



SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY  
**CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE**  
 MEETING MINUTES

**MEETING NO.:** 14

**LOCATION:** Yesler Community Center, 917 East Yesler Way

**DATE:** December 10, 2014, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**ATTENDEES:**

**Committee Members**

**SHA Staff**

*Approximately 42 members of the public in attendance; 68 total attendees (not including interpreters)*

- Abdisamad Jama
- Angela O'Brien
- Art Rea
- Faduma Isaq
- Gay Boyce
- George Staggers
- Halima Jaarso
- James Kelly, Chair
- Jim Erickson
- Julie West
- Kent Koth
- Lee Copeland
- Jamie Lee for Maiko Winkler-Chin
- Mark Okazaki

- Matt King
- Maureen Kostyack
- Maza Gebriel Desta
- Michael Lanthier
- Mulu Amare
- Mumina Osman
- Sara Maxana
- Tam Nguyen
- Ted Klainer
- Tom Im
- Vanessa Murdock
- William Ayears
- Xinyu Wang
- Yin Lau

- Andrew Lofton
- Anne Fiske Zuniga
- April Griffith
- Cindy Sribhibhadh
- Fitsum Abraha
- John Forsyth
- Joy Bryngelson
- Kathlyn Paananen
- Maria Ursua
- Rod Brandon
- Stephanie Van Dyke
- Sven Koehler
- Terry Galiney
- Tom Eanes

1. **5:30** **Call to Order**  
 Chair James Kelly: call to order and welcome.

2. **5:30 – 5:40** **Introductions**  
 CRC members and attendees roll call.

3. **5:40 – 5:50** **Approval of May 14, 2014 minutes**  
 Meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

**Yesler Terrace Redevelopment Project Update - Stephanie Van Dyke**

Redevelopment updates since May:

- 140 children from Yesler Terrace participated in academic programming coordinated by our major education partner, Seattle University.
- Neighborcare Health hired 4 Community Health Care workers from Yesler Terrace.
- The Economic Opportunity Office in partnership with the Seattle College District initiated a sewing class here at Yesler Terrace for 18 women and is connecting the students with potential employers in this field.
- By the end of next year, 148 replacement housing units will be completed at the Baldwin Apartments, 1105 E. Fir, and 820 Yesler Way. This year, we welcomed the first residents to return to Yesler Terrace after relocation in the Baldwin Apartments.
- 120 units of workforce and market-rate apartments at the Anthem on 12<sup>th</sup> building will also be complete.
- Infrastructure work started this year, which includes new sewer lines, water lines, and preparing for the new neighborhood park.
- Next year, the design phase will start for the fourth new building at Yesler, located in proximity of the Epstein Building Parking lot area along the existing Spruce Street.
- Phase III relocation is underway, which includes households in the blocks north of Yesler from the Steam Plant to Boren. Many of the people there are interested in moving to 1105 E. Fir.



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**Greetings from SHA Executive Director - Andrew Lofton**

- Andrew congratulated the Citizen Review Committee for all their hard work and contributions to Yesler redevelopment and expressed the need for their continued involvement.
- Seattle Housing is excited about the progress of Yesler Terrace and building upon the partnership created with the Citizen Review Committee and the community. Andrew invited CRC members to continue to give their valued input and feedback as the project progresses.

**Review of Agenda – Chair, James Kelly**

- We have an alternative meeting format this evening. There will be 3 different topics - Health, Public Safety, and Public Art for the neighborhood, and we will be divided into 3 groups. We ask that you stay at your table, and the topic facilitators will rotate to each group.
- The facilitators are Zoe Reese from Neighborcare Health, Jackie Helfgott from Seattle University, and Carolyn Law, Artist and Consultant. They will rotate to have discussions at each of the two CRC tables and with the public, and everyone will have an opportunity to discuss all three topics.
- Afterward the facilitators will summarize what they heard from the larger group, then we'll hear reports on the People, Neighborhood, and Housing subcommittees from September.

4. **5:50 – 5:55** **BREAK**

5. **5:55 - 6:20** **WORK TABLES – ROUND 1**

CRC members and members of the public divide into three groups and discussed topics.

6. **6:25 – 6:40** **WORK TABLES – ROUND 2**

CRC members and members of the public divide into three groups and discussed topics.

7. **6:45 – 7:00** **WORK TABLES – ROUND 3**

CRC members and members of the public divide into three groups and discussed topics.

8. **7:05 – 7:10** **BREAK**

9. **7:10 – 7:20** **Report Back**

**Public Health- Zoe Reese, Neighborcare Health:**

- Neighborcare Health operates a Community Health Worker (CHW) program in Yesler Terrace in partnership with SHA and other grant partners. They hired 4 Community Health Workers in Yesler Terrace to better connect people with primary care and health-related activities in the community.
- The program goals are to:
  - increase community access to appropriate healthcare resources;
  - improve individual health outcomes by increasing the percent of residents who describe their health as being “good” or “excellent”;
  - decreasing the percent of residents using the Emergency Room as their primary source of care;
  - improving community mental health of those who are depressed or hopeless nearly every day.
- The CHW program has exciting news that between 2011 and 2014, a Community Health Assessment Survey indicates that there is a 77% increase of residents with insurance; 20% decrease of people reporting mental and psychological distress, and 20% increase of people going to doctor instead of ER.
- Questions and feedback during the working group sessions are summarized below:
  - Neighborcare confirmed that they provide mental health screenings, dental care, eye exams for diabetic patients, and will connect residents with other providers outside of Neighborcare Health as needed.
  - Among the four health workers, 8 languages are spoken. CRC members expressed concern that the health workers do not speak Oromo. Zoe confirmed that there are no Oromo,



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Chinese, or Swahili-speaking workers yet and are reaching out in the community for great candidate recommendations.

- They welcome further input on how to best serve the health needs of the community. For further questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact Zoe Reese at 206-548-3069 or [zoer@neighborcare.org](mailto:zoer@neighborcare.org).

Public Safety – Jackie Helfgott, Seattle University:

- Seattle University, partnering with SHA and the Yesler Terrace community, is developing a public safety plan through the collection of data on official crime statistics, community perceptions of crime, community experiences and perceptions of public safety, and from community feedback on what can be done to improve feelings of safety in the neighborhood community.
- Jackie requested feedback on public safety issues and concerns for the Yesler Terrace neighborhood summarized below:
  - People noted the positive improvements Seattle Housing has made in the community. Generally, people feel connected, have a sense of community, and feel more safe.
  - Comments for safety improvements include lighting, more police presence, dealing with issues of traffic safety for kids, and drug dealing.
  - Suggestions include cultural competency training for those involved in protecting the public's safety and better coordination between neighborhoods, such as the broader First Hill and Little Saigon. Attendees noted that a block watch, may not be the best approach, but strong involvement by resident/neighborhood councils may work better.
  - Suggestions include making the public spaces active through art or community activities to foster ownership by the community. Members suggested that public health, art, and public safety efforts are well coordinated and find opportunities for intersection and collaboration.
- A public safety survey was mailed to all residents and Seattle University encouraged residents to complete them.
- CRC members also expressed concern about vehicle vandalism and theft, which residents attribute to people in the homeless encampments nearby.
- Additional feedback, suggestions, or concerns can be sent to Jackie Helfgott at [jhelfgot@seattleu.edu](mailto:jhelfgot@seattleu.edu) or 206-296-5477.

Master Arts Plan - Carolyn Law:

- Carolyn is developing a Master Arts Plan for the Yesler Terrace neighborhood, which includes the replacement housing east of Boren Avenue. The focus of working group discussion is on the Green Street Loop and shared spaces and pathways connected to the loop. There are 8 locations for adult exercise equipment and many places throughout the neighborhood called pause places to sit and rest.
- The Master Arts Plan will develop an artistic vision for the neighborhood and a set of recommendations to achieve the community's creative placemaking goals. SHA plans to implement this plan by providing multiple opportunities for diverse and local artists to contribute to public artwork at Yesler Terrace.
- Carolyn asked for input for the Master Arts Plan, which is summarized below:
  - Make sure everything is designed to be accessible for everyone.
  - There was concern about interweaving the history of Yesler Terrace combined with what the community is now and what it will become. Hopefully art can be dynamic and change over time.
  - Comments on the artist selection process and attention to including artists from the community and local area.



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- People agreed with the idea that overall the art would create a place that is comfortable for all, as beautiful as possible, unique to Yesler Terrace, vital – it won't get boring over time, and, will always feel like a place you want to be.
- Art that can be interactive for children and placed near exercise equipment for adults and children to be together in this space.
- A request was made for the Parks Department to attend the next CRC meeting to review design and plans for the Yesler Neighborhood Park.
- An additional request was made to have the next CRC meeting focus on the existing Yesler Community Center and how to enhance opportunities and activities for the community.
- Comments, suggestions, and additional input for the Master Arts Plan can be sent to Kathlyn Paananen at 206-615-3548 or [Kathlyn.paananen@seattlehousing.org](mailto:Kathlyn.paananen@seattlehousing.org).

10. **7:20 –  
7:30**

**CRC Sub-Committee Reports**

Housing Subcommittee (Report-out provided by Michael Lanthier)

- Group reviewed the detailed design plans of each floor of the 221 10th Ave S building to be located south of the Yesler Community Center just above the future Hillclimb.
- The group asked several questions about the amenities for residents, design considerations for elderly and disabled residents, and energy efficiency standards of the units.
- All units will have washers and dryers in the units, a ventilation system that prevents cooking odors from traveling into hallways and other apartments, and all be visitable by a wheelchair.
- The building also has a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter that will filter incoming air to prevent outdoor air pollution that may travel from I-5.
- SHA also introduced the Green Healthy Living Initiative. The aim is to build community across buildings around environmental stewardship and health promotion. Another aspect is locating residents with respiratory illnesses, such as asthma, in Breathe Easy units, which will be available at all the new apartment buildings.

Neighborhood Subcommittee (Report-out provided by Jim Erickson)

- The Committee met Carolyn Law, who is developing the Master Arts Plan for Yesler Terrace and contributed ideas to her process.
- The City's Department of Parks and Recreation presented on the schematic design of the new neighborhood park. There were questions about safety, lighting, and available restrooms.
- The P-Patch Program also shared an update about Horiuchi Park P-Patch. They held volunteer work parties and the garden will be available for planting next year.
- Seattle University also introduced the development of the Public Safety Enhancement Plan. They sought comments of the top concerns and how the broader neighborhood can better communicate and come together around safety.
- Sue Oliver of Seattle University also came to talk about the Economic Development Study she is preparing for SHA that researches small business opportunities for residents and the neighborhood. Her study is now complete since we met and is available for public review.
  - Upon the request of one of the members, the report will be e-mailed to all CRC members.

People Subcommittee (Report-out provided by James Kelly for Angela O'Brien)

- The committee discussed the progress of the economic opportunities, health, public safety, and education initiatives.
- We learned that through a new partnership and grant funding, 15 Yesler residents will receive English courses coupled with on-the-job training with prospective employers.
- 18 residents are also participating in a new sewing class at Yesler Terrace..



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- Seattle University successfully implemented summer academic programs for 140 Yesler Terrace youth.
- The group also noted that they were thankful the First Hill Improvement Association is including Yesler residents in conversations with the Seattle Police Department and hope future collaborations continue.

11. **7:30 – 7:40** **Comments from the Public**

Chair Kelly invited comments from the public regarding Yesler Terrace redevelopment overall.

- Two Yesler Terrace residents commented in opposition of Seattle Housing Authority's Stepping Forward proposal. They expressed the desire for more employment opportunities that are directly related to Yesler Terrace redevelopment for residents.

12. **7:41pm** **Adjournment**

Meeting closing; Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting.

# Community Health Worker Program

## Program Description

In partnership with Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) and other grant partners, Neighborcare Health operates a Community Health Worker (CHW) program in Yesler Terrace. This program is based on national best practices, including the Boston Resident Health Advocate Program and international promatora initiatives, and employs four Yesler Terrace residents with the goal of increasing community access to appropriate healthcare resources and improving individual health outcomes. Specifically, we will:

- **Increase the percent of residents who describe their health as being “good” or “excellent”**  
Baseline: 45% report health as “good” or “excellent” (majority “poor” or “fair”)
- **Decrease the percent of residents using the Emergency Room as their primary source of care**  
Baseline: 49% use ER as main care source
- **Improve community mental health by decreasing PHQ-2 scores**  
Baseline: 27% are down, depressed, or hopeless nearly every day

Baseline data was established, and progress toward goals will be measured via an annual health assessment survey distributed in partnership with SHA and facilitated by Neighborcare Health Community Health Workers, in collaboration with community partners.

## Program Activities

In addition to assisting residents with navigating the health care system, getting connected with primary care, actively engaging in their care plans, and ensuring insurance coverage, our CHWs also facilitate the following activities:

- **Community Health Screenings:** Screenings for common chronic illnesses as well as provision of flu shots, insurance enrollment, assistance scheduling appointments with primary care, and referrals to community resources.
- **Community Gardening:** In collaboration with City of Seattle P-Patch staff, our CHWs are working to create community garden working groups in connection with cooking class opportunities to enhance social connection in Yesler Terrace while also improving knowledge of food and nutrition and their impact on health.
- **Community Walking Group:** In order to enhance community physical activity, CHWs are partnering with Parks and Recreation and Sound Steps to facilitate a community walking group that will provide residents with safe walking routes, pedometers, and scheduled group walking times to increase physical fitness.
- **Youth Tutoring Nutrition Connection:** In partnership with Catholic Community Services after-school tutoring and Seattle Parks and Recreation’s Big Brained Super Heroes tutoring, our CHWs are providing educational materials and support around nutrition for youth and assisting in bringing healthy snacks to tutoring times to support the community’s youth to become healthy adults.

# Community Health Worker Program Staff



## Asha Abdi

*Personal Motto:* “Making mistakes is better than faking perfection.”

*Why did you want to be a Community Health Worker?*

I’m an open person and I love helping people!

*How long have you lived in Yesler Terrace?* 10 years

*What languages do you speak?* Somali and English

*What is something that makes you happy?*

Helping people and meeting nice people.



## Kim Do

*Personal Motto:* “Never give up!”

*Why did you want to be a Community Health Worker?*

I needed a job where I could work with people and help them with their health.

*How long have you lived in Yesler Terrace?* 3 years

*What languages*

*do you speak?* Vietnamese

*What is something that makes you happy?*

Having a job and taking care of my family.



## Alisa Farah

*Personal Motto:* “Throw me to the wolves, and I will return leading the pack.”

*Why did you want to be a Community Health Worker?*

I love helping my community with getting better health and growing as a community.

*How long have*

*you lived in Yesler Terrace?* 16 years

*What languages do you speak?* Somali and English

*What is something that makes you happy?* My

daughter and working at NeighborCare Health.



## Senait Gebregiorgis

*Personal Motto:* “Easy come, easy go.”

*Why did you want to be a Community Health Worker?*

I believe that everyone deserves quality healthcare, regardless of socioeconomic status, which is why I am thrilled to be part of team that will assist individuals

reach their healthcare goals—whatever they may be.

*How long have you lived in Yesler Terrace?* Forever

*What languages do you speak?* Tigrinya

*What is something that makes you happy?* Good conversations.



## Nuha Elkugia

### Community Programs Manager

Nuha graduated with her MPH from the University of Washington’s Community Oriented Public Health Practice program and is very excited to be working in the Yesler Terrace Community. She is especially looking forward to partnering with the Yesler Terrace residents, existing services and resources in improving the quality of health and life of the community. Originally from Libya, she can speak Arabic and a bit of Spanish. Her favorite quote is by Ghandi, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.” In her free time, she likes trying to cook food from around the world and playing basketball.

## Yesler Terrace Public Safety 12/10/14 Citizen Review Committee Meeting

Seattle University is partnering with Seattle Housing Authority and the Yesler Terrace Community to develop a public safety plan. The plan will be developed through collection of data on official crime statistics, community perceptions of crime, community experiences and perceptions of public safety, and feedback from community members on what can be done to improve feelings of safety in the Yesler Terrace neighborhood. Your input is needed to develop the public safety plan and is critical to the development of a community safety plan that is grounded in feedback from community stakeholders.

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- 1) How safe do you feel in the Yesler Terrace neighborhood?
- 2) What concerns do you have about crime and public safety in the Yesler Terrace Housing community?
- 3) What is your top concern about public safety (including crime, fire safety, and emergency preparedness) in the Yesler housing and surrounding neighborhood?
- 4) What improvements would you like to see to help address public safety concerns in the Yesler Terrace Housing community?
- 5) What has your experience been with the Seattle Police, Seattle Housing Authority, and Yesler Terrace Community Stakeholders in the effort to create a safe community in the Yesler Terrace Housing and surrounding community?
- 6) The purpose of collecting this and other information, is to develop a public safety plan for Yesler Terrace. Once this safety plan is developed, how likely are you to be involved in the neighborhood safety plan?
- 7) Are you interested in assisting in helping to maintain the public safety plan – e.g. to participate in Block Watch and/or other programs and initiatives that will make the community safer?
- 8) What is your community already doing that you believe increases public safety and should be done more?

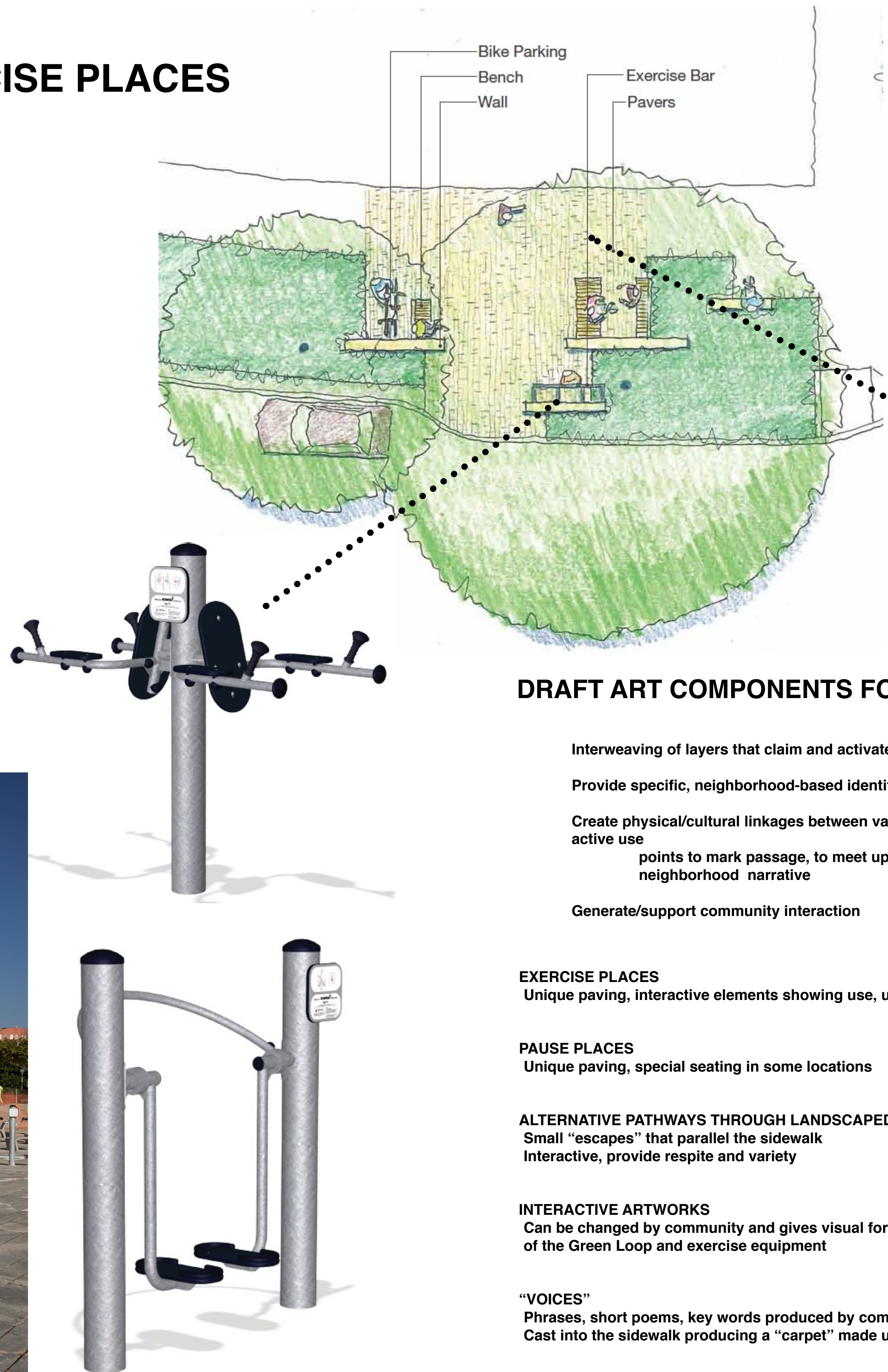


# YESLER TERRACE ART MASTER PLAN

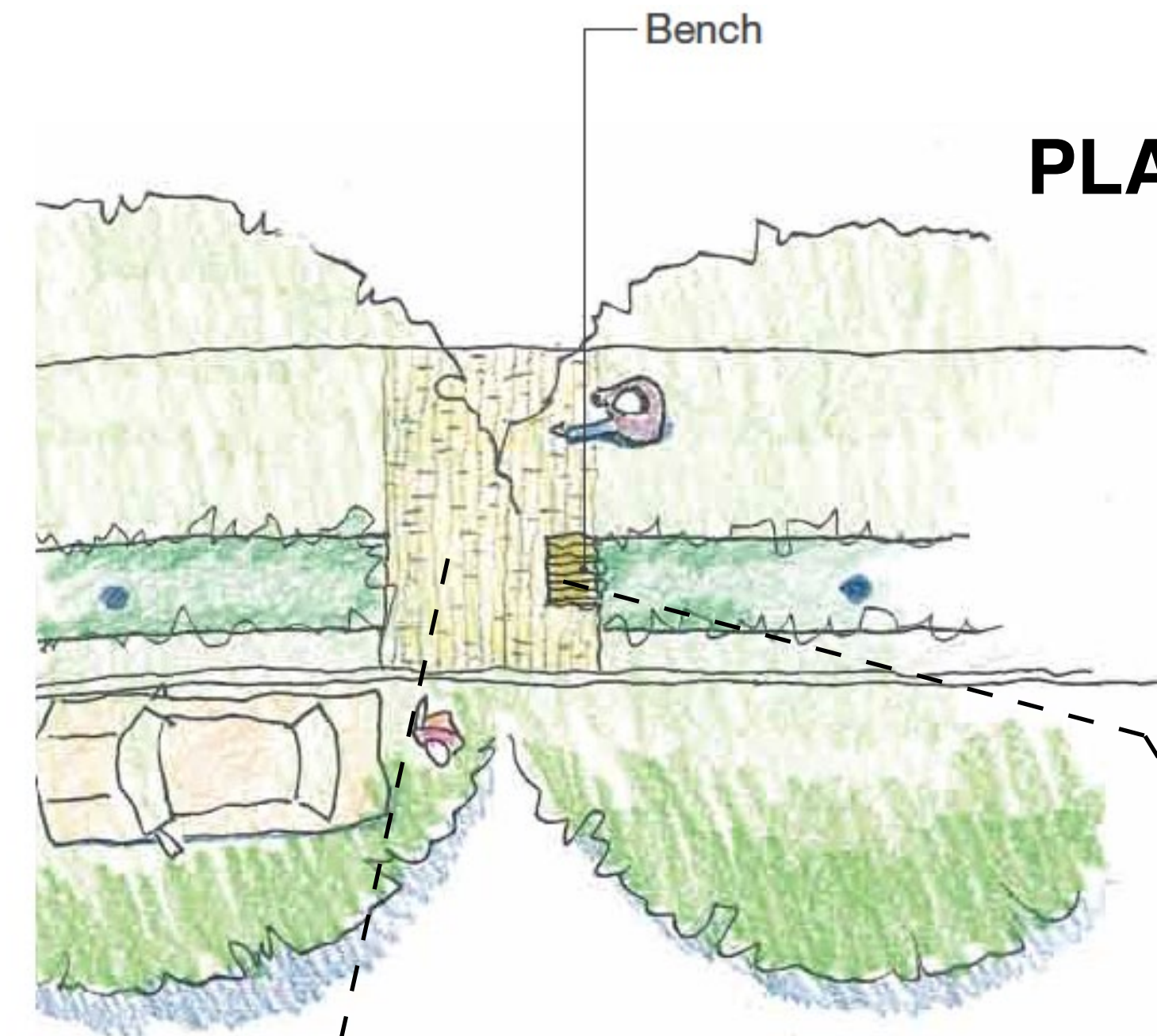
MAKING THESE LOCATIONS IN THE GREEN LOOP AND CONNECTING PATHS PUBLIC AREAS BEAUTIFUL, COMFORTABLE, VITAL, UNIQUE, AND USED BY ALL

## GREEN LOOP EXERCISE PLACES

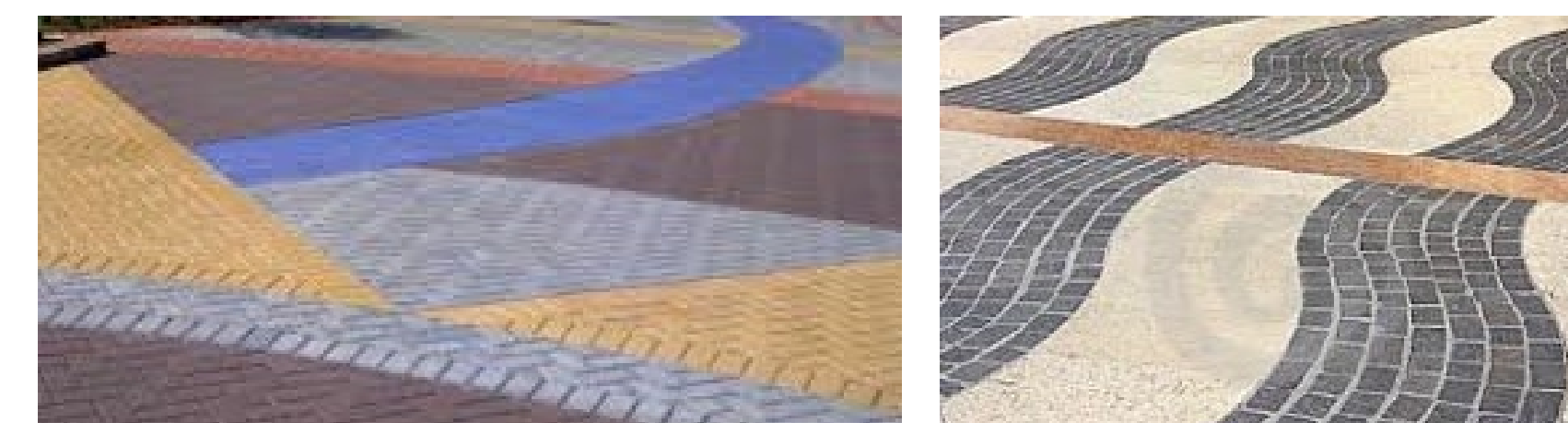
### EXAMPLES OF EXERCISE EQUIPMENT



## PLACES TO PAUSE



### SPECIAL PAVING



### SPECIAL SEATING



## DRAFT ART COMPONENTS FOR THE GREEN LOOP

- Interweaving of layers that claim and activate the public spaces
- Provide specific, neighborhood-based identity and experiences
- Create physical/cultural linkages between various points to encourage active use
  - points to mark passage, to meet up, to create a strong neighborhood narrative
- Generate/support community interaction

**EXERCISE PLACES**  
Unique paving, interactive elements showing use, unique seating

**PAUSE PLACES**  
Unique paving, special seating in some locations

**ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS THROUGH LANDSCAPED AREAS ALONG SIDEWALKS**  
Small "escapes" that parallel the sidewalk  
Interactive, provide respite and variety

**INTERACTIVE ARTWORKS**  
Can be changed by community and gives visual form to the use of the Green Loop and exercise equipment

**"VOICES"**  
Phrases, short poems, key words produced by community members over time  
Cast into the sidewalk producing a "carpet" made up of the voices of the community

### ALTERNATIVE PATHS THROUGH LANDSCAPING

