



PARKS CIP PROJECT STATUS REPORT

August 2008

NOTE: See the attached project timeline of 2007-2008 major division projects.

Aquatic Center Feasibility Study

Staff and Ballard*King continue to refine the draft feasibility report to make sure all information is accurate and defensible. The study analyzes seven locations and five specific program options and also discusses a potential regional approach. Specific recommendations for program or site selection will not be provided. The draft of the study should be complete in August for review by SPLASH in advance of an expected Park Board presentation in October.

Ashwood Park Plaza Construction

Plaza Construction is approximately 90% complete. Construction is being coordinated with the 1020 Tower construction. Substantial construction completion of the plaza will occur this month 8/31. The 1020 Tower construction and right-of-way improvements surrounding the plaza will be completed in September, allowing safe access into the plaza.

Ashwood Park Master Plan

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

Bellevue Botanical Garden Master Plan Update

SEPA Process is ongoing. Initial public comment period ended June 26th with no comment submitted. A determination of non-significance is expected in late August, followed by a 14 day appeal period. We expect to ask Council to adopt the plan at the Sept. 15th council meeting. Preliminary designs for the Ravine and Wetlands Gardens are complete. The Master Plan report draft is under review.

Bellevue Youth Theatre Design & Ivanhoe Lease Agreement

The Park Board endorsed the proposed alternative to expand the theatre at Crossroads Community Center at their July 8 meeting, and the City Council endorsed this direction at their July 21 study session. Staff is now negotiating an architectural design contract to bring to the City Council in September.

Bel-Red Corridor Study

The Park Board endorsed the park concept and project list at their May meeting. At their July 23 meeting, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Bel-Red Subarea Plan, zoning, and Land Use Code Amendments. This recommendation includes a change to the park and open space plan necessitated by the Wright-Runstead Plan for the former Safeway parcel. The change

would reduce the size of the neighborhood park in the W-R development from 4-acres to one-acre, and to add three acres to another proposed park site. The Park Board will be asked to comment on these proposed changes at their September meeting. The City Council will continue to review the work to-date, Planning Commission recommendations and proposed implementation strategies throughout the fall.

Crossroads Park Water Play

The construction fence has been removed and the water began spraying June 25. Construction is 97% complete. Phase 2, an NEP project to install two family picnic shelters will begin this fall after kids return to school, our warm weather heads south, and the spray water is turned-off for the season.

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

Road construction and methane system modifications and construction staging restoration are anticipated to be complete in August. 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 are also studying SW's request to modify their parking requirements contained in the Purchase & Sale Agreement. SW has removed all of its construction staging equipment from park property, and SW is now restoring this area.

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

The Master Planning process continued with our second public meeting held on July 17th at the Bellevue Community College Cafeteria. Interest in our new park remains high, as over 170 community members shared their preferences concerning five park design alternatives at the public meeting, and many more continue to express their views through emails and the web site. We will continue to hone the design based on community feedback and city recreation needs to arrive at 2-3 park design alternatives we'll be sharing at the next public meeting this fall.

Grant applications

Applications for funding assistance were submitted in May to offset the acquisition costs for the Cich Property on Meydenbauer Bay (\$1 million) and the Carrigan Property on Lake Sammamish (\$950,000). Presentations were delivered to the Resource and Conservation Office (RCO) the first week of August, and should hear whether we will be successful on one or both by the end of August.

Highland Skate Park

Project is complete and contract closeout is nearing completion.

Lewis Creek Park Playground Covers

The staff has recommended the installation of a sun/rain cover over the playground equipment area to resolve a potential conflict between the north ballfield and the playground area. Geotech work and design/development is underway. An open house for the neighborhood will be held in September, and if the concept is well received, installation will occur by the end of the year.

Mercer Slough Environmental Educational Center (see attached construction update)

We are working with the Pacific Science Center and our Natural Resources staff to purchase furniture and interpretive displays for the building. We are also working with the Fundraising Committee and PSC to develop site signage and recognition plaques, which will be presented to the Park Board and City Council in September. The capital campaign continues, and the funding gap to complete Phase 1 is now under \$500,000.

Meydenbauer Bay Park Master Plan & Land Use Study

A public workshop was held July 30th to present conceptual park alternatives. Following the presentation of three themed alternatives—education and environment, shoreline destination, and urban edges—the public self divided into small groups to identify likes and dislikes of each concept. The following evening at the Steering Committee meeting, committee members reiterated consensus on the preliminary Preferred Land Use Plan and requested traffic study information to show mitigation for impacts from closing 100th Av/Bellevue Place SE to vehicles. The Committee also reviewed the concept alternatives and provided direction to staff and consultants for further development and refinement of those alternatives to be shown at the September 18th Steering Committee meeting.

Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) Projects

Resident suggested projects are being scoped for Northwest Bellevue 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.
- **Ashwood Plaza Construction:** See paragraph above.
- **Somerset Entry renovations:** Design underway.
- **Cougar Ridge Elementary:** Sports wall design 2008.
- **Crossroads Pea Patch:** Design was on-hold pending a decision on the Youth Theatre. Design can now proceed.
- **Crossroads Water Play Area Picnic shelters:** See paragraph above.

Off-Leash Dog Area Study

The Park Board, Council and staff have been presented with several requests to provide off-leash dog facilities throughout the community over the past few years. Most recently, requests have been made to provide facilities in the Downtown Park and in the new Eastgate Area Park. The Planning and Resource Management staffs are working with off-leash area advocates to develop a City-wide plan to accommodate these interests. The results and recommendations will be presented at an upcoming Park Board meeting.

Robinswood Synthetic Fields

Closeout for turf contract is underway.

Sound Transit/East Link

A “Best Practices” Committee that includes Park Board members Roland and Karle has completed their work to provide guidance to the Council, and delivered their report and findings to the City Council.

Surrey Downs Master Plan

The SEPA process for the preferred master plan is ongoing. PCD is now reviewing comments received from the Surrey Downs Community Club and Park Committee. We hope to bring the preferred master plan and building parameters to Council for adoption later this fall. The process to determine a building program is expected to begin this fall.

Major Project Schedule *at a glance*

