



June 17, 2019

Seattle Center Public Skate Plaza

SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

Description of the Proposal

Seattle Center's purpose is "to create exceptional events, experiences and environments that delight and inspire the human spirit to build stronger communities," and it has a long history of supporting skateboarding. The first public skatepark in Seattle was in Seattle Center's Lot 2 parking complex, first as a series of temporary seasonal ramps, later incorporating a permanent concrete skating bowl. In 2008, after the development of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation headquarters required the closure of that skatepark, the Seattle Center Century 21 Master Plan designated an area near 2nd Ave N and Thomas St for a new skatepark that featured skate-able terrain for all-ages and abilities. That park, completed in 2009, was enjoyed by the public until October 2018 when it needed to be closed as part of renovating Seattle Center Arena. Seattle Center is currently proposing to replace this highly used skatepark with an all-ages and abilities public skate plaza. The City engaged Grindline Skateparks to conduct a feasibility study for the replacement. Working with the Seattle skateboarding community and City staff, Grindline evaluated three potential sites in the vicinity of the Uptown neighborhood. The completed study was used to help choose the preferred location for the new public skate plaza.

The proposed skate plaza would be located on a portion of the Broad St right-of-way that has been closed to vehicular traffic since 2014. The right-of-way is between Thomas St and Taylor Ave N, adjacent to properties owned by Diamond Parking to the west and north, and Seattle City Light (SCL) to the south. Ride the Ducks of Seattle is a tenant of Diamond Parking on the parcel to the west. Jurisdiction of the site for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining the skate plaza, will be transferred from SDOT to Seattle Center by ordinance.

The approximately 22,700 square foot project site is currently undeveloped. A concrete access path runs through the project site between Harrison St and Thomas St. It provides a vehicular connection from Thomas St to the mid-block alley north of the project site, and also provides access to a service entrance for the SCL substation at the south, and to the privately owned parcel where Ride the Ducks operates at the north. The access path is approximately 4,500 square feet and divides the skate plaza site. Once completed, the total

City of Seattle
Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Seattle Center
Robert Nellams, Director

ARTS / VENUES

A/NT Gallery
Book-It Repertory Theatre
KCTS 9/Crosscut
KEXP 90.3 FM
Pacific Northwest Ballet
Pottery Northwest
Seattle Children's Theatre
Seattle Opera
Seattle Repertory Theatre
Seattle Shakespeare Company
SIFF Film Center
TeenTix
Theatre Puget Sound
The Vera Project

ATTRACTIONS / VENUES

Armory
Artists at Play Playground & Plaza
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Discovery Center
Chihuly Garden and Glass
Cornish Playhouse
International Fountain
Marion Oliver McCaw Hall
Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP)
New Arena at Seattle Center
Opera Center
Pacific Science Center
Seattle Center Monorail
Seattle Children's Museum
Space Needle

EDUCATION

Academy of Interactive
Entertainment
The Center School
Cornish College of the Arts

FESTIVALS

Bite of Seattle
Bumbershoot®
Northwest Folklife Festival
Seattle International Film Festival
Seattle PrideFest

SEATTLE CENTER PROGRAMS

Community Created Events
Concerts at the Mural
Festál Cultural Festivals
Fitness Programs
Movies at the Mural
Seattle/King County Clinic
Winterfest

Accommodations for people with disabilities provided on request

improved areas would be approximately 18,000 square feet, with at least 10,000 square feet of skateable area.

The skate plaza would be designed to accommodate skateboarders, spectators, and pedestrians, including groups of children and beginner skateboarders. A drop-off/pick-up location would be located along Taylor Ave N. The skate plaza would include a pedestrian path. Skateable elements would be set back a minimum of 3 feet from the adjacent wall of the SCL Broad Street Substation Annex. The paved pad providing access to SCL's substation would remain.

Proponent

Seattle Center
305 Harrison Street
Seattle, WA 98109

Location of the Proposal

The proposed public skate plaza would be located on a portion of the Broad St right-of-way that has been closed to vehicular traffic since 2014. The right-of-way is between Thomas St and Taylor Ave N, adjacent to properties owned by Diamond Parking to the west and north, and SCL to the south. Ride the Ducks of Seattle is a tenant of Diamond Parking on the parcel to the west. The project site is in the northwest quarter of Section 30, Township 25N, Range 4 East.

Lead Agency

Seattle Center (the lead agency) has determined that the proposed skate plaza would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. This Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and is based on review of a completed environmental checklist.

A copy of the environmental checklist is available at:

- Seattle Center, Seattle Center Redevelopment Office, 305 Harrison Street, Seattle, WA, 98109;
- Seattle Central Library, Pubic Review Documents; and
- Online at <http://www.seattlecenter.com/about/plans-and-projects>

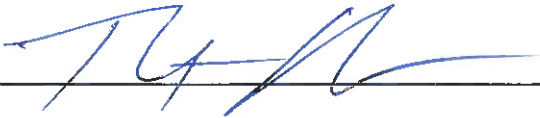
Public and Agency Comments

Comments on this DNS must be submitted by July 1, 2019. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen (14) days from the issuance date. Comments must be sent to:

Julia Levitt, SEPA Responsible Official
Seattle Center
305 Harrison St.
Seattle, WA 98109

SeattleCenterProjects@seattle.gov

Please address emails to Julia Levitt, and include Skate Plaza in the subject line.

Signature  Issue Date: June 17, 2019
Robert Nellams

Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be accompanied by an \$85.00 filing fee and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on July 1, 2019. Delivery of appeals filed by any form of USPS mail service may be delayed by several days. Allow extra time if mailing an appeal.

- Written appeals must be sent to:

City of Seattle Hearing Examiner
700 5th Avenue Suite 4000
P.O. Box 94729
Seattle, WA 98124-4729

- Appeals can be filed electronically. Details on electronic filing procedures are available under "e-File" at the Office of the Hearing Examiner's web site: <http://www.seattle.gov/examiner/>. Filing fees must be paid by the appeal deadline and can be paid via check (made payable to the City of Seattle) or credit/debit card (Visa and MasterCard only). Credit/debit card payments can be made in-person or over-the-phone.

You should be prepared to make specific factual objections. Please refer to the *Hearing Examiner Rules of Practice and Procedure* for rules that govern appeals. These rules are available on the Hearing Examiner's website at www.seattle.gov/examiner/rules-toc.htm or by calling 206-684-0521

For interpretation services please call **(206) 684-3066**
Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al **(206) 684-3066**