



www.garfieldsuperblock.org

Project Description

Located at the heart of the Central District, the Garfield Superblock is the community's central gathering place as well as a historical City-wide destination. Known to some as "Little City Hall", the space pulsates with a rich history of events, people, and moments, which continues today.

The block is comprised of the Garfield Community Center, Medgar Evars Pool, the Tennis Courts and adjoining Garfield Park, including the historic Garfield Ball Fields; the Teen-Life Center, the Quincy Jones Performing Arts Center; and Garfield High School and Track and Field. The community is known for its ethnic and racial diversity, being a historic platform of important civic events and cultural arts, and warm, welcoming hospitality during celebrations and in times of need.

The 2020-2021 goal of the Garfield Superblock- Park and Promenade Renovation Project is to confirm and implement the unfinished renovation work of the 2005 Garfield Superblock Master Plan. This was a planning effort funded by the adjacent Garfield School renovation (completed in 2008).

The Project design addresses the two following recommendations from the Master plan that were never implemented:

Grounds Improvements: Site improvements throughout the park to help support the overall park and amenities use and activities.

A "Legacy and Promise Promenade": Creation of a pathway that integrates art and amenities that reflect the tremendous cultural diversity and rich history of the Central District.



MASTERPLAN DESIGN B, 2005

Diagonal Scheme



2005

2015

2019

2005-08: Garfield Super Block Master Plan and High School Renovation

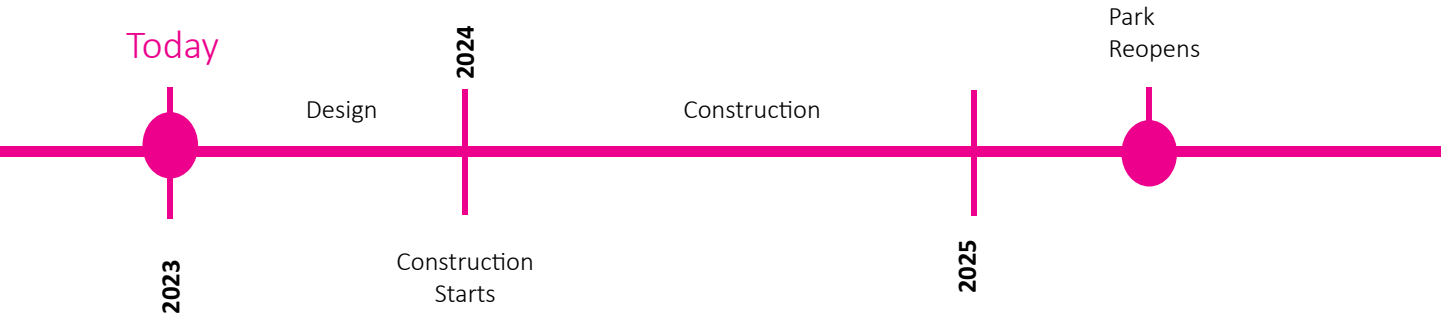
2015-2019 Planning and Organization

GSB Coalition Formed
First Grant Awarded

2019-2020 Design, Advocacy and Fundraising

Current Design Plan- 100% Design Development - March 2023

GARFIELD SUPER BLOCK CAMPUS PLAN PARK & PROMENADE IMPROVEMENTS



Art in the Park



The Problem

From 2010-2014, The Seattle Times reported that Seattle was cited as the third most swiftly gentrifying city among 100 large U.S. cities. This rapid displacement is most prevalent in areas like the Central District, a historically Black and African American community. In 1970, 73% of residents identified as Black and African American. Today, that number hovers below 18%.

During this period of rapid gentrification, the theme of “Legacy and Promise” underlines the importance of enshrining historical memory. The promenade, inspired by the Garfield High School murals, represents the past, present, and future of the community, and endeavors to tell the story of several ethnic groups depicted in those murals that have called the Central District “home” throughout history. As long-time residents find themselves priced out of their family neighborhoods, we stand to lose the generational knowledge and memory of the Central District. This promenade will ensure that this history is never lost or forgotten.

The Vision

The realization of Garfield Super Block would cement the history of the Central District through public art and green space activation which will benefit community members and newcomers alike. In addition, the “Legacy and Promise Promenade” will feature collaborative art work that illuminates the multi-cultural history of the Central District.

The Legacy and Promise Promenade will connect the West side, starting from Cherry Street and heading towards the school, with additional artworks on the loop path surrounding the playfields that connect Garfield High School, Medgar Evers Swimming Pool and the Garfield Community and Teen Centers.

In the original 2005 Garfield Super Block plan, the community determined public art would be the best medium to talk about these collective and generational experiences. The intention then and now is to create a shared space for different cultures to be celebrated for their historical impact within the Central District that will stand the testament of time. By creating this Legacy and Promise Promenade in the heart of the Central District, it will serve as a poignant reminder of the history of this community for past, present, and future generations.

The ethnic communities featured in these artworks are Black & African American, Chinese, Duwamish, Filipino, Italian, Japanese, and Jewish.

Anticipated Timeline/Milestones

Fall 2022 Master Art Plan

- Art Master Plan Development
- Project and Site Research
- Ethnic Advisory Committee Reps Selected
- Artist Training Boot-camp
- RFQ Preparation

Fall 2023:
RFQ Process and Artist Selection

Winter 2024:
Fabricators start construction

2023

2024

2025

Jan/Feb 2023:
Ethnic Advisory Committee Forms

Spring 2025 Park opens
to Public

Art Procurement Process & Budget

While the Core Community Coalition oversees the entire GSB project, the Arts Team subcommittee is focused on the Legacy and Promise Promenade. As community organizers and artists grounded in this work, they have a unique combination of lived experience, programmatic expertise, and passion for this project. These qualifications make them well equipped to articulate a clear vision for this project, center community voices, and navigate a clear path forward.

In 2023, the Arts Team will form an ethnic Advisory Committee. This group will be composed of two representatives from each of the historic communities featured in the promenade to guarantee that the process is community-driven. By choosing Advisory Committee members and artists from the communities represented, it ensures direct community representation and connection—creating a park experience that connects residents and visitors across cultures and generations. The group members will be tasked with promoting and evaluating the Requests for Qualifications, selecting artists to develop a proposal for each community artwork, and providing feedback to support the final design of the commissioned art pieces.

Pillars of Promise

A. (7) Pillar of Promise Artworks (1 per represented ethnic community). \$100k	\$700k
B. (1) Collaborative Pillar of Promise Artwork	\$157k

Secondary Artworks

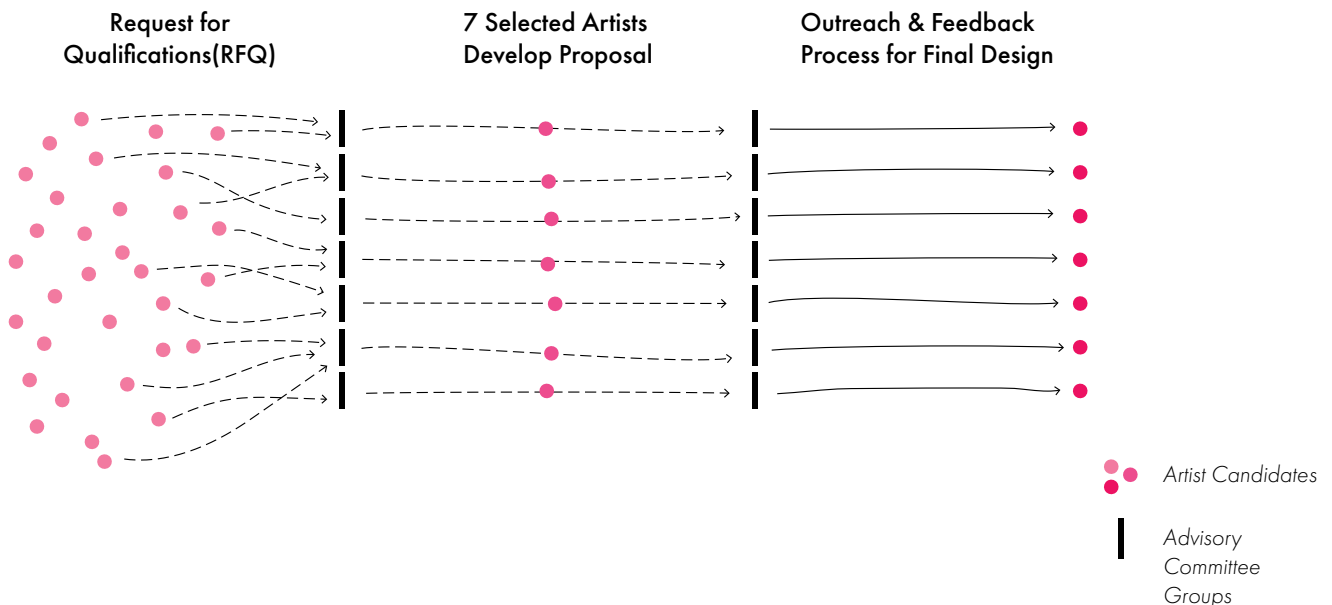
A. Imbedded Cast Bronze Salmon by youth and team artists	\$15k
B. Cast Bronze Tree Stumps	\$50k
C. Parkour Fence	\$50k
D. Restroom Mural	\$10k

Other

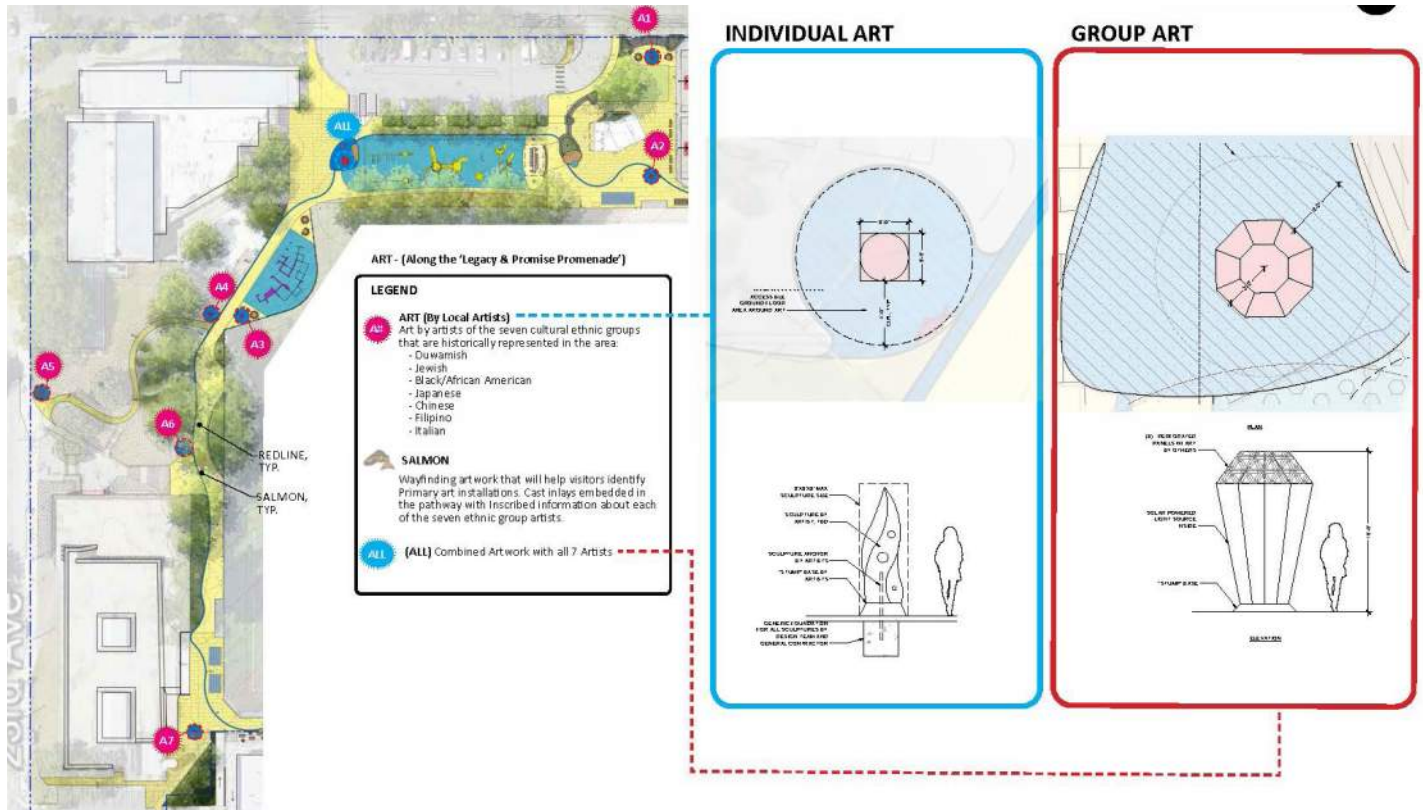
A. Expository Signage	\$25k
B. Maintenance Endowment	\$50k
	\$1,047M

+ Contingency pool: 20%	\$209,400
+ Taxes: 10.1%	\$126,869
+ Fiscal Fee: 8%	\$110,633

Total Proposed Art Budget: \$1.494M



Pillars of Promise



Note: Images of the individual Pillars are representational for size and scale. Actual designs will be determined by the selected artists.

“We are not just creating a place for folks to play in . . .we are creating a place/ space where we can see a reflection of ourselves . . . while enjoying that space.”

- Robert Stephens, GSB Core Coalition



Funding Plan

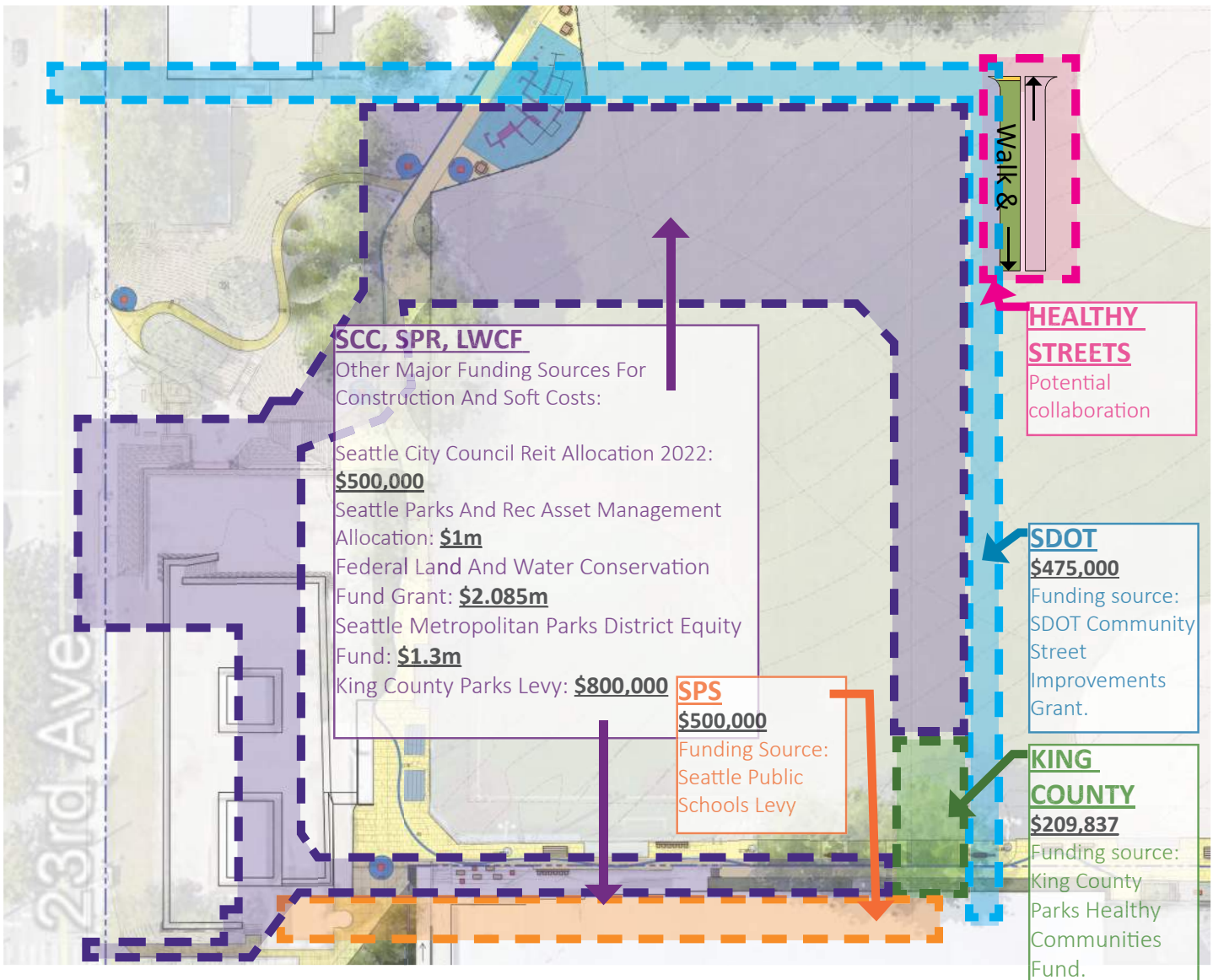
Project Cost Summary

Engineer's Estimate with Bid Additives	\$6.5 million
Construction Contingency (10%)	\$654,000
Estimating Contingency (10%)	\$654,000
Tax (10.5%)	\$671,345
Soft Costs (25%)	\$1.6 million

TOTAL CONSTRUCTION BUDGET \$10.2 million

+Art Funds \$1.5 million

Total Proposed Project Budget: \$11.57M



GSB ORGANIZATION CHART

GSB ETHNIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Third Andresen	Hanoko O’Leary
MalPina Chan	Yvette Perrantes
Alex Gallo Brown	Harvey Sadis
Danae Harrison-Corey	June Sekiguchi
Henry Jackson Spieker	Steve Sneed
Camas Logue	Monica Street
Aleksa Manila	Stewart Wong
Rainer Metzger	
Jake Millett	

GSB STAFF

Arts Team:
 Elisheba Johnson
 Esther Ervin
 Takiyah Ward
 Breeze Coston
 Alison Post

Support Staff:
 Hilary Dameron
 Amanda Root
 Matt Metzger

GARFIELD SUPER BLOCK CORE COALITION

The Garfield Super Block Coalition is composed of a group of dedicated community volunteers. We are artists, architects, community organizers, labor leaders and veterans.

Robert Stephens Jr.
 Esther Ervin
 Karen Estevenin
 TraeAnna Holiday
 Stephanie Ingram
 Sharon Khosla
 Valentina Montecinos
 Ann Suter
 Nikki Watanabe

GSB LEAD DESIGNERS

SITE WORKSHOP
 Aimee Rozier
 Clayton Beaudoin

GSB PARTNERS

Seattle Parks Foundation
 City of Seattle; OED,OPCD EDI
 Seattle Parks and Recreation
 Seattle Public Schools
 Parkour Visions
 Seattle Neighborhood Greenways
 SDOT
 Converge Media
 Black Heritage Society

