

CITY OF NORTH BEND
CITY COUNCIL WORKSTUDY NOTES
April 25, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, 920 SE Cedar Falls Way, North Bend, WA

Mayor Pro Tem Koellen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Brenden Elwood, Alan Gothelf, Heather Koellen, Mary Miller and Jonathan Rosen (remote) were present. Councilmembers Mark Joselyn and Ross Loudonback were excused.

Staff Present: Mayor Rob McFarland, City Administrator David Miller, Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Mark Rigos, Community and Economic Development Director Rebecca Deming, Principal Planner Mike McCarty, Communications Manager Bre Keveren and Deputy City Clerk Jennifer Bourlin.

Guests Present: Vinita Sidhu, Clayton Beaudoin, Ryan Storkman, Alison Maitland Scheetz and Sara Canapea (remote) from Site Workshop, Fred Young (remote) from Parametrix.

Riverfront Park and William H. Taylor Park Presentation

Principal Planner Mike McCarty explained that the City Council approved a decision card for the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget to fund the preparation of design and construction plans for William H. Taylor Park (WH Taylor) and Riverfront Park. The City solicited Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from qualified consulting firms to prepare the park design plans. Council approved a contract with Site Workshop in September 2022. Preparation for the design process included surveying the property and preparing Critical Areas Reports.

Site Workshop along with City of North Bend staff held engagement and stakeholder meetings. During the initial public outreach, important issues were finding site-specific ways to represent the history of the Snoqualmie Tribe, their people, culture, and creation story, study wayfinding and circulation strategies to link the parks to the greater trail networks and parking lots, and improve safety at intersections.

Site Workshop presented different concepts for each park, the train depot and McClellan Street.

Riverfront Park

Consultant Vinita Sidhu of Site Workshop presented different concepts for Riverfront Park. All options included improving pedestrian safety, 12' wide crushed rock surfacing at the levee trail, forest restoration, and interpretive and history signage. She then presented additional options as follows:

- History Focus: entry path with seating, potential property acquisition or land swap with 227 Park LLC (Glazier), viewing deck or pavilion, boardwalk ramp

- Recreation Focus: play/exercise station and loop, viewing deck, tabletop pedestrian crossing/optional signalization, log seating area, river access
- Nature Focus: demolish foundations and court, forest loop trail, riverbank restoration, and widen the Bendigo sidewalk to 8'

WH Taylor Park

Consultant Clayton Beaudoin of Site Workshop discussed the train track realignment at E McClellan Street. He then presented different options for WH Taylor Park.

Options for the park included concepts for Ballarat to have a pedestrian focus, renovation or updating the train depot, multi-use trail, and a raised crossing on Park St for safer crossing at the south end of the park. The options are as follows:

- Railway Interchange: a junction, plaza with long platform seating and stage pavilion, carousel or other building, to preserve existing tree grove, and add a pedestrian rail path
- Alluvial Deposits: deposits related to the region's history, depot outdoor shelter, depot reduced interior, holiday tree, plaza edged with long platform seating, picnic platform/stage with view of Mount Si, splash pad/performance space, deposits of historical artifacts, and meandering pedestrian rails with inlays
- Confluence: a coming or flowing together; gathering at one point, picnic area, open lawn, elements of play, art or historical artifacts, meandering pedestrian path through woodland garden with art, and a wide entry to the park

Council and staff discussed the following: river access, connected trails, forest restoration, interpretive options, play/exercise area, future train track project, a pedestrian crossing on Park Street, history of the sites, parking, property acquisition, depot options, train track realignment, and E McClellan Street.

Community and Economic Development Director Deming and Site Workshop noted they would incorporate the input received from this workstudy and provide it to Council for their review at a future workstudy before introducing it to the public.

The Mayor provided an update to the Council on the Water Service Agreement with Sallal and the Economic Development Action Plan being placed on a future Council agenda.

Adjournment

The workstudy closed at 9:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Heather Koellen, Councilmember

Jennifer Bourlin, Deputy City Clerk