Danny Woo Community Garden Entrance Improvements
Seattle, WA
Current Partners: InterIm CDA, International Living Future Institute

PROJECT BRIEF
We seek to create a community-driven depaving effort for 1,500 square feet of public right of way. In this new green space, 500 square feet of gathering space, including seating, would be created; clean water would be provided for homeless residents, and; 1,000 square feet of additional garden plots, 10 for children gardeners and 12 for elder gardeners, would be created. It would become a place for the residents of the international district, and clean downtown storm water while providing a new gem in our emerald city. According to the Downtown Land Use Code, the Main and Maynard intersection is one of three “Green Streets” intersect, incentivizing SDOT to work with our team on this project and ‘close the green gap’ in our city. They have given their blessing for this project, knowing that the long term city maintenance of this site will be minimal; Interim CDA has agreed to adopt the area as part of the Danny Woo Community Garden program.

“I joined the Danny Woo Community garden because I wanted a place to get more exercise. I would like to have more space to grow food since my wife has been on the wait-list for a garden plot for over 3 years.” - Danny Woo Community Garden Elder Gardener

OUTCOMES
The goal of the Danny Woo Community Garden Entrance Improvement project will be to mitigate stormwater runoff by removing impermeable pavement and adding landscaping and gardens. The direct environmental benefits will protect Central Puget Sound/Duwamish River basin watersheds by filtering chemicals, oils, sediment and other particulates that have adverse health impacts to our ecosystem and humans health. This area is in dire need of cleaning polluted runoff since it is adjacent to high-traffic areas, including Interstate-5.

OTHER BENEFITS
In Seattle, there is both a documented lack of safe and accessible green public space and a need for more garden space. At the intersection of Main and Maynard, this comes to a head: There is a hidden, uneven entrance to a community park, a line of gardeners waiting, and a school bus stop. In this project lies a solution to this confluence of need and desire. The Danny Woo Community Garden Entrance project will benefit those in the community that seek green space, those in the community that want to grow food and those that seek safety and free access to clean water in our public spaces. Additionally, the project will connect local habitat, including birds, pollinators and an increased tree canopy. From children to our elders to our bees, the Danny Woo Community Entrance project will serve the documented needs of Seattle.

SITE AS OF SEPTEMBER 2016

proposed area of depaving
CONCEPT SITE PLAN

Danny Woo Garden Entrance
Main & Maynard, Seattle, WA

MAJOR CONCEPTS/IMPROVEMENTS

• The Main & Maynard intersection is designated a Green Street area\(^1\). This design effort both extends and enhances the designation, helping the city deliver on their promise.
• Construction will be completed partially through a community led depaving process\(^2\).
• This is a non-traditional approach to creating more garden space for some of the 60+ people waiting for garden space at Danny Woo Garden. The project team will seek support from the Fire Department, SDOT and look to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design guidelines in every effort to protect the gardeners and visitors who will be using the gardens and plaza in the new re-imagined right-of-way.

Reimagining our Rights to our Rights-of-Way by creating infrastructure with multiple benefits is essential for creating an equitable, resilient and healthy community. These principles are a foundation of Living Communities. Join the conversation online at #GreenTheGrey.

The Living Community Challenge is a framework for master planning, design, and construction. It is a tool to create a symbiotic relationship between people and all aspects of the built environment. The program is a call to action to governments, developers, and planners to create communities that operate as elegantly and efficiently as forests.

1 City of Seattle Right-of-way Manual, 2005
2 depave.org