



**Mt. Tabor Yard – Open House – October 2017
Comment Form Summary**

An open house for the Mt. Tabor Yard Park Bond Project was held on October 24, 2017 at Warner Pacific College and was attended by about 45 community members. Outreach included emails to the project list, posts on the project website and Parks online calendar, yard signs in the park, flyers distributed to nearby park neighbors, and posts on NextDoor.com. The comment form was posted online for a week after the event, along with the presentation materials. A total of **34 comments** were received.

The goal of the Open House was to share updates on design work for the Yard renovations, including the decision to use the Long Block for horticultural plant storage. Boards were posted, project staff were on hand to guide visitors through the displays and answer questions, and there was a brief presentation by members of the Planning Group and the design team from Opsis.

It should be noted that this report reflects the opinions of those who chose to participate. It is not necessarily representative of the broader community. This information, in addition to information provided by Parks staff and the Planning Group, will be used to inform the design process for the Mt. Tabor Yard improvements.

In regards to the design for the potted plant storage area on the Long Block, the Planning Group has made the following recommendations:

- PP&R, Mt Tabor and South Tabor Neighborhood Associations, Friends of Mt Tabor Park, and other park stakeholders will enter into a Good Neighbor Agreement for this use.
- No engine idling allowed in the plant storage area; install signage with this message.
- Maintain the Community Garden standard 25' no-spray zone.
- Fence will be 6' and match the Community Garden fencing in style.
- Weed barrier cloth in green or black will be used on ground underneath potted plants.
- Landscape screening will include: west side of plant storage (evergreen and/or edible fruit), a tree heel-in area inside the west fence to enhance screening, and a buffer on the east side as space allows (including vine-type plants on the fence by Community Garden).
- Lighting: no permanent installation. Power outlets for staff will be provided.
- Roadway surface for access into plant storage area will be gravel.
- Park signage – and public art (if chosen as appropriate site) – will be installed at SE 60th entry.
- Neighborhood partners will lead a future community project to improve the triangular paved area at east edge of Long Block, including removing pavement, installing bike racks, and creating stormwater treatments.



- Given that the Long Block is designated horticultural use in the Mt. Tabor Park Master Plan, additional community garden space should be installed west of the potted plant storage area if the funds can be raised.
- The potted plant storage area should become a community garden space if no longer needed for Horticulture Services.

1. Is there anything you would suggest changing or adding to this list?

- No **33%**
- Don't know **10%**
- Yes **57%**

Individual comments:

- Access – gravel trail from Lincoln Street would be better if barriers were removed (e.g. trail gate and adding a curb cut out at the end of the hill top)
- Add flashing light pedestrian crossing at SE 64th / Division or even better, a stop light for pedestrian crossing.
- Add drainage ditch between the gravel driveway and Community Garden fence to catch and redirect run-off of the oil, etc from trucks.
- Do not support plant storage on Long Block, would prefer use as park space.
- Expand Community Garden as one garden, not two.
- Encourage planting of larger trees to help with climate change
- If potted storage area no longer needed, would prefer to see a variety of trees left to grow with walking, sitting benches, and removal of fence.
- If possible, leave some flat open space on Long Block. Well used by the community.
- Love the plan and work by Opsis.
- Mini-soccer field
- More buffer between community garden and plant storage area
- Murals on walls
- No poisons sprayed
- Paved sidewalk on Long Block for better wheelchair access and a curb cut by the Community Garden. Better accessibility for people with mobility devices.
- Plant native plants, no non-native plants in parks.
- Pollinator and bat garden, water feature for birds, permeable pavement for Yard, edibles, permaculture hedges, garden tables of adjustable height with tubs for wheelchair/walker and smooth permeable ADA surface, green roof on new buildings, plant walls.
- Use some space for a dedicated greenway for connecting to a 60s Greenway.
- Would rather not have park signage at SE 60th and Lincoln, would add even more traffic to already busy street. If they do put a sign, need a light at that intersection.

2. Would you support a future expansion of the Community Garden in the Long Block?

- Strongly support **43%**
- Support **24%**
- Could support with more information **12%**
- Opposed **6%**
- Strongly opposed **9%**

- Other **6%**: don't really care except lower socioeconomic regions in city should be first in line for more gardens and the open space would be useful for more people; would support if it doesn't just become park space

3. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

- Great job – please try to retain the magnolia tree at SE 64th. It is an icon for South Tabor and 64th residents.
- I want to recognize the hard decisions that were made to have this in-house maintenance for PP&R. It is appreciated after what happened with outsourcing of PPS's maintenance. I also want to thank those who worked on and stayed with this project. It means a lot to us as avid users of the park, and many are not aware.
- I am opposed to fencing the open space on the Long Block. When the plant storage is no longer needed, a public process should determine the best use.
- I really appreciate the direction this has taken.
- It seems this project is duly taking into account the opinions of neighbors whose ownership of the commons borders on hoarding.
- Love the SE 64th multi-modal path access and the proposed crossing island.
- Mt. Tabor Park and the Long Blocks are difficult to access accessibility-wise (ADA). It's not easy to use a mobility device (wheeled, walkers, or otherwise) on gravel paths. Please improve this access as part of this project.
- Neighbors on SE Grant St are concerned with the main entry of the Yard directly opposite Grant St. Lincoln has speed bumps and should be designated the main entry/exit from the Yard.
- Too much traffic.
- Thanks for your hard work.
- The Long Block is meeting needs of many for exercise and play.
- The more parks and public space, the better. Would love if you could use the space to create a safe bikeway that would allow Lincoln-Harrison Bikeway to connect to a future 60s Bikeway. This would help to better connect areas like South Tabor, Foster-Powell, Brentwood-Darlington, and Lents to Downtown.
- Why not use areas on Long Block not assigned for plant storage for community garden?
- Will the multi-modal pathway be lighted for safety?
- Will the multi-modal pathway be open 24 hours/day?

Please tell us about yourself:

How far do you live from Mt. Tabor Park? (pick one)

- Five blocks or less **53%**
- Less than one mile **41%**
- More than one mile **6%**

How did you hear about this?

- Email **50%**
- Nextdoor.com **41%**
- Yard sign in park **18%**
- Flyer **15%**
- PP&R website **6%**
- **Other:** on committee, meeting, neighborhood association, neighbors.

I am age:

- under 16 years **0%**
- 16-24 years **0%**
- 25-34 years **6%**
- 35-44 years **21%**
- 45-59 years **33%**
- 60-79 years **39%**
- 80 & over **0%**

I identify as:

- female **53%**
- male **44%**
- genderqueer / androgynous **0%**
- trans male **0%**
- trans female **0%**
- other **3%**

I identify as: (check all that apply)

- American Indian/Alaskan Native **7%**
- Asian **3%**
- Black or African American **0%**
- Hispanic or Latino **0%**
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander **0%**
- Slavic/Eastern European **0%**
- White **93%**
- Other **7%**
 - Maltese
 - No answer

Regarding residence, I

- own **94%**
- rent **6%**
- live with my parents **0%**
- other **0%**