



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

June 2009

Aquatic Center Feasibility Study

At their March 23 study session briefing, the Council asked staff to further define program needs, site considerations and alternative funding sources, including capital and operating partners. There was general support for a major aquatic facility to meet the recreational and competitive swimming needs, though concern about building and operating costs. The staff has met with SPLASH and several nearby cities and determined that there is a sufficient level of interest to continue evaluating the idea of a multi-city partnership to address regional aquatic needs.

Ashwood Park Plaza Construction

The plaza has been completed, and as-built documents and O&M manuals have been provided. Contract closeout and reimbursement from Hanover is underway.

Ashwood Park Master Plan

A charrette with various City departments was conducted to review previous master planning efforts to help guide the next planning steps. Staff is developing an RFP for consultant selection for master plan work. Staff has also met with representatives of the King County Library, who are interested in considering the use of Ashwood Park to construct additional parking for the adjacent Bellevue Regional Library. We will be working to determine the level of City interest in a partnership.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design

The final schematic design plans were reviewed by the internal design team on June 11, and work will begin shortly on design development.

Crossroads Park Water Play

The construction contract to install two picnic shelters was approved April 20. Timber framing is complete, the roofing and finish work is underway, as is the safety surface repairs, all of which are expected to be complete by the end of June.

Eastgate Area Park Property (Ex-Boeing Property) – Shared access road and parking

Work continues on auditing SW's construction contract documents to establish the final City cost and payment for the shared road, landfill gas system upgrades, and parking lot construction, estimated at \$2.5million. We continue to evaluate SW's request to modify their parking requirements contained in the Purchase & Sale Agreement.

Eastgate Area Park Property (Ex-Boeing Property) Master Plan

The results of the public involvement process and the three design alternatives were presented to the Park Board in January and the City Council in March. Both identified athletic fields as the highest priority element, but expressed interest in a building and were anxious to hear the results of the off-leash study prior to determining the preferred alternative. The off-leash study was presented to the Council on June 15 (see off-leash study below), and the design team will now prepare additional plan alternatives based on Park Board and Council feedback, which will be presented at a final community meeting, tentatively scheduled for July 23.

Grant applications

Both acquisition grants to the State (properties on Meydenbauer Bay and Lake Sammamish) were unsuccessful. The Youth Theatre project will receive a \$75,000 grant from King County, with the possibility of receiving additional funds in future grant cycles. The staff was recently notified by the State RCO that an additional \$221,000 has been approved for the 2004 Meydenbauer Bay acquisition project, bringing the total approved for this project to-date of over \$700,000.

Levy Projects

A total capital program of \$73 million, \$53 million for park development and \$20 million for park acquisition, has been approved. The sequencing program presented to the Board in March will be delayed because part of the projected \$28.5 million in CIP resources will be delayed because of the economic recession. The status of the development projects is as follows:

- Synthetic Sportsfields at Newport Hills and Wilburton Hill Parks:** Design/permit work continues on both projects. On May 6 a community meeting was held for the Wilburton Hills project with 3 citizens attending. The project is currently in for SEPA review with a determination expected by the end of July. A community meeting was held on April 29 for the Newport Hills project with 15 citizens attending. The Park Board received a petition at their May meeting signed by 28 nearby residents of Newport Hills Park objecting to the synthetic turf project. A response to their concerns was presented at the June 9 Park Board meeting. We will return in July to respond to Board questions, and to present our plan for addressing neighbor concerns. A follow-up community meeting was held June 17 at Newport Hills Swim and Tennis Club with 18 people attending.
- Lewis Creek Park Improvements:** We are preparing contracts necessary to secure the consultant team to prepare design work necessary for the picnic area and trail improvements.
- BYT Construction:** See BYT design above.
- Botanical Garden Projects:**
 - **Ravine Garden:** Design work continues with Sahale Bridge.
 - **Wetland-Sun Terraced Garden:** We are reviewing qualified designers and plant experts to complete design work on this garden.
 - **Visitor Center & Parking Lot:** An RFP for design services has been issued, and proposals are due June 26.
 - **Maintenance Area development:** We are preparing a survey of the site and working with Resources Management staff to develop project scoping and cost estimates for this work.

- Bridle Trails Neighborhood Park:** A committee has been selected from Bridle Trails to work with parks staff to prepare recommendations on park improvements for the Bridle Trails neighborhood, which will be presented to the Park Board later this year. The staff attended a neighborhood picnic on May 30, and will attend a second community event on June 27 to collect feedback from the neighborhood. A web site is also available for residents to forward park ideas.
- Lake Sammamish Neighborhood Park:** No activity.
- Surrey Downs Park Development:** No activity. See Surrey Downs Master Plan.
- Eastgate Properties Park Development:** No activity. See Eastgate Area Master Plan.
- Downtown Park Development:** No activity.

Lewis Creek Park Playground Covers

Installation is underway. Significant groundwater issues have slowed progress, but completion is still expected by end of June.

Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center

The results of our request for LEED certification is expected this summer/fall. Also, the staff has reached agreement with the Master Builders of King and Snohomish County (MBA) to construct Wetlab 2 as a donation. Formal approval of the agreement will occur at the July 6 Council meeting, with a short groundbreaking ceremony held on July 9. Work is scheduled to begin later in July.

Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Plan & Land Use Study

The draft EIS was issued on June 4, 2009. A public hearing was held on the DEIS on June 23, and the public comment period will close July 20, 2009. The Steering Committee will meet twice in June and twice in July to prepare their recommendations for inclusion in the Final EIS. The FEIS is scheduled to be released late 2009.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

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, which is expected to begin this spring.
 - **Ashwood Plaza Construction:** See paragraph above.
 - **Somerset Entry renovations:** Construction is underway, with completion anticipated in late Summer.
 - **Cougar Ridge Elementary:** Sports wall design/construction 2009.
 - **Crossroads Pea Patch:** construction is underway, with plots available for planting the last week of June. Natural Resources is managing the project, with assistance from planning staff.
 - **Crossroads Water Play Area Picnic shelters:** See paragraph above.

Off-Leash Dog Area Study

Park Board endorsed, by a 4-3 vote, the recommendations contained in the draft off-leash study at their April meeting, which followed the preliminary findings presented at their November, 2008 meeting. Several concerns were expressed, including the use of NEP funding to construct off-leash facilities, the concept of a one-year trial program, and the identification of Robinswood Park as the preferred location in lieu of Eastgate. Off-leash recommendations were briefly discussed at the May 18, 2009 Council meeting, with a follow-up study session on June 15. The Council asked the Park Board to further review options to provide off-leash areas downtown, including further study in Downtown Park. They also wanted decision on an off-leash area at Eastgate be determined through the Eastgate master planning process. Once we have reached this decision, we will return to the Park Board for additional input.

Surrey Downs Master Plan

The park portion of the plan was adopted by Council on March 16. Staff continues work on a process to resolve the building issue.