

Seattle Board of Park Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2017

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**Board of Park Commissioners**

Present:

Marty Bluewater  
Dennis Cook  
Marlon Herrera  
Evan Hundley  
Kelly McCaffrey  
Barbara Wright, Vice Chair

Excused:

Andréa Akita  
Tom Byers, Chair  
William Lowe, Vice Chair

**Seattle Parks and Recreation Staff**

Christopher Williams, Deputy Superintendent  
Rachel Acosta, Park Board Coordinator

The meeting is held at 100 Dexter Avenue North. Commissioner Wright calls the meeting to order at 6:30pm. She reviews the Agenda and the Commissioners introduce themselves.

**Oral Requests and Communication from the Audience**

Eliza Davidson – She is happy the Superintendent put a pause on Volunteer Park SAAM project. She is dissatisfied with SAM’s response to Superintendent’s questions. She urges Superintendent Aguirre to continue asking for answers to his questions. The public have not seen alternative designs. Volunteer Park is an important resource. Park Board can stick up for the people and park space, itself. She requests the Park Board Commissioners push for a solution. Volunteer Park is historically significant and in a dense neighborhood.

Charles Ragen - Thanks volunteers for serving community; the Board is the last line of defense for keeping openspaces. He travels to China a lot and uses Volunteer Park to clear his lungs. Parks are important; easy to see this when one travels in China where

there are not so many greenspaces. Recently, there was a tree emergency in Volunteer Park and discovered crews are doing a great job keeping the trees safe.

Randolph Urmston- He supports SPR to not transfer park land to SAM for the SAAM expansion. He's a member of the art museum. He implores SAM to look at building underground or other locations. I-42 was brought on to prevent the use of park land for non-park use. He feels SAM's use meets the definition of non-park use, despite SAM claiming a precedent of museums using parks for non-park use at sites such as South Lake Union and the Sculpture Park.

Cassandra Trimble – She shares a quote from the Director of the Frye Art Museum about SAM spreading lies about the necessity of this expansion. We have a jewel. Architecture and landscape architecture is all about space. This expansion would be an eyesore.

Jonathan Mark – Concerned about the impact on Volunteer Park of the proposed expansion. Thanks Superintendent Aguirre for pausing the Saam project. In sections A and E, her letter combines renovation and expansion into one entity called "The Project," is necessary in order to prevent the building from continuing to degrade, and without it the museum will not be able to continue operating. She does not answer specifically why expansion is necessary. He understands the necessary upgrades to maintain safety of art and public. The addition would damage the aesthetic of the park and it is illegal for single family zoning. SAM is looking to get a code changed for this development. He opposes the use of scarce capital funds to build this project.

Virginia Alleman - Thanks the Board for their service. Requests the Park Board look out for the needs of the citizens for openspace, rather than interests of private corporations. She implores the Board to look into the SAM expansion plan - there is something fishy about how this citizen-approved renovation morphed into an expansion. Many of the documents pertaining to this have been redacted. This is not transparent government and states it amounts to a land grab. What does this mean for the park system? She wishes SAM and SPR had come to the community in the beginning.

### **Superintendent's Report**

SPR asked the Seattle Art Museum to pause their expansion project. The department had several questions:

- How expansion supports them?
- If SAM was financially dependent on the expansion?
- What steps to ensure community benefit?
- How long in planning are they?
- SPR also asked SAM to work with the department to figure out Initiative 42.

There was nothing remarkable or surprising about this project. SPR is in a deliberative process. SAM's plan is to close on the 28th of February in order to plan for the project. The department will notify them on February 23rd with their decision and a response to their letter. The department is grappling with the issues of public benefit and public access.

People have testified about being turned away from using the bathroom or going into the galleries without paying. The department is considering having very specific language in the operating agreement with SAM that would have specifics on serving underserved youth and public access to bathrooms. Deputy Superintendent Williams says the department is not ready to announce a decision, but in an effort to be transparent, he wants to tip their hands in terms of where this is heading.

Superintendent Aguirre will talk more about this and the results of their conversations with SAM at the February 23 meeting.

Commissioner Hundley asks if this will be the last allowable expansion? Deputy Superintendent Williams says, people want prohibitions on further expansion spelled out in the Operating Agreement going forward, but questions the legality.

The department do not feel I-42 is relevant to this because they view SAM as grandfathered and a legitimate parks and recreation use.

The commissioners question whether the design modifications that they suggested had been considered? Are there alternative designs that would take less of a footprint and create less public backlash? Deputy Superintendent Williams says the SPR staff plan on sitting down with SAM to do a deeper dive to talk about the issues. SAM is not entitled to use of the space; it is at the discretion of the Superintendent.

The commissioners worry that this could set a precedent for other parks? Deputy Superintendent Williams says there are Public Development Authorities (PDAs) at several other parks and SPR has allowed them to use different spaces and expand their footprint. It was done under the interpretation of using these spaces for recreation purposes.

If the SPR returned to SAM to say they could not expand, would SAM just do the renovations. When asked if SAM need to do the expansion to stay afloat, SAM stated they are not financially dependent on the expansion but it is part of their programming plan.

The Operating Agreement that would go along with any expansion would go before the City Council. The Commissioners would appreciate a clearer understanding of the public benefit.

In regards to the design – there were many comments from the public and Board members about the design. Who gives the final approval? How can the public be involved in that discussion?

Public benefit gains vs. public benefit loss - will the impacted land displace any activities?

Has the Landmarks Preservation Board weighed in on this? SAM was on the agenda to the Landmarks Commission. The meeting was canceled so they have not appeared yet.

Discovery Park – At the last meeting people came and expressed concern about a proposed concert occurring at Discovery Park. SPR does not have concerts at Discovery Park.

ACLU temporary restraining order to stop encampment removals - SPR staff worked diligently to respond to ACLU lawsuit. SPR submitted a thorough declaration. The City hired a team of outside attorneys. The attorneys filed documents today at 10am. This would make camping legal in parks.

Friends of Freeway Park Neighborhood Association - Working closely with Washington State Convention Center who are donating \$5 to \$10million to use for programming and wayfinding. SPR are happy with this partnership. SPR staff are working with the "Friends of" group and Councilmember Bagshaw's office on this unique opportunity.

Executive Team Retreat – SPR executive team met for a retreat at which they focused on team building, discussed internal communication systems. It is difficult to communicate sometimes at so many locations. They also discussed internal capacity building - develop staff to become future leaders.

Lung Force – Deputy Superintendent Williams is the Chairperson for the Lung Force Walk a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Deputy Superintendent Williams is a lung cancer survivor; fewer than 17% of lung cancer patients are alive after 5 years. Staff and Board are encouraged to participate.

Smith Cove Park – SPR staff are considering design alternatives for the park - walking/biking trails, off-leash areas, and volleyball courts. The Design Commission suggested staff should consider ways to provide more water access. The meeting was well attended. The community seems to be coming together regarding the vision for the park.

SPR asked EMC to perform a survey to measure the impacts of SPR programs and services and parks. The polled 729 participants and the survey is statistically valid. 64% are raving fans of SPR and almost no one was very unhappy. 64% fully achieved results they expected and 21% mostly achieved results of program.

Howie Frumkin – Professor Frumkin from the University of Washington, school of Public Health, spoke at a recent Board of Park Commissioners meeting regarding the correlation of parks and public health. SPR recorded his presentation; Superintendent Aguirre will be sending it out to all Seattle Parks and Recreation employees.

Severe weather in the last week or so activated the Emergency Operation Center. Due to the large amount of precipitation, Seattle has reached a level of saturation. The hillsides can't store anymore water, which has resulted in landslides, dropped limbs and branches. A tree fell down at Carkeek. Seward Park lost 30 trees in the last 24 hours, this resulted in the closure of the upper loop. There are landslides and blockages on the Burke-Gilman. Landslides at Ravenna Park, near Alki Avenue in the greenbelt area and on Perkins Lane.

**Presentation: Seattle Preschool Program/SPR Collaboration Overview**

*Presented by Holly Miller and Lori Chisholm, Seattle Parks and Recreation*

**Written Briefing**

**M E M O R A N D U M**

Date: February 1, 2017  
To: Board of Park Commissioners  
From: Holly Miller  
Subject: Seattle Preschool Program/Seattle Parks and Recreation Collaboration Overview

**Requested Board Action**

This is a briefing on Seattle Parks and Recreation's involvement in the Seattle Preschool Program.

**Seattle Preschool Program Background and Overview:**

The Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) offers high-quality, affordable preschool to children across the City of Seattle and partners with early learning providers to prepare children for school, enable students to achieve pre-academic skills, enable students to develop socially and emotionally, and eliminate the readiness gap for participating children.

In September 2013, the Seattle City Council unanimously adopted Resolution 31478, which supports the goal of creating a program to make voluntary, high-quality preschool available and affordable to all of Seattle's 3- and 4-year-old children.

In May 2014, Mayor Murray and the Seattle City Council proposed a taxpayer-funded levy (Ordinance 124509) to support a four-year demonstration project. The Mayor also submitted a Seattle Preschool Program Action Plan that describes the demonstration project and the core guiding principles.

In November 2014, Seattle voters approved the demonstration project which will build toward **servicing 2,000 children in 100 classrooms by 2018.**

Program Highlights:

- **Participation will be voluntary** for providers and participants.
- **Tuition will be free** for children from families earning less than 300% of the federal poverty level. Tuition will be on a sliding scale for families earning more than 300% of the federal poverty level with at least some level of subsidy for all families.
- **Classrooms will operate on a full-day schedule** (6 hours/day and 5 days/week).
- **Teachers will receive on-site curriculum support and off-site training** in areas of need, likely including: best practices in inclusion, bilingual education, cultural relevancy, and classroom management.
- **Providers will be required to adopt the approved curricula.**
- **Priority will be given to providers that:** provide more than two classrooms, provide dual language programs, offer before/after school child care, offer summer childcare, are located in neighborhoods with low academic achievement, and are located in neighborhoods with higher concentrations of low-income households, English Language Learners, and incoming kindergartners.
- **A four-year, \$58 million property tax levy** (average annual cost of \$14.5 million).

**SPP/SPR collaboration:**

In the Spring of 2016, Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) staff met with representatives from the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) and Associated Recreation Council (ARC) to discuss the viability of supporting the SPP program through expanding classrooms at SPR facilities. Six strategies were developed:

Strategies

1. Maximize space utilization at identified facilities which could host SPP classrooms.
2. Work with ARC to convert existing, ARC operated, preschool programs to Pathway and SPP.
3. Identify and prioritize viable preschool locations at SPR facilities.
4. Work with DEEL to address capital investments/projects.
5. Utilize an RFP process to select providers at viable SPR facilities.
6. Engage diverse partners

**Facility analysis:**

A review was conducted of potential SPR facilities that could host SPP classrooms. Analysis included space licensing, capital improvements, cost estimates, and underserved areas. A prioritized list was developed for viable facilities with an implementation goal over three years.

| <b>Fall 2016</b>              | <b>Fall 2017</b>               | <b>Fall 2018***</b>       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Rainier Community Center      | Yesler Community Center        | Ballard Community Center  |
| Bitter Lake Community Center* | Carkeek Park ELC               | Delridge Community Center |
| Meadowbrook Community Center* | Northgate Community Center     | Alki Community Center     |
|                               | Rainier Beach Community Center |                           |
|                               | Miller Annex **                |                           |

\*on capital project list for Fall 2018 completion

\*\* Miller Annex to have 4-classroom capacity.

\*\*\*pending architectural review and capital cost estimates needed to meet licensing requirements.

**Project Status:**

1. Mike Schwindeller (PDD) will be the Construction Manager for: Carkeek, Yesler and Northgate (we do not anticipate any Tenant Improvements for Rainier Beach).
2. Working towards a Sep. 4, 2017 project completion date for those sites listed above.
3. Tenant Improvements will likely be done by a combination of Shops day and night shifts depending on capacity for given trade and the need to have unfettered access for certain tasks.
4. ADA work at Carkeek will occur in April-June, includes new ramps, walkway and parking stalls from parking lot to the ELC building entrance.
5. 2018 sites will continue receiving site visits from the Architects.
6. 2018 sites are pending based on final architectural assessment.

**Presentation**

Prior to her return to Seattle Parks and Recreation, Holly was the Director of the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL). During that time, she enjoyed working with SPR because she knew the work would be evidenced based and reach the outcomes they wanted. It is a pleasure for her to come and work here again to help SPR implement their preschool program.

The premise is to partner with many learning service providers with discreet goals on learning achievement.

Background: In September 2013, the City Council created this program through Resolution.

The Resolution would create a program of voluntary, high quality, preschool program that would be affordable to all Seattle residents through a taxpayer funded proposal to support a 4-year demonstration project. Mayor Murray created an action plan that describes the structure and operation. This is one of the most critical years of a child's life. The advantages for social/emotional skills, working in small groups, foundational learning - gives kids a huge step up. Preschool is very expensive and unaffordable to many families.

These programs were designed using evidence of best practice. The cost would be on a sliding scale with everyone receiving some discount. The tuition is free for incomes 300% of the Federal poverty level or lower and heavily subsidized for 700-800% of the Federal poverty level because the City recognizes the strains on the middle class. Classes will operate on 5 day 6-hr schedule because the length of the day is correlated with better outcomes.

This program is designed to pay teachers at the same rate of public school teachers and this also correlated to better student outcomes.

The program requires all providers use 1 of 2 curricula available. SPR programs have already adopted these curricula. Preschool programs are eligible for funding if they provide dual language, before/after school care, and/or are located in neighborhoods with low academic achievement.

Lessons learned in 1st year:

Infrastructure for preschool is weak; there are many independent levels of providers, quality and models. There are not many spaces for rent. SPR played an important role with the City's ability and desire to activate community centers.

Spring 2016 – SPR staff met with Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) and Associated Recreation Council (ARC), partners in providing preschool programs and discussed moving to a curriculum-based program. In the past, SPR avoided moving to full-day preschool due to licensing issues. Looked at making these public facilities work for Seattle residents.

Strategies

- Maximum space in public facilities - build/develop new customers who will stay with us into adulthood.
- Working with ARC to convert existing preschool programs to Seattle Preschool Program (SPP).
- Identify and prioritize which buildings would be most viable to host classrooms. DEEL funds could be used to make modifications to buildings to meet licensing requirements.
- Use Request for Proposal (RFP) in collaboration with DEEL to pick providers to operate in the community centers.
- Engaging a diverse number of partners is a priority

DEEL representatives, ARC and SPR toured every potential viable building in the department; came up with a prioritized list for where capacity requirements were needed and which needed the least capital investment.

Rainier, Bitterlake and Meadowbrook Community Centers. SPP is running at Rainier because little capital was needed to meet the requirements there.

Bitterlake and Meadowbrook are working towards SPP qualifications.

Next on the list – these buildings require a little extra investment. Yesler, Carkeek, Northgate and Rainier Beach – Open in Fall 2017. The RFP process is done and the announcement will happen in March.

Miller Annex - Former Miller Community Center- 4 SPP classroom spaces. The needed capital investment coming through DEEL Levy. This will be a separate RFP process.

3 additional locations that require more significant capital investment: Ballard, Delridge and Alki. SPR partnering with DEEL to scope project; get estimates in the next couple of months and implement those improvements as SPP classrooms in 2018.

Staff are excited to reenergize community centers through the SPP program.

Mike Swindler is the project manager at Carkeek, Yesler, and Northgate - hoping to have that complete by September 4.

During the work to improve the facilities, they are also making ADA improvements.

City Council gave SPR \$1.5million to make the necessary improvements to the buildings.

SPR/ARC will weave an environmental focus at Carkeek.

Rainier, Rainier Beach and Yesler – They will be converting school-aged care program space into SPP rooms and finding other space for older kids.

Comments from the Board:

Is there connection to Seattle Public School? Holly responds that the city is emphasizing an institutional approach to preschool. Currently, SPS hosts about 7 preschools, but are asking nonprofit providers to vacate because they need that space for classrooms.

Financial model – In order to receive SPP funding, it is requisite that private preschools also receive funding from other state and national programs.

Outdoor preschools – Outdoor preschools are not part of the SPP program yet because there are stringent restrictions and the openspace requirements are not practical for each site. The city is working to adapt the state requirements for an urban environment. For example, Washington state requires outside areas fenced and staff are working with the State to flex outdoor learning area criteria.

How many kids per site? Class sizes expected to be 20; unless the space is licensed for less people. Each center through Seattle Parks and Recreation would have 1 classroom except for Miller which will have 4.

How to handle over enrollment - Enrollment is handled by DEEL. They will give priority to underserved or high poverty areas and there will be a lottery for remaining spots.

Holly mentions they are encouraging private preschools to form cooperatives. The maximum someone would have to pay is \$12,000.

The organizations who are hosting outdoor preschools in parks are in their first year and they are in SPP pathway. There is a Bill in Legislature for outdoor preschool licensing to ensure preschool is high quality.

### **Presentation: Preventative Maintenance Plan**

*Presented by Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks and Recreation*

Andy is the new Director of Facilities Division. He introduces Shanyanika Burton, his Strategic Advisor. Shanyanika focuses on budget and analyzes data to ensure they are being resourceful.

#### Preventative Maintenance

SPR is making a shift to healthier and safer parks through preventative maintenance.

Preventative maintenance is about keeping materials and components maintained at optimal level of performance to maximize the use and life of all facilities. Preventative maintenance minimizes costly unplanned failures and maximizes health and safety.

Sending programmed work orders - changing hvac; inspectg roofs

currently, 16% preventative work, and 84% reactionary; 2020 to reach 80% preventative

be intentional and receptive to deferring work until a maint window comes their way.  
renewal projects cycle every 2-2.5 years

doing maintenace but improving through energy conservation.

pillars

- increase productivity through workforce empowerment

- custodians moved to maintenance they are they eyes on the project.

- night crews

- enhancement crews - specialty

- streamlined work order system - amwo gives data on how to proceed.

- safe

Goals:

Preventative Maintenance Pillars – Increase productivity through workforce empowerment.

- Custodial maintenance - Increase frequency to avoid heavy cleaning. Keeping it clean expedites next steps in maintenance.
- Planned maintenance – during facility closures, third shifts. Create yearly planned maintenance goals so facilities can see when the maintenance “bus” is coming to them.
- continual improvement – all maintenance and updating of facilities needs to be improving efficiencies and adapting to technological changes. Create a feedback loop to show impacts: Consumption of natural resources has decreased throughout SPR parks and facilities through employing energy conservation measures.
- Work order process – Prioritize and refine the decision-making process – determine conditions before it reaches a crew chief.
- Project Manager Protocol training - train staff and encourage innovation and creativity. More automation will increase efficiency.
- Safety - Accidents hurts the whole division.

Facility assessments - community center coordinator involved in planning center renewal

Deputy Superintendent Williams says that Andy has taken on a problem that has felt intractable. SPR has a huge major maintenance deficit and they are planning and making a dent.

Andy adds, the department needs to switch field lights to LED. He is looking at grant opportunities; funding to switch them out is a challenge.

**Briefing: SPR Sharps Disposal Program**

*Presented by Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks and Recreation*

King County distributes 7-8million needles a year. SPR has put together a 5-point plan with a 24 hour, 7-day response.

- find it, fix it phone application & web send to phone line on weekends
- option at customer service bureau to report sharps
- weekend reports on sharps transferred to contractor
- data collection

Pilot Drop Box Program –

- Installation of drop boxes, equitably distributed across city.

- Safe and secure 24-hour unsupervised needle collection
- Depository for users, city staff, and volunteer litter collectors
- Boxes to be serviced by vendor on a regular basis

2 types of Sharps containers:

- Stand-alone kiosks - San Francisco saw a significant decrease of 30-40% littered needles after they installed these.
- Restrooms drop boxes – the locations of these are determined by levels of narcotic violations and reports of found needles.
- Shops are working to fortify the metal boxes so that people cannot get into them.

The boxes will be regularly serviced by contractors.

There will be 55-gallon drums delivered to main crew quarters and they will be picked up there and transferred to the waste station.

education/outreach

- Messaging to individuals who use needles
- Messaging to general public
- Constant and effective training for staff and volunteers
- Monitoring community needs and program effectiveness

### **Presentation: King County Land Conservation Initiative**

*Presented by Bob Burns and Michael Murphy, King County*

The King County executive commitment to acquire 66,000 acres of land for preservation for future generations. They are working to make these commitments today so we do not lose the opportunities tomorrow.

Deputy Superintendent Williams is on the committee and participating to help shape the plan with the understanding that the needs are different for very dense urban areas compared to rural areas. Seattle is facing challenges with competing priorities for land and density. It makes more sense in Seattle to more cost effective to restore an acre of parkland than to acquire an acre of parkland. Broader definition of land conservation to include surface storm water management projects, green roofs. SPR needs to work with other city departments to green the streets.

Deputy Superintendent Williams appreciates Michael and Bob for their work on this. King County is working to protect conservation lands in the county. Their vision isn't complete if they don't work with their city partners. They want to help cities protect those areas too. King County created a new category for land conservation to encompass urban areas. King County has a goal of protecting landscapes as the population grows. King County is growing - 25% more people by 2040, and that's a conservative estimate. Conserving landscape is important for the protection of biodiversity, resiliency to climate change, social equity, health benefits, and economic advantage. Businesses like to be in the Northwest because of the abundant natural resources. In the global marketplace, this setting is an advantage.

Conservation success to date - King County Conservation Easements, which are privately owned but protect the land from future development; king county owns about 35,000 acres.

More to do:

- water quality issues in Puget Sound
- salmon recovery isn't happening
- missing trail connections - large regional trails
- forest and farm economies - land prices continue to rise

Natural lands for clean water, wildlife, clean air, recreation, ecological integrity and resilience. Lands identified fit into the categories referenced above.

- Healthy forests - opportunity for sustainable timber harvest, air and water quality, and wildlife
- Farm lands - seeking conservation easements to protect from future development; for healthy food and a thriving farm economy.
- Regional trail networks for increased mobility and reduced pollution
- River corridors - flood risk reduction, water quality, recreation, salmon recovery and a healthy Puget Sound.

What lands in urban rivers might present opportunities for conservation to make some habitat gains - equity and social justice benefits too!

- Urban greenspace - Working to protect p-patches or greenspaces.

Open Space Equity - Benefits from adding greenspace to communities that lack it. Analyzing communities that have lower access to openspace and overlaying health outcomes, particularly those improved by openspace; demographics - ethnicity, English as a second language, economics. Looking at underserved areas where adding additional openspace will have equity and social justice benefits. This is very important to King County and the city of Seattle. There are communities that do not have good proximate access to safe openspace.

Benefits provided to people: healthier environment, more opportunities to recreation, food security, social equity as health improves and economic development.

All of these categories lead to an increased quality of life and a vibrant economy.

The longer the wait the more expensive it will be to purchase these lands. Acting quickly is important; climate change is playing out in new and different ways.

King County looked at parcels to protect – \$1.5-1.8billion, includes acquisition and operation and maintenance for 30 years.

Lands identified are largely in unincorporated King County. Working with cities to best determine how to assist urban areas.

Multi-objective – Using funds to acquire areas that fall into more than one Conservation Category, such as: river, farm, and trail in one piece of property.

#### Financials

\$1.5 to \$1.8 billion dollars cost estimate. Revenues to King County projected out for 30 years, accounts for 3/4 money needed, assuming same level and sources of funding continues.

- Conservation Future tax is a property tax and will continue.
- REET
- Flood District in place
- Bonding against CFT is an option.
- Transfer of Development Rights program
- In lieu fee program - offset credit developers impacts
- king county parks levy – voter-approved levy that goes up every 6 years. This analysis assumes the levy continues at current rate.

- Current Use Tax – An avoided tax leaving land already enrolled in Current Use Tax; subset of lands are already in the program and withdrawal rates are very low; some lands on the list may help achieve conservation objectives.
- Anticipated Future Ecosystem Service Markets – doesn't yet exist; it would act similar to carbon trading.
- Philanthropy - \$50million

Acceleration – This leaves the gap at \$383million. If King County waits to have the finances over 30 years, they will lose opportunities and prices will go up faster than revenues.

Filing the gap:

- Bond
- increase levy lid
- CFT rate increase to maximum allowed by the state; this was preferred by the committee.
- REET
- Philanthropy
- private investments - land returns revenue to an investor.

King County Parks Levy is important part of revenue pie – this accounts for 80% of operating budget. Looking at renewed parks levy complement other parks revenue; other revenue sources do not lend themselves to O&M funding. o&m is a challenge.

Transfer of development rights - protectg rural and resource land - selling that space for urban centers to support urban density. Using this in Seattle and created millions of dollars of conservation in rural areas for urban development.

#### Next Steps:

Staff will work to finalize the report.

Staff will report to the Executive and summarize recommendations.

- great vision with a lot of merit want to learn more about city engagement specifically, learn more about equity and social justice;
- talk with communities about what they want in urban areas
- Impact to buildable land across the county
- How will the parks levy fit in.
- develop targets/metrics

reconvene advisory group in sept 2017.

Return final to executive at the end of 2017.

Put something forward to the voters in 2018, anticipating recommendations about a ballot measure.

TDR program in many cities - Sammamish, Normandy Park, Issaquah, Bellevue, Shoreline – working in cities across the County.

Downside on King County bond issue is lack of O&M money. It is frustrating because it cuts into the ability to buy land during this period of intense growth.

A commissioner suggests earmarking money for equity and access to provide transportation and programs that encourage people. There is a substantial need to start educating all young people on conservation. There should be teeth in the language of the final product when talking about equity.

Bob responds they are thinking about how to create a program and fund it. He is not sure if it would be part of this or the Parks Levy. Equity work is best done in partnership with other organizations.

In the Park District, it was important to the Committee to figure out ways to fund non-profits who could offer opportunities for people.

Bob and Murph are going to communities to find out what they want and provide that.

Commissioner Wright talks of when her family became friends with a family from Chiapas. She had the children over for a sleepover and walked them over to the Arboretum. This family lived in an apartment and were very close together and being in a natural area was a new experience for them. It's so important to introduce kids to these greenspaces.

It is important to set aside lands but there should be a programmatic piece for this.

Commissioner McCaffrey agrees and mentions when she partnered with the schools and Sierra Club to take kids out into nature for overnights and the kids were afraid.

Some of the funds are matching grants from State and Federal sources. King County aggressively seek out grants but they are very competitive.

**Old/New Business**

Commissioner Wright asks for a Motion to Adjourn- Commissioner McCaffrey moves and Commissioner Hundley seconds.

**There being no other business, the meeting adjourns at 8:40pm.**

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Tom Byers, Chair  
Board of Park Commissioners