

Operations & Maintenance Facility and Neighborhood Park
Community Meeting | Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Executive Summary

At the direction of the City Council, staff hosted a Community Meeting at Tumwater City Hall on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, to update the community on planning for the new Operations & Maintenance Facility and Neighborhood Park. The Community Meeting was structured into three separate one-hour sessions with attendees 25 per session.

To meet the Council's objective of reengaging the surrounding neighborhood to provide updated information and then gather informed feedback, the Community Meeting was a modified open house with three Information Stations: Facility Design, Neighborhood Park Design, and Traffic/Road Design. The Information Stations were staffed by a subject matter expert who shared key information using presentation boards and other visuals. Attendees were encouraged to ask questions and share their concerns. A recorder at each station captured broad themes, areas of concern shared by attendees, and follow-up items. The recorder also kept a count of attendees visiting their station each hour.

Attendees were also urged to fill out Feedback Forms before leaving the meeting.

Broad themes heard at the Traffic/Road Design Information Station:

- Project looks great!
- What is the timing?
- Questions about round-about/sidewalks
- Cherry trees should be saved/replanted
- How is the facility funded?
- Facility will negatively impact 2,400 people or 700 homes

Broad themes heard at the Neighborhood Park Design Station:

- Embrace the history of the site
- Amenities such as restrooms, shelters, benches, paths
- Opportunities for active versus passive recreation
- Dogs yes/no

Broad themes heard at the Facility Design Station:

- Interest in how site was selected
- Facility operating hours
- Concern about traffic on 79th around the facility
- Concern about vehicles operating at the facility, idling of diesel
- Need for landscape buffer, sound wall
- Need to clean up the site from previous use as arena
- Need to secure the building, deal quickly with graffiti

Total attendance 69: 70 registered; 12 registrants did not attend; 10 attended without pre-registration

Visitors at Information Stations:

56 Facility Design
55 Neighborhood Park
35 Transportation Design

The meeting was publicized on the City website and social media channels Facebook and Nextdoor, and the HOA presidents were contacted by email. All residents in the adjacent neighborhoods received a postcard notification about the meeting with registration information. At the meeting start, 70 of the available 75 registrations were filled.