

Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda

September 18, 2024

4:30 PM

City Hall, Birch Room - 415 W 6th St, Vancouver, WA 98660

Virtual Meeting Link & Call-In Number

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. August 21, 2024

3. Community Communication

****The public is invited to speak regarding any issue. Members of the public testifying are asked to limit testimony to three minutes. There are three ways to provide comments:**

- **In Writing:** Public comments can be submitted in writing (name, address, contact information and comments) via email to parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us by 5pm the day before the meeting.
- **Remotely:** Pre-register by phone at 360-487-8311 or email parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us by 5pm the day before the meeting
- **In Person:** Pre-register by phone at 360-487-8311 or email parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us by 5pm the day before the meeting or fill out a Public Comment form in person prior to the start of the Community Communications portion of the meeting.

4. Workshop

- a. Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan
- b. Summer Update from the Environmental Youth Corps
- c. Pre-Report: Fourth Plain for All Update

5. Commission and Staff Reports

- a. Department Director
- b. Commission Chair
- c. Evergreen School District
- d. Vancouver Public School
- e. Parks Foundation

6. Open Discussion & New Business

7. Adjournment

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Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

4:30 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall

Aspen Room

415 W. 6th Street

Vancouver, WA

Commissioners Present:

Haygood, Wille, Thompson, and Fletcher

Commissioners Absent:

Robbins, Piland, and Panter

Staff Present: Perlick, Cook, Meade, Nilo, Miletich, Heath, Burton, Snyder, Hull, Gutierrez, Guzman, Cochran, White, Brosius, Wilson, Tubberville and Stokke.

Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Haygood called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) regular meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the Aspen Room at Vancouver City Hall and online via Microsoft Teams. Commissioners Robbins, Piland, and Panter were absent.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

PRAC approved the July 17, 2024 meeting minutes by consensus.

Item 3: Public Comment

None presented.

Item 4: Bagley Master Plan Update

Terry Snyder gave an overview and history of the 16.19-acre community park, purchased by the City in 1992 and developed in 1994.

Existing uses include sports fields, a basketball court, a playground, a restroom, and picnic tables.

Members

Jayne Haygood

President

Angilo Fletcher

Vice President

Jeremy Robbins

Jenny Thompson

Stephen Wille

AJ Panter, VPS

Cale Piland, EPS

Vacant, Parks Foundation

**Parks, Recreation and
Cultural Services
Department**

P.O. Box 1995

Vancouver, WA 98668

360-487-8311

TTY: 711

cityofvancouver.us

To request accommodation or other formats, please contact:

Alicia Nilo | 360-487-8311 | TTY: 711 | parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us

Melody Burton shared background on community engagement goals and tools for Bagley Park. The team worked to identify current uses of the park and invited neighbors to direct future planning and priorities.

Burton gave an overview of the event pop-ups and online feedback from neighbors. Activities included an open house to present three concepts and collect community input. The team also attended community tabling events at existing community gatherings to invite neighbors to participate in the planning process. Events included: Back to School Night at Roosevelt Elementary; Food bank at Parsley Center; NAACP general meeting; Connecting Across Cultures at Clark College; and Recovery Café lunch service.

Targeted community engagement was held at Fourth Plain Forward Art in the Park at Evergreen Park, Teen Turf Club (Boys and Girls Club of SW Washington), and the Sakura 39ers Chuukese community group.

This park supports Vancouver's strategic goals, including Culture and heritage; Vibrant and distinct neighborhoods; Climate and natural systems; and High-performing government.

Neighbors shared that they envision a colorful, lively park that reflects the diversity and vibrancy of cultures in this community, and a place for people to have fun and feel a sense of belonging.

Snyder shared the Community Promenade as the preferred concept plan. Experiences in this design include an event space and plaza, a covered event stage/group picnic shelter, an entry plaza, event lawn, and games area. The natural environment will be celebrated through a wetland overlook, a water scrim, and nature trails. Additional amenities include an off-leash dog area, a community garden, picnic areas, and flexible lawn areas.

Total cost and phasing: Master Plan total of \$12-15 million with America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding \$5 million for the first phase.

Bagley Community Park's Timeline after Master Plan adoption is to determine the first phase of development in Sept-Dec of 2024, prepare construction drawings and obtain permits in Jan of 2025 – Spring of 2026, solicit bids and construction starting in Spring of 2026, with a dedication in the summer of 2027.

The next steps include working with the community to refine design components to celebrate the cultures reflected along the Fourth Plain corridor, and to continue to seek out funding opportunities for future phases.

An open Q&A was held. Thompson commented that she uses the park a lot and is excited about the improvements; she asked for the strategy to maximize funding, given the budget cuts. Snyder and Burton acknowledged that activating the open field, trail system, nature play areas, and event spaces, will increase the opportunity to seek out more grants because it will serve the community. Thompson added that the Chuukese community enjoys volleyball, which will be a fitting setting for the lawn.

Haygood added that wayfinding and signage in the play area are good for implementing color and educational opportunities. Snyder confirmed that the sports courts will be multi-use. Burton reiterated that the community engagement for this piece is not over, as we guide the decision. Haygood asked how safety concerns will be addressed. Snyder shared that we will be adding pedestrian lighting to the trail and main promenade, in addition to keeping shrubs low and trees high for clear visibility. Haygood shared about a grant opportunity from Lower Columbia Nature Network for planting trees. Snyder also confirmed support from Urban Forestry.

Commissioner Fletcher moved to approve the Bagley Community Park master plan. The motion was seconded by Thompson and approved unanimously.

Item 5: High Level Budget Update

Perlick highlighted that we are in a budget year, facing a 15% deficit in the 2025-26 budget. Department leads have presented initial ideas to the larger budget review committee and internal city leadership group for keeping the budget balanced.

We are still in the review process, but we will be able to report more findings next month. Around October 1, there will be a publication of an overview of the recommended budget. At that point, the potential impacts will become public. City council will review at work sessions in mid-October, with final action on November 18.

We do anticipate taking more significant time at the October meeting to explain and receive feedback. Haygood recommended marking calendars for October 14th and 18th to advocate to Council for Parks funding. Commissioners must register to testify and are allotted up to 3 minutes.

Item 6: Alicia Nilo

Nilo shared a run-through of the login process for the CivicClerk Board Portal for Commissioners.

Item 6: Director's Report

Perlick highlighted a new nature play area is now open at Oakbrook Park. The nature play is the first improvement in a series of changes that are coming to Oakbrook Park, with major playground and pickleball court construction starting later this fall.

Fencing is up at Esther Short Park for the Salmon Run Bell Tower Restoration Project. This project is run by the General Services department.

Over at Wintler Park, the Public Works Sewer Interceptor Rehab project will create some service impacts from late August through November. The park will remain open but there will be some intermittent changes to morning park hours. Impacts will be posted on the Wintler Park webpage.

Urban Forestry is overseeing the removal of ash trees at several of our parks. More information can be found on the City website.

Fall registration is now open for fall recreation activities.

Our summer camp programs have ended or are wrapping up and we want to take a minute to highlight the fantastic work our recreation staff do in creating these important places for kids to spend their summers.

Pool closures: it's almost time for the community center annual pool maintenance closures. Firstenberg Pool is closed Aug 26-31, Marshall Pool is closed Sept 2-7. Both community centers will be closed on Labor Day.

Congratulations to the whole cultural services team on a truly fantastic Vancouver Arts & Music Festival. This year was bigger and better with an estimated 40,000 people in attendance over the course of three days.

Summer events; this Friday's Barbie movie night. Huge thanks to Erik Miletich and his team for their exceptional work managing 13 concerts and 7 movies at 8 Vancouver parks.

Naturespaces pilot program was recently highlighted in the Columbian as part of a story about trail accessibility improvements and volunteer service at Behrens Woods.

Item 7: Chair Report

Haygood welcomed Jim Kautz with the Clark County Parks Advisory Board.

We have two openings on PRAC – if anyone is interested, please contact the Boards & Commissions Office.

Jayne attended the Intertwine Bi-State Trails Meeting for Oregon and Washington. They have helpful resources for advocacy, legislature and funding for trails.

We've got our last movie night of the summer! Barbie will be showing at Columbia Tech Center park on August 23 at 7pm.

Item 8: Evergreen School District Report

None presented.

Item 9: Vancouver Public School Report

None presented.

Item 10: Open Discussion & New Business

None presented.

ADJOURNED

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Sept. 18, 2024

Roman Gutierrez
Park Developer
Parks, Recreation
and Cultural Services

Melody Burton
Senior Communications Specialist
Parks, Recreation
and Cultural Services

Dylan Morgan
Principal
PLACE





Agenda

- Waterfront Gateway
- Civic Plaza Classification
- Community engagement
- Master plan
- Budget
- Timeline

Waterfront Gateway Project

Context

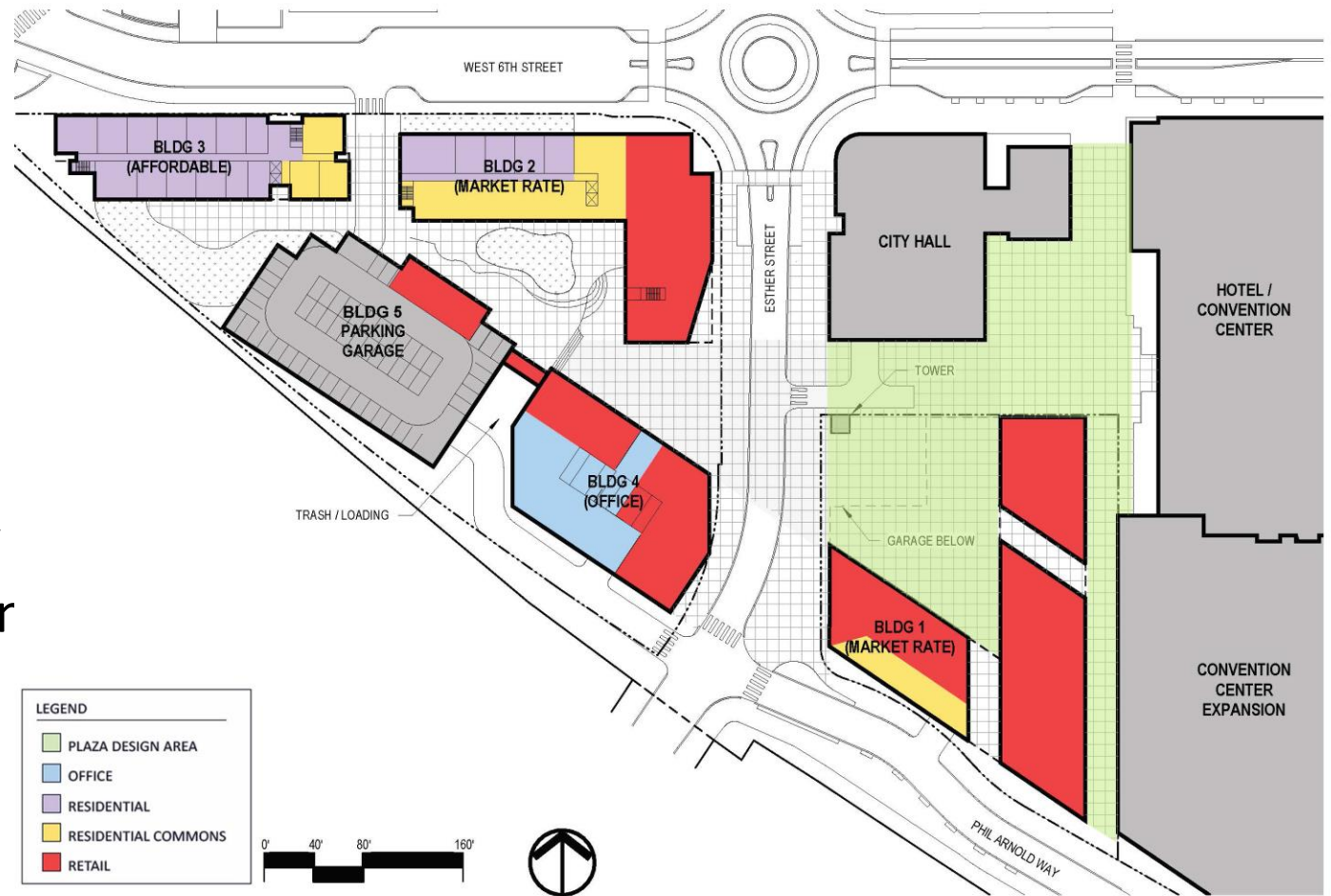
- Approved by City Council in October 2023
- 6.4-acre site in downtown Vancouver
- Located between Columbia River waterfront and the historic downtown core



Waterfront Gateway Project

Overview

- Includes housing, office, retail, makers market, restaurants and parking
- Public plaza is a key feature, surrounded by City Hall and newly developed retail, with a connector to Maker's Alley to the east



Creating the Plaza

Create a district that is **uniquely Vancouver**.

Make a place that is both a **destination** and a **link**.

Reinforce **Esther Street** as a key pedestrian connection.

Extend and emphasize the mid-block **pedestrian crossing** at 6th Street.

Incorporate **landscape elements** and **outdoor seating** along pedestrian paths and **active ground floors**.

Utilize **wayfinding signage** and **intuitive cues**.

Provide **outdoor comfort** including a **covered outdoor area**.

Design **flexible spaces** that can accommodate **events** at various scales.

Integrate local **public art** and find opportunities for **cultural storytelling**.

Civic Plazas

Creating welcoming public spaces in urban centers

- Civic Plazas were added to Vancouver's park classifications with adoption of the 2022-2031 Comprehensive Plan
- Located within high-density residential mixed-use areas, and could include commercial and industrial areas
- Serve residents and day-use visitors in the area for work and leisure activities



Community Engagement

Goals and tools

- Inform people about the full Waterfront Gateway project
- Invite neighbors and businesses to refine the plaza design
- Collaborate to create a plaza master plan that complements the whole project
- Use digital, print and in-person resources with translations



Pop-Up Tabling at Dia de Muertos

Oct. 21, 2023

Esther Short Park

- Informed community about the Waterfront Gateway Project
- Identified the opportunity to help design the public plaza
- Collected initial feedback
- Invited people to join the project mailing list
- Save the date for the design open house



Plaza Design Open House/Survey

Feb. 1, 2024

Aspen Room, City Hall

- Share updated plaza design for review and feedback
- Identify proposed plant and material palettes
- Highlight potential site activation plans
- Ask about preferred use, public art and community priorities
- Follow with online survey



Proposed Design Review

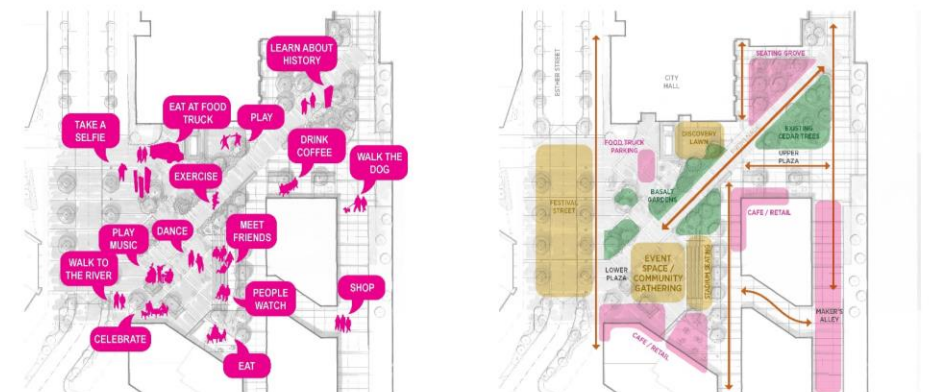
Sept. 14, 2024

Esther Short Park

- Show the proposed master plan
- Identify design changes that were guided by public feedback
- Collect any final feedback before presentation to PRAC
- Share updated timeline and next steps

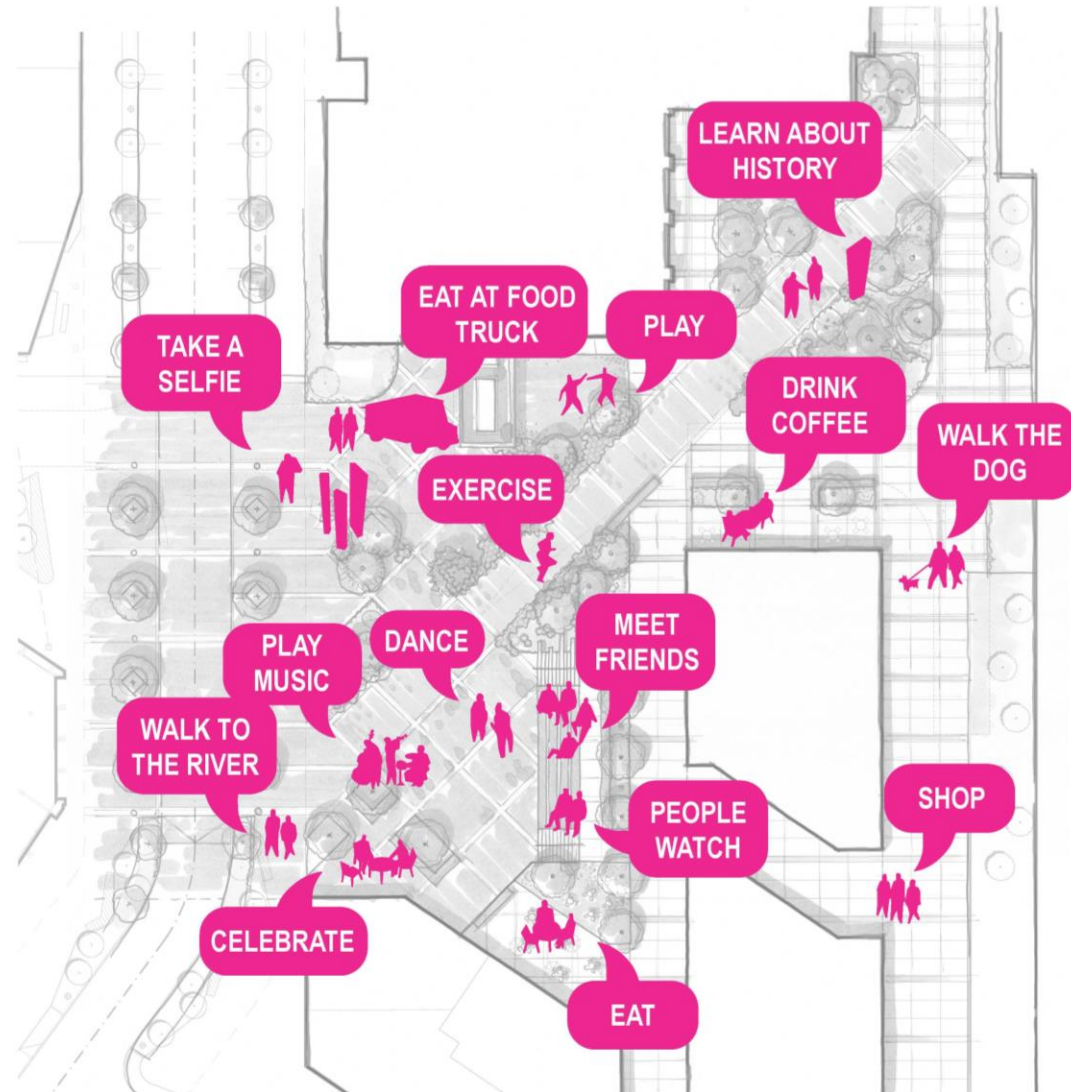


ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMS



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

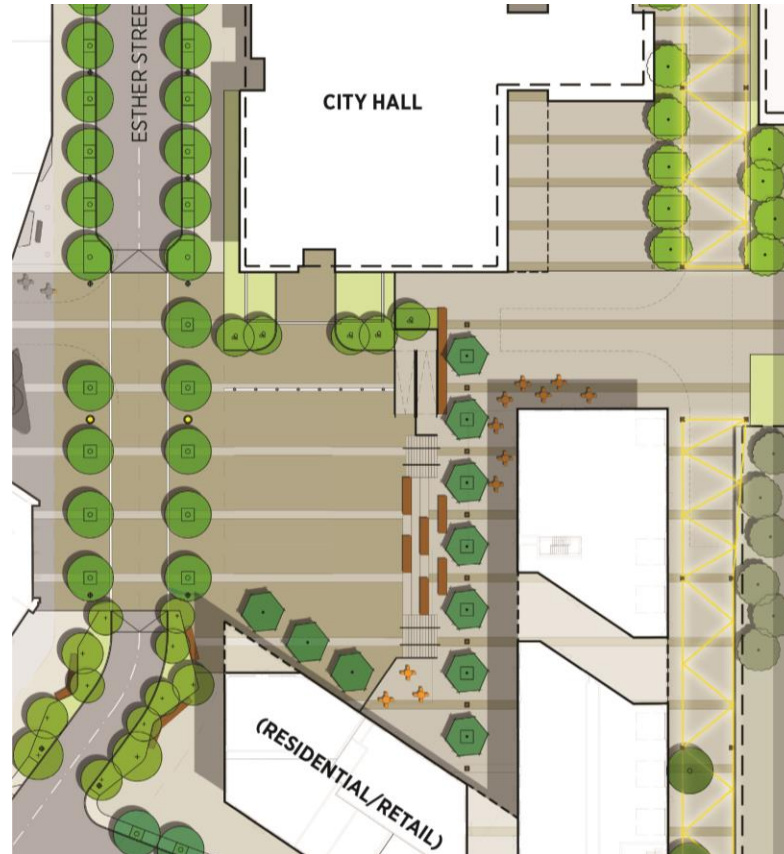
Desired Activities



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Design Evolution

- Replace ramp with walkway
- Break up large expanses of hardscape to a more human scale
- Increase tree canopy
- Provide more planting



OPEN HOUSE - FEBRUARY 1, 2024

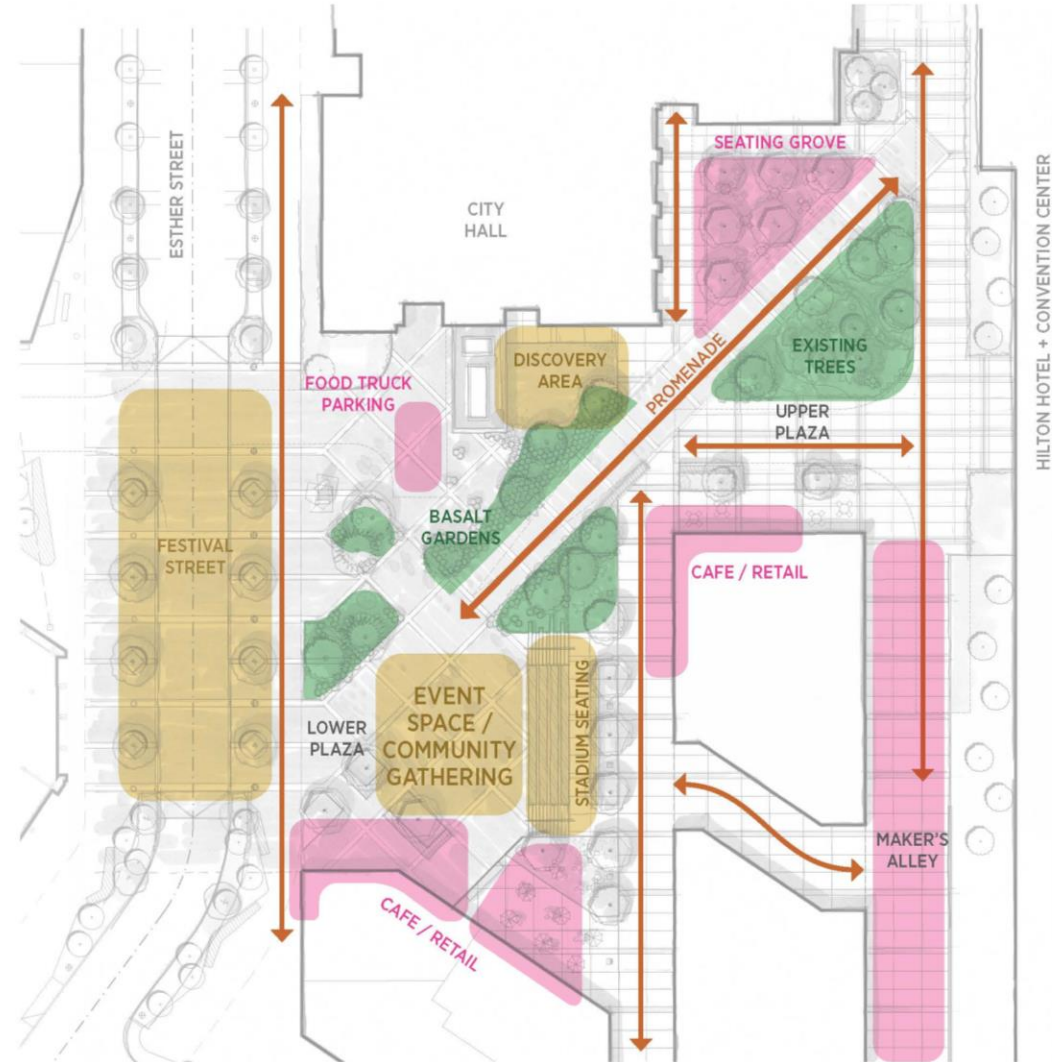


CURRENT PLAN

Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Program – Activity Zones

- EVENTS / FLEXIBLE
- RETAIL ACTIVATION
- LANDSCAPING



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Design

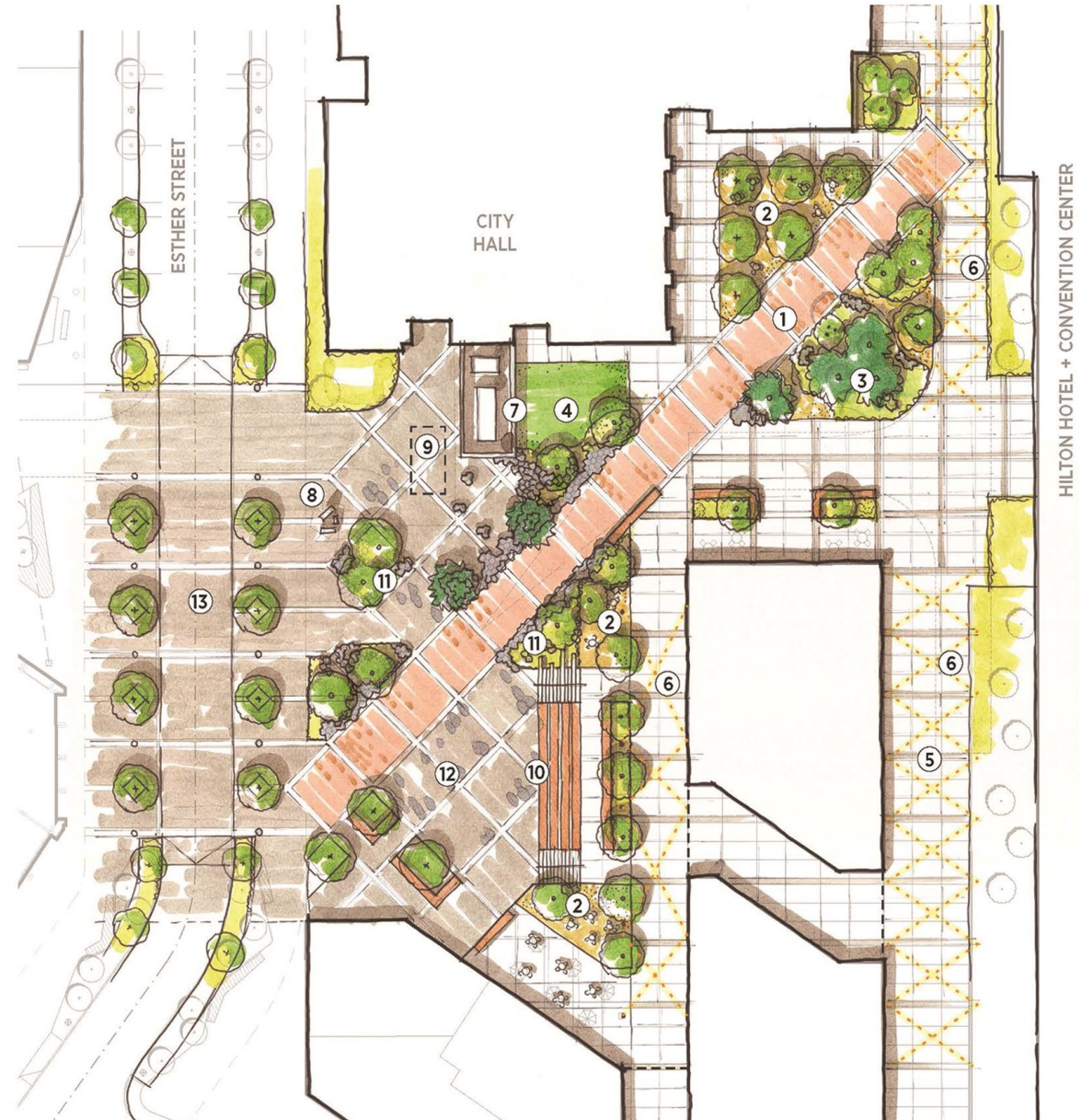
- A** DIAGONAL PATH
- B** VARIETY OF GATHERING AREAS
- C** SCALE OF THE LOWER PLAZA
- D** MATERIAL CONNECTION
- E** TREE PRESERVATION



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Design

1. PROMENADE
2. SEATING GROVE
3. EXISTING CEDAR & MAPLE TREES
4. DISCOVERY AREA
5. MAKER'S ALLEY
6. CATENARY LIGHTS
7. CITY HALL GENERATOR AND SCREEN
8. ART OPPORTUNITY
9. SERVICE DRIVE / FOOD TRUCK
10. STADIUM SEATING
11. BASALT GARDENS
12. FLEXIBLE GATHERING AREA
13. FESTIVAL STREET

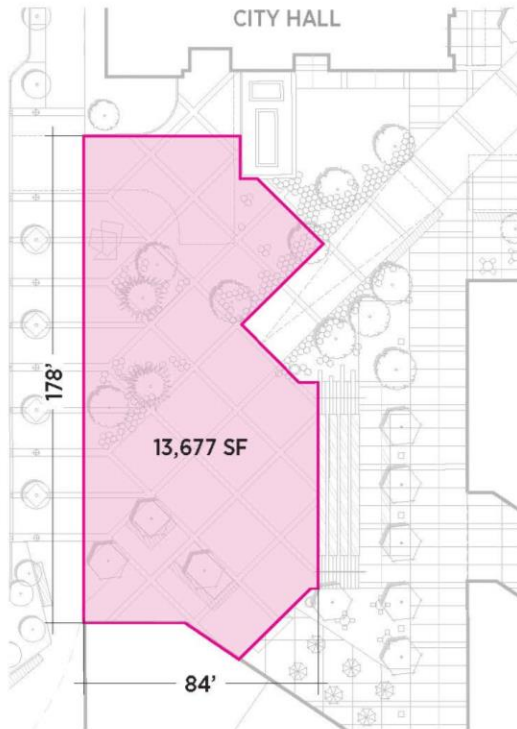


Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Scale

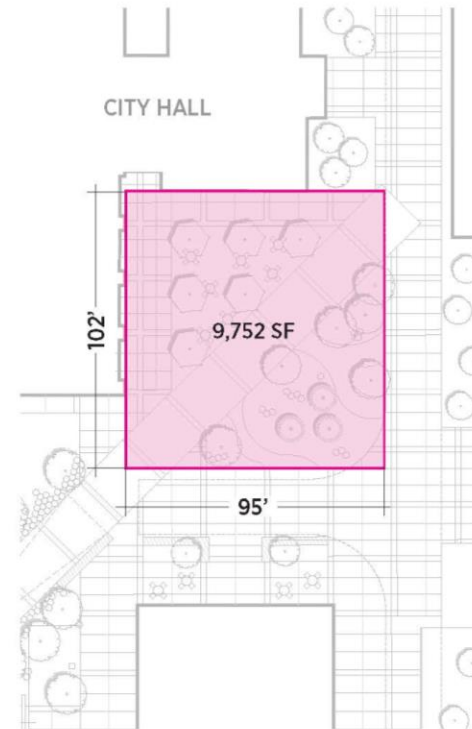
Lower Plaza

Relative to Esther Short Park - Propstra Square



Upper Plaza

Relative to Esther Short Park - Rose Garden



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Event Layout - Performance

Crowd of 100

Tight Crowd (5 sf/Person)

= 500 sf

Loose Crowd (10 sf/Person)

= 1,000 sf

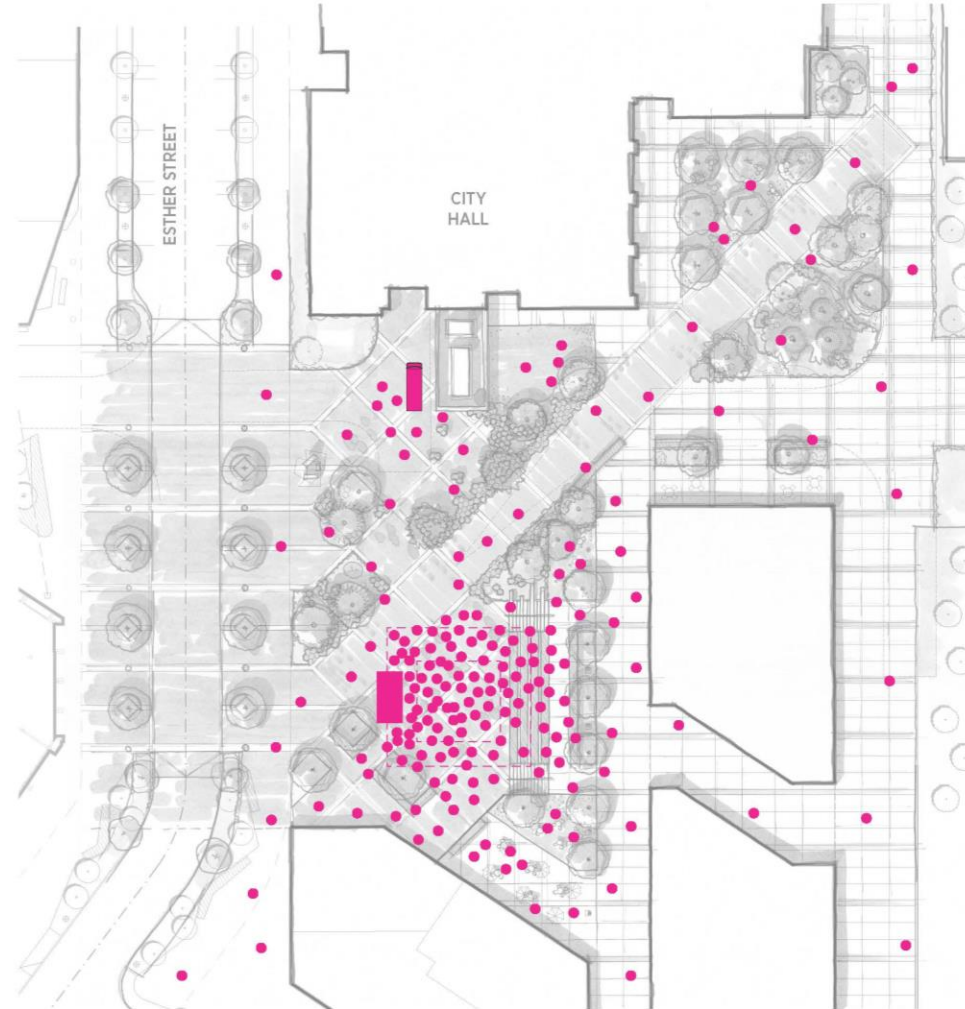
Crowd of 300

Tight Crowd (5 sf/Person)

= 1,500 sf

Loose Crowd (10 sf/Person)

= 3,000 sf



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Event Layout - Market

(20) 10' x 10' Tents



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

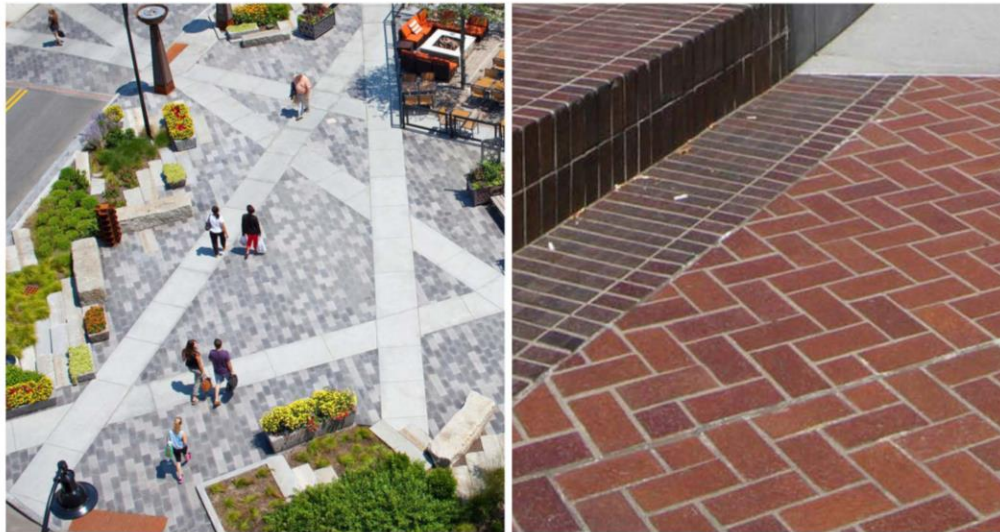
Trees and Landscaping

- Retains existing cedar and maple trees near City Hall
- Provides 37 additional trees
- Provides 13,000 square feet of native landscaping



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

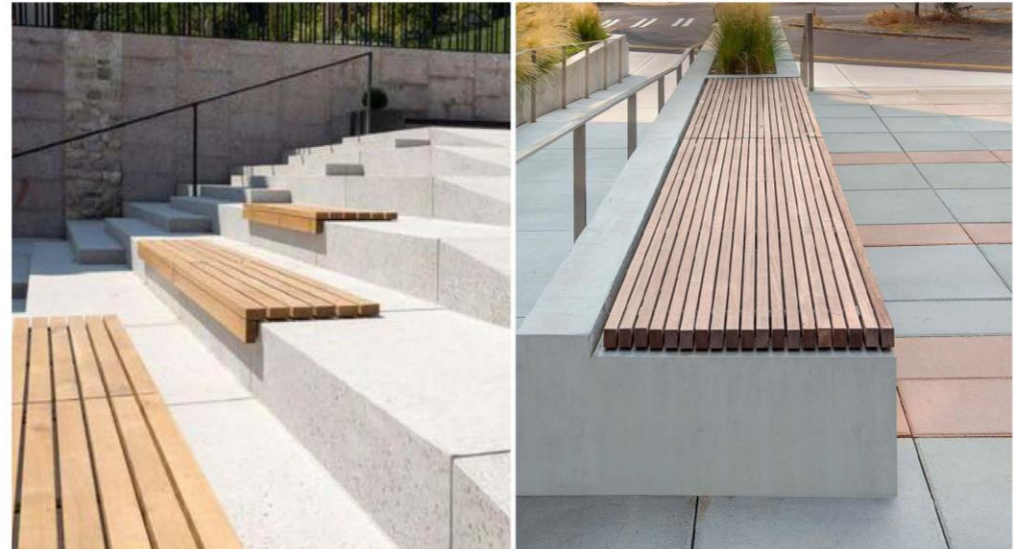
Materials — Precedent Images



BRICK PAVING + CONCRETE BANDS



BASALT COLUMNS



WOOD SEATS AT CONCRETE STADIUM STEPS

Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Concept Images



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Concept Images



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Concept Images



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Concept Images



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Concept Images



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

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Waterfront Gateway Plaza Master Plan

Concept Images



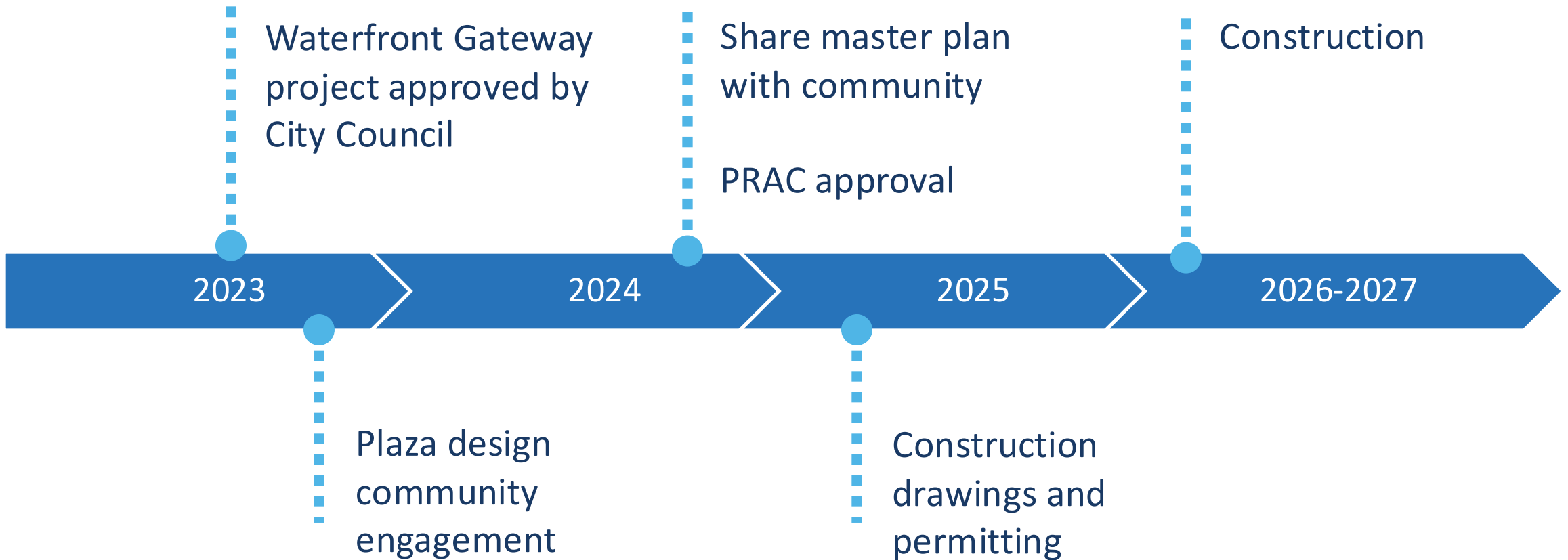
Budget Details

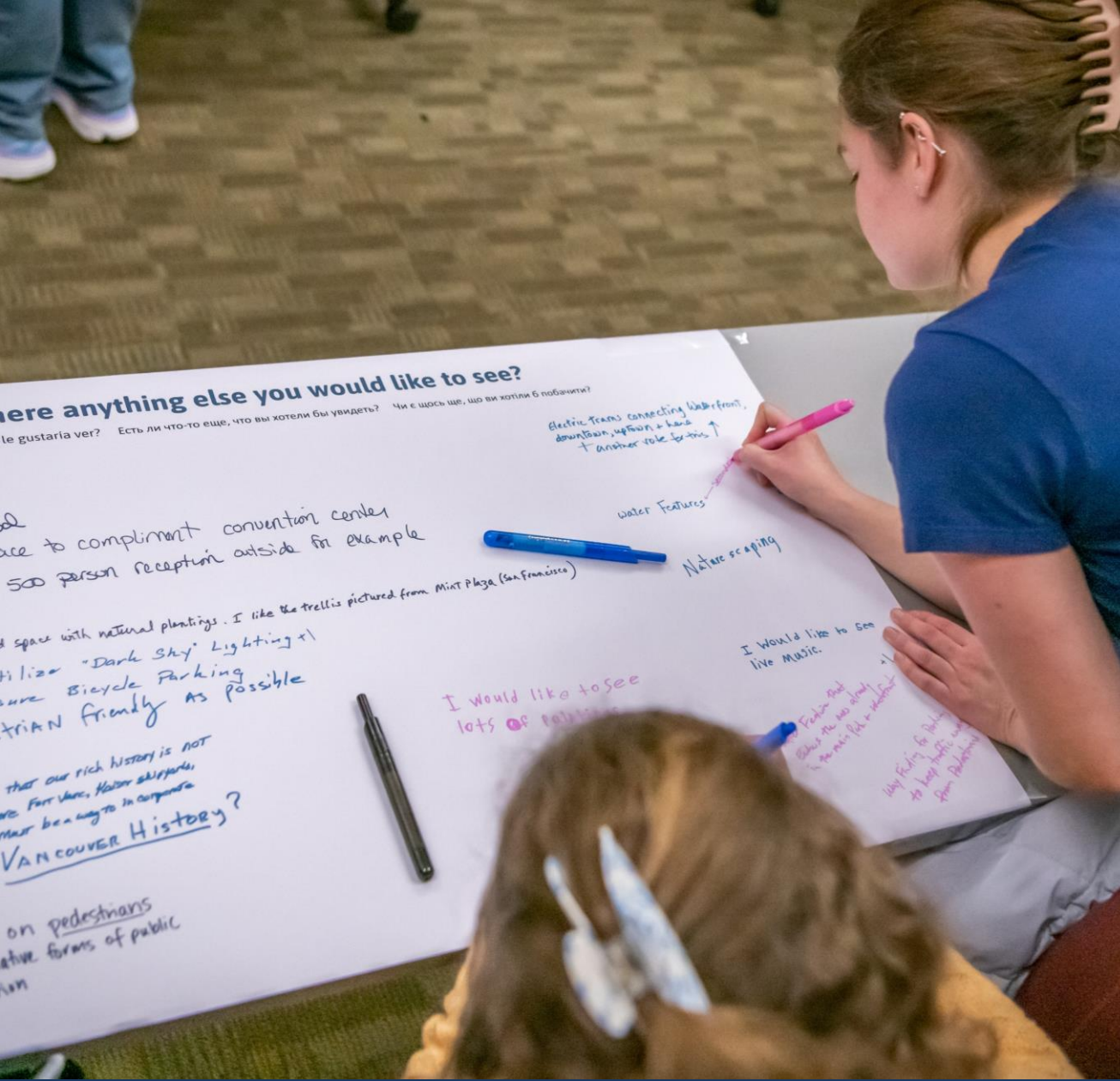
Total cost and available funding

- Unique partnership with private developer
- Developer is responsible for completing site design with City direction on plaza
- City will construct the upper plaza area
- Developer will construct the lower plaza and Maker's Alley
- Staff is working to secure funding through grants and other sources



Waterfront Gateway Plaza Timeline





Discussion

Questions or comments about:

- Community engagement
- Design
- Budget
- Timeline





Motion to Approve

- Motion requested:

Move to approve the Waterfront Gateway Plaza master plan.

Thank You





CITY OF
Vancouver
WASHINGTON

Environmental Youth Corps

VUF Environmental Youth Corps

Urban Forestry

9/18/2024

Vancouver Environmental Youth Corps

This program is made possible through a grant through the Inflation Reduction Act, from the U.S. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program and The Corps Network.
The City of Vancouver is an equal opportunity employer.



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



The
CorpsNetwork



Roadmap



Goals of EYC



**Work
Locations**



**Data & Workforce
Development**



Impact

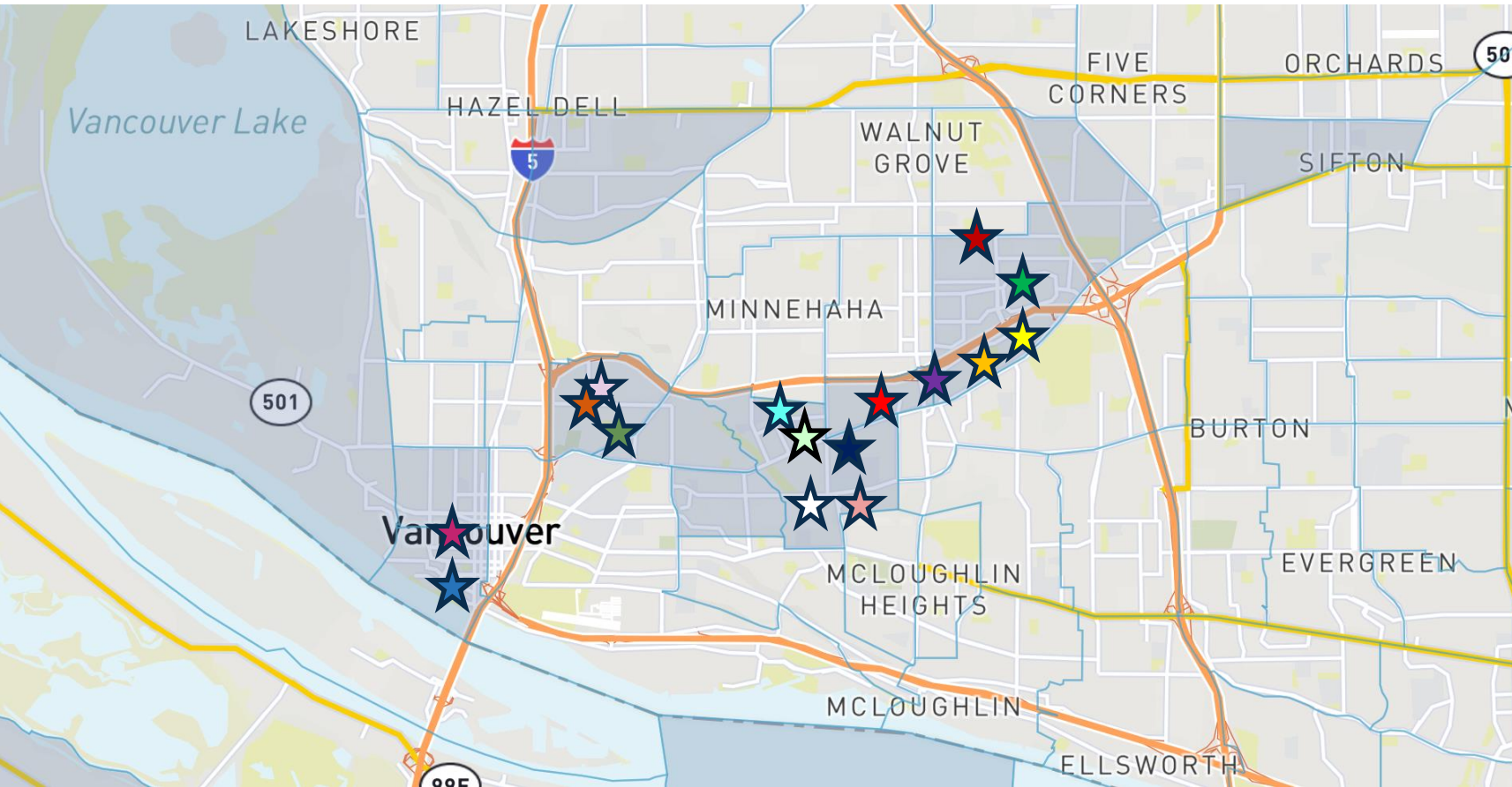


Goals of EYC

- **Develop green workforce**
- **Youth professional development**
- **Tree canopy restoration**
- **Tending to environmental justice**



Locations: Justice 40



- ★ Vancouver Mall
- ★ Raymond E Schaffer Park
- ★ 18th ST Natural Area
- ★ Volunteer Grove
- ★ Living Hope Church
- ★ Downs Park
- ★ Campus Community Garden
- ★ Fort Vancouver High School
- ★ Washington Elementary School
- ★ Bagley Park & Neighborhood
- ★ Ida Bell Jones Park
- ★ Everyday Deals
- ★ John Ball Park
- ★ Esther Short Park
- ★ Korean Presb. Church
- ★ Flex Academy
- And more!



How we Accomplished our Goals

Professional Development

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Sharing the workload
- Time management
- Problem solving
- Self-accountability

Green Workforce/Urban Forestry Skills

- Tree & native plant identification
- Tree establishment
- Geographical Information Systems: TreePlotter
- Tree inventory
- Tree site selection
- Tree assessment: Health, height, DBH, & CLE



NOTIFICATIONS 1

DASHBOARD

STATS

BY THE NUMBERS

311

Total Planting Spaces

4

Total Stumps

433

Total Trees

Species Choose

Genus Choose

Status Choose

Primary Choose

Maintenance

Condition Choose

Land Use Choose

Growing Choose

Space



ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS



Total Tree Value and Savings

Total Annual Monetary Benefit: \$2,444.92

Benefits are only calculated for trees with defined species, DBH, condition, and crown light

CARBON (LIFETIME)



Carbon Storage

594,041.56 (lbs)

CO₂ Storage

2,178,152.00 (lbs)

CO₂ Storage Monetary Benefit

\$28,424.04

CARBON (ANNUAL)



Carbon Monetary Benefit

\$998.25

CO₂ Sequestered

72,119.67 (lbs)

AIR QUALITY (ANNUAL)



Air Quality Monetary Benefit

\$437.01

Pollutants Removed

326.22 (lbs)

STORMWATER (ANNUAL)



Stormwater Monetary Benefit

\$1,009.66

Runoff Avoided

12,628.54 (ft³)

Interception

92,296.28 (ft³)



Urban Forestry Mentors

- **Grant writer & program manager** – Jessica George
- **Tree, shrub, and flower identification**
- **Tree inventorying with Tree Plotter**
- **Tree site selection** – Ian Bonham
- **Pruning** – Jesse Batty
- **Tree pests & diseases** – Nick Redmond
- **First planting site** - Clif Barnes





Community Connections & Outreach

- **4 Pop-Up Arboretums:** Esther Short, Bagley, Downs Neighbors, & John Ball Parks
- **Heritage Tree Plaques**
- **Vancouver Bee Project:** Campus Community Gardens & Downs Neighbors Park
 - Kyle Roslund led 2 Bee Atlas talks & specimen collections



Community Connections

Fourth Plain Forward Career Panel & Mural Painting



- Added butterflies to 4th Plain Mural
- Toured Fourth Plain Community Commons
- Career Panel with all Fourth Plain staff
- Made pizzas & played!
- Thank you Christian, Almendra, Paris, Sheila, Angel, Wil, & Kiana!





Field Trips

- J Frank Schmidt Nursery & Arboretum
 - Commercial production for international market
- Sauvie Island Natives
 - Retail native plants & ecological preserve
- Cistus Nursery
 - Climate-adaptive plants
- Water Resources Education Center
 - Ashley taught intro to animal tracking!

Data



411 trees established & maintained



43.5 yd³ mulch applied



515 gallons weeds removed



96 trees pruned



1,030 trees inventoried



**316 planting
sites identified**



Impact

- Introduce youth to environmental career pathways
- Empower youth to spread their knowledge
- Increase youth presence within community

“It’s hard to express just how much my view of the world has changed. Now, I don’t just see trees differently—I approach problems and questions with a new mindset, one that is more methodical and thoughtful. The tree identification aspect of the job has done more than teach me about nature; it’s reshaped how I think, I now observe, analyze, and understand with a depth I never knew I was missing.” – EYC member, 2024







**Thank You
Hailey Heath,
Naturespaces,
& Volunteer
Programs**



EYC nicknamed the van “Moby Dick”



Thank You! Questions?





Fourth Plain for All Park Projects Update

Omar Guzman

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services
9-18-2024

Fourth Plain for All/Fourth Plain Para Todos

Citywide ARPA Investments

- Investing \$25 million into neighborhoods near Fourth Plain Boulevard
- Funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- Projects were identified through a community led process
- Projects include housing, community building & public health, transportation, economic development and parks & public spaces
- \$7 million for parks, with most going to Bagley Park



Parks in the Project Area

Neighborhood Parks

- Peter S. Ogden Park
- The Downs Park*
- Meadow Homes
- Evergreen Park*
- Leach Park
- Ida Bell Jones Park

Community Parks

- Bagley Community Park*
- Marshall Community Park
- Raymond E. Shaffer Community Park

**Parks approved for ARPA funded improvements*



The Downs Neighborhood Park

Park Overview



- A 3.2-acre neighborhood park in central Vancouver
- Existing amenities include a playground, benches, open lawn and paved walking trails.
- Site for the Nature spaces program

The Downs Neighborhood Park

Improvements

- New “leaky roof” picnic shelter
- New half court basketball
- Irrigation
- Security light

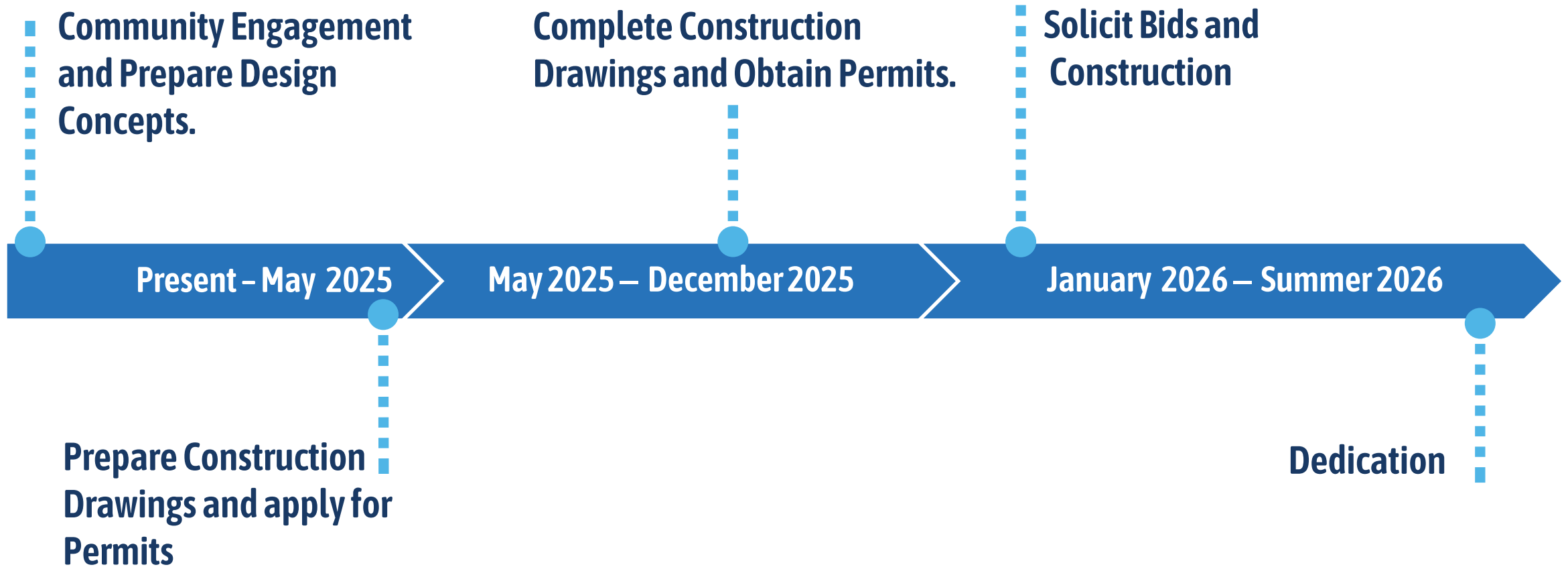


The Downs Neighborhood Park

Concept Plan



The Downs Neighborhood Park Timeline



Evergreen Neighborhood Park

Park Overview



- 4-acre neighborhood park in the Fourth Plain Village neighborhood
- Existing amenities include a playground, benches, open lawn, paved walking trails, picnic tables, a small picnic shelter without tables, security lighting

Evergreen Neighborhood Park

Improvements

- Playground replacement
- New benches
- Additional picnic tables
- Half court basketball refresh or new location
- Portland Loo (Restroom)
- Lighting upgrade

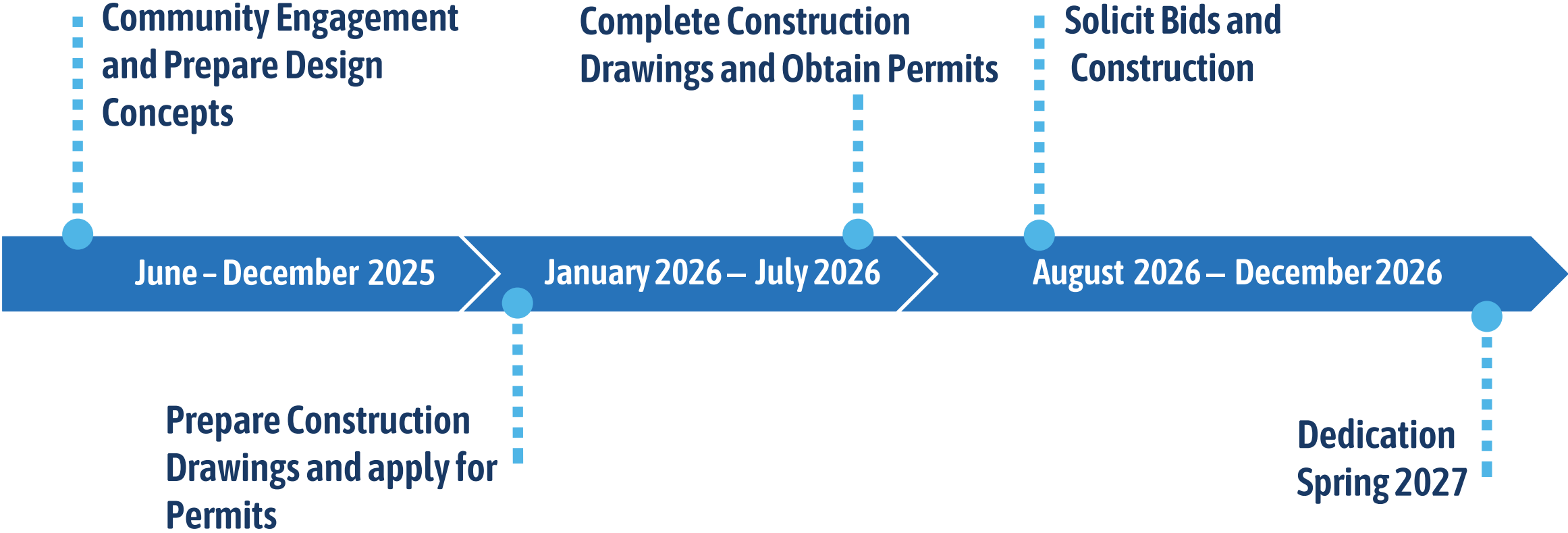


Evergreen Neighborhood Park

Concept Plan



Evergreen Neighborhood Park Timeline





Next Steps

- Create a community engagement plans
- Park planners explore Evergreen playground theme options to present during community engagement
- Keep Investment Strategy Committee informed on schedule and community engagement

Thank You



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d, 36-48pt

Photo Collage Right Title Here

