



Community Feedback on Preliminary Design Concept

The Murray CSO Control Facility preliminary design concept drawings were shared with the public in January 2012. The drawings were very early, conceptual attempts to marry the community's expressed vision for the site with the constraints identified through site and technical analysis.

The Murray CSO Design Advisory Group (DAG) offered the following comments about the design concept at its January 12, 2012 meeting:

- There were concerns that the design process had been sped up and there needed to be more public involvement opportunities to consider design elements.
(Note: The project team explained that the preliminary design concepts were early, preliminary concepts intended to generate feedback from the community. DAG members were informed that the design concepts would be shared with the community throughout January and the DAG would be able to review refined versions at a future meeting.)
- The concept looks like a lot of the concepts from the previous meetings and design workshop. The Design Workshop drawings are definitely being used.
- This design is responsive to the group's comments. The drawings need to more clearly identify the small access point to Othello, which is slightly to the left of the Beach Drive dead end opening.
- These drawing are primarily about the architecture of the building. The community should be able to sculpt the landscape. Softening the edges could change the entire view of the building without moving much of the facility itself.
- Can the fuel tank be located below ground?
(Answer: The fuel tank could not be located in the Murray Avenue right-of-way at all due to the City of Seattle needing access to its 48-inch sewer pipe under the right-of-way.)
- The drawings represent a great conceptual move forward and do a good job capturing the group's comments. The drawings give the group a good look at a potential new asset – the stair step – which will provide beautiful views west. Is there a way to soften the edges?
- The community had previously asked for an entryway on top of the facility. It would be wonderful to make the stair way part of an educational design feature.
- The layout lends itself towards being an educational piece of the park. It looks like there is space for educational learning signs.
- Can art play a part in the design?
(Answer: public art funding will be available to this project.)



- There are many ways to use the views and soften the angular relationship of the stair way. There is a way to use the land form to disguise the front of the building.
- It is understood that part of the facility will be an area where people aren't allowed, but there is still a need for a screen to disguise the facility. Where will we place a security line?
- Consider moving back the screen to give back more public space. The project team should start thinking of the facility less as an actual building and more as landscaping or land form.
- The design could use all natural features instead of a wall.
- It will be difficult to grow trees or large plants on top of the edge of the tank due to the lack of topsoil.
- It looks like there is a lot of concrete in front of the facility. Could that area be gravel?
- Has an inventory of trees along the Murray Avenue right-of-way been done?
(Answer: Not yet, but an inventory will be conducted.)
- There was interest in learning if the facility's components could run horizontally along the hillside so that it doesn't jut outward as much as what is currently shown.
(Answer: that configuration was considered, but that design diminishes airflow to the emergency generator, which was too significant an operational tradeoff to accommodate.)
- A strong preference was expressed for the rounded street concept as it can easily meld with the beginning of the park. Interest in the sidewalk on the Lowman Park side of the street being curved to match the rounded street and visually connect the two properties.
- The size and architecture make the facility seem large and hulking.
- Can the power lines on the western side of Beach Drive Southwest be buried as part of this project?
(Answer: All of the power lines extending across Beach Drive from the poles to the site currently will be removed. The facility's power lines will also be underground, so there will be fewer power lines in the area after the project is complete. The project can complete its scope without permanently removing the existing poles, which belong to Seattle Public Utilities.)
- What components need to be above ground?
(Answer: Generator room, electrical room and mechanical room need to be above ground due to high ground water levels, proper ventilation and to serve as a retaining wall along the Lincoln Park Way.)



At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Morgan Community Association (MOCA) expressed general support and no issues with the preliminary design concept during King County's project briefing. MoCA members noted specific support for the following features:

- Pedestrian access through the site to connect Lincoln Park Way Southwest and Lowman Beach Park.
- Using the top of the building as an entry point through the site.

Subsequent conversations with DAG member Patrick Gordon and near neighbor John Bernhard yielded the following suggestions (see drawings for more information):

- Turn the equipment configuration 90 degrees so that the building orientation faces south instead of west.
- Reconfigure the odor control access area currently running north-south immediately west of the buildings to run east-west adjacent to the Murray Avenue right-of-way.
- Utilize the Murray Avenue right-of-way to access the facility in a combined location, freeing up the site's north end for open space.
- Reconfigure buildings to run east-west over the circular tank rather than north-south along the hillside.
- Combine the building and landscape to accommodate the facility's functional requirements and create an overlook and pedestrian pathway.
- Mediate topographic transitions so that the site is more about the "place" than a "building".
- Replace the staircase with terraces and pedestrian access as a part of the buildings with a curving path/staircase immediately north of the facility.
- Use trees and berms to create a wall along the curving pathway's southern boundary to mask the facility from the sight of park users and pedestrians on Beach Drive
- Link the curving path to an overlook on top of the facility.
- Use screens to mask views of the odor control access and facility from the overlook.
- Use "Ha-ha" architecture techniques to mask the odor control access area from the view from the overlook. A ha-ha is a landscape architecture technique that creates a barrier while allowing an unbroken view of the landscape.
- Study opportunities to remove or underground power lines along this section of Beach Drive SW.

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King County shared preliminary design concepts for the Murray Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Facility with the community throughout January 2012. The community provided feedback on the design concepts, which were based on the common themes for the facility developed by community members at the October 29, 2011 Design Workshop.

The following design suggestions were developed by community members Patrick Gordon and John Bernhard and shared with King County on January 30, 2012.

For more information about the community's feedback on the preliminary design concept please review the comment summary available at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/wtd/Construction/Seattle/MurrayCSOStorage/Library.aspx>













