

Meeting Attendees:

Carol Gossett, Sullivan's Gulch
Steve Cole, Irvington
Daniel Greenstadt, Concordia
Ken Peterson, Grant Park
Garlynn Woodsong, Concordia
Sue Glenn, Portland Parks & Recreation North Zone Manager
Claire Adamsick, NECN Committees Coordinator

Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves and shared their interest in participating on the Parks subcommittee. Interests ranged from increased parks access to safety concerns from the perspective of a parent of a young child, as well as an overall desire among the group to learn about potential new projects with a low capital cost and how NECN communities can have a voice in parks planning.

Overview of Portland Parks & Rec Capital Improvement Projects and Community Outreach

Sue Glenn, North Zone Manager for PPR, described her role as one that focuses on the daily care and cleaning of parks, as well as identifying new opportunities in currently developed parks. Sue works regularly with neighborhoods and neighborhood coalitions on livability issues connected with parks, particularly safety concerns. Neighbors can report parks problems directly to the city through ParkScan: <http://www.parkscanpdx.org>.

Sue emphasized that while there is currently no capital funding for parks, there is some limited parks funding in the form of SDCs, or system development charges. SDCs are one-time fees assessed on new residential and commercial development that accumulate over time. Currently, the City has around \$8.2 million in SDC funds.

SDCs must be used to build capacity and expand park use, and cannot be used to replace aging infrastructure. Locally-secured matching funds can be used in combination with SDC funds.

Short-term: Sue reported that for the "first round" of input on SDC funds, Commissioner Fritz has asked each district to share its priorities around potential growth Capital Improvement Plan projects. These projects include both "Growth" and "Maintenance" projects in: Alberta Park, Fernhill Park, Grant Park and Sullivan's Gulch Trail. Claire reported that Tim Crail in the Commissioner's office shared that the bulk of SDC funds are likely to be designated for a new park in East Portland.

Long-term: The parks subcommittee can help to facilitate a broader NECN conversation about capacity-building projects on parks; the depth and breadth of this conversation can be determined when there is clarity on the questions that follow.

Next steps

Claire, the NECN staff liaison, will reach out to Patti Howard in the Commissioner's office with the following questions:

1. Is there any portion of the current SDC funding (\$8+ million) that NECN neighborhoods could be eligible for, given that we are not viewed as a "parks-deficient" service area??



**Parks Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, November 12th, 2013, 1:00-2:00pm
NECN Office – Conference Room
DRAFT Minutes**

2. What is the long-term budget outlook and what room is there for submitting ideas and feedback to PPR and the Commissioner? It is important to subcommittee members to know that ideas are being generated and vetted for a purpose.
3. Is there space to “think big” i.e. brainstorm parks development opportunities outside of SDC dollars?
4. How (and to whom) can feedback be organized and submitted in a manner that is both timely and useful?

Once questions have been addressed, the subcommittee will arrange a “work session” to discuss priorities, most likely starting with the CIP projects in Alberta, Grant, Fernhill Parks and Sullivan’s Gulch Trail.

The 2nd week in December was suggested as a potential week to meet; Claire will coordinate with subcommittee members to set a meeting time once we have received feedback from the Commissioner’s office. Sue Glenn will attend the parks subcommittee meetings as she is able/as is appropriate.