

**CITY OF BELLEVUE  
PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday  
July 12, 2022  
6:00 p.m.

*Via Hybrid*

**BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Hamilton; Vice-Chair Clark, Boardmembers Clima, Giampetro, Singh

**BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT:** Boardmembers Synn, Trescases

**COUNCILMEMBER PRESENT:** Councilmember Stokes

**PARKS STAFF PRESENT:** Shelley Brittingham, Pam Fehrman, Irmina Lumbad, Shelley McVein, Camron Parker, Mariam Sarwary, Michael Shiosaki, Ryan Walker

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Carlos Morales, Kay Tarapolsi

**MINUTES TAKER:** Michelle Cash

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hamilton at 6:03 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Motion by Boardmember Clark and second by Boardmember Giampetro to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion by Boardmember Clark and second by Boardmember Clima to approve the June 14, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

4. **WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Carlos Morales

On behalf of Bellevue West Little League (BWLL), Carlos Morales asked Boardmembers to consider adding quality pitching mounds to Hidden Valley Park ball fields. BWLL spends approximately \$4,000 per month to rent out the fields. Carlos Morales said that the organization spends an additional \$2,500 each year to add pitching mounds to the fields. Because of BWLL's efforts, many others have benefited from the addition of pitching mounds at the park.

Carlos Morales suggested that the city install pitching mounds at Hidden Valley Park and charge all users a nominal fee to recoup the expense of the mounds. If this option is not the desired option, Carlos Morales said that BWLL suggests either offering BWLL a discount on their field rentals, or BWLL will need to remove the mounds when not in use, causing many other ball teams frustration without availability of pitching mounds.

Kay Tarapolsi

Kay moved into a home near 153<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE and noticed a trail at the end of road. Kay likes to bike on this trail but experiences a high number of flat tires when doing so. The trail is poorly maintained and has gravel. Kay then realized that the trail property was actually private property. Signs were then placed on the property to "travel at your own risk." Kay asked the Parks Department to consider acquiring a portion of the land so the trail can be better maintained and provide the neighborhood access to Robinswood Park without incident.

5. **COMMUNICATION FROM CITY COUNCIL:**

Councilmember Stokes said that Council had a good discussion about the levy and agreed to move forward with the recommendations.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Michael Shiosaki, Parks & Community Services Director, provided the following report:

- Great to see so many Parks Boardmembers at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. There were over 50k people in attendance. Appreciation was extended to Shelley Brittingham and staff, the Fire and Police Departments, and all of the volunteers. Appreciation was also extended to Shelley McVein and staff for their clean-up efforts after the event.
- Thanks to Ryan Walker for his efforts with the 2022 Bellevue Parks & Open Space System Plan, which was approved at last night's Council meeting.
- Council approved the package of project categories for the recommended nine-year levy for Capital and Maintenance Operations. Additional information, including the ordinance and ballot language, will be presented in the near future.

7. **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS:**

Boardmember Clima expressed appreciation to Parks staff for the well-organized 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at Downtown Park. Boardmember Clima also discussed the Bellevue Naturalist's current project list, as well as a Stewardship Saturday park project. Lastly, Boardmember Clima participated in the Airfield Park site walk.

Boardmember Giampetro recently got a dog and is looking forward to being active and visiting many dog parks.

Boardmember Clark visited Downtown Park, Ashwood Park and a few other parks. Boardmember Clark also visited the National Wildlife Preserve, Coyote Creek Lagoon in San Francisco. Boardmember Clark spoke about the immersive nature of the park in the middle of an urban area. It reminded Boardmember Clark of Mercer Slough Nature Park Trail.

Boardmember Singh visited Lake Sammamish State Park and Lakemont Community Park and enjoyed the trail systems.

Chair Hamilton expressed appreciation to staff for the great 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Chair Hamilton also attended the Airfield Park site walk.

8. **CHAIR COMMUNICATION & DISCUSSION:**

No report.

9. **BOARDMEMBER/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:**

No report.

10. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **Wilburton Planning Process**

Janet Shull, Community Development Department, and Ryan Walker, Parks Department, provided an overview of the Wilburton Planning process.

The overall objectives include:

- Adopt Comprehensive Plan Amendments (CPA) to support the vision for the Wilburton planning area
- Adopt Land Use Code Amendment to establish development standards and design guidelines to implement the vision, goals and policies in the Wilburton CPA
- Adopt legislative rezone for parcels in the Wilburton planning area

Janet Shull said that the Wilburton Vision Implementation Planning Initiative will amend the existing Wilburton/8th Street Subarea Plan and BelRed Subarea Plan, the Comprehensive Plan Map, and the city's Land Use Code. These amendments will consider how Wilburton's future is a key component in implementing the citywide growth strategy for housing and jobs for the next 20 years.

Janet Shull said that the Wilburton study area is defined by I-405 to the west, NE 12th Street to the north, SE 5th Street to the south, and navigates 118th, 120th, and 124th Avenues NE to the east. The entire area is over 300 acres and is uniquely positioned between Downtown to the west and BelRed to the north. The 2018 Wilburton Commercial Area Study was prepared by a 15-member Council-appointed Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) with consultant and staff support. The work of the CAC was guided by Council direction to develop a land use, transportation, and urban design vision and policy recommendations for the Wilburton study area. The CAC included members from city boards and commissions, representatives from businesses, institutions, and civic organizations, and residents from nearby neighborhoods.

Janet Shull said that the CAC met for over a year and examined the study area in depth, developed and evaluated alternative courses of action, and produced a preferred land use, urban design, and transportation vision. The CAC vision promotes a desirable but realistic evolution in land use and urban design supported by implementable transportation solutions that will create a unique and welcoming urban neighborhood.

Janet Shull explained that at their April meeting, the City Council directed staff to proceed with the Wilburton Vision Implementation Work Plan and to use the CAC's preferred development option (CAC Vision) as a baseline for planning, policy and code development work that is now underway. The work will continue through 2023 with final adoption of the Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA) in mid-2024, following adoption of the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update. Council directed that the CAC Vision serving as a baseline, will be the starting point with a scope of work that evaluates the preferred alternative to determine whether updates need to be considered in the areas of housing policy (including affordable housing), growth targets, Grand Connection impacts and integration, sustainability, equitable access, multimodal transportation such as Eastrail walkability and the proposed Lake Hills Connector access and universal design as considerations.

Janet Shull said that the Wilburton vision is documented in the July 2018 Wilburton Commercial Area Study. The following is the stated Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) vision from the Executive Summary:

*Our vision is that the Wilburton Commercial Area will become Bellevue's next urban mixed-use community that enhances livability, promotes healthy living, supports economic vitality, and serves the needs of a diverse and growing population. As Bellevue's cultural and innovative hub, it serves as a regional and international destination that connects people and fosters community by leveraging its existing assets to define a distinctive sense of place and character.*

Janet Shull noted that the future development character includes:

- Most intensive development (towers) near I-405 and the future Grand Connection
- Midrise mixed use along the Eastrail corridor
- Transitioning to lower density residential areas east of the study area.

Ryan Walker said that the Parks & Open Space System Plan is the primary tool used to guide the long-term growth and development of Bellevue's parks and open space system. The Plan contains a set of 20-year capital project objectives. The current 2016 Parks & Open Space System Plan includes several objectives relevant to the Wilburton Vision Implementation. The 2022 Parks & Open Space System Plan update is now adopted. Prior objectives for the Wilburton neighborhood remain in the 2022 update with additional emphasis and specificity based upon the CAC Vision and other planning work described in Board packet. The capital project objectives specific to the Wilburton Vision Implementation include:

- Multi-purpose connections to the Eastrail Corridor
- Eastrail Corridor development
- Development of the Grand Connection
- Park system acquisition and development (specifically the northern portions of Wilburton and the Highland-Glendale property)
- Adding neighborhood park facilities
- Lake Bellevue access
- Open space and natural systems enhancement

Janet Shull discussed the recommendations for transportation and affordable housing, as well as the scope and timeline of the project. The Wilburton work plan schedule is represented by three major phases of work: Phase 1. Reengagement and alignment of the Wilburton Vision with the future state of the city overall; Phase 2. Future land use and policy development; and Phase 3. Land Use Code Amendment.

Discussion:

- Does this project include the Grand Connection? *Response: no, the Wilburton Vision Implementation work plan is related to the Grand Connection project, but that is a separate scope of work.*
- In regards to the Highland/Glendale property, where is this located? *Response: it is outside of the study area (approximately 134<sup>th</sup> and NE 8<sup>th</sup>).*
- The land use codes around Lake Bellevue were discussed.
- What are next steps? When will a finalized version of the plans be available? *Response: currently in the reengagement phase. More information will be available in fall of 2022 and early 2023.*

- Will schools be part of the plan? *Response: not schools specifically but the need for services when bringing people to the community will be addressed.*
- Does the city own any land that can be built on within the study area? *Response: there is a small piece near Bellevue Botanical Gardens as well as another small parcel.*
- Locations for a large civic center were discussed.

B. Draft Memo to Council

Irmina Lumbad, Fiscal Manager, reviewed the draft communication to Council that was included in the Board packet regarding the Parks capital needs and the 2023-2029 CIP budget.

Irmina Lumbad provided an overview of the process thus far for the Board communication to Council in relation to the 2023-2029 Parks CIP. The draft memorandum that incorporates Board comments from the previous meetings has been reviewed by the Board Chair and Vice Chair. Irmina Lumbad noted that the draft communication:

- Supports the City Council vision and priorities
- Provides a basis of recommendation
- Reflects the comments/feedback from Boardmembers
- Expresses concerns on the impact of economic development around the city to the parks system

Boardmembers expressed their appreciation to Irmina Lumbad and staff for preparing the letter.

**Motion by Boardmember Clark and second by Boardmember Singh to approve and transmit a communication to the City Council on the Parks 2023-2029 Capital Investment Program Budget. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

C. Bylaw Amendment Approval

Camron Parker explained that the updated Parks & Community Services Board Bylaws comply with the Bellevue City Code and state law; implement changes mandated by Ordinance 6662, which reinstated, with more flexibility, limits in City Code on remote participation by Parks & Community Services Boardmembers; provide for clarity and conformance with current city process; and further the city's requirement of uniformity and consistency among the City Council-appointed boards and commissions.

**Motion by Boardmember Clark and second by Boardmember Giampetro to approve the recommended amendments to the Parks & Community Services Board Bylaws. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).**

11. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

12. **PROPOSED AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:**

None.

13. **OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. Parks CIP Project Status Report

B. Emails, Re: Supporting Pickleball Courts in Bellevue 06/07/2022-06/29/2022

14. **WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:41 p.m., Chair Hamilton declared the meeting adjourned.