

From: Sarah Fletcher
To: lsarchin
Cc: Lloyd Gilman; Doris Cassan; Dan Thompson; Council; Parks & Rec Commission; Jessi Bon; Ryan Daly; Planning Commission; Ashley Hay; Ray Akers; aq1@cornell.edu; Ira Appelman; Matthew Goldbach; Elizabeth Buckley; Bob Harper; Carv Zwingle; Traci Granbois; Mike Cero; Gary Robinson; Dwight Schaeffer; Rob Dunbabin; Robin Russell; Susan Lund; Thomas Acker; Tom Acker; Gary Robinson; John Hall; Olivia Lippens; Dave Oberg; Robert Medved; Mark Coen; John; Barrels (Wine Bar); Morrene Jacobson; Joy Matsuura; Meg Lippert; Lou Glatz; Lori Robinson; Ryan Rahlf; Rebecca Wilson
Subject: Re: Parks Zone/February 8 Joint Planning Commission--Parks Commission Meeting.
Date: Friday, January 26, 2024 6:21:29 PM

Hello, I think I have figured out what is going on and I am sorry, but you have Jessi and staff who are Trojan horses. The Parks Commission were tasked with creating a Parks' zone, they were not asked to come up with uses in the parks, just zoning.
So, when I see that there are lists to allow government buildings, underground parking, wireless communities, 35ft tall buildings etc., those are "uses", no-one asked them to look at park uses, just zoning so please just redo it and just concentrate on the zoning only.
And had Ira not spoken up about the thrift shop not being in the Park Zone, you do realize that would have passed. I think what is happening is that Jessi is being told by staff that they are going to have to replace this, replace that as the standard thing staff tell her is that this has reached the end of its useful life and will need to be replaced. We are not interested in what needs to be replaced or anything or what can go in the parks, what can't, all we are just interested in making sure that the parks and open space zoning are documented and the maps reflect the Parks' zoning. That's it. Down the road, we can look at individual requests, such as should the City want to put a building in Mercerdale Park for government or otherwise, that will be discussed at the time, not now. And one City person said a building could be allowed and then another city person said it couldn't. That doesn't give me confidence.
So, please just go back to the beginning, ignore uses, and just concentrate on parks' zoning. This is a big enough task in itself. And please reinstate the Aubrey Davis Park and Greta Hatchett park which somehow got obliterated. The zoning could be broken up into WSDOT-related zoning, City-owned parks, parks at ends of streets, or whatever, etc.

Sarah

On Fri, Jan 26, 2024 at 10:11 AM lsarchin <lsarchin@aol.com> wrote:

Well Lloyd, Griffith Park is 4,210 acres or 6.57 square miles, which is a little more than the ENTIRE area of the Island at 6.38 square miles. So they have room for a zoo and observatory. We don't.

Larry Sarchin

----- Original message -----

From: Biz Gilman <bizlloyd@gmail.com>

Date: 1/25/24 7:23 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: Doris Cassan <dc@dollarseattle.com>

Cc: LG <bizlloyd@gmail.com>, Thompson & Delay <danielthompson@hotmail.com>, council@mercergov.org, Parks & Rec Commission <ParksAndRec.Commission@mercergov.org>, jessi.bon@mercergov.org, Ryan Daly <Ryan.Daly@mercergov.org>, planning.commission@mercerisland.gov, ashley.hay@mercerisland.gov, Ray Akers <ray@akerscargill.com>, "aq1@cornell.edu" <aq1@comcast.net>, appelman <appelman@bmi.net>, Matthew Goldbach <blkship@yahoo.com>, Elizabeth Buckley <mezzo@elizabethbuckley.com>, Bob Harper <robert.harper@comcast.net>, Carv Zwingle <carvz@yahoo.com>, Traci Granbois <traci.granbois@gmail.com>, Sarah Fletcher <fletcher1@gmail.com>, Mike Cero <mscero@comcast.net>, Gary Robinson <docrobinson@comcast.net>, Dwight Schaeffer <drschaeffer@comcast.net>, Rob Dunbabin <rob@cascadeyarns.com>, scubarobin@msn.com, Susan Lund < srlund@aol.com>, Thomas Acker <tomacker1@comcast.net>, Tom Acker <gngundr@comcast.net>, Gary Robinson <gdrobinsong@gmail.com>, John Hall <johnhall@jmhcorp.net>, Olivia Lippens <olivia@lippens.com>, oberged@comcast.net, "Robert A. Medved" <robertamedved@msn.com>, Mark Coen <mscnb@msn.com>, John <john@larsen.net>, "Barrels (Wine Bar)" <jkennedy59@me.com>, Morrene Jacobson <morrene2000@gmail.com>, Joy Matsuura <jmatsu99@yahoo.com>, Larry Sarchin <lsarchin@aol.com>, Meg Lippert <meg.lippert@gmail.com>, Lou Glatz <louglatz@hotmail.com>, Lori Robinson <loreleirobinson@icloud.com>, Ryan Rahlf <ryanrahlf@gmail.com>, Rebecca Wilson <rebecca.wilson10@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Parks Zone/February 8 Joint Planning Commission--Parks Commission Meeting.

Doris, Just so we all know the treat, in Los Angeles there is a Griffith Park Observatory, a Griffith Park Merry go round, and a Griffith Park Zoo.

Lloyd Gilman

BiznLloyd@gmail.com

On Jan 25, 2024, at 2:39 PM, dc <dollarseattle.com> wrote:

This is so, so disappointing. Would the Parks Levy have passed if this type of conversations had been out in the open. I think not. I know I would have not done so. Thank you guys/gals for continuing to be are eyes and ears. Really appreciate it. dc

From: Dan Thompson <danielthompson@hotmail.com>

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 2:06 PM

To: council@mercergov.org <council@mercergov.org>

Cc: Parks & Rec Commission <ParksAndRec.Commission@mercergov.org>, jessi.bon@mercergov.org <jessi.bon@mercergov.org>, Ryan Daly <Ryan.Daly@mercergov.org>, planning.commission@mercerisland.gov <planning.commission@mercerisland.gov>, ashley.hay@mercerisland.gov <ashley.hay@mercerisland.gov>, Ray Akers <ray@akerscargill.com>, aq1@cornell.edu <aq1@comcast.net>, Ira Appelman <appelman@bmi.net>, Matthew Goldbach <blkship@yahoo.com>, Lloyd Gilman <bizlloyd@gmail.com>, Buckley Elizabeth <mezzo@elizabethbuckley.com>, Bob Harper <robert.harper@comcast.net>, Carv Zwingle <carvz@yahoo.com>, Traci Granbois <traci.granbois@gmail.com>, fletcher1@gmail.com <fletcher1@gmail.com>, Mike Cero <mscero@comcast.net>, docrobinson@comcast.net <docrobinson@comcast.net>, dc <dollarseattle.com>, Dwight Schaeffer <drschaeffer@comcast.net>, Rob Dunbabin <rob@cascadeyarns.com>, Robin Russell <scubarobin@msn.com>, Susan Lund < srlund@aol.com>, Thomas Acker <tomacker1@comcast.net>, Tom Acker <gngundr@comcast.net>, Gary Robinson <gdrobinsong@gmail.com>, John Hall <johnhall@jmhcorp.net>, Olivia Lippens <olivia@lippens.com>, oberged@comcast.net <oberged@comcast.net>, Robert A. Medved <robertamedved@msn.com>, Mark Coen <mscnb@msn.com>, John <john@larsen.net>, jkennedy59@me.com <jkennedy59@me.com>, Morrene Jacobson <morrene2000@gmail.com>, Joy Matsuura <jmatsu99@yahoo.com>, lsarchin@aol.com <lsarchin@aol.com>, Meg Lippert <meg.lippert@gmail.com>, Lou Glatz <louglatz@hotmail.com>, Lori Robinson <loreleirobinson@icloud.com>, Ryan Rahlf <ryanrahlf@gmail.com>, Rebecca Wilson <rebecca.wilson10@gmail.com>

Subject: Parks Zone/February 8 Joint Planning Commission--Parks Commission Meeting.

Hello, I watched the parks commission and planning commission meetings on the new parks zone. I think the planning commission is not well suited to this issue. I and others complained about the short notice the parks commission was given to review the draft zone. **Thank you to Mayor Nice for scheduling a joint parks-planning commission meeting on Feb. 8 that should be in person. The parks commission should really be driving this debate. This is NOT a development debate. It is how to prohibit as much as possible development in our parks.**

I have tried to copy some of the citizens who have worked so hard over the last 15 years to protect and preserve our parks.

For many years I have told councils and city managers that parks should always be a win. When parks are not a "win" it gets ugly. Probably the smartest thing Jessi did after the acrimonious Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan process was to form the parks commission. The parks commission gets it: they represent the parks, and the citizens, and not the city or council.

Here are the basic issues for the joint meeting:

1. Which parks are placed into the parks zone. IMO if it has "park" in the name it needs to go into the zone or this process will look phony, and any park not included will create suspicion the council plans to develop that "park".
2. The USES allowed should be the same as today: only park-related development or uses are allowed, and to many extents the PROS plan reflects this. Ideally, we can move YFS to a new city hall, or allow a conditional use permit for existing non-park related uses. We do it all the time. Instead the city is trying to tailor the regulatory limits and uses in the zone to accommodate a few non-conforming conditional uses.
3. The regulatory limits must reflect the surrounding zone unless they are less in the new parks zone. Nearly every park sits in the residential zone. The mistake Ryan and the city make is requesting greater a regulatory limit for height (35') when the height limit is 30' under the RDS, and not understanding there are regulatory limits for GFAR, yard setbacks, impervious surface limits, and so on for any limit.
4. NO NEW NET IMPERVIOUS SURFACE LIMITS. This has been a central tenant at the parks commission and is the most important factor that serves as a safeguard for all the other factors, as even the CPD recognizes. The problem is the planning doesn't understand this, the decades long history of this concept, and how central this issue was to the PROS plan that the planning commission members never participated in.
5. THERE MUST BE A HEIGHTENED STANDARD FOR THE COUNCIL TO CHANGE THE USE OR ZONING OF ANY PARK IN THE ZONE. The whole motivation of a parks zone is due to past

councils trying to change the zoning or use of our parks (including this council). If we create a parks zone but allow this or a future council to rezone our parks simply based on a majority vote we haven't protected any park by this zone. It will be a Trojan Horse. This is why some citizens wanted a municipal trust for our parks. My suggestion is a VOTE OF THE CITIZENS is required before the use or zoning of a park in the zone is changed.

If I could only get numbers 4 and 5 it would be a great start This parks zone was promised to be in good faith and legitimate during the campaign to renew the parks levy and increase it, and the city and council need to be honest and act in good faith during this process.

Let the parks commission lead.

Thank you.

Daniel Thompson

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