Meeting minutes

Meeting:	Gabbert Butte Master Plan – Stakeholder Advisory Committee – meeting 2
Date/time:	Tuesday, June 27, 2017
Place:	West Gresham Elementary School - Library
Purpose:	Project overview

Attendees

Brent Sullivan, Northwest Trails Alliance; Daisy Nguyen, Connect with Nature; Jason Howard, Johnson Creek Watershed Council; Francis Kham, Connect with Nature; Theresa Tschiky, Gresham Butte Neighborhood; Association; Kat Conard, Neighbor; Micah Meskel, Portland Audubon; Phil Nosler, West Bliss Butte Site Steward; Ruth Jensen, Connect with Nature; Whitney Bailey, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District; Tina Osterink, City of Gresham; Torrey Lindbo, City of Gresham; Elaine Stewart, Metro; Ellen Wyoming Deloy, Metro; Olena Turula, Metro; Mike O'Brien, Project consultant

Topics

Site visit impressions

- High quality habitat

- Vegetation along Regner looks inhospitable

- trail infrastructure in place

- site feels clean and safe

- challenging for parking

- curiosity about natural history and history of site

- is there a way to use already impacted area for parking

- Metro is the regional government and Metro Parks &Nature mission is to protect water quality and wildlife habitat, and provide opportunities to experience nature through connected system of parks trails and natural areas.

- The goal of the project is to develop a master plan for Gabbert Butte

- Gabbert Butte is a 150 acre site in the East Buttes that includes Metro and City land ownership

- The master plan process aims to identify locations for parking, a welcoming park entry; to identify appropriate nature park activities; to improve the trail network on the site.

Process
- The goal is for master plan adoption in spring of 2018

- Need to clarify criteria for decision making for the project and the SAC's role and Connect with Nature's role

- Assumptions and limitation should be outlined early on in the process to make sure we are not using the SAC meetings efficiently.

- Not everyone's desired uses and priorities will line up – project needs to develop criteria for how priorities will be balanced in decision making

- Why do we need to plan for access? – to look at site holistically, anticipate future needs, costs, and control impact of use

- Need to take into account the different scales and layers of connectivity (habitat, people)

- One criteria should be – co-benefits spaces

- Connect with Nature team will ensure communities of color have voice in process, they set the alternatives that SAC and public weigh in on through the process.

- Discussion around inclusion of indigenous history/signage in nature park planning.

- Discussion around digital access not for everyone – how to include more people?

Goals
- Objectives should relate to guiding principles, and guiding principles should be expanded on to include more detail. Need to be more specific about tactics, goals are high level and need more details.

- Minimize impacts to resources in parking lot location

- Provide bike parking

- How many users is appropriate for the site

- Share more about the context – what other parks are nearby and what do they offer? Identify synergy with Hogan Butte

- Identify co-benefits and layering of features and facilities in design process with different user groups

- Be clear about what Gabbert Butte has already and the purpose and meaning of this project

- Make something unique to attract people -What is the "highest purpose" of this park?, what are you getting elsewhere and what needs aren't being met (Park-market study)

- Clarify how project boundary includes connection to Saddle Trail

Activites
- Darkness for stargazing

- Turn around for parking area

- Off-road cycling – limited distance available for trails, this isn't likely to be a bijke "mecca" but please don't shut us out, kids need a place to ride bikes

- Recognize the original inhabitants of the land is priority of the native community

- Consider how trash is managed

Next steps
- Next meeting - clarify criteria for decision making for the project and the SAC's role

- Next meeting – clarify assumptions about what the project may/ may not be able to do.