



Seattle  
Design  
Commission

July 27, 2006

Seattle City Council  
600 Fourth Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Seattle, WA 98114

Dear Councilmembers:

Gregory J. Nickels,  
*Mayor*

David Spiker  
*Chair*

John Hoffman

Pam Beyette

Nicholas Rossouw

Dennis Ryan

Anindita Mitra

Karen Kiest

Sheri Olson

Darrell Vange

Adam Christiansen

Guillermo Romano,  
*Executive Director*

Layne Cubell,  
*Senior Staff*

The Seattle Design Commission remains attentive to its charge of providing advice to City Council, the Mayor, and all City departments. Considering the importance of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall replacement project, the Design Commission would like to recommend that Seattle City Council determine the future of the Alaskan Way Viaduct without a public advisory vote.

After years of in-depth briefings, detailed reports and analysis of this very challenging project, we have come to the conclusion that it will be difficult to fully convey to the public all the complex information needed to make an informed decision. As elected officials in a representative democracy, we believe City Council is entrusted by the public to thoughtfully weigh all the issues before making a decision that will have tremendous consequences for Seattle. We remain available to brief the Council about our recommendations on the Viaduct, Seawall and Waterfront.

Sincerely,

David Spiker, Chair  
Seattle Design Commission

cc: Mayor Nickels, Tim Ceis, Emelie East, Mayor's Office  
Grace Crunican, Bob Chandler, Steve Pearce, SDOT  
Scott MacColl, Council Central Staff  
Diane Sugimura and John Rahaim, DPD



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