



EVENT: “Party in the Park” (Mill and Midland Park Public Meeting #1)

DATE: June 9, 2016

TIME: 4-7 PM

LOCATION: Mill Park

1. Public Meeting Outreach

Outreach for this event primarily consisted of canvassing the surrounding neighborhoods around Mill and Midland Parks (making direct contact with residents) to inform them of the upcoming “Party in the Park” for Mill and Midland Parks. Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) focused on community members who were most geographically impacted by the park plans (i.e., the residences located adjacent to the parks).

On May 23, 2016, the PP&R team canvassed the Mill Park neighborhood. The team informed neighbors about the park plan, distributed bilingual flyers that detailed the “Party in the Park” on June 9, 2016 (Public Meeting #1), sought feedback regarding the park plan, noted languages spoken in the home, and obtained the neighbors’ contact information so that PP&R could continue to stay in touch regarding the project.

On May 25, 2016, the PP&R team canvassed the Midland Park neighborhood. In addition to bilingual flyers, the team also distributed City of Portland “One Point of Contact Campsite Reporting System” and PP&R “Summer Free for All” brochures. Several days before the Party, Community Engagement Liaisons (CELs) revisited the homes with residents who spoke Spanish, Vietnamese, and English to remind the neighbors of the event. PP&R disseminated a total of approximately three hundred flyers during the two canvassing efforts.

2. Public Meeting Overview

On June 9, 2016, PP&R held the “Party in the Park” at Mill Park, adjacent to Mill Park Elementary School. The Party included food, activities for children, games and recreation equipment, a park planning exercise, and a comment form. CELs who spoke English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese assisted attendees as needed. The Party was accessible for those with disabilities. Approximately one hundred adults, youth, and seniors attended the “Party in the Park”.

The first goal of the Party was the creation of relationships and trust with the community. PP&R accomplished the first goal by providing an accessible, fun, family-friendly event in the community’s neighborhood.

The second goal of the Party was the recognition of the neighbors’ opinions and needs regarding their future parks. PP&R accomplished the second goal by asking attendees to participate in a park planning activity. Because many non-English speakers were present at the Party, PP&R’s park planning activity communicated using images and graphics rather than language and text.





During the park planning activity, PP&R first asked attendees whether they were Mill Park or Midland Park neighbors. PP&R asked attendees to review boards that presented images of potential park features (e.g., playground, walking path, water feature) at either Mill Park or Midland Park. PP&R gave each participant five stickers (“sticky dots”), and asked them to place their dots on the images that represented a type of feature that they would like to see in their future park. Participants were permitted to place their dots any way that they wished (e.g., on one or both Mill Park and Midland Park boards, more than one sticker per image). Through this activity, the community had an opportunity to voice their opinions for the future of these parks.

PP&R also provided comment forms (available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese) to those participants who wished to provide additional comments. PP&R collected a total of 36 completed comment forms.

