

From: Fehrman, Pamela
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 11:43 AM
To: Renay Bennett
Subject: RE: Please don't develop the old airfield!

Hi Renay Bennett,

I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts regarding development within the City of Bellevue and the Master Plan update for Bellevue Airfield Park. Maintaining a high-quality park system depends on the community's, your participation. Environmental stewardship is a core value for the City of Bellevue and is intrinsic to building a healthy economy, healthy communities, and a healthy planet. Enhancing and protecting the City's natural resources, water, air, climate, parks, and open spaces for future generations is a high priority.

Our work in the Park Department strives to build a healthy community through an integrated system of exceptional parks, natural areas, recreation, arts and culture, and a broad base of community services. The pristine natural conditions that existed in our region 120 years ago have been radically altered by development, Bellevue Airfield Park is one of those very altered properties having been used as an Airfield (until 1983) and a municipal landfill from 1951 to 1964. We look forward to improving the existing landfill systems and environmental conditions when development of the park occurs.

In 2002, Council authorized the purchase of the properties now known as Bellevue Airfield Park. The City of Bellevue recognized that the site likely represented the last opportunity to acquire a large, undeveloped, relatively flat parcel of property in Bellevue. The acquisition of the properties was purchased for the purpose of providing a community-wide park with active recreation. This site represents the only City-owned site large enough to accommodate an aquatic facility. All current proposed Master Plan options for park development have been directed by community input, strive to protect, and enhance existing tree canopy and habitat. Active recreation is located to the southern portion of the property over the former landfill.

You can find much more information on this project's web page at: [Bellevue Airfield Park | City of Bellevue \(bellevuewa.gov\)](https://www.bellevuewa.gov/parks-recreation/bellevue-airfield-park) or you can give me a call anytime.

Hope this information helps alleviate some of your concerns,



Pam Fehrman
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From: Renay Bennett
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2023 10:14 AM
To: parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>
Cc: Council <Council@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Please don't develop the old airfield!

Dear Parks Board members,

As you are aware, the City Council has put forward a plan to develop Airfield Park to include an Aquatic Center. This area is one of our last remaining wildlife corridors and we need to protect, \NOT destroy it.

You are also aware that the City Council voted for Sound Transit to pave over ACRES of our treasured Mercer Slough Nature Park, giving them this property for nothing – a park that was bought with park bonds voted on by the people! The continuing disruption to our wildlife corridors over here is sad as more animals cannot get to the Slough to eat and live. They cross Belevue Way and are killed. They come into the neighborhoods and some are killed there, too.

This isn't about either/or. This is about protecting our environment from further degradation, a goal that Parks Board should have as foremost in their minds.

Sincerely,

Renay Bennett