

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) convened a virtual community working session on May 21, 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:

- One of the two gemstone art works at Cal Anderson Park by KT Hancock *Community Jewels; Diamonds are Forever* was recently vandalized and removed from its location; the artist is currently assessing and working on repairs and we hope to have the art piece back in the park soon
- SPR staff working on bringing new temporary art to the park, designed by Vibrant Palette; the art is expected to arrive and be installed in the next two weeks

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

- [The AIDS Memorial Pathway \(AMP\)](#)
 - The AMP Dedication, a celebration of the completion of The AIDS Memorial Pathway, will take place on Saturday, June 26th; the public is invited to drop by between Noon – 3PM to experience this unique place of remembrance and reflection in Seattle and interact with the art and the artists
 - The construction of the new art work on the north edge of Cal Anderson Park has begun; the expected completion date is mid-June
- Mediums Collective, a local community organization and clothing brand, is interested in working with SPR on developing the idea for an event at Cal Anderson Park this summer; an example of their past events:
 - [PHOTO ESSAY: “PAY THE FEE” GATHERING PUTS EMPHASIS ON STORIES OF ARTISTS AND SMALL BUSINESSES – South Seattle Emerald](#)
- UW’s Keith Harris is in conversation with Marcus Henderson of Black Star Farmers about preparing to tell the story of the Black Lives Memorial Garden, which was created during the summer of 2020 and they will have more to share in upcoming meetings
 - For information about discussions on the garden during the 2020 Cal Anderson Park visioning process (fall 2020), you may visit <https://2020calandersonpark.com/>
- Friends of Seattle Olmsted Park (FSOP) has organized a volunteer work party with SPR for Tuesday, May 25th; they have already reached the limit of 10 participants for this work party, but if folks are interested in joining a future FSOP work party, they can reach out to Kyle Capizzi at kacapizzi@gmail.com
 - If you are interested in organizing a separate volunteer work party with others, you may visit www.seattle.gov/parks/volunteer or contact SPR Volunteer Coordinator Junior.Kitiona@seattle.gov

In the previous session, SPR staff asked participants to support the activation of Cal Anderson Park by reaching out to event organizers in their network and invite to these sessions those interested in hosting an event at the park. SPR published a call for event organizers on our Parkways blog, Facebook and Twitter pages and, additionally, SPR staff shared a pre-drafted message for participants to use when they reach out to their network. Below is a summary of what participants reported back to the group:

- Dodgeball Seattle, who has been hosting dodgeball games at the Bobby Morris courts, would be interested in hosting an event after SPR has conducted its court surface painting project; the expected timeline for this project is August 2021

- [Mediums Collective](#) is interested in hosting a family friendly, community-centered event with music and speakers in July or August, similar to their recent Cinco de Mayo event at Jimi Hendrix Park
- CAPA is interested in bringing back their Capitol Hill Garage Sale Day to Cal Anderson Park; they are currently beginning to draft plans for the event and will coordinate with SPR Event Scheduling on acquiring a permit

SPR staff reiterated the desire to be increasingly in conversation with event organizers in the community so that we can achieve the goal we have set for this process: to activate Cal Anderson Park by bringing more community-led activities and events to the park. Often, ideas for events that are led and organized by the community are more well-attended and garner more support; this is why SPR staff have asked activation session participants to identify those in the community interested in hosting an event and connecting them with SPR. Staff at the department are prepared to walk event organizers through the SPR Event Scheduling process and answer any questions they may have. Below are some useful links you may share with potential event organizers ahead of the next Cal Anderson Park activation working session:

- SPR's main event permit site is here: <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/reserve>
- Details on applying for a Park Use Permit is here: <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/reserve/park-use-permits>
- Tips on holding events in city parks is here: http://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/Reserve/EventPlanningCityParksGuide_Jan2018.pdf

Next Steps

- Consider who among your network may be interested in hosting an event (big or small) at Cal Anderson Park
 - You can connect them to us by emailing us at 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov
- The next Cal Anderson Park Activation working session will take place on June 4th and 18th 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