

# UDAWG Mtg #1 Reflections

## Your thoughts about the ...

### Character of Portland

- Defined by its parks, greenery, organic, full of artisan creativity, it's trees and water ... a "DIY" City
- Portlanders create a space where they can be outdoors and in the environment
- Informal, sustainable, responsible, green, cultural history
- Is a boutique city ... everyone is doing their own thing
- Has a different identify depending on where you are coming from. Those who live here vs. those who are visiting
- "Little big city", quirky, arts, edgy, food + art, sustainable plus responsible design, green (design and ethos), connection, waterway access, access to the outdoors, active community
- A city of rebels, science, technology, camping, trees, walking, parks, and artists
- A place that is so appreciative of nature; an active city with subtle elegance that makes it approachable and warm

### Bridge Site and Location

- In the center of the City, in the middle of the river, and has unobstructed an 360-degree view of the city
- The City is the star, and you can see the City from that spot
- Sky, unobstructed views to and from bridge, neighborhood transitions gateway/bookends, openness, distant views, river experience, history, access
- Portland has invested a lot to highlight our natural beauty (i.e., height restrictions of building) to maintain view lines of Mt. Hood

### Connectivity

- Connectivity (a low level bridge that has a lot of function); Elegance; and Swiss army knife (it has to do a lot of things); Point-to-Point connect; and views
- The Burnside Bridge is our biggest connector in the City
- It's increasingly more important than moving just cars across the bridge, the ped and bike connection across and to below the bridge is important



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### Bridge Experience

- Connection between the surface of the water and the sky
- The river and the bridge act as a cultural lifeblood of the city throughout its history
- The Burnside Bridge is one of the most hidden bridges. Seeing the bridge is one of these moments that you can pass by very quickly
- This bridge is a public space with events
- Its simplicity and wide open space that makes it flexibly in terms of use; not working around towers or cables. Something about having it be a quiet and contemplative space
- Experience of the bridge and moving from that space from one end to the other is what makes that bridge unique
- Story is about first principles; the earth forming, first peoples, and wildlife are about life, nurturing, gathering, and connecting
- The current bridges are not elegant and they don't speak of a kind of unity and expression and connection that I think a lot of people would prize in this bridge
- I really am most concerned with the obscured views
- Bridge has elements of The High Line in New York City at both ends, especially the east end with the buildings right next to the bridge
- it's important to keep the scale of the bridge in regards to the rest of the surrounding area



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### Bridge / Site Opportunities

- To have seismic stability for 'safety'; to serve as a 'gathering place' and a 'beacon'; If this bridge is fundamentally intended to be safe place in a seismic event, that should be communicated
- To embed a welcoming approach, symbolic center, and quiet elegance
- To incorporate indigenous history
- To provide bridge lighting that connects the city together, provides personal safety, shows the beauty of the bridge, and serves as a beacon
- To construct a great piece of architecture and engineering
- To celebrate the connection to both sides
- To see the urban realm as a whole
- To make it better connected. On the existing bridge, walking across it isn't inviting and it's hard to get around
- To acknowledge the fact that after attending to the automobile, we get to turn the pedestrian experience; An integration of activity.
- To make it look organic, an opportunity to redo things
- To create a performance space
- To highlight the beauty of the city and not necessarily have the bridge be the star, but rather frame the beauty of the city
- To be authentic to the site
- To connect both sides, connect to each other, and connect to nature, jobs, and places

