

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) convened a virtual community working session on March 19, 2021, to review and generate ideas for continued activation and increased coordination for programming at Cal Anderson Park.

During this working session, SPR provided the following updates to attendees:

- SPR has installed temporary pieces of art by 2 artists in recent weeks at Cal Anderson Park
 - *Community Jewels; Diamonds are Forever* by KT Hancock
 - This project focuses on putting Black Civil Rights Activists at the top of coveted gemstone shapes. In this way, the objects highlight the preciousness of these social figures and their activism within these communities
 - To learn more about the artist, visit www.kthancock.com
 - *Cal Anderson Park Mural* by Blanca Santander
 - This piece is an interactive temporary art installation, featuring a mural that visitors can use as a backdrop to create their own “Post Card from Cal Anderson Park”
 - To learn more about the artist, visit www.blancasantander.com
 - If you choose to post any photos with the art at Cal Anderson Park to social media, you can tag Seattle Parks and Recreation so we can track interactions with the art
 - @SeattleParksandRec on Instagram
 - @SeattleParksandRecreation on Facebook
- Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) is planning on installing new fencing around their pumphouse building at Cal Anderson Park; they are currently working with the Landmarks Board on approval for the project
- SPR crews have conducted some maintenance work at Cal Anderson Park in recent weeks, including:
 - Pruning trees
 - Graffiti removal
 - The shelter house walls and some other surrounding surfaces have been repeatedly hit with anti-police graffiti in recent weeks; our staff have quickly responded by cleaning the graffiti
 - Some participants emphasized the need to not only understand the reasons behind **why** park infrastructure at Cal Anderson Park has been repeatedly targeted with graffiti, but also the need to discuss within the community **how** we address the root causes and discourage inappropriate graffiti; SPR believes the community has a big role in developing creative solutions to this problem and is ready to participate in and/or help facilitate such a conversation
 - Some grassy areas of the park have been reseeded and are temporarily protected by orange fencing around them; you can expect these areas to stay fenced off for roughly the next 10 weeks
 - SPR is finalizing contracting for extensive repairs to the fountain, the ripple pool and the reflecting pool as well as the shelter house and the comfort station
 - Fountain and pool repairs expected to be finished by end of June
 - Shelter house and restroom repairs expected to be complete by Independence Day, July 4th
 - The lamp posts along East Olive walkway, along the comfort station/shelter house area, are not on in the evenings because their electrical source is connected to the shelter house; electricity at the shelter house will be restored when repairs are done
 - **Post-meeting update (3/24):** work crews repaired parts of the electrical system and were able to make these lights operational

- SPR has invited staff from the Event Scheduling Office to participate in our April 2nd activation working session to answer questions about the Park Use Permit and Reservation processes at SPR
 - Please send us your questions about Park Use Permits and Reservations ahead of time by emailing us at 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov
 - Below are links to more information about SPR's reservations and Park Permit process:
 - General Parks reservations site:
 - <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/reserve>
 - Park Use Permit for the meadow area:
 - <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/reserve/park-use-permits>
 - Event Space Rental info for the shelter house:
 - <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/reserve/event-space-rentals>

Some of the participants also provided the following updates on their community initiatives:

- The AIDS Memorial Pathway (AMP)
 - The *We're Already Here* pieces of art have been unveiled on the north and south end of the plaza
 - A larger sculpture by artist Christopher Paul Jordan is scheduled to be installed by May
 - The plaza is now open to the public to walk through
 - The installation of the artwork on the north end of Cal Anderson Park will take place during the months of April and May
 - You can find more information about The AMP by visiting www.theamp.org
- The Capitol Hill Farmers Market is on schedule to relocate to its new location, the newly opened plaza (above the light rail station) and along E Denny Way (between Broadway and 10th Ave E)
 - The Capitol Hill Farmers Market will reopen at the new location on Sunday, April 18, 2021

Per participants' request, SPR has been working to connect interested individuals with appropriate City or community contacts to continue the discussion on a variety of topics. To that end, SPR shared the below contacts with attendees:

- The UW College of Built Environments, in partnership with the Capitol Hill Eco District and others, has been awarded grant funding for their proposed work around researching best practices in affordable housing, health services, social connection and community and environmental resilience in the neighborhood
 - If you are interested in learning more and getting involved with this work, you can contact Keith Harris at gkh2@uw.edu
- Participants have raised the issue of public safety at and around Cal Anderson Park in past sessions
 - For those interested in developing a community conversation around this topic, you may contact SPD's East Precinct Crime Prevention Coordinator, Joe Elenbaas at joseph.elenbaas@seattle.gov
 - This conversation could also serve as an opportunity to address the root causes of anti-police graffiti at Cal Anderson Park
- Participants have also indicated an interest in connecting with HSD's newly formed HOPE Team, to learn more about their work and the gaps in social services on Capitol Hill
 - If you'd like to collaborate with the HOPE Team on a community conversation, you may contact HSD's Kevin Mundt at kevin.mundt@seattle.gov

Next Steps

- The next Cal Anderson Park Activation working sessions will take place on April 2nd and 16th at 11AM
 - If you would like to get on our email list and receive calendar appointments, reach out to us by email at 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov
- Consider how we may be able to make these sessions more accessible to more community members and who may be missing at the table
- Please send us any questions you may have for our Event Scheduling Office staff ahead of our April 2nd working session