

Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) convened a virtual community working session on January 15, 2021, to generate ideas for continued activation and increased coordination for programming at Cal Anderson Park. During this working session, SPR provided the following updates about our overall efforts and, more specifically, activation items since Cal Anderson Park reopened:

- The tentative timeline for activation, subject to change depending on Governor Inslee's COVID-19 guidelines
 - Short term: now through March 1
 - Mid-term: through September 1
 - Long-term: Phase 4 of reopening and beyond in Washington State
- Operations
 - Maintenance and deep cleaning efforts under way across the park
 - Considerable ongoing maintenance at the comfort stations
 - Graffiti removal has been happening on an ongoing basis
 - The shelter house is in need of major repairs; SPR interested in partnering with communities on further programming at the shelter house after repairs
- Community Engagement
 - Ongoing community engagement since Summer 2020
 - Activation Working Sessions building on the community engagement process of the 2020 Cal Anderson Park project
- Race and Social Justice Initiative
 - SPR will be conducting a Racial Equity Analysis of our efforts at Cal Anderson Park
- Current activation
 - Concierge kiosk and staffing at the park 10AM – 4PM daily (hours will change seasonally)
 - Chairs and tables for take-out dining, with background music
 - Ping Pong tables available during concierge hours
 - Self-guided walking loop map of the park
 - Scavenger hunt cards for families and kids
- Follow-up on 2020 Cal Anderson initiatives
 - Garden – SPR is developing an operating agreement for the garden; once the agreement is reached, our gardening partners will begin a public process to engage the community on development of the garden
 - Conversation Corners – SPR is exploring potential sites for additional seating in the park
 - Possibility of partnering with CHOP artists to do a temporary exhibition at the park of art from CHOP

SPR staff and attendees shared the following information about upcoming activation items and community initiatives:

- Decorative lighting along Nagle Place
 - Hunter's Capital leading this effort
 - Lights scheduled to be installed during the week of 1/18/2021
- AIDS Memorial Pathway

- Multiple public art projects will be unveiled in the coming weeks, some of which will be in the north section of Cal Anderson Park
- To learn more: www.theamp.org
- Farmers Market set to reopen in the coming months
- Selfie Mural
 - SPR has partnered with a local artist to create a small selfie mural, celebrating the park; scheduled to be delivered to the park by end of January
- Self-guided historical and naturalist tours
 - Friends of Seattle Olmstead Parks (FSOP) will lead this effort
 - FSOP also working on a tree inventory at Cal Anderson Park
- Volunteer work parties
 - SPR Volunteer Coordinator to schedule two small and safe work parties in the coming month, to be announced online
 - These work parties will follow strict COVID-19 precautions
 - To participate, reach out to us at 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov
- Pesticide-free park
 - Seattle Audubon Society and the Capitol Hill EcoDistrict, in partnership with the Seattle Bird Conservation Partnership, are working on making Cal Anderson (and other parks) a pesticide-free park, in order to increase connectivity for people and birds and to reduce hazards to wildlife
 - One of the biggest urban hazards is rat poison and the biggest pest pressure at Cal Anderson are rodents
 - These poisons move up the food chain and have been found in various types of birds
 - They're interested in partnering with the City and the community on this and can help develop a stewardship plan for the park
 - EcoDistrict has also been organizing workshops to teach the community how to develop habitat in their neighborhoods along of Right of Ways (ROW)
 - A suggestion was made to consider the southern edge of the park along Pine St as an area to develop habitat
 - EcoDistrict sees the efforts to reduce pesticides and rodenticides in parks as a public safety issue, similar to other health and safety issues, and would like to see more focus on communities most in need, such as renters and those who are unhoused
 - Links shared with attendees:
 - Capitol Hill Connections project webpage: <https://seattleaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/urban-conservation/capitol-hill-connections/>
 - <https://seattleaudubon.org/our-work/conservation/urban-conservation/capitol-hill-connections/nature-of-your-neighborhood/>

The following is a list of activation ideas that were generated by working session attendees. SPR utilizes activation as a strategy to bring positive uses to parks under various types of stress. COVID-19 presents certain limitations in this work. During this activity, we simply asked attendees to share their ideas so we can begin to develop a list, which we will use in future working sessions to assess and add to the

activation of Cal Anderson Park. This work will be a partnership between SPR and the community, and an opportunity for the community to contribute and help lead, and for SPR to support their initiatives.

1. A rain shelter or gathering place for community's use
2. WiFi access in the park
3. More access to power outlets and water faucets
4. Safe Injection Site
5. Kids toy swap
6. A tot park, with play structures for small children
7. Honoring the Black Lives Matter movement through art or other means
8. Preservation of murals from 2020
 - a. Chatwin Books recently published a full color art book on Seattle's storefront murals during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - b. <http://www.chatwinbooks.com/shop/viral-murals-seattle-artists-storefront-murals-and-the-power-of-art-during-crisis>
9. Programming for LGBTQ athletic leagues
10. A community pantry or community kitchen
11. Lockers
12. More signage about the eco features at the park
13. Art competition
14. Educational workshops and mentorship opportunities led by Black educators and professionals
15. Mutual Aid for the unhoused community
16. Reactivating and/or expanding the use of the Wading Pool
17. Recreation opportunities for the unhoused community
18. Off Leash Area
19. The need for better representation of all those who use the park, considering the historical context of the park and the events of last summer

The community is encouraged to continue sharing their ideas with us by emailing us at 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov. We also encouraged attendees to consider who may be missing at the table; this is intended to be a community process and we welcome additional individuals or organizations interested in this work to join us at future sessions.