



# OPEN SPACE SEATTLE 2100

Designing Seattle's Green Network for the next century

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## Timeline

[download flyer](#)  
[includes timeline](#)  
update 11.3.05

## Upcoming Events

### December

**M 5**-Mike Houck Lecture  
([USF flyer here](#))  
**T 13**-Executive/Guidance  
Committee

### January

**TH 19**-Robert Garcia  
Lecture(UW)  
**T 24 to TH 26**- Panel,  
Charrette Orientation  
**SAT 28**-Study Area Tour

### February

**M 02**-Patrick Condon  
Keynote Speaker(UW)  
**F 03 to Sat 04** Charrette

### March

**T 14**-Plan Presentations

## Past Events

### November

**TH 17**-Mark Childs  
Lecture ([USF flyer here](#))

## Join our Blog

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blogs](#)

## In The News

[Mark Childs, article](#)  
[DJC, 11.17](#)

## Mission Statement:

Open Space Seattle 2100 seeks to develop a comprehensive open space network vision for Seattle's next 100 years that will complement the city's predicted growth and density, and to build the broad constituency required to implement this vision.



## What is Open Space Seattle 2100?

Open Space Seattle 2100 is a coalition of urban leadership that is sponsoring a public discourse and planning process to engage citizens in collaborative visioning of Seattle's future open space network. The University of Washington's Department of Landscape Architecture is joining with leaders and citizens from civic, environmental, professional, neighborhood and community groups to create plans for connected open space that will serve residents, businesses, and our natural systems for the coming century. The vision will reach from the city limits to the downtown core, creating a comprehensive network of parks, civic spaces, streets, trails, shorelines, and urban forests that will bind neighborhoods to one another, create ecological conduits from the city's ridgelines to its shorelines, and ensure a wealth of green spaces for all citizens to enjoy.

### Beginnings: Public Lectures

The public discourse will begin with lectures on the planning and design of social, ecological, and equitable cultural spaces that form our civic "green infrastructure." All lectures will be free and open to the general public. Download the flyer to learn more about the first two lectures, Mark Childs on November 17 and Mike Houck December 5. ([USF flyer here](#))

### Developing the Visions

The centerpiece of the project will be a 2-day planning charrette (workshop), on February 3 and 4, 2006. Planners, architects, landscape architects, neighborhood councils and activists, real-estate developers, open space advocates, students and citizens-at-large are encouraged to participate. Teams will focus on distinct areas of the city to discover and develop ideas for connected green streets, parks, trails, urban social spaces, waterfronts, recreational facilities and habitat. Students from the UW's College of Architecture and Urban Planning will help to prepare for, inform and facilitate the charrette, and will further refine and coalesce the teams' proposals into a comprehensive vision plan presented to the public. Plans will include implementation strategies and priority recommendations for near-term actions.

### Next Steps

With broad citizen involvement and the support of city agencies and leaders, the charrette products will have a strong constituency for implementation, and will catalyze and guide further, more detailed planning for all of Seattle neighborhoods and urban greensheds.



## Why is Open Space Seattle 2100 important?

Seattle's population is expected to at least double within the next 100 years, adding another half-million people within the city boundaries, and this may be a good thing. Recent planning for the [Puget Sound Region](#) and [King County](#) emphasize that in order to conserve our remaining farms and forests we must concentrate population growth within existing communities. Otherwise, development will continue to sprawl, engulfing our last rural and wild places.

But in order for Seattle to successfully densify, it must remain livable. To accomplish this, the city must possess an open space system that gives people access to social and green spaces where they live, commute and work. Our Olmsted-based park system, initiated in 1903, has supported the city's need for open space over the last century. Now, with open space and accompanying ecological functions at a premium, we must move toward a more inclusive and comprehensive vision of urban open space that makes use of every opportunity to create parks, gathering spaces, community gardens, recreational spaces, wildlife habitat, waterfronts, urban streetscapes, pedestrian trails, and bikeways and other low-impact transportation avenues. Such an inclusive and multifunctional open space vision will attract families and people of all ages to live in a more compact city, instead of sprawling over our remaining farm and forest land. A connected system will also provide habitat and passage for fish and wildlife at Seattle's critical location at the confluence of lakes, bays and two major watersheds. To create a livable city where people and wildlife thrive together, we must plan now.



## How can I or my organization become involved?

1. Start forming your teams! Teams will typically be 7-10 people, and will include at least one student and one resident of that area. (we will help link students and residents with teams.) Teams and individuals will select and sign up for one of the areas outlined on the Seattle Charrette Map. Registration will begin Dec. 1, 2005.
2. Come to the lectures sponsored by the [Seattle Urban Sustainability Forum](#) on November 17 and Dec. 5, and by UW College of Architecture and Planning Praxis Lecture Series this January-March.
3. Subscribe to our blog at [open2100.blogspot.com](http://open2100.blogspot.com) learn what others are doing in their communities, give your opinions, and find useful resources.
4. Become a sponsor! Download our sponsorship brochure to find out about potential benefits to your organization. (brochure coming soon)

Watch for more details that will be posted on the [Charrette](#) page.