



GOLDEN GARDENS PARK

Drainage Project

Bathhouse: 8498 Seaview Pl NW, 98117
Wednesday, October 7, 2015 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Presenters:

Robert Lee (RL)– Capital Project Coordinator, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Rebekah Weston (RW)- Civil Engineer, Osborn Consulting

13 people in attendance (in addition to Park’s employees)

RL opened to explain the purpose of the meeting:

Present latest design and to collect comments on the effort to correct drainage problems associated with stairway leading down from Dog’s off leash area to beach.

RL continued to describe project:

Project provides drainage improvements and replaces the damaged stairway steps from the lower park area to the dog-off-leash- area. The purpose of the project is to renovate the existing storm drainage system that collects and directs some of the park surface and subsurface drainage flows from the upper road through the mid-parking lot at the dog-off-leash- area to the appropriate drainage area. The scope will include replacing damaged steps with a new stairway, and replacing the drainage channel from the top of the steps to the open channel.

RW discussed the scope of the design:

This will improve the drainage system and related impacts such as hillside erosion. The work will be done in accordance with environmental and regulatory requirements. ***Please see presentation attached.***

Public Comment and Responses: (Q=Question, C=Comment, R= Response)

Q: Where does the drainage, associated with this project, daylight at the bottom of the slope?

A: It goes into a culvert at the toe of the slope and under the railroad tracts.

C: Is this drainage connected/ conveyed to the stream that runs across the Golden Gardens Beach?

A: Yes. It is in direct alignment with this stream and is the same riparian corridor. Please see: <http://web6.seattle.gov/DPD/Maps/dpdgis.aspx>

Q: The entire park is a slope that is slipping. It would seem that more funding needs to be dedicated to stabilizing park amenities, correct?

A: This is true; but, it is difficult and costly to try and control natural processes. The public enjoys the park because of the natural setting. We need to balance natural processes and public safety.

Q: You are going to need to provide a safe alternative route of travel for pedestrians who typically use the staircase.

A: Yes, and any bypass will have to use the shoulder of Golden Gardens Dr. NW

C: This stairway is the primary route of travel between the beach/parking lot and the rest of the park. I'd say about 120 people climb the stairs per hour throughout the day. The construction bypass route is going to be critical.

A: Yes we are going to have to protect pedestrians using the shoulder of road with protective pylons delineating the path of travel.

Q: There needs to be a permanent crosswalk, across Golden Gardens Dr. NW between this section of staircase and the upper section of staircase.

A: There is a lot of debate about whether a crosswalk is actually more unsafe as it causes "pedestrians to have a false sense of safety" when crossing.

Q: The staircase above Golden Gardens Dr. NW across the street from the area we are discussing is in worse shape and will come down in a landslide if it is not address in short order.

A: The staircase you mention is in SDOT's jurisdiction and we will try to get information associated with their plans for repair.

Q: How are you affecting the ditch line midway down the slope with the sandbags on the upper side of it?

A: We are tying into this ditch line. The sandbags are burlap and not filled with sand and we don't know why they are there. They may be remnants from a restoration project that uses burlap as a ground cover to slow weed growth.

Q: Why are you planning for winter construction? Isn't this going to incur additional costs because of inclement weather?

A: Since this is not a perennial stream we are going to have to bypass flows during construction during any time of year. Access is also going to be difficult at any time of year. Usage will be less during the winter months and contractors are in greater need of work during these months so it should be the optimum time for construction.

Q: You mentioned researching options for this repair. What are the options?

A: The other options were to culvert flows at the edge of stairway with drainage structures (CBs) at the junctions points with other flows. However, the public was so attracted to the open water that we didn't pursue this option.

Q: What are you doing with all of the cobble stones that are the structure of the existing staircase that you are going to remove? From a standpoint of sustainability you should re-use these historical remnants right?

A: The portion of staircase we are removing is cast in place concrete. The cobbles appear in the lower sections. We don't anticipate impacting any cobble stone structure but if we do we will re-use in the immediate area.

Q: What are you going to plant as part of restoring the adjacent landscape?

A: We will be planting native riparian and upland shrubs including Elderberry, Salmon berry, Salal and Sword Fern.

