



Park District Oversight Committee
Kenneth R. Bounds Boardroom
100 Dexter Avenue N
6:30-9:00 p.m.

Park District Oversight Committee Meeting Summary- July 14, 2015

Welcome- Lead by Committee Co- chair, Lylianna Allala

Committee Logistics

- Overview of meeting agenda
- Highlight decisions from previous meeting summary
- Adopted Rules of the Road operating document
- Robert Rules quick refresher
- Opened meeting for public comment

Public Comment

- Stephen Edwin Lundgren- expressed support of the Park District Oversight Committee and their charge, kudos to equity {change} team, read a centering poem. Provided feedback on room acoustics and suggested some solutions.
- Becca Aue, Parks Foundation- expressed support for applying an equity lens to the work of the Park District Oversight Committee and a need for additional support in South Park to redress historic issues.
- Bill Pease, Parks Foundation - recommended South Park Plaza be developed sooner than recommended by the land-bank development policy. Suggested that prioritizing the development of South Park Plaza will help address a deficit in open spaces in the South Park neighborhood.
- Terrance Dye- expressed a need for additional hours at the International District Community Center.
- Christopher Shaw, Seward Park Clay Studio- expressed support the Seattle Park District, shared highlights of the partnership between Seattle Parks and Recreation and Seward Park Clay Studio and recommended the partnership be continued in the future.

Equity 101 - Led by Race and Social Justice Change Team Members, Charles Ng, Karen O'Conner, Shanyanika Burton

Covered:

- Overview of Race and Social Justice Initiative
- Why Lead with Race
- Inclusive Outreach Public Engagement accomplishment
- Internal and Results
- Equity vs equality

Seattle Park District Basics: A Closer Look- Led by Susan Golub and Michele Finnegan

Covered:

- Overview of Seattle Parks and Recreation funding sources
 - General fund
 - Park District funds
 - Other fund sources
- Overview of 2015-2016 Investment Initiative Funding
 - Investment initiative spending plan for 2015-2016
 - Overview of initiatives that require District Oversight Committee input

Decisions Made

1. Committee amended Rules of the Road document to include “Have fun” and adopted as an operating document.
2. Committee adopted Robert’s Rules of Order as their discussion facilitation and group decision-making guidelines.
3. Committee will commit future agenda time to develop job descriptions that clarify their function.

Q&A

Q1: May we have a summary of the changes that were made to the investment initiatives since the PLCAC (Parks Legacy Citizens Advisory Committee) process?

A1: Yes, we will provide you with the investment initiative cover pages showing the changes from the recommendations of the Parks Legacy Citizens’ Advisory Committee, to what was recommended by Mayor Murray and what was adopted by the City Council. Please note: you will see that almost every initiative changed some, as the Council applied a slightly different rate for calculating salaries than the Executive.

Q2: What is the scholarship fund?

A2: The scholarship fund is part of Initiative 3.1: Restore Community Center Operations. Parks is developing a system-wide recreation scholarship program in partnership with the Associated Recreation Council, Parks’ key partner in providing recreation programs. Once developed, this scholarship system will increase access to recreation programs by low-income participants valued at least \$400,000 per year. Previous to this initiative, there has only been a system-wide scholarship fund for licensed childcare programs; recreation program scholarships were funded on an ad hoc basis by individual advisory councils. This will be the first system-wide fund to help families pay for fee-based recreation programs such as youth basketball leagues, swimming lessons, art classes and the many other programs provided by Parks and Recreation.

Q3: Can we restructure how the Park District funds are allocated?

A3: Response: The City is committed to allocating Park District funds for the purposes approved by the Mayor and the City Council in the inter-local agreement for this 6-year planning cycle and as set forth in the annual budget process. This is the financial plan that was presented to the voters and to you at the July 14 meeting. The cycle for discussing possible restructuring would be when the next 6 year planning cycle gets underway.

Q&A continued,

Q4: Will we get additional information about exactly how the funding in each initiative will be spent?

A4: Parks and Recreation is interested in providing the Committee with the information desired however we are uncertain exactly what is desired as it relates to this question. Could we get more clarity on the level of information requested? As you may know, we plan to provide regular reports actual spending in achieving the outcomes associated with each initiative.

Q5: Where do tools like the Asset Management system fit into the Major Maintenance investment initiative?

A5: Parks and Recreation is purchasing a new Asset Management Work Order System which will significantly improve tracking and prioritizing major maintenance needs. The Major Maintenance Initiative is funding the purchase of the system as well as any ongoing system costs.

Q6: What is the Park District Oversight Committee's role in assessing the feasibility of each of the investment initiatives?

A6: The current investment initiatives were developed and prioritized through the Parks Legacy Plan Citizens Advisory Committee process. They were further evaluated and assessed through the Executive and Council review process prior to approving the ballot measure. Seattle Parks and Recreation is confident each of the initiatives is feasible. Considerable effort was made during the Park District development period to recommend priority, feasible initiatives and many of the initiatives supplement existing work of the department. Implementation will be monitored as part of the performance measurement system, with regular reports to the Oversight Committee.

Q7: May we have an annotated version of the investment initiative cover page that illustrates which initiatives the Park District Oversight Committee will work on? It should also show how public input was collected for the other initiatives.

A7: See Attachment A below. The highlighted items are the initiative areas with funding criteria that Parks and Recreation requests the Oversight Committee's advice. Public input on other initiatives may be provided as part of the public comment at District Oversight Committee meetings, Board of Park Commissioner meetings or directly to Seattle Parks and Recreation. Public input in the development and prioritization of these investment initiatives was a key aspect of the Parks Legacy Plan Citizen Advisory Committee process.

Q&A continued,

Q8: May we have additional tools that help us to inform community members about the 2015 Seattle Park District ramp-up year activities?

A8: Parks and Recreation is beginning a Park District recognition project including online updates using our website. Currently, we display temporary signage in areas where Park District funded activities are occurring. A more permanent recognition campaign will occur later this year and will include talking points explaining the Park District.

Please see a brief list of speaking points regarding 2015 Seattle Park District ramp-up year activities below :

- *The Park District won't start collecting taxes until 2016.*
- *2015 is a ramp-up year with the City providing a \$10 million loan to begin Park District projects.*
- *Some of the \$10 million ramp-up year funding is being spent on planning for future spending; examples include the Community Center Strategic Plan, Off-leash Area Plan, purchase and implementation of the Asset Management Work Order System*
- *The Park District will be fully funded in 2016 when it will collect approximately \$48 million.*

Q9: How will we define and measure the success of the investment initiatives?

A9: Parks and Recreation is developing a system-wide performance measurement system and Park District Initiative implementation will be assessed as part of this system.

Q10: May we see more in depth management plans for each of the investment initiatives?

A10: We do not have in-depth management plans for each investment initiative. Parks and Recreation is focused on measuring and reporting outcomes, for example doubling some comfort station cleaning, rather than on reporting how we add staff and change work plans to achieve the outcome.

Attachment A: Allocation Initiatives Highlighted

This document contains supporting information for the initiatives funded in 2015-2020 planning cycle of the Seattle Park District and includes 2015 actions.

Reference Number	Investment Initiative	2015 Spending Plan	2016 Spending Plan	Page
1	Fix it First			Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.1	Fund Major Maintenance Backlog and Property Management	\$2,335,800	\$18,501,875	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.2	Community Center Rehabilitation and Development	\$358,000	\$4,329,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.3	Saving Our City Forests	\$453,000	\$2,695,750	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.4	Aquarium Major Maintenance	\$300,000	\$1,080,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1.5	Zoo Major Maintenance	\$500,000	\$1,800,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2	Maintaining Parks and Facilities			Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.1	Increase Preventive Maintenance	\$844,721	\$1,417,700	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.2	Provide Clean, Safe, Welcoming Parks	\$1,839,430	\$2,088,854	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.4	Make Parks Safer	\$30,000	\$243,248	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.5	Improve Dog Off-Leash Areas	\$103,819	\$106,414	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.6	Rejuvenate Our P-Patches	\$100,000	\$200,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3	Programs for People			Error! Bookmark

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3.1	Restore Community Center Operations: scholarship fund	\$1,351,689	\$1,385,481	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2	Recreation Opportunities for All	\$130,105	\$471,638	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3	Better Programs for Young People—Seattle's Future	\$250,467	\$256,729	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.4	Meeting the Needs of People with Disabilities	\$166,000	\$170,150	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.5	More Programs for Older Adults	\$262,000	\$268,550	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.6	Put the Arts in Parks (2016)	\$0	\$344,488	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.7	Get Moving Fund	\$76,644	\$256,250	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.8	Customer Service and Technology (2016)	\$0	\$307,500	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4	Building for the Future			Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.1	Park Land Acquisition and Leverage Fund (2016)	\$0	\$2,000,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.2	Major Projects Challenge Fund (2016)	\$0	\$1,600,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.3	Maintain & Activate Seattle's New Waterfront Park (2019)	\$0	\$3,510,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.4	Develop 14 New Parks at Land-Banked Sites (2016-18)	\$0		Error! Bookmark not defined.

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4.5	Maintain 14 New Parks at Land-Banked Sites (2017)	\$0	\$1,400,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.6	Develop Smith Cove Park - debt service for 12 years (2017)	\$0	\$697,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.7	Maintain Smith Cove Park (2017)	\$0	\$200,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.9	Activating and Connecting to Greenways (2016)	\$0	\$318,744	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.10	Performance Monitoring and Strategic Management	\$781,333	\$900,634	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.11	Urban Parks Partnerships	\$125,000	\$570,000	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5	Transition year (2015) funding payback (2016)	\$0	\$1,487,592	Error! Bookmark not defined.