



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

January 2008

Aquatic Center Feasibility Study

Staff and Ken Ballard, from our consultant team, presented a status report on the aquatic center feasibility study at the January 7 Park Board meeting. Included in this presentation was a recap of the stakeholder meetings (local aquatic organizations, school districts, adjacent parks departments, and several local businesses), preliminary results of the public phone survey, the first draft of the facility program options and sites, and our next steps.

The study will include several site and program options, but will not provide specific recommendations for program or site selection. Staff anticipates the initial draft of the study to be complete in April, with a final report in June. An initial study session has been tentatively scheduled with City Council for March 3.

Ashwood Plaza Construction

Plaza Construction is underway. Construction is being coordinated with the 1020 Tower construction. The underground garage is complete and the Tower has now reached it's full height allowing removal of the construction crane from the plaza scheduled for February 24th. We are anticipating Plaza completion in May/June 2008.

Ashwood Park Master Plan

No progress to date.

Bellevue Botanical Garden Master Plan Update

Master Plan alternatives have been reviewed by the task force, the Garden Society Board and the Parks Board. A community meeting/presentation was held on Oct. 25 with approximately 30 people attending. Feedback received at these meetings is being incorporated into a final recommendation for programming and plan development. A second Garden Society Board meeting was held Jan. 8th and a second community meeting hosted Jan. 17th. We anticipate presenting a preferred option to the Parks Board on February 12. A web site has been created to provide an additional avenue for public information and comment.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design & Ivanhoe Lease Agreement

Staff is working with Becker Architects to complete a preliminary architectural study including program planning, code and site analysis, schematic alternatives and cost estimates. We are currently exploring alternatives at Ivanhoe Park, Crossroads Park, and sites in the Bel-Red corridor. A parking demand analysis is being conducted in order to understand parking ramifications related to the construction of a new theatre at Crossroads. Upon completion of the preliminary study, staff will present the findings and recommendations to the Youth Theatre

Board and Parks Board, followed by a final architectural contract to the Council. We have been unsuccessful locating alternate storage facilities for the Bellevue School District, so negotiations to extend the lease agreement with the BSD at Ivanhoe Park remain on hold.

Bel-Red Corridor Study

The Parks & Community Services Board reviewed and endorsed a set of policies to guide the development of the park and open space system in the Bel-Red corridor at their December 13 Board meeting. The Board also reviewed the Great Streams program at their January meeting, and were presented with the draft Bel-Red Subarea Plan for review at their February meeting. A presentation of the park concepts and cost estimates was made to department heads and the City Manager in January, with Board review scheduled for the February Board meeting. We anticipate final endorsement of the projects and subarea plan in March, after which time the Planning Commission and City Council will initiate extensive work to implement this vision.

Crossroads Park Water Play

Construction is approximately 40% complete. A total of \$841,250 in construction funds have been raised to date, bringing us close to our \$1 million goal. These funds have allowed us to award a contract for the complete play area with the exception of the family picnic shelters. Construction completion and a grand opening celebration is anticipated to occur at the beginning of summer. An NEP project has been nominated to complete the family picnic shelters, and we will know the results of the voting for this in March.

Eastgate Area Park Property (AKA: Boeing Property) – Shared access road and parking

Road construction and methane system modifications continue, with the landfill gas system upgrades anticipated to be complete this year and the shared road to be complete next spring. Staff continues work with the Department of Ecology to update the landfill restrictive covenant and landfill gas system reports and with Schnitzer West (SW) to establish the total City cost of the shared road, landfill gas system upgrades, and parking lot construction, currently estimated at \$2-2.5million.

We have also been requested by SW to modify their parking requirements contained in the Purchase & Sale Agreement, and we are studying their proposal.

Eastgate Area Park Property (AKA: Ex-Boeing Property) Master Plan

Park and Utility staff has reviewed proposals and has conducted interviews with four very qualified design teams. Scope of work and contract negotiations are underway, and we expect to approve a consultant contract in February and begin the Master Planning process.

Fieldhouse Partnership Study

The project is on hold.

Highland Skate Park

Construction is approximately 60% complete. The site grading and storm water system work is complete, and the concrete and electrical work for lighting is underway. We expect an April project completion, with a grand opening celebration tentatively scheduled May 16.

Lewis Creek Park

No Change. The staff is currently developing options to erect a cover over the playground equipment area to resolve a potential conflict between the north ballfield and the playground area.

Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center

Construction is approximately 60% complete. All the structural steel, gluelam beams, joist, wood framing, and roof decking is in place for the Classroom 1 building, with the windows, metal roofing and siding scheduled to be installed the last week of January. By mid-February, the building will be ready for interior work. You now can walk into the building and begin to experience the spaces.

The structural steel has been erected and the wood beams are underway for the Community Building and Visitors Center. Following the main structural components, the joist and roof decking will be installed. Additionally, the family restroom and VC has been plumbed.

Once the Classroom, Community, and Visitor Center buildings have their structure and roofs complete, the contractor will then focus on the Wetlab 1, for which the foundation is complete.

For the treehouse and slough overlook, the steel structural components have been installed and the wood structure for the treehouse has been fabricated and waiting for delivery. The decking is scheduled for installation in late January, and we will be able to experience the overlook.

Most rough grading, utility and concrete work was complete prior to the City's wet season moratorium, and erosion control measures are in place to allow building construction to proceed. The remaining site work will occur when the area is no longer needed for staging next spring.

The capital campaign continues, and is close to completely filling the funding gap.

Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Planning & Land Use Study

The steering committee met on December 20, 2007 and worked toward consensus on the land use element of the project. After providing staff with direction to respond to traffic, parking and potential upper block incentives questions at the December meeting, the Committee met again on January 17, 2008. They reviewed staff's responses, the revised concept drawing, a list of concepts represented by the plan, and a list of issues deferred to the park planning process before reaching consensus on the vision for potential redevelopment of two areas—south of main/east of 100th, and north of Lake Washington Blvd and west of 100th.

Next steps include a two month break for structuring the park master planning process and completing technical studies necessary to inform realistic park master plan alternatives.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

Resident suggested projects are being reviewed for the Bridal Trails neighborhood area. Approved NEP projects being implemented by Planning and Design staff are as follows:

- **Playground equipment at Ardmore Elementary:** Approved 2005 funding is on hold pending the coordination with the School District's rebuild of the school site.
- **Highland Park Skate Park:** See paragraph above.
- **Ashwood Plaza Construction:** See paragraph above.
- **Somerset Entry renovations:** Scoping underway.
- **Cougar Ridge Elementary:** Sports wall design 2008.

Robinswood Synthetic Fields

Grand opening event occurred on October 6th, and play continues throughout the winter months. Final contractor punchlist items are complete with the exception of as-builts. Final Closeout expected to be complete in January.

Sound Transit/East Link

In spite of the recent defeat of the transportation initiative, environmental work continues with the goal of publishing the final EIS and selecting a preferred alternative by the end of 2008. Depending on the selected alternative, temporary or permanent park impacts may occur at Surrey Downs, Mercer Slough, and/or McCormick Park. A "Best Practices" Committee that includes Park Board members Roland and Karle continues their work to provide guidance to the Council.

Surrey Downs Master Plan

The first community meeting for the master plan occurred November 15 at Bellevue High School, with approximately 35 residents attending. The staff and design team, lead by the Berger Partnership, presented site information, opportunities and constraints, then broke the group into smaller groups for the community to offer ideas for their park. Preliminary master plan options are being prepared for the second community meeting on January 31 at City Hall. At that meeting, the community will have the opportunity to review these ideas, and begin to establish a preferred alternative. The Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue has presented a proposal to construct a large, 45,000 square foot facility at Surrey Downs Park to the neighborhood, with mixed reviews. A Park Board study session has been scheduled for February 12. A Web site has been created to allow citizens to offer feedback to the staff.