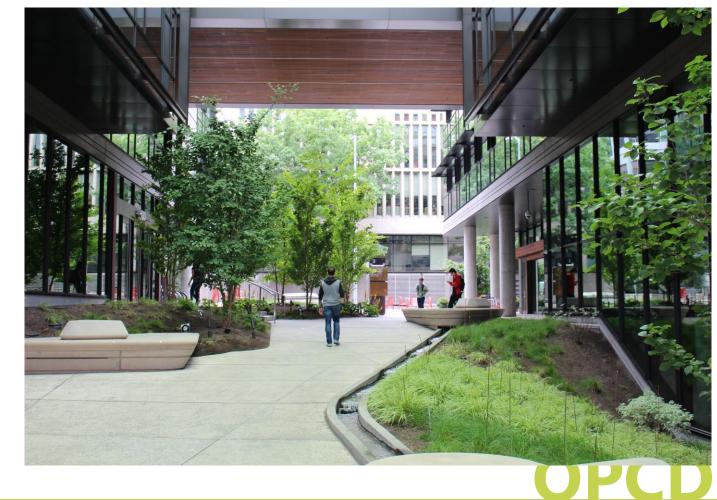




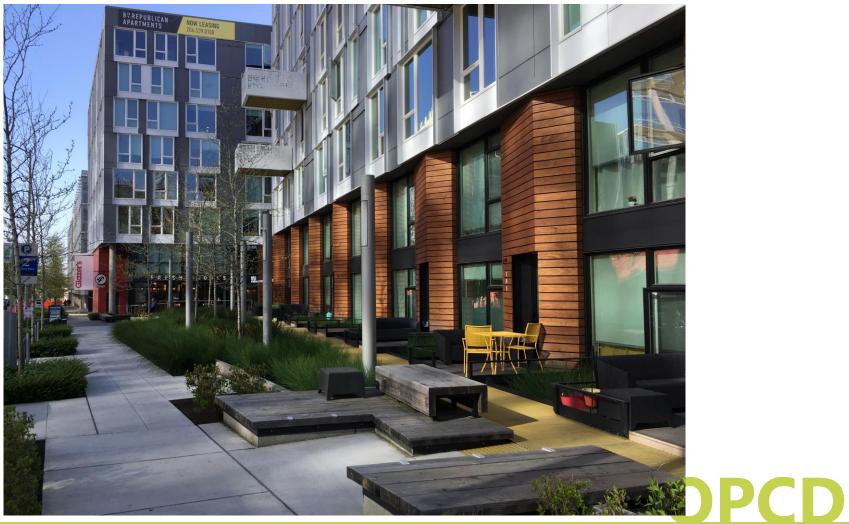


#### **PL2 Public Life**





# **PL3 Public Life Street-Level** t aracti Ir



# PL4: Public Life: Active Transportation



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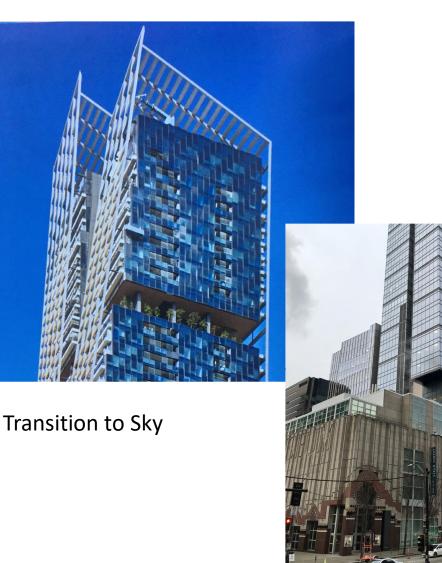
#### DC2Design Concept: Architectural Concept





#### DC2 Design Concept: Tall Buildings

- Response to Context
- Tall Form Placement
- Tall Form Design
- Intermediate Scales
- Shape & Design all Sides
- Adjusted Base Scale
- Ground Floor Uses
- Façade Depth & Articulation
- Quality & 6<sup>th</sup> Elevations
- Transition to Sky





## South Lake Union Design Guidelines

#### Thank You



