

From: Gust Kritsonis [gustk@octtac.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:24 PM

To: Fehrman, Pamela; Smith, Terry; Harvey, Nancy; Kost, Glenn; Matz, Nicholas; Degginger, Grant; Council; Balducci, Claudia; Bonincontri, Patsy; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Noble, Phil; Sarkozy, Steve; Miyake, Brad; Paulsen, Kit; Arredondo, Charmaine

Subject: Eastgate City Park

Dear City of Bellevue Mayor, City Council Members, City Administrators, City Board Members, and City Staff:

Regarding the proposed Eastgate City Park, my family and I support the option that will best provide the most baseball and ball field that this Park can hold. Our children and ball teams need more practice fields and more tournament fields, complete with night lighting, a command center for tournaments, a sound system, electronic scoreboards, a concession stand, and especially artificial turf so these baseball and ball fields will be useable year round. Our children, team, and tournaments don't have enough baseball and ball fields in the City of Bellevue to practice on and hold tournaments on. We currently compete with other baseball and softball leagues, spring soccer, lacrosse, school programs, and other teams for a limited number of fields. There are other off-leash dog parks within reasonable distance from this new Eastgate Park that dog owners can take their dogs to; please support our children's needs. We realize all this costs money but we need this new park to be outfitted as I've described. We need a place where our leagues can host tournaments. Please vote to support and design the new Eastgate Park to best service baseball and ball fields use.

Thank you,
Gust Kritsonis
4047 140th Ave SE
Bellevue, Wa 98006

From: Gail Taylor [gail.taylor@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:16 PM

To: Fehrman, Pamela; Smith, Terry; Harvey, Nancy; Kost, Glenn; Matz, Nicholas; Degginger, Grant; Council; Balducci, Claudia; Bonincontri, Patsy; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Noble, Phil; Sarkozy, Steve; Miyake, Brad; Paulsen, Kit; Arredondo, Charmaine

Subject: More Ball Fields needed

,
Regarding the proposed Eastgate City Park, my family and I support the option that will best provide the most baseball and ball field that this Park can hold. While our family is a resident of the Clyde Hill, all of us around here need more practice fields and more tournament fields, complete with night lighting, a command center for tournaments, a sound system, electronic scoreboards, a snack bar, and especially artificial turf so these baseball and ball fields will be useable year round. The City of Bellevue doesn't have enough baseball and ball fields in the City of Bellevue to play games on and host tournaments on. As a baseball family, we would come to the City of Bellevue, play games and tournaments in the new Eastgate Park, and would support a concession stand there, as well. Please vote to support and design the new Eastgate Park to best service baseball and ball fields use.

Thank you,

Gail Taylor
2131 86th Avenue NE
Clyde Hill, 98004
425-646-6679

From: Dan Schiappa [Schiappa.Daniel@microsoft.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:24 PM

To: Fehrman, Pamela; Smith, Terry; Harvey, Nancy; Kost, Glenn; Matz, Nicholas; Degginger, Grant; Council; Balducci, Claudia; Bonincontri, Patsy; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Noble, Phil; Sarkozy, Steve; Miyake, Brad; Paulsen, Kit; Arredondo, Charmaine

Subject: Support for Baseball Fields in Bellevue

First of all, thank you for all of your attention on the Eastgate park matter. I know this has been a polarizing issue.

I won't bore you with a long winded e-mail, but I want to stress how critical it is for Bellevue to **establish a presence with strong baseball/softball fields for our community**. I am a Bellevue Resident and a local coach. I have coached both baseball and softball for Bellevue related teams for the past 7 years. As I travel around the local community, there are several things that are clear: 1) our fields do not compare to the quality of fields in other communities such as Redmond, Kirkland even down to Kent and Auburn and 2) We do not have enough ball fields for our teams to practice and play on. Given our constituents and breadth of our city, this is unacceptable.

It is hard for me to have to schedule activities in other cities because our fields are no up to par or are overbooked.

I am a dog owner, a very proud and happy dog owner. But it is more critical for us to invest in the health of our children and adults more so than our dogs. While I enjoy watching my dog frolic as much as the next person, it is more crucial in the time when Americans need more exercise and more stress relief, at all ages, to provide a great environment for people to play ball and create a tight nit community feel. I love animals, but let's not invest in them over investing in our tax payers and our own children.

Best Regards,

Dan Schiappa

From: Mark Wagner [Mark.Wagner@PACCAR.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:56 PM

To: Fehrman, Pamela; Smith, Terry; Harvey, Nancy; Kost, Glenn; Matz, Nicholas; Degginger, Grant; Council; Balducci, Claudia; Bonincontri, Patsy; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Noble, Phil; Sarkozy, Steve; Miyake, Brad; Paulsen, Kit; Arredondo, Charmaine

Subject: Resident's Input on Design of Eastgate Community Park

Dear City of Bellevue Mayor, City Council Members, City Administrators, City Board Members, and City Staff:

Regarding the proposed Eastgate Community Park, my family and I support the option that will best provide the most efficient use of the space for athletic fields, particularly baseball/softball fields and still present a park like atmosphere. With our children's interest and participation in youth sports, it has become apparent that Bellevue needs more practice and game fields as well as a nice facility to hold tournaments

A baseball/softball tournament complex, complete with night lighting, concession stand and artificial turf so the field could be used year round would be of great benefit to the city's residents. Currently, both children and adult sports teams don't have enough fields in the City of Bellevue to practice and hold tournaments on. The fields at the new park could also be configured to support other sports as well as baseball/softball (soccer, football practices). The proposal to use the majority of the park as an off-leash dog park is not one that truly benefits the majority of our city's residents.

Please vote to support a design of the new Eastgate Community Park that best supports Bellevue and its athletic residents, young and old, who are looking for a place to grow and play.

Thank you for consideration of our family's request

Best regards,

Mark, Jill, Ryan and Jamie Wagner
Bellevue Residents
Mark.wagner@paccar.com
425 649-0603 Home

From: David & Sally McCray [McCray@McCray.ws]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 3:38 PM

To: Fehrman, Pamela; Smith, Terry; Harvey, Nancy; Kost, Glenn; Matz, Nicholas; Degginger, Grant; Council; Balducci, Claudia; Bonincontri, Patsy; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Noble, Phil; Sarkozy, Steve; Miyake, Brad; Paulsen, Kit; Arredondo, Charmaine

Subject: Support for Baseball fields in Eastgate

Dear City of Bellevue Mayor, City Council Members, City Administrators, City Board Members, and City Staff:

Regarding the proposed Eastgate City Park, my family and I support the option that will best provide the most baseball and ball field that this Park can hold. While our family is not a resident of the City of Bellevue, we do own business property in Bellevue and pay Bellevue property taxes, in addition to other Bellevue taxes on businesses. One of my children plays on a Bellevue baseball team (Bellevue Pony) and the other on a Mercer Island team. Both teams regularly play against other Bellevue teams.

All of these children and ball teams need more practice fields and more tournament fields, complete with night lighting, a command center for tournaments, a sound system, electronic scoreboards, a snack bar, and especially artificial turf so these baseball and ball fields will be useable year round. The City of Bellevue doesn't have enough baseball and ball fields in the City of Bellevue to play games on and host tournaments on. As a baseball family, we would come to the City of Bellevue, play games and tournaments in the new Eastgate Park, and would support a concession stand there, as well. Please vote to support and design the new Eastgate Park to best service baseball and ball fields use.

Thank you,

Sally & Dave McCray

6815 Ripley Lane North, Renton, WA 98056

(unincorporated King County)

From: Terri Whidby [terriwhidby@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 02, 2009 1:33 PM

To: Fehrman, Pamela; Smith, Terry; Harvey, Nancy; Kost, Glenn; Matz, Nicholas; Degginger, Grant; Council; Balducci, Claudia; Bonincontri, Patsy; Chelminiak, John; Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Noble, Phil; Sarkozy, Steve; Miyake, Brad; Paulsen, Kit; Arredondo, Charmaine

Subject: More Baseball Fields PLEASE!

Dear City of Bellevue Mayor, City Council Members, City Administrators, City Board Members, and City Staff:

Regarding the proposed Eastgate City Park, my family and I support the option that will best provide the most baseball and ball field that this Park can hold. While our family is not a resident of the City of Bellevue, the residents of Bellevue's children and ball teams need more practice fields and more tournament fields, complete with night lighting, a command center for tournaments, a sound system, electronic scoreboards, a snack bar, and especially artificial turf so these baseball and ball fields will be useable year round. The City of Bellevue doesn't have enough baseball and ball fields in the City of Bellevue to play games on and host tournaments on. As a baseball family, we would come to the City of Bellevue, play games and tournaments in the new Eastgate Park, and would support a concession stand there, as well. Please vote to support and design the new Eastgate Park to best service baseball and ball fields use.

Thank you,

Terri A. Whidby
King County Resident, Woodinville

From: Sabrina Gottlieb [mailto:sabrina.gottlieb@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 9:02 AM
To: Council; Smith, Terry; Kost, Glenn; Nissley, Jerry; Krause, Brian J.
Cc: sabrina.gottlieb@gmail.com
Subject: Dog Areas in Bellevue

Dear Bellevue Park Board and Bellevue City Council,

I am pleased to hear that on March 10th the Park Department decided to wait until next month to vote regarding the off-leash dog areas in Bellevue. I am writing to express my support for making an official dog area on the Eastgate property.

The current plan does not include an off-leash park in the Eastgate area and this poses several problems:

1.) Eastgate Area properties has been the site of ongoing off-leash activity for more than 20 years and meets all of this city's stated requirements for location. Development of an off-leash area there would also have guaranteed funding through the Park Bond that will be used to develop that Park. There is room there for a 3-acre dog park in addition to other park features like a soccer field or large building.

The Master Planning for this Park is in progress and up to this date, an off-leash area has been included in the majority of potential options offered by the architects who have based their plans on the data gathered by an official public input process. There is significant local support for an off-leash area there, and amazingly, little opposition!

Removing an off-leash area from this master plan is just circumventing a public input process that has supported off-leash activity there!

2.) Expansion of Robinswood into the woods will most likely never happen. First of all, there is no funding and there will be opposition from nature groups and trails groups. Expansion into the woods will destroy the woods and create a really poor off-leash area that won't meet the needs of the current corral users or the current patrons of the Eastgate Park!

Expansion of the smaller corral by the tennis courts would be great. It could be doubled in size easily; however, there is no funding!

3.) The sites identified for possible corals are not acceptable: a drainage basin in Lakemont Park, an area adjacent to a soccer field in Wilburton Hill Park, and a small area in Highland Glendale park. The other possibility is a small downtown corral, in McCormick Park.

→The Lakemont site is 2.75 acres, but is filled with swamp water eight months of the year except for an elevated perimeter trail. This site is under the control of the Water District and up until appearing in this "plan," Bellevue Parks has stated that the Water District staunchly opposes any off-leash activity on property they control. POLR was told previously that Water District land was not available for off-leash!

→ The areas in both Glendale and Wilburton parks are so small they would support only a corral about equal to the smaller corral at Robinswood. They both are adjacent to sports fields and do not meet the City's own stated criteria for that reason.

I BELIEVE THE REAL ISSUE HERE IS FUNDING!

The "Plan" proposes that all off-leash areas be funded through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program, NEP. This program limits funding to

\$150,000 or less, depending on the size of the district, and it is offered to each district once every 3 years. There is NEP funding through the 2009-2010 budget but this program could be completely eliminated in the next budget cycle!

I will use Robinswood as an example of how it might work:

1.) The next possible time to apply for funds would be 2011, assuming the program still exists.

2.) A dog lover in the west Lake Hills district would propose the plan (\$150k would only fund surface improvements at the large corral, or possible expansion and surface treatment of the small corral, but not both). Expanding into the woods would cost a least another \$200,000 because of the large amount of fencing involved.

3.) The dog area proposal would compete with other proposals from that neighborhood. The entire neighborhood votes on all the proposals, listing them in order of preference. The winning proposal, or multiple proposals if they are small ideas, is chosen.

If the dog area idea was selected it would be considered “a controversial” proposal so it would then have to pass with 75% approval of all the homeowners that are adjacent to it. This is a very high bar to jump!!! These votes go out in the mail and only people with strong opinions even bother to return them, so you imagine, it is very hard to pass this one.

4.) If passed, funding is approved and work begins.

In conclusion, the current plan is a raw deal for Dog Owners. It is taking away a funded, publicly-supported, potential 3-acre OLA at Eastgate and giving us absolutely nothing in return!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Gottlieb

Bellevue, WA

From: jonesrichardd@gmail.com [mailto:jonesrichardd@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 1:17 PM
To: Krause, Brian J.; Nissley, Jerry; Kost, Glenn; Smith, Terry; Council
Subject: Eastgate Property/OLA

City council members, park board members, city planners:

Please do not remove from consideration the off leash dog park that has been proposed in all of the plans yet so far for the Eastgate Property expansion. If you are going to build on the last great meadow in Bellevue, please include the activity that has been going on there for 20 years.

A corral is not a park. Any proposals for off leash activity at Robinswood would be "moot" since there is no funding and no guaranteed funding for improvements.

I have little interest in an off leash dog corral. I find it to be somewhat humiliating. Standing there, behind fences and gates throwing a ball, dodging/picking up doggie doo. The corral is a last, last resort for off leash play.

An off leash "park" in a wooded area is not a good idea, for owners, dogs, and non dog owners alike. Trails are where I've trained my dog to walk with me, and not run about unfettered. That's what meadows and open spaces are for. Any suggestion that the Robinswood wooded area could be turned into an off leash area is not realistic and is simply a means to draw attention away from the Eastgate Property by way of this consolation.

Please include a plan for at minimum a 3 acre off leash park at the Eastgate Property.

I use the Eastgate meadow and trails 2 times a week in all kinds of weather. Off leash in the meadow, and on leash on the trails. I watch for people without dogs who might be not willing to have my dog approach them, and steer my dog away from them.

Thank you for reading my email. I hope you can seriously consider my comments.

Richard Jones
Lake Hills Bellevue
206-300-1060

From: John Codling [mailto:john.w.codling@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2009 1:25 PM
To: Council; Smith, Terry; Kost, Glenn; Nissley, Jerry; Krause, Brian J.
Subject: Eastgate Property Master Plan - Off leash dog area

Good Afternoon Council Members and City of Bellevue Officials:

I am writing to express my support for an off leash area at the Eastgate Property and voice concern regarding information I have received that there is an effort underway to exclude an off leash area from the master plan.

Regarding the latter: There is strong support and little opposition for an off leash area at the Eastgate Property. Furthermore, proposed alternatives to expand the Robinswood off leash corrals and/or develop off leash areas at other properties are not feasible to serve the immediate needs of Bellevue dog owners. I am involved with both recreational and professional groups who have significant interest in the Eastgate Property Master Planning process and the incorporation of an off leash area. The citizens of Bellevue are about to lose an enormous off leash area that has been used for many years as the Eastgate Property gets converted into a multi-use park. While many I have heard from whole heartedly support many of the proposed Master Plan alternatives, they perceive the exclusion of an off leash area as an intentional act by City officials to ignore the opinions they have expressed via the official public input process. We understand that funding for an off leash area at the Eastgate Property is guaranteed by way of the Park Bond, whereas funding for alternatives such as Robinswood, Lakemont, Glendale, and Wilburton is far from reach given the proposal to acquire funding through the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. The temporary loss of use of the Eastgate Property by dog owners as the new park is developed is quite tolerable, however, permanent loss of use is very unacceptable.

Regarding the former: I have extensive experience as a dog trainer, as well as experience as a handler in the AKC conformation show circuit. My experience has taught me that dogs require different off leash environments depending on their level of training and socialization. Furthermore, the population of dogs in City of Bellevue is ever growing as more single and multi-family homes are built, more people move into the area, and more people own more than one dog. Accordingly, the City needs to support the development of a variety of off leash areas. For example, corrals like those found at Robinswood serve the population of dogs who are not well trained and need socialization, whereas off leash areas like those found at Marymoor serve dogs who have some obedience training and can be trusted to interact safely with other dogs. The City of Bellevue needs more off leash areas like the Marymoor facility where dogs and their owners have access to open running space and walking trails. Expanding the off leash area into the wooded area at Robinswood is not a suitable alternative because running space is restricted, as is line of sight. Other proposed alternatives have similar logistical issues. Providing the citizens of Bellevue and their dogs adequate and diverse off leash areas benefits everyone because dogs who are well trained, socialized, and exercised are less trouble: Less barking, less aggressive behavior, and less destructive behavior. These are dogs who will be less trouble in neighborhoods and when out in public on leash.

In summary, I reflect the opinion of a large group of people in the City of Bellevue when I say that it will be an enormous disappointment and cause of frustration if an off leash area is not incorporated into the Eastgate Property Master Plan. Pushing the

development of an off leash area to other locations is not a reasonable solution. More off leash areas are needed in Bellevue to support the growing population in the near term, and the Eastgate Property is offers the right timing and structure to strengthen the off leash system in the City of Bellevue.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Your feedback and questions are welcome anytime.

Sincere Regards,

John Codling
john.w.codling@hotmail.com
w. 425-296-0756
m. 916-832-2980

Internet Explorer 8 – Get your Hotmail Accelerated. [Download free!](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: Migotsky Family [mailto:mmigotsky@comcast.net]

Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2009 9:15 PM

To: Parksweb

Subject: Good job on Lakemont Trails

Just wanted to thank you for the repairs done to a trail behind my house in the Lakemont area. This trail hits 58th Street (after 173rd turns into 58th), and was washed out by some rains earlier. I was on the trail when it snowed a little last Thursday, and can report that the "ditch" built to the side of the trail was doing its job diverting water from the trail into the small stream.

Again, thanks, and here's hoping the diversion continues to work, so you don't have to repair it again.

Mark Migotsky
17346 SE 58th St
Bellevue 98006

RECEIVED
MAR 11 2009
CITY COUNCIL

P O Box 40143
Bellevue, WA
98015

City of Bellevue
Council & Planning
450 110th Ave NE
Bellevue, WA 98125

6 Mar 2009

Ref: Bellevue Parks
Highlands Ctr

I have been fortunate enough be able to participate in the specialized recreation exercise class at the center. I became disabled through a surgical mistake and unable to walk. Enrolled in a Rehab program, the funds became exhausted prior to being able to learn to walk. At the center I have been able to enroll, receive input from the staff to develop an exercise program to achieve my goal and provided equipment to use which has enabled me to continue to hopefully improve to the point that I might walk again.

The Staff at the center has been a huge part of being able to make the improvements I have, with their caring directives and social support to those of us who have become physically challenged, many at no fault to them selves.

The thought of the Council to put together the resources is certainly appreciated by all enrolled in the various classes. And there is a "thanks" to Planning for allowing it to occur in a convenient location where handicap access is quite easy.

Don Miles

City of Bellevue



Post Office Box 90012 • Bellevue, Washington • 98009-9012

March 13, 2009

Don Miles
PO Box 40143
Bellevue, WA 98015

Dear Mr. Miles,

I am writing on behalf of the Bellevue City Council regarding your letter dated March 6, relating your experience at the Highland Community Center, and the positive working relationship you've shared with staff.

I will forward your letter to Dan Lassiter, Community Services Supervisor at the Center, along with my appreciation. I feel we have excellent staff providing a variety of services throughout the City, however it's gratifying to receive feedback from satisfied users of these services.

Thank you for taking the time to write about your experience. We are indeed fortunate to have a place like Highland to provide you with the support and assistance you need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Foran". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Patrick Foran, Director

cc: Mayor Degginger and City Councilmembers
Terry Smith, Assistant Director
Dan Lassiter, Community Services Supervisor