

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LANGLEY  
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION  
October 12, 2009**

Chair Leah Green opened the meeting at 2:34 pm.

**ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Cary Peterson, Leah Green, David Schmidt, Nancy Rowan,  
Gail Fleming

Staff Present: Fred Evander, Kathleen Landel

**MINUTES**

The Commission reviewed and approved the September 14, 2009 minutes.

**PRIORITY PROJECTS**

Fred Evander distributed a handout on priority projects articulated by the commission members. Evander noted that the capital improvement plan priorities are for the next six (6) years. The Commissioners discussed possible priorities and indicated their priority preferences:

- **Existing parks**
  - Need to add "Visitors Information Center" to list of existing city park areas since there is landscaping at this location.
  - Priority:
    1. Develop management plans for all existing parks. For the first year, develop high-level plans for all parks and comprehensive management plans for two parks (to be identified).
- **Acquisition/Protection projects**
  - Priorities:
    1. Fosseck Farm
    2. Contiguous forest (mapped): upland forest, riparian wetlands, other
    3. Shoreline
    4. Hazelnut orchard
- **Trail system**
  - Priorities:
    1. Acquire mapped trail easements.
      - a. Develop standards for trail easements.
      - b. Develop trail easement package.
    2. Highest priorities:
      - a. Al Anderson to Maxwellton
      - b. Seawall Park to Marina
- **Support community agriculture and community garden projects**

Marianne Edain suggested that the Commission include a recommended policy that the highest priority projects would be those at the highest risk for development and could be most cost-effectively and easily acquired.

## **LEVEL OF SERVICE AND GOALS AND POLICIES**

Fred Evander distributed a handout on Maintenance Level of Service from the work done by the maintenance sub-committee. The handout was for review and future in-depth discussion. It was noted that the Maintenance LOS will create a tension with limitations on city resources and how they are allocated.

Several policy recommendations were suggested:

- Maintenance LOS should address the allocation of city resources to maintain projects such as the flower baskets and the entrance sign/areas.
- Create trail access while preserving natural habitat.
- Trail design standards should address reducing resources needed for ongoing maintenance.

Evander distributed a handout on Open Space Level of Service. Additions and edits were made to make the statement clearer on the criteria for contributing to off-site acquisition of open space. It was discussed that the statement needs to make it clear through using bullets, that a project has to meet all three criteria, and that the name of the fund, suggested as "Land Acquisition Fund," should be included in the statement. Evander will make these revisions.

Evander distributed a handout on a revised Open Space Definition. The Commission made edits to the definition. It was agreed that the statement would be revised to read:

*Open space as used in the plan, includes hazardous and environmental critical areas such as steep slopes and wetlands; wildlife habitat corridors; agricultural lands; forested areas, shorelines and trails; and aesthetic value lands, such as scenic corridors and view sheds.*

## **REVISIONS TO ELEMENT**

Fred Evander distributed a handout on the portion of the Element that addresses the types of habitat in Langley. The changes were based on conversations with the state Recreation Commission Office (RCO), which provides the majority of the state funding for parks and open space. Evander noted that the revision focused on making the language more consistent, items were re-ordered to include Critical Areas in the Element and the habitat language was enhanced to include language important for state funding.

The public hearing for the Parks, Open Space and Trails Element is scheduled for November 9, 2009.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 pm. The next regular meeting of the Parks and Open Space Commission will occur Monday, November 9, 2009 at 2:30 pm.

Kathleen Landel recorded the minutes for the meeting.