

From: [VanderHyden, Scott](#)
To: [Council](#)
Cc: [Shiosaki, Michael](#); [parkboard](#)
Subject: FYI ONLY: RE: Status update request: Newport Hills Tyler property
Date: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 6:36:35 AM

Please Do Not Reply All* For Information Only

Mayor Robinson, Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis and Council,

The following is Parks Department response to Ms. Deans request for a status update at the Newport Hills Tyler property.

Questions, contact Michael Shiosaki 425-452-5377

From: VanderHyden, Scott
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 6:13 AM
To: 'Heidi Dean' <technogeekswife@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Status update request: Newport Hills Tyler property

Hello Heidi,

Congratulations on [being elected](#) as the 2021 Newport Hills Community Club president. Thank you for sharing neighborhood [park](#) updates at your NHCC meeting - following are responses to your inquiries.

1. We are currently scheduled to share the new Newport Hills Neighborhood [Park](#) name process, community feedback and Park & Community Services Board recommendation with Council for their deliberations at their May 3rd Study Session. Please note that Council schedules are subject to change, so we recommend verifying [this date when the Council Agenda is posted](#).
 - a. Link to the City Council Agendas: <https://bellevue.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
2. The new Newport Hills Neighborhood park is currently in the permitting phase, and our expectation is to be out to bid and begin construction later this summer. If you could share where you've seen the message that "all other park projects in the 2018 CIP budget were put on hold until 2022," we would be anxious to correct that erroneous information. The [NE](#) Gateway Entry at Downtown Park, [and](#) the new parks in the Newport Hills and Bridle Trails neighborhoods, are examples of park capital development projects [that have continued as funding becomes available](#).
3. The park's conceptual drawing (schematic) shown on the City's project website shows the community's preferred, [Park Board](#) recommended and Council endorsed park plan. Council-directed changes, design, engineering and permitting work inform minor changes as construction documents are developed. Updates such as the community and Council suggested addition of [adult exercise equipment](#), or changes to comply with City Building Codes occur. As a result of building code set-back requirements, CPTED (Crime Prevention

Through Environmental Design) review to increase visibility, the playground area was shifted away from the woods and towards the picnic shelter by about 40 feet.

4. We work to understand and capture community preferences for park elements, including the playgrounds in the preferred park plans. During our community outreach processes, both in the Bridle Trails and the Newport Hills neighborhoods, we asked for community input and suggestions regarding equipment types and/or concepts. The process has been consistent for both neighborhoods. The Newport Hills neighborhood generally expressed a desire for a more natural or environmentally themed play area.
5. Thank you for letting us know that there may be an campers in the park, Park Rangers investigated after receiving your email – and did not find any indication of camping. Our Parks Natural Resource crews regularly maintain the trails and once the park is built additional, regular maintenance will occur. If staff see anything suspicious, they report or investigate [the situation](#) depending on individual circumstances. If you or your neighbors observe inappropriate behaviors, we would appreciate that you call the police (911). Homeless encampments on parks properties should be reported to Stephanie Martinez, the City's Homelessness Outreach Coordinator Martinez (425.452.7846) and to Laura Harper, Park Ranger (425.452.7225).
6. There will be signage throughout the park area that include [Bellevue's Park Rules](#). Signs will be placed at entry points, reminding dog owners of the leash laws.
7. Parking studies indicate the need for 19 parking spaces, and construction plans include 20 park parking spaces. We are fortunate that at this park we additionally have shared parking opportunities at the adjacent Ringdall Middle School.

Thanks
Scott

From: Heidi Dean <technogeekswife@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 6:29 PM
To: VanderHyden, Scott <SVanderHyden@bellevuewa.gov>
Cc: Council <Council@bellevuewa.gov>; parkboard <parkboard@bellevuewa.gov>; Kazuki Sawanoi <sawanoi_kazuki@hotmail.com>; Tarantino, Mark <MTarantino@bellevuewa.gov>
Subject: Status update request: Newport Hills Tyler property

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Hello Scott:

I'm the 2021 Newport Hills Community Club president. Please direct all communication re: our undeveloped park property to me rather than past

president Ann Brashear.

The NHCC is hosting its biannual membership meeting Tuesday night and I'd like to be able to update the members about the status of the Tyler Property. I have a few questions:

1. What day will the proposed park name- "Borghild Ringdall Neighborhood Park"- be presented to Council for consideration?

-I've heard mid-May.

2. What is the status of park design and buildout?

- I saw that all other park projects in the 2018 CIP budget were put on hold until 2022, though Bridle Trails was further along in their park planning process than Newport Hills. Why is Newport Hills' park the only one continuing in the development phase?

3. Is the schematic shown on the park page correct?

- Ann Brashear believed the play equipment was being relocated from the woods to the open space. She also believed the senior exercise equipment would be added back to the open space as was requested by Councilmember Robertson when the park plan was presented to council. Neither of those changes is shown on the schematic on the Tyler Property park page.

4. Will Newport Hills residents get a say in the type of play equipment that's installed in our park? If not, why?

- One Bellevue president Pamela Johnston told me that Bridle Trails residents are in the process of picking their play equipment for their park. Newport Hills residents were told what we'd get.

5. Has the Parks Dept recently checked the woods/trails at the back of the park (the "Patterson Property") for homeless campers living in the woods?

- Last month my neighbor Joan Clare-Harris walked the trail and reported signs of homeless campers in the woods up near the Ringdall back entrance (including a hose hooked up to a 116th Ave SE home & run down into the woods)

6. Will the Parks Dept post signage at the two trail loop entrances reminding dog owners their dogs MUST be on on-leash while using the trails?

- I saw that Downtown Park recently received signage with on-leash reminders

- Mr. Wirig and others continue to allow their dogs off-leash back in the woods despite knowing it's not allowed (see videos)

[\(1\) Facebook](#)

[\(3\) Facebook](#)

- Please have Parks & BPD check off-trail as it appears from the first video

(5:49-7:32) that Mr. Wirig has established a third off-trail spot for himself after residents and BPD removed the first two "forts"

7. What plans does CoB Parks have to ensure that parking will be available for people who are not there to use the off-leash area?

- How will CoB Parks prevent the dog owners from monopolizing the available parking, especially since seniors and parents with young children will have a long walk to the back of the park property to reach the open space/"people area"?
- At the height of last summer's nice weather (August/September) during the evenings I counted an average of 18-21 vehicles parked along SE 60th along the park front & in the 5 parking spaces. They were all people there with dogs.
- Neighborhood parks are supposed to have limited parking (see all other Bellevue neighborhood parks). The off-leash area has become the "attractant" the Parks Board said it did not want to create. Now Newport Hills residents requiring a vehicle (seniors, parents with young children) will have nowhere to park so they can use their own park property.

Finally, I believe the man who had a mental health crisis and caused a disturbance in multiple locations in/around Newport Hills' commercial district on April 8 is the same homeless individual who frequently wanders in/around the commercial district, walking down the middle of the streets. He is believed to be living in the woods behind the park property.

[Bellevue Beat Blog – Official Blog of the Bellevue, WA Police Department](#)

TIME	CONTACT TYPE	LOCATION	INCIDENT/CASE#
11: 30	Disorderly Conduct	5200 Blk 119th Ave SE	21-16707
NARRATIVE Officers initially responded to a theft/disturbance that occurred and learned the suspect was acting erratically and was lying down, crying, and screaming. The suspect then stole merchandise and left the store. As officers arrived in the area, they were flagged down by employees at a different business who stated the same suspect had just entered their establishment and was still acting erratically and aggressively. Officers located the suspect nearby and recognized him from prior contacts. After learning neither business wanted to pursue charges, the suspect was released. Officers continued to watch the suspect and saw him walk directly into traffic and lie down. This caused traffic to suddenly stop and caused one vehicle to entered oncoming traffic to avoid the suspect. Officer re-contacted the suspect and placed him under arrest for Disorderly Conduct. Based on the continuing erratic actions and the			

likelihood of escalating and reoccurring behavior, the suspect was transported to jail.

Council: I am making a personal request- please consider putting further design work for the Tyler Property on hold until 2022 in keeping with the other 2018 CIP Parks projects for the following reasons:

1. To deal with the increasing problem of homeless individuals (some unstable) living in the park property woods
2. To give the Newport Hills neighborhood a chance to have a say in what we wish for our park during our Great Neighborhoods plan update, which should be free from input given by people in other cities and other neighborhoods
3. To give CoB Parks an opportunity to figure out how they are going to deal with the parking issue they've created by allowing the dog owners to monopolize the property

Thank you,

Heidi Dean
2021 NHCC President

From: Sue Harms
To: Council
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Name of the new Newport Hills Dog Park
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018 9:26:24 AM
Attachments: [redacted].png

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Dear Council and Park Board,

I am hoping as a LIFE LONG resident of Bellevue, (65 years) and Newport Hills resident for more than 55 years, a member of the Newport Hills Community Club holding the position as "HISTORIAN" you will hold off calling the new park Ringdall and consider the following...

Back in 1970 Ringdall was NOT a well liked name by the community, but it was felt that Borghild Ringdall was chosen for her 36 years of working for the School District which when she started was only two schools, none having to do with the Newport Hills area. Borghild Ringdall's passion and achievement in those 36 years was starting a school lunch program. *(Btw... I was the first graduating Class out of the New Ringdall Jr. High and students resented the name.)*

Which brings me to the question as to WHY would want to name a park after Borghild Ringdall? She already has a school named after her, she was employed by the District. Why not HONOR someone that reflects the Newport Hills area?

A little history of the Ringdall location... It was originally a Pony Farm, and then developed into a soccer field...

In the early years (1960's) My neighbor Mr. Nicolson was instrumental in developing the Little League program and wanted a park... It was his efforts, commitment and time to the community that the "FIRST and ONLY PARK" in Newport Hills was developed! It was located behind the Newport Hills Swim Club. Kids, all over Newport Hills enjoyed playing on the equipment, and families would gather to watching Little League games at "Nicolson Field"! This field and park remained until the tennis courts were constructed many years later.

What an honor this would be to name the park Nicholson after a true Newport Hills resident that made a lasting impact on his Community!

I am sure that his children, (daughter Robin Swift and son Ken Nicolson) would be a wealth of information and able to provide much more details and info of the man that help build Newport Hills for what we all cherish! I would be happy to provide signatures and or take a community vote to make this happen! Please feel free to call and discuss!

Sincerely,
Sue Harms
425-221-5450

5655 116th PI SE
Bellevue WA 98006

PONY FARM



Ringdall being built



Ringdall being built on the Pony Farm

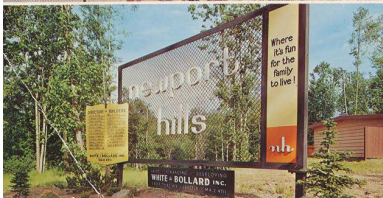
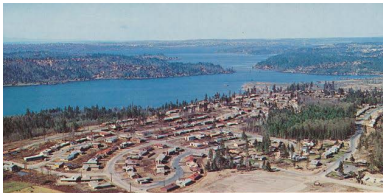
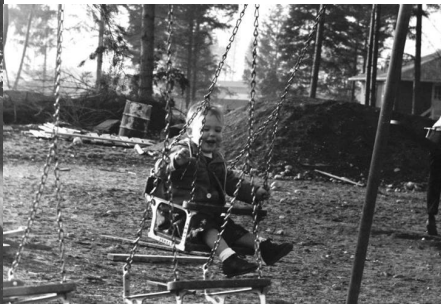
-Libra 1968

Early playground equipment









Greetings from Beautiful
Newport Hills
 Where it's Fun for the Family to Live
 Newport Hills is a distinctive community of better homes located near Bellevue. The product of 26 top northwest builders, Newport Hills will soon number 1200 beautiful new residences, plus a large community center. The aerial view on the face of the card shows Lake Washington in the background. Note, too, the luxurious new olympic-size pool that is just one of many recreational facilities enjoyed by residents of Newport Hills.
 Developing, Sales & Financing, White & Bollard, Inc.

BELLEVUE
 RENTON
 MERGER ISLAND
 FLOATING BRIDGE
 COUNTRY estate seclusion, yet just minutes from town
 ADDRESS
 PLACE
 STAMP
 HERE

Color Photography & Publisher - Hal Porter, 1111 34th Ave., Seattle, Wash.
 30359-B

From: [Don Buffum](#)
To: [parkboard](#); [Council](#)
Subject: New park in Newport hills
Date: Friday, April 23, 2021 5:02:43 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL Notice!] Outside communication is important to us. Be cautious of phishing attempts. Do not click or open suspicious links or attachments.

I understand you are looking for a name for this new park. While I was one of the first group of students to attend ringdall jr high, I feel there are better names for the park. I strongly urge you to name it after my neighbor, grandpa Nicholson. He was the power and passion behind starting little league in the area and has the first baseball park named after him. It was Nicholson field and was the place we all went to watch our friends play and to meet new kids. Since that park no longer exists, it would be fitting an appropriate to name the new park, Nicholson Park. Please remember, while I am sure she was a fine lady, Ms Ringdall did not have a significant impact on the people or community of Newport Hills.

Sent from my iPhone