



**CITY OF SEATTLE
ANALYSIS AND DECISION OF THE DIRECTOR OF
THE SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION AND INSPECTIONS**

Record Number: 3031135-LU
Applicant Name: Jodi Patterson O'Hare
Address of Proposal: 4747 California Ave SW

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

Land Use Application to allow a 7-story, 79-unit apartment building with retail. Parking for 42 vehicles proposed. Existing buildings to be demolished. Early Design Guidance conducted under 3032052-EG.

The following approvals are required:

Design Review (Seattle Municipal Code 23.41)

SEPA - Environmental Determination (Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 25.05)

SEPA DETERMINATION

Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

- ☒ No mitigating conditions of approval are imposed.
- ☐ Pursuant to SEPA substantive authority provided in SMC 25.05.660, the proposal has been conditioned to mitigate environmental impacts

BACKGROUND

The Early Design Guidance phase was completed on November 5, 2019, under Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) record number 3032053-EG.

SITE AND VICINITY

Site Zone: The current zoning designation is Neighborhood Commercial 3 with Pedestrian Overlay, 85-foot height limit and M Mandatory Housing Affordability Designation (NC3P-95(M)). The proposal is vested to a prior zoning designation of NC3P-85.

Zoning Pattern: (North) NC3P-95 (M)
(South) NC3P-95 (M)
(East) NC3P-95 (M)
(West) NC2-75 (M)

Site Description: The development site consists of two existing tax parcels, is approximately 11,635 square feet, and is relatively flat.



The top of this image is North. This map is for illustrative purposes only. In the event of omissions, errors or differences, the documents in SDCI's files will control.

Access: Vehicular access occurs from the alley along the western property line.

Environmentally Critical Areas (ECAs): There are no known ECAs on site; however, the site to the north is mapped as a Category II Peat Settlement Prone ECA by City GIS.

Current and Surrounding Development; Neighborhood Character: The site is currently developed with two single-story commercial structures constructed in 1939 and 1956. Surrounding development includes existing one-story commercial structures to the north and east; a surface parking lot to the south; and a six-story mixed-use structure across the alley to the west.

The site is located within the commercial core of the West Seattle Junction Urban Village, which is predominantly characterized by one to two-story commercial development and a pedestrian-oriented streetscape. The site is located on the west side of California Ave SW, the block face is characterized by a strong one-story datum line.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public comment period ended on October 17, 2018. In addition to the comments received through the Design Review process, other comments were received and carefully considered, to the extent that they raised issues within the scope of this review. These areas of public comment related to construction activity and methods, noise, air quality, parking, and traffic.

I. ANALYSIS – DESIGN REVIEW

The packets include materials presented at the meeting, and are available online by entering the record number at this website: <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/>

The packets are also available to view in the file, by contacting the Public Resource Center at SDCI:

Mailing Public Resource Center
Address: 700 Fifth Ave., Suite 2000
P.O. Box 34019
Seattle, WA 98124-4019

Email: PRC@seattle.gov

EARLY DESIGN GUIDANCE July 19, 2018
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PUBLIC COMMENT

The following public comments were offered at this meeting:

- Concerned with impacts to territorial views from the roof deck of neighboring buildings.
- Questioned whether the parking stalls would be utilized.
- Concerned with alley congestion and pedestrian safety.
- Supported the preferred massing option.
- Felt the preferred massing option was appropriate on this block face.
- Noted the structure will set a precedent for new development on the west side of California Ave SW.
- Concerned with construction impacts in the alley and maintenance of access.
- Supported providing parking.
- Pleased to see three unique massing options.
- Noted the preferred massing option is at odds with the design guidelines but responds to the context.
- Recommended that the interior uses be articulated on the exterior.
- Recommended extensive use of brick or other traditional materials such as terra cotta to strengthen the connection to historic development in the commercial core.
- Recommended balconies of useable depth.
- Recommended adequate space for pedestrian activity and seating along California Ave SW.
- Noted the existing mural and recommended appropriate process for removal.
- Noted the importance of the alley façade and recommended a strong rear entry.
- Recommended consideration of the how the sidewalk is used and the public gathers there.

The following comments from SDOT were received in writing prior to the meeting:

- SDOT requires all trash collection and vehicle access from the alley.

- While a 6' sidewalk and 5.5' planting strip is required, SDOT recommends the development consider an 8' sidewalk to improve the public realm and provide a more generous pedestrian zone at the southern gateway to the Junction.

SDCI staff also summarized design related comments received in writing prior to the meeting:

- Recommended attention be given to safety in design of the alley facade and vehicular access.
- Recommended adequate storage space for trash be provided.

One purpose of the design review process is for the Board and City to receive comments from the public that help to identify feedback and concerns about the site and design concept, identify applicable citywide and neighborhood design guidelines of highest priority to the site and explore conceptual design, siting alternatives and eventual architectural design. Concerns with off-street parking and construction impacts are reviewed as part of the environmental review conducted by SDCI and are not part of this review. Concerns with trash storage standards are addressed under the City's zoning code and are not part of this review.

All public comments submitted in writing for this project can be viewed using the following link and entering the Early Design Guidance record number (3032052-EG):

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/>

PRIORITIES & BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

After visiting the site, considering the analysis of the site and context provided by the proponents, and hearing public comment, the Design Review Board members provided the following siting and design guidance.

- 1. Massing:** The Board discussed the three massing options and identified successful elements of option 1 including the ground level setback from California Ave SW and the two distinct massing volumes which reference the established platting pattern of the street. However, the Board ultimately supported the applicant's preferred massing option 3 as the basis for further refinement with the following guidance.
 - a. The Board supported the one-story base of the preferred massing option. While recognizing this was contrary to the two-story base recommended for large new development by the West Seattle Junction Neighborhood Design Guidelines, the Board agreed the one-story base was the most appropriate response to the strong one-story datum line created by existing development north of the site and was successful in respecting the scale and character of the street due to the deep setback of the upper levels. The Board also supported a one-story base as the form reflects the interior function, whereas a two-story base would not. (CS2-I Streetscape Compatibility, CS2-D-2 Mid-Block Sites, CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together, CS3-A-3 Established Neighborhoods)
 - b. The Board agreed that the massing of the upper levels should respect the established platting pattern of the street and respond to the articulation of the base and gave

guidance to provide depth and breaks in the upper massing. This could potentially be accomplished by providing recessed balconies of substantial depth. (CS2-I Streetscape Compatibility, CS3-I-i Façade Articulation, CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together, CS3-A-3 Established Neighborhoods)

- c. The Board appreciated the stepped massing along the west façade as an appropriate response to the zone transition and existing development. (CS2-D-2 Mid-Block Sites, CS2-D Height, Bulk and Scale)

2. Streetscape & Residential Entry: The Board discussed the character and function of the street and provided the following guidance:

- a. Noting SDOT's recommendation, the Board encouraged setting back the base level from the sidewalk along California Ave SW to accommodate pedestrians and spillover retail activity but would like to see study of setback options at the Recommendation meeting. (CS2-B-2 Connection to the Street, PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries)
- b. The Board gave guidance to further develop the streetscape with pedestrian amenities including street furniture, landscaping and bicycle facilities. Studies of the streetscape should be provided at the Recommendation meeting. (PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries)
- c. The Board also requested study of the street tree pattern and questioned whether an additional street tree should be provided across from the residential entry to maintain the established rhythm. (DC4-D Trees, Landscape and Hardscape Materials, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries)
- d. The Board questioned how the commercial seating area and recessed residential entry work together and if adequate space is provided to accommodate both uses. The Board asked the applicant to further study and demonstrate how the area will function at the Recommendation meeting. (PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries)

3. Alley Façade: The Board acknowledged public comment regarding safety considerations in the alley and recommended further study of the function and design of the alley façade, in response to the following guidance.

- a. The Board noted the amount of pedestrian traffic in the alley and precedence for alley entries and gave guidance to develop a welcoming pedestrian entry from the alley. (PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries, CS2-B-2 Connection to the Street)
- b. The Board requested further study of the alley elevation and relationship with adjacent structure. At the Recommendation meeting the Board would like to review a detailed section drawing through the alley. (CS2-B Adjacent Sites, Streets, and Open Spaces, CS2-D-5 Respect for Adjacent Sites)
- c. The Board provided guidance to design the alley façade with safety in mind and incorporate lighting. (DC4-C Lighting)

4. Materiality & Façade Composition: The Board discussed material application and composition of the façade and provided the following guidance.

- a. The Board gave guidance to utilize high quality, durable materials and storefront detailing which respond to the existing historic character of the commercial core. (CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together, CS3-A-3 Established Neighborhoods, CS3-I-i Façade Articulation, CS3-I-ii Architectural Cues, DC4-A Building Materials)
 - b. The Board agreed that the application of materials should emphasize the separation of the base and upper levels but that the overall articulation of the two massing volumes should read as a cohesive façade. (DC2-B-1 Façade Composition, CS3-I-i Façade Articulation)
- 5. Amenity Area:** The Board discussed the location and function of amenity area. At the Recommendation meeting the Board would like to review a fully developed design of amenity spaces and provided the following guidance.
- a. The Board supported the location of the roof deck amenity area at the southwest corner of level 7. The Board also supported the relationship of the roof deck to the interior amenity area and provided guidance to develop it as the main amenity area for the site, continue to emphasize the interior to exterior connection and maximize views. (DC3-A-1 Interior/Exterior Fit, DC3-B Open Space Uses and Activities)
 - b. The Board questioned whether the corner common amenity area at level 2 would be more appropriately located at the northeast corner and requested further study be provided at the Recommendation meeting. (DC3-B Open Space Uses and Activities)
- 6. South Façade:** The Board expressed concern with the blank wall condition at the south façade and requested an artful architectural treatment such as a mural. (CS2-D-2 Mid-Block Sites, DC2-B-2 Blank Walls)

RECOMMENDATION July 18, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following public comments were offered at this meeting:

- Support for all aspects of the design.
- Recommended providing family-size units.
- Recommended a two-story base for future projects on California Avenue, per the guidelines.
- Recommended pedestrian-friendly design at the alley.
- Recommended providing a queueing area for the ice cream window.
- Felt the preferred massing option was appropriate on this block face.
- Noted the structure will set a precedent for new development on the west side of California Ave SW.
- Concerned with long term maintenance of the proposed mural.

SDCI staff also summarized design related comments received in writing prior to the meeting:

- Concerned about privacy impacts to adjacent building, construction impacts.
- Recommended adequate storage space for trash be provided.

One purpose of the design review process is for the Board and City to receive comments from the public that help to identify feedback and concerns about the site and design concept, identify applicable citywide and neighborhood design guidelines of highest priority to the site and explore conceptual design, siting alternatives and eventual architectural design. Concerns with traffic congestion, off-street parking and construction impacts are reviewed as part of the environmental review conducted by SDCI and are not part of this review. Concerns with trash storage standards are addressed under the City's zoning code and are not part of this review.

All public comments submitted in writing for this project can be viewed using the following link and entering the MUP record number (3031135-LU): <http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms/>

PRIORITIES & BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

After visiting the site, considering the analysis of the site and context provided by the proponents, and hearing public comment, the Design Review Board members provided the following siting and design guidance.

1. Response to Guidance:

- a. The Board agreed that the revised design had effectively responded to their guidance at EDG and unanimously recommended approval of the design with one minor condition, described in the summary below.

2. Streetscape & Residential Entry:

- a. The Board agreed that the curve at the entry was an appropriate solution as it clearly marked the residential entry and provided an 'outside corner' for the retail tenant. (CS2-B-2 Connection to the Street, PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries)
- b. Echoing public comment, the Board expressed concern about how patrons queuing at the walk-up ice cream counter would impact the sidewalk. The Board discussed this issue at some length and asked that this issue be carefully considered by the design team. The Board declined to recommend this as a condition. (PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries)
- c. The Board questioned the choice of a plaster finish above the windows along the California Avenue, finding it diminished the strength of the curved entry they supported. The Board agreed to recommend a condition that it be changed to match the brick material used below the windows. (CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together, CS3-A-3 Established Neighborhoods, CS3-I-i Façade Articulation, CS3-I-ii Architectural Cues, DC4-A Building Materials)

3. Alley Design:

- a. The Board supported the proposed design of the alley entrances, particularly the high-quality garage doors that will spill light to the alley, and the signage matching the

- existing character of the alley.(PL1-I Human Activity, PL2-II Open Spaces and Entries, CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together)
- b. The Board recommended approval of the proposed lighting plan for the alley, finding it adequate to provide safety and security. (DC4-C Lighting)

4. Materiality & Façade Composition:

- a. The Board recommended approval of the proposed exterior materials, finding the high-density Swiss Pearl panels to be an appropriate response to their guidance at EDG. (DC4-A Building Materials, CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together, CS3-A-3 Established Neighborhoods, CS3-I-i Façade Articulation)

5. South Façade:

- a. The Board supported the proposed mural at this location. Echoing public comment, the Board recommended the use of durable materials and finishes for this work but declined to recommend this as a condition. (CS2-D-2 Mid-Block Sites, DC2-B-2 Blank Walls)

DEVELOPMENT STANDARD DEPARTURES

No departures were requested.

DESIGN REVIEW GUIDELINES

The Citywide and West Seattle Junction Neighborhood guidelines recognized by the Board as Priority Guidelines are identified above. All guidelines remain applicable and are summarized below. For the full text please visit the [Design Review website](#).

CONTEXT & SITE

CS1 Natural Systems and Site Features: Use natural systems/features of the site and its surroundings as a starting point for project design.

CS1-A Energy Use

CS1-A-1. Energy Choices: At the earliest phase of project development, examine how energy choices may influence building form, siting, and orientation, and factor in the findings when making siting and design decisions.

CS1-B Sunlight and Natural Ventilation

CS1-B-1. Sun and Wind: Take advantage of solar exposure and natural ventilation. Use local wind patterns and solar gain to reduce the need for mechanical ventilation and heating where possible.

CS1-B-2. Daylight and Shading: Maximize daylight for interior and exterior spaces and minimize shading on adjacent sites through the placement and/or design of structures on site.

CS1-B-3. Managing Solar Gain: Manage direct sunlight falling on south and west facing facades through shading devices and existing or newly planted trees.

CS1-C Topography

CS1-C-1. Land Form: Use natural topography and desirable landforms to inform project design.

CS1-C-2. Elevation Changes: Use the existing site topography when locating structures and open spaces on the site.

CS1-D Plants and Habitat

CS1-D-1. On-Site Features: Incorporate on-site natural habitats and landscape elements into project design and connect those features to existing networks of open spaces and natural habitats wherever possible. Consider relocating significant trees and vegetation if retention is not feasible.

CS1-D-2. Off-Site Features: Provide opportunities through design to connect to off-site habitats such as riparian corridors or existing urban forest corridors. Promote continuous habitat, where possible, and increase interconnected corridors of urban forest and habitat where possible.

CS1-E Water

CS1-E-1. Natural Water Features: If the site includes any natural water features, consider ways to incorporate them into project design, where feasible

CS1-E-2. Adding Interest with Project Drainage: Use project drainage systems as opportunities to add interest to the site through water-related design elements.

CS2 Urban Pattern and Form: Strengthen the most desirable forms, characteristics, and patterns of the streets, block faces, and open spaces in the surrounding area.

CS2-A Location in the City and Neighborhood

CS2-A-1. Sense of Place: Emphasize attributes that give a distinctive sense of place. Design the building and open spaces to enhance areas where a strong identity already exists, and create a sense of place where the physical context is less established.

CS2-A-2. Architectural Presence: Evaluate the degree of visibility or architectural presence that is appropriate or desired given the context, and design accordingly.

CS2-B Adjacent Sites, Streets, and Open Spaces

CS2-B-1. Site Characteristics: Allow characteristics of sites to inform the design, especially where the street grid and topography create unusually shaped lots that can add distinction to the building massing.

CS2-B-2. Connection to the Street: Identify opportunities for the project to make a strong connection to the street and public realm.

CS2-B-3. Character of Open Space: Contribute to the character and proportion of surrounding open spaces.

CS2-C Relationship to the Block

CS2-C-1. Corner Sites: Corner sites can serve as gateways or focal points; both require careful detailing at the first three floors due to their high visibility from two or more streets and long distances.

CS2-C-2. Mid-Block Sites: Look to the uses and scales of adjacent buildings for clues about how to design a mid-block building. Continue a strong street-edge and respond to datum lines of adjacent buildings at the first three floors.

CS2-C-3. Full Block Sites: Break up long facades of full-block buildings to avoid a monolithic presence. Provide detail and human scale at street-level, and include repeating elements to add variety and rhythm to the façade and overall building design.

CS2-D Height, Bulk, and Scale

CS2-D-1. Existing Development and Zoning: Review the height, bulk, and scale of neighboring buildings as well as the scale of development anticipated by zoning for the area to determine an appropriate complement and/or transition.

CS2-D-2. Existing Site Features: Use changes in topography, site shape, and vegetation or structures to help make a successful fit with adjacent properties.

CS2-D-3. Zone Transitions: For projects located at the edge of different zones, provide an appropriate transition or complement to the adjacent zone(s). Projects should create a step in perceived height, bulk and scale between the anticipated development potential of the adjacent zone and the proposed development.

CS2-D-4. Massing Choices: Strive for a successful transition between zones where a project abuts a less intense zone.

CS2-D-5. Respect for Adjacent Sites: Respect adjacent properties with design and site planning to minimize disrupting the privacy of residents in adjacent buildings.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

CS2-I Streetscape Compatibility

CS2-I-i. Street Wall Scale: Reduce the scale of the street wall with well-organized commercial and residential bays and entries, and reinforce this with placement of street trees, drop lighting on buildings, benches and planters.

CS2-I-ii. Punctuate Street Wall: Provide recessed entries and ground-related, small open spaces as appropriate breaks in the street wall.

CS2-I-iii. Outdoor Utility Hookups: Outdoor power and water sources are encouraged to be provided in order to facilitate building maintenance and exterior decorative lighting needs. Conveniently located sources could also be taken advantage of for special community events.

CS2-II Corner Lots

CS2-II-i. Reinforce Street Corners: New buildings should reinforce street corners, while enhancing the pedestrian environment.

CS2-II-ii. Human-scaled Open Space: Public space at the corner, whether open or enclosed, should be scaled in a manner that allows for pedestrian flow and encourages social interaction. To achieve a human scale, these spaces should be well defined and integrated into the overall design of the building. Consider:

- a. providing seating;
- b. incorporating art that engages people; and
- c. setting back corner entries to facilitate pedestrian flow and allow for good visibility at the intersection.

CS2-II-iii. Neighborhood Gateways: Building forms and design elements and features at the corner of key intersections should create gateways for the neighborhood. These buildings should announce the block through the inclusion of features that grab one's interest and mark entry. See guidelines for Gateway location map.

CS2-III Height, Bulk and Scale

CS2-III-i. Zoning Context: Applicant must analyze the site in relationship to its surroundings. This should include:

- a. Distance from less intensive zone; and

- b. Separation between lots in different zones (property line only, alley, grade changes).

CS2-III-ii. New Development in NC zones 65' or Higher:

- a. Patterns of urban form in existing built environment, such as setbacks and massing compositions.
- b. Size of Code-allowable building envelope in relation to underlying platting pattern.

CS2-III-iii. Facade Articulation: New buildings should use architectural methods including modulation, color, texture, entries, materials and detailing to break up the façade— particularly important for long buildings—into sections and character consistent with traditional, multi-bay commercial buildings prevalent in the neighborhood's commercial core (see map 1, page 1).

CS2-III-iv. Break Up Visual Mass: The arrangement of architectural elements, materials and colors should aid in mitigating height, bulk and scale impacts of Neighborhood Commercial development, particularly at the upper levels. For development greater than 65 feet in height, a strong horizontal treatment (e.g. cornice line) should occur at 65 ft. Consider a change of materials, as well as a progressively lighter color application to reduce the appearance of upper levels from the street and adjacent properties. The use of architectural style, details (e.g. rooflines, cornice lines, fenestration patterns), and materials found in less intensive surrounding buildings should be considered.

CS3 Architectural Context and Character: Contribute to the architectural character of the neighborhood.

CS3-A Emphasizing Positive Neighborhood Attributes

CS3-A-1. Fitting Old and New Together: Create compatibility between new projects, and existing architectural context, including historic and modern designs, through building articulation, scale and proportion, roof forms, detailing, fenestration, and/or the use of complementary materials.

CS3-A-2. Contemporary Design: Explore how contemporary designs can contribute to the development of attractive new forms and architectural styles; as expressed through use of new materials or other means.

CS3-A-3. Established Neighborhoods: In existing neighborhoods with a well-defined architectural character, site and design new structures to complement or be compatible with the architectural style and siting patterns of neighborhood buildings.

CS3-A-4. Evolving Neighborhoods: In neighborhoods where architectural character is evolving or otherwise in transition, explore ways for new development to establish a positive and desirable context for others to build upon in the future.

CS3-B Local History and Culture

CS3-B-1. Placemaking: Explore the history of the site and neighborhood as a potential placemaking opportunity. Look for historical and cultural significance, using neighborhood groups and archives as resources.

CS3-B-2. Historical/Cultural References: Reuse existing structures on the site where feasible as a means of incorporating historical or cultural elements into the new project.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

CS3-I Architectural Context

CS3-I.i. Facade Articulation: To make new, larger development compatible with the surrounding architectural context, facade articulation and architectural embellishment are important considerations in mixed-use and multifamily residential buildings. When larger buildings replace several small buildings, facade articulation should reflect the original platting pattern and reinforce the architectural rhythm established in the commercial core (see map 1, page 1).

CS3-I.ii. Architectural Cues: New mixed-use development should respond to several architectural features common in the Junction's best storefront buildings to preserve and enhance pedestrian orientation and maintain an acceptable level of consistency with the existing architecture. To create cohesiveness in the Junction, identifiable and exemplary architectural patterns should be reinforced. New elements can be introduced - provided they are accompanied by strong design linkages. Preferred elements can be found in the examples of commercial and mixed-use buildings in the Junction included on this page.

PUBLIC LIFE

PL1 Connectivity: Complement and contribute to the network of open spaces around the site and the connections among them.

PL1-A Network of Open Spaces

PL1-A-1. Enhancing Open Space: Design the building and open spaces to positively contribute to a broader network of open spaces throughout the neighborhood.

PL1-A-2. Adding to Public Life: Seek opportunities to foster human interaction through an increase in the size and quality of project-related open space available for public life.

PL1-B Walkways and Connections

PL1-B-1. Pedestrian Infrastructure: Connect on-site pedestrian walkways with existing public and private pedestrian infrastructure, thereby supporting pedestrian connections within and outside the project.

PL1-B-2. Pedestrian Volumes: Provide ample space for pedestrian flow and circulation, particularly in areas where there is already heavy pedestrian traffic or where the project is expected to add or attract pedestrians to the area.

PL1-B-3. Pedestrian Amenities: Opportunities for creating lively, pedestrian oriented open spaces to enliven the area and attract interest and interaction with the site and building should be considered.

PL1-C Outdoor Uses and Activities

PL1-C-1. Selecting Activity Areas: Concentrate activity areas in places with sunny exposure, views across spaces, and in direct line with pedestrian routes.

PL1-C-2. Informal Community Uses: In addition to places for walking and sitting, consider including space for informal community use such as performances, farmer's markets, kiosks and community bulletin boards, cafes, or street vending.

PL1-C-3. Year-Round Activity: Where possible, include features in open spaces for activities beyond daylight hours and throughout the seasons of the year, especially in neighborhood centers where active open space will contribute vibrancy, economic health, and public safety.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

PL1-I Human Activity

PL1-I-i. California Avenue Commercial Core: Proposed development is encouraged to set back from the front property line to allow for more public space that enhances the pedestrian environment. Building facades should give shape to the space of the street through arrangement and scale of elements. Display windows should be large and open at the street level to provide interest and encourage activity along the sidewalk. At night, these windows should provide a secondary source of lighting.

PL1-I-ii. Public Space Trade-Off: In exchange for a loss of development potential at the ground floor, the Design Review Board is encouraged to entertain requests for departures to exceed the lot coverage requirement for mixed-use projects.

PL1-I-iii. Recessed Entries: When a setback is not appropriate or feasible, consider maximizing street level open space with recessed entries and commercial display windows that are open and inviting.

PL2 Walkability: Create a safe and comfortable walking environment that is easy to navigate and well-connected to existing pedestrian walkways and features.

PL2-A Accessibility

PL2-A-1. Access for All: Provide access for people of all abilities in a manner that is fully integrated into the project design. Design entries and other primary access points such that all visitors can be greeted and welcomed through the front door.

PL2-A-2. Access Challenges: Add features to assist pedestrians in navigating sloped sites, long blocks, or other challenges.

PL2-B Safety and Security

PL2-B-1. Eyes on the Street: Create a safe environment by providing lines of sight and encouraging natural surveillance.

PL2-B-2. Lighting for Safety: Provide lighting at sufficient lumen intensities and scales, including pathway illumination, pedestrian and entry lighting, and/or security lights.

PL2-B-3. Street-Level Transparency: Ensure transparency of street-level uses (for uses such as nonresidential uses or residential lobbies), where appropriate, by keeping views open into spaces behind walls or plantings, at corners, or along narrow passageways.

PL2-C Weather Protection

PL2-C-1. Locations and Coverage: Overhead weather protection is encouraged and should be located at or near uses that generate pedestrian activity such as entries, retail uses, and transit stops.

PL2-C-2. Design Integration: Integrate weather protection, gutters and downspouts into the design of the structure as a whole, and ensure that it also relates well to neighboring buildings in design, coverage, or other features.

PL2-C-3. People-Friendly Spaces: Create an artful and people-friendly space beneath building.

PL2-D Wayfinding

PL2-D-1. Design as Wayfinding: Use design features as a means of wayfinding wherever possible.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

PL2-I Human Scale

PL2-I-i. Overhead Weather Protection: Overhead weather protection should be functional and appropriately scaled, as defined by the height and depth of the weather protection. It should be viewed as an architectural amenity, and therefore contribute positively to the design of the building with appropriate proportions and character. Overhead weather protection should be designed with consideration given to:

- a. Continuity with weather protection on nearby buildings.
- b. When opaque material is used, the underside should be illuminated.
- c. The height and depth of the weather protection should provide a comfortable scale for pedestrians.

PL2-II Pedestrian Open Spaces and Entrances

PL2-II-i. Street Amenities: Streetscape amenities mark the entry and serve as way finding devices in announcing to visitors their arrival in the commercial district. Consider incorporating the following treatments to accomplish this goal:

- a. pedestrian scale sidewalk lighting;
- b. accent pavers at corners and midblock crossings;
- c. planters;
- d. seating.

PL2II-ii. Pedestrian-Enhanced Storefronts: Pedestrian enhancements should especially be considered in the street frontage where a building sets back from the sidewalk.

PL3 Street-Level Interaction: Encourage human interaction and activity at the street-level with clear connections to building entries and edges.

PL3-A Entries

PL3-A-1. Design Objectives: Design primary entries to be obvious, identifiable, and distinctive with clear lines of sight and lobbies visually connected to the street.

PL3-A-2. Common Entries: Multi-story residential buildings need to provide privacy and security for residents but also be welcoming and identifiable to visitors.

PL3-A-3. Individual Entries: Ground-related housing should be scaled and detailed appropriately to provide for a more intimate type of entry.

PL3-A-4. Ensemble of Elements: Design the entry as a collection of coordinated elements including the door(s), overhead features, ground surface, landscaping, lighting, and other features.

PL3-B Residential Edges

PL3-B-1. Security and Privacy: Provide security and privacy for residential buildings through the use of a buffer or semi-private space between the development and the street or neighboring buildings.

PL3-B-2. Ground-level Residential: Privacy and security issues are particularly important in buildings with ground-level housing, both at entries and where windows are located overlooking the street.

PL3-B-3. Buildings with Live/Work Uses: Maintain active and transparent facades in the design of live/work residences. Design the first floor so it can be adapted to other commercial use as needed in the future.

PL3-B-4. Interaction: Provide opportunities for interaction among residents and neighbors.

PL3-C Retail Edges

PL3-C-1. Porous Edge: Engage passersby with opportunities to interact visually with the building interior using glazing and transparency. Create multiple entries where possible and make a physical and visual connection between people on the sidewalk and retail activities in the building.

PL3-C-2. Visibility: Maximize visibility into the building interior and merchandise displays. Consider fully operational glazed wall-sized doors that can be completely opened to the street, increased height in lobbies, and/or special lighting for displays.

PL3-C-3. Ancillary Activities: Allow space for activities such as sidewalk vending, seating, and restaurant dining to occur. Consider setting structures back from the street or incorporating space in the project design into which retail uses can extend.

PL4 Active Transportation: Incorporate design features that facilitate active forms of transportation such as walking, bicycling, and use of transit.

PL4-A Entry Locations and Relationships

PL4-A-1. Serving all Modes of Travel: Provide safe and convenient access points for all modes of travel.

PL4-A-2. Connections to All Modes: Site the primary entry in a location that logically relates to building uses and clearly connects all major points of access.

PL4-B Planning Ahead for Bicyclists

PL4-B-1. Early Planning: Consider existing and future bicycle traffic to and through the site early in the process so that access and connections are integrated into the project along with other modes of travel.

PL4-B-2. Bike Facilities: Facilities such as bike racks and storage, bike share stations, shower facilities and lockers for bicyclists should be located to maximize convenience, security, and safety.

PL4-B-3. Bike Connections: Facilitate connections to bicycle trails and infrastructure around and beyond the project.

PL4-C Planning Ahead For Transit

PL4-C-1. Influence on Project Design: Identify how a transit stop (planned or built) adjacent to or near the site may influence project design, provide opportunities for placemaking.

PL4-C-2. On-site Transit Stops: If a transit stop is located onsite, design project-related pedestrian improvements and amenities so that they complement any amenities provided for transit riders.

PL4-C-3. Transit Connections: Where no transit stops are on or adjacent to the site, identify where the nearest transit stops and pedestrian routes are and include design features and connections within the project design as appropriate.

DESIGN CONCEPT

DC1 Project Uses and Activities: Optimize the arrangement of uses and activities on site.

DC1-A Arrangement of Interior Uses

DC1-A-1. Visibility: Locate uses and services frequently used by the public in visible or prominent areas, such as at entries or along the street front.

DC1-A-2. Gathering Places: Maximize the use of any interior or exterior gathering spaces.

DC1-A-3. Flexibility: Build in flexibility so the building can adapt over time to evolving needs, such as the ability to change residential space to commercial space as needed.

DC1-A-4. Views and Connections: Locate interior uses and activities to take advantage of views and physical connections to exterior spaces and uses.

DC1-B Vehicular Access and Circulation

DC1-B-1. Access Location and Design: Choose locations for vehicular access, service uses, and delivery areas that minimize conflict between vehicles and non-motorists wherever possible. Emphasize use of the sidewalk for pedestrians, and create safe and attractive conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

DC1-B-2. Facilities for Alternative Transportation: Locate facilities for alternative transportation in prominent locations that are convenient and readily accessible to expected users.

DC1-C Parking and Service Uses

DC1-C-1. Below-Grade Parking: Locate parking below grade wherever possible. Where a surface parking lot is the only alternative, locate the parking in rear or side yards, or on lower or less visible portions of the site.

DC1-C-2. Visual Impacts: Reduce the visual impacts of parking lots, parking structures, entrances, and related signs and equipment as much as possible.

DC1-C-3. Multiple Uses: Design parking areas to serve multiple uses such as children's play space, outdoor gathering areas, sports courts, woonerf, or common space in multifamily projects.

DC1-C-4. Service Uses: Locate and design service entries, loading docks, and trash receptacles away from pedestrian areas or to a less visible portion of the site to reduce possible impacts of these facilities on building aesthetics and pedestrian circulation.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

DC1-I Visual Impacts of Parking Structures

DC1-I-i. Enhance Pedestrian Access: Parking structures should be designed and sited in a manner that enhances pedestrian access and circulation from the parking area to retail uses.

DC1-I-ii. Improve Pedestrian Environment: The design of parking structures/areas adjacent to the public realm (sidewalks, alley) should improve the safety and appearance of parking uses in relation to the pedestrian environment.

DC1-I-iii. Restrict Auto Access From California Way and Alaska St: There should be no auto access from the principal street (California Way. And Alaska St.) unless no feasible alternative exists. Located at the rear property line, the design of the parking façade could potentially be neglected. The City would like to see its alleys improved as a result of new development. The rear portion of a new building should not turn its back to the alley or residential street, but rather embrace it as potentially active and vibrant environment. The parking portion of a structure should be compatible with the rest of the

building and the surrounding streetscape. Where appropriate, consider the following treatments:

- a. Integrate the parking structure with building's overall design.
- b. Provide a cornice, frieze, canopy, overhang, trellis or other device to "cap" the parking portion of the structure.
- c. Incorporate architectural elements into the facade.
- d. Recess portions of the structure facing the alley to provide adequate space to shield trash and recycling receptacles from public view.

DC2 Architectural Concept: Develop an architectural concept that will result in a unified and functional design that fits well on the site and within its surroundings.

DC2-A Massing

DC2-A-1. Site Characteristics and Uses: Arrange the mass of the building taking into consideration the characteristics of the site and the proposed uses of the building and its open space.

DC2-A-2. Reducing Perceived Mass: Use secondary architectural elements to reduce the perceived mass of larger projects.

DC2-B Architectural and Facade Composition

DC2-B-1. Façade Composition: Design all building facades—including alleys and visible roofs—considering the composition and architectural expression of the building as a whole. Ensure that all facades are attractive and well-proportioned.

DC2-B-2. Blank Walls: Avoid large blank walls along visible façades wherever possible. Where expanses of blank walls, retaining walls, or garage facades are unavoidable, include uses or design treatments at the street level that have human scale and are designed for pedestrians.

DC2-C Secondary Architectural Features

DC2-C-1. Visual Depth and Interest: Add depth to facades where appropriate by incorporating balconies, canopies, awnings, decks, or other secondary elements into the façade design. Add detailing at the street level in order to create interest for the pedestrian and encourage active street life and window shopping (in retail areas).

DC2-C-2. Dual Purpose Elements: Consider architectural features that can be dual purpose—adding depth, texture, and scale as well as serving other project functions.

DC2-C-3. Fit With Neighboring Buildings: Use design elements to achieve a successful fit between a building and its neighbors.

DC2-D Scale and Texture

DC2-D-1. Human Scale: Incorporate architectural features, elements, and details that are of human scale into the building facades, entries, retaining walls, courtyards, and exterior spaces in a manner that is consistent with the overall architectural concept

DC2-D-2. Texture: Design the character of the building, as expressed in the form, scale, and materials, to strive for a fine-grained scale, or "texture," particularly at the street level and other areas where pedestrians predominate.

DC2-E Form and Function

DC2-E-1. Legibility and Flexibility: Strive for a balance between building use legibility and flexibility. Design buildings such that their primary functions and uses can be readily determined from the exterior, making the building easy to access and understand. At the

same time, design flexibility into the building so that it may remain useful over time even as specific programmatic needs evolve.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

DC2-I Architectural Concept and Consistency

DC2-I-i. Integrate Upper-Levels: New multi-story developments are encouraged to consider methods to integrate a building's upper and lower levels. This is especially critical in areas zoned NC-65' and greater, where more recent buildings in the Junction lack coherency and exhibit a disconnect between the commercial base and upper residential levels as a result of disparate proportions, features and materials. The base of new mixed-use buildings – especially those zoned 65 ft. in height and higher – should reflect the scale of the overall building. New mixed-use buildings are encouraged to build the commercial level, as well as one to two levels above, out to the front and side property lines to create a more substantial base.

DC2-I-ii. Cohesive Architectural Concept: The use and repetition of architectural features and building materials, textures and colors can help create unity in a structure. Consider how the following can contribute to a building that exhibits a cohesive architectural concept:

- a. facade modulation and articulation;
- b. windows and fenestration patterns;
- c. trim and moldings;
- d. grilles and railings;
- e. lighting and signage.

DC2-II Human Scale

DC2-II-i. Pedestrian-Oriented Facades: Facades should contain elements that enhance pedestrian comfort and orientation while presenting features with visual interest that invite activity.

DC3 Open Space Concept: Integrate open space design with the building design so that they complement each other.

DC3-A Building-Open Space Relationship

DC3-A-1. Interior/Exterior Fit: Develop an open space concept in conjunction with the architectural concept to ensure that interior and exterior spaces relate well to each other and support the functions of the development.

DC3-B Open Space Uses and Activities

DC3-B-1. Meeting User Needs: Plan the size, uses, activities, and features of each open space to meet the needs of expected users, ensuring each space has a purpose and function.

DC3-B-2. Matching Uses to Conditions: Respond to changing environmental conditions such as seasonal and daily light and weather shifts through open space design and/or programming of open space activities.

DC3-B-3. Connections to Other Open Space: Site and design project-related open spaces to connect with, or enhance, the uses and activities of other nearby public open space where appropriate.

DC3-B-4. Multifamily Open Space: Design common and private open spaces in multifamily projects for use by all residents to encourage physical activity and social interaction.

DC3-C Design

DC3-C-1. Reinforce Existing Open Space: Where a strong open space concept exists in the neighborhood, reinforce existing character and patterns of street tree planting, buffers or treatment of topographic changes. Where no strong patterns exist, initiate a strong open space concept that other projects can build upon in the future.

DC3-C-2. Amenities/Features: Create attractive outdoor spaces suited to the uses envisioned for the project.

DC3-C-3. Support Natural Areas: Create an open space design that retains and enhances onsite natural areas and connects to natural areas that may exist off-site and may provide habitat for wildlife.

DC4 Exterior Elements and Finishes: Use appropriate and high quality elements and finishes for the building and its open spaces.

DC4-A Exterior Elements and Finishes

DC4-A-1. Exterior Finish Materials: Building exteriors should be constructed of durable and maintainable materials that are attractive even when viewed up close. Materials that have texture, pattern, or lend themselves to a high quality of detailing are encouraged.

DC4-A-2. Climate Appropriateness: Select durable and attractive materials that will age well in Seattle's climate, taking special care to detail corners, edges, and transitions.

DC4-B Signage

DC4-B-1. Scale and Character: Add interest to the streetscape with exterior signs and attachments that are appropriate in scale and character to the project and its environs.

DC4-B-2. Coordination with Project Design: Develop a signage plan within the context of architectural and open space concepts, and coordinate the details with façade design, lighting, and other project features to complement the project as a whole, in addition to the surrounding context.

DC4-C Lighting

DC4-C-1. Functions: Use lighting both to increase site safety in all locations used by pedestrians and to highlight architectural or landscape details and features such as entries, signs, canopies, plantings, and art.

DC4-C-2. Avoiding Glare: Design project lighting based upon the uses on and off site, taking care to provide illumination to serve building needs while avoiding off-site night glare and light pollution.

DC4-D Trees, Landscape, and Hardscape Materials

DC4-D-1. Choice of Plant Materials: Reinforce the overall architectural and open space design concepts through the selection of landscape materials.

DC4-D-2. Hardscape Materials: Use exterior courtyards, plazas, and other hard surfaced areas as an opportunity to add color, texture, and/or pattern and enliven public areas through the use of distinctive and durable paving materials. Use permeable materials wherever possible.

DC4-D-3. Long Range Planning: Select plants that upon maturity will be of appropriate size, scale, and shape to contribute to the site as intended.

DC4-D-4. Place Making: Create a landscape design that helps define spaces with significant elements such as trees.

DC4-E Project Assembly and Lifespan

DC4-E-1. Deconstruction: When possible, design the project so that it may be deconstructed at the end of its useful lifetime, with connections and assembly techniques that will allow reuse of materials.

West Seattle Junction Supplemental Guidance:

DC4-I Human Scale

DC4-I-i. Signage: Signs should add interest to the street level environment. They can unify the overall architectural concept of the building, or provide unique identity for a commercial space within a larger mixed-use structure. Design signage that is appropriate for the scale, character and use of the project and surrounding area. Signs should be oriented and scaled for both pedestrians on sidewalks and vehicles on streets. The following sign types are encouraged:

- a. pedestrian-oriented blade and window signs;
- b. marquee signs and signs on overhead weather protection;
- c. appropriately sized neon signs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendation summarized above was based on the design review packet dated Thursday, July 18, 2019, and the materials shown and verbally described by the applicant at the Thursday, July 18, 2019 Recommendation meeting. After considering the site and context, hearing public comment, reconsidering the previously identified design priorities and reviewing the materials, the five Design Review Board members recommended approval of the subject design with the following condition:

1. **California Avenue Facade Composition:** At the base, change the plaster cladding material above the windows to match the brick cladding below them. (CS3-A-1 Fitting Old and New Together, CS3-A-3 Established Neighborhoods, CS3-I-i Façade Articulation, CS3-I-ii Architectural Cues, DC4-A Building Materials)

ANALYSIS & DECISION – DESIGN REVIEW

DIRECTOR’S ANALYSIS

The design review process prescribed in Section 23.41.008.F of the Seattle Municipal Code describing the content of the SDCI Director’s decision reads in part as follows:

The Director’s decision shall consider the recommendation of the Design Review Board, provided that, if four members of the Design Review Board are in agreement in their

recommendation to the Director, the Director shall issue a decision which incorporates the full substance of the recommendation of the Design Review Board, unless the Director concludes the Design Review Board:

- a. Reflects inconsistent application of the design review guidelines; or
- b. Exceeds the authority of the Design Review Board; or
- c. Conflicts with SEPA conditions or other regulatory requirements applicable to the site; or
- d. Conflicts with the requirements of state or federal law.

At the conclusion of the Recommendation meeting held on July 18, 2019, the Board recommended approval of the project with the condition described in the summary of the Recommendation meeting above. Subject to the recommended condition, the design of the proposed project was found by the Design Review Board to adequately conform to the applicable Design Guidelines.

Five members of the Southwest Design Review Board were in attendance and provided recommendations (listed above) to the Director and identified elements of the Design Guidelines which are critical to the project's overall success. The Director must provide additional analysis of the Board's recommendations and then accept, deny or revise the Board's recommendations (SMC 23.41.014.F3).

The Director agrees with the Design Review Board's conclusion that the proposed project and conditions imposed result in a design that best meets the intent of the Design Review Guidelines and accepts the recommendations noted by the Board.

Following the Recommendation meeting, SDCI staff worked with the applicant to update the submitted plans to include the recommendations of the Design Review Board. Applicant response to Recommended Design Review Condition:

1. The applicant responded to the recommended condition by updating the MUP plan set to call out "Vertical Norman Brick, Running Bond" above the ground-level store-front window system on the east elevation. This is depicted on sheet A3.11 of the MUP plan set dated May 20, 2020. The response satisfies the recommended condition for the MUP decision. This item shall be shown on the construction plans and installation shall be confirmed by the Land Use Planner prior to the final Certificate of Occupancy.

The applicant shall be responsible for ensuring that all construction documents, details, and specifications are shown and constructed consistent with the approved MUP drawings.

The Director of SDCI has reviewed the decision and recommendations of the Design Review Board made by the five members present at the decision meeting and finds that they are consistent with the City of Seattle Design Review Guidelines. The Director is satisfied that all the recommendations imposed by the Design Review Board have been met.

DIRECTOR'S DECISION

The Director accepts the Design Review Board's recommendations and conditionally approves the proposed design with the condition at the end of this Decision.

II. ANALYSIS – SEPA

Environmental review resulting in a Threshold Determination is required pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), WAC 197-11, and the Seattle SEPA Ordinance (Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) Chapter 25.05).

The initial disclosure of the potential impacts from this project was made in the environmental checklist submitted by the applicant dated August 28, 2018. The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) has annotated the environmental checklist submitted by the project applicant; reviewed the project plans and any additional information in the project file submitted by the applicant or agents; and any pertinent comments which may have been received regarding this proposed action have been considered. The information in the checklist, the supplemental information, and the experience of the lead agency with the review of similar projects form the basis for this analysis and decision.

The SEPA Overview Policy (SMC 25.05.665 D) clarifies the relationship between codes, policies, and environmental review. Specific policies for each element of the environment, and certain neighborhood plans and other policies explicitly referenced may serve as the basis for exercising substantive SEPA authority. The Overview Policy states in part: "*where City regulations have been adopted to address an environmental impact, it shall be presumed that such regulations are adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation*" subject to some limitations.

Under such limitations/circumstances, mitigation can be considered. Thus, a more detailed discussion of some of the impacts is appropriate.

SHORT TERM IMPACTS

Construction activities could result in the following adverse impacts: construction dust and storm water runoff, erosion, emissions from construction machinery and vehicles, increased particulate levels, increased noise levels, occasional disruption of adjacent vehicular and pedestrian traffic, a small increase in traffic and parking impacts due to construction related vehicles, and increases in greenhouse gas emissions. Several construction-related impacts are mitigated by existing City codes and ordinances applicable to the project such as: the Stormwater Code (SMC 22.800-808), the Grading Code (SMC 22.170), the Street Use Ordinance (SMC Title 15), the Seattle Building Code, and the Noise Control Ordinance (SMC 25.08). Puget Sound Clean Air Agency regulations require control of fugitive dust to protect air quality. The following analyzes greenhouse gas emissions, construction-related traffic and parking, construction-related noise, air quality, as well as mitigation.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Construction activities including construction worker commutes, truck trips, the operation of construction equipment and machinery, and the manufacture of the construction materials themselves result in increases in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions which adversely impact air quality and contribute to climate change and global warming. While these impacts are adverse, no further mitigation is warranted pursuant to SMC 25.05.675.A.

Construction Impacts - Parking and Traffic

Increased trip generation is expected during the proposed demolition, grading, and construction activity. The area is subject to significant traffic congestion during peak travel times on nearby arterials. Large trucks turning onto arterial streets would be expected to further exacerbate the flow of traffic.

The area includes limited on-street parking. Additional parking demand from construction vehicles would be expected to further exacerbate the supply of on-street parking. It is the City's policy to minimize temporary adverse impacts associated with construction activities. However, the amount of excavation and size of construction will result in a small and temporary increase in truck trips and demand for on-street parking. Any closures of the public right of way will require review and permitting by Seattle Department of Transportation. Additional mitigation is not warranted per SMC 25.05.675.B.

Construction Impacts - Noise

The project is expected to generate loud noise during demolition, grading and construction. The Seattle Noise Ordinance (SMC 25.08.425) permits increases in permissible sound levels associated with private development construction and equipment between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM on weekdays and 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM on weekends and legal holidays in Neighborhood Commercial zones.

If extended construction hours are necessary due to emergency reasons or construction in the right of way, the applicant may seek approval from SDCI through a Noise Variance request. The applicant's environmental checklist does not indicate that extended hours are anticipated. The limitations stipulated in the Noise Ordinance are sufficient to mitigate noise impacts and no additional SEPA conditioning is necessary to mitigate noise impacts per SMC 25.05.675.B.

Construction Impacts – Mud and Dust

Approximately 8,700 cubic yards of material will be excavated and removed from the site. Transported soil is susceptible to being dropped, spilled, or leaked onto City streets. The City's Traffic Code (SMC 11.74.150-160) provides that material hauled in trucks are not spilled during transport. The City requires that loads either be secured/covered or include a minimum of six-inches of "freeboard", that is the area from level of material to the top of the truck container. The regulation is intended to minimize the amount of spilled material and dust from the truck bed

while travelling to or from a site. No additional SEPA conditioning is warranted to mitigate these construction impacts per SMC 25.05.675.B.

Environmental Health

There is the potential for asbestos and lead to be encountered during demolition due to the age of the existing structures on site. Should asbestos be identified on the site, it must be removed in accordance with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) and City requirements. PSCAA regulations require control of fugitive dust to protect air quality and require permits for removal of asbestos during demolition. The City acknowledges PSCAA's jurisdiction and requirements for remediation will mitigate impacts associated with any contamination. No further mitigation under SEPA Policies 25.05.675.F is warranted for asbestos impacts.

Should lead be identified on the site, there is a potential for impacts to environmental health. Lead is a pollutant regulated by laws administered by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including the [Toxic Substances Control Act \(TSCA\)](#), [Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 \(Title X\)](#), [Clean Air Act \(CAA\)](#), [Clean Water Act \(CWA\)](#), [Safe Drinking Water Act \(SDWA\)](#), [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act \(RCRA\)](#), and [Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act \(CERCLA\)](#) among others. The EPA further authorized the Washington State Department of Commerce to administer two regulatory programs in Washington State: the Renovation, Repair and Painting Program (RRP), and the Lead-Based Paint Activities Program (Abatement). These regulations protect the public from hazards of improperly conducted lead-based paint activities and renovations. No further mitigation under SEPA Policies 25.05.675.F is warranted for lead impacts.

LONG TERM IMPACTS

Long-term or use-related impacts are also anticipated as a result of approval of this proposal including the following: greenhouse gas emissions; parking; possible increased traffic in the area. Compliance with applicable codes and ordinances is adequate to achieve sufficient mitigation of most long-term impacts and no further conditioning is warranted by SEPA policies. However, greenhouse gas, historic resources, parking, and transportation warrant further analysis.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Operational activities, primarily vehicular trips associated with the project's energy consumption, are expected to result in increases in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions which adversely impact air quality and contribute to climate change and global warming. While these impacts are adverse, no further mitigation is warranted pursuant to SMC 25.05.675.A.

Historic Resources

The existing structures on site were constructed in 1938 and 1956. Since they are greater than 50 years old, these structures were reviewed for potential historic landmark status. The Department of Neighborhoods reviewed the proposal for compliance with the Landmarks Preservation requirements of SMC 25.12 and indicated the existing structures are unlikely to qualify for historic landmark status (Landmarks Preservation Board letters, reference number LPB562/18). Per the Overview policies in SMC 25.05.665.D, the existing City Codes and regulations to mitigate impacts to historic resources are presumed to be sufficient, and no further conditioning is warranted per SMC 25.05.675.H.

Parking

The proposed development includes 79 residential units and 8,740 square feet of commercial use with 42 off-street vehicular parking spaces for residential use. The Transportation Impact Analysis (Heffron Transportation Inc., September 8, 2020) indicates a peak residential demand for approximately 41 vehicles from the proposed development. Peak residential demand typically occurs overnight. The number of proposed parking spaces accommodates all of the anticipated residential parking demand, and no mitigation is warranted per SMC 25.05.675.M for residential parking.

The Transportation Impact Analysis indicates a peak commercial demand for approximately 17 vehicles from the proposed development. Peak commercial demand is expected to be for short-term parking and to occur midday Saturday. Peak commercial demand is expected to be accommodated by a mix of unrestricted and timed on-street parking spaces near the site or within nearby parking lots. Furthermore, the proposed development will accommodate the relocation of the existing commercial use so the anticipated net change to parking demand is expected to be negligible. No mitigation is warranted per SMC 25.05.675.M for commercial parking.

Transportation

The Transportation Impact Analysis (Heffron Transportation Inc., September 8, 2020) indicated that the project is expected to generate a net total of 360 daily vehicle trips with 34 net new PM peak hour trips and 25 net new AM peak hour trips. The site is located in the West Seattle Junction Urban Village and the Transportation Impact Analysis, and subsequent Correction Notice Response (Heffron Transportation Inc., October 22, 2020), considered the transportation impacts resulting from the temporary closure of the West Seattle High Rise Bridge.

The additional trips are expected to distribute on various roadways near the project site, including California Ave SW, SW Alaska St and routes resulting from the temporary closure of the West Seattle High Rise Bridge, and would have minimal impact on levels of service at nearby intersections and on the overall transportation system. The SDCI Transportation Planner reviewed the information and determined that no mitigation is warranted per SMC 25.05.675.R.

DECISION – SEPA

This decision was made after review by the responsible official on behalf of the lead agency of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the responsible department. This constitutes the Threshold Determination and form. The intent of this declaration is to satisfy the requirement of the State Environmental Policy Act (RCW 43.21.C), including the requirement to inform the public of agency decisions pursuant to SEPA.

- ☒ Determination of Non-Significance. This proposal has been determined to not have a significant adverse impact upon the environment. An EIS is not required under RCW 43.21.030(2) (c).

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355 and Early review DNS process in SMC 25.05.355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

CONDITIONS – DESIGN REVIEW

For the Life of the Project

1. The building and landscape design shall be substantially consistent with the materials represented at the Recommendation meeting and in the materials submitted after the Recommendation meeting, before the MUP issuance. Any change to the proposed design, including materials or colors, shall require prior approval by the Land Use Planner.

CONDITIONS – SEPA

None.

Abby Weber, Land Use Planner
Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections

Date: January 29, 2024