



**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT,**  
3434 Meridian, Bellingham, Washington 98225  
Telephone: (360) 778-7000 Fax: (360) 778-7001  
TTY (360) 738-7366

**MEETING SUMMARY NO. 1  
CORDATA PARK MASTER PLAN  
PUBLIC MEETINGS/STEERING COMMITTEE**

---

DATE OF MTG.: March 13, 2008, 7:00 - 8:45PM  
DATE ISSUED: March 19, 2008  
MTG. LOCATION: 400 Meadow Brook Court, Birchwood Presbyterian Church, Chapel Room  
BY: Gina T. Gobo, P.E. - City of Bellingham Park Project Engineer

---

**PRESENT:**

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Gina T. Gobo, Parks Project Engineer       | 16. Kristine Duncan         |
| 2. Jack Weiss, City Council Member            | 17. Bernie & Billie Prosser |
| 3. Julie Guy, MNAC Neighborhood Rep           | 18. Bob Sanders             |
| 4. Jonathan Schilk, Parks Landscape Architect | 19. Pamela Sorensen         |
| 5. Adrienne Lederer                           | 20. Linda Langey            |
| 6. Norbert Petsel                             | 21. Fred Haskins            |
| 7. Judy VanWoudenberg                         | 22. Jason Rosas             |
| 8. Delphia Merta                              | 23. Lucy DeGrace            |
| 9. Dorothy Smith                              | 24. K. Elaine Kooistra      |
| 10. Paul Reimen                               | 25. Cyndy Anderson          |
| 11. Carol Taylor                              | 26. Doug Simpson            |
| 12. Mary Lu Breece                            | 27. Paul Lewb               |
| 13. Pat Adams                                 | 28. Nicole Pridachuk        |
| 14. Nick Mele                                 | 29. Duane McEwen            |
| 15. Chris Benner, Trillium Corporation        |                             |

**CC:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Leslie Byrson, Parks Design & Develop. Mgr.  | 7. Robert and Jeanne Sherwin            |
| 2. Marvin Harris, Park Operation Mgr.           | 8. Ron Cowan, Bellingham Public Schools |
| 3. Andy Mitton, Project Design Consultant       | 9. William Zersen                       |
| 4. Cheryl and Tom Stewart, Cordata Neighborhood |   |
| 5. Chris Carlson                                |   |
| 6. Jim Zander                                   |   |

---

This meeting summary is issued to serve as a general overview of the items discussed at the subject meeting. Any discrepancies should be brought to the attention of Gina T. Gobo, P.E. at 360-778-7000, [ggobo@cob.org](mailto:ggobo@cob.org).

If you would like to have your name removed from the steering committee/parties of interest list above, please contact Gina T. Gobo, P.E. at 360-778-7000 or via email at [ggobo@cob.org](mailto:ggobo@cob.org).

**Meeting summaries will be distributed electronically. If you wish to receive future issues, please send your email address to [ggobo@cob.org](mailto:ggobo@cob.org). Otherwise, you may request hard copies (for a small fee) at the Parks Office located at 3424 Meridian Street, Bellingham 98225, 360-778-7000.**

## I. GENERAL

- a. This meeting is the first of a series of public meetings to obtain input on the design of the master plan of “Cordata Park”.
- b. Citizens that wish to be included in this public process/steering committee were instructed to provide their contact information on the sign-in sheet provided at the meeting.
- c. Written notice of this public process was mailed to residents within 500 feet of this park. The notices included the request that those interested in being included in the public process should call or write and provide their name and contact information to the City’s project manager. No additional notices will be mailed. Notices were also advertised in the Bellingham Herald, on KGMI Radio, to the neighborhood association, and on the City’s website.
- d. Gina Gobo, Project Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation that included brief information on the following.
  - i. Project Background
  - ii. Work completed to date
  - iii. Site Information/Project Scope
  - iv. Park Development Ideas
  - v. Public Process, Master Planning Process, Park Naming Process
  - vi. Schedule
- e. A copy of the presentation is available for viewing at:  
<http://www.cob.org/government/departments/parks/projects/cordata-area-park.aspx>
- f. Gina also provided information on the Bellingham School District Development, extension of Horton Road (Thomas Road), traffic plans for the area, and Trillium’s contribution to the City of Bellingham Public Works for the extension of Horton Road to Aldrich.
- g. From a quick head-count, approximately 33 people attended the meeting. 27 people included their names and contact information on the sign-in sheet provided at the meeting.

## II. PUBLIC INPUT

- a. Many comments and questions were stated by different citizens in the audience. See attached table.

## III. ACTION ITEMS/NEXT STEPS

- a. Some citizens requested information on the existing wetlands on site and land available for development – see attached wetland map. Development buffers for the stream range from 75 to 150 feet. Development buffers for the wetlands range from 60 to 75 feet.
- b. Some citizens also requested information on the site survey – see attached.
- c. Public Meetings will continued to be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from 7-8:30pm at the Birchwood Church Chapel Room as follows: April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, and August 14
- d. A design consultant has been selected for the master planning of this site: The Berger Partnership of Seattle. A project manager from the consultant’s firm will most likely be present at all future meetings
- e. Additional public meetings may be scheduled as needed to obtain input from families, parents and teens.

#	Comment/Questions	Response
1	Need an updated map, large map	
2	Need to see what property is. Want layout of land before we start making plans	
3	How will we access the site without the Horton Road extension?	Most likely via a small driveway or trail connection at the end of Horton Road until the Road is fully development by the City in conjunction with local developers.
4	What is funded now?	Approximately \$225,000 in REET funds has been budgeted for phase I trail construction through Cordata Park.
5	Is Horton extension a City right-of-way now?	Yes, the ROW is "Thomas Road." Reference attached survey.
6	What is the size of Roosevelt Park?	Approximately 7 acres
7	What is the size of Cornwall Park?	Approximately 69 Acres
8	How much of the site at Cordata Park is useable?	See attached wetland map and item III-a of meeting summary.
9	Would like to schedule a site walk for the public	
10	Many demands on park use. Consultant should bring lots of ideas.	
11	The shelter examples shown in the presentation were very small. Would like to have larger shelters like Cornwall Park and Bloedel	
12	More acquisitions in the north will be needed	The service area of Cordata Park does not accommodate all residents in the north end. More acquisitions are needed.
13	Would like to have more pocket parks in the north end. Parks should address whether or not this can be accomplished.	
14	Are school playgrounds open during off hours?	Contact Bellingham Public Schools. There may be different policies for each school site. School sites are not counted as available Parks in the City of Bellingham's Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
15	Want open space for dogs. Fenced area. Most houses in Cordata have a lack of yard space.	

#	Comment/Questions	Response
16	Want a place for teens. Football, etc. Need to get them to meetings or go to where they hang out and get their input.	
17	Target teens. Dedicate a meeting just for teens. Go to Boys & Girls club, Sterling Meadows Apartments, Shuksan Middle School, and Meridian High School.	The neighborhood association offered to help distribute flyers and make contact with these organizations.
18	Is this Park within the Urban Growth Area Boundaries? Is the trail easement on neighboring properties or school district development holding this process up?	The Park will be added to the UGA.
19	Is the Church involved? Are there security concerns? Concerns about the creation of informal trails?	Yes, Leslie Bryson, Parks Design and Development Manager, has been coordinating efforts with the Church.
20	Want information on property ownership and future development plans in the area.	
21	Need tot-lots and swings. Consider separate play areas by age group.	
22	Concerned about safety near wetlands and privacy for neighbors	
23	Keep trees	
24	Consider wild life	
25	Want ADA compliant trails, picnic areas. Not as an afterthought. Boulevard Park is a good example; Lake Padden is a bad example.	
26	Like driving in through trees to picnic areas. Want windy road to picnic areas through forest similar to Cornwall Park	
27	Want benches along trails. Memorial benches are good. Many would donate benches.	
28	Like the idea of chairs as shown in the PowerPoint slide presentation. Don't want people sleeping on benches.	
29	Some tent sites are now in the area. Some will move out when the Park is developed.	
30	Want a shelter for entertainment	
31	Like wood bridges through wet areas	

#	Comment/Questions	Response
32	Want education component to wetland	
33	Consider site lighting. Provide a power source for use at the shelters.	
34	Concerned about safety in the Parks. What are Park hours?	Park Policy is that Parks close at dusk.
35	Want green design. Consider solar lighting.	
36	Want to know about Bellingham's Green Design Policy	See website: <a href="http://www.cob.org/services/environment/green-resolutions.aspx">http://www.cob.org/services/environment/green-resolutions.aspx</a> For information on programs or sustainable building practices, contact the Green Team via email: greenteam@cob.org or visit the Planning Division at 210 Lottie Street.
37	Splash pad/parks seem to be very popular	
38	Consider Frisbee golf. Want teen activities that are popular with students	
39	Separate teens from small children areas	
40	Include Park Operations in the process	
41	Build berms at boundary to condos	
42	Monkey Bars!	
43	Like Lynden City Park on Depot Road. Good playground areas. Similar to Oak Harbor and Anacortes.	
44	Want outdoor Art	
45	Want "Ball Wall"	
46	Bocce Ball. Like public court in City of Lynden	
47	Want trail connectivity. No dead ends	
48	Sand Volley Ball	
49	Like the standard list of neighborhood park amenities provided in slide show	
50	Want open green space	
51	Pickle Ball	