



**Columbia Children's Arboretum
Community Meeting
Wednesday, May 9, 2018**

Welcome! Thank you for joining us as we plan the future of this special place.

Step 1 – Take a dot! Put it on the large map on a place in the park that is special to you.

Step 2 – Tell us why this place is special – use words, pictures, poems – whatever works for you!

Think about the following:

- a. What is special to you about the park
- b. What could be improved?
- c. What should stay the same?

1. If I said everything you'd think I am crazy, but having a special place like this in our neighborhood is beyond belief. Every chance I get I explain and tell people about this incredible park!
2. Bark chips are real difficult for wheelchair, strollers and bicycles. This park is quiet and spacious! It is peaceful and friendly for a walk thru.
3. The unique nature of the park. This history of children in developing the plans. The neighborhood annual picnic. Planting of memorial trees for David Odom and Steve Fritz. Seeing education and work parties. Quiet, varied levels of participants.
4. Special: animals, open spaces, native plants. Experiences: non- yet.
5. It feels like a hidden sanctuary in the industrial corridor. Very peaceful. I like that it was overgrown and provides good habitat for animals. Hidden gem. Also, special because of the water feature. I like the bridges and that it is not full of people. I saw a bird and a squirrel "talking" on a path once.
6. Animals: Deer, coyote, small mammal. Horse usage – riding. Picnic Area for neighborhood picnic & other events. Children – build & maintained. Wild nature of park, beautiful planting.
7. Expanse of green. Group singing at picnic. Peace & quiet.
8. I am new to the neighborhood, I love the open space, quiet & peaceful, a natural oasis. I've only been inside the park twice – I would like to go more & explore more.

Step 3 – How will we know if we are successful? Listed below are the goals that were developed in conjunction with that plan. Please use the scale to give us feedback.

- a. Are these goals still relevant?
- b. Should they be edited, deleted?
- c. Is anything missing?

Recreation needs

- Meet recreation needs of existing and future area residents.
Provide a variety of spaces and facilities that are appropriate to the site and its designation as a hybrid park

Very Relevant

1 – 4

2 – 2

3 – 2

4 – n/a

5 – n/a

Not Very Relevant

Notes: As Portland grows/ population increase, this park becomes more important. What transportation berries exist? Important factor to consider.

Environmental restoration

- Improve habitat values through an ongoing program of replanting, invasive species removal, and restoration.
- Improve water quality in the waterways by improving water flow and other bank improvements.
- Control human access into restoration sites and natural resource areas.

Very Relevant

1 – 7

2 – 1

3 – n/a

4 – n/a

5 – n/a

Not Very Relevant

Interpretive Programs

- Provide a variety of opportunities for students and citizens to learn about the site, its natural resources, its history, the Columbia Slough, and the neighborhood.
- Provide restoration involvement opportunities for school groups and citizens.

Very Relevant

1 – 4

2 – 3

3 – 1

4 – n/a

5 – n/a

Not Very Relevant

Notes: Signage is lacking. What tribal partnerships exist to interpret the land?
What histories are being told?
More true today

Beauty and character of the site



- Enhance and improve the park's visual character through a vegetation management program that improves views, defines open spaces, and maintains a unified palette of plant materials.

Very Relevant

1 - 4

2 - 2

3 - n/a

4 - 1

5 - n/a

Not Very Relevant

Notes: Love the raw state. A nature spot with fort building opportunities + boulders. Apple orchards are neglected.

A legacy of neighborhood involvement

- Develop partnership with the neighborhood or a Friends group for programs and maintenance.

Very Relevant

1 - 3

1-2 - 1

2 - n/a

2-3 - 1

3 - 2

4 - n/a

5 - n/a

Not Very Relevant

Step 4 – What else would you like us to know?

1. Paths are without some better sort of paving.
2. Signage on NE 13th Ave. Equity must be considered. Animal watering stations. Security improvements – I don't use alone. Paths for handicap access. Mowing picnic area more than meadow. Perhaps also a mowed trail to various trailheads. Native mostly – except Grove of States renew.
3. Should look into Oral Hull Park, a park for the blind in Sandy, OR.
4. Parking has become more important and relevant.
5. Interpretive signage has become more important.
6. There should be a tribal partnership to interpret the land.
7. There is an increase in the people and dogs.

Report Back:

- Feeling of openness.
- Animals
- Better path system
- Children and horses use park
- MCPP helping with restoration
- Little pocket of heaven
 - Secret place
 - Peaceful & quiet
- Good habitat
- Green & peace & quiet
- Honor history of children
- People still have who helped create site
- More environmental education

- Neighbor participation
- Parking
- Interpretation
- Tribal
- Learning garden