



Seattle Parks & Recreation

healthy people healthy environment strong communities

SW BRANDON & FINDLAY TRAILS & WAYFINDING PROJECT

Seattle Parks and Recreation's Planning & Development Division

Meeting place, Greg Davis Park, 11am – 1pm

Saturday, December 7, 2019

MEETING NOTES

Present

- Cynthia McCoy, Seattle Parks and Recreation Planner
- Ed Pottharst, Seattle Parks and Recreation Planner
- Aaron Luoma, HBB Landscape Architecture
- Madison Hutchings, HBB Landscape Architecture
- Merit Oviir, HBB Landscape Architecture

Community Members – About 25 community members attended the Open House; about 10 members went on walks led by the project team from Greg Davis Park to look at sites for improvements along SW Brandon and Findlay Streets.

Project Summary and Schedule:

This project will improve pedestrian paths and wayfinding along SW Brandon Street and SW Findlay Street to improve neighborhood mobility. It includes work to improve and make more welcoming to the public the trail entries at Camp Long and Longfellow Creek from SW Brandon Street.

The project is currently in the planning phase. Designs will be presented at a public meeting in early 2020. Funding for the improvements will need to be identified.

Open House Summary

A public outreach meeting was held from 11am to 1pm at Greg Davis Park on Saturday, December 7, 2019, featuring open-house style presentation boards under tents. The project team also led community members on walks to visit sites for improvements.

Themes

The following notes were collected from the Open House and community walks:

Corner of SW Brandon St. and 30th Ave SW

Impression/Experiences

- "Dangerous corner!" (+1)

Suggestions

- "Bike to High Point" sign at corner
- Drawing of stop signs on both sides and a crosswalk spanning diagonally
- "Pedestrian access to 35th (and Camp Long upper entrance)"
- Pointing at the 3 houses closest to the corner "Children live in these 3 homes. Make that area safer for them to play outside! They're always playing in the street"
- Pointing at natural area between 35th Ave SW and Brandon - "Make direct path up to 35th here"

Intersection of 30th Ave SW and SW Findlay St

Suggestions

- Along 30th St - "the official SDOT bike route of Brandon to 30th is very steep. Would it be better to route riders on 29th instead? There are fewer cars and maybe a lower pitch?"
- "Could use signage/sidewalk going towards 'Dead End' to provide an alternate route for pedestrians/bikers"

Intersection of 29th Ave SW and SW Findlay St

Impression/Experiences

- "View to water"
- On picture of dead-end sign "I want to know where this goes. Dead end for cars."

Suggestions

- "Make more inviting" (+2)
- At entrance from 29th St - "open up sightlines and pedestrian/bike access"

Entry to Camp Long Trail from SW Brandon St

Impression/Experiences

- At entrance - "not welcoming"
- "I love the boardwalks"

Suggestions

- "Boardwalk needs improvement"

- "Signage needed"
- "Signs should not only identify trails but depict where they lead to, i.e., maps"
- "Need Camp Long Sign with rules and hours"
- "Open fence earlier at 5:30 am"
- "Get rid of gate, it looks bad and anyone can hop it anyways"
- "Fix boardwalk"
- At entrance across from Camp Long – "need wayfinding sign"

SW Brandon St

Impression/Experiences

- "Can't see golf course" (+1)
- "Tons of beer bottles dumped in side channel"

Suggestions

- Arrow pointing across from 29th St SW and Brandon intersection – "provide public access to golf course here"
- Pointing between 29th and Brandon – "crosswalk" (+1)
- At arch entrance – "raised crosswalk here"
- Between Camp Long and Longfellow Creek trails – "opportunity for fun mural crosswalk between trails! Could get grants and local artists/kids involved to create community identity"
- Between Camp Long and Longfellow Creek trails – "add raised crosswalk" (+2)
- "Need more speed humps and other traffic calming measures"
- Along Brandon – "lighting" (+3)
- "Sidewalk along Brandon!" (+2)
- "Pedestrian Sidewalk" ("+1000!!")
- In the DNDA area along 29th - "pedestrian connection/trail" (+1)
- "Either add sidewalk or hybridize the trail to accommodate the numerous pedestrians walking on Brandon. This street sees a lot of traffic, is poorly lit."

SW Findlay St

Impression/Experiences

- "Kids take this to Louisa Boren"
- "Invasive species (blackberries)"
- "Slippery gravel" (+1)

Suggestions

- "Add lighting" (+5)
- "If you grade, grade this side"
- "More native plants (sword fern preserve)"
- On picture of grate – "rumor says a troll lives under the grate and it eats rocks' Signage: 'Don't feed the troll.' Make the trail quirky!"
- "Switch backs? Built by volunteers or construction supported with volunteers?"
- "Could there be a stair and switchback trail hybrid? To give choices and avoid desire lines"
- "Regular cut back of blackberries"

Wet area along SW Findlay St

Impression/Experiences

- "Signage vandalized, not in good condition"

Suggestions

- "Replace boardwalk at entrance"
- "Boardwalks in wet areas"
- "Bridge and water path"
- At intersection of Findlay and the service road before wet area – "open sightlines + wayfinding" (+1)
- "Vegetation important to filter toxic run-off to Coho salmon. Maintain vegetation by the stream"

Intersection of Findlay St SW and 26th Ave SW

Suggestions

- "Cut down vegetation. Add boardwalk"
- "SCARY" (+2)
- At 26th Ave entrance – "raised east/west crosswalk here"

General and Miscellaneous

Impression/Experiences

- Along 29th St – "people dump garbage here"
- Along 29th St – "dumping weekly"
- Trail going from middle of 29 St – "this trail is overgrown"
- Trail from middle of 29 St and connectors – "these trails overgrown? Or need signage? I'm not sure I've been on them"
- Inner trail network – "this part of trail is very overgrown"
- Inner trail network – "trail impassible here. Needs cleared"
- Within Longfellow Creek trail system - "SAFETY! Does not feel safe. (trails)" (+2)

Suggestions

- "Theme suggestion think - 'Ridge to River' as per the Duwamish Tribe"
- "Consolidate department signage. Maps are great, add more!"

- Along 29th St SW – “improve no dumping signs”
- “Repair boardwalks” in Longfellow Creek trails
- Along 26th – “sidewalk please”
- “Don’t clear too much vegetation (salmon)” near creek
- “Traffic zigzag lines to calm traffic. 9th Ave SW has these. Highland Park.”
- Google maps routes pedestrians’ right turn the golf course from 26th. If you, say, want to walk to the junction from 25th and Hudson the map takes you to a dead end/fenced area at 26th and SW Oregon. You cannot walk through the golf course. Can you tell Google?”
- 26th Ave – “greenway needs more traffic calming”
- Between end of trail running parallel to 26th Ave SW and High Point – “make a trail connection here up to High Point”

Comment Box Comments

1. How much does one streetlight cost to install and maintain for one year? How much does 100 yards of sidewalk cost to put down and maintain?
2. Overall, great experience and positive ideas. Please keep bike/ped. Improvements at the forefront.
3. Overall, very positive ideas for improvement! I would encourage additional signage along Findlay (30th, 29th, 26th) as that offers the most opportunity for improvements. When possible, move signs as close to road and at intersections as possible.
4. Adding sidewalk on Brandon will help accessibility and safety along the south border of the golf course and Camp Long. Adding stop signs and crosswalk at the corner of 30th Ave SW and Brandon will help slow dangerous drivers and add safety for the many children who play around this corner.
5. If signage is used, use largest font possible.

Next Steps

In early 2020, Seattle Parks and Recreation will host another public meeting to gather more community input. Please feel free to contact SPR Planner Ed Pottharst, ed.pottharst@seattle.gov, 206-386-4232, with any questions.

Thank you for participating!