



BELLEVUE DOWNTOWN
ASSOCIATION

April 12, 2010

Mr. Merle Keeney, Chair
Parks & Community Services Board
City of Bellevue
450 110th Ave NE
Bellevue, WA 98004

RE: BDA Support for Meydenbauer Bay Park & Land Use Plan

Dear Chair Keeney:

The Bellevue Downtown Association (BDA) would like to thank the City of Bellevue Parks & Community Services Board, City staff and the Steering Committee for their commitment to this project and results to date. We would also like to share our support for the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan, along with a few observations.

The BDA has backed the City of Bellevue’s vision and corresponding actions to acquire adjacent parcels for park expansion. The Plan under review is a well-executed response to City Council direction, existing policy and priorities, and extensive citizen input.

Specifically, the Plan illustrates the opportunity to:

- Enhance the public waterfront with greater access, along with sensible integration with neighborhoods, businesses and other park assets;
- Make way for improvements to shoreline habitat and water quality;
- Serve the city’s future residents, workers and visitors with a safe and attractive connection to the water, as well as to the city’s history; and
- Create a visual and functional link between the waterfront and downtown, where much of the city’s economic activity and growth will occur.

Further, the plan presents a complementary role for the park to downtown and avoids the expansion of downtown uses to the waterfront and adjacent neighborhoods. The park will offer respite, relaxation and inspiration. The marina will remain highly functional for the boating community. Families will gain more and better space for recreation and learning activities.

The BDA is aware of neighborhood concerns about potential noise, traffic and access impacts related to park and bay use. We ask the City to remain open to further fact finding and flexible as needed to refine the Plan and balance local preferences with benefits conveyed to the city at large.

Making A Great Place Together

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*Executive Committee

Finally, we are mindful of the challenge in funding an estimated \$40 million project. Without current funds dedicated to build the full park, a phased approach may be fitting. The BDA stands ready to engage in that dialogue as the City Council weighs the value of the waterfront park along with many other capital priorities. We view the park as planned to be an ambitious and wholly worthwhile endeavor. It presents a generous and thoughtful promise to Bellevue's future.

Sincerely,



Ron Rauch
BDA Board Chair



Leslie Lloyd
BDA President

From: Kathryn Chalfan [mailto:k.chalfan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 11:26 AM
To: Dewald, Dan
Subject: nice work

Dan,

I would like to compliment your trail crew, who are completing repairs to a section of the Coal Creek trail below Forest Drive. It had become unsafe. Isaac's crew field-designed a very robust-looking solution to the washout problem. I have often observed the excellent work of this crew, but never knew any names until today. So, compliments to Isaac and the others.

Kathryn Chalfan (a frequent trail user)

425 503 6524 cell

May 3, 2010

Mr. Merle Keeney, Chair
Bellevue Parks Board

Dear Mr. Keeney and the rest of the Bellevue Parks Board,

I would like to thank you for the great honor you bestowed upon me by granting me the Bellevue Parks Scholarship. I am so grateful you gave me an opportunity to have my love of the environment and parks matter in relationship to my future education so that I may study Environmental Science in college. I would like to apologize for not being at the Parks Board meeting in person but my Mercer Slough Internship conflicts with the meeting time.

I want to thank you for the enjoyable time I had at the PTSA luncheon and would like to apologize to Mr. Keeney that I have chosen Saint Mary's College of California over his alma mater, Oregon State University. When I apply to grad school, I'll be sure to consider OSU again!

Again, thank you for this honor and I would like to commend you on this incredible opportunity and hope that it continues for many years to come.

Thanks,

Melissa Dahl
Newport High School Class of 2010
4737 – 132nd Ave SE
Bellevue, WA 98006

C: Janet Suppes, President
Bellevue PSTA Council

Eric Dawes, President
Newport High School PTSA

From: Bill & Merrily [mailto:]
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 5:00 PM
To: Brown, Christina
Subject: Arbor Day

Dear Christina,
On behalf of Horizon Crest Community Association, I would like to thank you for the wonderful support the Parks Dept. provided for our neighborhood clean-up. The dumpsters were greatly appreciated. Our islands are now weeded and freshly barked. Please thank the City of Bellevue on our behalf. We hope to continue this cooperative effort.
Sincerely,
Merrily Hornell, Pres. HCCA

From: Brown, Christina
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2010 8:09 AM
To: Bill & Merrily
Cc: Bradley, Geoff
Subject: RE: Arbor Day

Dear Merrily,
Thank you for your kind words. I drove around the neighborhood on Sunday and everything looked fantastic- your team got a lot accomplished! I am so glad that everything worked out on Saturday and I look forward to working with your community again next year!
Take Care,
Chris

Christina Brown
Park Ranger- Naturalist
City of Bellevue- Parks & Community Services
Work: 425-452-4195
Mobile: 425-864-1569
CKBrown@bellevuewa.gov



March 31, 2010

Bellevue City Council
450 110th Ave NE
P.O. Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009

Dear Council Members:

We are writing today to express our concerns with the proposed expansion of the off-leash dog facilities at Robinswood Park.

Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church is bordered on our North and East property lines by Robinswood Park.

Our concerns with an expanded off-leash dog facility are:

1. Noise during Worship – Our Sanctuary, the section of our building where we hold worship services, is the closest part of our building to Robinswood Park. The Sanctuary is less than 50 feet from the park boundary. Worship services are nearly always quiet, meditative gatherings. Services are held most often on Sunday mornings, but Memorial Services, Weddings and other services may be held any day of the week. The April 14, 2009 Draft Off-Leash Dog Study recommends *“Off-leash areas can generate considerable noise. It is recommended that a generous buffer be provided when located in residential areas. Experienced off-leash stewards recommend a minimum of 100’ buffer from residences and other use areas where noise generated in the off-leash area could create conflicts.”* We believe that our Sanctuary is an area where dog noise would create conflicts.
2. Noise to Memorial Garden Users - Saint Andrew's maintains an outdoor Memorial Garden less than five feet from the park boundary. The Memorial Garden holds the ashes of deceased family members of our congregation. The Memorial Garden was designed as a quiet, contemplative space with benches for sitting in silence and remembering loved ones to the soft water sounds of the fountain. We purposely chose this site on our property less than three years ago to be shielded from the activity of the parking lot, and adjacent to the native woods of Robinswood Park. We believe that our Memorial Garden is an area where dog noise would create conflicts.
3. Park Users Using the Church Parking Lot – Currently, we experience several park users every day parking in the church's parking lot and entering Robinswood Park via an informal trail access from our North property line. This issue is already an inconvenience, especially on Sunday mornings, as our worshippers regularly fill

our parking lot. We believe this problem will worsen with an expanded dog facility at Robinswood.

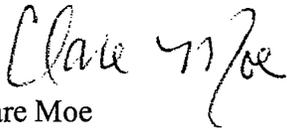
4. Liability for Dog Incidents – We are concerned that an increased number of dogs in Robinswood would cause more dogs to be on our property. That might lead to bite incidents with the many elderly and small children members that are on the church's grounds. Car accidents in the parking lot are also a concern.

To mitigate the impacts of the concerns above, we request the City of Bellevue...

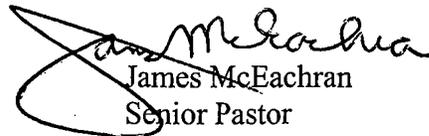
1. Incorporate significant noise barriers between the dog facility and Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church.
2. Install a fence or other barrier to prevent Robinswood Park access from the church's parking lot.
3. Maintain a significant buffer of native vegetation and mature trees along our North property line.
4. Involve Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church in the design of expanded dog facilities so that we may provide input on design elements.
5. Provide City of Bellevue liability for park user dog incidents that may occur on our property.

We invite the City's response to our concerns and requests. Please contact Saint Andrew's Facilities Manager Kurt Lutterman at 425-746-2529 or Kurt@salchome.org.

Thank you,



Clare Moe
President, Congregation Council



James McEachran
Senior Pastor

cc: Bellevue Parks and Community Services Board

Harvey, Nancy

From: Brad Smallwood [brad@smallwoods.net]
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2010 8:54 AM
To: Davidson, Don; Lee, Conrad; Degginger, Grant; Balducci, Claudia; Chelminiak, John; Robertson, Jennifer S.; Wallace, Kevin R; Cole, Robin; parkboard
Subject: Support of a proposed new Bellevue waterfront park

Dear Bellevue City Council and Parks & Community Services Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of my family to urge your support and approval of the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan as recommended by the Meydenbauer Bay Park Steering Committee.

I hope the Council and Board keep in mind that the lack of testimony in support of this project does not indicate the Community's overall opinion. I also hope you keep in mind that this park is a Community park to be enjoyed by all Bellevue citizens, not a neighborhood park.

We support the Plan in its entirety, including:

- Safe pedestrian movement from Downtown Park to the waterfront should be maximized, this includes the closure of 100th Avenue, south of Main.
- Incorporate the Bay's rich heritage for Bellevue's children.
- Safe and convenient visitor parking for the park and nearby residents.
- Activity building that provides opportunities for enjoying programmed and unprogrammed activities during all kinds of weather, similar to Lewis Creek Park.
- Increased physical and visual access, as incorporated through the viewing platform and other Plan concepts.
- Improved community economic vitality and property value for all Bellevue residents.

Please continue Bellevue's legacy of a City within a Park by supporting the Meydenbauer Bay Park and Land Use Plan as recommended by the Meydenbauer Bay Park Steering Committee.

Thank you for your services to our community.

Sincerely,

Brad Smallwood
15565 S.E. 67th Pl.
Bellevue, WA 98006

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