



## North Portland Aquatic Center Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting #4 Notes April 19, 2023 5:00pm – 7:00pm

### Welcome and Agenda Review

- Ken Rumbaugh provided a welcome.
- Full project details can always be found at the [North Portland Aquatic Center](#) project page.
- **Project News:** We have our final three sites!!
  - Columbia Park
  - Northgate Park
  - University Park

### Introductions

#### Attendees:

- **PAC Members:** Millie Haley, Jenny Hoyt, Dion Jordan, Morgan Spriggs, Sheryl Juber, LA Walker, Tod Pitstick, Itzel Megchun Cruz, Erica Cuesta (Not present: Derrell Wheeler, Jamar Summerfield, Daniel Smith, Patricia Kasper, Ignacio Castillejos, Elaha Alizada, Ashley Bubnick)
- **Parks Staff:** Ken Rumbaugh (NPAC Community Engagement Lead), Robin Johnson Craig (NPAC Project Manager), Payton Stang (PP&R Community Service Aide) and Anna Brown (PP&R Community Service Aide)
- **ELS Team:** Clarence Mamuyac, Dana Vollmer-Grant, Susan Vutz, Jessica Stanton, Beth Cantrell and Jeana Woolley

#### Review of PAC Roles and Group Agreements:

- Review of PAC roles and group agreements by Ken.
- The Group Agreements and “How We Define Success” documents are working documents that PAC members are welcome to review and add to as desired.

## Community Workshop and Survey #2 Summary Review

- Community Workshop #2 (CW2) was held January 24<sup>th</sup> at Charles Jordan Community Center. 120 community members attended and participated in small group discussions, about the siting and programming of the future Aquatic Center.
- When asked which three site should move forward in the process, the results of the table discussions and votes at CW2 were as follows:
  - Columbia Park: 8
  - Northgate Park: 8
  - University Park: 8
  - Columbia Park Annex: 6
  - St. Johns Park: 0
- The accompanying survey received nearly 1,100 responses. This was far and away the most robust response from community on any PP&R park site project since PP&R began using survey polling.
- [View the full Community Workshop #2 Summary](#)

## Community Workshop #3 Design Concepts Presentation

- Clarence Mamuyac of ELS Architecture, provided an overview of the design concepts for each of the three candidate sites.
  - [View the full NPAC PAC Design Preview Presentation](#)
  - All three sites are roughly one acre of building space (50,000 feet)
  - All three sites feature two pools (fun pool and fast/competition pool)
  - Current design concepts represent a 25 meter x 25 yard fast/competition pool with a dotted line to represent how a 50 meter pool would expand the footprint of the fast.competition pool and the parking needed
  - **Overall goals of all design concepts:**
    - Provide a state-of-the-art aquatic facility for North Portland

- Build a sustainable building: all design concepts include a green roof and solar panels
- Minimize the negative impacts of tree loss
- Maintain (or mitigate for) any open recreation and green space lost in the construction of the Aquatic Center
- Create a facility that is additive to the space and transformative to the neighborhood
- Provide a facility at one elevation to better ensure universal accessibility throughout the entire building
- Provide adequate parking. Each concept currently averages 55 parking spaces. This number was achieved through traffic and parking study that was completed
- Competition pool averages 7 feet in depth. Fun zero inches to 4 and a half to 5 feet

- **Candidate Site Highlights**

- **Columbia Park**

- Rich, forested park with many current amenities (playground, splashpad, walking paths, “Nature Patch”, green space, ballfields, sports fields.
    - Proposed site footprint would be located on N. Chautauqua, where the closed Columbia Indoor Pool is located
    - The entrance of a NPAC at Columbia Park would be a 4 minute walk (according to Google Maps) from the closest TriMet rapid transit bus line (#75) at N. Lombard St. and N. Chautauqua Blvd.

- **Northgate Park**

- Neighborhood park with well-used Rugby Pitch (adult and youth), playground, restroom, walking paths, green space, 20 existing parking spots

- Proposed site footprint would be located on N. Fessenden. The slope of the site has been mitigated for in the design to provide a facility that is on one level. A 2% grade ramp is required at the west (entry) end to make this possible
  - The entrance of a NPAC at Northgate Park would be less than a 1 minute walk (according to Google Maps) from the closest TriMet rapid transit bus line (#4) in both directions at N. Fessenden St.
  - The 2009 sink hole that had been flagged earlier in the process is well outside the footprint of the proposed building (it was in the center of the current rugby pitch)
- **University Park**
    - Neighborhood park adjacent Charles Jordan Community Center (CJCC) with a heavily used, lighted softball field (little league and adult)
    - The entrance of a NPAC at University Park would be less than a 1 minute walk (according to Google Maps) from the closest TriMet rapid transit bus line (#4) in both directions at N. Alaska St.
    - The proposed NPAC facility at University Park would NOT be joined to CJCC. Doing so would require additional time, a longterm closure of the CJCC facility, and up to \$10-\$15 million in additional funds to meet the upgrades that would be required to seismically retrofit CJCC.

### **PAC Questions, Comments, and Feedback:**

- Dion extended kudos to the project team on a robust community engagement effort that has resulted in the ability for a diverse community of North Portlanders, who have not historically been at the table for these types of City of Portland planning decisions and discussions, to play a key role in this process
- Morgan asked about the inclusion of solar panels on the roof-tops of each proposed concept. - Solar panels and green roof materials are a design component of all concepts.

- Itzel expressed concern about the 2009 sink hole at Northgate Park. - It was repaired in 2009 and is well outside the footprint of the proposed building footprint at the park.
- Millie and Jenny: applauded the work the project team has done to ensure a Northgate Park site would be 100% universally accessible on one level
- Sheryl expressed caution in relying upon any “parking share” partnerships with outside agencies. Both Northgate Park and University Park have the potential of a parking share agreement with near-by organizations (schools and churches), but in her 25+ years of experience with PPS, these agreements can be unpredictable at times
- LA, Tod, and Erica provided positive feedback on all three design concepts and expressed thanks to the project team for a job well done

### **Next Steps:**

- **NPAC Community Workshop #3 on Thursday, April 27 5:30pm-7:30pm** at Cesar Chavez School. Our primary questions for community will be:
  - Which park is your MOST PREFERRED location of the North Portland Aquatic Center?
  - What are the top two reasons why you chose this park?
  - Community members will have an opportunity to talk to neighbors, in small group discussions, about each of sites in relation to the criteria that has been established in our year-long community engagement process thus far.
  - We will conduct a live poll at end of the evening.
- **NPAC Focus Groups will continue (virtually) the week of May 1-5, 2023**
  - Jeana Woolley and Jessica Stanton are leading the NPAC Focus Group efforts. Jeana and Jessica are convening affinity groups for in depth conversation that will mirror the conversations had at the Community yWorkshop #3 event. If you have

questions, or know a community member who would like to be involved in these focus groups, please contact Jeana and Jessica (

- **A final site recommendation from the NPAC PAC - Due Thursday, May 11, 2023**

- The PP&R NPAC project team will be asking the NPAC PAC to submit a formal recommendation memo, to Director Adena Long and Commissioner Dan Ryan, for a final site to be chosen for the North Portland Aquatic Center.
- This recommendation memo will be due to Ken Rumbaugh on Thursday, May 11, 2023.
- This recommendation memo format will mirror [the February 14, 2023 memo](#) that was written by PAC member Derrell Wheeler and then reviewed and added to by all PAC members prior to submission to the Director and Commissioner.
- Ken Rumbaugh is asking for up to THREE NPAC PAC members to self-identify if they would like to be involved in the crafting of the recommendation memo. If you would like to be involved in that process, please contact Ken Rumbaugh at 971-269-9042 or [ken.rumbaugh@portland.oregon.gov](mailto:ken.rumbaugh@portland.oregon.gov)