



August 2, 2025

TO: Councilmember Robert Kettle
Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth

CC: Councilmember Alexis Mercedes Rinck
Seattle Parks and Recreation Superintendent AP Diaz

RE: Invest in Freeway Park and prepare for its 50th anniversary and the World Cup

Dear Councilmembers Kettle and Hollingsworth,

Freeway Park opened on July 4, 1976, as the first lid park of its kind in Seattle and Washington State. We are less than 12 months away from the park's 50th anniversary, which will land around the same time as nearly one million fans visit Seattle for the FIFA World Cup. Seattle must put our best foot forward not only for visitors but also to renew our commitment to residents and workers by investing in the jewel of our Downtown parks system.

The recent reactivation of the Piggott Corridor fountains and the ongoing design of the Improvement Project are signs of great things to come for Freeway Park. We join the First Hill Improvement Association and other community members in asking the City of Seattle to:

1. Accelerate the Freeway Park Fountain Discharge Retrofit Project to restore and maintain all the fountains, including the iconic Canyon and Cascade fountains, so they are functional and flowing most of the year (and especially the warm season).
2. Break ground on the Freeway Park Improvement Project as soon as possible to complete the modernization of other aging infrastructure and add long-needed amenities (including public restrooms), event support, and landscaping upgrades.

This work should be finished by July 4, 2026.

Let's get Freeway Park fixed – and flourishing! We look forward to the opportunity to work together and contribute further to the park's success and achieving the broader goals of our city.

Sincerely,

Lid I-5 Steering Committee

Scott Bonjukian, co-chair
Jim Castanes
John Feit, co-chair
Bruno Lambert
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Rob Eason
Paul Owen
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