**Attachment 4**

**Community Meeting Notes**
**Held at the Rainer Boys and Girls Club**
**December 3, 2014 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

Seattle Parks and Recreation hosted a community outreach meeting to gather input on the Cheasty Greenspace. Parks targeted outreach to underrepresented communities (through Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club, Horn of Africa Services, SHA, Neighborhood House, ReWA, ACRS and Dept. of Neighborhoods) in the neighborhoods surrounding the greenspace. The format was small breakout groups to discuss the following questions in order to gather input on their needs, wants and visions for access to Cheasty Greenspace.

Questions for discussion:

1. Do you know there is a publicly owned 28-acre greenspace within walking distance of your community?
2. Are you aware there is a process under way to develop a perimeter bicycle/pedestrian trail around the greenspace?
3. What access would you like to see through this public space?
4. How do you currently get from Rainier Vista to Beacon Hill?
5. What would make this greenspace more inviting and usable?
6. Do you have suggestions for how Seattle Parks and Recreation can introduce you to our greenspaces?

Responses (as listed on large note pads):

<u>Table 1</u>

1. YES! – What is the exact acreage?
2. YES! – Many people are already involved
3. Notes:
    a. Comprehensive bike trails
    b. Both recreation and connectivity
    c. Bike trails for a variety of skill levels
    d. Also space for viewing station and places to sit – place to enjoy the space
    e. Complete separation between bikes and pedestrians – with exception to connectivity or topography
    f. Connecting to schools – for use and transportation
        i. Kimball and Asa Mercer
        ii. Safer route is through Cheasty vs. Columbian

g. Jumps; skill levels present features
h. Adding shorter trails
i. Many exits and entrances

<u>Columbian Way</u>

4. Car vs. human powered
    a. Not safe along greenspace
        i. Inactivity
        ii. Violence
        iii. Vehicles
    b. Not safe for cars either
    c. Light Rail/Bus
5. Notes:
    a. Restored Forest
    b. Trail Network – to prevent social trails carving through the interior
    c. Access to trails
    d. <u>Not</u> lights
    e. <u>Sight lines</u>
    f. Professionally designed trails
    g. Procedures in case of emergency
        i. Ranger?
        ii. Emergency button or contact
    h. Alternative/multiple exits or connectors
    i. Cross-park access for ped's and bikes
    j. Move the storage yard w/ park and entrance
6. Proper signage
    a. Nearby City Streets directing where park entrance is
    b. Connectivity with al green spaces and other parks
        i. Master map
        ii. More advertising for where parks are (from light rail, intersections)
    c. Green Seattle Partnership and restoration
    d. Outreach position (grant funded) to involve community
    e. More parks programming in park
    f. Educational opportunities for community
        i. (need advocate to do the following outreach:
            1. Awareness initiatives
            2. Exposure and awareness
                a. Boys and Girls Club
                b. Schools

<u>Table 2</u>

1. All Yes!
2. All Yes
3. Notes:
    a. Foot – informal trail off Columbian Way to Cheasty and up to Beacon (south end)
    b. Hanford Steps (north end)
    c. Alaska/Columbian via car/bike – not a nice route
    d. Want a better connection!
4. Trail – this project – access
    a. Inviting trail heads – obvious/artful
    b. Usability – multiple ways to access Cheasty directly – cross trails
    c. Enjoy natural space – provide this opportunity
    d. Access
    e. Provide a smaller loop (shorter) for young bike riders

<u>Suggestions</u>

a. Uniformity of welcoming signs
b. Increased off-leash signage with fines information
c. Design to encourage high use for safety:
    i. Lots of access points
    ii. Ease of use
    iii. To reach critical mass for safety – like Seward Park
d. Need cross trails for better safety
e. Need cross trails for a shorter loop – for young people, elderly
f. Area is steep – too steep for cross trails
g. Look for alternative route to Beacon Hill – not through Cheasty – other connectivity
h. Look at larger map – where there are connections already

<u>Table 3 – Vietnamese Speaking (general comments – not numbered per question)</u>

1. Prefer separate trail with planning/flowers and separation – or combined trail with elements to slow bikes

2. Would like parking – live over ¼ mile from site

3. Walking groups

4. Benches, trash cans, restrooms, lighting for security with Asian design, signs in Spanish, English, Chinese and Vietnamese

5. Good project, exercise

6. Flyers, emails – communication on site

<u>Table 4</u>

1. All Yes
2. 4 yes, 1 no

3. Notes:
    a. No fence – 'sad' – remove - No trails
    b. Now:
        i. Blackberries, garbage, murder, weapon
    c. Access like Seward Park – xrossing – short cut
    d. Safe – Access for Kimble Elementary
    e. Introduce young People to "natural world" – now: streets, traffic fences
4. Drive – ride bike to Columbian Way
5. Now dark and closed in
    a. Opening up at path
    b. Keeping it as forest
    c. Interior trails? Not just perimeter
    d. Lighted entries – most people know it exists
    e. Remove Ivy from trees (currently under way) – work parties – kids, neighborhood, friends of friends
    f. When you build trails and bring people in, it will drive out illegal behavior. Presence of community folks is positive thing
6. Notes:
    a. Tours
    b. Through community organizations, resident groups
    c. Meetings not best way to spread word (for busy parents, families) – PARTY!
    d. Work with schools – vol. service project
    e. Signs to let people know it is open
    f. Signs in different languages – more thought into how to reach diverse community – inclusive
    g. Work with Parks summer youth employment
    h. Repair/remove bulk storage yard (parks hort?)
    i. ADA Access
    j. Remove "SHA fence"
    k. Routes should be usable by variety of groups/abilities
    l. Platforms/boardwalk over "wetland" areas
    m. Educate people about natural world
    n. Go to community
        i. REWA
        ii. Neigh. House
        iii. SHA
        iv. ACRS