



West Seattle Reservoir Park Development Project Community Meeting #1 Summary

Thursday, December 3, 2009
7 – 9 p.m.
High Point Community Center
6920 34th Ave. SW

Approximately 60-70 community members attended the meeting at High Point Community Center for the West Seattle Reservoir Park Development Project. 57 individuals signed in. This was the first of four public meetings for the project – main points covered at the meeting included:

- Welcome & Introductions
- Public Process & Project Schedule
- Background & Project History
- Neighborhood Mini-Summit Summary
- Consultant Team Overview
- Discussion, Public Comments, Questions & Answers

A majority of the comments received pertain to current conditions in Westcrest Park. This project will focus on focus on the new park area – the West Seattle Reservoir site.

Key Points for the new park site from the night included:

- Concerns over drainage wash out from the new reservoir site onto the existing dog-off-leash area.
- Pedestrian safety – no sidewalks, lots of trucks and traffic to deal with getting to the park.
- Connections – surrounding neighborhood, trails in the Duwamish, and SDOT's bicycle - pedestrian plan.
- Current parking is insufficient
- Concerns over Parks ability to maintain park, frustration over Friends-of-group, not being able to use power tools.
- Desire for unstructured play areas, passive use areas, multi-use areas
- Youth soccer space
- Ultimate Frisbee space
- Active street entrances and interface, sidewalks, sidewalks, sidewalks
- Exercise trail



"Creating community through people, parks, and programs."



Comments taken from the flip charts at the first meeting

- More dog park – it is too small – include the wooded area.
- Frisbee Disc Golf to activate the woods.
- Water drainage improvements needed.
- More parking
- Restrooms and lighting inside the off-leash area
- Bridge to nowhere/gulley area needs improvements – What about parking?
- Improve the view overlook for a gathering place.
- Use original plan ideas from Richard Haag.
- Picnic shelter, tennis courts, concert bowl
- Skate spot
- Water feature
- Amphitheatre
- Sidewalks on Cloverdale are needed on both sides of the street.
- Wildlife/habitat enhancement
- Sidewalks, safety, access, security more important than recreation amenities.
- Rehab the greenbelt and connect bike trails for bikers to W Duwamish Bike Trail.
- Invasive clean-up has been very successful in south part of park. Emphasize safety and lighting in this area – There are homeless and illegal dumping here.
- Encourage passive use also
- Maintenance is a huge issue – There is not enough maintenance now – Can we build in maintenance funding?
- Construction noise concerns and road deterioration by lid contractor
- Preserve/enhance unstructured play, natural playground
- Large multi-use area like a village green, for farmer's markets, swap meets, etc.
- Need angled parking along 8th Avenue – in street R.O.W.
- Soccer for youth (1,400 kids in W Seattle programs) - not dedicated for any one sport-multi-use, etc.
- Ultimate Frisbee areas needed
- Dedicated sports fields are needed that can be reserved.
- Focus on activities for youth – i.e. cross-country trails.
- Do not make scheduled athletics the dominant use of this new park!
- Create active street entrances with sidewalks, entries...
- Do outreach to youth for use ideas
- P-patches and community garden areas, demonstration gardens
- Need more diverse use – other nearby areas are available for organized sports.
- Build on ethnically diverse population, such as Samoan cricket, art must reflect the community!
- Get SDOT cooperation for sidewalks and drainage improvements.
- Change stipulation about volunteers not being able to use power tools! Volunteers will do the maintenance if allowed to!
- LID soil profile of 24" (1/2 grass, 1/2 ground) – may not take much traffic – how about Synthetic turf?
- Need lighted fields (note that Hiawatha & Delridge are soon on-line)
- Pedestrian access from 8th & from Cloverdale is needed.
- City can't maintain the parks now, so low maintenance areas needed – such as hard surfaces and synthetic turf.
- Program park with schools for learning about the natural environment.
- Light the dog park with ambient light from the lid.
- Address the traffic issues on Cloverdale.
- Additional viewpoints could be accommodated.
- Exercise trail stations?
- Signage should be multi-lingual.
- Create links with the Duwamish for educational purposes.
- Create a buffer for the neighbors to mitigate the higher use of the park.
- Light the valley, not the lid
- Expand the dog park into the greenbelt area.