

## **Introduction & Context**

Property: 1901 1st Ave, Seattle, WA 98101 (The Zebracub Storefront)

Objective: To implement a high-transparency security solution that mitigates recurring storefront damage while honoring the building's historic facade and the district's character.



## **Current Conditions and Challenges**

The Issue: Ongoing security vulnerabilities including frequent vandalism, attempted burglaries, and damage to original door/window frames.

Public Health & Maintenance: The recessed alcoves currently attract loitering and significant sanitary issues (garbage and biohazards), creating a daily maintenance burden for tenants and a safety concern for patrons.

## **Design Goals & Compatibility**

Visual Integration: We aim to match the existing, black-framed windows, doors, and awnings. By utilizing a matching black finish, the security hardware becomes a cohesive architectural element rather than an eyesore.

Transparency: The "open-weave" design ensures the storefront remains a vibrant part of the streetscape even after hours, allowing for window shopping and natural light.

Type: In reviewing the types of security gates available (scissor, swing, roll-up, etc.) and the types of security gates in the neighborhood, we feel that a roll-up gate is the most ideal. When rolled-up, much of the gate is hidden above and minimizes visual impacts to the architectural elements of the building.

### **Preliminary "Preferred" Direction**



The photos above show (1) an existing security gate in Post Alley at the Champion building and (2) a mockup of what a similar gate would look like at our building.

### **Request for Guidance**

Preservation First: This direction provides essential safety while remaining fully reversible. All mounting hardware will be designed to avoid permanent damage to the original brick and stone masonry.

We look forward to the Commission's feedback on this approach so we can refine our technical drawings for formal review and approval.