



Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Agenda
5:30pm – March 13, 2024
City Hall Council Conference Room & Remotely

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85724626921>

Meeting ID: 857 2462 6921

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes February 14, 2024 Meeting
- III. Citizen Comment on Non-Agenda Items
- IV. New Business
 - a. Craig's Hill Sloughing Concerns – Bob Kibler
 - b. Transgender Bathroom Concerns at the Kittitas Valley Memorial Pool & Fitness Center
- V. Old Business
 - a. Unity Park Update
 - b. Reed Park Update
- VI. Items for the April 10, 2024 Meeting
- VII. Commission Member Reports / Other Business
- VIII. Staff Reports
- IX. Adjournment

Guidelines for Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Public Comments:

Purpose: Allow the public to address the Commission on subjects not on the regular Agenda at this particular meeting. Comments must concern the City's business or a matter over which the commission has control.

Procedure for Public Participation:

- When recognized, please state your name, and the subject to be discussed.
- 3 minute time limit for citizen comment on non-agenda items (without interruption). Commission will not act on issue.
- 5 minute time limit for the introduction of new business items, unless extended by a by a majority of Commission members present.
- Submit written comments to Staff representative.
- Speakers are cautioned not to make comments of a personal, impertinent or derogatory nature.
- The Commission does not take action at the meeting at which a subject is first introduced during the public comment period. You may wish to concisely state your concern and request placement of your matter on a future agenda.
- On agenda items each speaker's comments will be limited to 3 minutes.

**Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2024**

DATE OF MEETING: February 14, 2023
MEMBERS PRESENT: Nikki Pollock, Frana Milan (remote), Nick Zentner, Casey Fiske (remote), Marion Elliot (remote), Jackie Adams, Council Liaisons Beauchamp and Thompson, AAC Liaison Sue Ledbetter,
OTHERS PRESENT: Parks & Recreation Director Case, approximately 15 members of the public
LOCATION: Meeting was held in the Council Conference Room and Remotely

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

INTRODUCTIONS OF LIAISONS

Sue Ledbetter introduced herself as the liaison from the Adult Activity Center to the Parks & Recreation Commission. Council members Sarah Beauchamp and Joshua Thompson introduced themselves as the new Council liaisons to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

COMMISSION ELECTIONS

Motions were made and seconded to elect Commissioner Pollock as Commission Chair and Commissioner Adams as Vice Chair. All in favor.

MEETING MINUTES – Minutes from the November 8, 2023 meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS –

Angie Lang – Voiced about concerns about the proposed sidewalk location at Reed Park. Was appreciate of the efforts between the City and Legion regarding the Craig Avenue parking situations.

Penny Whitman – Wants answers to questions related to Reed Park and what the proposals are

Theresa Plue – Talked about erosion concerns at Reed Park and law enforcement

Carolyn Noel – Has concerns with Craig's Hill sloughing

Pat Kelleher – Stated that there are inaccuracies in the adopted meeting minutes from the November 8, 2023 Commission meeting regarding the Commissions opinion on the overlook trees/planting

NEW BUSINESS

Wetland Mitigation at Paul Rogers Park

Staff presented to the Commission a proposal to expand two existing wetland areas within Paul Rogers Parks which would satisfy a requirement under section of 15.620.040 of the Ellensburg City Code (ECC) and Sections of 404/401 of the federal Clean Water Act, to compensate for impacts to wetlands located along the Vantage Highway, which are result of the Gateway II project.

The benefits to mitigating in the park:

- The park is owned by the City which precludes the need to buy additional property for mitigation
- The two existing wetlands at the park are suitable for enhancement and/or enlargement.

- The park is located within the same watershed as the Gateway wetland impacts.

The proposed mitigation efforts will not impact the park pathways, nor will it create park flooding since the mitigation sites are being supported by park irrigation and seasonal groundwater.

A motion was made to approve the use of Paul Rogers Park for wetland mitigation as a result of the City's Gateway II project. All in favor.

Dr. Vernie Playground Dedication at North Alder Street Park- The Commission affirmed an action the Parks & Recreation Commission and City Council took back in 2006 naming the playground at North Adler Street Park 'Dr. Rudolph Vernie Playground' in honor of Dr. Vernie, a long time Ellensburg pediatrician. Staff will place appropriate signage at the playground, the name of the park will remain North Alder Street Park.

Commission Member Adopted Parks – Each Commission 'adopts' parks that they report back to the commission on or communicate concerns with staff. With some new members joining the commission in the last few months some parks needed to be readopted. Below is the allocation of parks:

Commissioner Adams - Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park, Rotary Park
 Commissioner Zentner - Reed Park, Veterans Memorial Park
 Commissioner Pollock - McElroy Park, Kleinberg Park, Wippel
 Commissioner Brown- Kiwanis Park, West Ellensburg Park
 Commissioner Fiske – Mt. View Park
 Commissioner Milan – North Alder Street Park, Palouse to Cascades Reconnection Route (Sanders Road to Helena Avenue)
 Commissioner Elliot – Paul Rogers Park

ITEMS FOR MARCH 13, 2024 MEETING

Update on Reed Park

Potential discussion about Craig's Hill Erosion

STAFF REPORTS

1. Staff is planning to open park restrooms by March 18th at the latest, however they could open earlier if the weather allows. 2. City staff has identified a potential future park property in the northwest part of Ellensburg. Staff made application through Department of Ecology grant to purchase the property, which also have fish and flooding benefits. 3. The Unity Park property will be closed February 22nd for construction which is anticipated to last through early to mid-August. City staff met with local businesses to discuss their concerns about park construction and local impacts. The biggest concern voiced was alley access during construction which being addressed by city staff. 4. The fieldhouse project has slowed down due to some questions on the planning process related to the alternative bid methods. 5. To address some of the fire lane concerns at Reed Park the city removed a section of cable fencing and the American Legion granted an easement which widens Craig Avenue allowing cars to parallel park. 6. Participation numbers in our all recreation programs are very strong. 7. Staff told the Commission about a petition circulating in the community about updating playground facilities. Staff agrees that there is a need to perform updates, the challenge is determining how to fund these improvements. An average park playground is going to cost at least \$100,000.00 after installation and playground surfacing. 8. Commission members were encouraged to spread the word about temporary employment opportunities in the parks division.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm

Memorandum

Date: March 13, 2024
To: Parks & Recreation Commission
From: Brad Case, Parks & Recreation Director
Subject: Craig's Hill Sloughing Concerns

Community member Bob Kibler, who spoke to the Commission at their February 14, 2024 meeting about being placed on a future agenda to talk about concerns about Craig's Hill sloughing.

Mr. Kibler will be making a request to the Commission that the City should hire a Geotechnical Engineer to perform an analysis on the condition of the hill and provide options, with associated costs.

Memorandum

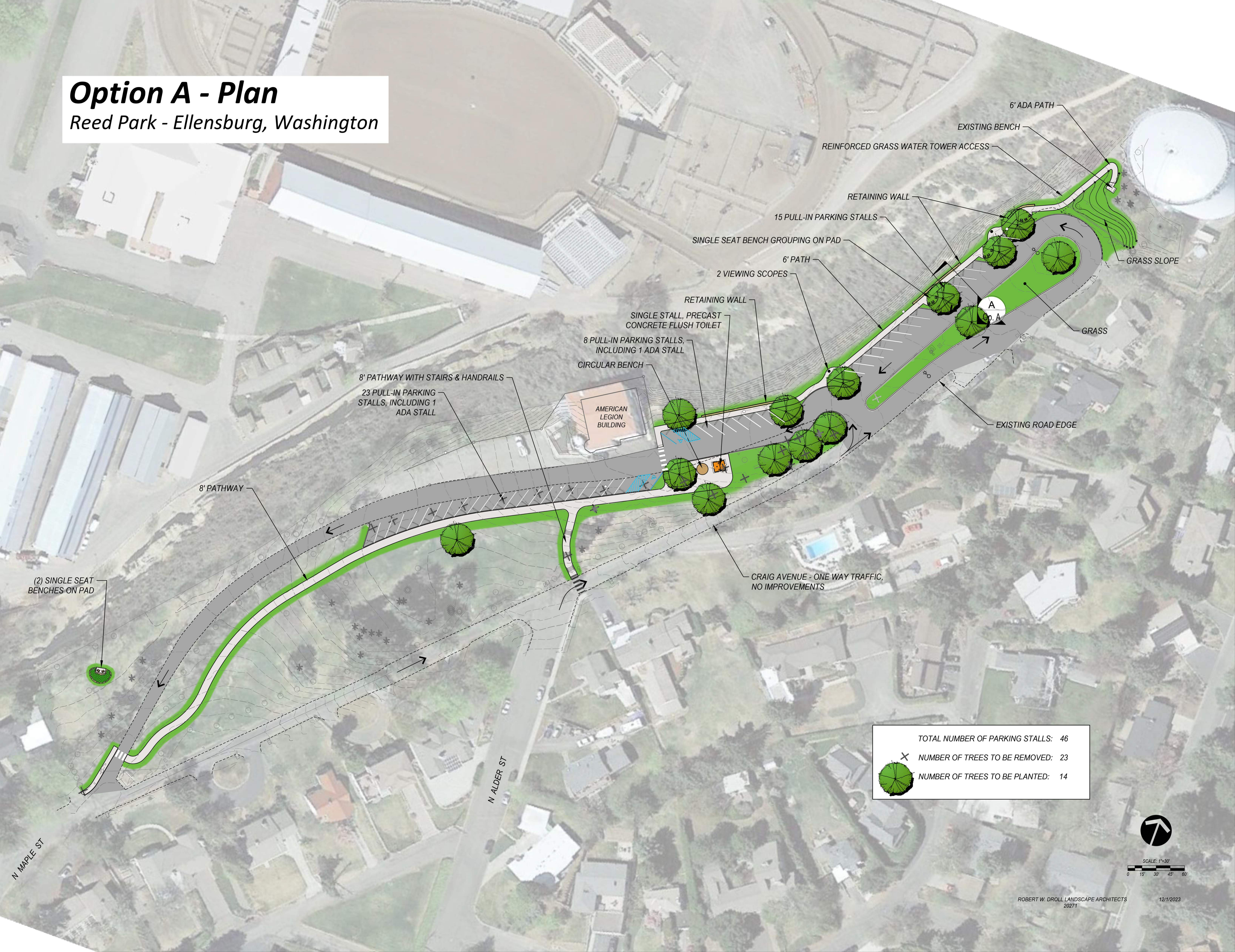
Date: March 13, 2024
To: Parks & Recreation Commission
From: Brad Case, Parks & Recreation Director
Subject: Transgender Bathroom Use Concerns

At your October 11, 2023 meeting, Natasha Norwood discussed her concerns about the city policy, and state law, allowing people to use the locker rooms at the Kittitas Valley Memorial Pool and Fitness Center (KVMP) which align with their gender identity. Ms. Norwood stated that she would like to see additional showers at the facility and signs posted notifying the public that they may encounter transgender individuals in the locker room.

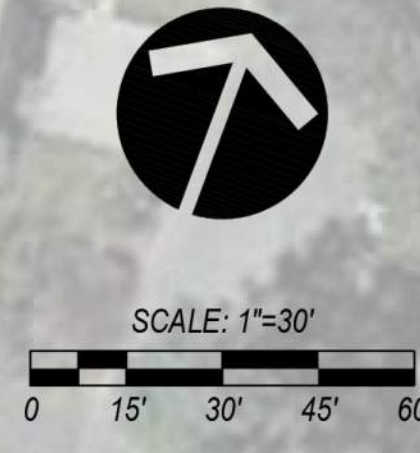
Staff will be providing the Commission with additional information about this issue and steps staff have taken to ensure that all people feel safe when using the KVMP.

Option A - Plan

Reed Park - Ellensburg, Washington



	TOTAL NUMBER OF PARKING STALLS:	46
X	NUMBER OF TREES TO BE REMOVED:	23
	NUMBER OF TREES TO BE PLANTED:	14



Option A - Plan Enlargement

Reed Park - Ellensburg, Washington

