



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

Gateway Park and Urban Plaza

DATE: May 19, 2015

TIME: 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

LOCATION: East Precinct, 737 SE 106th Avenue

Meeting Goals: Meet construction manager and review process going forward; review building options; discuss budget and approach.

Attendees: Bob Earnest; Andrew Long; Jennifer Wilde; Abudi Said; Thuy Tran; Alicia Hammock; Aaron Slowick; Karen Justice;

Staff: George Lozovoy, Project Manager, PP&R; Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Community Engagement Manager, PP &R; Elise Scolnick, Community Engagement Coordinator, PP&R

Consultant Team: Colleen Wolfe; Mauricio Villarreal; Miguel Camacho Serna; Lisa McClellan; Horatio Law; Peggy Kendellen; Sara Cantine

I. Introductions

- a. The group introduced themselves and the facilitator and reviewed the agenda and purpose of the meeting.
- b. Elise Scolnick, Community engagement coordinator, was introduced and will be taking Hun Taing's place during her leave.
- c. George Lozovoy introduced Aaron Slowik, R & R General Contractors to the PAC. Not yet under contract, R & R is being introduced to the design process as part of the Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC) process the City uses to improve communication with the design team and contractor.

II. Preliminary Building Options

- a. Sara Cantine and Lisa McClellan of Scott Edwards Architecture gave a presentation on the proposed park canopy design and other elements of the park structures and hardscape along NE Halsey Street. They provided a Sketch-up rendering that allowed the PAC to see the buildings and other structures from different angles. Sara explained the design concepts used to develop the design, which stem from the mid-century modern movement to emulate the

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characteristics of the neighborhood. The covered structure would serve the community for gatherings, programs. The bathroom doors were designed to face NE Halsey for public safety reasons. This is just the schematic stage. The next stage is design development, where the details will be worked out.

- b. There was group consensus on the provision of the canopy as an integral part of the park design. The importance of the canopy was expressed by the group as for comfort, rain and shade protection, a grand entry to draw people into the park, to maximize investments in the area, meet the needs for community building, and reduce the feeling of vulnerability. PAC members suggested the following: invest in a bigger gateway at Halsey and eliminate the smaller one, lower the canopy to a more human scale, make sure it is made of durable material, make sure it is unclimbable, provide lighting from dawn to dusk, find ways of preventing inappropriate behavior in the park.
- c. Upon a question about the visual view from the playground, the architect showed a computer graphic from that angle. Comments included making sure there is room to get into the bathrooms if the under-canopy area is crowded. Also make sure there is odor control, given the location of the bathroom doors. Eliminate hiding places. The project manager explained that a technical advisory committee will review the design for such things are compliance with codes, crime prevention through environmental design, transportation issues, ADA accessibility and more. Questions arose about the provision of bike lanes to access the park and bike racks in the park. PBOT has responsibility for bike lanes. Bike racks and other park furnishings are in the construction budget. There has also been a request for a flagpole in the design. This request will be considered by staff and the design team.
- d. Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong introduced the long term care of the park by community members. This may be a “Friends of Gateway Park” group or other entity. The City Crime Prevention Coordinator for the neighborhood would be able to help with organizing and information. After the park is constructed, the City’s Park Rules will apply and there will be enforcement capability.

III. Budget Discussion: George Lozovoy told the group that the most recent cost numbers show that the park design as presented (with the canopy) can be constructed within budget. Colleen Wolfe of PLACE explained the cost reduction efforts taken to get the project within budget, such as narrowing hardscape areas without compromising accessibility. There are many cost factors that could change as the design development and construction estimates move through the process, but if anything

substantial results in a change of design, the PAC would be reconvened to review those substantial changes. There will be communication updates as the project moves forward.

IV. Next Steps:

- a. There will be a focus group on the inclusive play area to be held on **June 2, 2015, 4 to 6 PM at Sacramento Elementary School, 11400 NE Sacramento.**
- b. At the end of the meeting, the group was asked to share what they appreciated and what they would change about the process. Below is a list of comments:

Appreciate

That there will be lighting in the park
Cohesiveness, great park space
The design team (2x)
The inclusive play area (3x)
Seeing the evolution of the site
Design is way better than Elizabeth Carruthers Park on the west side.
Great communication from Hun (Community Engagement Coordinator)
Thoughtfulness of the PAC and design team
Beautiful design
Great for contractor to be in on the process early
Great PAC! Positivity of the group
Diversity, best
It's an exciting project to work on >>>world change
Knowledge of the neighborhood
Evolution of policy regarding parks
Confidence in the community, staff and design team
Looking forward to events in the park!
Getting what the community deserves; a great park!

Change

Have a more open process with more invitees.
Have an eco-roof on the canopy