

UNIT SEVEN Worksheet

Lesson 6

THEME Human Interaction with Environment

Name _____

Date _____

Activity: Analyze Pros and Cons of Man-Made Projects

Read each of the three articles and determine pros and cons of each project.

Suggested technique: mark the text margins with a “P” for positive impact on environment or humans and a “N” for a negative impact on environment or humans. Underline the stakeholders impacted by these projects. Transfer your answers to this chart.

- Elliott Bay Seawall
- Lake Washington Ship Canal
- I-90 Floating Bridge

Elliott Bay Seawall	
Pros	Cons

Lake Washington Ship Canal	
Pros	Cons

I-90 Floating Bridge	
Pros	Cons

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Analyzing text: Read the excerpts titled *Marking Territory*, *Using What's There*, and *Making Way* to note the positive and negative impacts of the selection and construction of the Century 21 fairgrounds site on humans and the environment. Consider all **stakeholders** in this decision.

Marking Territory Not all civic seas were smooth, however. Legal and public relations wrangles with Seattle attorney Alfred Schweppe slowed momentum, as the need to calm tempests with the Nile Shriners, the Seattle Archdiocese, and the Seattle Public Schools.

The site contained some buildings that could not be torn down because of their ownership or provenance, or because they might be useful. These included the huge National Guard Armory, High School Memorial Stadium, Civic Auditorium, Ice Arena and VGW Hall. A small apartment house and an insurance agency, both recently constructed, were eventually repurposed for world's fair staff office space.

The newly built Nile Shrine Temple and the Catholic Sacred Heart Parish sat within the fair site, and that caused problems. When Archbishop Thomas A. Connolly of the Seattle Archdiocese got wind of the plan to acquire the parish land through condemnation, he summoned Carlson to his residence and reminded him that a number of high-ranking government officials were both practicing Catholics and (thus far) supporters of the fair.

Similarly, Harold Shefelman was summoned to a meeting of all the Nile Shriners' past potentates. Carlson went along to offer moral support and later remembered the group as "a pretty stony-faced bunch." The battle to escape the fair's eminent domain take, Carlson recalled, "united these two groups (the Shriners and the Catholic Church) for the first time in history. The fairgrounds footprint was modified to exclude the parish buildings, and the Shriners kept their property, but agreed to lease their brand new building to the exposition company during the fair."

Using What's There Initial plans called for the demolition of Memorial Stadium. The school district beat that down, but the Warren Avenue School lay in the very middle of the site and would have to go. The National Guard Armory required modifications, especially so that the entrances could accommodate crowds. Almost all of the 27 existing restroom facilities were designed for men, so many needed to be converted for women. The uneven wooden armory floor, previously used to accommodate National Guard drill practiced, required resurfacing. Attempts were also made to improve the bulking building's sound acoustics.

The Ice Arena received improvements, including converting some of its restrooms into dressing rooms for use by visiting performers, adding an insulation cover over the ice surface to increase spectator seating for stage shows, improving the heating and ventilation systems, and adding a portable stage platform.

The Civic Auditorium was altered most. The Design Standards Advisory Board recommended that a new concert hall and opera house be constructed with the shell of the old Civic Auditorium. This saved millions of dollars.

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Making Way Demolition began in pelting rain on November 12, 1958, with a two story eight room wood-frame house at 619 Nob Hill Avenue—future location of the Mercer Street parking garage. A-Y-P and Century 21 trustee Henry Broderick, ensconced in the cab of a 15-ton crane, let loose the wrecking clamshell’s initial swing into the house’s upper floor. Under an awning, a band struck up a sprightly tune. As Broderick clambered down and let professionals take over, Charles Burkman, who had lived in the house from 1897 to 1948, stood by tearfully. “That was my old bedroom,” Burkman told the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. “It was the warmest room in the house. The chimney ran through it. There was no band music when we moved into it. I’ve had enough.”

More than 200 houses, duplexes, multiplexes, and commercial structures were demolished. The city vacated the streets running through the fairgrounds site. Century 21 executive sought extensive press coverage of demolition as the first step of focusing the public’s attention on the civic center and fairgrounds site.

Once planning was underway, citizens deluged fair officials with letters full of helpful suggestions. A number of people thought that, given the fair’s science theme, the buildings should be heated and cooled with atomic energy. (Becker and Stein)

IMPACT

Positive	Negative	Stakeholder

Extension: Read the article titled *520 Controversy Cuts Wide Swath* to analyze the impacts of the proposed construction of a new 520 bridge. Find additional articles at the Washington State Department of Transportation website.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520Bridge/>