



Northgate Urban Center Park: PAT Member meeting #4

April 30th, 2008 at Northgate Community Center: 6:30PM to 8:00PM

Announcements:

There will be selection process with the help of the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs to select an artist to work with the design team to create art that will be integrated into the landscape. The submittal deadline is Monday May 5, 2008 at 11:00p.m. Artists will submit online at www.callforentry.org in the Café where we can download all of the information and present to the group. There will be two local artists on the panel, two PAT members and Mithun.

May 14th, 2008- First cut for Artist Submissions

May 21st, 2008-Interviews of the final 3 to for Artists

Community Meeting #2: A project summary will be online soon. Mithun spent some time reviewing the process and results and responding to comments from PAT members.

Comments from the PAT Members:

Sue: needs to be more active towards the Northgate Community Center issues.
A practice lawn that is useful does not want to exclude sports.

Royal: This is not a formal sports field and will not be scheduled as one. There are major maintenance and operations issues that come with scheduled fields as well as budget issues. Informal play among drop-in users is very welcome.

Rita: Likes the fact that it is a multipurpose park

Chuck: Not meant for formal sports events

Kim: Part passive, part active- it was determined through the community meetings and we've heard that the people don't want organized sports at this site.

Pati: T- Ball practice or programs with the Community Center would be a desirable use for the park.

Rita: She like the breakdown of the Skatepark with 3 different levels and a play area with performance area.

Velva: She thought comments had been edited about the skate parks – she thinks we need to consider outdoor chess, if we allow skateboarding it will enhance the chance of graffiti.

Chuck : Farmers Market should be weekly – really regular for most of the year. Put Skatepark in the noisiest area of the Park – to the West.

Performance – sound should travel away from the residential area.

Consider what will be developed around the Park and the current rezone issues. 5th Avenue building has no eyes on the Park

More nature and natural functions should be emphasized in the park.

The Farmers Market: The group had a long discussion regarding the idea of having a Farmer's Market on the site. We discussed the pros and cons and finally determined that this site really isn't the right place for the neighborhood. It was decided that Olympic View is a more appropriate place for such an event.

Velva: Consider more play like at Northgate Community Center, need actual activities for seniors like chess tables and horseshoes

Sue: Noise towards skate park, play area and possible exercise – play equipment for older folks, for interaction, maybe interaction with the circuit trail

Pati: Consider -

- Low lighting for safety
- Bathrooms
- Moonlighting would be best
- Water feature – maybe wade in it
- Play area – more exercising type meter circuit
- Call Seattle Police Department – Dian Nussem
- Electricity that can be turned off

Shawn: Consider-

- Noise on the 5th Avenue
- There are just so few eyes on the Park
- Needs to be more open
- Fitness and circuit
- People are attracted to water so some type of feature should be provided
- Quiet center is desirable
- More water but not necessary economically in budget

Jim: Option #2 quiet center is desirable

- Preferred irregular shape of park
- Access on Third avenue is an issue for the street
- More access and parking within the park should be provided
- Trees on the North side – do they block the view or not? Make sure they don't.
- Commercial uses on the edge of the park are desirable and need to be considered more.
- Break up the big blocks
- Maybe need to do a traffic study – a formal analysis of the impact.

Nick Licata-has a website for citizen concerns in reference to critical crossings.

Desiree: Too Geometrical

- Too formal
- Defining a performance area: really open boundary walls
- Small skate board area is still possible
- Still wants Farmers Market after the PAT's discussion and decision

Chuck: Greenwood Park is an interesting example.

- We need a multi-use park and a performance stage that can function as something else when not in use.

Budget: Since we currently do not have funding for construction, we will be developing a plan that can be phased. Parks is applying for a RCO grant and talking to SDOT and SPU about partnering.