

Stepwell Design Progression September 2018

Progression of design – from concept to construction

- After the Park Board and Joint Art Committee approved the concept for Stepwell in April, we received significant community feedback expressing a desire for increased interaction opportunities for people of all modalities
- Access to and with art is very important to Parks and Recreation
- Meejin Yoon, who is also an architect, provided thoughtful solutions
- The JAC and Park Board will weigh in on this design progression
- Fabrication and installation will follow, with an anticipated completion of Spring 2019

Enhancing interaction, refining design

- The artist and her team created an arch that takes allows people to pass through the sculpture, to experience the artwork's interior, to interact, and to gather
- As visitors move around the sculpture, their understanding of its form changes dramatically. Moving slightly off-axis reveals the dramatic oblique of the exterior surface of the sculpture
- The sculpture will look impressively cantilevered
- As the user approaches the sculpture, they'll be moving up a gentle slope toward the sculpture, and a person could choose to move straight ahead through the center of the sculpture or climb up onto its tiers to have a seat, or ascend to the top to look down
- Stepwell's primary function is artwork

Archway

- The artist was happy for the opportunity to reconsider how the two halves intersect, and feels it is a design improvement to have an archway gracefully blend the intersection
- The artist's team pointed out the archway will be visually stunning for two reasons; it will be a smooth, blended surface connecting two angular surfaces, and it will be unexpected to see this graceful curvature carved out of wood

Railing

Exterior Railing

The exterior railing design is altered to accommodate a change in the height of the tiers,
which should now be more comfortable for sitting







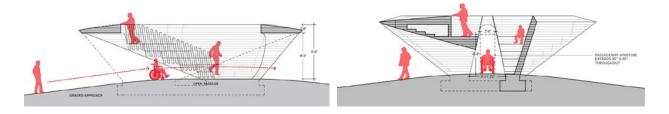
- The artist didn't want the upper railing to be perceived as separate from the rest of the sculpture; she wanted to build it into the form of the sculpture instead of having it look like a separate element
- In addition, adding thick timber at the top would have taken the art work beyond budget
- The height from the top step to the upper edge of the sculpture is the typical safety railing height of 42"

Interior Railing

- The artist wanted to keep the original geometry of the piece, while ensuring people on either side of the artwork could see through to the other side
- The artist's team selected this option because it mimics the filleted curves elsewhere in the piece, and reinforces the angled cut of the passageway when viewed on-axis

Capacity

- Opening up the center pathway creates an opportunity for additional people to stand, move, and wheel through the art piece
- Seating capacity on the steps is estimated to be 30 people



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