



Minutes|Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners

100 Dexter Ave N/Kenneth R. Bounds Boardroom

Remote accessibility via Zoom

Thursday, March 28, 2024

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Attendance

Present: Jessica Farmer, Lauren Lanham, Stafford Mays, Marlon Herrera (co-chair), Justin Umagat (co-chair), Joshua Seyfried, Phillip Meng

Absent: Pasqual Contreras

SPR Staff and Presenters: AP Diaz, Danyal Lotfi, David Bader, Justin Hellier, Sean Barker, Kim Baldwin, Paula Hoff, David Takami

Welcome, Introductions & Land Acknowledgement

Herrera calls the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and provides logistical instructions for in-person and remote attendees.

Commissioners and SPR staff introduce themselves around the table.

Herrera reads the land acknowledgement.

Seattle Parks and Recreation acknowledges and affirms the indigenous Coast Salish as the original caretakers of our waters and landscape, who nurtured and shaped today's parkland. We honor their legacy with gratitude and appreciation and will safeguard their knowledge and stewardship as enduring treasures to promote community welfare, cultivate inclusive expressions of nature and recreation, and commit to land acknowledgment for each ensuing generation.

Herrera introduces the consent item for approval: meeting minutes from the 2/22/24 and 3/14/24 BPRC meetings, and tonight's meeting agenda. Farmer moves to approve all items; Mays seconds. The motion passes by unanimous consent.

Adopted: 2/22/24 BPRC Meeting Minutes; 3/14/24 BPRC Meeting Minutes

Adopted: 3/28/24 BPRC Meeting Agenda

Public Comment

Terry Holme – Thank you for letting me come. My name is Terry Holme; I've been in this room many, many hours. I was on the Board of Park Commissioners for nine years, I was the chair for one year. I've done a few other Park things, I was on the ARC board, Arboretum Foundation, Lake Washington Boulevard Task Force, I could list a few others. My current involvement is with Rainier Valley Greenways and Seattle Neighborhood Greenways. I understand that the Park Board mission is to be advisory to the City Council and the Mayor. I have an ask today. I'd like a motion from you to support an initiative that I have given copies of; I've also sent you emails. This is advocacy for

permanent gates or bollards at three locations between Mt. Baker Beach and Stan Sayres Memorial Park to allow the effective closure of Lake Washington Boulevard during programmed events such as Bicycle Weekends. The current project status is that I made a request with Parks, SDOT, and the fire department, and they have said they aren't interested. The fire department currently is opposed to the idea. The idea is to put in some gates that are actually effective. The history of Bicycle Sundays started in the '60s. The barricades have been there during the closures; "Road Closed" sandwich boards have become much less effective over time. A number of drivers ignore the signs, drive at high speeds. In my observation there's an average of four scofflaws per hour in the north mile of LWB between Stan Sayres pit and Mt. Baker beach. During the closures, who comes? Walkers, runners, bikers, strollers, disabled people, many small children, families. The number one complaint during Bicycle Weekends has been cars on the roadways that shouldn't be there, and they're getting around the signs, they're getting around the bollards. The remedy is to install the gates or removable bollards to effectively keep cars away during the events and eliminate the current high-risk situation. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Elisa Law – I'm Elisa Law, I'm the executive director of Friends of Magnuson Park, and we just wanted to inform the Board of Commissioners that this year is an important historic event that will be hosted at Magnuson Park and at NOAA, the centennial of the First World Flight, and we have an appropriation from the state of Washington and a proclamation from the state, as well, recognizing this event. We're partnering with the Museum of Flight and other local organizations to bring in vintage aircraft and military organizations, veterans organizations to celebrate Seattle's role in this global, globally-relevant aviation event. And so I just wanted to bring that to the attention of the Board of Commissioners, that this is happening in our park, and it will be a citywide event in late September. If you have any questions, or want to get involved in any way, reach out to us, to me, and there's more information on our website: firstworldflightcentennial.org.

Diaz thanks Holme for his advocacy regarding Lake Washington Boulevard safety, and mentions that Park Rangers can serve in a safety and assistance role this summer for Bicycle Weekends. Seattle Fire Department has also expressed some concerns about the event and we will continue to work with SFD to address those.

Superintendent's Report

Anthony-Paul (AP) Diaz, Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation, delivers the report.

Summer hiring: I know Spring just started but I'm happy to report that Seattle Parks and Recreation staff are already gearing up for summer. As planned, we are beginning the hiring process for staffing our core summer services: increased park and facility maintenance, lifeguarded beaches, summer camps, special events. We are expecting peak use again this summer and we want to be ready for it.

MLB All Star Legacy Project: Kim Baldwin will be providing more details in her report on capital projects but last weekend I was happy to join the community in the grand opening of the newly renovated baseball and softball fields at Rainier Playfield that were part of the MLB and Seattle Mariners All-Star Legacy initiative. Among the attendees was Baseball Hall of Famer and Mariners superstar Edgar Martinez.

SPR Launches Park CommUNITY Fund: Earlier this month, the department officially launched the Park CommUNITY Fund which advances park equity through a community-led funding process that will support capital improvements in Seattle neighborhoods. As you know from the Board's involvement, this new funding source prioritizes frontline communities, particularly those most affected by racism, oppression, colonization and environmental harm.

The 2024-2025 Cycle invests in small (Tier I/ up to \$150,000) and large (Tier II/ up to \$1,500,000) capital projects on SPR property using participatory budgeting and equitable grant-making practices with the goal of delivering projects that expand inclusivity and close the gaps in access to quality parks and park facilities. Frontline communities will work alongside SPR staff through a Project Selection process, which includes three phases (Idea Collection, Project Development, and Final Selection). This process will run from March through October 2024.

Staff have begun to host dedicated office hours on the following dates to provide information and answer questions. Two sessions have already been held in March, with two more coming in April on April 25. To stay updated on staff office hours, outreach events, Idea Collection launch, or other program information, please visit and subscribe to bit.ly/parkcommunityfund.

Kim Baldwin will be making a presentation on capital projects later in this agenda.

Thank You Marlon and Jessica! On behalf of the entire department and the City of Seattle government, I want to take a moment to extend my thanks and deep appreciation to two stellar departing Board members, Marlon Herrera and Jessica Farmer both of whom are with us tonight. Both Marlon and Jessica served as chairs of the Board, Jessica in the recent past and Marlon currently through the end of this meeting. Both of them have served two three-year terms for a total of six years.

In my short tenure as Superintendent, I have come to rely on their insight, leadership and willingness to pitch in. A shining example of their contributions was their intensive involvement in the development of the Park District Cycle 2 Financial Plan. They help guide Board participation in time-consuming subcommittee work to assess and prioritize projects and programs to fund in the new cycle. This work ended up as the core recommendation that the Mayor put forward and that the City Council eventually approved.

Both Marlon and Jessica have been a joy to work with. They are collegial, collaborative, smart and wise and I want to thank them from the bottom of our collective hearts for their contributions and service to parks and recreation in the city and to the people of Seattle. We will miss them!

Our **Parks and Environment Division** staff are busy prepping for peak spring and summer use. In addition to the routine mowing, edging, cleaning, planting and mulching, I wanted to highlight the daily work of specialized crews such as the Heavy Equipment Crew, Landscape Crew, Trails Crew and Natural Resources Unit who work together on larger projects to restore and stabilize our precious landscape.

Shoreline Stabilization Near Stan Sayres Boat Ramp: Our Natural Resources Unit crew and the Trails crew addressed lakeshore stabilization needs at several sites along the Lake Washington

shoreline, including near Stan Sayres Boat Ramp. The project included moving logs, rock, gravel, topsoil and plant material into place.

Alki Beach Restoration: The Landscape Crew and Heavy Equipment Crew recently teamed up to restore Alki Beach near the newly installed restroom. This involved placing 12 large boulders and eight driftwood logs into place.

Seattle Mentors

We're making progress on engaging with the community and networking with local professionals.

Program leader Romell Witherspoon recently attended the **local gala of Alpha Phi Alpha** (African American collegiate fraternity) where the Mayor was the keynote speaker. We had a QR code available for those wanting to be mentors. We have about 6 total who are interested. We have also connected with the Seattle Office of Civil Rights and SPR's Late Night Recreation Program.

Rec in the Streets: Speaking of partnerships, our Rec in the Streets program now has partnerships with 6 Seattle Public Library branches: After School Art at South Park, Delridge and Lake City Libraries, Family Game Time @ Rainier and Douglas truth libraries and Poetry Pals at Greenwood Library.

Community Engagement Ambassadors: Over the past month, our Community Engagement Ambassador team has been busy engaging with the community. We employ Community Engagement Ambassadors to perform outreach and engage with underrepresented communities in Seattle including immigrants and first-generation refugee populations. Often these staff members come from these underserved communities; they speak the language and know the culture. Our CEAs do in-person language interpretation, translation of written material and data collection. They also provide information about SPR programs and projects often teaming with our Planning and Capital Development staff at public meetings. Recent community events attended:

- Hutchinson Playground Renovation Design Meeting
- Duwamish River Festival
- Little Brook Park Renovation Public Meeting
- Swim Seattle Scholarship Campaign
- 2024 Get Moving & Recreation For All Meet and Greet

Rainier Beach Pool Temporary Closure: A reminder that the pool is temporarily closed from March 25 to April 14 for annual maintenance.

Our **Facilities Division** crews don't just work on buildings. They are out in our parks every day maintaining and improving park infrastructure.

Lake Union Park Repairs: Late last year, our Plumbing Shop was notified of a major leak at Lake Union Park near the Museum of History and Industry. A large amount of water was bubbling up out of the ground. Plumbers turned off the water to this section of the park at around 2:30 in the afternoon, found the underground pipe that was broken, and made the fix. Working as fast and safely as possible they were able to turn the water back on just after 4:00 p.m.

Trail fencing repair at Ravenna Park: Facilities Carpentry and Recreation Equipment teamed with District maintenance crews to complete a fencing repair project on a steep embankment in Ravenna Park.

City Council briefing: Yesterday (Wednesday) we briefed the City Council's Parks, Public Utilities and Technology Committee on the 2024 Parks and Open Space Plan. A resolution on the plan will be sent to Council later this month and a vote is expected in April.

Pitch and Putt Contract: The Request for Proposal for the popular Green Lake Pitch and Putt concession opens on April 2, 2024, for a new 15-year contract. As many of you know, this is a well used and well loved activity at Green Lake.

Picnic Lottery Success: Our Event Scheduling Unit completed processing of the picnic lottery applications received to date on March 14th in record time! The team created a total of 535 permits in just two weeks. This represented a \$31K increase in revenue and 92 more permits than at this point in 2023. Due to process efficiencies made in late 2023, we've already collected two-thirds of the revenue for these picnic permits.

Japanese Garden Tea Ceremonies Reservable Online: More and more reservations and registrations are available online. One example: reservations for Japanese Tea Garden Ceremonies in the Japanese Garden are now available online. This has improved efficiency and overall customer service.

Upcoming Events

Spring Egg Hunts: A reminder about our annual, always-popular Spring Egg Hunts for kids. Most of the egg hunts will take place this Saturday, March 30 – and the weather is supposed to cooperate! Check out our website for an egg hunt near you.

Ribbon Cuttings: We invite Commissioners and members of the public to attend community ribbon cuttings that are coming up soon.

- April 13: Be'er Sheva Park. Noon – 4 p.m. 1 p.m. program
- April 13: Green Lake Small Craft Center. 11 a.m. program
- April 20: Ballard Commons Park Play Area. 11:30 a.m. program
- June 8: Pathways Park. 1 – 4 p.m. 1:30 p.m. program

I'd be glad to answer any questions Board members may have.

Umagat thanks Diaz for the report.

Farmer thanks Diaz for his commitment to investigating safety procedures at Bicycle Weekends on LWB, noting the danger posed when cars ignore or evade traffic control measures. Farmer also notes that some concerns regarding the Parks and Open Space Plan (POSP) appeared to have ultimately been addressed; Farmer thanks Burtzos for being thorough in relaying communications to the Board.

Herrera notes that as a daily user, he believes that LWB is in need of dozens of safety improvements. Herrera recognizes that this could require SDOT coordination and/or levy funding, but notes that he has seen some terrible pedestrian and bicyclist accidents on this street. Specific measures

mentioned include speed bumps, bike share lanes, better signage, and other traffic calming measures. Herrera reports that LWB “feels like a highway sometimes, and not a park boulevard.” Diaz agrees to elevate these concerns to SDOT and through the Park District Cycle 3 planning.

Mission Moment: Focus on SPR’s Vandalism Response

Diaz introduces the presentation.

We’re excited to hear about the ramp up of another initiative from Cycle 2 of the Seattle Park District plan - starting up a vandalism response team. Many of you were part of the BPRC when it made recommendations for Park District funding. One commitment we made was to increase our response to graffiti and vandalism, and we’re excited to have Justin Hellier and Sean Barker tell you more about the current status.

Justin Hellier, SPR Strategic Advisor, and Sean Barker, Facilities Maintenance Manager, deliver the presentation.

As you know, our Park District reporting and planning is divided into Lines of Business (LOBs) and Detailed Lines of Business (DLOBs). The DLOB we’re talking about today is Facility Maintenance; so, everything from the plumbing shop, to the carpenters, small machines – all the skilled crafts that help maintain the facilities. The budget for that whole component of the organization is about \$25M. They have a variety of performance metrics, but the one most relevant to today is that 81% of graffiti work orders were finished within 6 days. There’s a citywide goal of 10 days; SPR had an internal goal of 90% within 6 days. As Sean will tell you, this had some to do with vacancies in the paint crew; this is honestly a pretty good finding for a brand new investment. What Cycle 2 did with this work was to create an emphasis team to serve as SPR’s first response for key repairs and maintenance in response to vandalism and graffiti abatement. Sean Barker is going to tell you about how this all came about.

Good evening, I’m Sean Barker, Facilities Maintenance Manager stationed down at Westbridge. This work happens to be kind of near and dear to my heart, kind of near part of my vision of making parks better. I feel very fortunate to work with so many great people on this project.

Learning to be experts in vandalism and graffiti abatement is very much the path that we’re on. Part of it is understanding the umbrella of vandalism, that is: theft, damage, and graffiti. I listed out some of the bigger issues:

Theft

- Wire theft at ball fields
- SPR facility break-ins
- Plaques, bleachers, metals
- Copper and brass plumbing

Damage

- Restroom arson
- Locks, handles, doors
- Fountains & fixtures

- Window breakage
- Signs
- Irrigation systems
- Access control systems (key cards)

Many of the meetings we have in our unit are about long-term solutions or strategies to address some of the vandalism that we are encountering. These strategies include:

- Changing building specifications to allow PEX only in pipe alleys
- No louvered doors at pipe alleys
- Move to non flammable partitions and fixtures
- Pads to keep Sani cans 10 ft from buildings
- Installing Aluminum wiring
- Placing plaquard on access doors with "aluminum wiring only"
- Placing eco blocks to prevent access to vaults
- Larger Ranger presence

With the new staff, we are able to break up the staff into North and South teams, as well as painted and unpainted surfaces. We have citywide IDT surge weeks and increased cooperation between shops and districts, and all of this is in coordinated efforts. All departments even have settled on a unified, standard paint color – WSDOT Gray.

Thank you very much for the support. Having the extra staff has helped not just with the work, but with the morale of the shops.

Farmer thanks Barker for the presentation and the whole team for all the hard work. Farmer asks how maintenance issues are brought to the crews' attention, whether through Find It/Fix It or other means, and whether there are inequities in these methods of reporting and service. Barker notes that the initial push for the graffiti response teams was to locations and district that demonstrated greatest need. At this point, the crews largely respond to work orders but equity is still a major driver behind IDT surge weeks, for instance.

Commenter Holme asks if SPR crews are able to enter work orders for other issues when they are performing work in the field. Barker affirms that crews are routinely entering work orders throughout the day, but it has been a bit of a learning curve for both staff and the public to use Find It/Fix It.

Mays asks about statistics on time of day for vandalism incidence and repeat offenders, and if evening is a high-incident time, if SPR could consider increased lighting? Barker responds that he is hopeful that the increase in Ranger presence will lead to greater enforcement and a clearer picture of how and when these incidents occur. Additionally, the IDT is acting more aggressively against repeat offenders, including prosecution; SPR assists this effort by providing damage cost estimates.

Umagat appreciates the standardization efforts and proactivity of response. Umagat also asks about CCTVs or other installed devices as a deterrent. Barker notes that this conversation is certainly out there and people are discussing the efficacy of this sort of measure. SPR has to choose wisely when it comes to mitigation strategies; it isn't as simple as just deploying cameras, we have to consider where the data goes, and so on. Umagat asks about anti-graffiti coating for painted surfaces, though

notes the expense involved. Barker agrees that this could be an interesting option, but perhaps best for specialty exteriors, such as brick, sandstone, or murals. SPR looked into anti-graffiti coatings about 10 years ago and determined that no then-extant product had a sufficient lifespan to serve our purposes, but perhaps something is out there now.

Meng thanks Hellier and Barker for the presentation, and asks if there are certain types of vandalism that present particular challenges to meet the goal timeline, whether because of the surface that is defaced or the type of vandalism itself? Barker notes that some abatement projects require more planning or equipment rental, especially when graffiti is located in a high or difficult to reach area. Other projects require inter-departmental coordination, which takes more time.

Lanham thanks Barker and Hellier, and notes that she has seen crews removing graffiti in her neighborhood and expresses gratitude for those workers. Lanham also notes the wisdom in replacing copper tubing with aluminum to discourage theft.

Diaz thanks Barker for his care and dedication to his work on behalf of the department, specifically noting that Barker's love of the parks system shines through in the work he performs. Diaz also thanks Hellier for the presentation and commends him for his organization and attention to detail.

Off-Leash Area Plan: Summary Presentation by Staff

Danyal Lotfi, SPR Community Engagement Advisor, delivers brief presentation.

Good evening, commissioners. Thank you so much for having us; I'm joined by my colleague David Bader tonight. This will be a quick recap of the presentation we gave at the February 22 meeting, and we are here tonight to seek review and approval of our recommendations.

We started this process last spring with 32 possible sites that we looked at; 9 sites met our basic OLA criteria. We presented to the BPRC in June 2023, which kicked off our public outreach period. In July and August, we attended 3 farmers markets throughout the city to engage with park users and push our survey. Then, from September through November, we synthesized 4,753 survey responses and prepared our recommendations.

Here are our recommendations:

1. West Seattle Stadium
2. Othello Park
3. Ravenna Park (funding for design only)

One of the requirements of the MPD funding is that one OLA must be sited in West Seattle. Another one of our main goals is to close some of the service gaps in the existing OLA system; this was a huge factor in why we made the recommendations that we did.

There are also two sites that we are recommending for OLA construction in the future: Brighton Playfield and East Queen Anne Playfield. Each of these sites has issues that need to be resolved before we believe OLAs can be sited at these locations.

We found that four additional sites should be removed from OLA consideration: Discovery Park, Powell-Barnett Park, View Ridge Playfield, and Lincoln Park.

We presented these recommendations to the Board on February 22, with a public hearing on March 14. Today, we are seeking review and approval of our recommendations and can answer any questions from the commissioners. After the Board approves the recommendations, they will go to the Superintendent for approval, as well.

After approval of recommendations, we will begin engaging with the communities around the selected sites in the summer of 2024 and begin preliminary design and review. Funding for the full design and construction will be available in 2025 and 2026. Funding for the design of the third site will be available in 2027 or 2028.

Umagat thanks Lotfi and Bader for the presentation.

Off-Leash Area Plan: Discussion and Recommendation

Umagat asks about accessibility to the proposed OLA sites, particularly for the site at West Seattle Stadium, where parking and accessibility is already an issue. What thoughts have been given to accessibility, including any potential partnerships with SDOT to make improvements to the site? Bader notes that at least two ADA accessible parking stalls would be added to the site, and that partnership with SDOT is something that SPR is looking at and excited to do for this project. Umagat reiterates the density of both people and dogs near this site, and the difficulty for pedestrian access across major roads near the West Seattle Bridge.

Mays notes that O'Dea High School and Seattle Prep play their home games at West Seattle Stadium; during the fall, will the OLA interfere with any parking for games? Bader confirms that the selected site will overlap with some overflow parking from the stadium, but plans are in place to provide some parking for these events. Mays notes that once Memorial Stadium is built, this will not be an issue. Lotfi explains that part of the goal with the proposed sites is to create smaller OLA sites that can serve the local neighborhoods and can be easily walked to.

Umagat calls for more questions or comments from the Board; there are none.

Herrera moves to approve the recommendations from SPR staff as presented. Meng seconds the motion. Umagat calls for a vote. The vote is 7 in favor, none opposed, none abstaining. The motion passes.

Adopted: The Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners approves the recommendations of the Off-Leash Area Study Group.

Lotfi thanks the Board for their support and consideration.

Capital Projects Update

Diaz introduces the presentation.

I know that the Board and the general public are interested in the progress we are making on the design and construction of capital improvements in their neighborhoods and throughout the city. We are very pleased to present periodic updates on the delivery of these important projects at these Board meetings.

Kim Baldwin, Director of the Planning, Development, and Maintenance Branch, delivers the presentation.

Good evening, and thank you. It's good to be here. Happy to share with you some updates about our capital projects. Tonight I'm going to talk to you about a few items, including:

- 2024 Key Goals
- Project Stats & Information
 - Internal Tracker
 - Alternative Delivery Methods
 - Grants
- Park CommUNITY Fund Update
- Recent Project Completions
- Projects in Construction

First and foremost this year is making all of the required progress to meet our commitments for the Park District initiatives. The Park CommUNITY fund is at an exciting stage right now, as we start engagement and idea collection and move toward project selections. We are really focusing on grants; our goal is to apply for \$20M in grants, and our hope is to be 75% successful in those applications. We hope to reach a spending goal of \$120M; in 2023, we reached \$115M. We are working on alternative delivery methods and moving that process forward with some of our project packages. We also have a number of continuous improvement processes that we are working on, including:

- Citizen Lab for all projects (Engagement platform)
- Geographic district assignments to support long-term community relationship building
- Automate project website and GIS data from Procore
- Outside project idea intake
- Internal design charrettes and expanding lunch & learns

Next I'd like to share some information about our Park District initiatives. For play areas, our goal at the end of this 6-year cycle is to complete 33; right now, we are at 7 complete, 6 in construction, 17 in design, and 3 in the planning phase. We have similar goals for restrooms and community center decarbonization:

Play Areas – Goal: 33

- Planning: 3
- Design: 17
- Construction: 6
- Complete: 7

Restrooms – Goal: 27

- Planning: 10
- Design: 10
- Construction: 7

Community Center Decarbonization – Goal: 13 (half of system)

- Planning: 7
- Design: 2
- Construction: 2
- Complete: 1
- To be initiated in 2025: 1

We have similar goals for synthetic turf replacement and racket/paddle court resurfacing; so far we have completed 5 turf replacements out of our goal of 6, and resurfaced 8 courts out of our goal of 60. We have an internal tracking dashboard that we use that really helps us see all this project information at a glance. The information shown there includes an annual spending comparison, upcoming outreach events, and an overall view of projects on-schedule or delayed. This helps us see what projects we may need to step in and help out a bit more. You can also see our cumulative spending over the last few years; you can see that we are on track to match or exceed our spending from 2023.

We have been working with a consultant to develop procedures and practices for alternative delivery methods for projects; here you can see a somewhat generalized task list and timeline for a decarbonization project. A lot of due diligence has gone into this process to make sure we get it right.

As I mentioned earlier, one of our 2024 goals is to submit for \$20M in grant funding with a 75% success rate. During the pandemic, we turned a strong focus to grants to fill some delays and gaps in funding. [Baldwin shows a chart of grants recently awarded, recently submitted, and in progress.]

Idea collection for the Park CommUNITY Fund has begun and will last from March 18th through April 30th. Community members can submit project ideas online, in person at SPR Community Centers, or at a variety of pop-up events, with staff available for assistance. 15 pop-up events are planned so far. The 2024-2025 Cycle invests in small (Tier 1/up to \$150,000) and large (Tier II/up to \$1,500,000). Frontline communities will work alongside SPR staff through a Project Selection process including idea collection, project development, and final selection from now through October 2024.

[Baldwin highlights project completions with photographs]

- Be'er Sheva Park Phase 1 (Upland Renovation)
- Delridge Playfield Restroom Building Demolition
- Delridge Playfield Accessibility Improvements
- Interbay Lighting Conversion
- Judkins Multi-Sport Court Lighting
- SDOT-SPR I-90 Trail and Judkins Station Access Lighting and Stairs
- Dearborn Play Area Renovation
- Magnuson Pier 1 Floating Dock Access
- Montlake Playfield Drainage Repair
- Rainier Playfield Legacy Project

[Baldwin shows progress/process photos of select projects under construction]

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Umagat thanks Baldwin for the report and opens the floor for questions.

Herrera notes that at the last planning and capital project report, SPR was perfectly meeting projected spending vs. actual spending, and asks for an update. Baldwin reports that the department is still on track to remain on-budget for Cycle 2.

Farmer thanks Baldwin for providing visuals on the projects; it's great to see progress after hearing about the need for some of these projects for months or years. The data visualisations also help make sense of the process.

Seyfried asks if the geographic district assignments for planners and architects is new. Baldwin confirms that this is a new practice for SPR's landscape architects, but the planners have been assigned regions for some time. One remaining question is whether project management could be divided in a similar way – if that would even make sense logistically.

Seyfried asks why capital spending seems to jump way up during annual Q4, and why that isn't spread out more evenly through the year. Baldwin surmises that construction is heavier during the warm-weather months. Umagat and Seyfried clarify that Q3 and Q4 would reflect the heaviest construction costs annually.

Seyfried asks, given the federal funding available to DOT projects (such as the SR-99 project in South Park), does SPR play a role in planning of non-Parks projects that nonetheless may impact public open space in the city? Or do these projects develop independently? Put another way, if SDOT constructed a project using independent funding that created green space, or a new park, would they then hand over management and operations to SPR? Would SDOT keep those operations? Or is that even something about which there is any coordination? Diaz notes that this can be a tricky question; sometimes during projects, when spaces are left over, they become a "park" or open space but the operating organization has not given much thought to the management and maintenance that these spaces actually entail. The ongoing Waterfront project is a good example; SPR was thrilled to accept new parkland into our inventory but negotiated for a 10-year budget window to normalize this new asset into our operations. With regards to the SR-99 discussions, Diaz notes that the department is obviously interested in creating new parkland but cautions that the department has to be okay with setting some parameters on gifts of this nature.

Umagat, Diaz, and the whole Board thanks Baldwin for the presentation.

Old & New Business

Seyfried reminds Board members about Park CommUNITY Fund outreach meetings.

Seyfried also mentions maintenance needs around the park system and mentions north Discovery Park in particular. Seyfried reminds the Board members to submit Find It/Fix It requests when they are out in the parks.

There being no further business, Umagat adjourns the meeting at 8:18 pm.