



City of Seattle
Department of Parks and Recreation
Speaking Points

DATE: May 8, 2007
SUBJECT: Nike Demolition Restoration Community Meeting #1

Asset Manager Aaron Bert and Project Manager Garrett Farrell present the conceptual design direction Parks will attempt to follow as the projects move forward with the demolition and site restoration of the Nike site and Building 653.

History:

The removal of the Chapel Annex, Building 653 and the Nike Building were projects recommended by the West Point Citizens Advisory Committee (WPCAC) as part of the 2004 Memorandum of Agreement (settlement agreement) between King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks and the City of Seattle Parks and Recreation.

Conceptual Design Intent:

In accordance with the “settlement agreement” buildings are to be removed and the area restored to “natural conditions” Parks will make a series of informed decisions to accomplish this objective. Restoration of the lighthouse and North Forest Road Removal efforts will begin in late 2007.

Design Considerations:

- Scope of work required
- Cost
- Impacts
- Final product (what will it look like?)

Priorities:

1. **SITE ASSESSMENT. This involved historical plans research, identification of utilities, hazardous materials surveys and field investigation.** Site assessment identified the Chapel Annex as an immediate opportunity and Parks took action to remove the building and restore the site for summer 2007.
2. Parks is working with a design team of civil engineers, hazardous materials specialists and others to refine the scope of Nike and 653 to establish removal and restoration cost. Existing utilities, both active and abandoned, are a significant challenge Parks is working to address.
4. Parks will present a site restoration concept that draws from previous efforts and the vegetation management plan at Discovery Park.

Seattle Parks Project Manager / Landscape Architect Kim Baldwin presented the conceptual design direction is Parks going to follow as we move forward with the demolition and site restoration of the Nike site and Building 653.

Conceptual Design Intent: To follow the criteria described in the 2002 Discovery Park Vegetation management Plan.

Vegetation Management Plan History:

- Finalized in 2002
- Historic District: The management plan for this area is to maintain its open character and broad grassy expanse.
- Top of Historic District: Management issues in this zone include invasive species control, native plant enhancement, social trail closures, wildlife enhancement, and road and staircase removal. The management objective is to reintegrate the zone into the forests to the north and east.

Design Considerations:

- Re-establish slope: Sculpt the earth and integrate it into the adjacent slopes by bringing in fill material.
- Remove the stairs to the north and south.
- Maintain retaining walls and utilities.
- Build the soils: 12" wood chips
- Irrigation: quick couplers or drip irrigation system to establish plants
- Plantings: Plant with a pioneer species of alder. Plant pockets of native species to establish and spread over time.
- Create a swale at the base of the slope. This will provide an opportunity for 'wet' area plantings and help the water to percolate into soil instead of entering the drainage system.
- Use this new habitat as an ongoing educational opportunity to show the diversity of plantings in different microclimates – dry upper slope to wet bottom of slope to moderately wet level base of slope.

Priorities: The full revegetation effort will be based on how far we can stretch the funding. After the building is demolished and utilities are addressed, the site will be filled and sculpted.

1. After that, the first priority is to **build a healthy soil profile** by installing a 12" layer of wood chips. The wood chips will help to control invasive species and build an organic soil layer as the chips decompose. The organic layer will provide nutrients to the establishing plants and hold water. We will also have to consider erosion control on the new slope.
2. Next, the site should be **planted with alders**, possibly seeded, as a pioneer species. **Pockets of native plants** which contain conifer, shrubs and ground covers as identified in the VMP will be planted amongst the alders. Hypothetically, in time, these native plants will take over.
3. Realistically, if there is funding available for the plantings, the plants will be installed concurrently with the wood chips.
4. This effort will take time to come to fruition and volunteer efforts will help tremendously.