



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

October 2011

Ashwood Park – Temporary use of park

Construction has started on the library's 3-level parking structure. Ashwood Park will remain open, though once changes are made to the entry, 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 before the end of the year.

Plans developed by our environmental engineers to upgrade the landfill gas extraction system have been reviewed by the Department of Ecology, and upgrades should be complete in November.

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 in the development of conceptual park/greenway plans along the West Trib and Goff Creek to help inform early decision-making. An initial discussion with the Park Board is expected in November.

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 have completed an initial analysis to incorporate a gymnasium and additional parking at Hidden Valley Park, and have prepared cost estimates to install synthetic turf on several athletic fields throughout the park system.

Downtown Park Memorial

Robert Shay would like to restore and upgrade the existing memorial in Downtown Park dedicated to three Bellevue men that died in World War I. A presentation was made to the Park Board in October by Mr. Shay and the Eastside Heritage Center.

Light Rail Impacts

Staff work continues with our legal staff on the development of an agreement with Sound Transit to address the cost and impacts of several alternative light-rail routes on Surrey Downs Park and Mercer Slough. The Final EIS has been published, and a final route has been approved by Sound Transit, though several options continue to be debated.

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 has purchased the play equipment and our contractor has started work on the project. The work is anticipated to be complete by the end of the year.
- **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.
- **Portable restrooms at Ardmore and Ivanhoe Parks:** seasonal portable restrooms will be installed at Ardmore and Ivanhoe, and will include privacy screens. Pricing is being secured, and construction is expected to start by the end of the year.

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 presented the results of this feedback at their October meeting, and continue to receive input.

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 been 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 finalizing the concrete block walls for the restroom and picnic shelters, completion of the irrigation system, starting the roof installation, and installation 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 85% complete.
 - **Fundraising:** Commitments received to-date from the Garden Society's ongoing fundraising efforts total over \$1.7m of their \$5m goal.
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Parks:** Discussions 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 and Bannerwood Parks is complete;
- 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;
- No Change. 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 complete 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, Kelsey Creek Barns, Enatai Beach trellis and the Newcastle Beach lifeguard stand. Painting is underway at the Robinswood Tennis Center. Work will be complete by the end of the year;
- 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;
- Removal of the exterior staircases at Lakemont and Highland Park, and reconstruction of the staircases at Enatai and Chism Beach are underway, with completion later this fall;
- Plans to expand the storage yard and to improve access to the Botanical Garden/Koh Property are underway. Permits applications are in, and work is expected to occur in 2012;
- Meydenbauer Marina is being designed and permitted to accommodate transient moorage. Design and permitting, a two year process, will be partially funded (up to \$100,000) by a State of Washington Boating Facilities Program (BFP) Grant. Staff is working with an engineering firm to determine the most cost and functionally effective renovation options. See also Grant Applications.
- 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.