

February 5, 2008

Bellevue Parks Board

RE: Surrey Downs Master Plan

Dear Bellevue Parks Board Members,

I have attended both public meetings for the above referenced project. It is refreshing to see that the consultants and the City staff have conducted the meetings in a professional and unbiased manner. We enjoyed watching them create clarity with such varied input from neighbors and the larger community.

The message that comes through loud and clear to me at both meetings is the clear need for *indoor* programming serving west Bellevue and the larger community, and serving a broad spectrum of age groups. There was a significant majority of support for option 3.

The Surrey Downs site is ideally situated for a large community center. It is located on an arterial street, making access convenient without impacting the surrounding neighborhood. It is in close proximity to high-density development and downtown.

There are no other viable sites in west Bellevue for this opportunity. The park is designated a community park by the Parks, Open Space and Recreation element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Planning policy clearly encourages providing a variety of services and programs serving all age groups. (See PA-4,10,11,14,15, etc.)

I would encourage the Board to support approving a large community center as part of the Surrey Downs Master Plan. Thank you.

Respectfully



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