

**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 2003**

Present:

Bruce Bentley, Chair
James Fearn
Joanna Grist
Sarah Nielson
Kate Pflaumer

Excused: Terry Holme

Staff:

Ken Bounds, Superintendent
Sandy Brooks, Park Board Coordinator

Chair Bruce Bentley called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. **James moved and it was seconded that the agenda consent items be approved, including the July 10 agenda, June 26 minutes, and the acknowledgment of correspondence. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.**

Kate proposed a new oral communication policy where, if more than 10 people sign up to speak in this segment of the agenda, the first 10 would speak during the regularly scheduled time. Beginning with speaker #11, additional speakers would testify after the scheduled agenda items are concluded. A brief discussion followed. Bruce suggested this discussion be tabled and discussed further at a Park Board retreat. **Sarah moved that for tonight's agenda, no more than 10 speakers would be scheduled to speak during oral communications at the beginning of the meeting. James seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.**

Superintendent's Report

Parks Superintendent Ken Bounds reported on the following:

4th of July Celebrations: Parks experienced few problems during the successful 4th of July weekend, with several hundred thousand people enjoying the holiday and the fireworks at the various parks. There were several incidents where minor damage occurred due to the use of illegal fireworks.

First Thursday Art Walk Street Vendors Successfully Relocated: Street vendors were relocated to Occidental Park for the July 3 Pioneer Square art gallery walk. Hundreds of people were attracted to the park, with no incidents. The relocation was very successful.

Summer Day Camps Participation: Day camps in Southwest Seattle are running smoothly and at capacity. Three of the four day camps in Southeast Seattle are at capacity. In Northeast Seattle, the camps are operating at 97% capacity.

Public Safety Building: The feeding program that has been in front of this building for the past decade will be moved due to the building being torn down. The temporary location is City Hall Park, located at 450 3rd Avenue just south of the Courthouse. Parks will issue a permit and determine the impact on the park. The long-term goal is to find a permanent sheltered space for the feeding program.

Good news on Project Bids: Both the Jefferson Community Center and Sand Point Building #32 roof projects have come in under estimate. The Department has had a successful run of positive bids.

Special Award for Parsons Garden: Seattle Bride magazine awarded Parsons Garden the special honor of "Best Outdoor Small Reception Site for 2003." The magazine's readers selected the Garden as the winner. The award recognizes the outstanding work done by Park Resources staff to maintain this site and keep flowers in bloom throughout the season. Parsons Garden is located at 650 W Highland Drive on Queen Anne.

Nations in Bloom: The Parks Department applied for the City of Seattle in this international competition. The competition is based on quality of life. Parks is now preparing for the finals, which will be held in the Netherlands in October.

Oral Requests and Communication from the Audience

Bruce explained that the general public comment portion of the agenda is reserved for topics that have not had or are not scheduled for a public hearing. Testimony is limited to three minutes per speaker. One person signed up to give testimony on non-public hearing topics, but declined to speak.

South Lake Union Public Hearing

Introduction/Background

Steven Wright, Parks Department project manager, came before the Board to give a verbal briefing on the proposed South Lake Union Park. Park Board members received a written briefing paper and a cost analysis. These two documents are included below, followed by the verbal briefing.

Written Briefing

Initial planning work to create a large waterfront park at this location started in the mid 1980's. By 1989 the original park master plan for the park had been developed. This plan envisioned a park that was also a center of maritime heritage, and would showcase the growing collection of historic vessels being moored at the site. In the 1990's Parks acquired properties along West Lake and south of the Naval Armory building for a future

park. In 2000 the Navy transferred ownership of the remaining property and the buildings to Parks. That same year the 2000 South Lake Union Park Master Plan Update was completed and adopted by resolution by the City Council. Presently the Pro Park Levy is providing \$5 million to advance the process of redeveloping the former Naval Reserve property into a large urban park.

The public involvement element of the process has been thorough and systematic with an open house and four public meetings during the past seven months. The project design team has also been guided by monthly meetings with a Project Advisory Team and also a smaller Client Group, representing the major tenants of the park (Seattle Parks, Seattle Parks Foundation, and the Maritime Heritage Foundation). The meetings have been well attended (averaging over 60 people per meeting). At each meeting the majority of sign-ins has listed affiliation with either the Center for Wooden Boats, the Maritime Heritage Foundation, or Northwest Seaport.

The intent of the schematic design is to move past the "master plan" phase and provide a guide of how the entire park will be developed. The schematic design creates the actual framework for circulation, waterfront access, new park amenities, and resolves critical issues related to the park's overall function. Since development costs to create/renovate the site into a safe, exciting urban park capable of hosting large civic events exceed the available funds of the Pro Parks Levy, this schematic design will also include reliable cost estimates so that future park development projects can be adequately funded. The South Lake Union Neighborhood is experiencing remarkable growth and adjacent to the park there are several other critical planning efforts underway. These include the Mercer/Valley Corridor study (SDOT) and the Vulcan retail/commercial/residential project on the five blocks east and south of the park site. A strong schematic design has helped position Parks as a leading influence in the redevelopment efforts of the neighborhood.

The Seattle Parks Foundation has committed to a major fundraising effort for this park. The foundation wants to raise sufficient funds to assist Parks in developing all of the park facilities that are not linked to specific non-profit organizations (examples; no funds for the shops for Center for Wooden Boats, and canoe carving shed for the United Indians of All Tribes). The schematic design process has also identified a series of development phases that would allow the park to "mature" over several years. The plan has "place holders" for specific facilities, which will allow other non-profit organizations to complete fund raising efforts for their facilities in parallel with the overall park development.

Policy Issue:

The Board is being asked to review this schematic design and take public testimony related to the overall design and specific issues. Since this plan will supercede the 2000 Master Plan update the Board must decide if the plan meets the level of design detail necessary to guide the systematic development of the park. The Board must also be satisfied that the plan maintains the intent of the 2000 Master Plan update to provide a

waterfront park capable of supporting large civic events, celebrates the maritime heritage of the region, and improves lakeshore access and water edge habitat.

Staff Recommendation:

Parks recommends that the Park Board approve the schematic design. The public process has been thorough and the majority of comments from the public have been favorable. The issue of constructing the canal has not been decided at this time. Although this element of the park has captured the hearts of most of the public, it remains unclear if underlying soil contamination conditions will prove to be too costly to mitigate. The canal, if designed properly, could provide additional opportunities to improve water edge habitat, and increase boat traveling park visitor access to the park.

Options:

At this point, staff feels that the schematic design is complete except for final soils information related to the canal and related costs estimates for park elements. (Information about contaminated soils and canal construction costs will be available by the June 26 meeting).

Options include:

1. Approval of the plan, as is pending favorable soils information.
2. Approval of the plan without a canal as part of the final design.
3. Ask for revision to the plan based on Board considerations.

Associated Issues:

In the past month the Maritime Heritage Foundation announced it is bankrupt and has filed for dissolution. Some members of that organization blame Parks for not providing sufficient support for their efforts, including completion of a long-term lease of the Armory to MHF. The bankruptcy leaves the Historic Ship's Wharf (north side of the Armory) only 50% completed and lacking over \$1 million necessary for completion.

The southern and western 50 feet of the park along the street edge of Western Ave. and Valley Street are street right-of-way. The Mercer/Valley Corridor Study (SDOT) is expected to propose shifting Valley Street nearly 28 feet north, and reducing its width to two travel lanes. Overall this will benefit the park by making it possible for neighborhood park users to safely access the park as pedestrians.

Transportation improvements proposed for the neighborhood include installing a streetcar on Westlake and Terry streets, crossing through the southern 30 feet of street right of way. This improvement would actually allow greater multi modal access for the park. Examples of streetcars in public plazas in the City of Portland include installation of tracks in the center of urban plazas.

Vulcan redevelopment of the adjacent blocks south and east of the park is expected to allow the park to "grow by adding additional waterfront urban plazas east of the site. Vulcan has been allowing Parks design team to review and comment on their design ideas.

Urban Environmental Institute (UEI) Case Study/Terry Avenue storm water runoff proposal: The UEI developed a case study for greener urban redevelopment in 2002. One element of the case study is a proposal to collect all "clean rainwater" from roofs and sidewalks upstream of the park and to pipe it through the park allowing it to flow back into the lake. The options presented include perched wetlands and other water features to enhance the lake edge and serve as amenities for the park. The challenge of this proposal is high water volumes of severe storm events, and determining ways that the park can receive benefit for accepting and treating of-site storm water from private properties.

Attachments:

1. Park plan - preferred schematic alternative includes canal.
2. Sketch illustrations of the park.

Additional Information

Steven Wright, Seattle - Sr. Capital Projects Coordinator, 684-7054;
steven.wright@seattle.gov

> [view the plans on the South Lake Union Pro Parks Project Page](#)

Project Construction Costs

Introduction/Background

The park development costs estimates presented in this addendum to the briefing paper are based on material quantity estimates derived from the preferred schematic design plan. To make the costs as accurate as possible at this level of design we have used new soils data on both the Westlake Ave. and main body of the park and construction cost data from 2002/2003 projects of similar scale. The poor quality of on-site soils, including the potential for encountering contaminated and settling soils, close proximity to the edge of the lake, and additional construction challenges for building structures on fill could all affect the final park development costs, but every effort has been made to take these conditions into account to create this estimate.

This estimate of project costs has been adjusted to include planning, design, and construction costs associated with Parks CIP projects.

Westlake Ave. (West of WW#3): \$4,068,312
WW#3 Ped Bridge: \$2,259,480
Main Park - East of WW#3 (no Canal): \$15,481,531
Subtotal \$21,809,323

Canal excavation & Structures
(including 3 bridges) \$5,239,588

Contaminated soils mitigation \$1,100,000
Subtotal \$6,339,588

Total Park Cost (estimate) \$28,148,910

Verbal Briefing

Steven Wright, project manager, reviewed the project history and the public process that has taken place. Tonight the Parks Department is asking the Park Board for approval of the preferred alternative. Steven introduced Marcel Wilson of Hargreaves Associates. This firm has designed large waterfront parks around the world, including Riverfront Park in Louisville KY, the William Clinton Library in Little Rock AK, the 2000 Olympics in Sydney Australia, and has been named as a member of the team redesigning the World Trade Center site. Hargreaves is the lead design and landscape consultant on this South Lake Union Park project. He also introduced Steven Bull of Mithun Architects, which is providing information on the current structures at the park and recommendations for materials, future structures, and sustainable features for the park development. Susan Tonkin of Moffatt-Nichol Marine Engineers, a local marine engineering company assisting with the project's water-edge design challenges, was in the audience and was also introduced.

The project plans include: a pedestrian bridge to connect the east and west sides of Waterway #3; a 90-foot in diameter model boat pond; a large plaza next to Valley Street, including water jet fountains and historic maritime elements under a tree canopy; better pedestrian waterfront access, views, and small boat access at the north end of the park; a raised dais and steps along the south and west faces of the Armory; a new pedestrian path/road along the park's eastern edge to access handicap parking adjacent to the armory building, special event access, and service vehicle access; conversion of Terry Avenue to pedestrian-only access, except for evening functions; relocation of the future canoe carving shed, longhouse and soft sand beach to the west side of Waterway #3; and new on-land shops and support facilities for boat restoration and skills demonstrations at the southwest corner of Waterway #4.

Marcel gave a power point presentation of details of the proposed project. He discussed how the history of the area, including its use as a dump, and how the lake edge has been used to influence the design of the park and including features that reference or remind visitors of the site history. He talked in detail about the site circulation framework, the materials to be used, and the architecture of the buildings. He also discussed parking and vehicle access configuration, festival tent configurations, and physical space needs for the Tall Ship festival (which attracts more than 12,000 people), and how exhibit and demonstration tents could be configured for smaller festivals.

There are remaining uncertainties in the project, including the soil and water channel/canal. Recent sub surface investigation data suggests that mitigation of contaminated soils will not preclude including the channel/canal in the design.

Public Testimony

The following people signed up to give public testimony on the South Lake Union Park project:

Keith R. Shaw: is a lifetime resident of Seattle area and lives at Alki Point. The South Lake Union site was promised since the early 1960s as a historical maritime site. He is upset when he hears talk about the canal and tearing out the seawall so people can get close to the water. If they want to get close, they should go to Golden Gardens or other beach areas. He is a member of the Northwest Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society. The South Lake Union site is perfect for a historical maritime site. The City should take a stand and say this is not a park for wading or swimming. The Board should tell City Council this is a historical maritime site.

Marguerite Maquire: is a member of the Northwest Seaport. There are currently a tugboat, the Wiwona, and other historical boats at South Lake Union. She believes that the emphasis is on the park and not what is currently at the site. People love historical boats - the plan should focus more on these boats' role and future and integrate this focus into the plan.

E.R. Floodquist: he was still in high school when the historical ship Wiwona was saved by Wing Luke. He volunteers on several maritime groups and they have been working for a maritime heritage museum at South Lake Union. The volunteers need space to work on boats at South Lake Union. People like to come through and look at the boats. He thanked the planners for the pond - wants lagoon for model sailboats. The planners talk about the buildings reflecting the craft - the volunteers are already reflecting the craft. He compared the killing of geese to the killing of boats and said big wooden boats are a pain. They can't be restored overnight and there aren't enough volunteers to work on them. They need space for the work. Northwest Seaport members are concerned with what will happen at the park in the future.

Phyllis Lamphere: member of the Seattle Parks Foundation Board. Both the Executive Director and Phyllis participated on advisory groups for this project. The Foundation will be the major fundraiser for this project and want it to be a dramatic, awe-inspiring, and magnificent park that can accommodate all the uses mentioned. She sees no reason why everyone in the room tonight cannot back the direction that this project is headed. South Lake Union Park is a wonderful opportunity for downtown residents and those living nearby to have easy access to a park with water access. The Foundation is concerned with the cost of the canal; however, they support the preferred design being presented tonight. This is a huge task and the Foundation is very excited to be a part of it. The Foundation encourages the Park Board to approve the design as it has evolved, with full knowledge that modifications may be necessary so the Foundation can be assured its efforts are compatible with those of the City.

Stephen Lundgren: his family heritage is maritime. He is a kayaker, has been watching the progress of this park, and is excited about the plans. He asks that the plan respect the maritime history of "down and dirty" real boats. The proposed canal could be a real

vision. He is concerned about the nearby corporate involvement. This is the City's park and he doesn't want to see the park become an annex to "Allenville".

Dick Wagner: is a member of the South Lake Union Project Advisory Team and believes this is a good plan that can be built on in many ways in the future. He had three points to make: 1. The canal/channel is important as it helps the flow of the lake and will almost double the edge of the lake in spring during high flow of the water. If the soil is toxic and expensive to move, another option is don't remove it, just make into a non-people island nearby. 2. Don't assume when South Lake Union Park is finished that the lake is finished. He sees the park as a point of departure for the lake itself - there are 60 undeveloped waterways around the lake that could be developed as connections to the park. 3. Change the name from South Lake Union Park to a name that reflects the historical, maritime, and industrial elements of the park.

Barbara Zolena: she believes that every local park that has been saved was saved by individuals working on initiatives not by politicians. She urged that public toilets, open 24 hours per day, be included in the design of the park for people who are homeless now and will be homeless in the future, because they live in buildings that are poorly constructed and will be torn down. She stated that most of the park levy funds have gone to build parking areas and facilities that charge people to use them. Don't plant grasses, as they cause allergies.

J. Donnette: lives on a floating home on Lake Union. He is a member of the South Lake Union Project Advisory Team and an emeritus professor of architecture at the University of Washington. He believes this project has had a very thorough development effort and an extreme effort to include everyone in the process. There is the potential now for a very good park at South Lake Union.

Craig Webster: is a member of the Board of Trustees of Northwest Seaport, a past member of Maritime Heritage, and an architect. He has been working on this project since 1990 when an original resolution was passed that was supported by Mayor Rice and, subsequently, by Mayor Schell. The resolution had two requirements for a maritime heritage element for the park: (1) provides a public element and (2) is self-sustaining. He believes there are some really good ideas in this project and should be included if financially possible. However, he believes that the missing element is a dynamic maritime heritage center that is broader in scope than what is on site now. The architecture should include more than a token recognition of this heritage. If this element can't be included now, include it in the future plans.

Board Discussion and Recommendation

James asked if the design precludes any uses. Steven answered no, that there has been a lot of work done to accommodate even a future maritime heritage center. The park may have a maritime heritage trail that tells the local maritime history and would add future excitement to the park. The Center for Wooden Boats and Northwest Seaport needs space to build and restore ships and there is an area at the end of Waterway #4 where space is

being specifically created for this. There will be pavilions on the east side of the armory to provide for historic skills presentations.

Ken said tonight's discussion hasn't yet included the historic ships wharf at the north end of the park. Restored, historic ships will be moored here and accessible to the public. Parks is in the process of securing funds to complete this work.

Kate asked if the project would cause any change in the amount of dock/wharf space. Marcel said there would be no more dock space, however, there is additional moorage space for transient boats using floats west of Terry Avenue. Ken said the docks that are there now are temporary. The wharf is to be built in the future. Marcel said that floating docks will be brought in and used for future needs during boating festivals. Steven said that Parks and the consultants are working with Department of Natural resources to determine how temporary docks will be brought in to accommodate festivals.

Joanna believes the historical trail is a good idea. Steven said that this would be worked on in the next phase of the project. Marcel said there is also space on the east side of Terry, in the plaza adjacent to Valley, that includes a "fixed", ever-changing display that will focus on the maritime heritage.

Joanna asked if the plan can move forward without the canal and then have the canal added later. Marcel said yes.

Kate commends Seattle Parks Foundation for raising the funds for this project. The Foundation would like to present the vision of the park including the canal to potential donors. If the canal is not feasible, then the Foundation wants Parks and the consultant to have Plan B a vision of the park without a canal to present to potential donors. Kate's personal opinion is that the canal is not worth \$7 million and it will be difficult to raise this much money. However, she believes this is a magnificent plan and if the Foundation can raise the funds, "go get 'em."

James asked, aside from the fundraising, if the preferred alternative (which includes the canal) is recommended, what would happen next. Steven said if the preferred alternative is recommended, then the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) will begin. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was filed with the original proposal in the 1991 master plan. The SEIS will address issues that weren't addressed in the EIS, such as salmon and water quality. Parks will work with the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use and other permitting agencies before construction begins. If the project keeps moving forward, permitting is expected to take 18 months and construction would take place during 2005-2006.

James asked if there would be future decision points made on almost everything and Steven said he assumed there would be. Kate asked how the plan would move along if the canal is found to be too costly. Steven said the canal can be developed separately from the rest of the plan and the team could continue working on the rest of the overall design without missing any important elements.

James moved approval of the plan as presented. Kate seconded.

Sarah asked for identification of the buildings on the east side, aside from the armory. Steven pointed out the buildings: United Indians of All Tribes, which likes the site and will help raise funds, and The Center for Wooden Boats and Northwest Seaport, which also support the project. Sarah then asked about the south building. Steven said this has been identified as a possible future visitors/welcoming center. Sarah asked if there are public restrooms there. Steven said that use of each of these spaces has not yet been programmed into the design. This will be determined during the design and development phase. Marcel said there might be adequate room in the armory for public restroom facilities.

Sarah asked what effect the project would have on wildlife habitat. Marcel said that the plan would improve water quality and the additional wetland edge would benefit wildlife. If the canal is built, there will be wetland plantings around it, which will be an added benefit.

Sarah stated that there seems to be a lot of paths in the narrow Westlake section of the park. Marcel said there are two primary paths: a commuter path for pedestrians and bicyclists and one for direct access into the park. There is also one less formal, meandering pathway. Sarah asked if this is a final plan for the three paths and Marcel said no. She also asked if discussion of these paths will come before the Park Board again and Marcel said yes.

Joanna asked if there is any swimming access and Marcel said no.

Sarah believes that, in this day and age, the cost of the canal is excessive.

The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Bruce thanked the Parks staff and consultants for their presentation at this meeting.

City Park Marine Reserves

Background

Paula Hoff, Parks Department strategic advisor, came before the Park Board to present a briefing on the proposed City Park Marine Reserves policy. The Board also received a written briefing. Both the written and verbal briefings follow.

Written Briefing

RULE ESTABLISHING MARINE RESERVES WITHIN CERTAIN CITY PARKS

PREFACE

This Rule has been developed pursuant to SMC 18.12.040 because there is a need to provide enhanced protection for certain sensitive inter-tidal and marine areas within Seattle park boundaries. These areas provide valuable habitat for fish and wildlife and a valuable educational and scientific resource for the citizens of Seattle. While general parks policies provide some protection for such areas, marine and inter-tidal areas within certain portions of Golden Gardens, Carkeek Park, South Alki/Richey Viewpoint, Lincoln Park, Schmitz Viewpoint, and Discovery Park, will benefit from enhanced protection as designated Marine Reserves.

1. PURPOSE

1.1. To establish the boundaries of Marine Reserves within certain Seattle Parks and to establish the rules governing such Marine Reserves.

2. ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED

2.1. Department of Parks and Recreation

3. REFERENCES

3.1. SMC 18.12.030(10)

3.2. SMC 18.12.040

3.3. SMC 18.12.080

3.4. SMC 18.12.090

3.5. SMC 18.12.278

4. POLICY

4.1. Marine Reserves are hereby established within the City-owned portions of certain marine and inter-tidal areas of Golden Gardens, Carkeek Park, South Alki/Richey Viewpoint, Lincoln Park, Schmitz Viewpoint and Discovery Park as set forth in Attachment A.

4.2. All such Marine Reserves shall remain open to the public unless public access is otherwise restricted pursuant to a separate policy or order. Shellfish gathering is not authorized within the boundaries of a Marine Reserve.

4.3. Dogs or other domestic animals (except service animals, or dogs used by public law enforcement agencies and under control of a law enforcement officer) are prohibited within the boundaries of a Marine Reserve.

4.4. Unless specifically permitted pursuant to Section 4.5 of this Rule, the following activities are prohibited within the boundaries of a Marine Reserve except as part of a pest eradication program or other specifically approved activity:

4.4.1. Hunting, or intentionally wounding, killing, trapping, or capturing any wildlife species, including without limitation, any non-domesticated mammal, bird, amphibian, or reptile (and including the eggs or offspring thereof);

4.4.2. Intentionally removing, damaging, or destroying any fish or wildlife nests or breeding places;

4.4.3. Intentionally removing, harvesting, damaging, or destroying any plant (including but not limited to kelp and seaweed and other aquatic plants);

4.4.4. Digging, trenching, scouring, drilling or otherwise disturbing submerged or intertidal lands;

4.4.5. Engaging in any activity otherwise prohibited by applicable city ordinances or other Parks Rules.

Incidental damage that may be caused by otherwise permitted activities shall not be considered a violation of this Rule. This section shall not be applied to impair the exercise of any right protected by the Treaty of Point Elliot (12 Stat.927 (1859)) or other tribal treaty.

4.5. Upon application and a finding of a legitimate public need (which may include, without limitation, educational uses, research, park improvement, utility and habitat restoration activities) the Superintendent may permit activity otherwise prohibited by this Rule, provided that permission shall not be granted for any activity that would violate other applicable federal, state or local law. Legitimate maintenance, activity, including but not limited to the removal of pests or invasive flora by authorized personnel, may be permitted at any time by the Superintendent or his or her designee. The Superintendent may issue a permit for a specific activity or issue general permits for categories of activities.

4.6. The Superintendent has the discretion to close all or part of a Marine Reserve area to all public access for a specified period of time. The Superintendent may only do so after public review by the Park Board.

4.7. Pursuant to SMC 18.12.030(10) and SMC 18.12.278, violation of any provision of this Rule may, be grounds for exclusion of the violator from park property.

4.8. This Rule is not intended to prohibit the use of wheelchairs by disabled persons or strollers anywhere in parks where public access is permitted.

5. RESPONSIBILITY

5.1. It is the responsibility of Department of Parks and Recreation staff to monitor and ensure these policies are carried out. Each affected Director will assign staff to inspect impacted parks and recommend appropriate actions to the Superintendent including establishing additional restrictions within Marine Reserve areas.

5.2. The Park Recreation Managers are responsible to have signs made and installed as needed, to control and direct the use of Marine Reserves pursuant to Section 4 of this Rule.

5.3. The Superintendent's Office will keep a log of complaints involving activities within Marine Reserves and report to Park Resource Managers particular problems and trends.

5.4. The Superintendent's Office will develop permission forms for public or educational use activities within Marine Reserves pursuant to Section 4.5 of this Rule.

5.5. It is the responsibility of the COS Graphic Design and Signage Section to prepare a Marine Reserve sign manual with layouts for standard signs. The warehouse shall stock an inventory of standard Marine Reserve use signs.

Verbal Briefing

Paula stated the policy builds on several years' work by the Carkeek Watershed Community Action Project, King County Water and Land Resources, and the Seattle Aquarium to address the issue of over harvesting of marine resources in City parks. Paula gave a brief review of the policy and said it designates parts of Golden Gardens Park, Carkeek Park, South Alki/Richey Viewpoint, Lincoln Park, Schmitz Viewpoint, and Discovery Park as marine reserves where taking of shellfish, capture of any wildlife species, or otherwise damaging or destroying submerged or intertidal lands is prohibited. Many of the activities listed in the policy are already in the Park Code and are illegal on Seattle park land. The policy gives a good opportunity to further educate the public on protecting and preserving marine life areas.

Paula introduced Mark Plunkett of the Aquarium, who has worked to develop this policy for over 10 years. She also introduced Aquarium Director Bill Arnst. Bill said Mark is the unsung hero of this policy and he urged the Park Board to vote in favor. He believes the policy has a modest level of enforcement, but it sends a message that says "we are serious."

Public Testimony

The following people signed up to give public testimony on the City Park Marine Reserve Policy:

April Carr: is originally from Bremerton and now volunteers at the Seattle Aquarium. She described beach rocks being turned by people, leaving underwater creatures exposed to the elements, shells and driftwood being removed from the shore, and crabs carried

around the beach in buckets of water. Puget Sound has been resilient from this treatment, but it is very fragile and what remains should be cherished. This policy is a step in the right direction.

Stephen Lundgren: is a kayaker and is pleased there is still some good surviving shorefront. He believes lots of damage has been done and it is important to preserve and maintain what exists. He is not in favor of off-leash areas and beach burning festivals. He is concerned with enforcement of this policy, considering the current budget cuts and urges the Department to put some "teeth" into enforcing the policy.

Elisabeth Umbanhowar: thanked the Park Board for its public process. She is an avid user of parks, an educator, a volunteer, and a beach naturalist. This rule will add recognition of what we have and is another tool that volunteers can use. It is a smart investment and she urged the Board to support the rule, for the good of both the present and the future.

Giovannina Sovers: began working for the Aquarium as a volunteer and is now a beach naturalist captain. She described her best day/worst day at the beach when two little boys were pulling live creatures from their homes. She described the lives and importance of these tiny creatures to the boys and they were very receptive to the information. However, later that day when the boys observed a family drying sea stars to take home with them, she wished she could have told the two boys that Parks policy does not support the taking of live animals from its parks. She urged the Board to recommend the policy>

David Rapp: moved here 22 years ago and loves the areas' connection to water and marine life. He has two children and wants to be able to show marine life to them. He believes the positive impact of the policy goes way beyond the actual preserve areas. He gave Edmonds underwater park as an example and said that because of the abundance and diversity of marine life in this protected area, as far as two miles from the underwater park the sea life is more abundant. He believes that if kids are educated as to how and why marine life is being protected, it will instill a positive attitude.

Richard Kink: is a Seattle property owner. He visits many Seattle parks and finds most park users are respectful of the environment. Overall, he is in favor of the policy; however, he suggests that Parks works with Seattle's neighboring communities so the problems aren't just pushed to neighboring communities' waterfront beaches.

Kathy Taylor: member of Puget Sound action Team of Washington State. She believes educating the public is important. She is in favor of the policy and believes it will instill respect for, and stewardship of, the marine area.

Nancy Malmgren: is the director of the Carkeek Park Watershed. She distributed photos of Carkeek Park. She heartily favors this rule and thinks the Aquarium has done a tremendous job in educating the public. This is an opportunity to stress respect and

personal stewardship for all living things. She suggested that the environmental /habitat work at Lincoln Park, led by Charles Sablan of the Park Department, be used as a model.

Tony Fragada: works at Alki Community Center. He thanked Parks for its support of South Alki Park and hopes this policy helps educate scuba divers at Seacrest Park. He believes the naturalists do a good job and he supports this effort. He urged that clearer, multi-lingual signs be posted that clearly state the policy.

Pam Johnson: represents People for Puget Sound and strongly supports the policy. She appreciates the Parks Department working so long to make this designation. She also urged that the beaches be designated as "marine protected areas" under Washington State law. This would help with enforcing the policy. The nomination deadline is July 18 and she volunteered to help with the nomination. She also wants an education designation in the rule. She believes abusers should be brought into the process so they can be educated and educate others. Compliance will come from public education, stewardship, and involvement.

Janice Mathisen: she began volunteering as an Aquarium beach naturalist 20 years ago. She believes this is a unique opportunity and asked the Board to support the rule by protecting portions of the beaches.

Perry R. Motis: said he doesn't know what the rule is, as he received too short a notice. What does reserve mean? Does it mean kids would no longer be allowed to play on beaches? A large portion of Lincoln Park Beach is affected by this proposed policy.

Birgit McShane: is a Seattle Public School principal. She just heard about the proposed policy and thinks it is wonderful. She is happy with the efforts to protect the beaches. She encouraged enforcement of the off-leash area in the meadow above Golden Gardens, where pet owners are allowing their dogs to run free in areas that aren't off leash.

Marci Greenberg & 4-year-old Sam: Marci is a volunteer for the Aquarium. Sam wanted to tell the audience what he likes to do on the beach - he likes to play on the beach without hurting any animals.

Board Discussion and Recommendation

Joanna asked that the policy spell out which activities are already illegal on beaches and what is allowed/not allowed on all beaches and what is allowed/not allowed in maritime reserves. Bruce suggested expanding the policy to more areas in the future.

Kate moved that the Park Board approve the proposal. James seconded. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The audience applauded the decision.

Bruce thanked Paula for the presentation and thanked the audience members for their passionate and eloquent testimony.

Park Board Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____

Bruce Bentley, Chair