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Proposed Development Goal

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Proposed Midtown Park Blocks Development Goal

Recommended for Adoption by the Park Blocks Foundation Board

- 1. The Midtown Park Blocks constitute Blocks 1 through 6 and Block 87 in Downtown Portland.
- 2. These Blocks (from Salmon Street to Oak Street) should be reserved for future public open space to serve and support the retail core and the growing high-density mixed use development in the West End.
- 3. The City should design and develop Blocks 1 and 5 as open space; and continue its efforts to acquire the Zell Block (Park Block 4) for open space with parking underneath.
- 4. The Park Blocks Foundation will continue its efforts to place the properties in Blocks 2 and 3 into the hands of individuals or groups who agree with the City's long-term goal for the blocks as open space.
- 5. Development of Blocks 2, 3 and 4 for open space and parking should proceed at the time, and as needed, to support the development occurring in the surrounding retail core and West End area.
- 6. Underground parking should be considered under each of the Midtown Park Blocks, to serve the retail core and other adjoining uses. This is one of the ways to provide adequate resources for ongoing maintenance of the open space above.
- 7. New development in the Midtown Park Blocks should not be permitted.
- 8. The City should encourage ordinary maintenance of current buildings in the Midtown Park Blocks, for a period of ten years.
- Architectural elements of the major historic landmarks displaced by this development of open space should be incorporated into new development in or around the Park Blocks.

Discussion:

This is meant to be an official statement by the Parks Foundation Board as to its long-term goals for the Midtown Park Blocks. This statement should be reviewed, revised if necessary and adopted by the Board. It can then be used to guide efforts by members and supporters as needed to realize the desired goals.

At Tom Moyer's suggestion, it was decided to wait for the newly-elected Mayor before pressing the City staff for attention to the Park Blocks.

Ernie Munch suggested that the Board of the Foundation needed to establish its own official set of goals for the Park Blocks; and proposed the above statement as a proposal for Board review.

Need: