Pike Place MarketFront Approved for Use, Design and Donor Recognition
City of Seattle Market Historical Commission Vote

SEATTLE – Last night, the City of Seattle Pike Place Market Historical Commission (MHC) approved the use, design and donor recognition elements of the Pike Place MarketFront expansion, clearing the way for the Preservation and Development Authority (PDA) to work towards an April groundbreaking of the $73 million project on the western edge of Pike Place Market. The MarketFront project would be the first major expansion of the Market in 40 years and would complete the final piece of the Market Historic District. Ben Franz-Knight, Executive Director of the PDA, David Miller, Founding Partner and Steve Doub, Lead Architect, of The Miller Hull Partnership presented to the MHC.

The commission approved the application in its entirety, which includes more than 30,000-square-feet of open public space, 12,000-square-feet of retail and commercial space, 305 parking spaces, 60 bicycle spaces, 47 units of Daystall vending space for farmers and craftspeople, 40 units of low-income housing for seniors, and space for additional social services through a neighborhood center. The project’s design and donor recognition elements, including Market Charms, Hoofprints and Mosaic Art to be inscribed with donors’ names, were also approved.

Next up, the project will go in front of the PDA Council for a vote on the development agreement and financing of the project. The Development Agreement will be on the Seattle City Council agenda in February for review and approval.

More than a dozen community members spoke during two public comment sessions, including a former commissioner, residents, merchants, craftspeople, Market Constituency members, Friends of the Market founders and longtime Market supporters, most voicing their support for the project, “a solution to an intricate and complex problem” that was more than 45 years in the making, said longtime Market supporter Peter Steinbrueck.

The MarketFront is slated to be completed before the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct in 2016. Funding for the approximately $73 million project comes from the City of Seattle, the PDA, AWV Parking Mitigation Funds, Low-Income Housing Grants, Tax Credits and The Market Foundation’s philanthropic Pike Up! campaign. For more information on the campaign, go to: www.PikeUp.org.

About Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority
The Pike Place Market Preservation & Development Authority (PDA) is a not-for-profit, public corporation chartered by the City of Seattle in 1973 to manage the properties in the nine-acre Market Historic District. The PDA is required to preserve, rehabilitate and protect the Market’s buildings, increase opportunities for farm and food retailing in the Market, incubate and support small and marginal businesses, and provide services for low-income people. www.pikeplacemarket.org.