

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday
October 13, 2015
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-113
Bellevue, Washington

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Chair George¹, Vice-Chair Grindeland, Boardmembers Heath, Kumar, Powell, Synn, Van Hollebeke

PARKS STAFF PRESENT: Paul Bucich (Utilities), Wayne Carlson (Utilities), Patrick Foran, Nancy Harvey, Shelley McVein, Camron Parker, Terry Smith, Phyllis Varner (Utilities)

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Grindeland at 6:01 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Powell to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by Boardmember Powell and second by Boardmember Kumar to approve the September 10, 2015 Parks & Community Services Regular Board Meeting and Public Hearing Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

5. **CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:**

None.

¹ Arrived at 6:03 p.m.

6. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION:**

No report.

7. **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Vice-Chair Grindeland made the following report:

- Visited Downtown Park
- Walked Robinswood Park
- Visited Crossroads Park
- Visited Hidden Valley Park

Boardmember Van Hollebeke noted that he has been actively engaging the neighborhood about Downtown Park and is eager to see the construction move forward.

Boardmember Heath set a goal for himself in March, 2014 to visit all of the parks throughout Bellevue. He was pleased to report that he accomplished this goal and showed a map of his visits. From this experience, Boardmember Heath concluded that Bellevue parks are extremely well run, and offer a wide variety of activities and cultures for everyone. One area that might need to be addressed is the increasing amount of litter between the various parks.

Boardmember Heath also attended the recent public meeting regarding Bridle Trails park projects to discuss the conceptual plans.

Boardmember Powell made the following report:

- Visited Mercer Slough
- Visited Downtown Park

Boardmember Kumar expressed her appreciation to the Parks Department for allowing Frank Kuske's bench to remain at Airfield Park. When the time comes to redo Airfield Park, Boardmember Kumar hopes that there will be a place for Mr. Kuske's bench.

Boardmember Synn recently visited Downtown Park.

8. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Foran noted that Bellevue's parks were heavily used during the summer months. He was pleased to report that the water/beach parks had no major emergencies/incidents during the summer. He also noted that there will be a Cultural Competency Training session for all Boards and Commissions, which will be held on November 12 and December 17. Lastly, Mr. Foran reported that the Bellevue Boys & Girls Club recently held a groundbreaking ceremony for their new downtown facility. Council agreed to be a financial partner for this facility in exchange for a use agreement.

9. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. Low-Impact Development Principles Project

Ms. Varner explained that the City is required to make Low Impact Development (LID) the preferred and commonly used approach to site development. This is a requirement of the NPDES Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit and will help protect the water quality of our streams, lakes, and wetlands. The project also has the potential to support or advance other City goals, priorities and programs, such as newly adopted tree canopy targets, salmon recovery and championing the City Council's vision of a high-quality built and natural environment for Bellevue. Ms. Varner noted that the project must be complete by December 31, 2016.

Ms. Varner clarified that the areas of focus for the LID include:

- Site layout:
 - Keep vegetation
 - Minimize construction footprint
 - Keep impervious surfaces at a minimum
 - LID principles may not apply (area and context sensitive)
- Engineering controls:
 - Clear and grade
 - Stormwater controls, such as:
 - LID rain gardens
 - LID pervious pavement
 - LID bioretention facilities
 - Detention vaults, pipes, ponds

Ms. Varner explained that Council approved a project Interest Statement, which states: *Bellevue supports the objective of maintaining the region's quality of life, including that of making low impact development the preferred and commonly used approach to site development.*

The approved project principles for the LID include:

- Bellevue appropriate options (area and context sensitive)
- Recognize and seek to balance competing needs
- Build on existing City programs
- Engage stakeholders and citizens early
- Maintain Bellevue's compliance record with its NPDES permit

Ms. Varner showed a project road map. The first stage began with the Comprehensive Plan Update to determine how the LID Principles were recognized within the Plan. The policies fully support the LID Principles. Ms. Varner noted that the areas of focus were identified to begin exploring implementation of the LID Principles. Currently, the project is at the Public Review Process stage.

Mr. Carlson noted that the areas of focus that Council approved include:

- Land Use Code
 - Evaluate use of LID principles (and BMPs) early in the site design process;
 - Reduce impervious surface coverage;
 - Preserve and enhance tree canopy; and
 - Improve options for clustering development.
- Transportation Code and Design Standards
 - Reduce impervious surfaces in road rights of way;
 - Enhance tree canopy in transportation facilities.

Boardmember Powell questioned how the LID project connects with Puget Sound Energy's project where many trees are impacted. Mr. Carlson clarified that public utility districts usually have a percentage of the site that needs to be maintained in open space. Critical areas are also a consideration and maintaining density of these areas.

Various pictures and examples were shown of the land use areas of focus. In addition, Ms. Varner discussed the public participation plan for the project.

Vice-Chair Grindeland questioned what the methodology is for elicited discharge. Ms. Varner discussed some of the statistics for elicited discharge. In addition, Mr. Bucich noted that many of the elicited discharges are identified through City staff.

Boardmember Heath asked if the process envisions any positive incentives for homeowners to improve their tree canopy. Mr. Varner clarified that there are incentives included within the project. In addition, staff is looking at some flexibility for incentives. Boardmember Heath encouraged staff to pay and/or reward people for utilizing City-recommended concepts/materials (i.e., rewards for increasing tree canopy or replacing concrete with impervious surfaces). In addition, he suggested that not only homeowners be held responsible when removing trees without proper authority but also contractors that complete these tasks without City approval.

Boardmember Synn asked how the areas of focus, outside of the main six areas of focus, are handled. Mr. Carlson noted that the six areas of focus are fairly broad so other topics are naturally within these focus areas. The six focus areas are an umbrella of topics.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke inquired how the Parks Board and public can assist with the LID project. Mr. Carlson clarified that the Parks Board can be mindful of these issues when developing parks and open spaces; and then spread the word about the LID throughout the parks system.

Chair George explained that the LID presentation is part of the required public participation process. The point of the discussion is to utilize the Parks Board as a community sounding-board. She added that the discussion and project is mainly about rain running over impervious surfaces and carrying pollutants into the stormwater. The LID revision is a regional code that Bellevue is required to follow.

Vice-Chair Grindeland requested a user-friendly resource for community members to ask questions like “what material is recommended to resurface my driveway?”

B. Park Plan Update

Mr. Parker reminded Boardmembers that the Parks & Open Space System Plan is updated at six-year intervals. The approach to updating the elements of the Plan include:

- Demographic profile and future population trends
- Natural resources characteristics
- System inventory and use statistics
- Projects completed since 2010
- Financing capital projects
- Maintenance, renovation, and security
- Goals and objectives
- Public participation process
- Level of service analysis
- Capital project recommendations

Mr. Parker noted that last month’s efforts were focused on the public participation process. Therefore, the outreach methods utilized were reviewed. Mr. Parker reviewed a list of key issues emerging from public outreach. Boardmember Powell suggested that the Board advocate for historical preservation with planning and community services. She suggested that the Eastside Heritage Center also be incorporated.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke viewed the list of key issues emerging from public outreach as being reflective of the Board’s overall priorities. However, he recalled previous discussions about using parks to develop cultural competencies (i.e., a cultural center). He suggested that this should be reflected in the list of key issues.

Mr. Parker noted that the focus areas in the Parks & Open Space System Plan include:

- Open space, greenways, wildlife corridors, and trails
- Park facilities
- Active recreation facilities
- Urban parks systems
- Waterfront access
- Partnership opportunities
- Historic, cultural, and art resources

The section from the 2010 Parks & Open Space System Plan is displayed below with updates for 2016 noted. Projects that have been completed since 2010 are shown in strikethrough text and projects proposed to add or edits to existing recommendations are shown in underline text. Mr. Parker noted that most projects for the 2010-2029 time period remain relevant and are proposed to carry-forward into the 2016 edition.

<p>Open Space, Greenways, Wildlife Corridors, and Trails:</p> <p>Greenway Connections/Extensions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mountains-to-Sound Greenway Trails Lake-to-Lake Greenway Trails South Bellevue/Coal Creek Greenway Trails Marymoor to Cougar Mountain Greenway Trails Bel-Red Greenway Trails Richards Valley Greenways Burlington Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) <u>Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC)</u> Greenway Trails
<p>Trail Connections/Extensions: Between Large Regional Systems and Open Spaces <u>Enhance wayfinding, connectivity, and walkability by creating connections between neighborhoods and local parks.</u></p>
<p>Native Growth Protection Areas (NGPA)</p>
<p>Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan Implementation</p>

<p>Park Facilities:</p>
<p>Add neighborhood parks in underserved subareas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridle Trails <u>Bel-Red (see Urban Park Systems)</u> Crossroads <u>Downtown (see Urban Park Systems)</u> <u>Eastgate</u> Newport Hills <u>Wilburton</u>
<p>Develop existing undeveloped properties including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Bridle Trails</u> <u>Bel-Red/West Trib Property</u> <u>Downtown</u> Eastgate/Newcastle (Norelius/Sunrise Property) <u>Newport Hills</u> North Bellevue (Chapin Property) Wilburton (Glendale Property)
<p>Enatai Neighborhood Park redevelopment</p>
<p>Add to or continue phased development of existing community parks, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bellevue Airfield Park Bellevue Botanical Garden Crossroads Park Eastgate Park Kelsey Creek Park Lewis Creek Park picnic area and trails Mercer Slough Nature Park Robinswood Park Surrey Downs Park Wilburton Hill Park

Active Recreation Facilities:
North Bellevue Community Center Addition
<u>Facilities Serving Diverse Age and Recreation Preferences</u>
<u>Facilities Providing Recreation and Interaction for Diverse Cultures, Ages, and Abilities</u>
Community center serving North or Southwest Bellevue Subareas <u>Northwest, Downtown, and West Bellevue Neighborhood Areas</u>
Sportsfields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synthetic field surfaces Two lighted ballfields at Marymoor Park Lighted sportfields at Bellevue Airfield Park Lighted fields at selected community and school sites Improve school sportfields Ballfield at Wilburton Hill Park
<u>Off-leash dog areas, improvements and additions expand Robinswood and add additional sites across the City</u>
Enterprise Fund improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Golf courses related facilities Robinswood Tennis Center Bellevue Aquatic Center <u>Large group picnic areas with shelters and facilities</u>

Waterfront Access:
Meydenbauer Bay Park
Meydenbauer Bay Park to Downtown Park connection
Connect Enatai Beach Park to Mercer Slough Nature Park
Complete phased development of Enatai Beach Park
SE 40 th Boat Launch addition
<u>Sweyolocken Boat Launch redevelopment</u>
Lake Sammamish waterfront
Chism Beach redevelopment
Clyde Beach redevelopment
Additions to existing waterfront parks

Urban Park Systems:
Downtown Subarea
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NW & SE quadrant neighborhood parks Downtown Park Ashwood Park Main Street linear buffer greenway Urban Trail System Grand Connection Community center serving Downtown

<p>Bel-Red Subarea Open space and off-street trail development Multi-purpose trail development Park acquisition and development</p>
<p>Eastgate I-90 Corridor <u>Open space and off-street trail development</u> <u>Multi-purpose trail development</u> <u>Park acquisition and development</u></p>

Partnerships:
Elementary, Middle, and High School recreation site improvements
Partner with other City departments to create parks
Partner with other public agencies to create parks, including but not limited to Bellevue School District, Cascade Water Alliance, Sound Transit, Seattle Public Utilities, Washington State, King County, and Bellevue College
Partner with private non-profit or for-profit organizations to create parks where advantageous to achieve capital project goals
Aquatic Facility
Ice Rink
Historical Building Preservation
Cultural Arts Center
Youth Performing Arts Center

Motion by Boardmember Van Hollebeke and second by Boardmember Powell to postpone agenda Item 9C: Re-Naming a Facility in Honor of Nan Campbell and extend the meeting until 8:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Chair George requested that all levy projects be included in the list above.

Boardmember Powell recommended that natural turf materials be utilized at parks, rather than synthetic materials. She expressed her concern about the cancer-causing agents in synthetic turf.

Boardmember Van Hollebeke requested a status update regarding the new golf driving range.

Boardmember Heath recalled discussions at last year’s Board Retreat regarding the Bel-Red Commons concept and requested that further discussions occur about acquiring a significant piece of property for a substantial park.

C. Re-Naming Facility in Honor of Nan Campbell

Postponed.

10. **BOARDMEMBER COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

None.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Future agenda items

Boardmember Heath reiterated his request to discuss the Bel-Red Commons concept and for further discussions about acquiring a significant piece of property.

Boardmember Powell requested an update regarding the Bel-Red LID park.

12. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. CIP Project Status Report

B. Memo re Summer Ranger Program

C. Email re Nature Trails

D. Email re Trail Maintenance

E. Email re Signage at Marina

13. **INFORMATION:**

A. List of upcoming Parks special events

B. Next regular Park Board meeting—November 10, Bellevue City Hall

14. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Boardmember Kumar and second by Boardmember Van Hollebeke to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).