

Public Comment Opportunity

Mercer Slough Nature Park East Link Parkland Conversion and Replacement

The City of Bellevue is requesting approval of the State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board and the National Park Service to convert 1.06 acres of parkland to transportation use. The conversion involves two separate parcels on the western edge of Mercer Slough Nature Park that received state outdoor recreation grants, including a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, for acquisition in the 1970's. As required by the grant conditions, replacement parkland will be acquired on the east edge of the same park that is similar in function and value of the area being converted (see map on next page).

The conversion is for the East Link Light Rail Extension, sponsored by Sound Transit and the Federal Transit Administration. East Link will bring high-capacity transit service from Seattle, through Bellevue to Redmond. Along Bellevue Way SE, East Link requires use of park land, but maintains park recreational functions and attributes by preserving or relocating certain driveways, sidewalks, trails and park facilities. These impacts, the proposed parkland conversion and the process for parkland replacement were evaluated and published as part of the East Link Environmental Impact Statement process.

The proposed replacement property exhibits the same wetland and wetland buffer conditions as the areas of the park being converted. The replacement property also connects two sections of the park that have long been separated. The property is large enough to offer sufficient area to match and exceed the area being converted and to exceed the value of the area being converted as well.

Property	Size	Value
North Parcel	0.77 acre	\$240,000
South Parcel	0.29 acre	\$255,000
Total Area to Convert	1.06 acre	\$495,000
Replacement Property	6.00 acres	\$633,120

Written comments on the conversion will be accepted through <u>September 19, 2014</u>. Email comments to cparker@bellevuewa.gov, or mail to Bellevue Parks, Attn: Camron Parker, P. O. Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98009-9012. Call (425) 452-2032 with any questions.

More detailed information on the proposed parkland conversion will be presented to the Bellevue Parks & Community Services Board, where comments can be provided in-person during Oral Communications at the beginning or end of the public meeting.

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, September 9, 2014 • 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Bellevue Golf Course • Clubhouse Conference Room 5500 140th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA

Wheelchair accessible. American Sign Language (ASL) or other interpretation available upon request. Call at least 48 hours in advance for any request. (425) 452-4162 or Relay Service 711.





