



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

May 2012

Ashwood Park – Temporary use of park & fire station

Construction continues on the library's 3-level parking structure. Ashwood Park will remain open, though the parking lot is now used chiefly by library patrons. At the completion of the project, the lot will be repaved and the northern portions of the park and right-of-way will be landscaped. Athletic uses will be relocated during the expected one-year construction period.

At their June 4 study session, the City Council rejected the concept of locating a fire station at Ashwood Park, directing the staff to explore alternative downtown locations for a fire station. They would like to consider updating the Ashwood Park Master Plan during their upcoming budget deliberations.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design

Land Use approval has been received and construction permits have been submitted and revised - approval is anticipated mid-2012. A grant application via the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) was not approved during the current legislative session. The Foundation has recently submitted an application to the State Dept. of Commerce CTED program for \$190,000.

Bellevue Airfield Park – Shared parking & landfill gas modifications

The modification to the shared parking requirement continues to be stalled in legal, though we continue to hope that a final agreement will be presented to the City Council this year. Upgrades to the landfill gas extraction system have been completed, and the new venting system is working well.

Bellevue Airfield Park - Master Plan

Environmental approvals have been received, and staff expects to return to Council for Master Plan adoption in July. Eight firms have responded to a request for proposals for phase 1 design services, and screening is in process.

Bel-Red Planning

Staff continues to participate in several current planning efforts that will 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 all include parks planning participation.

Boys & Girls Club Request @ Hidden Valley Park

The staff continues to study the Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue's requested the use of Hidden Valley Park to construct a gymnasium to house three basketball courts and other sports-related facilities. The parties have developed the framework for a partnership that allows the BGCB to construct the gymnasium, with the parties sharing the cost to improve the athletic fields and parking lot. Concept plans and cost estimates have been completed, and the partnership will be presented at upcoming Park Board and Council study sessions.

Downtown Park/Rotary Playground Expansion

Parks staff has been working with representatives of the Bellevue Rotary Club to expand the Downtown Park playground as a universally-accessible play experience. The Rotary has committed to a 3-year, \$250,000 contribution as well as a community-wide fundraising campaign to secure the funding needed to complete the facility, estimated at \$1.5 – 2.0 million. The City has agreed to fund the project soft costs similar to our commitment at the Crossroads Park/Rotary water play area. We are working with a landscape architect and a committee of City and Rotary representatives to complete concept drawings and sketches for presentation at a June 26 Rotary banquet.

Light Rail Impacts

A final light rail route alignment has been approved by the parties, though it differs from the preferred option in the final EIS. Both options impact Mercer Slough Nature Park and Surrey Downs, and exceed available funding for this portion of ST2. Additional technical work is now underway to identify cost savings for this portion of the line, and will continue through most of the year. We are providing input to representatives of Sound Transit and the City as they evaluate options, costs and legal requirements.

Meydenbauer Moorage, House Demolition & Funding Request

The provision of 14 short-term moorage slips is a requirement of the State grant used to help purchase the Meydenbauer Marina properties. We recently received a State boating facilities grant to fund half of the cost to design and permit the necessary modifications to the marina to accommodate these slips. We have evaluated several options, and worked with the neighbors to develop a plan that minimizes neighborhood impacts. Design and permitting work is underway.

Conditions of a separate State grant used to help purchase two waterfront house parcels require that the property be converted to public use by this fall. We are now developing plans to permit and remove these two houses and restore the property to turf.

The recent Legislature request for initial funding of Meydenbauer Bay Park was not approved.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

Approved NEP projects being implemented by Planning and Design staff are as follows:

- **Playground equipment at Enatai Beach Park:** Installation of the equipment and safety surface is underway, with completion expected mid-June.
- **Crossroads Park Walkway Improvements:** No Change (development on hold until BYT permit is complete). The project will include a section of the Bellevue Youth Theatre storm drain system, which is in permit review. Construction is expected to start fall/winter after the BYT permits are approved and the storm drainage pipe can be permitted and installed. The Project will be complete by the end 2012.

Newport Hills/"Tyler Property"

Staff is working with a park planning committee of the Newport Hills Community Club Board to develop the vision plan and suggested name for the park based on the previous outreach with the neighborhood. The planning effort is anticipated to continue through most of the year.

Park & Natural Areas Levy Projects

- Synthetic Sportsfield at Wilburton Hill Park:** Project complete.
- Synthetic Sportsfield at Newport Hills Park:** Project complete.
- Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** The construction is complete and park opening is expected this summer.
- BYT Construction:** See BYT design above.
- Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** The project is complete and a successful grand opening celebration occurred on May 13 (Mother's Day).
 - **Wetland-Sun Terraced Garden:** Design is complete and Land Use approval has been secured. The project is on-hold pending the availability of funding.
 - **Visitor Center & Parking Lot:** The project is under the development permit review process, which is anticipated to be complete in fall 2012. On April 19th, the public hearing for the Conditional Use, Critical Areas Land Use and Environmental permits was conducted and formally approved. Design plans are 95% complete, and will be completed at the end of the development permit process. At that time, the project will be ready for bidding.
 - **Fundraising:** A recent \$200,000 grant from the Norcliffe Foundation has brought the Garden Society's fundraising total to over \$2million.
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Parks:** Discussions continue with State Parks to secure rights to the Acheson property. A second master plan meeting for the NE 24th St. site took place on May 10 and a third community meeting is scheduled for June 14 to discuss feedback received from the first two meetings and to present Master Plan alternatives.
- Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- Surrey Downs Park Development:** On-hold pending final light-rail alignment and court relocation. The current alignment options will require modifications to the adopted Master Plan.
- Bellevue Airfield Park Development:** Eight design firms submitted proposals for phase 1 design work, and they are now being screened.
- Downtown Park Development:** No activity.

Renovation Projects

Work is underway on the following major renovation projects for 2012:

- Door and lock upgrades at Highland Community Center, Ivanhoe Youth Theater, Northwest Arts Center, and at Resource Management facility are underway;
- Carpet replacement at the Bellevue Aquatic Center, which will occur during their fall closing;

- Restroom improvements at Chism Beach, Highland Community Center and Robinswood Tennis Center;
- Design for fitness room conversions at North Bellevue, Highland and Crossroads CC's;
- Install a zip line addition to the challenge course at Eastgate Park/SBCC;
- Reconstruct the small animal buildings at Kelsey Creek farm, which is scheduled to occur after the farm's summer programming;
- Planning & design for program and storage improvements at the Kelsey Creek facilities;
- Dock & pier inspections at Phantom Lake, Larson Lake, and Mercer Slough; Inspections have been completed; repair work is being scoped and designed.
- Design and permitting to replace the swim dock at Clyde Beach & install transient moorage at Meydenbauer Marina. Design and permitting is underway.
- Install a heat recovery system at the Aquatic Center; Project is out to bid, bids are due late April.
- Drainage, irrigation and infield improvements at two Wilburton Hill ballfields;
- Drainage improvements for the Ivanhoe and Lewis Creek Park soccer fields;
- Drainage and surface improvements at the Robinswood off-leash area;
- Phase 2 irrigation replacement at McCormick Park, (complete);
- Mercer Slough Blueberry farm drainage design and permitting;
- Mechanical system upgrades at the Golf Course pro shop (complete), maintenance shop and Robinswood House Cabana;
- Lighting upgrades at the Downtown Park and security lighting at Kelsey Creek Park;
- Exterior painting of the Robinswood Tennis Center, golf course pro shop, (complete) and North Bellevue Community Center mansard replacement;
- Replace sewer pumps at the Overlake Blueberry Farm, Newcastle Beach and Robinswood Park;
- Demolish two rental houses and restore property along Meydenbauer Bay;
- Fence & railing repairs at Lake Hills Park & Greenbelt, Lewis Creek, and Robinswood Park baseball field;
- Parking lot repairs at Robinswood, Lake Hills Park, Lewis Creek & NW Arts Center;
- Tree root pruning and root barrier installation at the Downtown Park;
- Storage yard expansion and access improvements at the Botanical Garden/Koh Property;
- Install a new pathway at the Botanical Garden (complete) and replace the Forest Park boardwalk;
- Install new electrically operated backboard winches at the South Bellevue Community Center gym (complete);

Shoreline Master Program

Park staff continues to provide feedback to the Development Services staff regarding potential impacts to park use and future park development of the proposed Shoreline Master Program updates. Parks staff and Board Chair Robinson provided testimony to the Planning Commission at their March 28 meeting regarding the impacts of the SMP to the Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Plan. A follow up Park Board discussion is expected in July.