



Hing Hay Park Is GROWING!

Project Information

This project will develop the post office site adjacent to Hing Hay Park into new park space.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

General Scope:

This project redevelops the site of the International District Station Post Office into parkland that will be an extension of Hing Hay Park. Site elements may include lighting, seating, landscaping, ADA access, signage, and other park elements. The design will aim to integrate the new site with the existing park to create one seamless park. The land for this park was acquired with 2000 Pro Parks Levy funds. This project is part of the 2008 Parks Levy.

Budget:

\$3,000,000 from the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy

Timeline:

Design will occur throughout 2014 and construction will start in late 2014 or early 2015 depending on permitting timelines.

PARK HISTORY

Hing Hay Park, with its ornate pavilion and outgoing air of conviviality, stands a symbol of that spirit (of Asian-American community). It was purchased in 1970 with Forward Thrust money and designed by landscape architect S. K. Sakuma. The pavilion was constructed in 1974. The name, Hing Hay Park, means "Park for Pleasurable Gatherings". It is a hub of the International District. Terrace-like stairs lead down from Maynard to a red brick square with an ornate Grand Pavilion designed and constructed in Taipei, Taiwan. The park is a popular lunch spot, and meeting place for families and friends.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The Parks Department reaches into communities to inform them of opportunities to provide input and participate in public process in the following ways:

Mailers and Postings: Fliers announcing public meetings are mailed to residents within adjacent mail carrier routes, previously generated mailing lists from nearby projects, lists from other organizations and recent inquiries. Postings have been placed on the project site, in nearby businesses and public buildings. Parks has started to generate email lists and uses them when possible in addition to the methods mentioned above.

Website: Meeting minutes, project updates, and events can be found at the following website - http://www.seattle.gov/parks/projects/hing_hay/

Community Meetings: Parks will host a series of (3) community meetings which will be the main vehicle for community outreach. (See chart below.)

Media Releases: Parks release announcements through local newspapers.

Contact Information: The project manager is the main liaison between the community and Parks. Comments can be sent to the following: kim.baldwin@seattle.gov, 206.615.0810
Seattle Parks & Recreation, Attn: Kim Baldwin 800 Maynard Ave. S., 3rd Floor, Seattle, WA 98134

Additional Outreach: Parks and the design team has also conducted smaller **listening sessions** in order to reach some of the population who might not be able to attend public meetings. We hosted a **Youth Workshop** to hear from school age teens and will host another in March. We sent out questionnaires with our meeting announcement and made posted the **questionnaires** on the project website. We received over 150 responses. We are working closely with the Friends of Hing Hay Park and other community organizations to gather as much input as possible. This input is used by our design team to develop concepts, and ultimately a final design, that reflects the desires of the community, users, and all vested in the park.

INPUT, DECISION-MAKING PROCESS & SCHEDULE	Fall 2013	Winter 2014	Spring 2014	Summer 2014
FORUMS for PUBLIC INPUT				
Community Meeting #1: November 21, 2013	★			
Community Meeting #2: January 21, 2014		★		
Community Meeting #3: February 25, 2014		★		
Questionnaires		★		
Internal Parks Reviews – Parks will review the progress of the design formally throughout the process.	★	★	★	★
Landmarks Review and Permitting – The design team will present the progress of the design to the International District Special Review Board and pursue permits with the Department of Planning and Development.	★	★	★	★
Public Process Complete		★	★	

DECISION MAKING

Parks reaches into the communities near the sites of proposed park improvements through public meetings, websites, news releases, and the public involvement methods stated above. This is in an effort to distribute information about potential projects and, more importantly, to gather input from those who will be the end users. This input becomes an important factor in shaping the final outcome of the park. Parks uses this information to help define the scope of the project and the maintenance and operational needs. The designers use this information to help guide the design to meet the needs of the users and to create a timeless and maintainable park. Parks strives to understand the needs of the underrepresented as well as the most involved citizens. Such factors such as safety, budget, and timeline also drive the project. The community contributes at an advisory level and all final decisions will be made by Parks.

