



June 7, 2017

To: Champion Committee

From: Emily Roth, Senior Planner and Project Manager

RE: Washington Park Master Plan Update Concepts – What we heard from the public and other.

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) spent April and May talking/listening to the public, neighborhood associations adjacent to the park, Explore Washington Park Board and with Cultural Institutions (Oregon Zoo, World Forestry Center, Portland Children’s Museum, Portland Japanese Garden, and Friends of Hoyt Arboretum), Champions Committee about the two park concepts.

Our outreach activities included:

- Party in the Park on April 8 – over 100 people attended and 91 completed surveys.
- On-line Open House, open from April 7th through 30th – 1730 respondents. See map for area by zip code of respondents.
- Focus groups with the Latino, Russian and Vietnamese communities on April 22.
- Meeting with and letters from the Cultural Institutions.
- Explore Washington Park board members and staff on May 15 from 9 until noon.
- Meeting with the adjacent neighborhood associations: Arlington Heights, Sylvan Highlands, and Goose Hollow Foothills. Arlington Heights and Goose Hollow Foothills followed up with letters.
- Meetings with and comments from PP&R staff on the Technical Advisory Committee.
- Champion Committee meeting notes and written feedback

We heard that we have agreement or strong support for the following:

- Reduce the dominance of cars in the park
- Increase the active transportation options
- Multi-hub concept
- Bicycle and pedestrian trail separate from the road that connects the northern and southern ends of the park.
- Better connections to the Kings Hill and Goose Hollow MAX stations
- Food, preferably in the northern end of the park
- Improve wayfinding/signage and make it in multiple languages
- Add a forest canopy walk

- Add gardens/indoor garden at the northern end
- Enhancing the views
- Improving the amphitheater

We do not have agreement on the following:

1. Parking/Access/Circulation
 - a. Number of private vehicle parking spaces – PP&R is committed to keeping the present number of spaces and bringing the overflow parking into the park for a total of 1800 spaces.
 - b. Parking scheme in the northern (garden) area.
2. Natural Area preservation or activation with appropriate activities such as benches, nature play and picnic areas.
3. Recreation activities such as tennis, sports fields and archery – should they remain in the park and where they should be located.

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