Willamette Park Redevelopment Project

Trail, Access and Dog Off-Leash Improvements Project—Fact Sheet January 2016

Background / Scope:
Willamette Park is a 26.85-acre regional waterfront park located east of SW Macadam Avenue at Nebraska Street, along the Willamette River. The park is an important regional destination with a variety of recreational functions. In addition, the park offers un-programmed open lawn area for informal passive recreation and is a destination for cyclists on the Willamette Greenway Trail. The park is also an important component in the mosaic of habitat along the Willamette River, providing a valued greenspace experience.

In December of 2012, Portland Parks and Recreation completed a planning effort called ‘The Redevelopment and Phasing Plan for Willamette Park’. That planning process was guided by Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) and the community, including a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) comprised of neighbors and engaged citizens. The plan developed a design concept that incorporates short-term developments and considers opportunities and community needs while anticipating long-range changes. A project list of prioritized improvements was generated from the redevelopment plan.

The 2015 Redevelopment Project is a strategic sequence of improvements to preserve and enhance an already popular and well-functioning park. This project’s proposed improvements were generated from 2012 planning process. Proposed improvements will improve the entrances and greenway trail amenities for the park, which will see heavy increases in bike and pedestrian traffic as the new Tilikum and Sellwood Bridges are completed. The park’s internal circulation system will also be enhanced, with new connector trails to create more looped walks. The dog off-leash area (DOLA) will be moved from the current location, along the west edge of the park, to an open area at the north end of the park, allowing the Bureau of Environmental Services to improve the existing oak tree habitat. In the southern portion of the park, circulation improvements associated with the new pump station and a new entrance for the SW Miles Place (south entry) are being redesigned.

Project Goals:
- Improve park circulation for both pedestrian and bike traffic.
- Greenway Trail Upgrade
- Improve Park Access at three entry points:
  - SW Nebraska Street
  - SW Miles Place (south greenway access)
  - SW Riverpoint Ln. (north greenway access)
- Improve Oak Habitat at west side of park (BES project)
- Improve and relocate Dog Off-Leash Area
- Temporary Removal of southern playground

Schedule:
- Schematic Design: Spring 2015
- Design Development: Spring—Summer 2015
- Construction Documents / Permitting: Winter 2015—Summer 2016
- Bidding / Contracting: Fall 2016
- Construction Ready: Winter 2016 / 17

Budget:
Total Project Cost = $1.8 million
Revenue Sources:
- Willamette Park Parking Funds
- Sellwood Bridge Mitigation Funding
- Portland Water Bureau Pump Station Acquisition Funds
- Parks and Recreation System Development Funds

Contract:
For more information or comment please contact:
Ross Swanson, Project Manager // Portland Parks and Recreation
(503) 823-3577 // Ross.swanson@portlandoregon.gov

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Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Mike Abbate, Director
www.PortlandParks.org
(503) 823-7529
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- Relocated Dog Off-Leash Area
- SW Nebraska Entrance
- SW Riverpoint Entrance
- SW Miles Place Entrance
- Oak Habitat Restoration / Butterfly Habitat relocation