







Time Submitted	September 17, 2012 3:26 PM
Project Name: No more than six words	Installing Playground at Washington Park Playfield
Project Type:	Development
Project Location: Insert address. Please remember that Development Projects must be on public property.	Washington Park Playfield 1017 Lake Washington Blvd. E Seattle, WA
Attach Site Location Map here	 Map of Playground.jpg
Attach Site Photos here (up to 4 photos)	 Playground Current.jpg  Playground South View.jpg  Playground North View.jpg  Grassy Field.jpg
Property Owner: If known, name and contact information for private owner, or corporation or business; or public entity of project to be developed/acquired	Seattle Parks and Recreation
Neighborhood:	Madison Valley
Brief Project Description: Please give a brief description of the project in 100 words or less	We seek to install a full playground at Washington Park Playfields. This location is a popular site containing a multipurpose sports field, parking lot with wheelchair access, bathrooms, and easy access to the Arboretum and the Japanese Garden...but no play structures other than a swing set. This project would include play structures for young children (2-5 years old) and older children (5-12 years old), seating for all ages and other elements of a play area voted on by the community. This proposal also recommends installing drainage for an adjoining grassy area so it is enjoyable all year long.
Anticipated Project Costs:	\$365,000

Other Project Funding: Amount of additional leveraging, grants	\$0
Attach Budget here:	 Playground Estimated Budget.xlsx
Proposal Organization:	Friends of Washington Park Playground
Contact Person:	
Mailing Address:	
Zip Code:	
Day/Work Phone:	
Evening/Home Phone:	
Home or Work E-Mail Address:	

Project Goals: In 500 words or less, Describe the project in more detail. What is the intent or goal of the project, e.g., expand an existing park, improve trails or bikeways, habitat restoration or the implementation of sustainable energy practices? How did the idea for the project originate and evolve.

We seek to install a full playground at Washington Park Playfields, including play structures for young children (2-5 years old) and older children (5-12 years old), and seating for all ages. The project would require the current wood chip containment area to be expanded and play structures installed. The area is currently surrounded by a flat grassy area and should be easily expanded. There is already a wheelchair ramp to the current containment area, and the location already has a restroom, garbage cans, picnic tables, and an adjacent parking lot.

The project was first envisioned in 2010 by Ann McCurdy and Michelle McKelvey when they won the CleanScapes 2009/2010 Neighborhood Waste Reduction Rewards competition, awarding \$50,000 for the installation of a play structure pending Seattle Parks Department approval. But as the project became protracted and expenses increased, CleanSpaces withdrew the award and gave it to the runner-up in 2011. At that time, the Seattle Parks Department acknowledged that the site was an excellent choice for a playground, and recommended pursuing the idea via a Neighborhood Matching Grant. Pamela Kliment from the Seattle Parks Departments stated the playground proposal had "a good project idea, a good project application and an enthusiastic community." Nevertheless, the department rejected the Neighborhood Matching Grant, stating: "Parks is facing large cuts to our funding for operations and maintenance over the next two years. Because of this, we can't support projects that would require new facility costs."

The desire for a play structure came about due to the simple fact that Madison Valley has almost no public amenities and no play structures for its growing family base. The area has historically been underserved by the city and has an inadequate stormwater system (see "Seattle pays \$2.5 million to flooded Madison Valley homeowners." The Seattle Times, March 23, 2011), no library or community center, and its only public school was closed and sold amid much controversy. (See "State investigates Seattle district's sale of MLK School," The Seattle Times, June 5, 2011). Madison Valley is adjacent to Washington Park Playfields, but the park has been geographically inaccessible from the south and west borders, the areas bordering Madison Valley. The installation of a stormwater retention unit by SPU (to be completed fall 2012) will finally include much-needed trails giving the local community improved access to the area.



Both the Arboretum and the Washington Park Playfields draw visitors from around the region. The field is currently being renovated, guaranteeing increased usage. Installing play structures would give those families using the sports field additional physical


Project Goals: In 500 words or less (continued).

activity. A play structure at Washington Park would be greatly enjoyed by both the local community and all of Seattle. We would also like an adjacent grassy area to receive proper drainage.

This was already planned to occur while the main playfield was being renovated, but money ran out once the landfill was discovered and delays occurred. A Parks employee recommended that that project be included with the playground project in hopes both could be completed together.

<p>Project's Level of Readiness: Is the project in the idea stage or is there a professionally developed scope of work or a developed plan? (Please attach your project's site plan below if available.)</p>	<p>When CleanScapes was considering the project, Seattle Parks Department held some public meetings concerning the idea, and studied the plan for feasibility. There was large public support, with many people stressing they would like the play structure to include a swing set or retain the one that is already there.</p> <p>Recently, landfill has been found near the desired location of the play structure. Recommendations are that four feet of fill dirt be placed above the landfill before the play structure is installed. No development plan is available given this current constraint.</p> <p>Plans for the drainage of the adjacent grassy area should be already well understood, and should be available under the original plan for the refurbishing of the playing fields before the scope was scaled back.</p>
<p>Project's Site Plan - Attachment</p>	
<p>a. Does the project demonstrate a high degree of neighborhood support or involvement as demonstrated through a public review process and/or is the project consistent with approved plans, such as a neighborhood, community council or other recent planning documents?</p>	<p>The project has demonstrated a high degree of neighborhood support or involvement as demonstrated through a public review process.</p>
<p>Please list out plan(s) and describe in 200 words or less neighborhood support/involvement.</p>	<p>During the Neighborhood Matching Grant application, over 40 individuals pledged over \$10,000 worth of in-kind donations to the project. (List of names included in letter of support.) Both the CleanScapes award and the Neighborhood Matching Grant application have been reported in the Valley View, a community newspaper which reaches over 2,300 households and businesses within Madison Valley.</p>

<p>Attachment: Support Letters - A maximum of two letters of support for the project may be attached.</p>	<p> GMVCC Support for Playground.pdf  Playground Letter of Support.docx</p>
<p>e. Does the proposal restore or significantly extend the life of a current park or facility?</p>	<p>Developed Parks: The project repairs, replaces or upgrades aging infrastructure or facilities, extending their life at least 20 years.</p>
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>This project would install brand new play structure equipment and benches in a location that is currently empty. This should add great value to the park for years.</p> <p>Drainage of the adjacent grassy area should increase the usage of that area for years and extend the life of the park.</p>
<p>f. Does the project provide health benefits or opportunities? (e.g. trails, bike paths, open space)</p>	<p>a. The project increases the amount of open space or high intensity recreational opportunities.</p>
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>Play structures and swings will greatly increase the amount of high intensity recreational opportunities for the community's children, and increase everyone's exposure to the outdoors and nature. The surrounding area is full of mature trees, woods, and wildlife (which the play structure will not alter, since it is to be installed in a grassy field). Having a play area at the entrance to the Arboretum may induce more families to explore the many trails throughout the park.</p> <p>Having the adjacent grassy area properly drained would allow year-long enjoyment of soccer, Frisbee, football and more by both children and adults—something that currently already happens only when it's not too muddy.</p>
<p>g. Does the project take advantage of an opportunity that will be lost unless action is taken? ACQUISITION ONLY</p>	
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	

<p>5.1 Does the project demonstrate new and/or creative methods to meet the community's need for parks and green spaces (sustainable energy practices, etc...)?</p>	<p>c. The project meets minimal sustainable requirements for development projects.</p>
<p>Please describe in 500 words or less.</p>	<p>The project should have minimal impact on the area involved. None or few trees or bushes would need to be removed. A containment area would simply be expanded to an adjacent grassy area. Due to possible landfill issues, the area would probably be built upon three feet of fill dirt. According to Emily Lofsted, while installing drainage for the grassy area, we could demonstrate a green/creative way to improve drainage.</p>
<p>i. How does the project leverage or have the potential to leverage other resources through the actions of other public agencies, funding from public, private or philanthropic partners, and/or in-kind contributions of time and energy from citizen volunteers?</p>	<p>c. The project has up to 10% funding or in-kind contributions or a funding plan (plans for applying for funding or in-kind donations.) Please list the amount of funding in hand below.</p>
<p>Attach Funding Plan here.</p>	<p> Playground Volunteers for Matching Fund.xlsx</p>
<p>Please describe in 200 words or less.</p>	<p>Have over \$10,000 in volunteer-time pledges from our Neighborhood Matching Fund application in 2011. (See attached spreadsheet.)</p>
<p>j. What potential effects does the project have on the City's maintenance and operating costs?</p>	<p>a. No net increase in the City's maintenance and operating costs.</p>

Please describe in
200 words or less.

Since the site already has an existing bathroom, parking lots, garbage cans, picnic tables, and containment area with a swing set, we foresee very little increase in maintenance and operating costs. The containment area will simply be larger, and instead of maintaining just a swing set, there would also be play structures. The grassy area should require no additional maintenance once it receives proper drainage.