



# MEMORANDUM

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**Phone:** 452-6885

**Date:** May 20, 2008

**To:** Planning Commission  
Transportation Commission

**From:** Merle Keeney, Parks & Community Services Board Chair

**Subject:** Bel-Red Parks, Open Space, Trails & Streams Plan and Project List  
NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Corridor Plans

At our meetings of February 12, April 8 and May 13, the Parks & Community Services Board reviewed the conceptual plan and project list for the Parks, Open Space, Trails and Streams components of the Bel-Red Corridor Plan. At our request, we also reviewed the current plans for the NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> corridor at our May 13 meeting.

The park and open space concepts are consistent with the *General Policy Direction* endorsed by the Board last December, and closely follow the relevant sections of the draft *Bel-Red Subarea Plan* endorsed by the Board on February 12. However, the plans for the NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> corridor differ substantially from the "Park Blocks" concept depicted in the Steering Committee's Final Report to Council, and described during the Steering Committee process. The current concept for the NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> corridor includes a tree canopy and urban space components, but does not include formal park space within the right-of-way, thus deviating from the strong green infrastructure concept supported by the Steering Committee.

At our May 13 meeting, the Park Board unanimously endorsed the attached conceptual Park, Open Space, Trails and Streams Plan and accompanying Project List. We continue to believe that, if fully implemented according to the policies and plans that we have endorsed, this plan will provide an outstanding park and open space system for the Bel-Red Subarea, with the potential to become a model for environmental sustainability in our community.

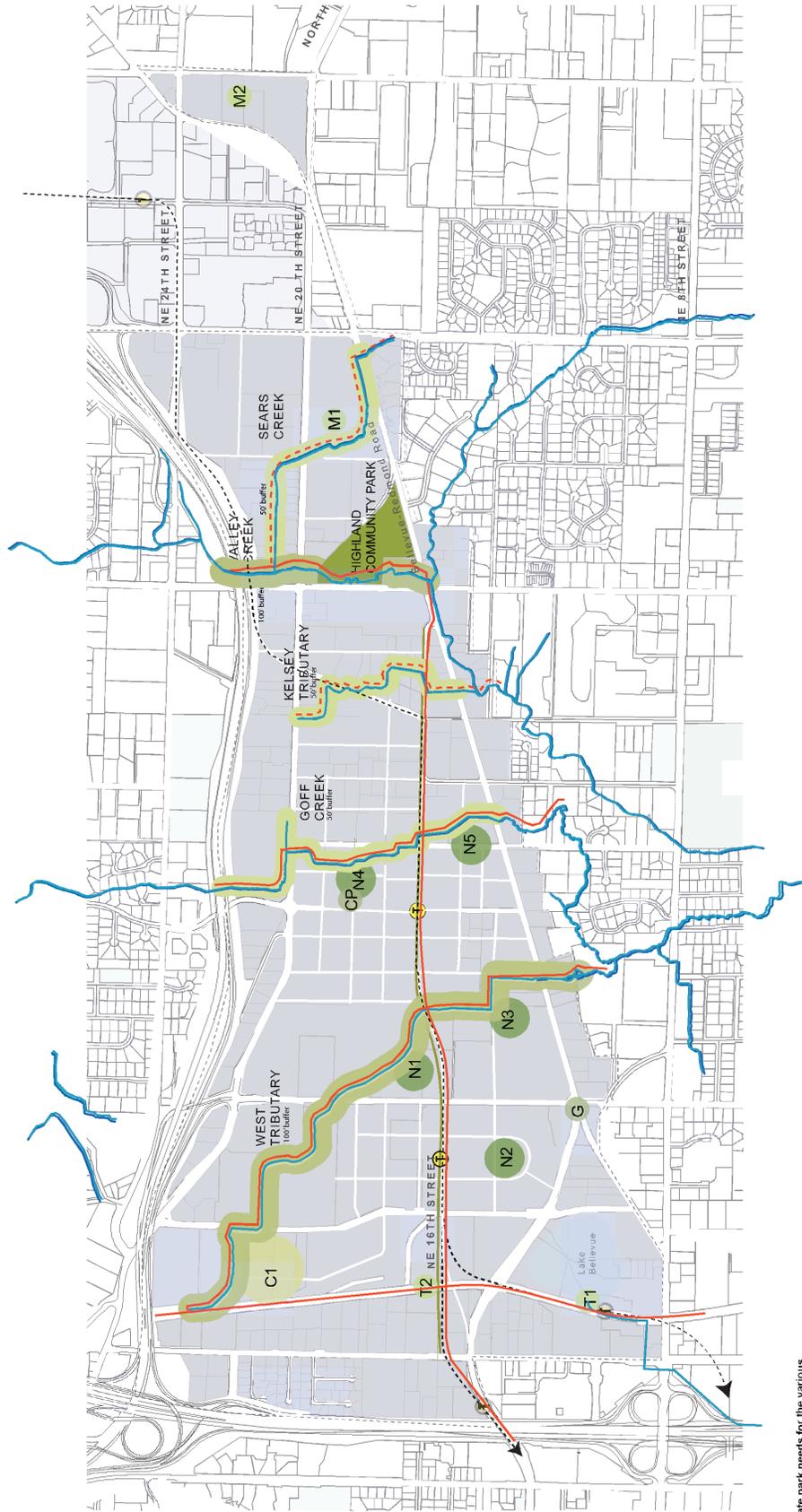
The Park Board also endorsed the conceptual design for the NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> corridor as presented to us. While disappointed at the elimination of the "Park Blocks" concept, we believe the current design for NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> represents a "green street" that is consistent with the overall intent of the Bel-Red Plan. The NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> corridor also includes a significant pedestrian and bicycle trail, which is a signature element of the non-motorized transportation and recreational plan, serving a critical function of connecting the Bel-Red open spaces with adjacent areas of Bellevue and the region. However, we don't believe the current NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> design should be included in the areas designated as parks and open space. Although it has wonderful transportation elements, these elements should not be utilized to offset the park and open space needs of the area as reflected in the attached plan and project list.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue to participate in this exciting project, and look forward to your support and to our continued involvement through the implementation process.

Attachments Bel-Red Parks, Open Space, Trails & Streams Plan  
Bel-Red Parks, Open Space, Trails & Streams Project List



# BEL-RED SUBAREA Parks, Open Space, Trails & Streams



Park areas are shown to conceptually illustrate park needs for the various Bel-Red nodes. Actual park may vary from the locations shown on the illustration. The major recreational facility is not shown on the map.

- riparian greenway opportunity area
- riparian waterway
- paved multi-purpose trail
- - - soft surface trail
- C community park
- M mini park
- N neighborhood park
- G gateway park
- CP civic plaza
- T trailhead



**Bel-Red Corridor Project**  
**Parks, Open Space, Trails and Streams Component**

Map ID	Park	Acres
N-1	<b>Neighborhood Park</b> – Along West Trib, adjacent to NE 16 <sup>th</sup> Parkway. Integrates major trail systems and regional detention, with neighborhood park facilities. – 3 acres Neighborhood Park / 1 acre remnant Transportation acquisition	4
N-2	<b>Neighborhood Park</b> – Located between 120 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 124 Ave. NE and south of NE 15/16 Street. Provides neighborhood park and sports facilities to serve residential and commercial mixed use development	4
N-3	<b>Neighborhood Park</b> – Along West Trib, adjacent to Bel-Red Road. Integrates major trail and neighborhood park facilities. – 3 acres Neighborhood Park / 1 acre riparian	4
N-4 / CP	<b>Neighborhood Park/Civic Plaza</b> – Along Goff Creek, north of NE 16, between 130 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 132 Ave NE. Integrates approximate 1 acre urban plaza along pedestrian oriented retail street with adjacent 3 acre neighborhood park and trail facilities along 1 acre riparian corridor.	5
N-5	<b>Neighborhood Park</b> – Along Goff Creek, between Bel-Red Road and NE 16 <sup>th</sup> . NE. Integrates trail system along riparian corridor with neighborhood park facilities. – 3 acres Neighborhood Park / 1 acre riparian	4
G	<b>Gateway Park</b> – Near the intersection of 124 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE and Bel-Red Road. Integrates mini park facilities and potential art component near major road intersection to serve as gateway to the Bel-Red Corridor.	1
T-1	<b>Trail Head</b> - located adjacent to BNSF at Lake Bellevue. Integrates a trailhead with mini park facilities at BNSF regional trail and Lake Bellevue.	1
T-2	<b>Trail Head</b> – located at the BNSF regional trail corridor and the NE 15 <sup>th</sup> /16 <sup>th</sup> Parkway. Integrates a trailhead with mini park facilities at the crossing of the two major multi purpose trails.	1
M-1	<b>Mini Park</b> – Along Sears Creek west of 148 <sup>th</sup> , between Bel-Red Road and NE 16 <sup>th</sup> . Integrates trail system and riparian corridor with mini park facilities.	1
M-2	<b>Mini Park</b> – Centrally located between Bel-Red Road, 156 <sup>th</sup> Ave. NE , and NE 20 <sup>th</sup> . Incorporates mini park facilities to serve node.	1
C-1	<b>Community Park</b> – Along West Trib. adjacent to 120 <sup>th</sup> Ave. NE. Incorporates trailhead and trail system along West Trib. and BNSF with community park facilities. -10 acre acquisition through purchase for community park facilities. - 7 acre open space dedication by adjacent owner .	17
N/A	<b>Community Park</b> – Existing Highland Park located at 140 <sup>th</sup> Ave NE and Bel-Red Road.	11.2
N/A	<b>Major Indoor Recreation Facility – 150,000 sf</b> - Components could include sports, health and fitness facilities and major aquatic center , together with companion outdoor sports facilities. Location not shown on map.	10

Streams and Trails	Size/ Length
<b>West Trib Riparian Corridor</b> - Restore 200' average width native plant riparian corridor on both sides (+/- 100' each side) of the West Tributary from the BNSF right of way to Bel-Red Road with a paved ped-bike path (10ft) on one side of the stream. Improve fish passage, and rehabilitate in-stream habitat.	6350 lf stream 27 acre riparian corridor
<b>Goff Creek Riparian Corridor</b> - Develop a 100' average width (+/- 50' each side of creek) native plant and social amenity riparian corridor integrating natural drainage practices, 8' paved/boardwalk trail, art and place-making features as part of redevelopment north of NE 16th. Realign and daylight Goff Creek with additional floodplain storm water capacity. Restore fish passage.	4200 lf 7 acre
<b>Kelsey Creek Trib Riparian Corridor</b> - Restore a 100' average width (+/- 50' width each side of creek) native plant and social amenity riparian corridor. Integrate natural drainage practices, soft surface pathway, art and place-making features in corridor. Restore fish passage.	2000 lf 12 acre
<b>Valley Creek Riparian Corridor</b> - Restore a 200' average width (+/- 100' each side of creek) native plant riparian corridor between Highland Community Park and Hwy 520. Includes paved multi-use trail/boardwalk on one side.	500 lf 3 acre
<b>Sears Creek Riparian Corridor</b> - Restore a 100' average width (+/- 50' width each side of creek) native plant riparian corridor along Sears Creek. Rehabilitate salmon habitat, channel capacity, restore riparian functions and provide soft surface pedestrian pathway. Daylight piped area of stream.	1300 lf 8.5 acre
<b>NE 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Parkway Multi-use trail</b> Integrates 12' wide paved multi-purpose trail with significant greenway along major transportation corridor.	7,900 lf