

MEMORANDUM



Bellevue Parks &
Community Services

Date: September 17, 2025

To: Parks & Community Services Board

From: Zarrian Smith, Capital Projects Coordinator
Parks & Community Services

Subject: New Eastgate Neighborhood Park - Master Plan and Park Naming
Board action requested

Proposed Motions:

The Bellevue Parks & Community Services Board recommends to the City Council Alternative <<1A or 2A>> as presented -or- <<1A or 2A>> with modifications, as the preferred design for a new park in the Eastgate neighborhood.

The Bellevue Parks & Community Services Board recommends to the City Council the name <<_____>> for the new park in the Eastgate neighborhood.

At your September meeting, staff will provide the Board with a status update of park planning and naming processes for Bellevue's newest neighborhood park. We will share project background, community feedback, conceptual plan alternatives and next project steps.

BACKGROUND

The Eastgate Neighborhood Area extends east and west, adjacent to I-90. The residential areas south of I-90 were developed well before they were annexed into the city limits. This neighborhood has winding streets and hilly topography and is underserved by both park and trail access. The need for additional walkable neighborhood park facilities is a goal of the Bellevue Parks and Open Space System Plan. Bellevue residents supported the 2022 Parks & Open Space Levy, providing funds to acquire, plan, and develop neighborhood-scale park in underserved areas, such as Eastgate. 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 park (attachment A. vicinity Map).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public outreach began with staff visiting the community at the Eastgate Block Party hosted by the Eastgate Community Association to help raise awareness of the upcoming park planning effort. Neighbors were enthusiastic and supportive of the new park. Staff followed up this event with an introductory Parks & Community Services Board meeting in July 2024 and execution of an agreement with design consultant GGLO.

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To help bring attention to the New Eastgate Neighborhood Park Master Plan process, staff established a project webpage which now has a subscriber list consisting of 927 followers. Notices summarizing the project and providing information on upcoming meetings have appeared in *Neighborhood News* and have been posted on social media outlets Facebook and X. Additionally, we have coordinated with the Eastgate Community Association on distributing project information to their membership and encouraging participation in the planning processes. Three community meetings have been held with the most recent taking place in July. Each community meeting was followed by a survey open to any interested stakeholder.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

At the community meetings, staff shared the project background, site elements, park planning project timeline, and community feedback. Participants had opportunities to ask questions and share their thoughts which have been incorporated into the conceptual design options of the park. From the outset, the community shared a preference for flexible open lawn areas, community gathering space, covered shelters/pavilions, play structures and picnic seating.

At the third community meeting in July, we shared survey results with the community along with two updated conceptual designs. These two updated conceptual designs (attachment B) were developed from information compiled throughout the planning process along with community preferences and Parks & Community Services Board feedback.

PARK NAMING

Concurrent with the community engagement on the park design, outreach included feedback on a recommended name for the new park. Ideas for park names were solicited from the community, netting 73 suggestions. Staff processed the suggestions, applying the city's park naming policy and procedures (attachment C). Five names were selected to advance to an additional round of community feedback. The results of that feedback and additional context for recommending a park name will be shared as part of the presentation.

NEXT STEPS

After receiving the Board's preferred master plan and name recommendations, staff will share with the City Council for review and direction to proceed with design, permitting and development of construction documentation.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. Conceptual Design Options 1A & 2A
- C. Resolution 10151 Park Naming Policy