



The City of Seattle

Landmarks Preservation Board

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LPB 269/23

STAFF REPORT: Seattle Center Playhouse and Exhibition Hall – 201 & 301 Mercer Street

Staff recommends nomination of the Seattle Center Playhouse and Exhibition Hall at 201 and 301 Mercer Street based on the following designation standards:

- A. *It is the location of, or is associated in a significant way with, an historic event with a significant effect upon the community, City, state, or nation.*
- C. *It is associated in a significant way with a significant aspect of the cultural, political, or economic heritage of the community, City, state or nation.*
- D. *It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or of a method of construction.*
- E. *It is an outstanding work of a designer or builder.*

The following features and characteristics recommended for consideration include:

- The site.
- The colonnades.
- The exteriors of the buildings.

Approval of Nomination

If approved, a public meeting would be set for 30-60 days from nomination to consider the designation. During this time, the Board and staff may amend the nomination form. From the time of nomination, Subchapter VI of SMC 25.12 shall apply. This section requires a Certificate of Approval for alterations or significant changes to the features proposed for preservation. Following Board approval of the nomination (or designation) the owner may give written notice of a desire to confer and consult with the Board and Board staff to reach agreement on specific features to be preserved and methods to achieve such preservation. A timetable is

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established by Board, Board staff and the Owner. This written request by the Owner is the only procedure which may alter the time requirements or the public meeting on designation.

Disapproval of Nomination

If the Board fails to approve the nomination, no new proceeding may be commenced for a period of 5 years without the written agreement of the Owner.

Deferral of Consideration

The Board may defer consideration. Adequate notice should be given to all parties about when the matter is to be reconsidered. Once nominated, the Board must follow the procedures of SMC 25.12 and approve or disapprove the designation.

Suggested Language for a Nomination Motion

“I move that the Board approve the nomination of the Seattle Center Playhouse and Exhibition Hall at 201 and 301 Mercer Street for consideration as a Seattle Landmark; noting the legal description in the Nomination Form; that the features and characteristics proposed for preservation include: the site; the colonnades, and the exteriors of the buildings; that the public meeting for Board consideration of designation be scheduled for September 20, 2023; that this action conforms to the known comprehensive and development plans of the City of Seattle.”

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