



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

September 2011

Ashwood Park – Temporary use of park

Several last-minute permit requirements have delayed the start of construction of the library's 3-level parking structure to October. Ashwood Park will remain open, though the parking lot will be used chiefly by library patrons. At the completion of the project, the lot will be repaved and the northern portions of the park and right-of-way will be landscaped. Athletic uses will be relocated during the expected one-year construction period.

Aquatic Facility Follow-up

More detailed site and financial information is being prepared in anticipation of a follow-up Council discussion to assess the feasibility of a major aquatic facility in Bellevue.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design

Staff is responding to public comments submitted as part of the land use review process. We will apply for building permits following land use approval, and expect permit approval in early 2012. The King County Housing Authority has notified us that they have received partial funding for a series of projects under the federally-sponsored New Markets Tax Credit Program. The BYT was one of the projects identified in the County's application. We are awaiting direction as to whether, and under what circumstances, the City will request funding for the project.

Bellevue Airfield Park – Shared parking & landfill gas modifications

The City Council has agreed with a proposed change to the shared parking requirement that includes changes to scheduled use and quantity of shared parking for future park use. The agreement is stalled in legal, though the staff hopes to present a final agreement to the City Council later this year.

We are also working with our environmental engineers to develop plans to upgrade the landfill gas extraction system. The plans have been reviewed by the Department of Ecology, and we are proceeding with system upgrades. Upgrades should be complete in October.

Bellevue Airfield Park - Master Plan

Staff completed Master Plan environmental review documents, incorporating the off-leash proposal at Robinswood Park. Staff will return to Council for adoption when the environmental review is complete, anticipated by the end of the year. After Master Plan adoption, staff will seek proposals for design work. See also Robinswood Off-leash plan.

Bel-Red Planning

Staff is participating in several planning efforts that will likely affect the future park, open space, trail and greenway concepts adopted in the Bel-Red Corridor plans. The NE 15/16th roadway design, regional stormwater concepts, light rail station area planning, and stormwater enhancement plans for Utilities-owned property are all current planning projects that require parks planning participation. We have hired a design firm to assist the staff develop conceptual park/greenway plans along the West Trib and Goff Creek to help inform early decision-making.

Boys & Girls Club request

After failed attempts to secure park property at Surrey Downs and the Chapin site, the Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue has now requested the use of Hidden Valley Park to construct a gymnasium structure to house three basketball courts and other sports-related facilities. The City Council reviewed this request at an August study session and authorized the staff to evaluate alternatives to allow this project to proceed. We are now analyzing alternative plans to incorporate a gymnasium and additional parking at Hidden Valley Park, and preparing cost estimates for athletic field upgrades throughout the park system.

Downtown Park Memorial

The City has been approached by an individual who would like to restore and upgrade the existing memorial in Downtown Park dedicated to three Bellevue men that died in World War I. We are working with the individual and the Eastside Heritage Center to determine the most appropriate and effective way to accomplish this goal, and expect to present a recommendation to the Park Board in October.

Grant Applications

Staff has received a State of Washington Boating Facilities Program (BFP) grant to offset half the cost (up to \$100,000) to evaluate options and develop plans to accommodate transient moorage at Meydenbauer Bay, which is required by the State as a condition of the original acquisition grant funding. Council accepted the grant funding on September 19th, and we are now negotiating a contract with an engineering firm to assist with the development of moorage.

Light Rail Impacts

The staff continues to evaluate the impacts of several alternative light-rail routes on Surrey Downs Park and Mercer Slough, and identify options to mitigate for these impacts. The Final EIS has been published, and a final route has been approved by Sound Transit. Additional work is ongoing to assist the attorney's office prepare review letters to Sound Transit and the FTA, and to assist Council and the City Manager's office negotiate the mitigation requirements with Sound Transit and State agencies.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

Approved NEP projects being implemented by Planning and Design staff are as follows:

- **Playground equipment at Enatai Beach Park:** Staff will be purchasing the play equipment and expects an October construction period to minimize user impacts during the peak use summer period.
- **Playground equipment at Newport Heights and Somerset Elementary:** Construction was completed prior to the start of school at both sites, and the projects have been well received by the community and schools.
- **Crossroads Park Walkway Improvements:** Staff has developed concept plans for a

walkway connection between the park, community center and adjacent shopping center. The Crossroads Mall management has also developed concept plans for their portion of the work, and we are now coordinating our efforts.

- **Restrooms at Robinswood, Ardmore, and Ivanhoe Parks:** the projects have been revised due to operating budget impacts. In lieu of permanent facilities, seasonal portable restrooms will be installed at Ardmore and Ivanhoe. Because of the presence of two already existing permanent restrooms, the Robinswood project will be eliminated in favor of an alternate NEP project.

Newport Hills/Tyler Property

Staff is currently working with representatives of the Newport Hills Community Club to develop a vision for the recently acquired Tyler Property. We have developed several mechanisms to gather feedback from the neighborhood, including attendance at several neighborhood gatherings, development of an on-line survey, and prepared information for the neighborhood newsletter and on the City web site. We will present the results of this feedback at their October meeting.

Off-Leash Dog Area Study/Robinswood OLA Expansion

A preferred plan to expand and enhance the off-leash facilities at Robinswood Park has been incorporated into the environmental review documents for the Bellevue Airfield Master Plan. The plans are consistent with concepts previously endorsed by Park Board and Council. An environmental study has completed and submitted as part of the land use and environmental review for Bellevue Airfield Park Master Plan.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects

- Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Project complete.
- Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** Construction will continue through the end of the year. Current work includes installing the concrete block walls for the restroom and picnic shelters, installation of concrete curbs, soil preparation, and coordination of the pervious asphalt.
- BYT Construction:** See BYT design above.
- Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Construction has started, and expected to continue through the end of the year.
 - **Wetland-Sun Terraced Garden:** Land Use approval has been secured. The project is now on-hold pending the availability of project funding.
 - **Visitor Center & Parking Lot:** The Conditional Use, Critical Areas Land Use and Environmental permit review continues. A public hearing for the project is expected to occur before the end of the year. The design plans are approximately 75% complete.
 - **Fundraising:** Commitments received to-date from the Garden Society's ongoing fundraising efforts total over \$1.5m of their \$5m goal.
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Parks:** Meetings are ongoing with representatives of State Parks to discuss future rights to the Acheson property. We have completed initial clean-up and boundary fencing on the recently acquired Pashchinskiy property.

We are also working with the representatives of the community to establish a timeline for the master planning work at both Pashchinskiy and Ashwood, which is expected to begin in early 2012.

- Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- Surrey Downs Park Development:** No activity. On-hold pending the results of the light-rail alignment.
- Bellevue Airfield Park Development:** No activity.
- Downtown Park Development:** No activity.

Major 2011 Renovation Projects

- Sportsfield lighting system renovation at Wilburton Hill Park is complete, and the Bannerwood renovation is underway, with completion expected in October;
- The installation of a heat recovery system at the Aquatic Center, which is projected to save significant utility costs, has been delayed until next year;
- The estimated cost to construct a small animal barn at Kelsey Creek exceeded the budget, and we are now re-scoping the project. Staff is working with a pre-manufactured building supplier for a potential solution for this area.
- Work is nearing completion on re-roofing one small barn and a portion of the house at Kelsey Creek Park, the whaling building and caretaker's house at Meydenbauer Marina and the Botanical Garden visitor center;
- Drainage, irrigation and infield improvements at Hidden Valley #1, Bannerwood and Wilburton Hill #1 & #2 has been deferred pending the outcome of the discussions between the City and the Boys & Girls Club on potential upgrades to these fields.
- Infield reconstruction at Ivanhoe will proceed as scheduled this fall;
- A series of energy-efficiency projects are underway throughout our buildings, including replacing inefficient mechanical units and light fixtures.
- Painting is complete at the Bannerwood stadium and at the Kelsey Creek Barns. Painting is underway at the Enatai Beach trellis and the Newcastle Beach lifeguard stand, and Robinswood Tennis Center will be under contract shortly. Work will be complete this fall;
- Mechanical units have been replaced at Crossroads Community Center and Bellevue Aquatic Center, and will be replaced at Northwest Arts Center and Robinswood Tennis Center later this year;
- Boundary fences have been replaced at Enatai Neighborhood Park and Killarney Glen, and sports fencing will be replaced this fall at Highland, Lakemont and Killarney Glen.
- Phase 1 of the irrigation system replacement at McCormick Park is complete;
- Parking lot repairs, sealcoating & restriping at the Hidden Valley Sports Park, Robinswood Tennis Center and Meydenbauer Marina are complete;
- Plans to remove exterior staircases at Lakemont and Highland Park and reconstruct staircases at Enatai and Chism Beach are underway, with construction this fall;
- Plans to expand the storage yard and develop an access drive at the Botanical Garden/Koh Property are underway. Work will begin this fall and continue into 2012;
- Work continues on updating the 7-year Renovation Plan, which is expected to be complete this fall.

Surrey Downs Master Plan

On hold pending resolution of the light rail alignment and building issue.

Shoreline Master Program

The City is updating its 1974 Shoreline Management Plan to meet State requirements. The goal of the Plan is to ensure ecologically appropriate development. Park staff has provided feedback to the Development Services Staff regarding proposed policy and regulation updates and their potential impacts to park use and future park development. Significant public feedback has been received. The Park Board reviewed the draft policies at the April Board meeting, and approved a response to the Planning Commission at their May meeting. Discussions with the Planning Commission are expected to continue through the end of the year.

