



October 2013

Hello, Dawson Park Users and Supporters!



Rendering of some of the planned improvements to Dawson Park

On Thursday, November 14, the Dawson Park Improvement Project officially kicks off construction to add a playground, interactive waterplay feature, barbeques, picnic tables and benches, improved lighting, and accessibility.

[Dawson Park](#) has served as an integral social, political, and economic point for many communities – most especially the African-American community in Portland. The neighborhood around Dawson once was the heart of Portland’s African-American population. The \$2.6 million renovation is designed to restore the park as a key community gathering space by making it more welcoming, safe, and attractive.

The project is a partnership between the Portland Development Commission (PDC) and Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R). Funding comes from the Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area with support for the waterplay feature from Legacy Emanuel Medical Center, Portland Parks Foundation, and Portland Parks & Recreation. R&R General Contractors has been selected to construct the park improvements; some 87% of the construction work will be performed by MWDESB-certified contractors.

Construction is expected to run from November 2013 through June 2014.

You may have already noticed changes happening around the park. Here is more detail on how the construction will proceed and what you can expect to see happening in October and November.

Completed

- PP&R horticulturalists transplanted rhododendrons which are too large for the site to another park.
- The contractor began mobilizing onto the site.
- Fencing was put up around the site and out past the north curb of Stanton Street, which will be used for the construction trailer, dumpsters, and other equipment. Two-way traffic on Stanton and parking on the south side will remain.
- The park will be fenced until construction is complete for safety reasons, and all new plants and lawn are established in the ground (we like to give them some time for their roots to get strong).

Trees

- There will be some impact to the existing trees. Several trees will be pruned to remove dead and dangerous wood and to thin out canopies which allows sunlight filtration and supports better lawn growth.
- As part of the redevelopment, selected trees will be removed. Some trees are being removed due to poor health, others so the new improvements can be installed.
- New trees will be planted to replace removed trees.

Coming Up Soon

- The contractor will have a construction trailer delivered on the Stanton side to be used as an office and will install a construction entrance for safe movement of equipment and materials into and out of the park.
- Trenching and site work will start.
- Existing worn park amenities will be removed, including picnic tables, benches, and garbage cans (to be replaced by new amenities in the spring).
- Tree work will begin.

Work Hours: Monday-Saturday, 7:00 AM-6:00 PM

Updated Project Information

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/54478> is the place to go for accurate and up-to-date information on the progress of the project. We know that construction is inconvenient, messy, and sometimes dangerous. By providing accurate and timely information, we will do our best to let you know what to expect.

Contact Us

General Project Questions

- Sandra Burtzos, PP&R Project Manager, 503-823-5594
- Carol Herzberg, PDC Project Manager, 503-823-3276

Construction Questions

- Construction Project Manager, inici group, Patti Miles, 708-257-2310
- PDC Construction Manager, Elise Hendrickson, 503-823-3214

General Contractor: R&R General Contractors, Inc., Aaron Slowik, 503-798-3807