CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE  
PARKS COMMISSION  
THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020  
AGENDA

6:00 PM

PARKS COMMISSION

1. Parks Projects Update
2. Update to Master Plan
3. Other Business

ADJOURN

ATTENTION

City Hall is closed to the public due to COVID-19 precautions. If you have a matter to address in regards to this meeting, please submit any written comments to RoseD@woodvillageor.gov or on our City’s website at www.woodvillageor.gov. They will be entered into the record and addressed at the meeting. You may also call City Hall during regular business hours with a comment or question at (503-667-6211).

You may also tune in to view a live broadcast of this meeting and to submit comments using the GoToMeeting™ platform. We will post a link to the meeting on our website at www.woodvillageor.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation!

The meeting location is wheelchair accessible. This information is available in large print upon request. To request large-print documents or for accommodations such as assistive listening device, sign language, and/or oral interpreter, please call 503-667-6211 at least two working days in advance of the meeting. (TDD 1-800-735-2900)
TO:       Parks Commission

FROM:     Greg Dirks: City Manager
Authored by:  John Niiyama: Public Works Director

DATE:     May 14, 2020

SUBJECT:  Parks Master Plan and Park Projects Update

Requested Action

Review the proposed Parks Master Plan update and provide a recommendation to the Wood Village City Council.

Background

Information related to the Parks Master Plan and upcoming Park Projects is outlined below in separately listed sections:

New City Hall Site

Recap of Parks Memorandum 2-2019 dated December 19, 2019. For nearly eight months, City staff attempted to identify sites for our new building. The sites found were either not in the market and unwilling to sell or were sites where property development was likely and removing them from the tax roll would be counter to our goal of getting property on the tax roll. We settled on a site in the Donald Robertson Park. We initially wished to be directly along the Halsey frontage in the park, but the land was bound by a covenant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund that would take years to revise. We then looked to update our Park Master Plan and determine if a site just beyond those held by this restriction was possible.

Identified was a one-acre parcel that is located along the westerly boundary of the park that will accommodate approximately 10,000 square foot building. The ball fields (baseball/soccer) will be reconfigured as part of the Master Plan update. The building is be designed to function as a community center and leasable park amenity as well as our administrative offices for Wood Village, City Council Chambers, and meeting rooms for community organizations along with our local government.
The use of the park site would permit land that is already off the tax roll to be the site of the City Hall Building, there would be sufficient proximity to Halsey to enhance the Main Street on Halsey goals, and significant development to assist the usability of Donald Robertson Park. The development includes enhanced parking and circulation, plaza space, and a splash pad.

Rendering of the City Hall Building at the Donald Roberson Park:

Parks Master Plan Update

With the City Hall facility in the park, there was a need to update the Parks Master Plan parks layout at the Donald Robertson Park to reflect the building. The City entered into a Personal Services Contract with WSP (formerly BergerABAM) to update the Parks Master Plan to include the New City Hall building and amenities. The update includes the reconfiguration of the ball fields (baseball/soccer). It is important to note that the majority of the building area is on a section of the park that was designated for a parking lot expansion, and does not materially impact or change the playability of the sports fields.

Current Parks Master Plan
Proposed Updated Parks Master Plan

New Wetland Park at Arata Road and Wood Village Blvd.

To further assure that our park system is being appropriately protected, and that park lands are added not subtracted from the system, the City has acquired approximately 4.6 acres formerly held by the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde in the Wood Village Town Center. The land is not developable for commercial or residential development, as it is designated as a wetland and storm water mitigation for the remaining developable Grande Ronde property. The
land does have significant areas that are not actively wetland with enough lands to create a trail system and pockets of active recreational area. A concept plan was included in the Parks Master Plan and is included below. City Council has authorized the City Manager to award the design contract to Lando & Associates, and we will present conceptual plans and layouts at a future meeting.

**Gorge Hub Project**

The Gorge Hub project was identified in the Parks Master Plan with appropriations in the 2019/2020 Budget. The Gorge Hub concept originated in 2014 as a multi-jurisdictional branding, tourism, and outreach project through the Columbia River Gorge. The Gorge Hubs as a general concept acts as welcome centers, information centers, trailheads, and rest areas for travelers (hikers and bikers) as well as residents and other guests along the Historic Highway in the Columbia River Gorge. Each Hub may feature many different amenities such as a multi-use drinking fountain, way finding information, interpretive panels, restrooms, shade, picnic tables, seating, bike parking, solar charging stations, and U-Fix-It Bike Stations. Our Hub is the western bookend to the network, and contains many of these elements as well as decorative
placemaking elements that enhance the overall park. Funding through a Metro grant completed the design work by Shapiro-Didway. Lee Contractors was awarded the contract to complete construction. Work was completed March 2020.
**Donald L. Robertson Park Habitat**

Concerns were raised to City staff regarding water quality and the lack of amphibian (frog) life. City staff reached out to the experts in this field, Metro Parks and Nature. A Senior Science Analyst completed a comprehensive study April 2020. The lack of ponded habitat (standing water) is a major contributor. Necessary storm water management reduces ponding of water and a reduction of recorded rainfall, a combination not favorable for amphibious habitat. There are areas of seasonal wetland adjacent to the Arata Creek but do not hold enough water to produce a robust frog breeding ground.

The Arata Creek water flow and quality was observed as good. Along with a strong presence of vegetative habitat to support migratory birds. Seven species of birds was observed during the study. There was good supportive habitat for aquatic invertebrates such as newts. Deer tracks were observed at the west side of the park.

Although there is a lack of frog presence at the park, the overall park is thriving with diverse wildlife and water quality has been managed well.

**City Goals**

GOAL 1 A safe, clean, inclusive community with a sense of pride and strong identity.

GOAL 3: High Quality, cost-effective public utilities, parks and events.

GOAL 4: Long-term financial stability, economic vitality and growth.

GOAL 6: Effective local, state and regional partnerships.

GOAL 7: Responsible environmental leadership.

**Motion**

Staff recommends the Parks Commission take action to endorse the Parks Master Plan Update. The motion for this action would be:

“I move that the Parks Commission recommend to the City Council the adoption of the updated Parks Master Plan.”