



## **PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

**September 2008**

### **Aquatic Center Feasibility Study**

Staff has completed the draft feasibility report for internal review. The study analyzes seven locations and five specific program options and also discusses a potential regional approach. Specific recommendations for program or site selection will not be provided. The draft study will be reviewed by SPLASH and the YMCA in advance of an expected Park Board presentation in November.

### **Ashwood Park Plaza Construction**

Plaza Construction is 97% complete. Construction is being coordinated with the 1020 Tower construction. Substantial completion of the plaza has occurred and punchlist items are being addressed. Final completion will occur in October.

### **Ashwood Park Master Plan**

Staff is developing an RFP for consultant selection for master plan work. We anticipate receiving and screening proposals in October 2008 with consultant interviews and contract negotiations taking place in November.

### **Bellevue Botanical Garden Master Plan Update**

SEPA Process is complete. A determination of non-significance was issued on August 28<sup>th</sup>. The Master Plan report draft is nearing completion. A request for Council to adopt the plan has been rescheduled for November.

### **Bellevue Youth Theatre Design & Ivanhoe Lease Agreement**

The Park Board endorsed the proposed alternative to expand the theatre at Crossroads Community Center at their July 8 meeting, and the City Council endorsed this direction at their July 21 study session. At their September 15 meeting, the City Council approved an architectural design contract with Becker & Associates to complete the design of a new facility at Crossroads and renovations to the Ivanhoe facility.

### **Bel-Red Corridor Study**

The Park Board endorsed the park concept and project list at their May meeting. At their July 23 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Bel-Red Subarea Plan, zoning, and Land Use Code Amendments, which included a change to the park and open space plan necessitated by the Wright-Runstead Plan for the former Safeway parcel. The change would reduce the size of the neighborhood park in the W-R development from 4-acres to one-acre, and would add three acres to another proposed park site. Though supporting the proposed change, the Park Board expressed concern about the lack of regulatory authority proposed in the land use

code to accomplish the park vision, and Chair Keeney will convey the Board's concerns to the City Council in writing and at their September 22 study session.

### **Crossroads Park Water Play**

Construction is 97% complete. The project has been opened for use throughout the summer, but the water will be turned off on September 22 for the season, which will also allow final completion and repairs to the safety surface. Phase 2, an NEP project to install two family picnic shelters is expected to be complete by early 2009.

### **Eastgate Area Park Property (Ex-Boeing Property) – Shared access road and parking**

Road construction and methane system modifications and construction staging restoration are nearly complete, though we have not yet accepted the work from the contractors. 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 final City cost of the shared road, landfill gas system upgrades, and parking lot construction, currently estimated at \$2-2.5million. We are also studying SW's request to modify their parking requirements contained in the Purchase & Sale Agreement. SW has removed all of its construction staging equipment from park property, and SW is now restoring this area.

### **Eastgate Area Park Property (Ex-Boeing Property) Master Plan**

The Master Planning process continued with our second public meeting held on July 17th at the Bellevue Community College Cafeteria. Interest in our new park remains high, as over 170 community members shared their preferences concerning five park design alternatives at the public meeting, and many more continue to express their views through emails and the web site. We will continue to hone the design based on community feedback and city recreation needs to arrive at 2-3 plan alternatives to share at the next public meeting later this fall. We have recently been contacted by a recently formed "Eastgate Silent Majority" neighborhood group that is urging the City to save the meadow. The staff will be meeting with this group on October 1.

### **Grant applications**

Applications for funding assistance were submitted in May to offset the acquisition costs for the Cich Property on Meydenbauer Bay (\$1 million) and the Carrigan Property on Lake Sammamish (\$950,000). Presentations were delivered to the Resource and Conservation Office (RCO) the first week of August, and if level of funding approved by the State Legislature remains the same as the last biennium, we should receive \$1million for the Meydenbauer property.

### **Highland Skate Park**

Project is complete and contract closeout is nearing completion.

### **Lewis Creek Park Playground Covers**

The staff has recommended the installation of a sun/rain cover over the playground equipment area to resolve a potential conflict between the north ballfield and the playground area. Geotech work is complete. Design/development is underway. An open house for the neighborhood will be held in October, and if the concept is well received, installation will occur by early 2009.

### **Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center**

A temporary certificate of occupancy was received September 16, and we are now completing final punch list items. The capital campaign continues, and the funding gap to complete Phase 1 is now under \$500,000. A special funders dinner is scheduled for September 19, and grand opening is set for October 11. Additionally, on September 16, the MSEEC project received the "Excellence in Building Green" award from the King County Green Building program.

### **Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Plan & Land Use Study**

The Steering Committee met September 18<sup>th</sup>, and provided direction to staff and consultants for refining park alternatives and moving from three alternatives to two. Each of the two alternatives will be shown at the October 29<sup>th</sup> public meeting and the October 30<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting with the road open to vehicle traffic and closed to vehicle traffic. At the September meeting, the Committee discussed the parameters for the transportation study that will be done. Integration of the park alternatives with the preliminary land use plan and environmental review of the combined plan will follow during the winter.

### **Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects**

Resident suggested projects are being scoped for Northwest Bellevue 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.
- **Ashwood Plaza Construction:** See paragraph above.
- **Somerset Entry renovations:** Design underway.
- **Cougar Ridge Elementary:** Sports wall design 2008.
- **Crossroads Pea Patch:** Design was on-hold pending a decision on the Youth Theatre. Design can now proceed.
- **Crossroads Water Play Area Picnic shelters:** See paragraph above.

### **Off-Leash Dog Area Study**

The Park Board, Council and staff have been presented with several requests to provide off-leash dog facilities throughout the community over the past few years. Most recently, requests have been made to provide facilities in the Downtown Park and in the new Eastgate Area Park. The Planning and Resource Management staffs are working with off-leash area advocates to develop a City-wide plan to accommodate these interests. Preliminary results will be presented at the Park Board meeting in November.

### **Surrey Downs Master Plan**

The SEPA process for the preferred master plan is ongoing. PCD is now reviewing comments received from the Surrey Downs Community Club and Park Committee. We hope to bring the preferred master plan and building parameters to Council for adoption later this fall. An internal process to develop the building program strategy is underway. The public process to determine a building program is expected to begin later this fall.