



LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

COMMUNITY INPUT OPPORTUNITIES

A. Community Input Opportunity #1 – *March and April 2013*

- a. Project folio and survey mailer
- b. Preliminary Public Access Options and Criteria survey summary and public comments received

B. Community Input Opportunity #2 – *June and July 2013*

- a. Preliminary Evaluation
- b. Open house display boards
- c. Open house comment form
- d. Open house summary
- e. Neighborhood drop-in session summary
- f. Preliminary Evaluation of Public Access Options survey summary and public comments received

C. Community Input Opportunity #3 – *August and September 2013*

- a. Staff-level Recommendation survey summary and public comments received

LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

Seattle Public Utilities
 700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4900
 PO Box 34018 Seattle, WA
 98124-4018

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

POTENTIAL WATERFRONT ACCESS OPPORTUNITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks) are working together to complete habitat improvements at lower Taylor Creek. To determine how the site should be used once the project is complete, SPU and Parks are currently engaging the nearby community to evaluate options for public access at the site. Get involved in the discussion to tell us how you think lower Taylor Creek should look in the future.

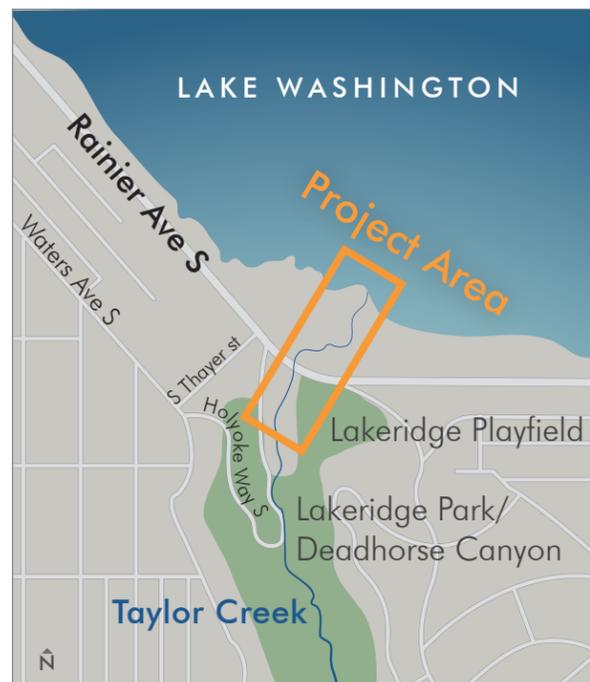
For interpretation services please call 206-684-7934

如需要口譯服務，請撥電話號碼 206-684-3000

통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-684-3000 으로 전화하세요

Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al 206-684-3000

Về dịch vụ phiên dịch xin gọi 206-684-3000



LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

March 2013

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Taylor Creek is located near the south end of Lake Washington in southeast Seattle. The creek originates in unincorporated King County and passes through a natural area ravine known as Deadhorse Canyon within Lakeridge Park, through residential yards and a culvert under Rainier Ave S before discharging into Lake Washington.

The current condition of the culvert, along with other barriers in the creek, prevents fish passage upstream to good quality habitat in Deadhorse Canyon. The lower stream is also confined in a small channel that produces poor habitat conditions and flooding.

In 2010, SPU settled a lawsuit that resulted in the purchase of four properties at the mouth of Taylor Creek. This introduced an opportunity for SPU, in coordination with Parks, to:

- Remove the last fish passage barriers between Lake Washington and Deadhorse Canyon.
- Improve the stream channel and surrounding habitat, particularly for Chinook salmon.
- Replace the public culvert under Rainier Avenue S, a major transportation arterial, to ensure public safety and mobility.
- Address storm-related flooding and sediment deposition at the mouth of the creek.



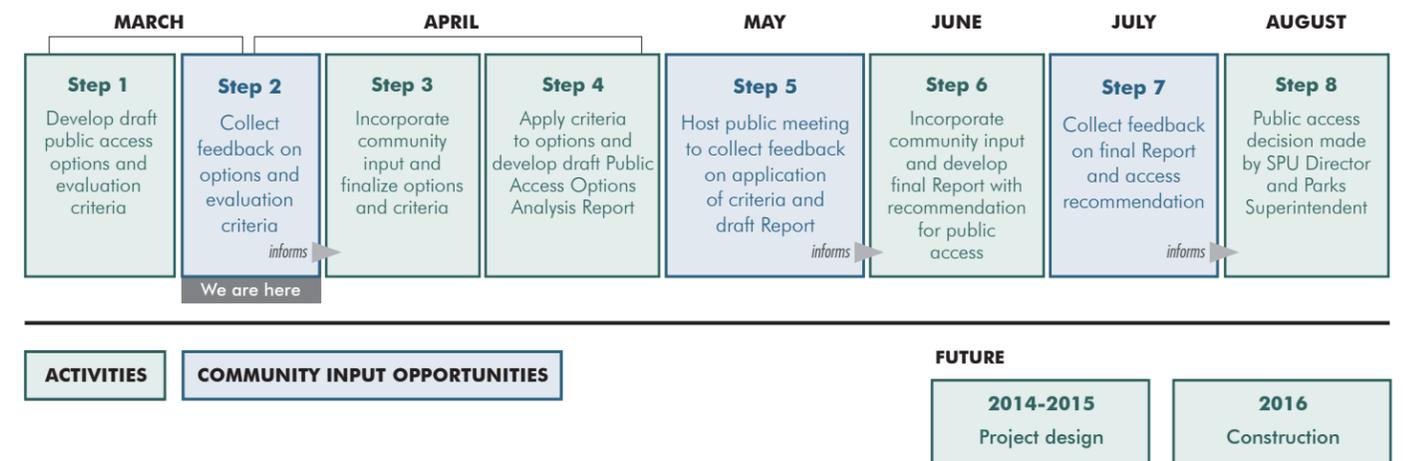
Looking towards Lake Washington from lower Taylor Creek

EVALUATING OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS

During SPU's early community engagement for the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project, concerns were raised about this previously private, residential property becoming a publicly accessible space.

To fully discuss and address community concerns related to public access at the lower Taylor Creek site, SPU and Parks are engaging the community and other city departments in a public access options analysis process. This process will provide those who live, work and play near lower Taylor Creek with an opportunity to provide input on the public access options. The community's input will inform a Public Access Options Analysis Report that will include a recommendation for how the site should be available to the public once restoration work is completed.

SCHEDULE



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

There will be several opportunities to provide feedback about public access at lower Taylor Creek, with the first opportunity happening now. Here's how you can get involved:

STEP 1: Review the five public access options (at right) that will be carried forward in the analysis.

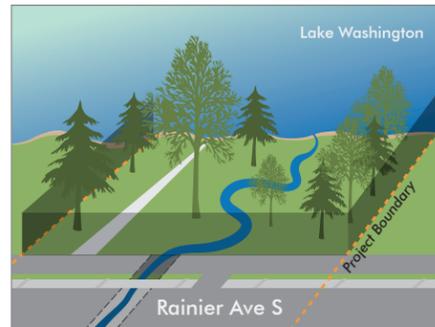
STEP 2: Review the proposed evaluation criteria (below) that will be used to evaluate those options.

STEP 3: Complete our brief survey (see insert) by **April 5** to tell us if we missed anything.

STEP 1: PUBLIC ACCESS OPTIONS

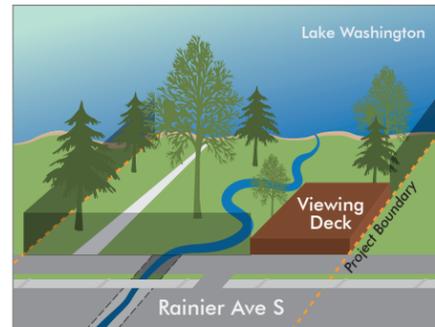
SPU has developed five general options for public access at lower Taylor Creek that will be evaluated as part of the public access analysis process. SPU has eliminated two options from further consideration: 1) sale of the property into private ownership and 2) developing a park with public amenities (picnic tables, bathrooms, etc.) due to severely limited redevelopment potential and proximity to Lakeridge Playfield.

Note: Drawings provided below are intended to help visualize each public access option. They are not to scale and do not accurately represent how the area will look after the project is complete.



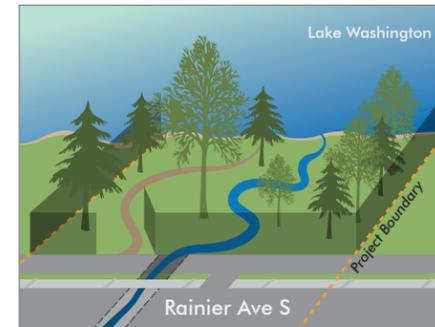
No public access

This option is the most restricted option being evaluated. The site would be enclosed by a permanent fence on the Rainier Ave side of the property, and only City employees would be allowed to open the fence and enter the site. A maintenance trail would provide City personnel access for care of vegetation and site monitoring.



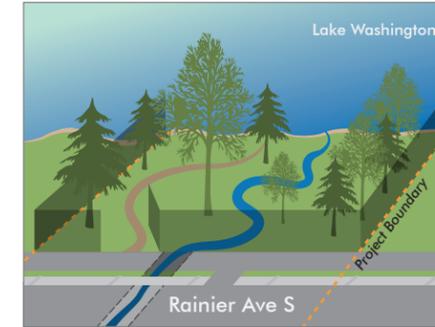
View point

This option would provide a public viewing platform overlooking the site but would not allow public access onto the site or to the shoreline. Apart from the viewing platform, the site would be enclosed by a permanent fence on the Rainier Ave side of the property. Only City employees would be allowed to open the fence and enter the site. A maintenance trail would provide City personnel access for care of vegetation and site monitoring.



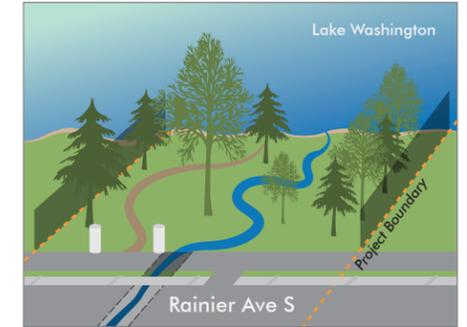
Scheduled access

This option would provide access via a pedestrian pathway to the site and Lake Washington for community and/or school groups for educational purposes. Access to the site would be allowed by appointment only and would require advance coordination with SPU/Parks representatives. The site would be enclosed by a gated fence on the Rainier Ave side of the property. Access would be managed by City employees opening/closing the gate as needed.



Limited access

This option would provide access via a pedestrian pathway to the site and Lake Washington to the general public for passive recreation during specified days/times only. The site would be enclosed by a gated fence on the Rainier Ave side of the property. Access would be managed by City employees opening/closing the gate during specified days/times.



Open access

This option is the least restrictive option being evaluated. The site would serve as a natural area for passive recreation. Visitors would access the site and Lake Washington via a pedestrian pathway during daytime hours only (sunrise to sunset). Fencing would not be installed on the Rainier Ave side of the property. Bollards placed at the entrance would restrict vehicle access to the site and signage would limit use to daylight hours.

STEP 2: PROPOSED EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation criteria	How does each public access option affect the following considerations?
Project Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to meet the goals of the project (see <i>Project Background</i>, pg. 1)
City Operations and Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff time, cost and safety related to operations and maintenance Ability to police the site effectively
City Safety and Liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City liability for injuries at the site Ability to enforce rules at the site
Community Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to the lake Connectivity between public open spaces Social equity of city services
Potential Neighborhood and Business Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime related to property damage, theft or personal injury Nuisance behavior Traffic and pedestrian hazards accessing/along private drive Property values or costs incurred by adjacent property owners Neighborhood character and privacy Impact to neighboring businesses
Area Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cars, pedestrians, bicyclists Parking

ARE THERE OPTIONS OR CRITERIA YOU FEEL WE MISSED?

Fill out our survey and let us know.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.seattle.gov/util/TaylorCreek

Contact Julie Crittenden, SPU Project Manager
julie.crittenden@seattle.gov
 (206) 233-7164

Funding for the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project comes from SPU and is specifically designated for streams and drainage projects. The Washington State Department of Transportation is also partnering with SPU and Parks to provide funding for restoration elements downstream of Rainier Ave S as habitat mitigation efforts related to the SR 520 Floating Bridge Program.



Lower Taylor Creek discharging into Lake Washington



LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

Affix Stamp Here



Seattle Public Utilities
c/o Julie Crittenden
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4900
PO Box 34018 Seattle, WA
98124-4018





LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

STEP 3: SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT PUBLIC ACCESS AT TAYLOR CREEK

SPU and Parks are committed to engaging the community throughout this process to ensure decisions made about public access are considerate of habitat restoration needs, the needs of the City, and the needs and concerns of the community. Because the project site is in your neighborhood, your feedback is important to us.

Please take a moment to complete the survey, or go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/TaylorCreekSurvey to complete the survey online.

The deadline for responses is **April 5, 2013.**

1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?
YES/NO Please explain: _____

2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access? YES/NO Please explain: _____

3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

4. Are you interested in receiving project updates? YES/NO

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____

5. To help us with future outreach please tell us about yourself (optional):

What is your race? _____

What is the primary language spoken in your home? _____



Preliminary Public Access Options & Criteria Survey Results

Overview

During SPU's early community engagement for the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project in 2011 and 2012, concerns were raised about this previously residential property becoming a publicly accessible space. To fully discuss and address community concerns related to public access at the site, SPU and Parks are engaging the community and other city departments in a Public Access Options Analysis process that will help determine if and what type of public access should be available at the site once restoration work is completed.

As part of this public access option evaluation process, SPU and Parks distributed over 1,300 surveys to nearby residents and stakeholders (via mail, email and at community briefings) to collect feedback on the proposed public access options and draft evaluation criteria. The survey was open from March 12 to April 8, 2013 and 92 people responded. The survey results are summarized below, along with summary responses to categories of comments and a conclusion. A complete list of responses is provided on the project website at www.seattle.gov/util/taylorcreek.

Results at-a-glance

- 92 people participated in the survey (56 via returned mail, 36 via SurveyMonkey).
 - *Public access options:* Approximately 73% of participants agreed with SPU's proposed access options and did not feel additional options should be considered.
 - Additional options suggested were more related to design of the site (e.g. boat launches, signage, etc.) than access to the site.
 - *Evaluation criteria:* Approximately 59% of participants thought SPU should consider additional evaluation criteria. Additional criteria suggested that is not already being considered:
 - Educational potential for the site
 - Rights and interests of the taxpayers
 - Preservation of native cultural resources that might be present at the site
 - Comparison to similar street ends projects
 - 75 out of 92 survey participants provided additional, open-ended comments about the project.
 - *Options preference:* Many participants explicitly expressed their thoughts on a preferred access option:
 - Open access –approximately 26%
 - Scheduled/limited access – approximately 7%
 - No access – approximately 25%
-

Summary of Survey Results

1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	27.4%	23
No	72.6%	61
answered question:		84

Select comments on this survey question (see the complete list of responses on the project website for all 48 open-ended responses)

- *This is a good range of options.*
- *The shoreline would need to be fenced off to gate the entire area if public access is allowed. If not, boats and other non motorized craft will dock on the pebble beach to use the shore and vice versa. People will use the waterfront location for non-motorized watercraft launching, canoes, paddleboards, kayaks, and open access allows swimming opportunities. Trying to monitor "passive recreation" without full-time supervision creates a free for all space.*
- *We believe that there should be as much public access as possible while still protecting habitat and public safety.*
- *The restoration of the lower Taylor Creek habitat is not as a public space, but rather as a stream for the salmon to spawn. Providing public access only works against this goal, as well as is inconsistent with the current neighborhood, and lastly is a logistical nightmare for traffic and safety of anyone crossing between the current park and the Lower Taylor Creek area.*
- *Please consider the general lack of public access to the water and lakeshore in this neighborhood.*
- *I strongly advocate for Open Access plus dedicated trail that is adjacent to the creek from the mouth of creek at the lake to the trail head at 68th/Holyoke. There is very limited local neighborhood access to Lake Washington. Plus Open Access will enable passive recreational access to the entire Taylor Creek Watershed from Lake Washington across Rainer Avenue South to the Deadhorse Canyon/Taylor Creek Trail. Natural surface trail from Lake Washington mouth of creek, to Rainier Avenue South; then adjacent to creek through Lower Lakeridge Park, along 68th to trail head will increase safety.*
- *As much open access to begin with – restrict only if proves necessary.*

2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	59.0%	46
No	41.0%	32
answered question:		78

Select comments on this survey question (see the complete list of responses on the project website for all 53 open-ended responses)

- *The rights and interests of the taxpayers of the city of Seattle should be taken into account. Since they own the land and are paying for its development, public access should be a basic criterion. Any restriction of public access to this public land requires an explanation, which should come personally from the mayor, of why the public may not have use of this land that they own.*
- *Pollution, vandalism, noise, crime, parking, best use of public funds, taxpayer revolt.*
- *Potential for environmental education. This is an opportunity not to be missed, as 6 public and private schools are in close proximity: Lakeridge Elementary, The New School, Rainier Beach High School, Emerson Elementary, St. Paul elementary, Amazing Grace Elementary.*
- *The importance of cultural resources evaluation.*
- *Potential for community stewardship.*
- *We don't think that dogs should be allowed in the park, even on leash.*
- *You should consider the fact that there is adequate waterfront access all along Lake Washington. Why don't you improve Pritchard Beach and make it a safe place for families to enjoy? What about Beer Sheva Park? These Seattle parks are within 5 minutes of Taylor Creek and so is Renton's Coulon and Kennydale waterfront park. Lake Washington is accessible to the public throughout the entire city already. This strip of land is unnecessary and residents would lose the very thing they moved there for, privacy and peace.*
- *Please consider the general lack of public access to the water and lakeshore in this neighborhood.*
- *Severely limited local access to Lake Washington. Strong, committed and consistent neighborhood support for habitat & creek restoration as demonstrated by the Friends of Deadhorse Canyon/Taylor Creek Park & Trail favors implementing Open Access option.*

3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

Select Responses (see the complete list of responses on the project website for all 72 responses)

- *Fences to publicly owned natural resources is off-putting and inconsistent with City of Seattle's Race & Social Justice principals. There are many more fenced areas and keep out/limited access areas in SE Seattle than in the more affluent neighborhoods. Any alternative less than Open Access continues an unfortunate and undesired legacy of in-equity*
- *The City of Seattle is not considering the negative impact on quality of life in the area. People in this area like to enjoy their homes with family and friends but will be bombarded with noise, garbage and crime from people who are not invested in the community throughout the summer months. It would also be an unnecessary burden on Seattle police to have yet another place to monitor.*
- *Mt. Baker trails were objected to by adjacent neighbors but concerns proved unfounded. Open access and increased use discourages damage.*
- *The city seems to be mixing the goal of salmon habitat restoration with public access. This might sound good for a campaign or election, but it does not actually make any sense, and would be detrimental for two major reasons: 1. People and public access will adversely impact the salmon habitat. 2. Lower Taylor Creek is not a suitable site for public access due to very obvious traffic, safety and logistical issues. I would urge you to consider the risk of encouraging human traffic in this area.*
- *This is public land bought with public money and maintained with public money. The neighborhood will be greatly enhanced with open access design. The other options are harsh, restrictive, and expensive. We can mitigate concerns by neighbors that this will attract gangs/thugs by keeping the path narrow and surrounded by marsh, thus limiting the size of gatherings. Hide it, don't block it!*
- *This property is single family residence with a private road maintained by each property owner and has only one access in and out for single car. Our private properties should not be accessible to the public.*
- *Those living in the area have been well aware of the need to provide salmon access and the possible changes to their community from such a project. Just as with ALL of us, changes can and do occur that affect our property, privacy, and personal living environment. We are forced to adapt and compensate. Because a property holds more real estate value should NOT immune one from experiencing sometimes disquieting changes. We need to embrace changes for the public good even when they are difficult for us personally.*
- *Any of the options would work. I am sure you have studies on this sort of thing but it seems like if you try and restrict the area from people (which would be better for the habitat value) it will only encourage curious folks to vandalize the area. If left open to the public it may not actually attract that many users. If left open to the public I wonder if you can use some sort of nice fencing design to keep folks away from the creek and the shoreline -like at Madrona Park.*

Response to Summary Comments

Surveys results were reviewed and discussed by the project team. To address common questions and concerns, responses are provided below. Comments were categorized into seven different areas for response, though many comments addressed more than one comment category.

The comment categories include:

1. Project need and funding
2. Project goals
3. Pedestrian safety
4. Vehicles and parking
5. Public access and potential amenities (swimming, docks, kayaks, dogs)
6. Vegetation
7. Additional evaluation criteria

1. Project need

Comment	Response
<p>Why is public money being spent at a small site and not somewhere else that would benefit more people, like Pritchard Beach or Beer Sheva Park?</p>	<p>Funding for the Lower Taylor Creek Improvement Project comes from Seattle Public Utilities. These funds must be spent on drainage and stream-related needs and cannot be used for park improvements.</p> <p>As part of this project we need to: replace a public culvert under Rainier Ave S to ensure public safety and mobility; restore fish passage in the creek so that fish can swim from Lake Washington upstream into Lakeridge Park as mandated by state and federal laws; and improve stream habitat for salmon, particularly Chinook, who are listed on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife’s Endangered Species list.</p> <p>We also hope to design the project to reduce ongoing effects of storm-related flooding and natural sedimentation on neighboring property owners.</p>

2. Meeting the project goals

Comment	Response
<p>Are habitat restoration and community access compatible?</p>	<p>While our main focus of the project is to remove existing fish barriers and improve habitat for salmon, we understand the potential for this space to serve as a community amenity – offering stewardship and environmental education opportunities, building a physical connection between the site and Deadhorse Canyon and establishing emotional connections between people and nature.</p> <p>Although the risk of habitat degradation increases as more people use the site, there are examples of Seattle parks where people and salmon interact successfully and respectfully, such as Carkeek Park.</p>

3. Pedestrian safety

Comment	Response
<p>If the site is accessible to the public, how will the City ensure people's safety getting to and from the site?</p>	<p>We agree that improvements are needed on Rainier Ave S to address pedestrian safety. We anticipate working with SDOT and their Neighborhood Safety Department throughout the design phase to determine what type of improvements should be made, pending the public access option chosen.</p>

4. Vehicles and parking

Comment	Response
<p>Will parking be allowed at the site? The current entrance off of Rainier Ave S is already dangerous enough for vehicle traffic and you're planning to add more cars?</p>	<p>The width of the site, the presence of the stream, the habitat restoration needs, and the characteristics of the private drive all make parking very challenging to install and safely use. We do not plan to include parking on the lake side of Rainier Ave S as part of this project. There is parking available on Rainier Ave S and at Lakeridge Park.</p> <p>Our design considerations include improving sightlines and facilitating easier vehicle access between the private drive and Rainier Ave S, as this area will be significantly affected by installation of the new creek culvert under Rainier Ave S.</p>

5. Public access and potential amenities

Comment	Response
<p>If the site is publicly accessible will it include amenities like tables, bathrooms, docks, off-leash dog area or swimming opportunities?</p>	<p>The intent of the project is to restore habitat for fish and wildlife in the area, as well as minimize flooding and sediment deposition issues as possible. Park amenities like structures, bridges, playgrounds, docks and bathrooms would have a significant impact on the ability to provide quality habitat given the relatively small area available. Overwater structures, like docks, also affect juvenile salmon migration behavior and expose them to greater predation risk.</p> <p>While this natural area will not contain park facilities, there is a developed park directly across Rainier Ave S from the project site. We can maximize the City's resources by capitalizing on these existing facilities at Lakeridge Playfield.</p> <p>Providing opportunities for swimming, non-motorized watercraft launching, and dogs (although an off-lease area will not be allowed due to habitat impacts) will be discussed after the public access option is chosen and project design is underway.</p>

6. Trees and vegetation

Comment	Response
<p>What types of trees and vegetation will be planted at the site?</p>	<p>All options will include stream-side forest community plants native to the Pacific Northwest: coniferous and deciduous trees (e.g. cedar, douglas fir, maple); shrubs (snowberry, Oregon grape); groundcovers (ferns, salal).</p> <p>However, where and how vegetation is planted will be influenced by how public access is offered at the site. If public access is not allowed at the site, vegetation would be planted for maximum habitat benefit without concern for maintaining sight lines through the site. If the site is open to the public through Limited Access or Open Access, vegetation would be planted to maintain sight lines through the site. This may mean fewer plants overall and targeted pruning to allow open views 3-6 ft. off the ground.</p>

7. Additional evaluation criteria

Comment	Response
<p>Additional criteria to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational potential for the site • Rights and interests of the taxpayers • Preservation of native cultural resources that might be present at the site • Comparison to similar street ends projects 	<p>We included educational potential as a consideration in the “Community Amenities” criterion. Taxpayer costs were accounted for in the “Project Goals” criterion for construction costs and in the “City Operations and Maintenance” criterion for site operation staff time.</p> <p>During project design and our environmental assessment, we will assess the cultural resource potential of the site (interestingly, much of this area was the historic Taylor Mill). We will also research waterfront street ends and what lessons we have learned from those sites that we can apply to this project.</p>

Conclusion

Several participants expressed appreciation for SPU and Parks' efforts to involve the nearby community in this decision and were excited for the future improvements in their neighborhood. Nearly all 92 participants agreed with the need for stream improvements and habitat restoration for salmon. However, several respondents expressed ambivalence – a desire to see more lake front access for the public, coupled with concerns that effective habitat restoration and human activity within the same space may be conflict with one another.

Options and criteria

In general, the majority of survey participants believed that SPU had identified all viable public access options that should be included in the analysis. However, some survey participants did see the need for additional criteria, including the rights and interests of taxpayers, educational potential for the site, preservation of native cultural resources that might be present at the site and a comparison to other, similar street ends projects. Survey-takers also emphasized the following criteria already being included in the evaluation:

- Traffic concerns related to Rainier Ave S and the private drive
- Cost to the city/tax payers for maintaining and operating the site
- Lack of waterfront access in the area
- Social equity of public services

Options preference

Approximately half of the open-ended responses offered opinions on a preferred public access option.

- Approximately 26% favored open access. The most commonly cited reasons for supporting open access was lack of nearby lake front access for the neighborhood and best use of taxpayer dollars.
- Approximately 25% favored no access. Those opposed to public access were concerned about reduced habitat protection for salmon or negative impacts to adjacent residential properties.
- Approximately 7% favored scheduled or limited access as their preference. Those in favor of partial access often expressed the desire for educational or stewardship opportunities.

Design elements to consider

Participants used the survey as an opportunity to suggest amenities or features SPU and Parks should consider during the design phase including:

- Physically linking the site to Deadhorse Canyon trailhead
- Providing small boat/kayak launch
- Signage advertising public access at the site
- Educational/informational signage at the entrance to the site
- Lighting features
- Installation of a camera to assist with monitoring and enforcement
- Traffic revisions on Rainier Ave S (e.g. new crosswalk, traffic lights and/or stop signs) to facilitate safe pedestrian access to and from the site
- Dog-friendly amenities (garbage bins, bag dispensers)
- Impacts and changes to Lakeridge Playfield

Public Access Options and Evaluation Criteria

Survey Results - May 2013



1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		27.4%	23
No		72.6%	61
Please explain:			50
answered question			84
skipped question			8

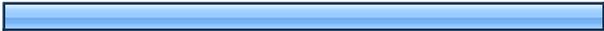
2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		59.0%	46
No		41.0%	32
Please explain:			56
answered question			78
skipped question			14

3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

	Response Count
	75
answered question	75
skipped question	17

4. Interested in receiving updates about the project? Join our contact list!

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name:		97.4%	75
Address:		90.9%	70
City:		85.7%	66
ZIP:		85.7%	66
Email:		80.5%	62
Phone:		53.2%	41
	answered question		77
	skipped question		15

5. To help us with future outreach, please tell us about yourself (optional).

		Response Percent	Response Count
What is your race?		88.1%	59
What is the primary language spoken in your home?		98.5%	66
		answered question	67
		skipped question	25

Q1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?

1	Public access limited to hours of the day 8:00am until 8:00pm, this is a public owned property purchased with public funds.	May 1, 2013 12:47 PM
2	Public access will ruin your project. Do not allow public access. Living adjacent to the park is a growing nightmare with people trying to get onto my property.	May 1, 2013 12:44 PM
3	Add Option 6: Open public access with side barrier fencing. With barrier fencing (eg, 6 ft chain link with slats) on the north and south edges of the park, the issue of loss of privacy, crime, property damage etc goes away.	Apr 17, 2013 8:40 AM
4	The limited access option should be modified to include some type of small informative view deck with historic photos and information about the area.	Apr 17, 2013 8:28 AM
5	Large signage for the public to know about this area.	Apr 17, 2013 8:21 AM
6	As much open access to begin with - restrict only if PROVES necessary.	Apr 17, 2013 8:16 AM
7	No, the options are good.	Apr 12, 2013 9:05 AM
8	No public access!!	Apr 12, 2013 9:04 AM
9	Even more open than the "open access" would be ideal. Include a canoe/kayak launch and some metered parking spaces.	Apr 12, 2013 9:03 AM
10	"No public access" is safest for residential area, in particular this location access difficulty. Also, best option for salmon habitat and increased salmon spawning which is major objective of project.	Apr 11, 2013 5:06 PM
11	Keep out adjacent property owners from limiting access to private use.	Apr 11, 2013 5:02 PM
12	We believe that there should be as much public access as possible while still protecting habitat and public safety. Kayak boat launch.	Apr 11, 2013 4:40 PM
13	You all have done a commendable job. Thank you.	Apr 11, 2013 4:32 PM
14	Since this is an SPU maintenance area, there should be NO public access.	Apr 11, 2013 4:25 PM
15	No, though there is no mention of the waterfront use. Is it beach shoreline, rocks, native landscaping?	Apr 11, 2013 4:09 PM
16	No, I like the viewpoint idea the best.	Apr 11, 2013 3:54 PM
17	This is a good range of options	Apr 11, 2013 10:59 AM
18	Leave it as is and use the allotted resources for police or schools Sell the property to home buyers	Apr 11, 2013 10:56 AM
19	Perhaps	Apr 11, 2013 10:20 AM
20	Should have view area	Apr 11, 2013 10:16 AM
21	Open access - no fence!	Apr 11, 2013 10:10 AM
22	I like the limited or open access options. We would like the option to put in there	Apr 11, 2013 9:30 AM

Q1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?

with a kayak.

23	Traffic light and the 3-way for kids to cross	Apr 10, 2013 11:44 AM
24	See #3 answer	Apr 10, 2013 11:40 AM
25	The limited access is best for nearby neighbors.	Apr 10, 2013 11:32 AM
26	Start with open access - later we could always change it to limited.	Apr 10, 2013 11:28 AM
27	I prefer the open access option like Dead Horse Canyon	Apr 10, 2013 11:27 AM
28	Without automobile access, this site will be lightly used.	Apr 10, 2013 9:56 AM
29	Area not appropriate for further public access	Apr 10, 2013 9:49 AM
30	Small boat launch	Apr 10, 2013 9:44 AM
31	How about dock which would provide boater access	Apr 9, 2013 4:46 PM
32	The restoration of the lower Taylor creek habitat is not as a public space, but rather as a stream for the salmon to spawn. Providing public access only works against this goal, as well as is inconsistent with the current neighborhood, and lastly is a logistical nightmare for traffic and safety of anyone crossing between the current park and the Lower Taylor Creek area.	Apr 5, 2013 2:10 PM
33	Please see below in "Other Comments" for my preference for a combined access approach. Thank you. I believe that the need for a scientific understanding of and connection to the natural environment is a paramount duty of all government and professionals involved in the decision-making process regarding our built and natural environment. There are successes in SE Seattle - with Green Seattle Partnership, Audubon-Seward Environmental Learning Center, and the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetland - but many more are needed. I am a forest steward, a past environmental youth leader/educator and a resident of South Seattle for almost 30 years. I can tell you that I have looked forward to the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project for many years and the educational benefits that such a project will bring. Please remember our responsibility to the generations into the future...what legacy are we leaving for them. Will we continue to pave over, make private, or fence in access to opportunities to teach about our human connection to nature? Or will we provide ways to connect in deep and meaningful ways to an understanding of watersheds, streams, native vegetation, and diverse species? The choice is ours.	Apr 5, 2013 10:31 AM
34	I support open access with restrictions introduced slowly over time IF they prove necessary. No need to assume the worst. Open space amenities are too few for our growing population and fencing is generally an eyesore. Given there is no parking and that the property is surrounded by neighbors whose proximity and presence is greater than most public spaces I think the area needs less protection than most.	Apr 4, 2013 9:16 PM
35	Can you please add another option which includes water access and more active use of the property, ideally with access to the lake for non-motorized boats	Apr 3, 2013 9:57 PM

Q1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?

	and/or for swimming? To the best of my knowledge, there is no water access on Lake Washington between the Atlantic City Boat Ramp in Rainier Beach and the Cedar River Trail Boathouse or Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park in Renton. Although the subject parcel has limited space, it would be wonderful to provide public access for community residents to use Lake Washington, if possible.	
36	Gates that lock automatically after a certain time, of course egress from inside would have to be allowed. This could go along with Open Access to avoid people in the park after sunset.	Apr 3, 2013 8:06 PM
37	You have done a good job of covering viable options that balance habitat considerations, maintenance issues, and public desire for lake access.	Apr 3, 2013 3:55 PM
38	no public access	Apr 1, 2013 12:13 PM
39	The area cannot easily support access to the public without having severe negative impacts to the surrounding properties. It will also have severe negative impacts to the Salmon restoration portion of the project (what I understood to be the most important part).	Apr 1, 2013 10:44 AM
40	There should not be public access. I believe public access would be of no benefit for the salmon or the neighborhood.	Apr 1, 2013 10:11 AM
41	No public access please	Mar 29, 2013 9:19 AM
42	The only option should be no public access. It makes no sense to daylight this stream only to expose it to more pollution and misuse. By allowing public access, crime and illegal dumping would be hidden from view between the homes. The fact that there will be no parking just adds to the problem of traffic slowdowns in that area and will decrease street parking around homes for residents and their visitors.	Mar 29, 2013 9:18 AM
43	open unlimited and unconditional access with parking	Mar 27, 2013 6:39 PM
44	The levels of access provided is fine.	Mar 26, 2013 6:05 PM
45	Looks like everything has been considered.	Mar 25, 2013 11:44 AM
46	I would like to see the least restrictive option become a reality - Option 5 Open Access. At this point, there is not direct access to Lake WA unless you go to Rainier Beach. A simple pathway sounds like a great option.	Mar 24, 2013 2:47 PM
47	I believe we should select the "Open Access" plan; the least restrictive option. I do not want our community/taxpayers to incur more expenses from putting up a fence and paying people to come to lock/unlock the gate. Nor do I want the community/taxpayers to incur expenses for constructing a viewing platform.	Mar 23, 2013 8:02 PM
48	I strongly advocate for Open Access Plus dedicated trail that is adjacent to creek from mouth of creek at Lake to trail head at 68th/Holyoke. There is very limited local neighborhood access to Lake Washington. Plus Open Access will enable passive recreational access to the entire Taylor Creek Watershed from Lake Washington across Rainer Avenue South to the Deadhorse Canyon/Taylor Creek Trail. Natural surface trail from Lake Washington mouth of creek, to	Mar 21, 2013 9:53 PM

Q1. Are there other options for public access you believe we should include?

Rainier Avenue South; then adjacent to creek through Lower Lakeridge Park, along 68th to trail head will increase safety.

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 49 | The shoreline would need to be fenced off in my opinion, to gate the entire area if public access is allowed. If not, boats and other non motorized craft will dock on the pebble beach to use the shore and vice versa. You will have people using the waterfront location for non-motorized watercraft launching, canoes, paddleboards, kayaks, and open access allows swimming opportunities. Trying to monitor "passive recreation" without full-time supervision creates a free for all space. | Mar 21, 2013 12:13 PM |
| 50 | Adding a water access only for kyaks out on the lake would be a good inclusion. | Mar 14, 2013 9:52 AM |

Q2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

1	Fencing adjacent property, signage, waste disposal container, (no pets allowed) (no alcoholic beverages), (properly control children), etc.	May 1, 2013 12:47 PM
2	Consider crime, burglary risks to residents, noise, graffiti, loud hip hop music, trash.	May 1, 2013 12:44 PM
3	We don't think that dogs should be allowed in the park, even on leash.	May 1, 2013 12:36 PM
4	Add: potential for environmental education. This is an opportunity not to be missed, as 6 public and private schools are in close proximity: Lakeridge elementary, The New School, Rainier Beach High School, Emerson Elementary, St. Paul elementary, Amazing Grace Elementary	Apr 17, 2013 8:40 AM
5	Benefit to flood control and increased natural areas in area. Is fish restoration and community access compatible?	Apr 17, 2013 8:36 AM
6	The importance of cultural resources evaluation.	Apr 17, 2013 8:28 AM
7	Large signage for public use	Apr 17, 2013 8:21 AM
8	Many street ends have been taken for private use along Rainier S. Open access to some measure relieves this.	Apr 17, 2013 8:16 AM
9	There is so little public access to the lake. Please go with the open access plan.	Apr 12, 2013 9:03 AM
10	Public access will endanger salmon and their habitat, i.e. partying, loud noises, trash, salmon harrassment, throwing debris and rocks into creek.	Apr 11, 2013 5:06 PM
11	Limit adjoining private property from encroaching on public access.	Apr 11, 2013 5:02 PM
12	We have a park at the bottom of our canyon that people have worked for many years to keep up. Who will keep up our park or will it just disappear?	Apr 11, 2013 4:47 PM
13	Please consider the general lack of public access to the water and lakeshore in this neighborhood.	Apr 11, 2013 4:40 PM
14	Save my SPU \$ - do not put a park/public access here. It will cause an increase to staff cost, decrease to property value, increase to crime and nuisance. FIX OUR ROADS INSTEAD - it looks awful!	Apr 11, 2013 4:25 PM
15	Cost to taxpayers Estimated costs for each option illustrated	Apr 11, 2013 4:15 PM
16	What will the public do to the fish going up and down the creek? It's one thing not being protected from crows, seagulls and raccoons - how do you protect them from people?	Apr 11, 2013 4:11 PM
17	Yes! This is a very busy traffic area with a playground, playfield and Deadhorse Canyon Trail just across the street. Traffic revision and crosswalk are important parts of the plan.	Apr 11, 2013 4:09 PM
18	If there is ever to be anadromous fish spawning in Taylor Creek there must be a "criteria" that gives those fish exclusive right to use the stream, lake and adjacent land during the season of their passing.	Apr 11, 2013 3:52 PM

Q2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

19	Pollution, vandalism, noise, crime, parking, best use of public funds, taxpayer revolt	Apr 11, 2013 10:56 AM
20	Cost to taxpayer on users	Apr 11, 2013 10:20 AM
21	Racoons need under Rainier access	Apr 11, 2013 10:16 AM
22	1. Safety 2. Concern over ongoing cost to keep the park clean and landscaped.	Apr 11, 2013 9:30 AM
23	Public should have access to the lake and be able to enjoy.	Apr 11, 2013 9:25 AM
24	Rainier is a busy street and that 3-way intersection is tricky with kids. I would like to see a light.	Apr 10, 2013 11:44 AM
25	Public access/viewing is great but our family firmly believes habitat restoration, including for salmon, should be a main goal of this project. Also please consider community education materials which focus on reducing/eliminating private pesticide/chemical use.	Apr 10, 2013 11:40 AM
26	Keep area natural as possible	Apr 10, 2013 11:28 AM
27	How has access to these type areas worked in others i.e., the string of pearls in Leschi. Or people really use these areas?	Apr 10, 2013 11:28 AM
28	I am well acquainted with the site, as I knew the previous owners	Apr 10, 2013 9:56 AM
29	Establish the criteria for relative benefit to the public vis a vis another similar project with more access and benefits. Just up the street at Mapes Creek wetlands.	Apr 10, 2013 9:53 AM
30	Pay close attention to liability and effect on adjoining properties	Apr 10, 2013 9:49 AM
31	There is no public access for many miles along Rainier Ave. Open access would be very nice for the upper Rainier Beach neighborhood.	Apr 10, 2013 9:37 AM
32	Please make a trash receptical available to help prevent litter.	Apr 9, 2013 4:46 PM
33	There should be no public access. There is a city park across the street with playfields and bathhouse.	Apr 9, 2013 4:33 PM
34	Please consider that fact that the traffic on Rainier is fast, doesn't stop, and is very dangerous. Anything that will cause more traffic will increase the danger. You should please conduct a traffic safety assessment for that area, including, speeding, the number of times the city must come fix the island signs that are run over every week, etc. This is a very serious concern.	Apr 5, 2013 2:10 PM
35	Assess the habitat value is site remains unaccessible. Linear ft. of shoreline seems too small and surrounding shoreline is quite developed/disturbed to really have a large amount of habitat vaule to birds/salmon...perhaps a more open public access program is the better use, due to constraints on habtiat.	Apr 5, 2013 1:15 PM
36	Please see below in "Other Comments" for my preference for a combined access approach. Thank you. 1. Education for youth and adults 2. Protecting the	Apr 5, 2013 10:31 AM

Q2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

natural environment around the tributary. 3. Those living in the area have been well aware of the need to provide salmon access and the possible changes to their community from such a project. Just as with ALL of us, changes can and do occur that affect our property, privacy, and personal living environment. We are forced to adapt and compensate. For instance...I had a bus stop re-located within a few yards of my house bringing with it noise, pollution, litter, and vibrations felt inside my house. Because a property holds more real estate value should NOT immune one from experiencing sometimes disquieting changes. We need to embrace changes for the public good even when they are difficult for us personally. That's life - especially life in the large urban area in which we live. 4. What is in the best PUBLIC interest? 5. What opportunities exist for building scientific knowledge from this project? 6. How will this project provide a connection to the environment for generations to come? 7. Why can't this restoration be used as a way to build stability into the community? Isn't it possible to have this be a win-win for all...at least in some significant ways. (I.E. fostering science education in our South Seattle Public Schools) 8. When will we begin to understand that we cannot permanently wall ourselves off from "those people" that "play their music too loud" at large community picnic in the park? (This came up at the community meetings at the Rainier Beach Library and some in attendance felt that SPU's response was totally unacceptable.) SPU needs to be fully aware of the "US VS. THEM" mentality that exists in the waterfront and Lakeridge community. It's disturbing to many of us. 9. Why do the everyday people of South Seattle get the feeling that organizations that are suppose to be in the public interest pay more attention to those with money/political clout (i.e.- higher property values) than to the needs of others? 10. Why is this project important? Salmon, education, overall health of the environment, undoing a wrong? What are the goals or who is ultimately going to determine what those goals are and how they are achieved?

37	It appears the private property owners along this stretch of Rainier Ave South have already closed off street ends for their private use.I think this should weigh heavily in favor of open access. I don't think public funds should be used to enhance exclusivity.	Apr 4, 2013 9:16 PM
38	The likely invasion of our and our neighbors private properties from Lakeridge Park.	Apr 4, 2013 6:22 PM
39	1) Under Community Amenities, it would be helpful to add use of the lake, connectivity to Lakeridge Park and Deadhorse Canyon, and public/community benefit. 2) Under Potential Neighborhood and Business impacts, most of the considerations address potential negative or adverse issues. It would be helpful to balance the existing information to include other elements, such as increased values and benefits to the community/neighborhood (not just the adjacent waterfront property owners) from use of the subject property and access to Lake Washington, community/neighborhood resource/asset, and the potential for community stewardship. This space should not be a public-funded "private greenbelt" for the adjacent property owners! 3) Please add a new evaluation criteria to include environmental education (e.g., of the natural area, salmon life-cycle, water ecology, and conservation). (Ideally this would include and connect with the work that has been done and is ongoing in the restoration of Deadhorse Canyon.) Perhaps the City of Seattle could partner with an environmental non-profit to include educational signs and displays, plus potentially provide on-site	Apr 3, 2013 9:57 PM

Q2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

naturalists during the salmon spawning season as is now done at other locations by the Friends of the Cedar River Watershed. The Taylor Creek Restoration Project is a unique and important educational opportunity to emphasize the potential positive things that can be done to restore salmon habitat and salmon spawning in a fully developed, urban city.

40	While I would love access to the lake at Taylor Creek, I would most like to see the development, maintenance, and enhancement of salmon habitat. If that precludes public access, then so be it! My viewpoint is probably in the minority however...	Apr 3, 2013 3:55 PM
41	1. Additional traffic on the private lane by people searching for parking. 2. People parking on private property while they visit the delta. 3. Line of sight for vehicles entering Rainier Ave may be blocked by parked cars along Rainier Ave. (the entrance onto Rainier Ave from the lane is already hazardous enough). 4. The signage for the crosswalk is not adequately maintained (the signs are frequently broken down by cars driving down the center turning lane), so the crosswalk is not recognized by drivers on Rainier Ave. 5. The crosswalk is at the end of a blind corner (when heading south), so vehicles do not have an adequate line of sight to see pedestrians in the crosswalk. 6. The intersection of Rainier Ave, Cornell Ave, and the crosswalk, all on a blind corner, makes for a congested and dangerous intersection.	Apr 2, 2013 3:13 PM
42	The different uses available to the public in all water front parks between Seward Park and Renton Park. There are several parks in this area. Taken as a group the parks should satisfy themany public uses: boating, kayaking, swimming, beaches and picnicing, etc. What is currently missing is swimming and kayaking. It doesn't have to be at Taylor but it needs to provided at one of the parks in the area.	Apr 2, 2013 8:34 AM
43	public access is not consistant with salmon habitat restoration	Apr 1, 2013 12:13 PM
44	This area needs to remain natural and public access will undermine that.	Apr 1, 2013 10:44 AM
45	Criteria to be considered: Lack of parking Lack of pedestrian safety when crossing to access the potential park given the lack of parking Danger to pedestrians, bikers and drivers through the increase of traffic into an already dangerous junction (Cornell) Danger to the purpose of the project (restauration of salmon in the creek) through littering and loitering in the delta area Danger to the neighborhood through opening a park in a private drive	Apr 1, 2013 10:11 AM
46	You should consider the fact that there is adequate waterfront access all along Lake Washington. Why don't you improve Pritchard Beach and make it a safe place for families to enjoy? What about Beer Sheva Park? These Seattle parks are within 5 minutes of Taylor Creek and so is Renton's Coulon and Kennydale waterfront park. Lake Washington is accessible to the public throughout the entire city already. This strip of land is unnesscesary and residents would loose the very thing they moved there for, privacy and peace.	Mar 29, 2013 9:18 AM
47	no conditions, add parking	Mar 27, 2013 6:39 PM
48	Lakeridge Park is noisy in the summer late into evening, especially on 4th of July	Mar 26, 2013 6:05 PM

Q2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

and Seafair. Afterward looks like a war zone, trashed. We do not want this activity migrating across Rainier Ave into our neighborhood. Also, the entrance to our lane is really scary sometimes when pulling in or out. There are too many speeders and there are too many directions cars come from, plus a curve. We don't want to add people coming across from the playground. Too dangerous already!

49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact to safety at intersection of Cornell Ave., Rainier Ave S. and Access Driveway to neighborhood between Rainier Ave S. and Lake Washington. This is already a dangerous area with high volumes of high speed traffic, without adding more pedestrian traffic with children, etc. • Impact on salmon and environment on lower Taylor Creek and Lake Washington at the mouth of the creek, from trash, litter, dog waste, vandalism, poaching, loud parties, noise, and music in what is now a quiet private neighborhood off the arterial. (Based on experience at Lakeridge Park in summer and on holidays. • Impact on security of the same private neighborhood, with added vehicles, turnarounds, illegal parking, trash and litter, more potential burglaries, casing out of private property. • Possible loss in property values as a result of a public park being placed in the midst of a private neighborhood that would likely be changed forever for the residents and homeowners. 	Mar 26, 2013 5:40 PM
50	Costs. None of these plans mention costs, but I can only assume option 5 if the least expensive.	Mar 24, 2013 2:47 PM
51	I don't believe there is enough positive public interest in the area near the mouth of the creek to warrant many changes to that neighborhood. If we build a viewing platform, we will be creating a place for undesirable activity as well, and we will probably find people leaving trash there, which will lead to more maintenance expenses. Also, the street traffic on Rainier Ave is heavy, and one lane in each direction, with a curve in the road close to that location. These factors would make it dangerous for additional visitors to enter & exit there, and additional traffic will be inconvenient for the people who live in that neighborhood.	Mar 23, 2013 8:02 PM
52	Dog access. Is this allowed? Not allowed?	Mar 22, 2013 4:44 PM
53	The rights and interests of the taxpayers of the city of Seattle should be taken into account. Since they own the land and are paying for its development, public access should be a basic criterion. Any restriction of public access to this public land requires an explanation, which should come personally from the mayor, of why the public may not have use of this land that they own.	Mar 22, 2013 11:24 AM
54	Severely limited local access to Lake Washington. Strong, committed and consistent neighborhood support for habitat & creek restoration as demonstrated by the Friends of Deadhorse Canyon/Taylor Creek Park & Trail favors implementing Open Access option.	Mar 21, 2013 9:53 PM
55	Allowing public access to this outlined project creates a secluded space for illegal activity. I live in the neighborhood and spend time in the Lakeridge Park. The parking lot has become a stopping point for drug deals. The neighborhood is not conducive in drawing the type of passive recreation proposed for this area. I also would say with public access to the water, it will become a great location for off leash dogs to use the water. Although illegal, it will happen more than you	Mar 21, 2013 12:13 PM

Q2. Are there additional criteria we should consider to evaluate the options for public access?

think and not controllable as to what options 3-5 propose. Martha Washington Park, Seward Park, Lake Wash. Blvd., are examples where dogs swim. To light the park would only encourage people to use it after hours. If you see the area as an environmental learning opportunity for schools, then provide limited access for education only.

56

I prefer a View Point only access for that area. Possibly a Scheduled access because of the home owners and the busy Rainier Avenue and lack of parking.

Mar 14, 2013 9:52 AM

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

1	Born in Seattle, 3rd generation, settled above Rainier Beach over 100 years ago. Father worked at Taylor's mill on the Site. Grandfather part owner of grocery store that became the lakeside tavern. Owned prop. adjacent to Taylor Creek.	May 1, 2013 12:47 PM
2	Allowing public access is going to add to the crime! I see drug dealing all the time. The trash is awful in the summer.	May 1, 2013 12:44 PM
3	We like the idea of open access, for there is so little public access to Lake Washington. If the open access turns out to be a bad idea, then you could go to limited access, etc.	May 1, 2013 12:36 PM
4	This part of town has a swimming beach and a boat launch, but no natural area lake access points available for passive recreation. This would provide one.	Apr 17, 2013 8:40 AM
5	I would support the 'scheduled access' option to make protection of habitat restoration and return of salmon potentially into Deadhorse a reality & one which could be taught to local school children to connect to nature!	Apr 17, 2013 8:36 AM
6	Not at this time.	Apr 17, 2013 8:31 AM
7	Due to the high potential for archaeological deposits, the historic occupation and Native American presence at the mouth of Taylor Creek should not be ignored by PSU in their project design.	Apr 17, 2013 8:28 AM
8	I am in favor of OPEN ACCESS, as there is very little, if any, lake access between Gene Coulon park and Rainier Beach	Apr 17, 2013 8:24 AM
9	The property should invite the public	Apr 17, 2013 8:21 AM
10	Mt. Baker trails were objected to by adjacent neighbors but concerns proved unfounded. Open access and increased use discourages damage.	Apr 17, 2013 8:16 AM
11	Would love to have access to the lake.	Apr 12, 2013 9:07 AM
12	How is public access consistent with salmon habitat restoration?! people will be playing in the stream and climbing.	Apr 12, 2013 9:04 AM
13	The open access option will allow the broadest and most fair access to the stream and lake. Skyway needs some open space!	Apr 12, 2013 9:03 AM
14	This project will never see the light of day. You will never get funding and the neighborhood will not tolerate the intrusion.	Apr 12, 2013 8:48 AM
15	We appreciate being able to make comments throughout entire process.	Apr 11, 2013 5:06 PM
16	Please leave the trail next to Taylor Park Creek open!	Apr 11, 2013 4:47 PM
17	I believe that education signage would also benefit this community. Kids are the stewards of the future.	Apr 11, 2013 4:40 PM
18	Whatever is best for the salmon is the right choice. You can open it to the public later.	Apr 11, 2013 4:34 PM
19	This is public land bought with public money and maintained with public money.	Apr 11, 2013 4:32 PM

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

The neighborhood will be greatly enhanced with open access design. The other options are harsh, restrictive, and expensive. We can mitigate concerns by neighbors that this will attract gangs/thugs by keeping the path narrow and surrounded by marsh, thus limiting the size of gatherings. Hide it, don't block it!

20	This is a residential area off a very busy road. We do not need a public access point or park there. There is a park across the street and a park/boat ramp 1.25 miles north.	Apr 11, 2013 4:25 PM
21	I'm glad that Taylor Creek is being restored for salmon!	Apr 11, 2013 4:15 PM
22	The kids will be losing part of the playfield. What about baseball games. Family get togethers and parking?	Apr 11, 2013 4:11 PM
23	I am 100% in favor of a crime prevention camera posted in this redevelopment.	Apr 11, 2013 4:09 PM
24	Priority is the salmon	Apr 11, 2013 3:54 PM
25	People, their children and especially their pets are patently incompatible with fish in restrictive waters.	Apr 11, 2013 3:52 PM
26	This is a terrible use of my tax payer dollars! As a taxpayer I demand you stop this project!	Apr 11, 2013 10:56 AM
27	Use the least government control. Along lines of "open access" option.	Apr 11, 2013 10:20 AM
28	Do you feel it will increase fish return?	Apr 11, 2013 10:16 AM
29	I like the "open access" option. This is a very good thing that you are doing no matter what option is chosen. Good job!!!	Apr 11, 2013 10:14 AM
30	Limited access seems like the best choice.	Apr 11, 2013 10:12 AM
31	I support the no public access option.	Apr 11, 2013 10:08 AM
32	Fantastic project!	Apr 10, 2013 11:44 AM
33	Please include interpretation services info in Somali, Amharic, and Tigrinya in the future.	Apr 10, 2013 11:40 AM
34	Please do not use any blacktop asphalt for paths or roadway - it's petroleum-based and will contaminate runoff, groundwater and the stream.	Apr 10, 2013 11:32 AM
35	Yes. I would be amenable to no public access if there is agreement that no vegetation be planted that would block lake views from the park across the street. Also the neighbor who planted the view blocking shrubs remove them.	Apr 10, 2013 11:28 AM
36	Looking forward to the project.	Apr 10, 2013 11:27 AM
37	It is a small site, so limited access would be best or a combination of viewpoint and scheduled access to protect neighboring properties.	Apr 10, 2013 9:56 AM
38	No useful purpose would be served in developing this area for public access. The Mapes Creek daylighting project serves that role for this neighborhood.	Apr 10, 2013 9:53 AM

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

39	Would urge only access by appointment for community and education groups.	Apr 10, 2013 9:49 AM
40	How will each criteria be weighted? Thank you for including us, public access is a very exciting opportunity.	Apr 10, 2013 9:47 AM
41	Dog-friendly features - sani-bags, etc.	Apr 10, 2013 9:44 AM
42	No	Apr 10, 2013 9:40 AM
43	Open access is our preference.	Apr 10, 2013 9:37 AM
44	Please make it pleasing from the street vantage point.	Apr 9, 2013 4:46 PM
45	This property is single family residence with a private road maintained by each property owner and has only one access in and out for single car. Our private properties should not be accessible to the public.	Apr 9, 2013 4:33 PM
46	The city seems to be mixing the goal of salmon habitat restoration with public access. This might sound good for a campaign or election, but it does not actually make any sense, and would be detrimental for two major reasons: 1. People and public access will adversely impact the salmon habitat. 2. Lower Taylor Creek is not a suitable site for public access due to very obvious traffic, safety and logistical issues. I would urge you to consider the risk of encouraging human traffic in this area.	Apr 5, 2013 2:10 PM
47	Your schematic/cartoons showing the different options are very misleading. Based on these depictions, the site appears to be located along a pristine lake shore. Only when one looks at the aerial does one understand the true context- a narrow parcel within an already developed shoreline. Understanding the context is critical when determining the best use and most appropriate level of public access. After seeing the aerial, I feel that the shoreline should be limited access or open access. Why restrict access by the public to this portion of shoreline for the sake of habitat, while the shoreline surrounding this parcel is disturbed already. Having it restricted to public access would have social justice ramifications. Please consider this point when determining appropriate program.	Apr 5, 2013 1:15 PM
48	I am personally in favor of the viewing platform with open access (8am-8pm), in addition to public access at specific dates (minimum once a month) throughout the year with volunteers present to assist, and supervised limited group size access by advance arrangement - 12 months out of the year. Please do the right thing for the environment and for those that will be entrusted with the protection of the environment into the future. If we do not foster awareness, appreciation, and connection then there will be no stewards in future generations! I hope you will consider this as an chance to protect the salmon/environment for generations to come and not a quick fix for an immediate problem. Take in the bigger picture. Broaden your scope. And look into the future.	Apr 5, 2013 10:31 AM
49	I don't think open access conflicts with the goals of the project. That would seem to be the criteria with the greatest weight. I am concerned that the criteria is detailed, at least numerically, to heavily favor restrictions. I think the safety, liability. and potential negative impacts are unsubstantiated while the lack of community amenities are well documented. Promote a block watch! Builds	Apr 4, 2013 9:16 PM

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

community which enhances values and responsibility of the neighbors for their own well-being.

50 I have really enjoyed where we live when going to high school and liked to come home from college. It would be sad to see the peaceful feeling of the area change, but I'm happy you are planning to help the environment and fish in this area. Apr 4, 2013 6:22 PM

51 Our family has lived in the Lakeridge community since 1986 in unincorporated King County. Deadhorse Canyon is in our backyard (i.e., we live on the east side of Deadhorse Canyon). Deadhorse Canyon has been a unique public-private partnership to renew and restore the park's natural habitat over the last twenty plus years. The City of Seattle and many others have been leaders and supporters of this long-time and ongoing effort. The Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project is a wonderful addition to this effort. Thank you for making this happen! Lake Washington is a treasured jewel for everyone in King County. However, for residents on the southwest end of the lake, there unfortunately is no public access to the lake at this time. Access to Lake Washington for the entire southwest end of the lake is restricted to residents who have either lived there for a long time and/or who have significant resources to be able to buy property on the water. As a public-funded project, it is very important that as much assess and use as possible is provided to the neighborhood/community for the subject property. There are always impacts from public parks on adjacent property owners. Some of the impacts can be mitigated, but some of them are simply part of living in a community with public property that is shared, utilized and appreciated by others. A few waterfront property owners (who already have substantial benefits from living on the public water), should not be able to limit or restrict the use of the limited waterfront property that is owned by the public. Please allow as much assess and use as possible. Thanks for asking for the community's input and good luck with your efforts! Please let me know if there is anything I can do to be of assistance. Apr 3, 2013 9:57 PM

52 Seems odd you aren't taking input on which public access options people prefer. This questionnaire seems odd and slightly un-useful. I would srongly favor Open Access but if that were a major issue, then Limited Access with daily openings at least durning the spring summer and fall would be preferred. I hope that this project will give lake access to the Southern neighborhoods, it is sorely missed at this end of the city. Apr 3, 2013 8:06 PM

53 Please see above. Thank you for taking on this worthwhile project! I look forward to seeing how it unfolds in the coming months/years... Apr 3, 2013 3:55 PM

54 We appreciate the number of options being considered. Please carefully consider the hazards of pedestrians crossing Rainier Ave. We do this frequently, and it is risky. When we leave the pizza store and cross to the lake side of Rainier Ave, we find it safer to jay-walk at the pizza store, rather than use the cross walk. Also, when a car is exiting the lane and waiting for traffic to clear on Rainier Ave, the locals normally pull off to the side of the road well away from the entrance of the lane. This reduces how much line of sight is blocked. If the public parks vehicles close to the entrance of the lane while they visit the delta, the line of sight may be significantly blocked. The entrance onto Rainier Ave would be much safer if vehicles were restricted from parking on portions of the lake side of Rainier Ave. that are near the lane. Apr 2, 2013 3:13 PM

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

55	very excited about the project	Apr 2, 2013 10:25 AM
56	See above. I recommend that unlimited access be provided initially. If it does not work out, the access can then be limited at Taylor Creek. If saving the salmon requires that access be limited I would expand public access and use of the other small parks within the south Seattle, Lakeridge area.	Apr 2, 2013 8:34 AM
57	I think it should be accessible to the public.	Apr 1, 2013 8:45 PM
58	no public access	Apr 1, 2013 12:13 PM
59	We bought this home BECAUSE of the nice, quiet lane that we live on. I prefer NO PUBLIC ACCESS and it seems to me that goes against any salmon habitat anyway. If there is public access to a park down there, people are going to go in the lake. Seems counter-productive to me.	Mar 29, 2013 9:19 AM
60	The city of Seattle is not considering the negative impact on quality of life in the area. People in this area like to enjoy their homes with family and friends but will be bombarded with noise, garbage and crime from people who are not invested in the community throughout the summer months. It would also be an unnesscesary burden on Seattle police to have yet another place to monitor.	Mar 29, 2013 9:18 AM
61	I do not think that any public access is good. We already have enough crime in this area. Why create another place for more?	Mar 28, 2013 4:22 PM
62	I do not think that any public access is good. We already have enough crime in this area. Why create another place for more?	Mar 28, 2013 4:21 PM
63	have a sign and lighting	Mar 27, 2013 6:39 PM
64	Protect the salmon but NO PUBLIC ACCESS.	Mar 26, 2013 6:05 PM
65	1. I fully support the planned improvements and protection of the stream and salmon habitat. 2. I strongly feel that this location is not at all appropriate for a public park, so I am in favor of no public access. 3. However, I am not opposed to allowing scheduled access for educational purposes. Through experience and education we can enhance the objectives of the overall project, so that future generations will learn the value of protecting these resources.	Mar 26, 2013 5:40 PM
66	Personally, we like the open access best and limited access as a second choice. There is practically no public access to the lake in this immediate area.	Mar 25, 2013 11:44 AM
67	Choose the plan that will incur the least expenses and have the least restrictions.	Mar 23, 2013 8:02 PM
68	Yes. there are two recurring issues that happen up at the current entrance to Dead Horse Canyon which impact and will impact the viability of a strong, healthy salmon stream. 1. Garbage left near the entrance to the park--sometimes so much that it gets into the stream itself. Has the city ever considered putting up cameras to catch the culprits? It happens with alarming frequency. Also, maybe a bright light would help. It is amazingly dark in that area at night. 2. Dogs in the park and in the water. I admit that I do not own a dog. When I walk in Dead Horse Canyon there is almost always someone in the park	Mar 22, 2013 4:44 PM

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

walking his or her dog. I would say 90% of the time the dogs are off leash. I believe this park is known to dog owners as a park that is never monitored for dogs off leash. In the summer I often walk in the park and see an owner with his/her dog standing fully in the middle of the creek drinking water and splashing about. How returning salmon are to survive in this situation, I don't know.

- | | | |
|----|---|-----------------------|
| 69 | Two things: First, many people in Seattle are fortunate enough to live next to parks. Most do not complain and attempt to fence the land off from access by the public who own it. Just as happened with the Sammamish rail trail, the adjacent land owners need to be given a dose of reality. Second, the concerns of the adjacent owners are overblown. Given the realities of Seattle weather, this recreation area would not get much use for at least 6 months of each year. | Mar 22, 2013 11:24 AM |
| 70 | 1. Will the stairs between Rainier Avenue South and the proposed Open Access or alternate limited access be repaired so they are safe for pedestrian use? 2. Fences to publicly owned natural resources is off-putting and in consistent with City of Seattle's Race & Social Justice principals. There are many more fenced areas and keep out/limited access areas in SE Seattle than in the more affluent neighborhoods. Any alternative less than Open Access continues an unfortunate and undesired legacy of in-equity | Mar 21, 2013 9:53 PM |
| 71 | If this is really about salmon habitat and protecting their habitat, options 1, 2, or 3 are the only ones that should be considered. I'd vote for option 1. We leave about a mile north of this area, on Rainier Ave S. | Mar 21, 2013 4:26 PM |
| 72 | The public will see the area as a park, regardless of the name you put on it if access is open. Providing the public access to unsupervised water creates illicit opportunities - people walking along waterfront property to survey people's homes. Fencing off the area will support what you are trying to accomplish, in restoring the creek to its natural habitat. | Mar 21, 2013 12:13 PM |
| 73 | Any of the options would work. I am sure you have studies on this sort of thing but it seems like if you try and restrict the area from people (which would be better for the habitat value) it will only encourage curious folks to vandalize the area. If left open to the public it may not actually attract that many users. If left open to the public I wonder if you can use some sort of nice fencing design to keep folks away from the creek and the shoreline -like at Madrona Park. | Mar 19, 2013 10:45 AM |
| 74 | I strongly support the Open Access option as a continuation of the trail system that heads up Dead Horse Canyon along Taylor Creek. - A high percentage of Upper Rainer Beach residents routinely walk or jog the neighborhood, and it would be very nice to be able to walk down to the lake shore - The neighborhood residents are vigilant and don't hesitate to call the police regarding suspicious activity - With no parking at the site, only one way in/out, and a vigilant community, I don't believe that the small site is likely to become attractive to drug dealers/users (Dead Horse Canyon is far more attractive) - Having green space next to the property increases the value more than having neighbors walk by would decrease it. | Mar 14, 2013 8:19 PM |
| 75 | I do not feel that I would be happy with a lot of strangers entering into a narrow area bordering upon my home. The loitering, increased activity and noise associated with unsupervised gatherings would be very intrusive. However, I'm all for improving Taylor Creek salmon habitat. I, also, feel that even with a | Mar 14, 2013 9:52 AM |

Q3. Do you have any other comments you would like to share with us?

viewing stand, that some provision needs to be made warning drivers to be on the lookout for pedestrians.

This page left blank intentionally

Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project: Preliminary Public Access Option Evaluation

Public Review Draft: 6/10/2013

This document contains the preliminary results of the public access option evaluation for the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project. This analysis applies the proposed evaluation criteria to five public access options, which were developed in March and vetted with the local community in April of 2013. Additional descriptions of the public access options and the option analysis process can be found on the project website at: www.seattle.gov/util/taylorcreek.

Preliminary Evaluation Results

This analysis was conducted by an Interdepartmental Team from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks), Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), and the Seattle Police Department (SPD). The team qualitatively discussed the benefits and the potential drawbacks and challenges that each access option presents, relative to the proposed evaluation criteria (Table 1). The discussion also highlighted design elements or actions that may be able to mitigate for or limit specific risks and challenges. The following sections contain the preliminary results, organized by criterion.

Table 1. *Proposed evaluation criteria used in the preliminary analysis of public access options.*

Evaluation criteria	How does each public access option affect the following considerations?
1. Habitat Improvements¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ability to improve fish and wildlife habitat
2. City Cost, Operations and Maintenance²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Design and construction costs ▪ Staff time, costs and safety related to operations and maintenance
3. City Safety and Liability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City liability for the site ▪ Ability to enforce rules at the site
4. Community Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to the lake shoreline ▪ Connectivity between public open spaces ▪ Environmental justice and service equity ▪ Educational and stewardship opportunities
5. Potential Neighborhood Impacts³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Crime related to property damage, theft or personal injury ▪ Nuisance behavior ▪ Property values/rental property changes ▪ Neighborhood character and privacy ▪ Impacts to neighboring businesses
6. Traffic Safety and Mobility³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cars, pedestrians, and bicyclists ▪ Traffic and pedestrian hazards accessing/along the private drive ▪ Parking

¹ This criterion was originally titled “Project Goals”; however, it was determined that public access would not affect the City’s ability to replace the Taylor Creek culvert at Rainier Ave S and would only have an effect on fish and wildlife habitat improvements. Therefore, this criterion was re-named to more accurately reflect the condition being evaluated.

² Design and construction costs associated with the public access options were added to the City Operation and Maintenance criterion.

³ Many of these concerns were noted during early outreach, particularly with neighbors close to the project site.

Habitat Improvements

This criterion evaluates how each option affects the ability to improve fish and wildlife habitat (Table 2). The considerations discussed for this criterion include:

Reduced area for stream and surrounding habitat improvements

Paths and viewpoints take up space in the project footprint that could be used for the stream, stream floodplain, and plantings that provide shade and habitat for land-based wildlife.

Vegetation and plantings

Generally, urban spaces with public access are designed to facilitate visibility, based upon Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles. If public access to the site is provided, vegetation would be installed to provide sightlines through the site (e.g., open views between three and six feet off the ground). To create these conditions, the types and numbers of plants are carefully considered and designed. Fewer plants overall would be expected on the site with more open public access.

Habitat disturbance

As more people access the site, there will be increased disturbance to fish and wildlife, as well as impacts to habitat in and around the stream and shoreline. Dogs may also cause damage to habitat, especially if they enter the stream and lake while salmon are present (e.g., during spawning, egg incubation, and/or early life rearing). Although there is a potential for people to damage habitat, there are instances within Seattle parks where salmon and people interact successfully and respectfully, such as at Carkeek Park. Design elements can be incorporated to reduce human impacts, including establishing designated areas where people can observe the stream. This would direct foot traffic to specific areas and limit possible habitat damage.

Table 2. Habitat Improvement evaluation: How each public access option affects potential habitat benefits.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Habitat area available	Slight decrease for maintenance path.	Footprint for viewpoint structure will reduce habitat space, likely largest reduction among all the options.	Slight decrease for maintenance/pedestrian path, will need to address ADA requirements as appropriate.	Slight decrease for maintenance/pedestrian path, will need to address ADA requirements as appropriate.	Slight decrease for maintenance/pedestrian path, will need to address ADA requirements as appropriate.
Vegetation	Vegetation can be planted to maximize habitat benefits.	Plant type and location may need to accommodate views to stream and lake.	Vegetation can be planted primarily to maximize habitat benefits, with some small modifications to facilitate visiting groups.	Plant type and location will need to accommodate sightlines, using CPTED principles, in addition to habitat benefits.	Plant type and location will need to accommodate sightlines, using CPTED principles, in addition to habitat benefits.
Habitat disturbance	Maintenance staff only on site, producing little disturbance.	Visitors limited to viewpoint only; maintenance staff only on site producing little disturbance.	Periodic disturbance when groups on site; will need to focus activities into specific areas through design.	Periodic disturbance when site is open; will need to focus activities into specific areas through design.	Most frequent disturbance; will need to focus activities into specific areas through design.
Criterion Summary	Habitat benefits can be maximized.	Some reduction in habitat benefits due to reduced area from viewpoint and modified plantings for views.	Slight reduction in habitat benefits from occasional disturbance.	Some reduction in habitat benefits from frequent visitors and modified plant type and locations.	Some reduction in habitat benefits from frequent visitors and modified plant type and locations.
Design concepts to maximize habitat value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully design plantings for habitat, visual connections, and sightlines. Direct visitors to specific areas of the site to minimize/focus habitat disturbance. 				

City Costs, Operations, and Maintenance

This criterion evaluates how each option affects the City's costs to design and build the project, as well as the City's ability to operate and maintain (O&M) the site (Table 3). The considerations discussed for this criterion include:

Costs for design, permitting and construction

Each public access option has the ability to affect design, permitting, and construction costs and feasibility. All project elements include fences on east/west sides of the property and a maintenance and/or pedestrian path. Cost increases can be due to additional pathways, structures, and/or complicated design elements.

Site maintenance and monitoring

This includes staff time for the care of plants, clearing culvert debris, removal of trash and illegally dumped items, and repair to paths, fences, and other structures. The site will also have some level of monitoring to ensure that it is being used and respected appropriately. Options with little or no access will have fewer staff time requirements since sightlines and structures will not need to be maintained and there will be little trash to clean up. The No Access and Limited Access options also reduce the chance for invasive plant introductions, reducing maintenance needs. Under all options, fences will need to be maintained.

It is assumed that more access will create greater opportunities for community stewardship of the site, helping to offset maintenance costs. The community benefits of stewardship are further discussed under the "Community Amenities" section on page 6.

Providing access

Two public access options, Limited Access and Scheduled Access, would require a gate that would need to be opened and closed for visitors. Limited Access would require that the gate be opened at specific days/times. Scheduled access would be more onerous for city staff as there would need to be coordination in advance of the scheduled visits, as well as a staff person present at the time of the scheduled event to allow access for the site visit. In addition to challenges for city staff, scheduled access could result in creating more barriers and/or limitations to our historically underserved populations due to language and schedule capacity of individuals or families seeking to use the area.

Maintenance crew safety

The crews maintaining the site sometimes encounter conditions that can pose a safety risk. Safety risks can be related to physical conditions of a site (e.g. steep slopes, high stream flows) as well as human behaviors and interactions. The Interdepartmental Team did not anticipate differences in crew safety among the public access options.

Table 3. City Cost, Operations, and Maintenance evaluation: How each public access option affects the City’s costs to design, construct, operate and maintain the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration project and site.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Project Costs	Slight cost increase for fence on Rainier Ave side of site.	Increased cost for elevated structure; possible increase in permit requirements.	Slight cost increase for fence/gate on Rainier Ave side of site.	Slight cost increases for fence/gate on Rainier Ave side of site and to maintain sightlines/focus visitor use.	Slight cost increase for designs to maintain sightlines/focus visitor use.
Site maintenance /monitoring	Minimal staff time requirement: ensure fence in good condition, minimal plant care. Little stewardship opportunity to offset costs.	Modest staff time requirement: ensure viewpoint/ fence in good condition, prune vegetation for views.	Minimal staff time: ensure fence/gate in good condition, minimal plant care.	Moderate staff time: ensure fence/gate in good condition, prune vegetation for sightlines. Greater stewardship opportunity to offset costs.	Moderate staff time: ensure fence in good condition, prune vegetation for sightlines. Greater stewardship opportunity to offset costs.
Providing access	No additional staff time needed.	No additional staff time needed.	Staff time needed to schedule visitors and open gate.	Staff time needed to open gate at regularly scheduled times.	No additional staff time needed.
Criterion Summary	Minimal cost increases for gate. Little opportunity for offset costs with stewardship.	Small cost increase to design/build viewpoint. Modest staff requirements for maintenance.	Minimal cost increase for fence/gate. Moderate staff requirements for providing access.	Minimal cost increase for gate and view/use designs. Moderate staff requirements for maintenance and providing access.	Minimal cost increase for access design. Moderate staff maintenance requirements. Greatest opportunity to offset costs with stewardship.
Design concepts to reduce O&M needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use CPTED principles for plantings and maintaining sightlines. • Direct users to specific areas of the site to manage maintenance needs. 				

City Safety and Liability

Each public access option may present different levels of legal liability and public safety risk for the City of Seattle. SPU has not yet fully assessed such risks and ways to reduce potential liability. This assessment will be conducted independently.

Community Amenities

This criterion evaluates how each option affects community amenities near and adjacent to the lower Taylor Creek project site. The considerations discussed for this criterion include:

Access to the lake shoreline

The City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan has a Shoreline Access Goal to “provide for the optimum amount of public access—both physical and visual—to the shorelines of Seattle (LUG44).” Shoreline Access Policies in the Comprehensive Plan include:

- Increase opportunities for substantial numbers of people to enjoy the shorelines, by permitting non-water-dependent uses providing public access to locate in waterfront areas less suited for water-dependent uses, and by requiring public access on public property. (LUC235)
- Promote public enjoyment of the shorelines through public access standards by requiring improvements that are safe, well designed, and offer adequate access to the water. (LUC236)

Shoreline access in Seattle is generally provided through either park property or street ends that reach the water (see Figure 1 on page 18). The lower Taylor Creek project site is located 0.9 mile from Chinook Beach Park, the nearest shoreline park. This park is a shoreline restoration area that features a small beach with informal access to the water. Beer Sheva Park is located 1.25 miles north of the project site on the shore of Lake Washington and provides large grassy areas, a children's play area, picnic tables, restrooms, and a motorized boat launch. There are a number of street ends that exist close to the project site; however, no formal shoreline access has been developed at these sites.

Connectivity between public open spaces

The lower Taylor Creek site is across Rainier Ave S from Lakeridge Playfield and within walking distance of Deadhorse Canyon/Lakeridge Park (see Figure 2 on page 19). A trail network in Lakeridge Park allows people to walk from the upper Taylor Creek watershed (e.g., Skyway area) through the natural area park to 68th Ave S/Holyoke Way S, then down 68th Ave S to Rainier Ave S and the playfield. A publicly accessible lower Taylor Creek project site could connect with these spaces to enhance recreational enjoyment of the Taylor Creek corridor and connections with the natural environment, fellow neighbors, and other site users.

Environmental Justice and Service Equity (EJSE)

The City of Seattle is committed to providing equitable service delivery to all Seattle residents. SPU efforts are guided by the City of Seattle’s Race and Social Justice Initiative, which is aimed at ending race-based disparities in our community and achieving racial equity.

Southeast Seattle, within includes the project site, is more ethnically diverse than most areas of Seattle⁴. Based on 2010 census data, Seattle on average is about 70 percent white. In contrast, southeast Seattle

⁴ 2010 U.S. Census Bureau data, 98118 ZCTA

is not dominated by any one ethnic group. Those of Asian descent are 32 percent of the area's population, followed by non-Hispanic whites (28 percent), non-Hispanic blacks (25 percent), Hispanic (8 percent) and multi-racial (6 percent).

Previous assessments have indicated that southeast Seattle and the project area do not provide equal amount of open space and shoreline access per capita when compared to other portions of the City of Seattle. The Parks report *An Assessment of Gaps in Seattle's Open Space Network: the 2011 Gap Report Update*⁵ reported that gaps in single family usable open space occur at the very southwest and southeast portions of the city. An assessment by the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/Technical Advisory Group in 2012 found that the zip code 98178, which includes the project site, has fewer square feet of park area per resident, compared to other zip codes in the Seattle area.

The Scheduled or Limited access options could favor certain users over others. For example, a working family would not be able to use the site if it was only open on weekdays during normal office hours (which would be easiest for the City to staff). Alternatively, groups who do not speak English as a first language may be less inclined to schedule a visit. The degree of community benefit and inclusiveness will be dependent on when (days and times) and to whom (school groups, environmental groups, etc.) access is granted. Equitable access can also be affected by visitors' primary mode of transportation and the ease with which they can get to the project site.

If public access is allowed, the City will need to ensure that:

- Design provides access to all potential users. It does not prevent, reduce, or create barriers to historically underserved populations from amenities as a result of the project.
- Use of site is inclusive and provides equitable access to all users, whether a general visitor or coming to the site for educational or stewardship opportunities. The area should be designed and operated based on environmental, economic, and social benefits for the affected community.

Educational opportunities

The habitat restoration improvements provide an opportunity to educate school and community groups about urban streams and shorelines, the habitat they provide for fish and wildlife, and ways to protect and improve stream and shoreline environments. These opportunities will be dependent on if and how the site is accessed.

Stewardship opportunities

City areas, particularly natural areas, benefit from having local stewards engaged and active in maintaining the site. Stewards are able to care for native plants and remove invasive ones, which can help reduce City-staff time for maintenance work. Stewardship also helps connect people to a site and the community, as well as discourages nuisance activities.

Allowing access to the site would provide an opportunity for community-based groups to serve as stewards of the site, assisting the City with protection and maintenance of the habitat improvements.

⁵ <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/publications/GapReport.htm>

Table 4. Community Amenities evaluation: Expected community benefits from each of the public access options.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Shoreline access	No increase in shoreline access.	Visual access to shoreline only.	Increased shoreline access through scheduled opportunities only.	Increased shoreline access open to all during specified days/times.	Increased shoreline access open to all during daylight hours.
Connectivity between open spaces/parks	No increase in connectivity.	Connectivity between playfield and viewpoint only; no connection to shoreline.	Connectivity between playfield and shoreline; limited to scheduled groups only.	Connectivity between playfield and shoreline; limited to specified days/times.	Connectivity between playfield and shoreline.
Improving Environmental Justice and Service Equity	No increase in equitable access to open space/shoreline.	Slight increase in open space available.	Increased access to open space/shoreline; access may not be equally available.	Increased access to open space/shoreline; access may not be equally available.	Increased access to open space/shoreline; access more equitably available.
Educational opportunities	Groups not able to interact with site.	Groups able to use viewpoint; marginal opportunity given that users cannot closely observe/interact with the stream or shoreline.	Groups able to interact with site; use limited by need to schedule visit.	Groups able to interact with the site; use limited to days/times the site is open to the public.	Groups able to interact with the site during daylight hours; increased flexibility and opportunity.
Stewardship opportunities	Negligible stewardship opportunity due to a closed site. Least opportunity for stewards to interact with/feel ownership of the site.	Marginal stewardship opportunity given limited area accessible.	Marginal stewardship opportunity given need to schedule visit.	Moderate stewardship opportunity due to increased access during open hours.	Strong stewardship opportunity due to open access Largest opportunity for stewards to interact freely with/feel ownership of the site.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Criterion Summary	Very little community benefit.	Marginal community benefit as viewpoint and visual shoreline access is only amenity.	Fair community benefit from ability to access site; however, users may be discouraged by need to schedule a visit.	Moderate community benefit with regular open hours at the site.	Largest community benefit due to shoreline access, connectivity to nearby open space/parks, and easiest access for education and stewardship groups.
Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public access, if provided, will carefully consider providing equitable access to all Seattle residents. 				

DRAFT

Potential Neighborhood Impacts

A number of concerns have been voiced by nearby neighbors about how public access to the lower Taylor Creek site could affect their neighborhood and properties. Concerns include loud music, public drinking, fireworks, dumping/littering, drug use, property damage, camping, and trespassing.

To assess potential neighborhood impacts, the evaluation examined specific site conditions that are known to promote or discourage criminal and nuisance behaviors, compared those conditions to what is expected at the lower Taylor Creek site, and then predicted the likelihood of unwanted behaviors to occur. In some cases, design elements and other helpful actions were identified during the analysis to further discourage undesirable behaviors.

It is important to note that there is not a large body of data and relevant studies that exist on these topics. As such, reasonable judgments were made based on expertise from Parks, SPD, and using the applicable information that was found.

Likelihood of increased nuisance behaviors

Nuisance activities are unwanted behaviors that reduce the enjoyment of the space for others users, but are not considered major crimes (although they may be illegal). Examples of nuisance activities include loud music, unruly groups, fireworks, littering, and public drinking. Factors that contribute to nuisance activities include availability of parking and large open spaces such as grassy areas or pavement, and the presence of park facilities, such as bathrooms, swimming beaches, trail networks, and picnic sites. The presence of positive users of the space helps to deter nuisance activity⁶.

Likelihood of increased property damage

Property crime includes activities that damage private property, including vandalism, graffiti, burglaries, and car prowls. The incidence of these activities is related to foot access, perceived vigilance of the property owners and neighbors, seclusion and visibility. Vandalism, burglaries and car prowls are most likely to occur when there is seclusion and someone can go unnoticed because of visual barriers or absence of people. Conversely, graffiti is more prevalent in areas that offer up a “canvas” with high visibility so the work can be seen. As with nuisance activities, neighborhood awareness and community involvement can be a strong deterrent against potential property damage. In addition, some research has found that residential areas with adjacent green spaces tend to have fewer incidents of crime⁷.

There are a number of relatively easy practices that can strongly discourage vandalism, graffiti and burglaries, which include well placed lighting, open visibility, and good property upkeep that indicates that property owners and neighbors are observant. Car prowls can be further reduced by parking in garages or driveways close to homes.

Likelihood of other criminal behaviors

These behaviors include drug dealing and use, prostitution, urban camping, illegal dumping, and assault. The largest factor that promotes the occurrence of these activities is vehicle access and availability of parking, since people are able to carry out their actions with and/or in their cars. The proximity to city centers, seclusion, and the reputation of an area (e.g., being known as a place to purchase drugs) can

⁶ Wolf, K.L. 2010. Crime and Fear - A Literature Review. In: Green Cities: Good Health (www.greenhealth.washington.edu). College of the Environment, University of Washington.

⁷ Brunson, L. 1999. Resident Appropriation of Defensible Space in Public Housing: Implications for Safety and Community. Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL.

also encourage these behaviors. The number of people using a site will affect the likelihood of these activities, as well as other unwanted actions, occurring. Research has found that people committing crimes or engaged in other undesirable activities avoid well-used residential areas where their activities might be easily observed⁶.

The future site conditions are not predicted to increase the likelihood of criminal activities. The project site is not expected to provide parking or vehicle access under any public access option, which will deter many activities, including drug dealing and illegal dumping. Additionally, the project site is not located close to a city center nor does it have reputation as referenced above. The close proximity of homes to the lower Taylor Creek site and the existing views from the homes and the private drive entrance onto the site minimize opportunities for seclusion.

Changes to neighborhood character

A single-family, residential area surrounds the lower Taylor Creek site. Residents live on a quiet private drive that is somewhat isolated from the activity on Rainier Ave S. Depending on the level of public access, the project may introduce more people to the area – potentially affecting the character of the immediate area. It is likely that the adjacent neighbors will feel the greatest change as a result of public access than those that live further from the site. It is possible that public access at the site will increase customers for local businesses, notably the restaurant at the corner of Rainier Ave S/68th Ave S.

Under all public access options, four homes will be removed at the site and many native trees and shrubs will be planted. These changes will improve site aesthetics for adjacent properties, but will also alter view corridors of the lake (however, no complete view blockages are expected given the layout of the lots, homes and shoreline). Depending on the level of public access, the adjacent homes will have a different level of privacy than what exists now, given the removal of homes on the project site.

The extent of neighborhood changes will depend on the number of people that use the lower Taylor Creek project site and how that use is structured. The Interdepartmental Team discussed the type of use that would be expected if public access was allowed. Because the Taylor Creek site is rather small and would not contain park facilities (e.g., parking, bathrooms, picnic tables, docks, trail systems), the expected users are primarily nearby neighbors and community members coming from Deadhorse Canyon and Lakeridge Playfield. As a small natural area, the site is unlikely to be a regional draw or see the same number of users that developed shoreline parks receive, such as Seward Park. Design elements, including fencing, signage, and path entrances can direct visitors into appropriate areas and reduce the potential for adverse character changes in the neighborhood.

Likelihood of changes in property values and rent

Predicting changes in property values and rental costs is difficult and dependent on a variety of factors. If neighborhood concerns become a reality, it is reasonable to believe that property values could decrease if public access is allowed. However, local studies have found that public open spaces are often seen as valuable to the community and have a positive impact on property values (*Trust for Public Land, 2011*). SPU's recent experience selling a property adjacent to the Taylor Creek project site in March 2013 is consistent with the Trust for Public Land's conclusions, as the site sold above asking price within one week of listing. Additionally, potential buyers were provided full disclosure about the restoration project and the potential for public access at the site. Having a publically accessible open space nearby may also affect rental properties and their residents. Due to limited information about how property values or rental costs could be affected by the various public access options, no conclusions were made for this consideration.

Table 5. Potential Neighborhood Impacts evaluation: How each public access option affects the likelihood of potential neighborhood impacts near the project site given contributing factors and expected future site conditions.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Likelihood of nuisance behaviors	Negligible as site will not be accessible.	Low due to no parking on site; however viewpoint could provide area for groups to congregate.	Negligible as site will only be accessible to scheduled groups.	Low likelihood given no parking, open grass or concrete areas or facilities will be provided.	Low likelihood given no parking, open grass or concrete areas or facilities will be provided.
Likelihood of property crime	Negligible as site will not be accessible.	Low given modest increased visitors. Viewpoint may encourage visitors to wander the private drive while trying to access the shoreline (vs. options allowing shoreline access). Observant neighbors can significantly reduce the likelihood.	Negligible as site will have a low number of visitors at scheduled times only.	Moderate increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits. Observant neighbors/positive users paired with appropriate site design will reduce the likelihood.	Largest increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits. Observant neighbors/positive users paired with appropriate site design will reduce the likelihood.
Likelihood of other criminal behaviors	Slightly increased chance of urban camping with closed site/seclusion; however, site is not within close proximity to social services and adjacent neighbors regularly observe the site.	Small chance that people visiting viewpoint may try to access the rest of the project site. The site would offer some seclusion; however adjacent neighbors regularly observe the site.	Negligible given that the site would have occasional visitors.	Moderate increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits. Encouraging community-use will discourage bad behaviors.	Largest increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits. Encouraging community-use will discourage bad behaviors.
Changes to neighborhood character	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views.	Moderate change in aesthetics from viewpoint, plantings and altered lake views.	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views.	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views.	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Changes to neighborhood character (continued)	Negligible changes to neighborhood character expected.	Visitor use focused close to private drive, creating modest character change at the viewpoint.	Other possible changes modest due to scheduled visits only.	Increased visitors expected; users would be on the site and close to the stream/lake. Could have increased customers to local business. Site design should account for and address any expected changes.	Increased visitors expected; users would be on the site and close to the stream/lake. Could have increased customers to local business. Site design should account for and address any expected changes.
Criterion Summary	Little likelihood of neighborhood impacts.	Slightly increased likelihood; however, greater visibility given location of viewpoint close to private drive.	Little likelihood of neighborhood impacts. Most changes would be to aesthetics.	Increased likelihood of neighborhood impacts, simply based on increased visitors to site. Avoid/ minimize with design elements, community engagement, and vigilant observation. Greater chance of local business benefits.	Increased likelihood of neighborhood impacts, simply based on increased visitors to site. Avoid/ minimize with design elements, community engagement, and vigilant observation. Greater chance of local business benefits.
Design and social concepts to deter unwanted activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site design should account for/address expected changes as appropriate • If public access is allowed, activate spaces with positive users, such as stewards, neighbors, and educational organizations • Limit/avoid visual barriers and provide sightlines through the site • Limit/avoid solid, highly visible surfaces for graffiti • Maintain fencing and gates in good condition • Plantings should be designed to improve habitat conditions, while managing sightlines and lake view corridors • Fencing, signage, path entrances, and other features should be designed to positively influence neighborhood character <p>Encourage vigilance of the neighborhood – both nearby residents and site visitors</p>				

Traffic Safety and Mobility

A number of concerns have been raised by members of the community regarding the current street configuration near the project site. This criterion considers pedestrians, bicyclists, and people in vehicles traveling on Rainier Ave S and associated side streets, and possible changes as a result of the different public access options (see Figure 3 on page 20). There is also a King County Metro bus route along Rainier Ave S and a bus stop located near the project site.

While options allowing public access could increase the number of people in the area, the existing condition of the site (e.g., natural area, no parking or park facilities, small size of space) are expected to primarily attract the nearby community who can walk to the site. Visitors outside of the immediate community who are traveling by car will likely account for only a small number of the overall users.

Pedestrian and Bike Safety

The Seattle Department of Transportation studied southeast Seattle in their Southeast Transportation Study (2008)⁸. The report found that Rainier Ave S and Martin Luther King Blvd, as principal arterials, “act as obstacles to pedestrian travel across the study area in the east and west directions because of the lack of safe crossing points and the lack of signalized intersections.” The study also examined the intersection of Rainier Ave S and Cornell Ave S specifically, and found:

“The skewed angle of the intersection of Rainier Ave S and Cornell Ave S creates challenges for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Although Rainier from Ithaca Pl S to the south city limit was converted from a 4-lane to 3-lane cross-section with bicycle lanes, the intersection still does not function optimally. Because of the skewed angle, southbound drivers on Rainier turning right onto Cornell can make the turn without slowing, creating an uninviting environment for bicyclists in the bicycle lane and for pedestrians walking along Rainier and crossing Cornell.

A parking/bus zone lane on the west/south side of Rainier and the large gravel area on the south side of Cornell add to the conflicts for all users. Cornell is also a Metro transit route.

The marked pedestrian crossing on the north/west approach of Rainier conflicted with motorists turning left from Cornell and has been relocated to the south/east approach and median islands and curb ramps have been installed.

The pedestrian crossing of Cornell is nearly 150 feet long, partially through undefined gravel parking area; it is not handicapped accessible. The gravel parking area serves the adjacent Lakeridge Park and its baseball field. Motorists backing out of parking spaces conflict with fast-turning traffic from Rainier to Cornell. In addition, the gravel poses problems as it spills out onto the bicycle lane.”

SDOT has identified actions to improve safety at the intersection of Cornell Ave S and Rainier Ave S that includes adding sidewalks and making improvements to the crosswalk, curb area, and parking. If public access is provided at SPU’s project site, it is likely to increase the number of people crossing Rainier Ave S to some degree.

Community members have also expressed concern about pedestrians walking on 68th Ave S. The roadway does not have a sidewalk or trail and people frequently walk on the road between Rainier Ave

⁸ <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/docs/SETsfinadec08.pdf>

S and the trailhead for Lakeridge Park. Working from SDOT's Pedestrian Master Plan, SPU will work with SDOT to investigate potential pedestrian improvements during project design.

Rainier Ave S is also used by bicyclists. If public access is allowed, it is possible that cyclists may visit the site, although the site is only expected to attract a modest number of visitors, mostly from the immediate area. SDOT's draft Bicycle Master Plan calls for a cycle track on Rainier Ave S, which is a bike lane with some form of separation from vehicles.

Regardless of the public access chosen, SPU will work with SDOT during project design to coordinate project and transportation-related improvements.

Vehicle Traffic

Rainier Ave S is a principal north-south arterial. The roadway has three lanes, with one travel lane in each direction and a center turn lane that facilitates cross traffic from 68th Ave S, Cornell Ave S and the private drive. If public access is selected for the project site, there is a potential for increased vehicle trips into the area. However, the small size of the site and the lack of park facilities are not likely to draw significant numbers of people, and the bulk of visitors are expected to walk from the immediate area.

Parking

Due to limited space at the site, parking will not be provided. There is existing public parking at Lakeridge Playfield and along Rainier Ave S. Given the modest number of people expected to visit the site if public access is allowed, and that expected from the immediate area, it is likely that existing parking will be sufficient for the modest increase in demand.

Private Drive Traffic

SPU's property is accessed via a private drive that connects to Rainier Ave S. The entrance is located on SPU's property and forks to provide access to homes east and west of the project site. SPU's property contains an easement, as do other properties along the drive, to secure access in perpetuity.

Residents on the private drive are concerned about vehicle access their homes and the safety of residents and children on the private drive. Vehicle access could be affected by additional vehicles or increased numbers of pedestrians, which can delay or impede cars moving through the area. Preliminary designs do not include parking or vehicle access at the project site, which should mostly prevent any potential impacts to access and pedestrian safety on the private drive. However, people may enter the private drive unaware that there is no parking, vehicle access, or public access (if that option is chosen). Regardless of which public access option is chosen, signs or other measures should be developed and implemented to deter parking and vehicle access onto the private drive. Also, if public access is chosen, websites related to the project site should specify that there is no parking or vehicle access available on site. Pedestrian access, if allowed, should be designed to reduce any potential for creating traffic congestion on the private drive. For all options, maintenance vehicles will need to access the site occasionally.

The entrance to the private drive will need to be discussed during project design. Currently there is little room for more than one vehicle at a time entering and exiting onto Rainier Ave S. Maintenance vehicles may also need a larger corridor to access the site than what currently exists. The new culvert is likely to run underneath the driveway entrance, which may provide an opportunity improve the drive entrance.

Table 6. Traffic safety and mobility evaluation: Expected traffic safety and mobility changes under the different public access options.

	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Pedestrians and bicycles	Negligible change from current conditions.	Slight increase in pedestrians/ bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th.	Slight increase in pedestrians /bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th.	Some increase in pedestrians /bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th.	Some increase in pedestrians /bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th.
Vehicle traffic	Negligible change from current conditions.	Slight increase from visitors to the viewpoint.	Minimal increase from scheduled visitors driving to site.	Some increase simply from increased visitation, a small portion of visitors are expected to drive.	Some increase simply from increased visitation, a small portion of visitors are expected to drive.
Parking impacts	Negligible change from current conditions.	Slight increase in parking demand possible; current supply appears adequate.	Slight increase in parking demand possible during scheduled visits; current supply appears adequate.	Some increase in parking demand possible; current supply appears adequate. Coordinate with SDOT during project design.	Some increase in parking demand possible; current supply appears adequate. Coordinate with SDOT during project design.
Private drive	Negligible change from current conditions.	Viewpoint will be adjacent to private drive; visitors will be in close proximity to private drive.	Slight increase in pedestrians crossing the drive during scheduled visits. Expedite crossings of the drive through design features.	Some increase in pedestrians crossing the drive during open hours. Expedite crossings of the drive through design features.	Increased pedestrians crossing the drive during daylight hours. Expedite crossings of the drive through design features.
Criterion Summary	Little change from existing conditions. Fewer opportunities to make improvements for traffic-related safety concerns.	Small increase in visitors to the area that may slightly affect traffic conditions. Avoid/minimize with design/SDOT coordination.	Small increase in visitors to the area that may slightly affect traffic conditions. Avoid/minimize with design/SDOT coordination.	Some increase in visitors to the area that may affect traffic conditions. Avoid/minimize with design/SDOT coordination.	Increased visitors to the area that may affect traffic conditions. Avoid/minimize with design/SDOT coordination.

Design concepts to improve safety and mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regardless of the access option chosen, coordinate with SDOT on their plans for pedestrian, bike, and vehicle improvements in the project area.• During project design, consider additional pedestrian, bicycle, or parking improvements as needed to address possible public access concerns.• If public access is selected, provide guidance to visitors on the City's website regarding parking conditions and ways to responsibly visit the project site.• During design, work with nearby neighbors to discuss design elements of the private drive entry, possible signage, and other features that can facilitate their access.
---	---

DRAFT

Figures

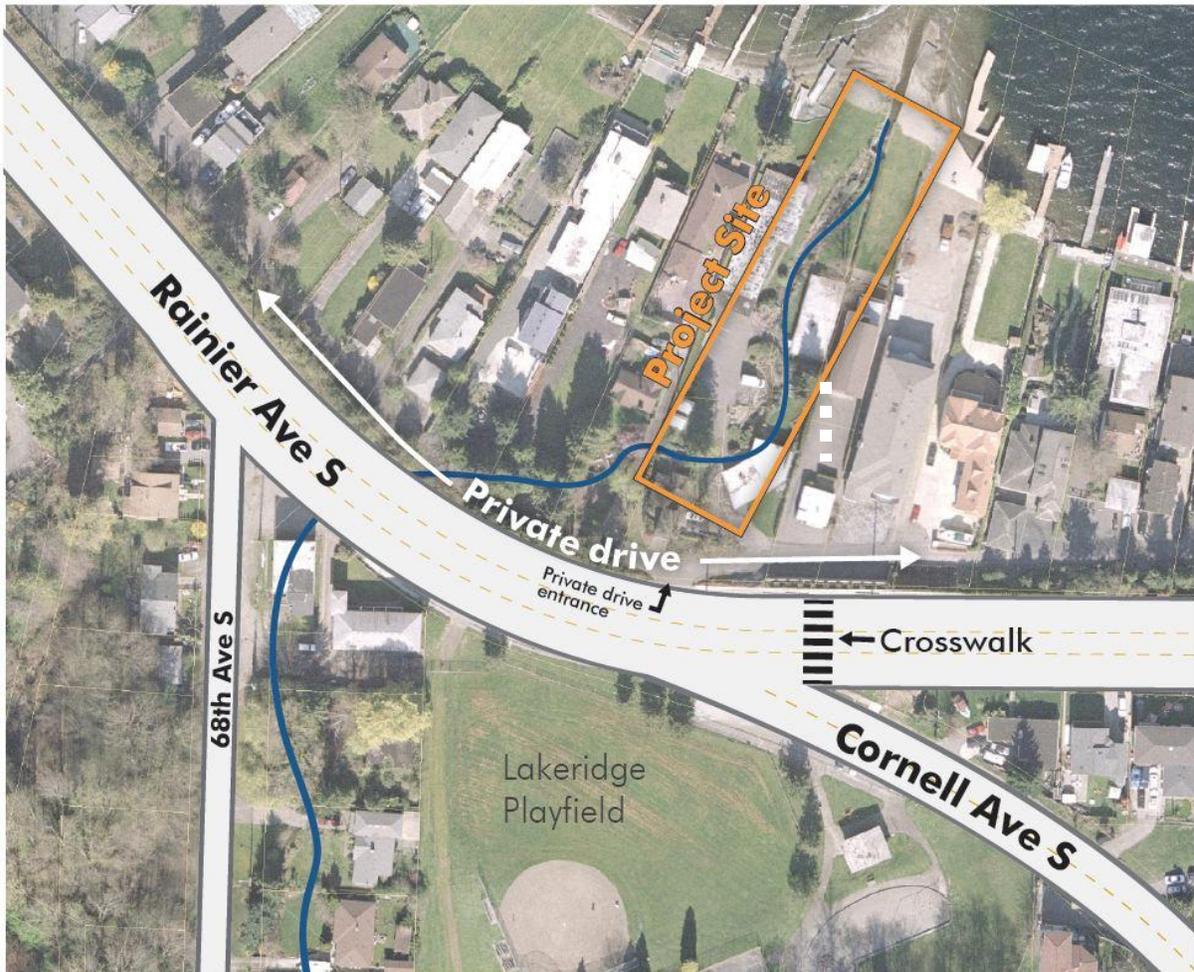
Figure 1. Lake shoreline access opportunities in the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration project vicinity.



Figure 2. Map of existing open spaces, natural areas, and parks near lower Taylor Creek that could potentially connect recreational users in the area to the new open space and Lake Washington shoreline.



Figure 3. Map of the major arterials, side streets, private drive entrance, and the existing crosswalk near the project site. The project site outlined represents the general location of the habitat improvements downstream of Rainier Ave S only and does not depict accurate property lines.



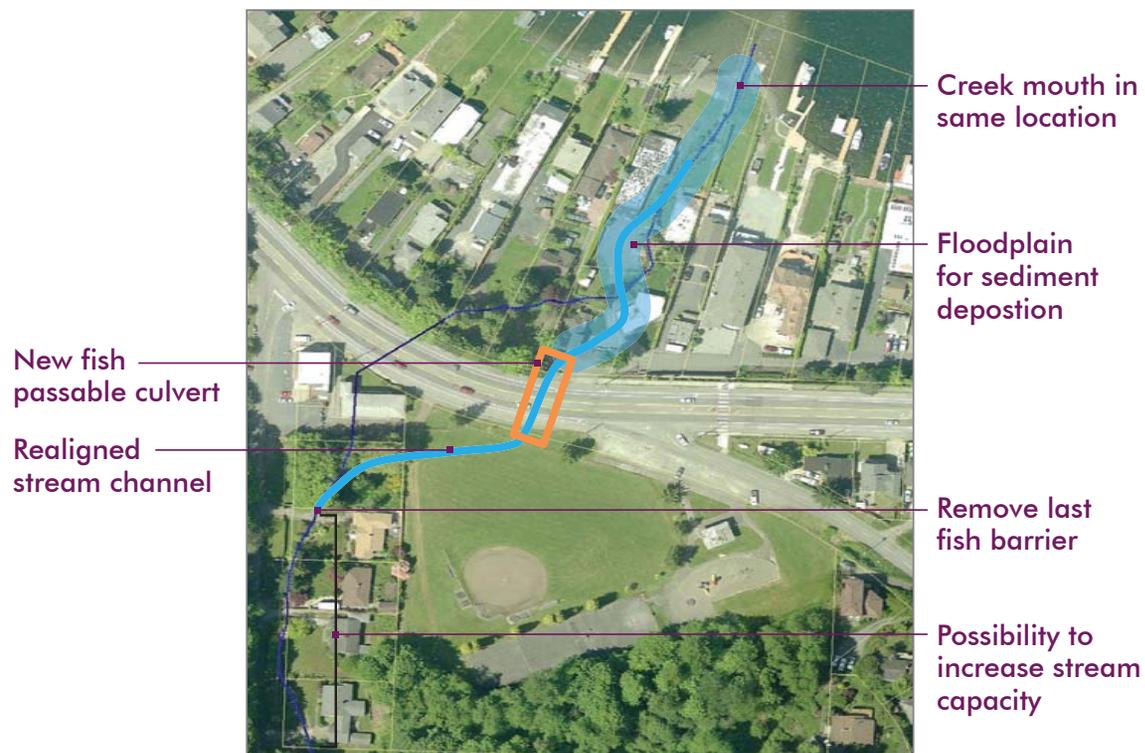


Project Background

The Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project is an opportunity for SPU, in coordination with Parks, to:

- ◆ Replace the public culvert under Rainier Avenue S to ensure public safety and mobility.
- ◆ Remove the last fish passage barriers between Lake Washington and Deadhorse Canyon.
- ◆ Improve the stream channel and surrounding habitat, particularly for Chinook salmon.
- ◆ Address storm-related flooding and sediment deposition at the mouth of the creek, as able.

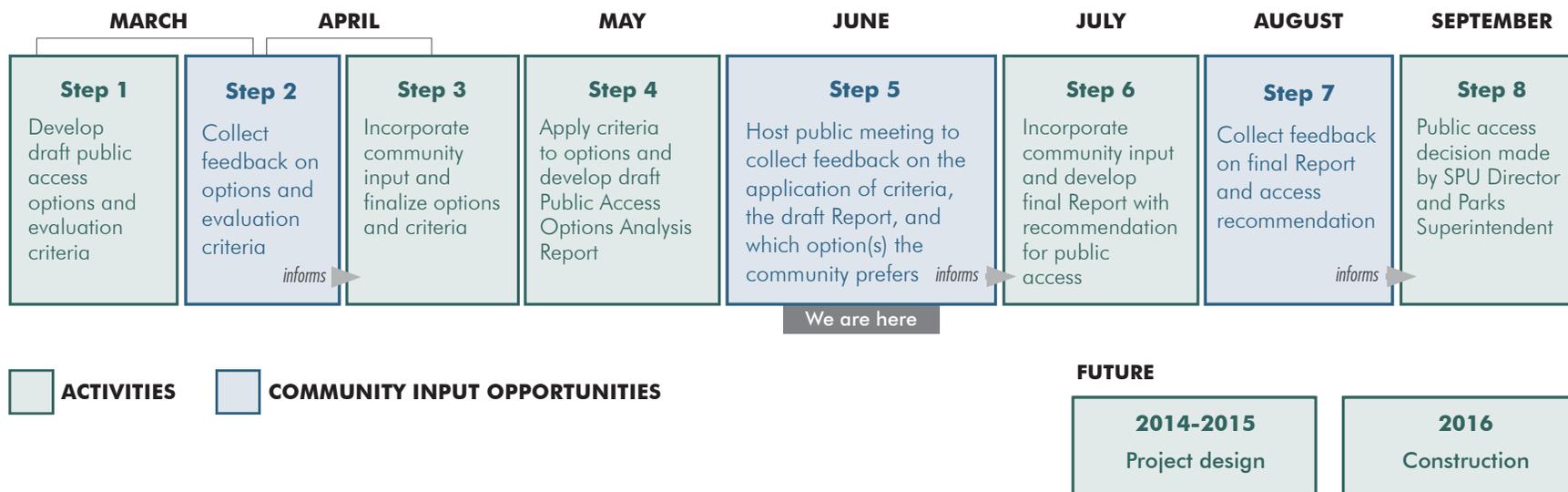
Preliminary Design Concepts





Public Access Options Analysis

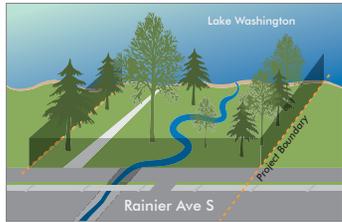
- ◆ Process to evaluate different public access options at lower Taylor Creek
- ◆ Uses evaluation criteria that represent City and community interests and concerns
- ◆ Solicits community input



LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

Public Access Options

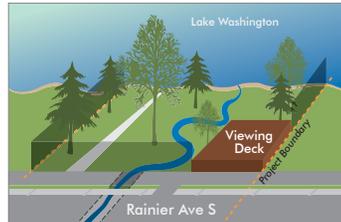
No Public Access



DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Enclosed by permanent fencing on all sides of the site
- ◆ Only City employees can access the site and shoreline
- ◆ Maintenance trail for care of vegetation and site monitoring

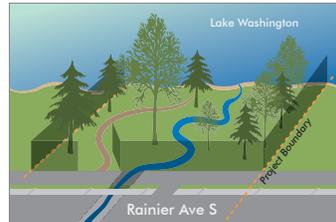
Viewpoint



DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Enclosed by permanent fencing on all sides of the site
- ◆ Public viewing platform overlooking the site
- ◆ Only City employees can access the site and shoreline
- ◆ Maintenance trail for care of vegetation and site monitoring

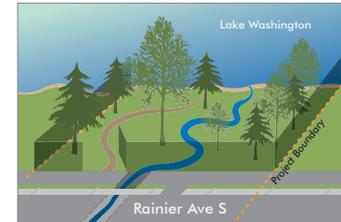
Scheduled Access



DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Gated fencing at the entrance to the site
- ◆ Access for community and/or school groups for education purposes
- ◆ Access managed by City employees opening/closing gate by appointment only
- ◆ Pedestrian pathway to access the site and shoreline

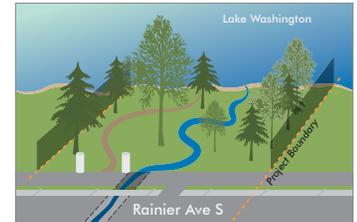
Limited Access



DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Gated fencing at the entrance to the site
- ◆ Public access during specified days & times only
- ◆ Access managed by City employees opening/closing gate at specified days & times
- ◆ Pedestrian pathway to access the site and shoreline

Open Access



DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Bollards at the entrance to the site to restrict vehicle access
- ◆ Public access during daytime hours
- ◆ Pedestrian pathway to access the site and shoreline

Drawings above are intended to help visualize each public access option. They are not to scale and do not accurately represent how the area will look after the project is complete.



Habitat Improvement Evaluation

How each public access option affects potential habitat benefits

CONSIDERATIONS	ACCESS OPTIONS				
	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Habitat area available	Slight decrease for maintenance path	Footprint for viewpoint structure will reduce habitat space; likely largest reduction among all options	Slight decrease for maintenance/pedestrian path; ADA requirements to be addressed as appropriate	Slight decrease for maintenance/pedestrian path; ADA requirements to be addressed as appropriate	Slight decrease for maintenance/ pedestrian path; ADA requirements to be addressed as appropriate
Vegetation	Vegetation can be planted to maximize habitat benefits	Plant type and location may need to accommodate views to stream and lake	Vegetation planted primarily to maximize habitat benefits; small modifications to facilitate visiting groups	Plant type and location to accommodate sightlines (using CPTED principles*), in addition to habitat benefits	Plant type and location to accommodate sightlines (using CPTED principles*), in addition to habitat benefits
Habitat disturbance	Maintenance staff only on site producing little disturbance	Visitors limited to viewpoint only; maintenance staff only on site producing little disturbance	Periodic disturbance when groups on site; will need to focus groups into specific areas through design	Periodic disturbance when site is open to public; will need to focus users into specific areas through design	Most frequent disturbance; Will need to focus users into specific areas through design
Criterion Summary	Habitat benefits can be maximized	Some reduction in habitat benefits due to reduced area from viewpoint and modified plantings for views	Slight reduction in habitat benefits from occasional disturbance	Some reduction in habitat benefits from frequent visitors and modified plant type and locations	Some reduction in habitat benefits from frequent visitors and modified plant type and locations

Design concepts to maximize habitat benefits:

- ◆ Carefully design plantings for habitat, visual connections, and sightlines
- ◆ Direct visitors to specific areas of the site to minimize/focus habitat disturbance

*CPTED: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design is a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design.



City Cost, Operations, and Maintenance Evaluation

How each public access option affects the City's costs to design, construct, operate and maintain the project and site

CONSIDERATIONS	ACCESS OPTIONS				
	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Project costs	Slight cost increase for fence on Rainer Ave side of site	Increased cost for elevated structure; possible increase in permit requirements	Slight cost increase for fence/gate on Rainer Ave side of site	Slight cost increase for fence/gate on Rainer Ave side of site and to maintain sightlines/ focus visitor use	Slight cost increase for design to maintain sight lines/focus visitor use
Site maintenance & monitoring	Minimal staff time requirement: ensure fence in good condition, minimal plant care needed Little stewardship opportunity to offset costs	Modest staff time requirement: ensure viewpoint/fence in good condition, prune vegetation for views	Minimal staff time: ensure fence/gate in good condition, minimal plant care	Moderate staff time: ensure fence/gate in good condition, prune vegetation for sightlines Greater stewardship opportunity to offset costs	Moderate staff time: ensure fence in good condition, prune vegetation for sightlines Greater stewardship opportunity to offset costs
Providing access	No additional staff time needed	No additional staff time needed	Staff time to schedule visitors and open gate	Staff time to open gate at regularly scheduled times	No additional staff time needed
Criterion Summary	Minimal cost increases for fence Little opportunity to offset costs with stewardship	Small cost increase to design/build viewpoint Modest staff requirements for maintenance	Minimal cost increase for fence/gate Moderate staff requirements for providing access	Minimal cost increase for fence/gate and maintaining sightlines Moderate staff requirements for maintenance and providing access	Minimal cost increase for access design Moderate staff requirements for maintenance Greatest opportunity to offset costs with stewardship

Design concepts to reduce operations and maintenance needs:

- ◆ Use CPTED principles for plantings and maintaining sightlines
- ◆ Direct visitors to specific areas of the site to manage maintenance needs

*CPTED: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design is a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design.



Community Amenities Evaluation

How each public access option affects the community benefits given expected future site conditions

CONSIDERATIONS	ACCESS OPTIONS				
	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Shoreline access	No increase in shoreline access	Visual access to shoreline only	Increased shoreline access through scheduled opportunities only	Increased shoreline access open to all during specified days/times	Increased shoreline access open to all during daylight hours
Connectivity between open spaces/parks	No increase in connectivity	Connectivity between playfield and viewpoint only; no connection to shoreline	Connectivity between playfield and shoreline; limited to scheduled groups only	Connectivity between playfield and shoreline; limited to specified days/times	Connectivity between playfield and shoreline
Improving Environmental Justice and Service Equity	No increase in equitable access to open space/shoreline	Slight increase in open space available	Increased access to open space/shoreline; access may not be equally available	Increased access to open space/shoreline; access may not be equally available	Increased access to open space/shoreline; access more equitably available
Educational opportunities	Groups not able to interact with site	Groups able to use viewpoint; marginal opportunity given that users cannot closely observe/interact with the stream or shoreline	Groups able to interact with site; use limited by need to schedule visit	Groups able to interact with the site; use limited to days/times the site is open to the public	Groups able to interact with the site during daylight hours; increased flexibility/opportunity
Stewardship opportunities	Negligible stewardship opportunity due to a closed site Least opportunity for stewards to interact with/feel ownership of the site	Marginal stewardship opportunity given limited area accessible	Marginal stewardship opportunity given need to schedule visit	Moderate stewardship opportunity due to increased access during open hours	Strong stewardship opportunity due to open access Large opportunity for stewards to interact freely with/feel ownership of the site
Criterion Summary	Very little community benefit	Marginal community benefit as viewpoint and visual shoreline access is only amenity	Fair community benefit from ability to access site; however, users may be discouraged by need to schedule a visit	Moderate community benefit with regular open hours at the site	Large community benefit due to shoreline access, connectivity to nearby open space/parks, and easiest access for education and stewardship groups

Design concept:

- ◆ Public access, if provided, will carefully consider providing equitable access to all Seattle residents



LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

June 2013

Potential Neighborhood Impacts Evaluation

How each public access option affects the likelihood of potential neighborhood impacts near the project site given contributing factors and expected future site conditions

CONSIDERATIONS	ACCESS OPTIONS				
	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Likelihood of nuisance behaviors	Negligible as site will not be accessible	Low due to no parking on site; however viewpoint could provide area for groups to congregate	Negligible as site will only be accessible to scheduled groups	Low likelihood given no parking, open grass or concrete areas or facilities will be provided	Low likelihood given no parking, open grass or concrete areas or facilities will be provided
Likelihood of property crime	Negligible as site will not be accessible	Low given modest increase in visitors to the site Viewpoint may encourage visitors to wander the private drive while trying to access the shoreline (compared with options allowing shoreline access) Observant neighbors can significantly reduce the likelihood	Negligible as site will have a low number of visitors at scheduled times only	Moderate increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits Observant neighbors/positive users paired with appropriate site design will reduce the likelihood	Largest increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits Observant neighbors/positive users paired with appropriate site design will reduce the likelihood
Likelihood of other criminal behaviors	Slightly increased chance of urban camping with closed site due to opportunity for seclusion; however, site is not within close proximity to social services and adjacent neighbors provide regular observation of the site	Small chance that people visiting viewpoint may try to access the rest of the project site The site would offer some seclusion; however adjacent neighbors provide regular observation of the site	Negligible given that the site would have occasional visitors	Moderate increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits Observant neighbors/positive users paired with appropriate site design will reduce likelihood	Largest increase in visitors could slightly increase or decrease the likelihood depending who visits Observant neighbors/positive users paired with appropriate site design will reduce likelihood



Potential Neighborhood Impacts Evaluation (cont.)

CONSIDERATIONS	ACCESS OPTIONS				
	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Changes to neighborhood character	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views Negligible changes to neighborhood character expected	Moderate change in aesthetics from viewpoint, plantings and altered lake views Visitor use focused close to private drive, creating modest character change at the viewpoint	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views Other possible changes modest due to scheduled visits only	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views Increased visitors expected; users would be on the site and close to the stream/lake Could increase customers to local business	Moderate change in aesthetics from plantings and altered lake views Increased visitors expected; users would be on the site and close to the stream/lake Could increase customers to local business
Criterion Summary	Little likelihood of neighborhood impacts	Slightly increased likelihood; however, greater visibility given location of viewpoint close to private drive	Little likelihood of neighborhood impacts; most changes to aesthetics	Increased likelihood simply based on increased visitors to site; greater chance of local business benefits	Increased likelihood simply based on increased visitors to site; greater chance of local business benefits

Design and social concepts to deter unwanted activities:

- ◆ Site design should account for/address expected changes as appropriate
- ◆ If public access is allowed, activate space with positive users, such as neighbors, and education and stewardship organizations
- ◆ Limit/avoid visual barriers and provide sightlines through the site
- ◆ Limit/avoid solid, highly visible surfaces for graffiti
- ◆ Maintain fencing and gates in good condition
- ◆ Plantings designed to improve habitat conditions, while maintaining sightlines and lake view corridors
- ◆ Fencing, signage, path entrances, and other features should be designed to positively influence neighborhood character
- ◆ Encourage vigilance of the neighborhood – both nearby residents and site visitors



Traffic Safety and Mobility Evaluation

How each public access option affects traffic safety and mobility given expected future site conditions

CONSIDERATIONS	ACCESS OPTIONS				
	No Access	Viewpoint	Scheduled Access	Limited Access	Open Access
Pedestrians and bicycles	Negligible change from current conditions	Slight increase in pedestrians/bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th	Slight increase in pedestrians/bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th	Some increase in pedestrians/bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th	Some increase in pedestrians/bicyclists crossing Rainier and on 68th
Vehicle traffic	Negligible change from current conditions	Slight increase from visitors to the viewpoint	Minimal increase from scheduled visitors driving to site	Some increase simply from increased visitation; small portion of visitors expected to drive	Some increase simply from increased visitation; small portion of visitors expected to drive
Parking impacts	Negligible change from current conditions	Slight increase in parking demand possible; current supply appears adequate	Slight increase in parking demand possible during scheduled visits; current supply appears adequate	Some increase in parking demand possible; current supply appears adequate	Some increase in parking demand possible; current supply appears adequate
Private drive	Negligible change from current conditions	Viewpoint will be adjacent to private drive; visitors will be in close proximity to private drive	Slight increase in pedestrians crossing private drive during scheduled visits	Some increase in pedestrians crossing private drive during open hours	Increased pedestrians crossing private drive during daylight hours
Criterion Summary	Little change from existing conditions Fewer opportunities to make traffic-related safety improvements	Small increase in visitors to the area may slightly affect existing traffic conditions	Small increase in visitors to the area may slightly affect existing traffic conditions	Some increase in visitors to the area may affect existing traffic conditions	Increased visitors to the area may affect existing traffic conditions

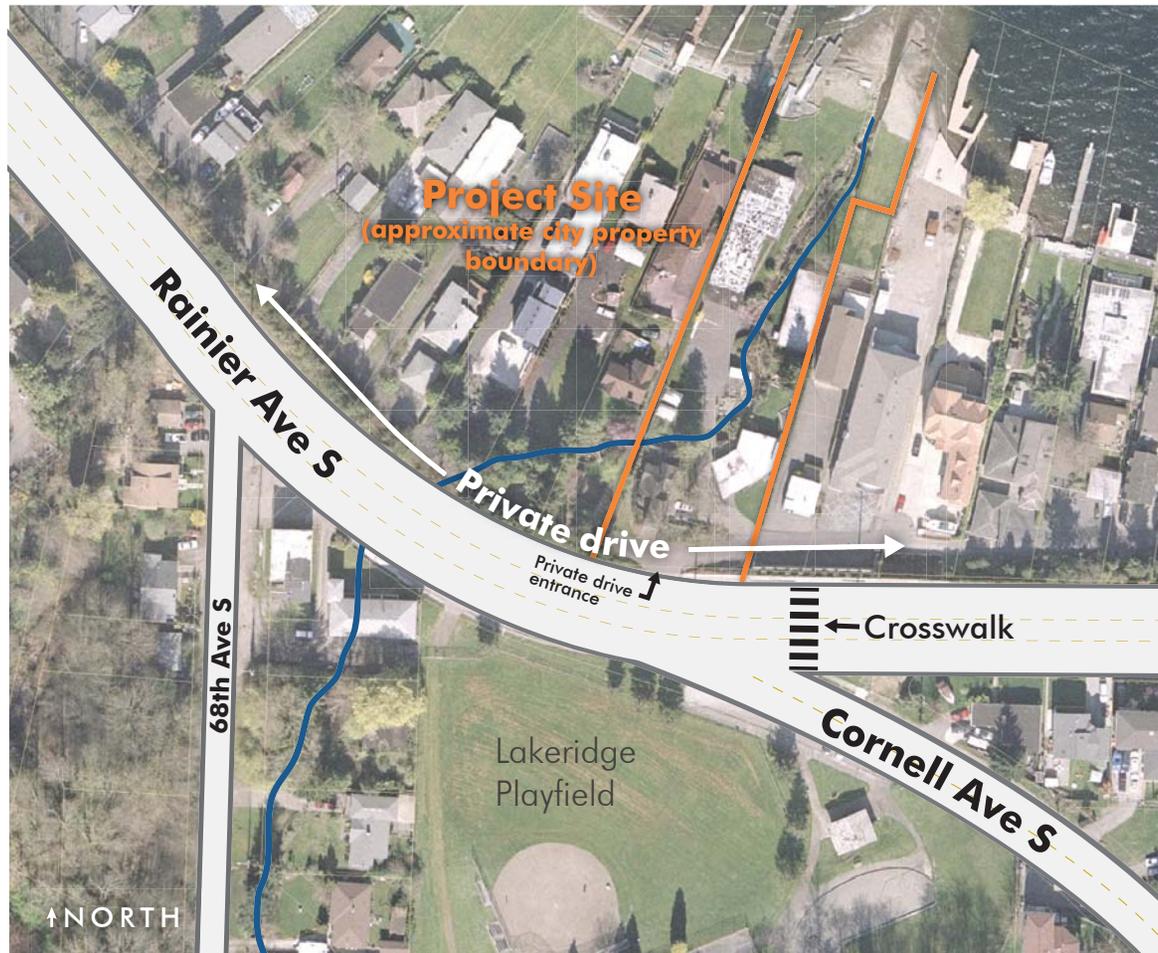
Design concepts to improve traffic safety and mobility:

- ◆ Regardless of the access option chosen, coordinate with SDOT during the design phase to understand their plans for pedestrian, bike, and vehicle improvements near project area
- ◆ During design, consider additional pedestrian, bicycle, or parking improvements as needed to address possible public access concerns
- ◆ If public access is selected, consider design features to expedite crossings of the private drive
- ◆ If public access is selected, provide guidance to visitors on the City's website regarding parking conditions and ways to responsibly visit the site
- ◆ During design, work with nearby neighbors to discuss design elements of the private drive entry, possible signage, and other features that can facilitate their access



Existing Mobility Conditions

Map of major arterials, side streets, private drive entrance, and the existing crosswalk near the project site





LOWER TAYLOR CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

Comment on the Preliminary Evaluation of Public Access Options

The City of Seattle has applied proposed evaluation criteria to public access options for the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project. Please provide input **before June 28** on the evaluation and your favorite access option. Comments can be submitted in one of three ways:

- Complete this form and drop it in the comment box at the June 13th Open House.
- Complete this form online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/TaylorCreekSurvey2
- Mail the complete form to Julie Crittenden, Seattle Public Utilities, P.O. Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

To review the draft Preliminary Public Access Option Evaluation visit www.seattle.gov/util/taylorcreek.

1. For the criteria individually, do you agree with the benefits and drawbacks identified?

Habitat Improvements:

- I agree with the evaluation I don't agree with the evaluation

If you don't agree, what did we miss?

City Cost, Operations and Maintenance:

- I agree with the evaluation I don't agree with the evaluation

If you don't agree, what did we miss?

Community Amenities:

- I agree with the evaluation I don't agree with the evaluation

If you don't agree, what did we miss?

Potential Neighborhood Impacts:

- I agree with the evaluation I don't agree with the evaluation

If you don't agree, what did we miss?

Traffic Safety and Mobility:

- I agree with the evaluation I don't agree with the evaluation

If you don't agree, what did we miss?

2. What is your preferred public access option?

- No Access Scheduled Access Open Access
 Viewpoint Limited Access No preference

Why?

3. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

4. Tell us about yourself.

- I live near lower Taylor Creek I live near lower Taylor Creek
 I live on the private drive
 I work near lower Taylor Creek
 I live in the broader Rainier Beach/Skyway Community
 Other (please specify) _____

If you would like to be added to our project contact list, please provide your contact information below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email (for project email updates): _____

Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project

June 13, 2013 Open House Summary

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks) hosted an open house about the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project on Thursday, June 13, 2013 at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Hall from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Approximately 50 members of the public attended the open house.

Project background

Taylor Creek is located near the south end of Lake Washington in southeast Seattle. The creek originates in unincorporated King County and passes through a natural area ravine known as Dead Horse Canyon, residential yards, and a culvert under Rainier Ave S before discharging into Lake Washington. The current condition of the culvert under Rainier Ave S, along with other barriers in the creek, prevents fish passage upstream to good quality habitat in Deadhorse Canyon. The lower stream is also confined in a small channel that produces poor habitat conditions.

During SPU's early community engagement for the project, concerns were raised about this previously private, residential property becoming a publicly accessible space. To fully discuss and address those concerns, SPU and Parks are engaging the community and other city departments in a public access options analysis process. This process is intended to provide the community with an opportunity to share their thought on if and how lower Taylor Creek should be accessed in the future. Input received will inform a final Public Access Analysis Report and the City's final determination about public access at the site once restoration work is complete.

Open house purpose

As part of the public access options analysis process, SPU and Parks hosted an open house to collect feedback from the community on the application of the evaluation criteria on the public access options for the lower Taylor Creek project area, as documented in the draft Public Access Analysis Report (report). Attendees were also asked for their preferred public access option(s).

Prior to the open house, the draft report was released for public comment beginning June 10. Comments could be submitted in one of three ways – in-person at the June 13 open house or June 18 drop-in session, via a mail-returned comment form or online. The open house was held in conjunction with Community Input Opportunity #2.

Meeting materials covered the following information:

- Project purpose and need
- Preliminary design concepts
- Community involvement process and schedule
- Preliminary evaluations, including benefits and drawbacks, for each of the five access options based on a set of five criteria
- How to provide feedback on the preliminary evaluations

Notifications

Notification of the open house occurred in the following ways:

- Open house announcement listed on the project website three weeks prior to the event.
- Email sent to the project listserv on May 24; email reminder sent on June 10.
- Postcard mailed to approximately 1,800 businesses and residents near the project area two weeks prior to the event.

Materials

- The following materials were available to members of the public as they entered the meeting:
 - Inclusion sign-in sheet as part of the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative
 - Meeting room guide
 - Copies of the draft Public Access Analysis Report
 - Comment card
 - Project fact sheet
- Display boards were placed around the room presenting detailed information on the following topics:
 - **Station 1:** Welcome, Sign-in and Project Overview
 - Project background and preliminary design concepts
 - Public Access Options Analysis (process and schedule)
 - Public access options
 - **Station 2:** Habitat Improvements
 - Habitat improvement evaluation
 - **Station 3:** City Cost, Operations, and Maintenance
 - City cost, operations, and maintenance evaluation
 - **Station 4:** Community Amenities
 - Community amenities evaluation
 - **Station 5:** Potential Neighborhood Impacts
 - Potential neighborhood impacts evaluation
 - **Station 6:** Traffic Safety and Mobility
 - Traffic safety and mobility evaluation
 - Existing mobility conditions

Meeting format and agenda

The public meeting was staged in an open house format to allow the public an opportunity to walk through each station at their leisure, ask questions of the project team members and learn more about the project. No formal presentation or question/answer session was provided. Attendees could submit their hard-copy comments in-person at the open house, or via returned-mail or online between June 10 and June 28.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Doors opened, guests arrived and signed-in, viewed boards, talked with the project team one-on-one and submitted written comments



Attendees visiting stations around the room at the community open house on June 13.

Attendance

Public

- Approximately 50 members of the public attended the open house.

Project team

Seattle Public Utilities

- Julie Crittenden, Project Manager
- Tim Croll, Solid Waste Division Director
- Susan Stoltzfus, Communications and Public Involvement
- Deb Heiden, Operations and Maintenance
- Rick Johnson, Engineering
- Maythia Airhart, Environmental Justice and Social Equity
- Steve Hamai, Corporate Asset Management

Seattle Parks and Recreation

- David Graves, Planning

Seattle Department of Transportation

- Art Brochet, Communications

Osborn Consulting

- Tarelle Osborn, Project Design

EnviroIssues

- Chelsey Funis, Community Outreach
- Amy Meyer, Community Outreach

Overview of community feedback

Comments heard by the project team and collected via comment form during the open house (approximately 28 forms collected) were primarily in support of opening the site to the community. Many attendees see the project as an opportunity to increase the value of their community specifically through stewardship and education opportunities. In addition, attendees noted community benefits, social equity and potential cost savings related to volunteer maintenance as key priorities for Open Access.

Attendees' concerns associated with public access generally related to traffic and pedestrian safety on Rainier Ave S, as well as where Rainier Ave S meets 68th Ave S, Cornell Ave S and the private drive. Attendees recommended further analysis of existing mobility issues to identify solutions that will facilitate safe use of the site.

To view a summary of all comments received during Community Input Opportunity #2 visit www.seattle.gov/util/TaylorCreek.

Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project

June 18, 2013 Drop-In Session Summary

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) hosted a neighborhood drop-in session about the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at the project site from 5:30 –7:30 p.m. Approximately 16 neighbors attended the drop-in session.

Project background

Taylor Creek is located near the south end of Lake Washington in southeast Seattle. The creek originates in unincorporated King County and passes through a natural area ravine known as Dead Horse Canyon, residential yards, and a culvert under Rainier Ave S before discharging into Lake Washington. The current condition of the culvert under Rainier Ave S, along with other barriers in the creek, prevents fish passage upstream to good quality habitat in Deadhorse Canyon. The lower stream is also confined in a small channel that produces poor habitat conditions.

During SPU's early community engagement for the project, concerns were raised about this previously private, residential property becoming a publicly accessible space. To fully discuss and address those concerns, SPU and Parks are engaging the community and other city departments in a public access options analysis process. This process is intended to provide the community with an opportunity to share their thought on if and how lower Taylor Creek should be accessed in the future. Input received will inform a final Public Access Analysis Report and the City's final determination about public access at the site once restoration work is complete.

Drop-in session purpose

As part of the public access options analysis process, SPU held a neighborhood drop-in session to share the results of the preliminary evaluation of the five public access options for lower Taylor Creek. At the event, neighbors were encouraged to share their thoughts about the application of the evaluation criteria on the public access options, as documented in the draft Public Access Analysis Report (report). Attendees were also asked for their preferred public access option(s).

Prior to the drop-in session, the draft report was released for public comment beginning June 10. Comments could be submitted in one of three ways – in-person at the June 13 open house or June 18 drop-in session, via a mail-returned comment form or online. The drop-in session was held in conjunction with Community Input Opportunity #2.

Meeting materials covered the following information:

- Project purpose and need
- Preliminary design concepts
- Community involvement process and schedule
- Preliminary evaluations, including benefits and drawbacks, for each of the five access options based on a set of five criteria
- How to provide feedback on the preliminary evaluations

Notifications

Notification of the drop-in session occurred in the following ways:

- Postcard mailed to residents adjacent to the project site 10 days in advance of the meeting.
- Email sent to residents adjacent to the project site on June 4.

Materials

- The following materials were available to attendees:
 - Inclusion sign-in sheet as part of the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative
 - Copies of the draft Public Access Analysis Report
 - Comment card
- Display boards were set-up on-site presenting detailed information on the following topics:
 - **Project Overview**
 - Project background and preliminary design concepts
 - Public Access Options Analysis (process and schedule)
 - Public access options
 - **Habitat Improvements**
 - Habitat improvement evaluation
 - **City Operations, and Maintenance**
 - City cost, operations, and maintenance evaluation
 - **Community Amenities**
 - Community amenities evaluation
 - **Potential Neighborhood Impacts**
 - Potential neighborhood impacts evaluation
 - **Traffic Safety and Mobility**
 - Traffic safety and mobility evaluation
 - Existing mobility conditions

Format and agenda

The drop-in session was an opportunity for nearby neighbors to stop by the project site, talk with members of the project team and a representative from the Seattle Police Department, and share their thoughts on the preliminary evaluations in an informal setting. No formal presentation or question/answer session was provided. Attendees could submit their hard-copy comments in-person at the drop-in session, or via returned-mail or online between June 10 and June 28.

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Neighbors stopped by the project site, signed-in, viewed boards, talked with project team one-on-one and submitted written comments

Attendance

Public

- Approximately 16 neighbors attended the drop-in session.

Project team

Seattle Public Utilities

- Julie Crittenden, Project Manager
- Tim Croll, Solid Waste Division Director

Seattle Police Department

- Mark Solomon, Crime Prevention

Overview of community feedback

Comments heard by the project team and collected via comment form during the drop-in session were primarily related to dissatisfaction that negative changes associated with a publicly accessible site have not been adequately studied, and that the report does not accurately represent concerns that have

been raised by neighbors throughout the process. In addition, neighbors' key concerns with public access were generally related to:

- Ingress and egress on the private drive.
- Pedestrian safety getting to and from the site across Rainier Ave S and the need for a traffic study before the final public access decision is made.
- Visitors trying to park illegally at the site and how the City plans to manage or control parking issues.
- Decreased property values related to increased crime and nuisance activities.

Many attendees also felt that public access is inconsistent with salmon habitat; if salmon are the main purpose of the project then humans should not be allowed to interact with the site.

While some attendees were in support of Scheduled Access, the majority of attendees preferred No Access.

A list of comments collected during the drop-in session can be found at the end of this summary on page 4. To view a summary of all comments received during Community Input Opportunity #2 visit www.seattle.gov/util/TaylorCreek.

**Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project: Comments heard during the neighborhood drop-in session
6/18/2013**

- The report did not represent concerns. Earlier comments have not been heard/acknowledged.
- The drop-in session should have a public meeting format – with a presentation and minutes.
- They are against this waste of taxpayer dollars.
- Parking will be a problem – parking can get to be a big problem on Rainier Ave S currently – people parking close to private drive, hard to get in/out, plus bicycles.
- Public access is inconsistent with salmon habitat – if salmon are the reason to do the project, report does not say anything about them. Salmon should be the priority – public access is incompatible with it. Human and animal waste will affect fish habitat. Seward Park has a lot of animal waste and this site will as well.
- How will ADA access be provided given the topography and grade changes in the area? Providing access will be difficult.
- The police reports are not an accurate measure. People don't call 911 to report and police are slow to respond/do not respond when they are called.
- Where is the data to support the conclusions? The analysis is shallow.
- Report is biased to Open Access. It is not objective and it is misleading.
- How will people get onto the site given site conditions and easement?
- The city is a subordinate user for the easement and rights are subordinate to others. Have you assessed where it is legal to use the easement for public access?
- Did the assessment of crime include the break-in at [address] in the last few weeks?
- This site will serve as an extension of Lakeridge Park – it will fill up first because people will prefer to have a picnic near the water. After project site is full, then people will use the playfield. There will be a lot of picnics at the site.
- There will be boom boxes and fires. It will be noisy.
- There are road safety problems – there is speeding, which is dangerous for kids and adults to cross Rainier Ave S, bicycles on the road are a hazard, and there is a blind corner.
- Getting in/out of the private drive is dangerous as it is.
- Cedar tree on shoreline has bald eagles – there are Federal Regulations about construction activities near such trees and the tree has protections.
- Property values will decrease; public sites are an attractive nuisance.
- There are concerns about how the City can make a decision about public access before completing a traffic study. What is vehicle use of Rainier now? How would we expect it to change given expected visitors? How will that affect parking and ingress/egress on private drive?
- People will drive down to the site even without parking. How will the City restrict that? Simply putting up the Land Use sign last year was enough to generate more people on private drive.
- The No Access option would be the least costly.
- It will be difficult to maintain access for homeowners during construction, which is a key concern for neighbors.

- Visitors will want to bring their canoes and kayaks down to the shoreline. People will try to park near the site to offload their boats.
- Beer Sheva Park is not that far away.
- Open Access will hinder emergency response.
- The City should sell the property to the neighbors. However, the City can retain an easement to maintain the creek for fish.
- Prefer to see natural landscaping at the site.



Preliminary Evaluation of Public Access Options – Survey Results

Overview

As part of the lower Taylor Creek public access options analysis process, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks) completed an initial survey in March 2013 to collect feedback from the community on the proposed public access options at lower Taylor Creek and the preliminary criteria that would be used to evaluate those options.

Following this initial community input opportunity, SPU and the City applied the evaluation criteria to the five public access options that were carried forward in the analysis. In early June, the preliminary evaluation was released to the public. An open house and a neighborhood drop-in session for nearby neighbors were held shortly after on June 13 and 18, respectively. The purpose of this second community input opportunity was to solicit constructive input on the evaluation and preferred public access options.

Participants could submit comments in one of three ways – in-person at the June 13 open house or June 18 drop-in session, via a mail-returned comment form, or online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/TaylorCreekSurvey2. Comments were collected between June 10 and June 28. Survey results are summarized below, along with summary responses to categories of comments and a conclusion. See Appendix A (page 14) or visit www.seattle.gov/util/taylorcreek for a complete list of responses.

Results at-a-glance

- 91 people participated in the survey (2 via email, 31 via comment form, 58 via SurveyMonkey)
- Criteria evaluations:
 - 86% of respondents agreed with the evaluation of *Habitat Improvements*
 - 90% agreed with the evaluation of *City Cost, Operations and Maintenance*
 - 86% agreed with the evaluation of *Community Amenities*
 - 80% agreed with the evaluation of *Potential Neighborhood Impacts*
 - 79% agreed with the evaluation of *Traffic Safety and Mobility*
- Public access options:
 - 10.5% preferred *No Access*
 - 4.7% preferred *Viewpoint*
 - 8.1% preferred *Scheduled Access*
 - 5.8% preferred *Limited Access*
 - **69.8% preferred *Open Access***
 - 1.2% preferred none of the above
- Location of survey participants:
 - 35.3% live near lower Taylor Creek
 - 1.2% work near lower Taylor Creek
 - 8.2% live on the private drive
 - **42.4% live in the broader Rainier Beach/Skyway Community**
 - 12.9% other
- Key themes:
 - Many participants felt stewardship and education opportunities related to Open Access at lower Taylor Creek were underrepresented in the evaluation.

- Participants were generally in disagreement about whether the existing availability of open space and access to Lake Washington was sufficient.
- The majority of those preferring Closed Access referenced public safety, maintenance costs, protecting salmon, and/or investing these funds in existing open spaces as key priorities.
- The majority of those preferring Open Access referenced community benefits, educational and stewardship opportunities, social equity, and potential cost savings related to volunteer maintenance as key priorities.
- Several participants raised concerns about traffic and pedestrian safety getting to and from the site and the need for additional traffic assessment to improve overall safety of this section of Rainier Ave S where it meets with 68th Ave S, Cornell Ave S and the private drive.

Summary of Survey Results

1. For the criteria individually, do you agree with the benefits and drawbacks identified?

Habitat Improvements

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation	86.1%	62
I don't agree with the evaluation	13.9%	10
answered question:		72

Select comments on this criteria evaluation (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The evaluation doesn't include the potential for community stewardship. For example, there is a thriving group of community volunteers working to clean up Dead Horse Canyon, including the removal of invasive plants and the restoration of trails.</i> • <i>Open access does not mean frequent visitors! I live near Kubota Gardens and am amazed how few people visit this park which is a major amenity.</i> • <i>Not sure if Open Access will really support return of the salmon - feel if that is goal, some sort of limitations must be imposed i.e., dogs, boaters launching, etc.</i> • <i>The evaluation sounds fair but doesn't really address whether the change in plant types will have reduce the quality of the habitat to a degree that is of concern. It's not specific enough to really say whether access will be a problem.</i> • <i>No access! This would be detrimental to salmon.</i> • <i>I had no idea the pros and cons of such a project so the evaluation was really an education.</i>

City Cost, Operations and Maintenance

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation	90.0%	63
I disagree with the evaluation	10.0%	7
answered question:		70

Select comments on this criteria evaluation (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)

- *No access. Save tax payers money.*
- *I especially agree with the opportunity to offset costs with stewardship - i.e. garden club and other community organizations.*
- *The benefit of volunteer help, such as that which has occurred upstream with Friends of Deadhorse Canyon should be included in the cost analysis, reducing cost when the lower creek is open to public access.*
- *Is policing the place during off hours or closures included?*
- *I'd prefer the city spend money on the parks we have and not on one with limited access.*
- *Any access will dramatically increase cost of garbage collection and maintenance. Law enforcement cost will increase due to increased calls. Stewardship? Seriously? Who? Very few in this vicinity care for their own property let alone public space. Drug dealers, vagrants and trouble seeking youth are not stewards.*
- *I disagree that limited access will decrease the likelihood of invasive plants entering the area. It will have very little impact.*
- *I find spending \$2 million for land acquisition for this project as a total waste of money. The ongoing cost analysis is immaterial. I assume this was funded from the 2000 parks levy. If I knew we would spend this much for property acquisition for a stream restoration, I would have voted against it.*
- *People in the area will take pride in this unique area and help to keep it in great condition.*

Community Amenities

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation	85.7%	60
I don't agree with the evaluation	14.3%	10
answered question:		70

Select comments on this criteria evaluation (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)

- Although the street ends may provide water access in other parts of Seattle, very few if any of the street ends listed on Figure 1 on page 18 provide any water access. Please verify if the street ends provide access and/or otherwise modify the evaluation. The material is misleading as is. For Figure 2 on page 19, it would be helpful to enlarge the "Potential Shoreline Access" area to encompass the broader envisioned project area (e.g., to include the proposed SDOT improvement areas) - or perhaps to include a "primary" and "secondary" project area with related descriptions. Otherwise, this section is very good. Thank you for including connectivity between open spaces/park, improving environmental justice and service equity, and both educational and stewardship opportunities in the evaluation!
- Walking down 68th Ave S is currently a poor connection between the upper watershed and Lakeridge Park. IslandWood's Homewaters program is working with SPU to adapt a stream education program to Taylor Creek. Access to the creek is currently very limited and is a big limiting factor on the number of students we can bring to the site. Lower creek access would be a HUGE benefit to providing educational opportunities in the area. Your study does not mention the additional stewardship advantages to the creek that go beyond immediate maintenance of the site. Many of the students that have learned about their local creek are engaged by the return of salmon to it, and are aware of how their choices impact the creek, will make different choices that will have a longer term positive impact.
- Access to the lake exists today. Rainier beach and Coulon are accessible and funds should be used to upgrade and improve those sites not create yet another small poorly used or maintained site.
- Public awareness and education should be included and connected with the awareness that has come from the restoration of Deadhorse Canyon.

Potential Neighborhood Impacts

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation	80.0%	56
I don't agree with the evaluation	20.0%	14
answered question:		70

Select comments on this criteria evaluation (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)

- *Just tallying the number of people who are concerned about public access and those who want public access is not the best statistic. Look at these numbers in the context of where people live. Then you can have a clearer picture of representation and analyze responses as representative of 1) residents on the lake 2) residents in walking distance to the lake.*
- *Feasibility of policing illegal activity - loud music, unleashed dogs, drugs, parking on private property, lewd conduct not addressed - no statistics / data provided.*
- *The "no" access option should include the possibility of unpermitted use. Children and homeless people will still find ways into the site and lack of access increases the potential for homeless people taking up residence (urban camping). I also think you understate the property value benefit from providing lake access.*
- *If this space is valued, and well used, it may reduce the frequency of illicit activity. If no access was the program then you would only have illicit activity.*
- *I'm sure that some residences will think the neighborhood will be ruined. I think parking & road use should be addressed up front.*
- *Your evaluation does not strongly enough reflect actual experience of current lakeside residents who experience vandalism, prowling, noise and intimidation by transients. Stopping Bus service along this section of rainier has improved our quality of life. Add another secluded public space and disruptive activity will increase.*
- *The evaluation extensively covers potential adverse impacts. However, some of the impacts or effects from the project on the neighborhood will be positive. For example, access to the water for more citizens will be a positive effect from the project. The neighborhood will be enhanced by the proposed project. It would be helpful to add a section that addresses this in the evaluation.*

Traffic Safety and Mobility

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation	79.4%	54
I don't agree with the evaluation	20.6%	14
answered question:		68

Select comments on this criteria evaluation (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)

- *Would it be possible to put a walkway to the park under Rainier Avenue? It could be part of the culvert or separate.*
- *No room to park, so would need a walkway and traffic light to safely cross Rainier Ave. if open for viewing.*
- *Your evaluation does not reflect strongly enough the traffic risk to pedestrians and motorists. I didn't see any mention of a light controlled crosswalk. Limited sight and high speed traffic make access to the lake from the ball field high risk even with a traffic light. Based on the numerous times vehicles have mowed over the traffic islands, traffic moves too fast and is disrespectful of the turn lane. Attracting children to cross Rainier to access the lake at this location is irresponsible. The proposed site is on a private lane, sheltered from Rainier Ave. The property's seclusion attracts the illegal element as well.*
- *I am happy to hear that SDOT is considering improvements on 68th Ave. There is no sidewalk and cars tend to travel the road at high speeds. Improved access (trail or sidewalk) is important for safety in the area, especially for groups of children.*
- *Traffic aside from the Lower Taylor Creek project is a major concern. How do we encourage a walkable neighborhood next to a major arterial in and out of the city? Personally, I'd make pedestrian safety the highest priority of the project.*
- *Thus far it appears that there are early stage plans to control ingress & egress. However, as the project advances, we would appreciate more concrete information.*
- *Access to private drive currently unsafe. Adding pedestrian traffic will further impact ingress/egress of private drive.*

2. What is your preferred public access option?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
No Access	10.5%	9
Viewpoint	4.7%	4
Scheduled Access	8.1%	7
Limited Access	5.8%	5
Open Access	69.8%	60
No Preference	1.2%	1
answered question:		86

Select comments on this survey question (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)

- *Great educational environmental opportunities for children/schools/community groups but also safeguards the habitat/potential wildlife here - not just fish but eagles etc...*
- *Needs to be a limit on what can be done there; how many people/what they are doing there/the time of day they are there.*
- *I believe that residents can have an improved neighborhood experience by having open access to Lake Washington. Having public access to such a beautiful natural resource is an asset that can improve lives and raise property values.*
- *There is very little access to Lake Washington anywhere south of Rainier Beach/Beer Sheva Park. If the impact is too much, access can later be curtailed or laws enforced to mitigate this.*
- *There's a lot of park area nearby and this one is primarily for the fish. By having a viewpoint it may cut down on the possible illegal uses of the lot and still maintain a safe place for the fish.*
- *Scheduled and Limited access could also work for educational programs, but I believe Open Access is the best choice for creating the long term connection between the community members and their stream that will result in increased stewardship.*
- *I think minimal or no access is best for habitat and fish restoration. I would propose No Access for a certain number of years and then construct the viewpoint but project cost may require construction up front.*
- *The Community Amenities section (and, in particular, the Environmental Justice and Service Equity elements - along with the educational opportunities and stewardship opportunities) make it clear that more access to the lake shoreline is not only a community asset but an environmental justice and service equity issue.*
- *Why? To allow any funds set aside for this site to be used to maintain existing parks. To reduce incidents of crime in our neighborhood. To remove this area as a dumping ground.*
- *It is a public resource and should be open to the public.*

3. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

Select Responses (see Appendix A for complete list of open-ended responses)

- *My priority would be plan that maximizes fish return to Dead Horse Canyon.*
- *This has been an impressive process that Seattle Utilities has undertaken. Thank you. Again, please interpret your survey by separating out those living directly on the lake and those living within walking distance. We know the bias exists and we should not hide it by lumping votes together.*
- *While we support public access to the lake, it needs to be in larger areas with regular service for maintenance. Parking and safety considerations need to be more seriously considered. Property owners will suffer if this land is accessible. We are abused by the public as it is today. This would make it worse.*
- *Low vegetation and maintenance. Must control traffic on Rainier to ensure safety of residents and guests. Would not be opposed to redoing entrance to neighbor to make it safer for ingress and egress.*
- *I live in one of the oldest houses near lower Taylor Creek. The house was built by the foreman of the Taylor Creek saw mill in 1909. My wife and I are in the process of restoring the house, including building a new foundation. The Taylor Creek restoration project represents an opportunity to strengthen community ties and provide a fresh foundation for community volunteers to further the goals of the project. Thank you for encouraging community input.*
- *I can't wait to take my kids to watch the salmon run up stream!*
- *The stream (Taylor Creek) will be more visible and therefore have more interest from people. We have lived in the area since 1961 and walk to Dead Horse Canyon and take relatives when visiting on the walk, The area is beautiful and one of the few places in Seattle without traffic noise. The opening of Taylor Creek will be wonderful.*
- *We're excited about the project and cannot wait for final plans & the work to commence.*
- *I have worked on several trail projects and neighbors concerns about safety, noise and other disruptions have been proven, even to the neighbors, to be unwarranted. I don't support exclusivity, a gated community, for the neighbors. I think an open access approach is the most affordable and sustainable. The landscaping design can assure the safety of the salmon.*

4. Tell us about yourself.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I live near lower Taylor Creek	35.3%	30
I work near lower Taylor Creek	1.2%	1
I live on the private drive	8.2%	7
I live in the broader Rainier Beach/Skyway area	42.4%	36
Other		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Near Deadhorse Canyon" (3) • "Bryn Mar" (1) • "Renton" (1) • "Lakeridge" (1) • "I do restoration work in Lakeridge Park" (1) • "Island Wood Homewaters program will be providing educational opportunities at Taylor Creek" (1) • "Walking distance" (3) 	12.9%	11
answered question:		85

Conclusion

Over 90 community members participated in the Preliminary Evaluation of Public Access Options survey, open from June 10 to June 28, 2013. Several participants expressed appreciation for SPU and Parks' efforts to involve the nearby community in this decision. Feedback from this survey will be used to further refine the Public Access Options Analysis Report and will assist the project team in developing a staff-level recommendation later this summer.

Criteria evaluation

In general, the majority of survey participants, over 80%, believed the evaluations presented were fair. The most agreed-upon evaluation was *City Cost, Operations, and Maintenance*, with about 91% of respondents in favor of the evaluation. The least supported evaluation was *Traffic Safety and Mobility*, with approximately 81% of respondents agreeing.

Options preference

- Approximately 70% of participants expressed a preference for Open Access at the site. The most commonly cited reasons in support of this access option were educational benefits, the potential for stewardship opportunities, the ability to offset maintenance costs, and the existing shortage of open spaces and access to Lake Washington in the neighborhood.
- Of those who preferred Scheduled, Viewpoint, or Limited access, the most commonly cited reasons were concerns over salmon habitat and the potential for salmon disturbance under Open Access. In addition, traffic/pedestrian safety concerns related to an increase in visitors on and near the private drive was a key factor in participants' support for more controlled access.
- Respondents in favor of No Access most commonly cited concerns about the potential for increased crime and nuisance activity in the neighborhood, cost to the City and taxpayers for operations and maintenance of an open site, negative impacts to salmon habitat, and traffic/pedestrian safety.

Response to Summary Comments

Survey results were reviewed and discussed by the project team. To address common questions and comments, responses are provided below. Comments are categorized into five different areas for response, though many comments addressed more than one comment category.

The comment categories include:

1. Salmon habitat
2. Operation and maintenance costs
3. Community amenities
4. Traffic and pedestrian safety
5. Project design

1. Salmon habitat

Comment	Response
<p>Salmon appears to be mentioned only twice in the entire evaluation. Since a major benefit to the project will be the potential to improve salmon habitat, it might be useful to make this point more pronounced.</p>	<p>Providing improved habitat to benefit salmon is a goal of the project. The Habitat Improvement evaluation criterion is based on salmon and their habitat needs, and there is some difference between public access options in terms of how access will affect overall habitat benefits. It is important to note that regardless of the public access option chosen, the project will substantially improve habitat and fish passage in lower Taylor Creek. The project will be designed to maximize habitat benefits, while balancing other design considerations (e.g., utility infrastructure, roadways). The final report provides additional recommendations for protecting salmon and their habitat if the site is open to the public, such as prohibiting dogs on-site, closing the site temporarily during spawning season, or installing fencing adjacent to the creek to prevent damage to in-water habitat.</p>

2. Operation and maintenance costs

Comment	Response
<p>I find spending \$2 million for land acquisition for this project a total waste of money. The ongoing cost analysis is immaterial. I assume this was funded from the 2000 parks levy. If I knew we would spend this much for property acquisition for a stream restoration, I would have voted against it.</p>	<p>The bulk of the property along lower Taylor Creek was purchased with Seattle Public Utility ratepayer funds as the result of a lawsuit settlement. The remaining land was purchased with support of a King Conservation District grant. Seattle Parks and Recreation funds were not used for acquisition.</p>
<p>Is policing the site during off-hours or closures included?</p>	<p>The City Costs, Operation and Maintenance section does not evaluate changes in police response to the project site or associated costs. The “Potential Neighborhood Impacts” section discusses nuisance and criminal concerns and the likelihood of those concerns becoming more/less prevalent given expected site conditions and users once the restoration project is built.</p>

3. Community amenities

Comment	Response
<p>No mention is made as to whether boat mooring, kayak launching, floating play toys, swimming, fishing and other type of shoreline activity will be allowed. This affects the impact on fish habitat and safe crossing on Rainier Avenue.</p>	<p>The intent of the project is to restore habitat for fish and wildlife in the area, as such, the site will be constructed and managed as a natural area.</p> <p>Boating facilities are not feasible given the shallow depth of the lake shoreline related to the stream delta and adverse impacts salmon habitat use and migration patterns. There will also be no swimming beach.</p> <p>Hand launching of boats will likely not be possible, given that there will be no parking or loading areas on the lake-side of Rainier Ave S and access may be difficult while carrying a kayak or canoe.</p> <p>Fishing is regulated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the City of Seattle does not have authority to control that activity. However, regulations are protective of salmon that we expect to use the project site and no fishing facilities are planned.</p> <p>Further details will be developed during project design.</p>
<p>Neighborhood pride and educational outreach is under represented in the evaluation.</p>	<p>Throughout the analysis process, the project team has reviewed a number of research papers that support the idea that open spaces provide a community benefit, encouraging neighborhood ownership of the space, and fostering positive human and environmental connection. These resources are cited in the final report. We also added additional text to highlight stewardship, community, and educational engagement in the larger Rainier Beach neighborhood.</p>
<p>Although the street ends may provide water access in other parts of Seattle, very few if any of the street ends listed on Figure 1 on page 18 provide any water access. Please verify if the street ends provide access and/or otherwise modify the evaluation.</p>	<p>The evaluation was updated to reflect that most of the street ends near the project site do not provide visual or physical access to the lake. Parks and SDOT are planning to improve two street ends south of the project site (at 72nd Ave S and 75th Ave S) in the near future.</p>

4. Traffic and pedestrian safety

Comment	Response
<p>Would it be possible to put a walkway to the park under Rainier Ave S? It could be part of the culvert or separate.</p>	<p>We are currently considering this as an option. Separating pedestrians from vehicles would greatly increase the safety of crossing Rainier Ave S, however, a subsurface culvert also creates hiding spots for illicit activities and would be costly to construct. The final determination regarding pedestrian crossings will be determined during the design phase.</p>
<p>Access to the private drive is currently unsafe. Adding pedestrian traffic will further impact ingress/egress of the private drive. Your evaluation does not reflect strongly enough the traffic risk to pedestrians and motorists.</p>	<p>We agree that improvements are needed on Rainier Ave S to address pedestrian and traffic safety. We are also concerned about the adequacy of the private drive entrance for existing residents, even without adding pedestrians or errant vehicles to the situation. We have been coordinating closely with SDOT and plan to undertake a traffic study in the near future so that possible improvement solutions can be identified and hopefully incorporated into the project.</p>

5. Project design

Comment	Response
<p>As plans develop for the park, we would greatly appreciate the ability to provide feedback and input, particularly as it relates to vegetation. We hope for consideration with low-growth plants, shrubs, etc. to support salmon and minimize the impact on our property.</p>	<p>During the design phase, tentatively scheduled for 2014 and 2015, there will be multiple opportunities for the community to comment on the proposed site design, including what type of plants and vegetation will be placed at the site. The public will be notified in advance of these future community input opportunities. To follow the project's progress, please continue to visit the project website at www.seattle.gov/taylorcreek or join the project listserv at www.seattle.gov/lists/taylor_creek_restoration.htm to receive project updates via email.</p>

APPENDIX A

Preliminary Evaluation of Public Access Options Survey



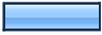
1. Habitat Improvements:

		Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation		86.1%	62
I don't agree with the evaluation		13.9%	10
	If you don't agree, what did we miss?		21
		answered question	72
		skipped question	19

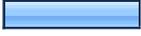
2. City Cost, Operations and Maintenance:

		Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation		90.0%	63
I don't agree with the evaluation		10.0%	7
	If you don't agree, what did we miss?		14
		answered question	70
		skipped question	21

3. Community Amenities:

		Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation		85.7%	60
I don't agree with the evaluation		14.3%	10
	If you don't agree, what did we miss?		15
	answered question		70
	skipped question		21

4. Potential Neighborhood Impacts:

		Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation		80.0%	56
I don't agree with the evaluation		20.0%	14
	If you don't agree, what did we miss?		19
	answered question		70
	skipped question		21

5. Traffic Safety and Mobility:

		Response Percent	Response Count
I agree with the evaluation		79.4%	54
I don't agree with the evaluation		20.6%	14
	If you don't agree, what did we miss?		21
		answered question	68
		skipped question	23

6. What is your preferred public access option?

		Response Percent	Response Count
No Access		10.5%	9
Viewpoint		4.7%	4
Scheduled Access		8.1%	7
Limited Access		5.8%	5
Open Access		69.8%	60
None of the above		1.2%	1
	Why?		64
		answered question	86
		skipped question	5

7. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

	Response Count
	38
answered question	38
skipped question	53

8. Tell us about yourself.

		Response Percent	Response Count
I live near lower Taylor Creek		35.3%	30
I work near lower Taylor Creek		1.2%	1
I live on the private drive		8.2%	7
I live in the broader Rainier Beach/Skyway Community		42.4%	36
Other (please specify)		12.9%	11
	answered question		85
	skipped question		6

Page 2, Q1. Habitat Improvements:

1	Since the major funding and purpose of the lower Taylor Creek restoration project is to facilitate fish habitat to go upstream in Taylor Creek, improve wildlife habitat and improve surrounding drainage, the priority and primary evaluation criteria used to evaluate each public access option should be the Habitat Improvement criteria. The other criteria should be considered secondary.	Jul 10, 2013 10:35 AM
2	The evaluation doesn't include the potential for community stewardship. For example, there is a thriving group of community volunteers working to clean up Dead Horse Canyon, including the removal of invasive plants and the restoration of trails.	Jun 28, 2013 8:47 AM
3	Please also incorporate into you analysis the Friends of Dead Horse Canyon. This group of volunteers has worked hard to restore Deadhorse Canyon to its native flora. Taylor Creek has benefited from this effort and could benefit in the future with continued public involvement. This will not happen if the lower Taylor Creek is fenced off.	Jun 28, 2013 8:27 AM
4	It must be realized that this is a Seattle Park and should be available for all people.	Jun 27, 2013 3:44 PM
5	I believe the COST/ BENEFITs cannot be justified in the present economic environment. This would also apply to the Cedar River project!	Jun 27, 2013 3:23 PM
6	Need to ensure new plantings do not block view from current home owners.	Jun 26, 2013 1:04 PM
7	No access! This would be detrimental to salmon.	Jun 26, 2013 12:48 PM
8	Overall it rang true. but i disagree that there would be a large difference between no access and limited or no access since design can concentrate areas if disturbance. Further more patch size is too small to contain interior habitat. Entire site would experience edge effects.	Jun 26, 2013 11:29 AM
9	Salmon appears to be mentioned only twice in the entire evaluation, both times on page 2. Since a major benefit to the project will be the potential to improve salmon habitat, it might be useful to make this point more pronounced. Otherwise, I agree with the evaluation.	Jun 25, 2013 10:51 PM
10	The evaluation sounds fair but doesn't really address whether the change in plant types will have reduce the quality of the habitat to a degree that is of concern. Its not specific enough to really say whether access will be a problem.	Jun 24, 2013 10:10 AM
11	50 Shades of Gray	Jun 20, 2013 4:02 PM
12	However, I think that with proper design there would not be a reduction in habitat benefits for open access.	Jun 20, 2013 3:42 PM
13	Dogs/other animals polluting water in stream?	Jun 20, 2013 2:55 PM
14	Open access does not mean frequent visitors! I live near Kubota Gardens and am amazed how few people visit this park which is a major amenity.	Jun 20, 2013 2:46 PM
15	Mostly agreed - but didn't seem to include what happens if start salmon fishing there (lots of fishing done on Lake WA)	Jun 19, 2013 5:00 PM

Page 2, Q1. Habitat Improvements:

16	I didn't realize when I made my comments online and until I actually looked at the map the benefits of having open access	Jun 19, 2013 4:32 PM
17	Also, greater access maximized environmental education opportunities.	Jun 19, 2013 4:23 PM
18	Too early in the process to know true impact.	Jun 19, 2013 3:00 PM
19	Not sure if Open Access will really support return of the salmon - feel if that is goal, some sort of limitations must be imposed ie dogs, boaters launching etc.	Jun 19, 2013 12:59 PM
20	I had no idea the pros and cons of such a project so the evaluation was really an education.	Jun 19, 2013 12:52 PM
21	Except open access shouldn't impact stream. If there is an impact it is to park area & shore.	Jun 19, 2013 10:17 AM

Page 2, Q2. City Cost, Operations and Maintenance:

1	For any of the public access options other than No Access, there is a possibility of cars turning into the private drive even though signs are posted no parking. People may not see the signs or want to drop off people or accessories (kayaks, coolers, etc.) in lieu of crossing Rainier Avenue by foot. The report does not address if one of the four options other than No Access is selected, it will be necessary to install remote controlled gates across each side of the private drive in order to prevent the public from driving onto the residential portions of the private drive. Even though there is no exit on the private drive, the public will use it to turn around or park illegally.	Jul 10, 2013 10:35 AM
2	Again, the evaluation does not include the value-add of community volunteers that works best and is encouraged under open public access.	Jun 28, 2013 8:47 AM
3	The benefit of volunteer help, such as that which has occurred upstream with Friends of Deadhorse Canyon should be included in the cost analysis, reducing cost when the lower creek is open to public access	Jun 28, 2013 8:27 AM
4	People in the area will take pride in this unique area and help to keep it in great condition.	Jun 27, 2013 3:44 PM
5	above	Jun 27, 2013 3:23 PM
6	No access. Save tax payers money.	Jun 26, 2013 12:48 PM
7	Any access will dramatically increase cost of garbage collection and maintenance. Law enforcement cost will increase due to increased calls. Stewardship? Seriously? Who? Very few in this vicinity care for their own property let alone public space. Drug dealers, vagrants and trouble seeking youth are not stewards.	Jun 26, 2013 10:00 AM
8	I find spending \$2 million for land acquisition for this project as a total waste of money. The ongoing cost analysis is immaterial. I assume this was funded from the 2000 parks levy. If I knew we would spend this much for property acquisition for a stream restoration, I would have voted against it.	Jun 25, 2013 10:22 PM
9	I especially agree with the opportunity to offset costs with stewardship - i.e. garden club and other community organizations.	Jun 20, 2013 3:42 PM
10	Found this part a bit vague but I would get an idea based on up keep.	Jun 20, 2013 2:55 PM
11	Is policing the place during off hours or closures included?	Jun 19, 2013 5:00 PM
12	I'd prefer the city spend money on the parks we have and not on one with limited access	Jun 19, 2013 4:16 PM
13	Are all these OVER engineered? ie: expensive?	Jun 19, 2013 12:52 PM
14	I disagree that limited access will decrease the likelihood of invasive plants entering the area. It will have very little impact.	Jun 10, 2013 8:09 PM

Page 2, Q3. Community Amenities:

1	The report does not address shoreline access for the Open Access option sufficiently. No mention is made as to whether boat mooring, kayak launching, floating play toys, swimming, fishing and other type of shoreline activity will be allowed. This affects the impact on fish habitat and safe crossing on Rainier Avenue. Transporting kayaks/canoes across Rainier Avenue or unloading kayaks/canoes on the private drive will be dangerous and unacceptable.	Jul 10, 2013 10:35 AM
2	Neighborhood pride and educational outreach is under represented in the evaluation.	Jun 28, 2013 8:47 AM
3	Public awareness and education should be included and connected with the awareness that has come from the restoration of Deadhorse Canyon	Jun 28, 2013 8:27 AM
4	The Taylor Creek area (east of Rainier Avenue has been private property and now is public property and should be used as a public property park.	Jun 27, 2013 3:44 PM
5	Most options RESTRICT the public access.	Jun 27, 2013 3:23 PM
6	Only one small pizza place in neighborhood - no advantage to other businesses.	Jun 26, 2013 1:06 PM
7	There is a public park and lunch area within 1 mile of the Taylor Creek area as well as street ends in closer proximity. Scheduled of limited access would be through schools or community groups (organized) - not originally intended for single families.	Jun 26, 2013 1:04 PM
8	No access. Potential for damage, there are lots of other available more extensive spots of interest.	Jun 26, 2013 12:48 PM
9	Access to the lake exists today. Rainier beach and Coulon are accessible and funds should be used to upgrade and improve those sites not create yet another small poorly used or maintained site.	Jun 26, 2013 10:00 AM
10	Although the street ends may provide water access in other parts of Seattle, very few if any of the street ends listed on Figure 1 on page 18 provide any water access. Please verify if the street ends provide access and/or otherwise modify the evaluation. The material is misleading as is. For Figure 2 on page 19, it would be helpful to enlarge the "Potential Shoreline Access" area to encompass the broader envisioned project area (e.g., to include the proposed SDOT improvement areas) - or perhaps to include a "primary" and "secondary" project area with related descriptions. Otherwise, this section is very good. Thank you for including connectivity between open spaces/park, improving environmental justice and service equity, and both educational and stewardship opportunities in the evaluation!	Jun 25, 2013 10:51 PM
11	Walking down 68th ave S is currently a poor connection between the upper watershed and Lakeridge park. IslandWood's Homewaters program is working with SPU to adapt a stream education program to Taylor Creek. access to the creek is currently very limited and is a big limiting factor on the number of students we can bring to the site. Lower creek access would be a HUGE benefit to providing educational opportunities in the area. Your study does not mention the additional stewardship advantages to the creek that go beyond immediate maintenance of the site. Many of the students that have learned about their local creek, are engaged by the return of salmon to it, and are aware of how their	Jun 24, 2013 10:10 AM

Page 2, Q3. Community Amenities:

choices impact the creek, will make different choices that will have a longer term positive impact.

12	See comments on reverse, too	Jun 20, 2013 3:42 PM
13	I would like to have a sit down meeting next time so that I can hear other peoples concerns. Perhaps a P&R "house" for someone to (once a week) for instance be there for field trips & or visitors.	Jun 20, 2013 2:55 PM
14	South end needs more access to the lakeshore.	Jun 19, 2013 4:23 PM
15	Are all these OVER engineered? ie: expensive?	Jun 19, 2013 12:52 PM

Page 2, Q4. Potential Neighborhood Impacts:

1	Likelihood of increased nuisance behavior, increased property damage and increased criminal behavior is understated and misleading in the report. The report states that "the future site conditions are not predicted to increase the likelihood of criminal activities". Anytime there is a public access there is the possibility of undesirable behavior. Even with a leash requirement, there will be dog feces from unleashed dogs. There is more potential for burglaries, vandalism and criminal activity as more public has access to the private drive and can see that there is not a good line of site from Rainier Avenue. Community-use people and neighbors are not likely to confront the criminal activity behavior. Police response takes so much time that the damage is already done.	Jul 10, 2013 10:35 AM
2	Impact should be weighted by value. Concerns of a few property owners should not outweigh the desires of many in the community interested in long term benefits.	Jun 28, 2013 8:47 AM
3	Just tallying the number of people who are concerned about public access and those who want public access is not the best statistic. Look at these numbers in the context of where people live. Then you can have a clearer picture of representation and analyze responses as representative of 1) residents on the lake 2) residents in walking distance to the lake.	Jun 28, 2013 8:27 AM
4	It is an exciting project for the neighborhood and will enhance the area and be good for property values.	Jun 27, 2013 3:44 PM
5	Feasibility of policing illegal activity - loud music, unleashed dogs, drugs, parking on private property, lewd conduct not addressed - no statistics / data provided.	Jun 26, 2013 1:06 PM
6	Only one business in area so other businesses 1 mile and away will not see benefit from increased use of this property. Public park directly across street gives parking to anyone who can then walk to new access area. Drug and drinking activity now in park can move to property below Rainier with no visibility - dogs off leash, adds problems - no statistics on why use impact would be minimal. No statistics on cost of policing the use and/or management of loud music, drug use, drinking, dogs off leash, illegal parking on private property.	Jun 26, 2013 1:04 PM
7	Public safety is a huge concern. This would be a death trap for a group of small kids, should a fire start.	Jun 26, 2013 12:52 PM
8	No access. It will multiply exponentially the numbers of accidents, cars, pedestrians and bicyclists all converging on this choke point.	Jun 26, 2013 12:48 PM
9	If this space is valued, and well used, it may reduce the frequency of illicit activity. If no access was the program then you would only have illicit activity.	Jun 26, 2013 11:29 AM
10	Your evaluation does not strongly enough reflect actual experience of current lakeside residents who experience vandalism, prowling, noise and intimidation by transients. Stopping Bus service along this section of rainier has improved our quality of life. Add another secluded public space and disruptive activity will increase.	Jun 26, 2013 10:00 AM
11	The evaluation extensively covers potential adverse impacts. However, some of the impacts or effects from the project on the neighborhood will be positive. For	Jun 25, 2013 10:51 PM

Page 2, Q4. Potential Neighborhood Impacts:

example, access to the water for more citizens will be a positive effect from the project. The neighborhood will be enhanced by the proposed project. It would be helpful to add a section that addresses this in the evaluation.

12	The "no" access option should include the possibility of unpermitted use. Children and homeless people will still find ways into the site and lack of access increases the potential for homeless people taking up residence (urban camping). I also think you underestimate the property value benefit from providing lake access.	Jun 24, 2013 10:10 AM
13	I'm sure that some residences will think the neighborhood will be ruined. I think parking & road use should be addressed up front.	Jun 20, 2013 4:02 PM
14	The more access to creek (in park)/lake the more unwanted people you potentially attract. Don't count on people who live in the area to call the police.	Jun 20, 2013 2:55 PM
15	Same answer as habitat improvement (above).	Jun 20, 2013 2:46 PM
16	See also traffic comments. 1) Several traffic issues not addressed: increase of foot/car traffic from Dead Horse Canyon on already perilous road (potholes, poor visibility on curves) 2) Not enough parking for pizza place plus park w/increased use 3) Already awkward corner - then high accident probability w/ kids/bikes/pedest. crossing Rainier for access & from park	Jun 19, 2013 5:00 PM
17	Safety - drug deals. Street light for crossing Rainier Ave. Speed bumps on 68th Ave So	Jun 19, 2013 4:32 PM
18	Are all these OVER engineered? ie: expensive?	Jun 19, 2013 12:52 PM
19	But this is no different from that at other small parks in area and these have not adversely affected neighborhood.	Jun 19, 2013 10:17 AM

Page 2, Q5. Traffic Safety and Mobility:

1	The current configuration of the major north-south arterial, Rainier Avenue, near the project site already is dangerous. There is no mention in the report of the number of accidents that have occurred in the area. Within the past couple of months, a car went through the fence on the east side of Rainier Avenue just south of Cornell Avenue. There was no mention of many near misses in the center lane. Someone traveling south on Rainier Avenue who enters the center lane in order to turn left into the private drive can collide head on with someone traveling north who enters the center lane to turn left onto 68th Avenue. The blind curve contributes to this situation. Traffic safety and public safety crossing Rainier Avenue needs to be a major concern and one of the primary considerations when selecting the public access option.	Jul 10, 2013 10:35 AM
2	Safe pedestrian crossing is the most important concern and is easily achieved at minimal cost.	Jun 28, 2013 8:27 AM
3	Would it be possible to put a walkway to the park under Rainier Avenue? It could be part of the culvert or separate.	Jun 27, 2013 3:44 PM
4	Parking and ACCESS to Lakeridge Park on Rainier Ave should be improved.	Jun 27, 2013 3:23 PM
5	No room to park, so would need a walkway and traffic light to safely cross Rainier Ave. if open for viewing.	Jun 26, 2013 2:33 PM
6	Access to private drive currently unsafe. Adding pedestrian traffic will further impact ingress/egress of private drive.	Jun 26, 2013 1:06 PM
7	No public emerging vehicle access	Jun 26, 2013 12:52 PM
8	See comment on potential for unprecedented increase in accidents.	Jun 26, 2013 12:48 PM
9	My guess is use of space would mostly be by residences from surrounding neighborhoods. By increasing pedestrian connection between dead horse canyon across rainier ave will greatly reduce the need for vehicular facilities. This is a critical element in creating a successful design.	Jun 26, 2013 11:29 AM
10	Your evaluation does not reflect strongly enough the traffic risk to pedestrians and motorists. I didn't see any mention of a light controlled crosswalk. Limited sight and high speed traffic make access to the lake from the ball field high risk even with a traffic light. Based on the numerous times vehicles have mowed over the traffic islands, traffic moves too fast and is disrespectful of the turn lane. Attracting children to cross Rainier to access the lake at this location is irresponsible. The proposed site is on a private lane, sheltered from Rainier ave. the properties seclusion attracts the illegal element as well.	Jun 26, 2013 10:00 AM
11	I greatly appreciate SDOTs efforts to try to address nearby related traffic safety and mobility issues as part of the project. Related to the intersection of Cornell Avenue S & Rainier Ave S, I would like to have them consider the potential of moving the access one parcel (i.e., remove one house) to the south to square up the access road. I also think it would be useful to potentially move the crosswalk to the center of the curve so that people crossing the street can see both directions. Also, it would be useful for them to analyze the effectiveness and safety of the prior conversion from a four-lane road to a two lane plus turning lane road. During rush hour, the wait can be quite long at some intersections	Jun 25, 2013 10:51 PM

Page 2, Q5. Traffic Safety and Mobility:

(e.g., Cornell & Rainier) before it is safe to enter traffic, especially if heading northbound. It would be helpful to add a "transportation justice and service equity" section to the evaluation. It also would be useful to acknowledge the leverage element of the project (i.e., if the base project is funded and moves forward, it will facilitate SDOT investing funds to do other things in the area that would otherwise likely not occur for a long time if at all). This is a good thing! There have been numerous landslides along Rainier Avenue which have resulted in additional losses of sidewalks and pedestrian access. Although it may be beyond the scope of the current project, it would be useful to note them in the evaluation as an adverse impact on pedestrian access, mobility and safety. Otherwise I agree with this section.

12	I am happy to hear that SDOT is considering improvements on 68th Ave. There is no sidewalk and cars tend to travel the road at high speeds. An improved access (trail or sidewalk) is important for safety in the area. Especially for groups of children.	Jun 24, 2013 10:10 AM
13	it's hard to overstate how dangerous that section of Rainier can be, esp at commuter o'clock	Jun 21, 2013 2:08 PM
14	I think a pedestrian friends [illegible]. People, water, fish under Rainier Ave would work best, safest for ped & cars, kids, adults.	Jun 20, 2013 4:02 PM
15	Need more cross walks on Rainier for the people who climb the stairs and would, I believe, like to be able to extend their excursions to include a walk to the lake	Jun 20, 2013 3:42 PM
16	Huge concern. Traffic light on Rainier & Thatcher imperative!!! No night access to baseball area/new creek being diverted area.	Jun 20, 2013 2:55 PM
17	See previous under neighborhood	Jun 19, 2013 5:00 PM
18	Cross walk or other pedestrian row north of 68th for people walking from "upper" rainier beach	Jun 19, 2013 4:52 PM
19	Traffic aside from the Lower Taylor Creek project is a major concern. How do we encourage a walkable neighborhood next to a major arterial in and out of the city. Personally, I'd make pedestrian safety the highest priority of the project.	Jun 19, 2013 3:00 PM
20	Crosswalk would be good idea.	Jun 19, 2013 12:59 PM
21	Thus far it appears that there are early stage plans to control ingress & egress. However, as the project advances, we would appreciate more concrete information.	Jun 18, 2013 4:54 PM

Page 3, Q6. What is your preferred public access option?

1	We want to maintain our privacy and our quiet private drive. This is a residential area with small children. Any public access will negatively impact the privacy and character of this small secluded neighborhood. Introduction of more people to the area adds the likelihood of increased nuisance behavior, property damage and criminal behavior. No access option is the best for wildlife and fish habitat. This option results in the least City cost for operation and maintenance cost initially and on an ongoing long-run basis. Public safety risk and resulting legal liability for the City will be less under this option since it allows for no public access. Due to the location and size of the property, all public access will require crossing Rainier Avenue, a major arterial with a dangerous blind curve, by foot. Traffic and public safety will be impacted the least by the No Access option.	Jul 10, 2013 10:46 AM
2	We used public dollars to purchase the property. We the people are entitled to equal access.	Jul 10, 2013 10:12 AM
3	In SE Seattle, relative to more affluent areas of Seattle, there is minimal access to Lake WA. Open access will enable passive recreation, education opportunities and provide a linked access to the rest of the Lower Taylor Creek & Deadhorse Canyon park and preservation area. In addition to the benefits of preservation, it can also serve as a living link to early greater Seattle history (fish migration, lumber mill, train, summer homes, etc)	Jun 30, 2013 1:59 PM
4	Few opportunities like this exist. Most of the street ends have been taken over by neighbors further limiting access.	Jun 28, 2013 11:45 PM
5	The point of the project is to create habitat friendly to salmon and other wildlife. As much as it would be great to have lake access so close by, it seems that allowing public access would be counterproductive....	Jun 28, 2013 12:09 PM
6	Open access encourages community involvement and pride. The more the community is involved helps keep long term costs low and crime is minimized.	Jun 28, 2013 8:58 AM
7	We have already seen local neighborhood pride and community involvement and action in restoring Deadhorse Canyon to its native flora. The restoration of Taylor Creek as a salmon run is benefiting from this stewardship; Taylor Creek is healthy. This same pride, involvement, and stewardship can continue all the way to the lake if full open access is allowed. Public stewardship and pride can offset maintenance costs and serve as an public outreach with a few educational signs.	Jun 28, 2013 8:36 AM
8	For the benefits to stewardship opportunities.	Jun 27, 2013 11:04 PM
9	I do agree w/ the findings that SE Seattle, especially 98178, does not have the same proportion of green spaces and no real great access to the lake. I strongly agree that primarily the local community whom are already using Dead Horse Canyon and using the Cooper st steps down to Rainier for exercise, will be the ones using this small, but vital, access point. Also, this is a very active community, and I do imagine community stewardship will be factoring in prominently.	Jun 27, 2013 9:52 PM
10	I think minimal or no access is best for habitat and fish restoration. I would propose No Access for a certain number of years and then construct the viewpoint but project cost may require construction up front.	Jun 27, 2013 4:14 PM

Page 3, Q6. What is your preferred public access option?

11	Ther stream that flows into Lake Washington which has limited access. Public funds are being spent so public access should be granted.	Jun 27, 2013 3:49 PM
12	Government is TOO restrictive and expensive.	Jun 27, 2013 3:24 PM
13	Lower maintenance/cost, in the long run, and less impact too, I believe, on neighbors and habitat. I doubt it will be a high-traffic area, not like Carkeek, where the park with long trails is the draw.	Jun 27, 2013 2:56 PM
14	It has always bothered me that too much of the lake front is inaccessible because it is in private hands. We need more public access! This little park will make for a nice end point to the Deadhorse Canyon Park.	Jun 27, 2013 12:04 PM
15	Would like access to the lake from my neighborhood	Jun 26, 2013 7:47 PM
16	It allows everyone equal opportunity to use the park.	Jun 26, 2013 5:46 PM
17	Eliminates unwanted activity in private single family residential area on private road.	Jun 26, 2013 1:07 PM
18	Noise, crimes	Jun 26, 2013 12:52 PM
19	School and other organized small groups during daylight hours & occational weekends.	Jun 26, 2013 12:43 PM
20	With pedestrian connection to dead horse canyon.	Jun 26, 2013 11:31 AM
21	Why? To allow any funds set aside for this site to be used to maintain existing parks. To reduce incidents of crime in our neighborhood. To remove this area as a dumping ground.	Jun 26, 2013 10:06 AM
22	It is a public resource and should be open to the public.	Jun 26, 2013 7:59 AM
23	The Community Amenities section (and, in particular, the Environmental Justice and Service Equity elements - along with the educational opportunities and stewardship opportunities) make it clear that more access to the lake shoreline is not only a community asset but an environmental justice and service equity issue. The negative impacts from open access to the lake, as evaluated, are fairly limited and are easily offset by the many benefits to the community from the open access option. PLEASE MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT AND PROVIDE OPEN ACCESS TO THE LAKE!!!	Jun 25, 2013 11:00 PM
24	I think we have enough public access to parks and the lake at already established parks, for example Pritchard Beach and Seward Park. What we do not have enough of is protected areas for wildlife. I would like the City to take every opportunity to protect wetland and wildlife areas. Thank you	Jun 25, 2013 10:26 AM
25	There is very little access to Lake Washington anywhere south of Rainier Beach/Beer Shiva Park. If the impact is too much, access can later be curtailed or laws enforced to mitigate this.	Jun 24, 2013 7:49 PM
26	Because there is very limited to no public access via the Rainier Ave corridor.	Jun 24, 2013 7:36 PM
27	There is virtually no access to the lake for over a mile to the north, and three	Jun 24, 2013 6:09 PM

Page 3, Q6. What is your preferred public access option?

miles to the south.

28	Scheduled and Limited access could also work for educational programs, but I believe Open Access is the best choice for creating the long term connection between the community members and their stream that will result in increased stewardship.	Jun 24, 2013 10:14 AM
29	There are many families living close to this area that would benefit from open access. From small children, to teens, to adults, to those walking dogs, open access would allow for more community (something our area is truly lacking!) The no access option would continue to deprive the south end residents from lake access within our area. Currently we drive to Renton (and spend our money there before and after) for access to the lake. It'd be lovely to walk to the lake and enjoy it, in our own neighborhood!	Jun 23, 2013 11:38 PM
30	This is one of the few areas in Seattle shoreline with very limited public access. I tried to find the street end access when I first moved here and was unable to. I end up driving to Seward Park everyday even though I live so close to the water.	Jun 23, 2013 10:08 PM
31	Access to that area is limited and difficult and will have a negative impact on the neighborhood. It will move negative activities from the lower lakeridge park to the waterfront and create parking and emergency access difficulties.	Jun 23, 2013 9:33 PM
32	I believe that residents can have an improved neighborhood experience by having open access to Lake Washington. Having public access to such a beautiful natural resource is an asset that can improve lives and raise property values.	Jun 23, 2013 9:11 PM
33	Salmon belong to the way of this bio-region. This will help make everyone more appreciative for the special place in which we live.	Jun 23, 2013 8:50 PM
34	People in the neighborhoods near to this site work. We are not going to be able to use limited access. This area of Lake Washington has the least public access of any other Seattle lakefront neighborhood. It will be wonderful for the neighborhood (in the larger sense - I'm barely upper Rainier Beach).	Jun 23, 2013 8:09 PM
35	I would welcome open access as long as visitors can have a neutral impact on the health of the habitat. Our neighborhood already has no respect for leash laws in dead horse canyon - so if this new project becomes a dog - swimming/informal off leash area, then I would be concerned about the habitat. I own dogs - not a canine hater. Just feel like these habitats deserve respect.	Jun 23, 2013 7:52 PM
36	Open access gives a sense of belonging - provides opportunity for people to conveniently use the park and enjoy Lake Washington. As it is now - one can really hardly see Lake Washington from Rainier Ave South - just a few places on the road where a pedestrian can stop on the sidewalk and loiter and look beyond private property to catch a glimpse of the lake. This will be a very grateful place for many people to enjoy open access. The more points of access to the Lake - the better - the less demand on any one point of access. Lake access within walking distance is a real asset to the community.	Jun 23, 2013 6:43 PM
37	It seems most reasonable.	Jun 23, 2013 5:49 PM

Page 3, Q6. What is your preferred public access option?

38	There's a lot of park area nearby and this one is primarily for the fish. By having a viewpoint it may cut down on the possible illegal uses of the lot and still maintain a safe place for the fish.	Jun 21, 2013 2:10 PM
39	We're Lakeridge residents, and strongly in favor of the Open Access option. We take the optimistic view that "the public" will take good care of the proposed corridor. If unforeseen problems arise, it should be relatively easy to add a fence along Rainier Ave., and go to scheduled or limited access.	Jun 20, 2013 4:06 PM
40	You could fence it in but [illegible] big enough to get lg stolen [illegible] on kayak (it allowed) with [illegible] lock with phone number to to get number.	Jun 20, 2013 4:02 PM
41	Could be environmentally educational: story boards, signage, etc. Would be a nice entertainment to walk through Dead Horse Canyon.	Jun 20, 2013 3:44 PM
42	More places to walk our dog and clean up the area.	Jun 20, 2013 3:00 PM
43	Needs to be a limit on what can be done there; how many people/what they are doing there/the time of day they are there.	Jun 20, 2013 2:59 PM
44	I have visited the site and the lakefront point provides a respite from the urban bustle on Rainier Avenue South. This site belongs to the public and the public should get to enjoy the benefit.	Jun 20, 2013 2:49 PM
45	1) Scheduled Access, 2) Limited Access, 3) Open Access If you planted & planned as if moving towards open access habitat issues - then could try out for a while as scheduled before deciding on limited or open use. Also could gauge interest & usage that way.	Jun 19, 2013 5:03 PM
46	This option provides the greatest positive impact to the community	Jun 19, 2013 4:54 PM
47	Enjoy walking and running in our neighborhood & would be great to have access.	Jun 19, 2013 4:51 PM
48	We enjoy walking and jogging in our neighborhood and would really appreciate water access. All we are asking for is a little path to the water.	Jun 19, 2013 4:49 PM
49	So everybody can use it.	Jun 19, 2013 4:45 PM
50	There is no lake access between Bier Shiva park and Renton. I would like more access.	Jun 19, 2013 4:43 PM
51	They are public lands & we need more park in RB! Gorgeous area that more people should enjoy!	Jun 19, 2013 4:39 PM
52	Yes. As a neighborhood we need access to the lake. We would use this park.	Jun 19, 2013 4:30 PM
53	More availability for the nearby community.	Jun 19, 2013 4:26 PM
54	South Seattle lacks access to the lake. The city owns many road ends that are closed to access. Some part of public land on the shore should be open.	Jun 19, 2013 4:24 PM
55	Viewpoint with limited access. I don't believe this site would make a practical "park". Theres limited parking and awkward access from the upper	Jun 19, 2013 4:18 PM

Page 3, Q6. What is your preferred public access option?

	neighborhood. Limited access for educational purposes seems nice.	
56	School kids & community should have the ability to see nature up close. It will give them a greater appreciation for the environment & even cooler that its in their neighborhood.	Jun 19, 2013 3:02 PM
57	It provides the most community benefit! Neighborhood is organized & can help maintain it. Will love to take my kids down to the lake front in our neighborhood & experience salmon spawning & natural habitats.	Jun 19, 2013 1:04 PM
58	Great educational environmental opportunities for children/schools/community groups but also safeguards the habitat/potential wildlife here - not just fish but eagles etc...	Jun 19, 2013 1:02 PM
59	I enjoy the outdoors & visit Dead Horse Canyon frequently. I would love to visit the recreation area of this new piece of land from time to time.	Jun 19, 2013 12:55 PM
60	Strongly prefer open access so that all in neighborhood can use it. I don't think there will be any problems but if there are the park could move to restrict access at that time.	Jun 19, 2013 10:23 AM
61	Scheduled access ONLY. As a homeowner who deeply cares about the neighborhood and environment, I am open to controlled access. As a homeowner who will be directly affected by the project, it is important to balance my use & enjoyment of our property with sharing the beauty and natural treasure of the creek.	Jun 18, 2013 4:59 PM
62	Limits impact on the area but doesn't restrict it totally.	Jun 15, 2013 5:16 PM
63	I strongly support open access. I believe that it is public property and should be open to reasonable access and the the potential problems are actually lessened by having more access.	Jun 10, 2013 8:11 PM
64	As long as it will have very little impact on the salmon project. Otherwise, keep it closed.	Jun 10, 2013 5:16 PM

Page 3, Q7. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

1	<p>The approach to this project does not appear to be in the proper order. Because of the particular location of the project site in relationship to the current street configuration which has numerous problems and challenges, it would be beneficial to have an independent traffic study done first to determine the potential road improvements that can be made before determining the option of public access. Safe public access to the project site should be one of the major considerations when selecting the correct option.</p>	Jul 10, 2013 10:46 AM
2	<p>1. Pedestrian mobility needs to further evaluated and made a higher priority. There are no shoulders, sidewalks or paths to safely enable access to/from the Taylor Creek/Deadhorse Canyon trail head. 68th Avenue & Holyoke have cars, trucks and bike traffic. The City must leverage this final project improvement and provide for a safe pathway that is separate from the traffic/roadway. 2. Crossing Rainier Avenue to access the Lake Washington - Creek area will vary from challenging to dangerous. Please continue to coordinate with SDOT and share your thoughts on alternative solutions. 3. I'm impressed with the thoughtful, inclusive and transparent way the City is engaging on this project. It belies the sometimes negative perception of Seattle engagement and flexibility, especially SDOT.</p>	Jun 30, 2013 1:59 PM
3	<p>I have worked on several trail projects and neighbors concerns about safety, noise and other disruptions have been proven, even to the neighbors, to be unwarranted. I don't support exclusivity, a gated community, for the neighbors. I think an open access approach is the most affordable and sustainable. The landscaping design can assure the safety of the salmon. It is late and I can't find my materials from the VFW meeting and couldn't access them on the site. My comments in 6 & 7 will have to suffice, Thank You.</p>	Jun 28, 2013 11:45 PM
4	<p>I live in one of the oldest houses near lower Taylor Creek. The house was built by the foreman of the Taylor Creek saw mill in 1909. My wife and I are in the process of restoring the house, including building a new foundation. The Taylor Creek restoration project represents an opportunity to strengthen community ties and provide a fresh foundation for community volunteers to further the goals of the project. Thank you for encouraging community input. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.</p>	Jun 28, 2013 8:58 AM
5	<p>This has been an impressive process that Seattle Utilities has undertaken. Thank you. Again, please interpret your survey by separating out those living directly on the lake and those living within walking distance. We know the bias exists and we should not hide it by lumping votes together.</p>	Jun 28, 2013 8:36 AM
6	<p>Rainier Beach Moving Forward is a local resident organization with the goal to implement the Rainier Beach Neighborhood plan update. This project is another piece of a puzzle that will tie Pritchard Beach, the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands, Beer Sheva Park and Lower Mapes Creek, Taylor Creek and Deadhorse Canyon, in one unique opportunity for stewardship and pedestrian activities. The neighborhood plan called for improved water front access, and this project is a key development in the overall goal.</p>	Jun 27, 2013 11:04 PM
7	<p>I do agree that the concerns over increased crime/nuisance are likely not going to play out. While criminals may like seclusion and no eyes on them, they don't seem likely to want to go out of their way by parking at Lakeridge Playfield and walking across Rainier to commit their crimes, and even less likely to walk or</p>	Jun 27, 2013 9:52 PM

Page 3, Q7. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

bicycle to Taylor Creek. Before this project came up, I had already been dreaming about ways to get some Lake access in our area that connected closely to the different staircases that go down to Rainier Ave from the neighborhood. I had looked at which spots were actually publicly owned, and none of the sites looked like they would be easy to make happen. This by far, is the best local spot that would give us Lake access.

8	The stream (Taylor Creek) will be more visible and therefore have more interest from people. We have lived in the area since 1961 and walk to Dead Horse Canyon and takes relatives when visiting on the walk. The area in beautiful and one of the few places in Seattle without traffic noise. The opening of Traylor Creek will be wonderful.	Jun 27, 2013 3:49 PM
9	I would vote for a no-dogs-allowed policy (at least during runs) and "No foraging" signage (perhaps in a few languages)---I lived on Ravenna Park for years and every year, I saw people walking up (in) the creeks with big baskets picking some sort of greens along the creek beds (water cress or something similar). I also wonder if any consideration has been done to include local Native Americans in this evaluation process. I remember hearing about a ritual to welcome the salmon done in Calif around a restoration project and think it would be wonderful to have the NA voice in here somewhere. Thank you for a well-done report.	Jun 27, 2013 2:56 PM
10	I can't wait to take my kids to watch the salmon run up stream!	Jun 27, 2013 12:04 PM
11	Interested in how maintenance and policing costs will be funded long term.	Jun 26, 2013 1:07 PM
12	Low vegetation and maintenance. Must control traffic on Rainier to ensure safety of residents and guests. Would not be opposed to redoing entrance to neighbor to make it safer for ingress and egress.	Jun 26, 2013 12:43 PM
13	While we support public access to the lake, it needs to be in larger areas with regular service for maintenance. Parking and safety considerations need to be more seriously considered. Property owners will suffer if this land is accessible. We are abused by the public as it is today. This would make it worse.	Jun 26, 2013 10:06 AM
14	Thank you for your efforts to provide a well thought out study and evaluation - and for your efforts to coordinate between Seattle Public Utilities, Parks, Transportation, and other Seattle departments. Please proceed with a coordinated project that encompasses the strengths and resources of the multiple city departments! Thanks for an informative and well-organized open house!	Jun 25, 2013 11:00 PM
15	Sell the land once property values come back and use the money for more worth while projects.	Jun 25, 2013 10:23 PM
16	By preventing access you are really giving exclusive access to those that border it since who would be around to report it?	Jun 24, 2013 7:49 PM
17	There are specific access options that are beneficial to providing effective educational opportunities for school children and I would love the opportunity to talk about them with you further.	Jun 24, 2013 10:14 AM

Page 3, Q7. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

18	Thank you for doing this! This is what makes Seattle special.	Jun 23, 2013 8:50 PM
19	Do you know anything about the property at [address]? It has a "deck" on the lake, lots of signs to keep out, and "property of seattle public utilities." I would love to see this become shoreline access.	Jun 23, 2013 7:52 PM
20	Thanks!!!	Jun 23, 2013 6:43 PM
21	The open house at Rainier Beach VFW was good, and the written material supplied was thoroughly researched, leaving us with a very favorable impression.	Jun 20, 2013 4:06 PM
22	A good land scaping & path is both in/out of project to discourage people from trespassing, parking on private property. Rout creek through ball field not under builds.	Jun 20, 2013 4:02 PM
23	Please make it pet friendly	Jun 20, 2013 3:00 PM
24	*Traffic light @ Rainier & Thatcher *Speed bumps on 68th Street. This will help with the safety of visitors and insure happiness of residents.	Jun 20, 2013 2:59 PM
25	I would like to see the street ends opened as well to make the pedestrian experience on Rainier maximally enjoyable!	Jun 20, 2013 2:49 PM
26	By adding fencing & perhaps hedges/shrubs along fenced boundaries - don't think it will be a huge security issue for neighbors. Most people probably will only visit for a short time without any seating or tables.	Jun 19, 2013 5:03 PM
27	I run & walk in Dead Horse Canyon & near Taylor Creek multiple times weekly. This is a great project!	Jun 19, 2013 4:54 PM
28	Open access will allow the community to keep an eye on the park, the other options mean that the only people in the park are criminals.	Jun 19, 2013 4:49 PM
29	The Rainier Beach Neighborhood needs all the help it can get. Parks help	Jun 19, 2013 4:43 PM
30	Help support our community!	Jun 19, 2013 4:39 PM
31	I live across from the lake	Jun 19, 2013 4:35 PM
32	Rainier Beach needs a park right on the lake - even if it is small.	Jun 19, 2013 4:30 PM
33	We're excited about the project and can not wait for final plans & the work to commence.	Jun 19, 2013 3:02 PM
34	My priority would be plan that maximizes fish return to Dead Horse Canyon.	Jun 19, 2013 1:02 PM
35	I am overwhelmed at the options available. And a bit frustrated/disappointed. The very knowledgeable folks here almost out number we visitors! I understand clearly the city wants to involve neighbors, but so many studies and analysis.	Jun 19, 2013 12:55 PM
36	As soon as Kubuta Garden & Dead Horse Canyon were improved more people in the neighborhood used the parks. The neighborhood needs more parks.	Jun 19, 2013 10:23 AM

Page 3, Q7. Anything else you'd like to share with us?

37	As plans develop for the park, we would greatly appreciate the ability to have feedback/input, particularly as it relates to vegetation. We hope for consideration with low growth plants, shrubs, etc to support the salmon and to minimize the impact on our property.	Jun 18, 2013 4:59 PM
38	If you end up with open access, please do your best to include educational signage and be prepared to replace it when it is tagged. Education is more important than mere diversion in this case.	Jun 10, 2013 5:16 PM

Page 3, Q8. Tell us about yourself.

1	I live near Dead Horse Canyon, near Taylor Creek	Jun 27, 2013 9:52 PM
2	Rustic Road	Jun 27, 2013 3:24 PM
3	What's "near" - we're Upper RB, along Dead Horse Canyon	Jun 24, 2013 7:36 PM
4	IslandWood's Homewaters program will be providing educational opportunities at Taylor Creek.	Jun 24, 2013 10:14 AM
5	Lakeridge	Jun 20, 2013 4:06 PM
6	[Address]	Jun 20, 2013 2:59 PM
7	I would say I live within walking distance	Jun 20, 2013 2:49 PM
8	Live in Rainier Beach Community close to Dead Horse Canyon	Jun 19, 2013 4:30 PM
9	Cornell & Woodley (Bryn Mar)	Jun 19, 2013 12:55 PM
10	Renton	Jun 12, 2013 12:29 PM
11	I do restoration work in Lakeridge Park	Jun 10, 2013 8:11 PM

This page left blank intentionally



Staff-level Recommendation – Survey Results

Overview

As part of the lower Taylor Creek public access options analysis process, staff from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks), and other City departments met in July to discuss community input received during the previous two community input opportunities, and to develop a staff-level recommendation about public access.

Consistent with the City of Seattle's Comprehensive and Shoreline Management plans, the team recommended some form of Open Access due to the larger community benefits provided by an accessible site. Additionally, Open Access received the greatest public support during the analysis process, and was the preferred option for the broader community and stakeholder groups.

The team acknowledged the community's concerns about how Open Access may affect the stream and surrounding habitat, the immediate neighborhood, and traffic in the area. As such, the Open Access recommendation was contingent upon the need for additional traffic and engineering studies, and integrating specific elements into the project's design. Due to the need for these further analyses, the final decision on public access was delayed until after the preliminary engineering stage, expected in late 2014.

As part of Community Input Opportunity #3, participants were asked to review the recommendation and contingencies within the Public Access Options Analysis Report, and share any final thoughts with the project team. This was the third and final opportunity for community members to provide feedback specific to the topic of public access.

Participants could submit comments online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/TaylorCreekSurvey3 or via email. Comments were collected between August 23 and September 8. See Appendix A (page 2) or visit www.seattle.gov/util/taylorcreek for a complete list of responses.

Results at-a-glance

- 13 people completed the survey.
 - Eight participants agreed with the staff-level recommendation for some form of Open Access.
 - Three participants disagreed with the staff-level recommendation for some form of Open Access.
 - Two participants did not explicitly state whether they agreed or disagreed with the staff-level recommendation.
- Nearly all participants agreed that additional traffic studies are needed to determine what safety improvements can be made for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians on Rainier Ave S where it meets the private drive, Cornell Ave S and 68th Ave S.
- Location of survey participants:
 - 46% live near lower Taylor Creek.
 - 31% live on the private drive.
 - 23% live in the broader Rainier Beach/Skyway Community.

Appendix A Staff-level Recommendation Survey - Sept. 2013



1. After reading about the staff-level recommendation and contingencies, is there anything you'd like to share with us? [see page 3 for individual comments]

	Response Count
	13
answered question	13

2. Tell us about yourself.

	Response Percent	Response Count
I live near lower Taylor Creek 	46.2%	6
I work near lower Taylor Creek	0.0%	0
I live on the private drive 	30.8%	4
I live in the broader Rainier Beach/Skyway Community 	23.1%	3
Other (please specify)	0.0%	0
answered question		13

Q1. After reading about the staff-level recommendation and contingencies, is there anything you'd like to share with us?

1 Thanks to all of the City departments, staff and consultants who participated in the Lower Taylor Creek Restoration Project - Public Access Options Analysis Report. You did a great job! The process was collaborative, inclusive and transparent and the final report reflects a vision, opportunity and plan (subject to further investigation and design) to provide significantly improved fish/salmon and wildlife habitat with design elements to allow for additional public access in Southeast Seattle to Lake Washington. Here are my comments regarding the final Lower Taylor Creek Renovation Project - Public Access Options Analysis Report for your consideration: (1) Please continue to work to provide the greatest level of Open Access to the Lower Taylor Creek site as possible. As noted in the final report, Open Access: • is consistent with the Shoreline goals and policies of the Seattle Comprehensive Plan and the regulations of the Seattle Shoreline Management Act; • is consistent with the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative which is aimed at ending race-based disparities in our community and achieving racial equity; • will provide an opportunity to expand city amenities in an area that has been historically under served by the City; and • will provide the greatest opportunity for education and stewardship. (2) As noted in the final report, there are pedestrian and traffic safety problems in the project area. However, most of these problems have existed for a long time and are related to the City's limited historic public infrastructure investment in the area. The traffic and pedestrian safety problems exist and should be addressed (again as a matter of social justice and equity) regardless of how the Lower Taylor Creek Renovation Project proceeds. The Lower Taylor Creek Renovation Project may be the catalyst for a number of transportation-related improvements, but the magnitude and cost of the bringing deferred transportation problems (e.g., the 68th Avenue S and Cornell Avenue S junctions at Rainier Avenue S and the limited amount of existing or accessible pedestrian sidewalks in the area) up to current standards should not be a deterrent to an Open Access renovation of Lower Taylor Creek. Some of the traffic and/or pedestrian safety improvements may need to be phased, but they should not derail the broader vision and opportunities related to the Open Access renovation of Lower Taylor Creek. (3) Thank you for modifying the report to reflect that most of the street ends near the project site do not provide visual or physical access to Lake Washington. Thank you, also, for Parks and SDOT's plans to improve two street ends south of the project (at 72nd Avenue S and 75th Avenue S.) Since there is no public access to Lake Washington between Beer Sheva Park in Rainier Beach and Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park in Renton (and, even more disturbingly, very little visual access to the lake along most of Rainier Avenue S!), these additional street end enhancements are appreciated. Please consider additional street end improvements along Rainier Avenue S in the future. (4) The staff-level recommendation to provide some form of Open Access to the Lower Taylor Creek allows SPU and WSDOT to meet their multiple objectives for the site AND provides the greatest community benefits from the project, including increased shoreline access, additional open space and education and stewardship opportunities, while cultivating connections with people and nature and social equity. Thank you for your efforts to engage, listen and respond to community groups and residents in the area. I am pleased and impressed with your collective efforts! (5) Please transfer the Lower Taylor Creek property when the construction project is completed from SPU to Parks for them to own and operate. There is less liability to the City with Parks ownership of the site and Parks is better set up to manage the potential stewardship and educational partnerships for the site. I realize that SPU and

Sep 9, 2013 9:43 AM

Q1. After reading about the staff-level recommendation and contingencies, is there anything you'd like to share with us?

Parks are different City departments with different budgets and funding sources. As noted in the final report, the planned Open Access to the lower Taylor Creek area would likely involve a transfer (sale) of the property from SPU to Parks. I hope that the sale/transfer of the property from SPU to Parks is not an issue since, from the public's perspective, the departments are all part of the same City government and public land is public land. Thank you for your consideration of my comments - and for your commitment to public involvement in your efforts! I look forward to learning more about the lower Taylor Creek project design as the City completes additional investigation and preliminary engineering and design work for the site and related transportation improvements. Please give me a call if you have any questions regarding my comments. Good luck with your efforts! [Name] [Address]

- 2 [SEE COMMENTS AND PHOTOS ON PAGE 7-9] Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please see the attached document. It concerns traffic entering and exiting Rainier Avenue from the private lane that serves the community along Lake Washington. [Name] [Address] Parking along Rainier Avenue: Visitors of the proposed park will likely park their cars along Rainier Avenue, rather than risk life and limb while crossing Rainier Avenue on foot. The most convenient place to park will be near the entrance to the private lane. Unfortunately, parked cars along the east side of Rainier Avenue will block the view of drivers trying to exit the lane, as the following photos illustrate. [PHOTO] This photo shows a driver waiting to enter Rainier Avenue. His line of sight is significantly blocked by the parked pickup truck. If a two or three cars were parked along Rainier Avenue, the line of sight could be totally blocked (starting just past the fire hydrant vegetation blocks the view of the road). [PHOTO] The driver may not have seen the oncoming van when he pulled out. [PHOTO] A faded sign on the pole says, "No Parking," but it is routinely ignored, especially on holiday weekends and Seafair. Again, a significant portion of the roadway is blocked from view. [PHOTO] Bicycles are easily hidden by parked cars. The sign on the power pole does little to discourage parking along Rainier Avenue. If more vehicles park along the avenue, it will make the intersection of Rainier, Cornell and the private lane, more dangerous. I ask that parking along Rainier Avenue, in the vicinity of the private lane, be restricted so the public will not park in the line of sight necessary for safe entrance onto the avenue. A single sign on a power pole is insufficient. Curb Cut: As seen in the second photo, the curb cut onto the private lane is very small. This is problematic when one car is trying to exit the lane and turn toward Renton, and one car is trying to enter the lane. Generally what happens is that the car on Rainier Avenue stops and blocks traffic, while the Renton-bound car creeps onto the avenue while waiting for an opening in the southbound traffic on Rainier. Sometimes some of the cars in the queue pull out and pass in the center turn lane, which is hazardous to the car that is creeping out. It is a very awkward, and I think dangerous, situation. I would like to see the curb cut for the lane widened so that a car can exit Rainier Avenue even if another car is waiting to enter the avenue. Taking Turns with Cornell: This intersection is complicated by the offset entrances of Cornell Avenue and the private lane. Sometimes when entering Rainier Avenue from the private lane the cars entering from Cornell take turns with cars entering from the private drive, sometimes they don't. It is a guessing game. The cars entering from Cornell have better view of Rainier because they are on the outside of the curve in Rainier, while the cars entering from the private lane are on the inside of the curve and have restricted lines of sight. Consequently, the
- Sep 9, 2013 9:43 AM

Q1. After reading about the staff-level recommendation and contingencies, is there anything you'd like to share with us?

cars entering from the private lane tend to enter hesitantly and the cars entering from Cornell enter more aggressively. This leads to poor coordination. Between Cornell, cars blocking visibility, bicycles, the bend in the road, the narrow curb cut, and the heavy traffic flow on Rainier, this intersection can be very difficult to negotiate. I urge the City to take this opportunity to improve this intersection.

3 First, and probably MOST important, I believe that open public access is not a compatible use if the main purpose of the project is restoration of a salmon spawning habitat stream. I also believe that open public access increases the risk of damage, vandalism, burglary, and other crimes to the homeowners along the private road upon which this property lies. I believe that it is important that you provide some means for the homeowners to maintain the same quiet, peaceful enjoyment of the properties, keeping traffic (both auto and foot) from the private drive. Sep 6, 2013 4:08 PM

4 I believe that the neighbors in our area will be excellent stewards for this public space, helping maintain it as a clean and well kept community area. The flow of traffic is my biggest concern. PLEASE look at putting in a traffic light to create a 4-way stopping light intersection at the base of Cornell (currently a three-way intersection with only a single stop sign at the base of Cornell.) Once we have families crossing the street there it is going to be terribly dangerous given the width of three lanes, the speed cars travel at, the curve in the road which makes it very hard to gauge vehicle speed and the fact that a lot of old people live (and drive) within the Lakeridge area. Yes, Rainier is a major route - that is why safety for all parties moving through this zone should be a top priority of the city. I live at [address] with the canyon and creek in my back yard, though technically not part of the Lakeridge park. Could any resources or support be provided to property owners who have the canyon as there backyard for dealing with invasive species and erosion maintenance? I have the blackberry and ivy from my immediate yard, have the trees professionally pruned and avoid using all forms of chemicals to protect the stream from harmful run-off, but I do not know how to cope with ivy attacking cedars and firs in the steepest part of the canyon, and would like to understand what is best in terms of dealing with the steep hillside. Perhaps a partnership with Friends of Dead Horse Canyon and this project committee could yield greater neighborhood involvement? Sep 5, 2013 10:33 PM

5 I live within walking distance of the site. I believe that Open Access creates the most benefit for the most people. I suspect that those who are raising concerns about traffic and impact to the stream are being disingenuous. Opposition to Open Access is coming from immediate neighbors who fear they will be overrun by crime. I find that there are very few people using Kubota Garden or the Chief Sealth Trail. I hardly think this site will be visited by very many people, let alone evildoers. There is no point to a traffic study when no vehicular access is planned! There is already a utility owned property (I believe a sewer station) several hundred yards to the west which is secured with nothing more than a "keep out" sign. I have never seen or heard about trouble at that site, which ought to be a good predictor of non-events at the Taylor Creek outflow. Sep 4, 2013 9:28 PM

6 My family and I strongly fell that the public should have access to lower Taylor Creek. We understand that it may be a problem in some areas, however access should not be denied. Sep 4, 2013 8:05 PM

Q1. After reading about the staff-level recommendation and contingencies, is there anything you'd like to share with us?

7	I whole heartedly support open access and hope you can make it work!	Sep 4, 2013 4:04 PM
8	I appreciate you're diligence in considering all options. Thank you for carefully looking into this.	Sep 4, 2013 2:31 PM
9	I completely agree with the staff-level recommendations. I appreciate and agree with the need for studies to determine the best approach to open-access. I am concerned that this part of the process may result in a different access determination.	Sep 4, 2013 12:21 PM
10	You were going to propose open access all along and only strung us along. Your studies are [expletive] and you know it. You are a typical government employee that does whatever you want that screws the people and disregards common sense. What a bunch of self absorbed [expletive]!	Sep 3, 2013 11:44 AM
11	Thank you for keeping everyone informed. I'm glad to hear the area will have open access. Unless the city has a regulation that requires a provision for parking, it might be wise to not include it. Parking will lead to congestion and overuse. People can walk in from the neighborhood or park on nearby streets. A crosswalk, or perhaps a traffic light along with sidewalk improvements would be the right thing for a micropark.	Sep 3, 2013 11:42 AM
12	Taylor Creek belongs to the salmon but public access would defeat the purpose of safeguarding their habitat. It would also add a tremendous potential for increased accidents. The intersection of Rainier Ave S and Cornell has the following happening ANY minute, at ANY time of the day: - Cars on Cornell turning left into Rainier Ave S - Cars rushing through Rainier Ave S in both directions - Cars on Rainier Ave S turning left into Cornell - Cars on Rainier Ave S tuning right into Cornell - Cars on Rainier Ave S going west entering our lane - Cars on Rainier Ave S going east entering our lane - Cars exiting our lane going west onto Rainier Ave S - Cars exiting our lane going east onto Rainier Ave S - Irrate Drivers who think they can outsmart everyone by not slowing down but passing on the right or left of the car in front - Bicyclists who frequent the bike lane at all times of the day. Soon adding to this bottle neck, Pedestrians (specially children) crossing Rainier Ave S, entering or exiting the narrow access lane to Taylor Creek (the same one used for egress and ingress by residents of the lane) will bring unprecedented challenges. Oh, I forgot to mention that to top it all off, this intersection is located on a curve where Rainier Ave going north/south becomes Rainier Ave going east/west, A BLIND CORNER!	Sep 2, 2013 9:56 PM
13	I am very pleased that the decision is for more public access. Between Seward Park and Coulon Park there is little public access to Lake Washington is for launching kayaks and swimming (without a life guard). Could Taylor Creek be open for these activities during the times the salmon are not spawning? If not, what about Chinook Park or one of the other street public lake access points?	Aug 29, 2013 5:11 AM

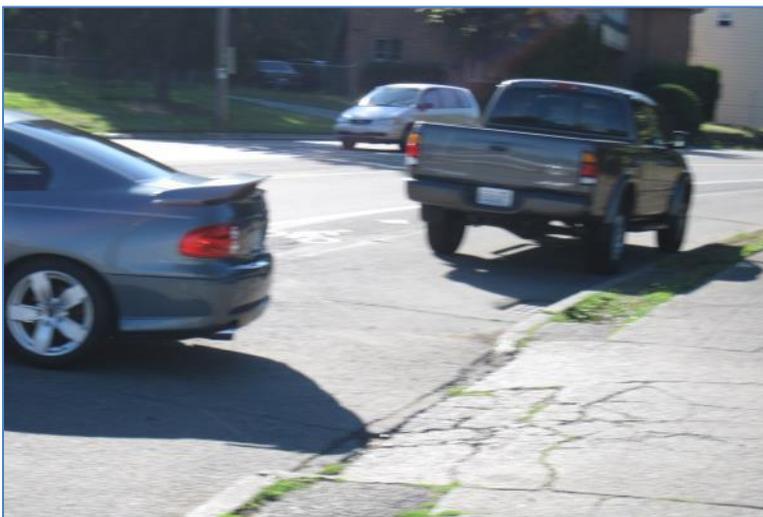
[Participant 2 – Question #1 additional comments]

Parking along Rainier Avenue

Visitors of the proposed park will likely park their cars along Rainier Avenue, rather than risk life and limb while crossing Rainier Avenue on foot. The most convenient place to park will be near the entrance to the private lane. Unfortunately, parked cars along the east side of Rainier Avenue will block the view of drivers trying to exit the lane, as the following photos illustrate.



This photo shows a driver waiting to enter Rainier Avenue. His line of sight is significantly blocked by the parked pickup truck. If a two or three cars were parked along Rainier Avenue, the line of sight could be totally blocked (starting just past the fire hydrant vegetation blocks the view of the road).



The driver may not have seen the oncoming van when he pulled out.



A faded sign on the pole says, "No Parking," but it is routinely ignored, especially on holiday weekends and Seafair. Again, a significant portion of the roadway is blocked from view.



Bicycles are easily hidden by parked cars.

The sign on the power pole does little to discourage parking along Rainier Avenue. If more vehicles park along the avenue, it will make the intersection of Rainier, Cornell and the private lane, more dangerous.

I ask that parking along Rainier Avenue, in the vicinity of the private lane, be restricted so the public will not park in the line of sight necessary for safe entrance onto the avenue. A single sign on a power pole is insufficient.

Curb Cut

As seen in the second photo, the curb cut onto the private lane is very small. This is problematic when one car is trying to exit the lane and turn toward Renton, and one car is trying to enter the lane. Generally what happens is that the car on Rainier Avenue stops and blocks traffic, while the Renton-bound car creeps onto the avenue while waiting for an opening in the southbound traffic on Rainier. Sometimes some of the cars in the queue pull out and pass in the center turn lane, which is hazardous to the car that is creeping out. It is a very awkward, and I think dangerous, situation.

I would like to see the curb cut for the lane widened so that a car can exit Rainier Avenue even if another car is waiting to enter the avenue.

Taking Turns with Cornell

This intersection is complicated by the offset entrances of Cornell Avenue and the private lane. Sometimes when entering Rainier Avenue from the private lane the cars entering from Cornell take turns with cars entering from the private drive, sometimes they don't. It is a guessing game. The cars entering from Cornell have better view of Rainier because they are on the outside of the curve in Rainier, while the cars entering from the private lane are on the inside of the curve and have restricted lines of sight. Consequently, the cars entering from the private lane tend to enter hesitantly and the cars entering from Cornell enter more aggressively. This leads to poor coordination.

Between Cornell, cars blocking visibility, bicycles, the bend in the road, the narrow curb cut, and the heavy traffic flow on Rainier, this intersection can be very difficult to negotiate. I urge the City to take this opportunity to improve this intersection.

[NAME]

[ADDRESS]

Seattle

[Additional comment received after September 8]

I appreciate the excellent community outreach by SPU and Seattle Parks.

I realize I missed the window to provide additional comments on the Public Access Recommendation.

I will affirm my pleasure (relief) that Open Access is now staff's Recommendation.

I support further study of traffic issues, including pedestrian access to Taylor Creek East of Rainier Avenue, as well as pedestrian access to The Taylor Creek/Deadhorse Canyon trail (at 68th & Holyoke).

It is imperative that SPU, Parks and SDOT analyze the entire Lower Taylor Creek in terms of car, bicycle and pedestrian access.

I acknowledge that additional time is required to complete the analysis and encourage the City to prioritize completion of the further analysis on an expedited basis so that implementation of these much needed/delayed improvements can begin. Thank you!

Best Regards,

[Name]

[Phone]