



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

October 2010

Ashwood Park – Temporary use of Park

The library is proceeding with plans to construct parking on their property, and has requested the temporary use of Ashwood Park for access, parking and construction staging during construction. We expect that improvements will be made to the Ashwood parking lot and landscaping along NE 12th in return for the library's use of the park during construction, expected to begin in the spring of 2011. The City Council has conceptually agreed to the use. Strong objections were raised about one of the proposed access routes from NE 11th a Sept. 21 public meeting, so this option has been abandoned in favor of access from both NE 10th and NE 12th. The park will likely be closed for a year, and the Enterprise staff will be relocating the athletic uses to other locations.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design

Permit plans are near completion and the fund raising effort is underway. The staff met with representatives of the King County Housing Authority, who has applied for funding on behalf of the BYT and City to assist in funding this project. Results are expected in late December. The City has recently been notified that we have received a \$25,000 LEED grant from King County Green Tools program.

Budget Proposals for 2011-2017

The City Manager presented his budget to the Council, who began budget deliberations in September. We have responded to a number of questions and requests for additional information as the Council continues to review the budget throughout the fall. The Park Board reviewed the latest budget information at their September meeting.

Eastgate Area (Bellevue Airfield) Park – Shared access road and parking

Work continues on auditing Schnitzer West's (SW) construction contract documents to establish the final City cost and payment for the shared road, landfill gas system upgrades, and parking lot construction, estimated at \$2.5million. At their June 28th meeting the City Council agreed with a proposed change to an existing SW shared parking requirement. The proposed update includes changes to scheduled use and quantity of shared parking for the future park. Staff is negotiating the easement and we hope to present a final agreement to the City Council in November.

Eastgate Area (Bellevue Airfield) Park Master Plan

City Council concurred with the Park Board recommendation of the sportfield oriented Alternative A as the preferred Master Plan, with the requirement that an off-leash area be expanded at Robinswood Community Park. Additionally, Council preferred the name Bellevue Airfield Park over the Park Board's recommended Airfield Park. Council requested that the environmental review for the plan also include the off-leash proposal at Robinswood. Staff will return to Council for adoption when the environmental review of both Airfield and Robinswood are complete. Staff is now working on the off-leash proposal at Robinswood Park (see off-leash study below).

Lewis Creek Park Playground Covers

An additional awning to increase coverage on one of the play areas has been engineered and design is complete. Installation is expected to be complete winter of 2011.

Light Rail Impacts

The staff continues to work with our Transportation staff and representatives of Sound Transit to evaluate the park impacts of several alternative light-rail routes. The park impacts of several 112th Street options are being evaluated.

Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center

The Master Builders Association continues their work on Wetlab 2, which is nearing 95% complete. Work included this month is the painting of the metal deck structure, installation of the cabinetry and countertops, final painting, and final connection of the mechanical units. MBA hopes to complete the project by the end of the year.

Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Plan & Land Use Study

Staff continues to prepare responses to specific Council questions and requests for additional information prior to returning to Council. Additional marina studies are also underway.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

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

- **Playground equipment at Ardmore Elementary:** The school has been rebuilt, new playground equipment is in place and the school year has started. Staff will make final payments and close out this project.
- **Playground equipment at Enatai Beach Park:** Design concepts are being developed with the playground equipment supplier. The project is expected to be complete by summer 2011.
- **Crossroads Park Walkway Improvements:** Design concepts being developed.
- **Restrooms at Robinswood, Ardmore, and Ivanhoe Parks:** projects on-hold due to budget concerns, especially the O&M considerations.

Off-Leash Dog Area Study/Robinswood OLA Expansion

Following up the Council's direction to include the Robinswood OLA concept into the environmental review process for Bellevue Airfield Park Master Plan, staff held a public meeting on October 14th to solicit feedback on three conceptual off-leash improvement and expansion plans for Robinswood Park. 20 residents attended. The community will have opportunity to view the options and submit additional comments through the project website for several weeks. A second community meeting will held in late November/early December to discuss feedback and to review a recommended plan.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects

- Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Construction began on July 12 and is approximately 90% complete. The new soccer field lighting system is installed, improvements along 120th Ave SE are nearing completion and the soccer field is expected to be open to the public in November. The baseball field will remain closed until next year as the natural grass field establishes.
- Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** Permit review continues, with approvals expected by the end of the year. Several neighbors have objected to the project, and we have prepared additional reports and analysis about the project. The project will be ready for construction next spring. Staff will present the project to the Kokanee Work Group, which is interested in the project's impacts to Lewis Creek and Lake Sammamish.
- BYT Construction:** See BYT design above.
- Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Design work is near completion on both the rigid and suspension bridges. Permit and environmental review is ongoing, with project construction expected next spring.
 - **Wetland-Sun Terraced Garden:** Construction documents are 50% complete. Design is expected to be complete by the end of the year.
 - **Visitor Center & Parking Lot:** The BBGS is continuing with their fundraising campaign and early interest is high, with several substantial contributions being received. The design development phase is underway and Staff has met with representatives of the Garden Society to identify strategies to address the anticipated budget gap.
 - **Maintenance Area development:** The condition of the house is being evaluated for future use as a maintenance facility, while minor improvements are being made to support maintenance and storage operations, including installation of a new roof on the house and storage area.
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Park:** Park staff is supporting the efforts of the Bridle Trails Community Club (BTCC) to prepare a recommendation for park levy project(s) for their neighborhood. The BTCC Board approved the project recommendations in August. These recommendations were endorsed at the general membership meeting on September 30, and the Park Board endorsed the project recommendations at their October 12th meeting. One of the recommendations involves property acquisition, so this will be discussed with the City Council in advance of a comprehensive report and recommendation to be delivered in early '11.

- Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- Surrey Downs Park Development:** No activity. See Surrey Downs Master Plan.
- Eastgate Properties Park Development:** No activity.
- Downtown Park Development:** No activity.

Park & Open Space Plan Update

The City Council adopted the Plan in May, and the final report is expected to be released by the end of the year.

Property Issues

Staff is working with representatives of the Bellevue School District to extend the existing Use Agreement at Ivanhoe Park & Youth Theatre to continue the recreational use of this School District-owned property. We are also negotiating an agreement with BSD to allow for the use of portions of Cherry Crest Park to allow for a more environmentally-sensitive reconstruction of the Cherry Crest Elementary School. Both issues have been discussed with the City Council.

Renovation Projects

- Energy-efficient lighting systems have been installed at the Highland Park ball field, Newport Hills soccer field, Robinswood Tennis Center and the South Bellevue Community Center gymnasium, funded in part by a Federal Stimulus Grant.
- Parking lot improvements at Kelsey Creek, Bannerwood Park and Chism Beach are complete
- Major roofing replacements at the Bellevue Aquatics Center, Highland Community Center, Northwest Arts Center, Crossroads Golf Course and the Wilburton House are complete.
- The Robinswood Tennis Center indoor courts have been resurfaced.
- Mechanical systems have been replaced at the Aquatics Center, Lake Hills Clubhouse and Highland Community Center, and the Downtown Park fountain pumps have been replaced.
- New carpeting has been installed at the Lake Hills Clubhouse and Crossroads maintenance shop, with new carpeting scheduled to be installed at the Robinswood House in November.
- Fencing replacements are underway at the Robinswood soccer fields and BBG Yao Garden, and the final section of the Kelsey Creek Park horse corral fence has been replaced.
- The large foundation has been removed from the newly-acquired Tyler Property in Newport Hills, and the site is now open for public use;
- A pedestrian bridge at Kelsey Creek has been replaced.
- Irrigation system repairs and upgrades are underway at McCormick Park, MSEEC, Wilburton Hill, Westwood Highlands and Enatai Neighborhood Park,
- Plans are nearly complete for future infrastructure and code upgrades at the Ivanhoe Youth Theatre, including mechanical, fire sprinkler and alarm systems, and seismic upgrades;
- The Kelsey Creek Park small animal shelter reconstruction will begin in November, with completion anticipated in Jan '11.

Surrey Downs Master Plan

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