



## **Kaiser Ridge Park – Public Meeting #2**

June 12, 2011- 6:30 pm

Community Room at Bethany

### **Internal Team Members**

Brad Hauschild - Project Manager

Steven Gulgren – Planning Director

Steve Regner - Planning

### **Consultant Team**

Jim Walsh - JD Walsh & Associates

Mike Huffman - JD Walsh & Associates

Mirth Walker – SWCA Environmental Consultants

### **Public**

11 total present (see sign-in sheet)

### **Meeting Summary Notes**

Brad opened the meeting and provided a project overview and by summarized the planning process to date.

Jim continued the meeting by discussing the preferred site plan option. Special features were noted including vacating 147<sup>th</sup> Ave. and installing a gate. Seating areas were identified and enhancement planting areas were noted. He then opened up the floor to public questions and comments.

After the general park questions were answered, Brad presented representative examples of typical play equipment (additional comments noted below).

### **Summary of Public Comments:**

- The public continues to have concerns that there is no crosswalk from the neighborhood west of Kaiser Road to the park. Some neighbors expressed surprise that a crosswalk is not planned. Steven pointed out that crosswalks are within Washington County's jurisdiction and in general they do not install mid-block crossings.
- A neighbor had questions regarding park lighting. Jim confirmed that there will be not park lighting.
- There was some discussion about the housing development to the north.
- A neighbor noted the site's history and recommended the name Hanson Park after the former owners who operated a farm there. She-displayed two old photographs of the house and field. She also had an email from the elderly lady who used to live there. Brad said he would give her his card so she could email him information to pass along to staff and the board.
- Brad discussed the different play equipment options and possibilities. He noted that other THPRD parks have used a hybrid combination of "modern" equipment for school age children and "traditional" equipment for toddlers / pre-school children along with swings, spinners, etc. Brad also mentioned that theme equipment is also a possibility like at "Pirate Park. He encouraged written and web site comments from those present and also from absent neighbors who are interested. Color



- options were also noted. Brad noted (and it was agreed) that color selection should blend in with the environment and that vibrant, bright colors would not be selected.
- A neighbor asked if proposed equipment would be ADA accessible. Brad confirmed that the equipment would be.
  - There was a question about when the park would be built. Brad said that it would not be constructed and open to the public until summer 2013. There was some surprise to this.
  - Steven noted that the play equipment boards would be posted on the web site for discussion and feedback.
  - Several neighbors shared the opinion that it would be nice if any new play structure was different from what was at the local school.
  - A neighbor was concerned that a tall structure would allow a view into her windows to the north. Brad noted that the site is substantially vegetated and sloped to the north, so this will not be an issue.
  - A neighbor was concerned about slugs.
  - There were questions about parking on 147<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that the road would be vacated and widened 4' to the north to allow about 8-10 parking spots. Jim pointed out the proposed gate location for PGE access. There was neighbor consensus that gate is "a good thing" that will help keep delinquent behavior out of the area.
  - A neighbor asked how many climbers would fit into the play area. Brad said that the play area should allow a school age climber, a pre-school age climber, swings and a few other play elements.
  - Some neighbors had graffiti concerns, Steven noted that THPRD has a "graffiti hotline" and in most cases will remove graffiti within 24 hours after the report.
  - There was a question about the park's operating hours. Brad answered that the park hours would be from dawn to dusk.
  - A neighbor asked when final design decision about the park would be made. Brad said that the board meeting to approve the master plan would be in September. Steven noted that after this the project would enter the design development phase, submit for permits, etc.
  - Steven discussed the history of the bond to develop a neighborhood park at the site. He clarified for neighbors that the park will indeed be built.
  - Brad discussed the WST connection link for the park. He noted that it will be an ODOT project with federal funds and that they will choose a consultant.
  - A neighbor directly north of the park was concerned about how blackberry removal along their property would eliminate their visual buffer. Staff noted that when blackberry shrubs are removed that they will be replaced with native vegetation.
  - A neighbor asked about saving trees. Steven said that we would save as many existing trees as possible.

### **Next Steps**

1. JD Walsh & Associates will make final revisions to the preferred master plan and forward to Brad for staff review and board approval.
2. The board meeting for master plan approval has been moved to September 8<sup>th</sup>
3. Public comments regarding the play equipment will be collected and considered by THPRD staff for the play area.



4. SWCA to submit documents to Clean Water Services for permit approval.
5. JD Walsh to help coordinate road vacation agreement with PGE regarding gate, maintenance, etc.
6. JD Walsh will hold on further design development until after the September board meeting as directed by THPRD staff.
7. Brad clarified that the project is on schedule for construction in summer of 2012.