



## **PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

### **April 2008**

#### **Aquatic Center Feasibility Study**

Staff and Ballard\*King continue to work on the draft feasibility report, currently developing the financial proformas and site designs. The study will analyze six site and explore six specific program options, including a dispersed model that will explore a multi-jurisdictional/multi-location solution. Specific recommendations for program or site selection will not be provided. The initial draft of the study should be complete in April, with a final report in June.

#### **Ashwood Plaza Construction**

Plaza Construction is approximately 50% complete. Construction is being coordinated with the 1020 Tower construction. Concrete planters are close to completion, soil transitions to Ashwood Park have begun with planting anticipated next month. Project completion is expected in June.

#### **Ashwood Park Master Plan**

Staff is developing an RFP for design consultant selection for master plan work. We anticipate receiving and screening proposals in May 2008 with consultant interviews and contract negotiations taking place in June 2008.

#### **Bellevue Botanical Garden Master Plan Update**

At their March 11 meeting, the Parks Board recommended approval of the Master Plan Update by a 4-2 vote. Concerns were expressed about the size of the proposed visitor center and parking lot expansion. The staff presented the preferred alternative at the April 7 City Council study session. After completing the SEPA process, we will ask Council to adopt the plan.

#### **Bellevue Youth Theatre Design & Ivanhoe Lease Agreement**

Staff is working with Becker Architects to complete a preliminary architectural study including program planning, code and site analysis, schematic alternatives and cost estimates. We are currently exploring alternatives at Ivanhoe Park, Crossroads Park, and sites in the Bel-Red corridor. A parking demand analysis has been completed for Crossroads Park. Upon completion of the preliminary study, staff will present the findings and recommendations to the Youth Theatre Board and Parks Board, and present a final architectural contract to the Council. We have been unsuccessful locating alternate storage facilities for the Bellevue School District, so negotiations to extend the lease agreement with the BSD at Ivanhoe Park remain on hold.

#### **Bel-Red Corridor Study**

The Park Board delayed action on the park concepts and projects at their April meeting, expressing concern about the reduction of the "Park Blocks" concept along the NE15/16<sup>th</sup> corridor included in the Steering Committee's Bel-Red concept plan. Additional information on

the park blocks concept will be presented at the May Park Board meeting. The Planning Commission is now reviewing the work to-date, and the City Council is reviewing the current plans and financial strategies to implement the plan, including the concept of park impact fees. A community open house is scheduled for May 15, immediately followed by a joint commission presentation.

#### **Crossroads Park Water Play**

Construction is approximately 75% complete. A \$150,000 NEP project to complete the two family picnic shelters was overwhelmingly supported by the neighborhood, and will be installed next Fall. Construction completion and a grand opening celebration has been tentatively scheduled for June.

#### **Eastgate Area Park Property (AKA: Boeing Property) – Shared access road and parking**

Road construction and methane system modifications continue, with completion expected this summer. Staff continues work with the Department of Ecology to update the landfill restrictive covenant and landfill gas system reports, and with Schnitzer West (SW) to establish the final City cost of the shared road, landfill gas system upgrades, and parking lot construction, currently estimated at \$2-2.5million. We have also been requested by SW to modify their parking requirements contained in the Purchase & Sale Agreement, and we are studying their proposal.

#### **Eastgate Area Park Property (AKA: Ex-Boeing Property) Master Plan**

The Master Planning process has been initiated with technical analysis preparing for public meetings that are scheduled to begin in May.

#### **Highland Skate Park**

Substantial Completion has been achieved, and the facility is now open for use. Landscape volunteer planting to meet matching grant requirements took place April 26, and a grand opening celebration is scheduled for May 16.

#### **Lewis Creek Park**

No Change. The staff is currently developing options to erect a cover over the playground equipment area to resolve a potential conflict between the north ballfield and the playground area.

#### **Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center**

See attached MSEEC update sheet. We are working with the Pacific Science Center and our Natural Resources staff to confirm the furniture requirements for the building, including interpretive displays, that we hope to include when the building opens. The capital campaign continues, and the funding gap to complete Phase 1 construction is now less than \$1 million.

#### **Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Planning & Land Use Study**

In order to address environmental issues and public concerns raised during the land use planning phase and integrate environmental solutions with opportunities for place-making consistent with these environmental values into the park master plan, staff determined that a different set of consultant skills would be needed for the park phase of the project. To that end, the contract with

Sasaki Associates was terminated, and a new contract is being negotiated with EDAW, Inc., a firm we believe will bring the best skill set to the park planning phase. We anticipate approval of the new contract May 5, with technical studies beginning immediately. The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for May 29, 2008.

### **Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects**

Voting is complete for Northeast Bellevue, with the picnic shelters at the Crossroads Water Play area receiving the most votes, and thus approved. Resident suggested projects are now being reviewed for the Bridal Trails neighborhood area. Approved NEP projects being implemented by Planning and Design staff are as follows:

- **Playground equipment at Ardmore Elementary:** Approved 2005 funding is on hold pending the coordination with the School District's rebuild of the school site.
- **Highland Park Skate Park:** See paragraph above.
- **Ashwood Plaza Construction:** See paragraph above.
- **Somerset Entry renovations:** Scoping underway.
- **Cougar Ridge Elementary:** Sports wall design 2008.
- **Crossroads Water Play Area Picnic shelters:** See paragraph above.

### **Robinswood Synthetic Fields**

Final contractor punch list items are complete. As-built plans have been received, and final closeout is underway.

### **Sound Transit/East Link**

Environmental work continues with the goal of publishing the final EIS and selecting a preferred alternative by the end of 2008. The preliminary draft EIS is now being reviewed by staff, and depending on the selected alternative, temporary or permanent park impacts may occur at Surrey Downs, Mercer Slough, and/or McCormick Park. A "Best Practices" Committee that includes Park Board members Roland and Karle continues their work to provide guidance to the Council.

### **Surrey Downs Master Plan**

After community workshops in November and January, and a Park Board study session February 12, a preferred design was developed. A third community workshop was held April 1 to receive feedback on the preferred design. We will present the preferred alternative to the Parks Board on May 13<sup>th</sup> and ask for a recommendation for approval to Council. Upon completion of the SEPA process, we will request City council to adopt the master plan. A Web site has been created to allow citizens to offer feedback to the staff.