

The Capitol Hill Community Council has voted to fully support the Melrose Promenade proposal, which would transform Capitol Hill's Melrose Avenue and neighboring publicly-owned land into a dynamic public open space and green street.

WHEREAS, the Melrose Promenade project would advance citywide efforts to make Seattle more sustainable, placing an emphasis on expanding and improving our pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Melrose Promenade project would improve connectivity between residential neighborhoods and Downtown Seattle; and

WHEREAS, the Melrose Promenade project would make Melrose Avenue safer and less prone to criminal activity due to better lighting, more people, and "eyes on the street"; and

WHEREAS, the Melrose Promenade project would create a new public open space that would offer visitors to the city and to Capitol Hill sweeping views of the Seattle skyline, the iconic Space Needle, and the Olympic Mountains; and

WHEREAS, the Melrose Promenade project would offer nearby residents a one-of-a-kind, easily accessible public amenity, a place to stroll or to enjoy a book, a gathering spot that would serve as the "front porch" to Capitol Hill; and

WHEREAS, the Melrose Promenade proposal is consistent with several citywide and neighborhood-focused planning efforts, including:

- the Comprehensive Plan, which includes a section on the Capitol Hill Neighborhood Plan, which recommends creating opportunities for new parks on publicly-owned land and enhancing existing public spaces; and
- the Bicycle Master Plan, which recommends that the Melrose Promenade corridor be a signed bicycle route connecting Lakeview Boulevard and SR-520 to the north with Pike and Pine Streets to the south; additionally, Melrose Avenue is included as part of the city's Urban Trails and Bikeways system; and
- the Pedestrian Master Plan, in which portions of Melrose Ave are rated as "Tier 1" and "high priority" areas in need of improvement.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that, pursuant to a majority vote of the members present at its July 19, 2012 general membership meeting, the Capitol Hill Community Council recommends that the Melrose Promenade project be a top priority for funding made available to transportation, parks and open space, green storm water infrastructure, and neighborhood planning initiatives.