

Chapter 4.0

Plan Implementation

The Rainier Beach Neighborhood 2014 planning project has been filled with many success stories, from its ability to connect with hundreds and hundreds of people to meeting the challenges of reaching out to over 60 different language groups to influencing City and regional decision-making on public capital investment in the Rainier Beach area. To ensure that the hard work achieved in preparing this Plan's previous chapters do not rot go in vain, this chapter seeks to establish the appropriate and feasible steps for implementing recommendations and concepts into realities: The contents of Chapter 4. 0 break down as follows:

- Early Implementation Funding
- Plan Stewardship and Monitoring
- Building the Cornerstones

4.1 Early Implementation Funding

The City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods has made available to each neighborhood finishing its plan a \$50,000 early implementation fund to achieve near-term improvements. By no means is this expected to meet the capital costs that will be required to implement many plan recommendations, but it will provide a solid foundation from which to show residents, businesses, and property owners that the planning process does lead to tangible results benefiting the community. The neighborhood's application for this fund will resubmitted on April 1, 1999.

Several projects were considered for the early implementation funding. The goal was to identify projects that would physically improve the neighborhood, showed progress being made, stood out as a priority of the neighborhood plan, and had potential to be implemented within a year of start-up. This range of candidates included:

Potential Project	Estimated Cost
● Expanded Technology and Equipment Resources at the Branch Library	\$25,000
∨ Rainier Avenue Banners and Identity Program- Cloverdale to Seward Park Ave	\$1s,000
● Seed Money for Mapes Walk Pedestrian Improvement Project	\$10,000
● Start-Up Money for Development of Rainier Beach Design Guidelines	\$5,000
∨ Establishment of new Job Resources/Career Center for youth and adults	\$50,000
∨ Initial year funding for Staff/Resources for Plan Implementation Stewardship	\$50,000
∨ Programs to be defined for Community Education	\$25,000
● Business Incubator Program at the Rainier Beach Shopping Center	\$30,000

The Rainier Beach Neighborhood 2014 Planning Committee evaluated these and a number of other projects at several committee meetings. The group considered feasibility, cost, chance for success, and the project's relationship to the neighborhood plan as points of criteria. In the end, the Planning Committee chose to move forward with the following projects:

Mapes Walk Pedestrian Improvement Project. The Mapes Walk project will focus on physically enhancing the pedestrian path along the 52nd Avenue S right-of-way that links Henderson Street to Rainier Avenue S. The corridor is well used, connects residential, commercial, and civic facilities, retains an active creek, and has strong support in the neighborhood plan. The project is supported by a \$10,000 Matching Fund Small & Simple Grant to prepare the designs and cost estimates for the Mapes Walk Master Plan. The design phase is expected to be completed in two to three months, and physical improvements should be constructed over the Summer and Fall of 1999. Mapes Walk will receive \$20,000 for early implementation funding.

Community Education. As one of the cornerstones of the Rainier Beach Neighborhood Plan, the Committee strongly believed that education needed to be given funding "legs" to continue the work it began. In all likelihood, proposals will focus on strengthening Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), conducting outreach to area non-profit organizations, and developing Community Advisory Group to liaison with School District and School site administrators.

Another possibility for community education may also be to define a technology resource/job training multipurpose center that could be co-located in the library or in the Rainier Beach Community Center. A specific project for community education will be defined within an funding appropriation of \$25,000.

Administrative/Management./Organization. Given its experience from Phase II of neighborhood planning, the Committee agreed to set aside \$5,000 for project contingency, mailer fees, reproduction costs, and fiscal agent support.

4.2 Plan Stewardship and Monitoring

Like the neighborhood planning process, plan implementation will require partnership and commitment between the community and various City of Seattle departments. This means that both sides must be accountable to the other. While the long process of preparing the plan has concluded, the new work of ensuring future action begins. To do this, the community must initially develop a stewardship body in conjunction with the Department of Neighborhoods. Some of the steps that will be needed will include but may not be limited to the following

- Forming a Stewardship Committee from a wide range of representative area groups.
- . Establishing a mission statement for stewardship.

- Using the mission statement to guide the committee, as well as give the City an idea of neighborhood expectations.
- Establishment of a strategy of reporting back to the community at large.

Stewardship Group. The Rainier Beach Neighborhood 2014 Planning Committee will likely adopt one of two scenarios: (1) merge with an existing community organization such as the Rainier Community Club to carry out plan-related elements, or (2) establish a founding organization to succeed the Planning Committee. Regardless of the scenario, the stewardship model must require a participants to commit to serving for a minimum of one year. The stewardship group will also be required to meet monthly. The three chief functions of the group will be to:

1. Report Back to the Community-at-Large. The group must establish a process for keeping all Rainier Beach constituents informed. This could be via a newsletter, bulletin board postings, web site, phone tree, or many of the other strategies that Rainier Beach Neighborhood 20[4] has successfully implemented through the neighborhood planning process.
2. Monitoring the Plan. Although it may seem as the final step for many in the community, completing the plan simply launches the implementation phase. A way of getting back to the community would be through an annual report that monitors the Rainier Beach Neighborhood Plan. Similar models have been used with success to monitor the Department of Neighborhoods-sponsored Action Plans for the Central Area and Southeast Seattle. The Rainier Beach stewardship group should also seek regular audience (monthly/quarterly) with the City's Southeast Neighborhood Development Manager who will be responsible for ensuring Plan adoption.
3. Adoption and Approval Matrix. While the Neighborhood Plan (this document) is the blueprint that will guide the stewardship group, the City of Seattle will look at implementation through the context of its adoption and approval matrix. The matrix takes the neighborhood plan's recommended actions and shows the City what items are of greatest priority, which department's are responsible for follow-up action, and what is the anticipated timeframe for implementation. The stewardship group must also be familiar with the matrix, and use it to ensure that City departments are taking action or resolving conflicts that impede implementation of a plan recommendation. Figure 26 on page 83 illustrates some of the possible relationships between recommended actions and responsible City agencies.

4.3 Building the Cornerstones

As discussed in Chapter 3.0 the Rainier Beach 2014 Plan. Cornerstones represent the basic and main part, or the foundation, of the plan. Because they should be considered the *highest-priority* elements, implementing them is paramount to the success of the plan, and will require special partnerships and commitments between the community and various City of Seattle departments. The following discussion provides some potential implementation mechanisms for the cornerstone elements.

HENDERSON STREET

- Who Needs to Be Involved?**
- ◆ Mayor's Office
 - ◆ Station Area Planning
 - ◆ Sound Transit
 - ◆ DCLU
 - ◆ OED
 - ◆ King County Metro

TRANSPORTATION & TRANSIT FACILITIES

- Who Needs to Be Involved?**
- ◆ SeaTran
 - ◆ Sound Transit
 - ◆ King County Metro

"BEACH" SQUARE

- Who Needs to Be Involved?**
- ◆ OED
 - King County ED
 - SeaTran
 - SPU
 - City Light
 - Parks & Rec



- WHO SHOULD HELP STEWARD THE PLAN ?**
- Rainier Beach Neighborhood 2014 Members
 - Rainier Beach Community Club
 - Local Residents & Businesses
 - Site Advisory Council
 - Rainier Beach Merchants Association
 - Southeast Effective Development
 - Emerald City Outreach Ministries
 - Local Churches & Non-Profits

HOUSING & LAND USE

- Who Needs to Be Involved?**
- ◆ Dept. of Housing
 - ◆ DCLU
 - ◆ Station Area Planning
 - ◆ SPO
 - SEED,

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

- Who Needs to Be Involved?**
- ◆ Seattle Schools
 - Mayor's Office
 - City Council
 - Seattle Libraries

FIGURE 26
 Strategies for Plan
 Stewardship and Monitoring

- The Rainier Beach neighborhood plan stewardship group must work with the City's Office of Economic Development and King County's Economic Development Office to continue pursuing a business incubator project and attracting an anchor store to the Rainier Beach Shopping Center. The "Beach" Square concept hinges on the shopping center being an attractive and welcoming place for residents of Rainier Beach, Skyway, South Beacon Hill, and the southern end of Southeast Seattle. Both the City and County Economic Development offices have expressed interest and desire to work on this project. The County has already been working with the shopping center's property owner. The stewardship group must continue to keep momentum on these positive steps.
- implement Mapes Walk Pedestrian improvement Project. Through the Early Implementation Funding, but also through the Neighborhood Matching Fund, Mapes Walk will become a reality. This corridor serves as a critical pedestrian link, and has the potential to be a truly unique and special place in the Rainier Beach community. The City must provide the coordinating support during the early Master Plan phase (to be completed by June 1999), and then work to find ways to implement a range of projects including street lighting, creek restoration, and pedestrian amenities. Departments that must be involved are Department of Neighborhoods, SeaTran, Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle City Light, and possibly the Seattle Arts Commission.

Community Education: The Building Block of the Future

Fulfilling the goals and vision for community education will require continued outreach to all members of the community, including children, parents, non-profit organizations, the business community, and civic groups. It may be that the most successful strategy will be to work on community education independent from Rainier Beach's neighborhood plan stewardship group. Energy may be best used and conserved by working through the Site Advisory Council, the PTA structure, or through an independent group of citizens forming its own Community Education Task Force. Strategies for plan implementation should consider:

- . Utilization of the Early Implementation Funding for additional outreach to community groups.
- Utilization of the EIF for a one-year, half-time staff position, whose responsibility will be to advocate on behalf of the community to the Seattle School District and the City of Seattle on matters related to school district administration-community relations, public investment in improving school grounds, and finding funding from both public and private sources for technology resources and other education needs.
- The Site Advisory Council must continue to take a prominent lead role in strengthening the connection between the needs of Rainier Beach schools and the efforts of the Seattle School District.