



## **PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

### **May 2011**

#### **Ashwood Park – Temporary use of park**

The library expects to begin construction of a 3-level parking structure later this summer, and has requested use of Ashwood Park parking lot during construction. The City Council has conceptually agreed to this use. The library will repave the parking lot and landscape the northern portions of the park and right-of-way. We are finalizing plan review, and expect to have an agreement for Council action in June. We will relocate the athletic uses to other locations during construction, which is expected to take one-year.

#### **Aquatic Facility Follow-up**

After several meetings with SPLASH and representatives of nearby cities, more detailed site and financial information is being prepared to assess the feasibility of a major aquatic facility. We are preparing for a follow-up Council discussion this summer.

#### **Bellevue Youth Theatre Design**

Plans have been submitted for land use permit review and will be 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 summer 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 15/16<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Downtown Park Memorial**

The City has been approached by an individual who would like to restore the existing memorial in Downtown Park dedicated to three Bellevue men that died in World War I. We are working with the individual as well as the Eastside Heritage Center to determine the most appropriate and effective way to accomplish this goal.

### **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 grant presentation was made to the State April 20, and preliminarily approved dependent upon the 2011-2013 State Capital Budget. Final BFP Board recommendation is expected June 23.

### **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.

### **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 constructed in late summer/early fall 2011.
- **Playground equipment at Newport Heights and Somerset Elementary:** Staff was requested to rework some elements by the District and the School's principals. Final layout has been approved. The new play equipment will be ordered and then installation 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:** the projects are being revised due to O&M budget considerations. In lieu of permanent facilities, seasonal

portable restrooms will be installed at Ardmore and Ivanhoe. Because of the presence of two already existing permanent restrooms, we are now considering the elimination of the Robinswood project in favor of an alternate NEP project.

### **Off-Leash Dog Area Study/Robinswood OLA Expansion**

A preferred plan to expand and enhance the off-leash facilities at Robinswood Park has been 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. See also Bellevue Airfield Park - Master Plan.

### **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, ballfield netting and tree pruning complete. The baseball field will be opened for use at the June 11 grand opening.
- Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area:** City Council approved a \$1.36 million construction contract at the May 2 Council meeting to AGR Contracting, Inc. Construction is underway and will continue through the end of the year.
- BYT Construction:** See BYT design above.
- Botanical Garden Projects:**
  - **Ravine Garden:** Project out to bid on 5/24. Bid opening June 8. 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:** The Conditional Use and environmental review (SEPA) permits were submitted in mid May and under review by City review staff. The design team is completing the construction documents and will apply for building permits towards the end of 2011.
  - **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 \$1.3million.
- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Parks:** An initial meeting was held June 2 with representatives of State Parks to discuss future rights to the Acheson property. Discussions were positive, and are expected to last several months before reaching agreement. We have completed initial clean-up and boundary work on the recently acquired Paschinskii 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.
- Airfield Park Development:** No activity.
- Downtown Park Development:** No activity.

## **Major 2011 Renovation Projects**

- Sportsfield lighting system renovation at Wilburton Hill Park is expected to be awarded at the June 6 Council meeting for July construction. The Bannerwood sportsfield lighting renovation is expected to be awarded in late June, with fall construction;
- 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. Construction will be coordinated with Farm staff to limit the impact on programs.
- Plans are underway to re-roof two 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 infield reconstruction and irrigation adjustments to the ball fields this fall at Hidden Valley #1 and Wilburton Hill #1 & #2;
- 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.
- Phase 1 of the irrigation system replacement at McCormick Park is 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 remove exterior staircases at Lakemont and Highland Park and reconstruct staircases at Enatai and Chism Beach are underway, with construction 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.
- Work continues on updating the 7-year Renovation Plan, which is expected to be complete late this summer.

## **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 policies at the April Board meeting, and approved a response to the Planning Commission at their May meeting.