

MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &
Community Services

Date: July 17, 2024

To: Parks & Community Services Board

From: Zarrian Smith, Capital Projects Coordinator
Pam Fehrman, Planning & Development Manager
Parks & Community Services

Subject: New Eastgate Neighborhood Park - Master Plan and Park Naming
For information and discussion - no Board action requested

At the July meeting, staff will provide the Parks & Community Services Board with an overview of the upcoming park planning and naming process for Bellevue's newest neighborhood park. We will share project background, planned public engagement and the project schedule. This planning process will be led by Parks & Community Services staff and a soon to be selected architectural and engineering design team.

The Park Board will serve as the primary advisory body for the planning and naming of this newest park in the Eastgate Neighborhood. Ultimately, the Board will be asked to recommend a preferred park plan and name to the City Council. We would like to formally invite you and hope you will join us throughout the planning process for this new neighborhood park.

BACKGROUND

The Eastgate Neighborhood Area, south of I-90 is one of the City's most recently annexed areas. This area is underserved by both park and trail access, creating a need for additional neighborhood park facilities. The voter supported City of Bellevue Parks & Open Space 2022 Levy provided funds to acquire, plan, and develop a park in the Eastgate Neighborhood. To address the need for park facilities the City has acquired two properties totaling about a half-acre for the purpose of developing a new neighborhood park.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We are looking forward to working with the community to both plan and name this new park. Community outreach has already begun. Staff visited with the community at the Eastgate Block Party hosted by the Eastgate Neighborhood Association to help raise awareness of the upcoming park planning effort. Neighbors were enthusiastic and supportive of the new park. Future community engagement will include a range of opportunities for the community to be included and inform the park planning process for the new park. Staff will work to provide a:

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- wide range of opportunities for the community to be informed about and involved in the planning process.
- process that is transparent, inclusive, and broad, but also focused and productive so that the planning process continues to move forward and achieve results.
- sense of community cohesiveness and ownership of the new park

Staff will work to understand and share the full range of community visions, values, and priorities, with the Parks & Community Services Board and City Council to help with informed recommendations and decisions.

PROJECT SCHEDULE AND NEXT STEPS

We anticipate the Master Planning process for the new neighborhood park to take approximately one (1) year to complete. Levy funding will allow for design, permitting and construction to follow.

We will be initiating work with the community at our first community planning meeting this fall.