



SW QUADRANT COMMUNITY PARK MEETING NOTES



Meeting Name: Public Task Force Meeting No. 1
 Date: April 8, 2014
 Location: Mountain View Middle School
 Time: 9:30 AM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Name:	Agency:
Gery Keck	THPRD, Project manager
Nicole Paulsen	THPRD, Planning
Scott Brucker	THPRD, Sports
Troy Schrader	THPRD, Maintenance
Julie Rocha	THPRD, Champions Too steering committee
Claudia Ruf	Beaverton School District
Luis Nava	CPO #6 Representative
Kathie Koellmann	CPO #6 Representative
Janet Allison	Tualatin Hills Parks Foundation
Todd Marcum	David Evans and Associates, Inc.
Brynn Reimann	David Evans and Associates, Inc.
Richard Bosch	RB/A, Accessibility consultant
Nick Wilson	Atlas Landscape Architecture, Synthetic turf consultant

Southwest Quadrant Community Park

I. Introductions and Project Description

Gery Keck began, after introductions, with a project description to attendees. This project was made possible by the 2008 bond measure, and it is the largest of the bond projects. SWQCP will be constructed on about 20 acres of THPRD and BSD property adjacent to Mountain View Middle School. The district bought a (flag lot) parcel of land from BSD and, in conjunction with the district's already acquired land, has entered into an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for shared use of property and amenities which include: Multi-sport natural field, synthetic turf fields, tennis courts, access off 170th, parking, restrooms/concessions, picnic areas, pathways, community garden (THPRD property), fencing, and storm drainage facility. Gery noted the odd shape of the Park site and the constraints that will present in including several large square sports fields.

Currently, the site is used for Mountain View MS students for recess and sports, and also for Aloha HS soccer, lacrosse, and baseball.

Construction cost for the Park is estimated today at 5.8 million dollars. An additional \$1.2 million is anticipated to be raised by THPRD's Access for All Campaign, led by Geoff Roach. This is the first THPRD project to include a Champions Too or equivalent type sports field and supporting facilities. Currently, the District expects this field to be synthetic turf that could be easily used by wheelchair or other mobility devices. When not in use by this community, the field could also be programmed for other sports use. Programming this fully accessible field is already underway. Julie Rocha's steering committee is currently collaborating with several disability advocacy groups to create programs that could use the new field as soon as the Park is opened.

The Park site includes some wetlands adjacent to an existing storm water ditch which conveys water from the neighborhood across 170th Ave to an ODOT-owned storm water retention pond just north of the Park site. CWS has expressed the desire to work with THPRD to expand the existing ditch to the south to capture and treat storm water runoff produced by the existing local community as well as the new Park facilities (parking lots, pathways, sports fields, etc). As required by CWS, any wetland areas, including a 50-ft buffer of plantings, would be fenced off from Park user access.

Because the Park will be shared between BSD and THPRD, the schedule for accessing it must follow the arrangement prescribed in the IGA. The BSD property will be available only to the school on weekdays until 5PM, and then THPRD will begin programmed activities on the BSD property. THPRD will also hold programmed activities on the BSD property on weekends. The public will have access to Park amenities included on THPRD property at any time the Park is open, and certain amenities on weekends. Per THPRD policy, all synthetic fields will be fully fenced and not accessible at-will to the public.

A restroom building is included in the program, including a large family-type restroom for parents with older special-needs kids or caregivers of the opposite sex.

II. Public Task Force Role and Responsibilities

Gery reviewed the role the Task Force members will play in the process of the Park design. It is expected that the Task Force members will be sharing information, concerns, ideas, and questions between the groups they represent and the Park design team as concept designs are produced and a draft master plan is developed. The design team will produce two master plan concepts initially which will be presented to the task force and also to the public at one of two open houses for the project. The Task Force will be involved in identifying and addressing community issues, desires, and concerns early so that agreeable solutions may be incorporated as best as possible in the master plan.

Neighbors within 500-ft of the Park property are required to be notified by THPRD of the public open house. Janet Allison asked whether it was possible to expand that to 1000-ft for this project, given the large sports lights that will be proposed. Task Force members are also encouraged to let interested or concerned neighbors or individuals they speak with know about the public open houses to share their input.

Claudia Ruf indicated that the public open houses could be located at the middle school. She also offered to distribute project info and public open house notifications to the local school community network, including several elementary schools and the HS.

III. Discussion

Butternut Creek Elem. School was discussed because it has a program for students with Autism to interact and learn about a local wetland, and could be a helpful model in developing programs at the Park.

The question was raised of allowing kids to get to school across the two properties, if some kind of fence between them was installed. Kids access the school from Lawndale Park and 170th. Gery mentioned that a fence wasn't desired by the project team, although clear use separation would be needed. Signage could be utilized, for example. Todd offered that an integrated design solution could be found to help clearly separate uses for different groups at different times of the day. Task Force members indicated that they preferred this approach.

A large looping trail for walking was mentioned as a desirable feature by members of the Task Force. Dogs are not permitted on school property, even on a leash.

Use of the Accessible (Champions Too-type) field is open to a wide range of groups, including THPRD's Adaptive Use summer sports camps or Therapeutic Recreation program; Wounded Warriors; Oregon Special Olympics; Oregon Disability Sports, etc. Large groups and events will be able to use the site. Bus turnaround and parking will be needed from 170th. Only having one restroom building was questioned, for larger events and such a large site. Maintenance, safety and vandalism were discussed as significant limitations for restroom buildings. However, THPRD often brings portable restrooms out for larger special events or soccer season, and concrete pads and decorative screening amenities could be included in the master plan design to minimize their appearance.

The site could be a good candidate for THPRD's Nature Mobile or Recreation Mobile, which travel around the District in the summer and are partnered with school's free and reduced lunch program. Mountain View MS is a free and reduced lunch school.

Transportation services and access including bike/ped and transit will be important factors to consider as the design gets underway.

The next Task Force Meeting will present the two design concept options for input and comments.

Nicole Paulsen agreed to send relevant internet links on the programs and resources that are already available to the local community, including for the Recreation Mobile, to the Task Force members for their use and distribution in talking with stakeholders. Kathie Koellmann emphasized the need to engage the young families in the community in the process.

