

Time Submitted	September 17, 2012 3:10 PM
Project Name: No more than six words	Lewis Park Natural Area Improvements
Project Type:	Development
Project Location: Insert address. Please remember that Development Projects must be on public property.	1120 15th Ave S. Seattle, WA 98144
Attach Site Location Map here	 GSP Parks Boundaries.jpg
Attach Site Photos here (up to 4 photos)	 IMAG0711.jpg  IMAG0716.jpg  IMAG0734.jpg  DSCN2439.JPG
Property Owner: If known, name and contact information for private owner, or corporation or business; or public entity of project to be developed/acquired	Seattle Parks and Recreations
Neighborhood:	North Beacon Hill
Brief Project Description: Please give a brief description of the project in 100 words or less	The Lewis Park Natural Area is entering its sixth year of restoration by the Friends of Lewis Park working with the Green Seattle Partnership. The steep south slope restoration was funded by the last round of Opportunity Funds. Friends of Lewis Park have been awarded a DON Small and Simple grant for the next phase of development. A goal is to foster long term community stewardship of the Lewis Park Natural Area. Friends of Lewis Park will apply for Opportunity Funds to build the trail improvement design created by our public process.
Anticipated Project Costs:	\$747,835.21
Other Project Funding: Amount of additional leveraging, grants	\$20,000

Attach Budget here:	 Opp Fund Budget_Lewis.xls
Proposal Organization:	Friends of Lewis Park
Contact Person:	
Mailing Address:	
Zip Code:	
Day/Work Phone:	
Evening/Home Phone:	
Home or Work E-Mail Address:	

Project Goals: In 500 words or less, Describe the project in more detail. What is the intent or goal of the project, e.g., expand an existing park, improve trails or bikeways, habitat restoration or the implementation of sustainable energy practices? How did the idea for the project originate and evolve.

Friends of Lewis Park are excited and ready to move to the next phase of Lewis Park Restoration – long term community stewardship of the Lewis Park Natural Area. In the spring of 2007, Friends of Lewis Park became a member of the Green Seattle Partnership, and have since led community volunteer weekly work parties resulting in restoration of the level areas of Lewis Park. In addition to leading the work parties, the Lewis Park Steering Committee sought additional funding through Dept. of Neighborhoods and King County Conservation District. Two Small and Simple Matching Fund grants and a Wild Places in City Spaces grant provided funding for a Geotechnical Study, Vegetative Management Plan, Park Kiosk, an additional job box and tools, and restoration support for volunteers.

Friends of Lewis Park were awarded funding from the 2010 round of the Opportunity Fund to clear and plant the steep slope areas of Lewis Park. We expected this work would complete the majority of initial restoration work in the Park. However, once the heavy cover of laurel, holly and ivy were removed, what we thought would be a steep ravine turned out to have a beautiful topography with sloping shelves and beautiful view points.

Before the invasive removal, this area was thick, dense and impenetrable, preventing any new growth. The area is now mostly bare and wide-open ground dotted with the aged Big Leaf Maple trees and tiny new plants. We can see the ropes, the drug gangs used to pull themselves up the slope from their camps. The neighbors above and below the slopes can now see each other. Before the work, these neighbors barely new of each other's existence other than awareness of the work happening on the North and Central parts of the Park. In the past months, the east/west neighbors have met, bonded and strengthened the community supporting the Lewis Park Natural Area. We truly have become "neighbors" as a result of the restoration in the South slopes of the Park.

FoLP held a community meeting for neighbors adjacent to the park to explore "What's next?" Over 20 neighbors showed up to that meeting expressing strong interest in activating all of Lewis Park. Based on the input of neighbors, FoLP applied to DON for funds to do a public design process for Lewis Park. We were awarded a Small and Simple grant for \$20k, and contracted with the City in July of 2012. We have just selected our landscape architect and will be setting our first public meeting date for this fall. We will have the preliminary design completed and possibly conducted the second public meeting by the time the Opportunity Fund Open House is scheduled this winter. We will be able to present a schematic design

Project Goals: In 500
words or less
(continued).

that has been reviewed by Parks and is in the final stages of design. Our contract calls for completed design by June of 2013. Long-term stewardship of Lewis Park will be realized by building a natural area design our multi-cultural community has created.

<p>Project's Level of Readiness: Is the project in the idea stage or is there a professionally developed scope of work or a developed plan? (Please attach your project's site plan below if available.)</p>	<p>Friends of Lewis Park have been awarded a Dept. of Neighborhoods grant to develop a schematic design through public involvement. Initial design will be ready for the Open House.</p>
<p>Project's Site Plan - Attachment</p>	
<p>a. Does the project demonstrate a high degree of neighborhood support or involvement as demonstrated through a public review process and/or is the project consistent with approved plans, such as a neighborhood, community council or other recent planning documents?</p>	<p>The project is consistent with a Parks Approved Plan or other recent Parks Planning Documents.</p>

<p>Please list out plan(s) and describe in 200 words or less neighborhood support/involvement.</p>	<p>This project is consistent with Parks Approved Plans through the Green Seattle Partnership and has a developed Vegetation Management Plan as well as a Geotechnical Study. FoLP is currently developing a Parks approved design through a public input process funded by Dept. of Neighborhoods. Over \$18k has been pledged in match by the community for the design process. The restoration of Lewis Park Natural Area has been possible because of the N. Beacon Hill Community. Since 2007, neighbors have been signing up in many ways to show their support for Lewis Park. The community has supported FoLP with three matching fund grants, a King County grant, and the 2010 Opportunity Fund. Local businesses, the N. Beacon Hill Council, Beacon Hill Merchants Assoc., Beacon B.I.K.E.S., Beacon Hill International School, local Girl Scout troops, and Jefferson Community Center teens have all participated through work parties, donations, meetings, planning and support.. When FoLP started this restoration effort, few people even knew Lewis Park was a Seattle Park, let alone the name. Not only do they now know it's a Natural Area, they know its name, they are proud to claim it and excited to move forward to the future of their Urban Forest.</p>
<p>Attachment: Support Letters - A maximum of two letters of support for the project may be attached.</p>	<p> LewisParkSupport_Forterra.pdf  Parks Department Opportunity Fund Letter of Support.docx</p>
<p>e. Does the proposal restore or significantly extend the life of a current park or facility?</p>	<p>Natural Areas: High Priority Green Seattle Partnership projects.</p>

Please describe in 200 words or less.

Yes, this project will restore and significantly extend the life of Lewis Park. As we enter our 6th year as a partner in the Green Seattle Partnership, Friends of Lewis Park are incredibly excited to develop the vision of Lewis Park as a vibrant, healthy urban forest enjoyed by all of our N. Beacon Hill community. Preliminary input from our community tells us our neighbors need a place to rest from their urban environment. Lewis Park will provide a sanctuary from their built environment to enjoy native plants, wildlife, exercise, forest education and gathering space. The development will allow access to the interior of the Park, not just admiring native plants from the edges. With access come real benefits of urban nature as well as responsibility of stewardship. Many neighbors who live adjacent to Lewis Park have attempted unsuccessfully over the years to remove the invasive plants that sheltered criminal activity. With the advent of the Green Seattle Partnership, the community was at last able to help make a difference and reclaim this beautiful and unique piece of Seattle's wonderful Park system. Friends of Lewis Park are committed and ready to lead this next phase of Lewis Park restoration.

f. Does the project provide health benefits or opportunities? (e.g. trails, bike paths, open space)

a. The project increases the amount of open space or high intensity recreational opportunities.

<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>Although Lewis Park Natural Area is not within designated “Open Space Gap”, this development will increase the amount of usable open space as well as high intensity recreational opportunities. Preliminary information shows our community is interested in a variety of health opportunities in Lewis Park, low, medium and high intensity. The design could include two trails, a more challenging high intensity trail and a level, ADA accessible trail, both of which would be incorporated into the natural area habitat. Another suggestion is to incorporate natural design concepts in exercise stations. Friends of Lewis Park will do outreach to the Pacific Medical Group, located across from Lewis Park, to seek their input to the design for health benefits to patients of the clinic. Many elderly neighbors currently walk adjacent to Lewis Park and we will welcome their input on exercise opportunities as well as opportunities for younger neighbors. There have been many more creative ideas from the community around incorporating multi-cultural activities into the design. FoLP are excited for our upcoming public meetings where our landscape designer can gather everyone’s ideas into a design that encourages use of open space and provides healthy recreational opportunities</p>
<p>g. Does the project take advantage of an opportunity that will be lost unless action is taken? ACQUISITION ONLY</p>	
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	
<p>5.1 Does the project demonstrate new and/or creative methods to meet the community’s need for parks and green spaces (sustainable energy practices, etc...)?</p>	<p>a. The project follows the Living Building Challenge's (LBC) Landscape & Infrastructure Typology, Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES) or provides Sustainable Energy Practices</p>

Please describe in 500 words or less.

Lewis Park Natural Area will provide essential ecosystem functions such as restoring native habitat, filtering and storing urban runoff, and ameliorating the warming effect of urban development. The park will also provide the North Beacon Hill Community with access to a beautiful natural setting. These objectives are reflected in the performance benchmark credits of the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES). The project qualifies for the following SITES credits:

Credit 3.5 – Manage stormwater on site

Credit 3.6 - Protect and enhance on-site water resources and receiving water quality

Credit 4.6 - Preserve or restore appropriate plant biomass on site

Credit 4.8 - Preserve plant communities native to the ecoregion

Credit 4.9 - Restore plant communities native to the ecoregion

Credit 6.5 - Provide for optimum site accessibility, safety, and wayfinding

Credit 6.6 - Provide opportunities for outdoor physical activity

Credit 6.7 - Provide views of vegetation and quiet outdoor spaces for mental restoration

Credit 6.8 - Provide outdoor spaces for social interaction

Credit 7.3 - Restore soils disturbed by previous development

Stormwater (Credits 3.5, 3.6)

In support of Seattle Public Utilities Green Stormwater Infrastructure goals, stormwater will be managed on-site using Low Impact Development strategies such as dispersion and infiltration. Paths will be surfaced with permeable materials such as crushed gravel, reducing stormwater runoff. Leaves of proposed native plantings will capture rainwater, allowing for evaporation that will reduce surface water volumes. Because proposed plants will be mostly evergreen (i.e. conifers, salal, Oregon grape, sword fern) the benefits of evaporation will extend into the rainy months, when they are most needed.

Native Habitat Restoration (Credits 4.6,4.8, 4.9, 6.7)

Lewis Park's plant community will be restored with the native species originally found on the site. Plant selection will focus not only on habitat restoration, but also on building long-term resilience to urban conditions, invasive species, and climate change.

Site Access, Public Use (Credits 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8)

Park planning may include a system of paths, providing opportunities for enjoying both outdoor physical activity and the beautiful natural setting. Path pullouts and overlooks will support both social interaction and restorative solitude. Public access into the park will also allow for viewing wildlife in the restored habitat.

Site Safety (Credit 6.5)

Public safety will be enhanced using the principles of Crime

Please describe in
500 words or less
(continued).

Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), improving visual surveillance within the forested park and increasing community feelings of ownership and caretaking for the park. The project will also utilize research into human preferences of landscape characteristics – how people perceive and react to specific natural landscapes – in selecting and locating plants to create a safe and enjoyable setting.

Soil Restoration (Credit 7.3)

Recent research indicates that fine-textured woody debris in forests supports a complex community of micro-organisms that are beneficial to native woody plants. To approximate this condition, wood chips will be spread over much of the site. The chips, which will be recycled from sites with clearing or forestry activities, will have the added benefits of preserving

<p>i. How does the project leverage or have the potential to leverage other resources through the actions of other public agencies, funding from public, private or philanthropic partners, and/or in-kind contributions of time and energy from citizen volunteers?</p>	<p>c. The project has up to 10% funding or in-kind contributions or a funding plan (plans for applying for funding or in-kind donations.) Please list the amount of funding in hand below.</p>
<p>Attach Funding Plan here.</p>	
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>Friends of Lewis Park have been awarded a DON Small and Simple grant for \$20,000. As part of the Matching Fund, an additional \$18,000 has been committed by the community in volunteer in-kind hours to support the design project. FoLP continue to lead weekly work parties which average over 1,000 volunteer hours each year. Our public/private partners include Green Seattle Partnership and Coldwell Banker Bain. Our community partners include the N. Beacon Hill Council, Beacon Hill International, Giddons School, Dept of Juvenile Justice, local Girl Scout troops, the Jefferson Community Center, Seattle Pacific University, University Washington, Red Apple Market, The Station, Beacon Garden Club, Beacon B.I.K.E.S., Beacon Food Forest, ROCKIT Community Arts, El Centro de la Raza and neighbors.</p> <p>Tabling at 6 events just on Beacon Hill resulted in an additional interest of 100 new community members. FoLP intend to apply for additional funding through Dept of Neighborhoods and continue to research other sources of funding. We anticipate increased community volunteerism throughout the project.</p>
<p>j. What potential effects does the project have on the City's maintenance and operating costs?</p>	<p>b. The project increases the City's maintenance and operating costs and a Business, non-profit or existing approved community group has agreed to take on all maintenance responsibilities for a period of at least 5 years.</p>

Please describe in
200 words or less.

Funding of the Lewis Park Development project will provide our community access to the South section of Lewis Park. The area has limited access, appropriate only to professional crews who are maintaining the new plants with funding from the 2010 Opportunity Fund award. With implementation of our community-based design, volunteers will have access to the area and be able to continue maintenance begun by the crews. Friends of Lewis Park have shown a consistent record of on-going maintenance of the accessible areas of Lewis Park for 5 ½ years. With the establishment of the native plants and trees well underway in these areas, the volunteer effort will be ready to focus on the newly accessible South Area. With the support of the Green Seattle Partnership, Friends of Lewis Park are excited and committed to leading long-term community stewardship of Lewis Park Natural Area. FoLP will provide all maintenance allowable by volunteers and will seek further funding if necessary for activities volunteers are unable to perform.