



**BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
(VIRTUAL MEETING)**

**January 12, 2022
5:00 PM
MINUTES**

Attendees: Commissioner Pointer, Commissioner Reid

Staff Support: **Marty Stump**, Deputy Director - Planning and Development; **Kristi Evan**, Capital Program Manager, Community & Neighborhood; **Hunter George**, Policy & Government Relations Officer; **Mary Kay Henley**, Planning Administration

Acceptance of Minutes: Minutes from the December 15, 2021 meeting were approved as written.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

- Commissioner Reid asked about flooding at Titlow Park, mentioning the lagoon, lodge and trussell areas. Marty reported new drainage options are being discussed.
- Marty reported at future meetings the 2022 Capital Workplan will be shared at the 2nd CIC meeting of the month.
- Commissioner Pointer asked if there was any snow impact on the Owen Beach project. Kristi reported it is still on schedule with completion early, possibly in February ahead of the the March 9th target. She mentioned the park won't open until the complimentary Owen Beach Entrance project is completed in March or April. This project is a component of the Point Defiance Loop Trail project led by Roger and will provide a new 2-way entry drive.
 - Commissioner Pointer added that although a few trees will be removed, they will be replaced at a 2 to 1 ratio. Commissioner Reid asked if any of these trees are old growth. Marty reported no. He added this information was included in the recently published State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) ad. It was explained we didn't receive any substantive comments opposing the project, and we are moving forward with permitting.
- Commissioner Reid asked about additional dog park locations. He noted he received a community request for one at Wright Park and didn't know how to respond. Marty reported that a list of potential off-leash areas is being compiled as part of our Level of Service Plan. He will find out the status and report back so commissioner can respond appropriately to community comments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Gas Station Park Design Development presentation

- Kristi updated commissioners on the Gas Station Park project. She reported we have 100% design development and are entering the construction planning phase. She explained this site

is a former gas station and adding this neighborhood park will help fill a 10-minute walk level of service gap.

- The City of Tacoma (COT) has completed full remediation of the site and transferred the property and development funding to MPT. The project has 3 funding sources: City of Tacoma \$320,000, Metro Parks \$52,000, and Washington State Commerce Grant of \$504,700.
- Kristi presented site plans, pointing out improved access, signage, new children's play equipment, walking paths, play lawn and general landscape improvements. She noted improvements have been informed by feedback received from the community.
- Bidding will take place in June, with construction targeted for August through November. The next time the Board will see this project will be in the form of a construction contract award.
 - Commissioner Reid expressed concerns about not offering restrooms at neighborhood parks. Commissioner Pointer concurred, noting it's not just for children but adults too. Marty reported this is a universal conundrum for parks as it relates to neighborhood park restroom standards. He mentioned an alternative that some agencies are using, self-contained restroom that are a hybrid of a porta potty and restroom. He said we could possibly consider a trial run at appropriate location in the future.
 - Commissioner Pointer asked if there will be multiple trash receptacles. Kristi said yes.

Green School Yards, Reed and Stafford 100% Design Development presentation

- Kristi provided an update for both the Stafford and Jenny Reed elementary schools as part of the Green School Yards partnership between Tacoma Public Schools (TPS), Trust for Public Land (TPL) and Metro Parks. She added these projects will close the gap on Metro Park's 10-minute walk level of service goal.
- She explained an overarching Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) defines roles, with TPL managing budget, Metro Parks contributing \$250,000 for each 6 pilot sites and TPS coordinating construction contracts. Currently TPS will maintain sites, but we will consider co-ownership if needed.
 - Commissioner Reid noted that Metro Park's contribution might be overlooked because of the proximity to school sites. He wondered if we have a marketing plan in place to communicate our participation. Kristi said yes. She added that some public outreach has already taken place, along with possibly signage. Commissioner Reid added signage at the school entrance would be good. Kristi note that TPL has a good track record of listing partners on their signs.
- Kristi presented first Jenny Reed Elementary design plans, noting new playground equipment and asphalt area updates including four-square court and additional basketball court. The existing play equipment will be moved closer to the school building. Additional improvements/updates will include a walking path, swings. learning garden and ADA walkways.
 - Commissioner Pointer asked about the completion date. Kristi stated they are running a bit behind a very aggressive schedule, targeting construction in December.
- Next Kristi presented design plans for Stafford Elementary, noting it's a bit smaller in scale. She pointed out updates to the play area, new outdoor play stage and classroom, and tetherball. The log area, shelter and bio trail will remain.
 - Commissioner Reid asked how close this site is to the City of Tacoma boundary line. Kristi stated is it within the city's boundary line, but noted it it close.
 - Both commissioners agreed this is a great partnership, adding it helps keep children off the street.

OTHER TOPICS

- Commissioner Reid asked about any ramp updates at the Tacoma Yacht Club. Marty reported we are in continued dialogue with the yacht club and he will check with Roger on an update. It was noted all five gangways wouldn't necessarily need to be replaced and that team is looking at a minimum of three to be replaced.

Meeting Adjourned