



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

April 2011

Ashwood Park – Temporary use of park

The library is continuing with plans to construct a parking structure, and has requested the temporary use of Ashwood Park during construction. The City Council has conceptually agreed to this use. We expect to review revised plans in March, but still expect that we will need to relocate the athletic uses to other locations. We are assisting with the development of a formal agreement with the Library.

Aquatic Facility Follow-up

After several meetings with SPLASH and representatives of nearby cities, more detailed information is being prepared to assess the financial feasibility of a major aquatic facility in Bellevue, including more detailed site information as well as capital and operating cost analysis.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design

Plans are complete and we will apply for land use permits in May, followed up by a building permit application later this summer. We are hoping to receive permit approval in early 2012. The King County Housing Authority has just received notification 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, so we will be working with City staff and King County to determine if, and under what circumstances, the City can receive funding for the project.

Bellevue Airfield Park – Shared parking

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. Staff expects to present a final agreement to the City Council in early 2011.

Bellevue Airfield Park - Master Plan

Staff continues to prepare 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. 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. We will be developing conceptual park/greenway plans along the West Tributary to help inform early decision-making.

Chapin Property request

The Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue has requested the use of the City-owned Chapin property, located at the southeast corner of Bellevue Way and NE 20th Street, to construct a major community center. This follows up an earlier request to construct a center at Surrey Downs Park. The City Council reviewed this request at an April study session, and we are currently analyzing several alternative transactions that would satisfy legal obligations.

Cherry Crest Park Use Agreement with the Bellevue School District

On March 7, City Council approved an agreement allowing the Bellevue School District to use parts of Cherry Crest Park to construct portions of a parking lot and to install an underground geothermal heating system as part of the adjacent Cherry Crest Elementary School reconstruction project. Construction is expected to begin immediately after school ends this summer.

Grant Applications

Staff has applied for a State of Washington Boating Facilities Program (BFP) grant to offset the cost to evaluate options and develop plans to accommodate transient moorage at Meydenbauer Bay. The Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) requires the City to provide at least 14 transient moorage slips at the marina as a condition of acquisition grant funding. The final presentation was made to the State April 20, the outcome is expected in June.

Light Rail Impacts

The staff continues to work with the City's Transportation Department, Sound Transit and State Parks staff to evaluate the impacts of several alternative light-rail routes, and identify potential park mitigation measures for impacts to Surrey Downs Park and Mercer Slough.

Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center

Wetlab 2, donated by the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties, was formally opened April 21 amidst great food and fanfare. A grand opening celebration was held, with dignitaries from the City and County Councils, PSE, Pacific Science Center and the Master Builders all participating.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

Due to budget cuts, no new NEP projects will be approved in 2011-12. Approved NEP projects prior to 2011 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 the project to be complete late summer 2011.
- **Playground equipment at Newport Heights and Somerset Elementary:** Staff has met with the District and the School's principals in order to receive final approval and establish the final layout. The new play equipment has been approved and the project is expected to be completed in early fall.
- **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 is reviewing the conceptual plans.
- **Restrooms at Robinswood, Ardmore, and Ivanhoe Parks:** projects on-hold due to O&M budget considerations.

Off-Leash Dog Area Study/Robinswood OLA Expansion

A preferred plan to expand and enhance the off-leash facilities at Robinswood Park is being 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.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects

- Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Construction is substantially complete. The soccer field, play area, and restrooms are open for use. Additional paving of north parking area, drainage, landscaping and tree pruning $A = \pi r^2$ complete. The baseball field will remain closed until the scheduled grand opening on June 11.
- Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** The appeal to the Land Use decision has been denied, and no appeal of the Hearing Examiner's decision was received. Bids were received and we expect to award a \$1.36 million construction contract at the May 2 Council meeting. Construction is anticipated to begin in June and last through the end of the year.
- BYT Construction:** See BYT design above.
- Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Permit and environmental review is ongoing, with project construction expected to begin in July.
 - **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:** Final design development plans are complete and well supported by the Garden Society and partner groups. The design team is proceeding with construction and permit documents. The Conditional Use and environmental review (SEPA) permits will be submitted in mid May.
 - **Fundraising:** The BBGS's ongoing fundraising efforts recently secured a \$506,000 donation for the Ravine Garden, bringing their total raised-to-date to over \$1.2million.
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Parks:** Initial meetings have been scheduled in May with State Parks to begin discussing potential acquisition and/or park development rights at the Acheson property. We have also completed initial clean-up and boundary work on the recently acquired property and expect to begin initial master planning work with the neighborhood later this year.
- 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.

Major 2011 Renovation Projects

- Sportsfield lighting system renovation at Bannerwood and Wilburton Hill Park will be opened on May 2 and awarded at the May 16 Council meeting. Construction will take place after the baseball season;

- The installation of a heat recovery system at the Aquatic Center, which is projected to save significant utility costs, is planned for installation this fall;
- Design is complete, permits are being updated and a small animal barn will be reconstructed at Kelsey Creek this summer/fall. Bidding will occur in May and construction will be coordinated with Farm staff to limit the impact on programs.
- Plans are underway to re-roof the small barns at Kelsey Creek, the whaling building and caretakers house at Meydenbauer Marina and the Botanical Garden visitor center this summer;
- Design is underway on major improvements to the ball fields at Hidden Valley #1 and Wilburton Hill #1 & #2, including infield reconstruction and irrigation adjustments. Work will take place this fall;
- Painting is scheduled to take place this summer at the Kelsey Creek Barns, Bannerwood stadium, Enatai Beach trellis and Newcastle Beach lifeguard stand;
- Mechanical units are scheduled to be replaced this year at Crossroads Community Center, Northwest Arts Center, Bellevue Aquatic Center and Robinswood Tennis Center;
- Fences have been replaced at Enatai Neighborhood Park and Killarney Glen.
- The irrigation system replacement at McCormick Park is nearly complete;
- Parking lot repairs, sealcoating & restriping at the Hidden Valley Sports Park, Robinswood Tennis Center and Meydenbauer Marina are scheduled to be bid in June, with work complete by the end of summer;
- Plans to reconstruct exterior staircases at Enatai, Chism Beach, Lakemont Park and Highland Park are underway, with construction starting late this summer;
- Plans to expand the storage yard and develop an access drive at the Botanical Garden/Koh Property are underway, with work expected to be complete by the end of the year.
- Several planning efforts are also underway, including building use studies at Kelsey Creek and Hidden Valley Sports Park and a shoreline improvement study for Clyde Beach Park.
- Work continues on updating the 7-year Renovation Plan, which is expected to be complete late this spring.

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. The Park Board reviewed the Draft Shoreline Master Program policies at the April Board meeting. Staff is now working with the Park Board to prepare a response to DSD staff and the Planning Commission on SMP policies, to be discussed at the May Park Board meeting.