TRIBAL PRESENCE ON THE SEATTLE WATERFRONT

NOVEMBER 2018
TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT
OVERVIEW

2012
Ongoing coordination to fulfill Seawall Section 106 requirements to include interpretation of tribal culture and history

2013
- Visits to Suquamish, Muckleshoot, Stillaguamish, and Tulalip reservations and Daybreak Star Cultural Center
- Urban Indian Storytelling Event at Chief Seattle Club
- Selection of Coast Salish artist through tribal art commission

2014
- Tribal Roundtable at Office of the Waterfront

2015
- Coordination on Pier 62 design and permitting

2016

2017

2018

Pier 62 opening

2019

Final design on interpretive elements with content from tribes

2020

Friends of Waterfront Seattle partnering with tribes on cultural events at Waterfront Park and Pier 62

2021

Promenade, Overlook Walk, Waterfront Park opening

2022

2023
2014

- Visited Suquamish, Muckleshoot, Stillaguamish and Tulalip reservations and Daybreak Cultural Center
- Coordinated with Muckleshoot and Suquamish tribal leaders on temporary wayfinding kiosk and waterfront space
- Hosted Urban Indian Storytelling Event at Chief Seattle Club
- Issued call for artists for tribal art
- Appointed Suquamish Chairman Leonard Forsman to Waterfront Steering Committee

“Stories of the Waterfront – Seattle’s Urban Indian Community Storytelling”
"We are all from tribes...
We have all been colonized."
We learned about the immense importance placed upon the art of passing knowledge and values, generation to generation; carrying culture forward through time, from ancestors to future generations.

“How can you know where you’re going if you don’t know where you’ve been?”
We were struck by the elevation of cooking places to celebrated cultural spaces.

“Host a generous table.”
We learned the importance of the journey. Our hosts took us on a journey and proudly showed us the Stillaguamish, spoke of its natural and cultural history, and showed how it’s currently used and managed.
Listening to stories from tribe members and their lessons learned in interpreting their history, we learned the importance of shared journeys, places and resources.
Our visit showed us a tribe being strengthened and moving forward, while building open and honoring the past.
This visit impressed upon us the importance of having spaces for all tribes and having program that supports gathering, storytelling and social programs.
A recurring theme of our visits has been canoe culture as:

- A catalyst for community building
- A metaphor for neotribalism, rediscovering, strengthening and growing heritage
- A metaphor for life at its best and most challenging
2015

- Hosted workshops with leaders from Muckleshoot, Suquamish and Stillaguamish Tribes to present ideas for integrating tribal culture and history into the waterfront

- Selection of Coast Salish artist Shaun Peterson through Tribal Art Commission

- Selection of artist Oscar Tuazon who subsequently proposed a project that interprets the Coast Salish longhouse form
2017

• Hosted **Tribal Roundtable** with leaders from Suquamish, Stillaguamish and Muckleshoot tribes

• Briefed Snoqualmie and Suquamish tribal staff on green stormwater infrastructure and work around Ballast Island

• Presented Oscar Tuazon’s art to **Suquamish Tribal Elders**

• **Visited Muckleshoot reservation** to discuss Pier 62 permitting and Oscar Tuazon’s artwork

• Revised draft MOU with area tribes to incorporate feedback on fishing and cultural events
TRIBAL PRIORITIES ON THE WATERFRONT

- Protect salmon habitat and marine environment
- Create design features that reflect tribal history, art and culture of the waterfront
- Provide gathering spaces that can be used for traditional celebrations
- Coordinate on public programming that celebrates tribal history and culture
- Incorporate native plants with native uses
TRIBAL PRIORITIES INCLUDED IN THE WATERFRONT DESIGN

- Constructed **salmon corridor improvements** as part of Seawall
- Incorporated **native plants** in promenade design
- Approved two art projects:
  - Shaun Peterson’s *In the Spirit of Sealth*
  - Oscar Tuazon’s *Coast Salish Longhouse-inspired piece*
- Began constructing Pier 62 Rebuild, which will include **flexible space for tribal events and gatherings** and **floating boat dock for canoe landings** and **tribal fish sales**
- Designed Habitat Beach improvements, which will also provide **additional canoe landing opportunities**
HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS
HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS
SALMON HABITAT
NATIVE PLANTING
Shore Pine
Lodgepole Pine
Coast Redwood
Vine Maple
Fernleaf Maple
Dogwood

Environmental Benefits

Native Evergreen Trees Provide:
• Year-round canopy for habitat,
• Reduction of stormwater run-off,
• Greater biomass, carbon sequestration +
• Pollution absorption
NATIVE PLANTING
SHRUBS

Ceanothus
Red Twig Dogwood
Yellow Twig Dogwood
Silk Tassel Bush
Salal
Oregon Grape
Mahonia
Pacific Waxmyrtle
Cinquefoil
Potentilla
Golden Currant
Red Currant
Gooseberry
Huckleberry

WILDLIFE BENEFITS:
• Provides songbird cover in the spring,
• Berries are a key source of food,
• Flowers attract pollinators.
NATIVE PLANTING
PERENNIALS, BULBS AND GRASSES

Yarrow
Sage
Goat’s Beard
Rhubarb
Avens
Iris
Lily
False Solomon’s Seal
Sedge
Tufted Hair Grass
Dune Grass
Fescue
Rush
Lady Fern
Deer Fern
Western Sword Fern
Chain Fern

Mountain Lily
Triteleia
Camas
Hyacinth
Crocus
PLANTS FOR NUTS + FRUIT:
• Gaultheria
• Mahonia
• Ribes
• Sambucus
• Vaccinium
• Quercus

PLANTS FOR ROOTS:
• Allium
• Camassia
• Dryopteris
• Lilium
• Brodia

PLANTS FOR WEAVING:
• Iris
• Polystichum
• Acer

PLANTS FOR MEDICINE:
• Smilacina
SHAUN PETERSON
COAST SALISH WELCOME FIGURES
“Welcome Figures”
COMMUNICATING NATIVE PRESENCE
NATIVE PRESENCE
TELLING STORIES

“Little Crossing-Over Place” is the Coast Salish name for present day Pioneer Square, long a center of human settlement. Formerly a low wooded peninsula expanded from the mainland at low tide by a sand spit, it was surrounded by the sea and a lagoon fed by a stream flowing from the hills to the east. A major Coast Salish Village was located on this precontact. It had a strategic location: a small lagoon, with fresh water, easy access to the Duwamish River and estuary, and direct trail access to Lake Washington.

78/1000+
QuXágabeexW
GROUNDs OF THE LEADER’S CAMP

Most likely this was the name for a camp of a man known as either Kelly or Seattle Curley (Soowalt), who was the headman of the Duwamish village in what is now downtown Seattle. He was a brother of Seathl. His camp was located between Columbia and Cherry streets and First and Second avenues by one source but closer to Seneca or Spring by others.

Seattle Central Waterfront 1000+ Moments
FISHING IS A WAY OF LIFE
Coast Salish used canoes for fishing and to travel to the shores of Puget Sound. Canoeing is still a popular activity today.
OPPORTUNITIES
TRIBAL PRESENCE

Strengthening tribal presence in the Waterfront program.
CONNECTING LAND AND WATER
TOUCHING THE WATER
OPPORTUNITIES

PIioneer Square
Beach

PIER 62
FLOATING DOCK
TOUCHING THE WATER
PIER 62 FLOATING DOCK
TOUCHING THE WATER
TULALIP CANOE DOCK
TOUCHING THE WATER
PIONEER SQUARE BEACH
THE FUTURE
COMMITMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

• Explore **tribal gathering places** in Overlook Walk and Waterfront Park 60% design efforts

• Completion of **interpretive program** embedded in waterfront design that includes stories and information on tribal history

• **Friends of Waterfront Seattle partnerships** with tribes on programming that showcases tribal culture (storytelling, song, dance, woodcarving, “shared table”, canoe landings)

Long-term

• Opportunity at Pier 48 (currently owned by WSDOT) to create more **habitat beaches, park space** and consider a **possible tribal interpretive center**
OVERLOOK WALK
OVERLOOK WALK
CONNECTING THE WATERFRONT
PIER 48
PIER 48
WASHINGTON LANDINGS
WATERFRONT LANDINGS
GETTING CLOSE TO THE WATER