

Shareholders 2017 Feedback/Comments

Comment Cards

Three comment cards were received from attendees, the contents of which are shown below, along with post-event responses prepared by Green Seattle Partnership (GSP) staff.

1. Shouldn't the 2500 acre message be (?) to include acres which weren't forest in 2005. For instance (?) at Discovery on plans (?) VMPs allowed conversion of invasive thickets to forest? Or other habitat types – seems this is a bit misleading if people think new acres were not among the original 2500. Seems like it should be around 2600 or more acres. Include explanation that it is originally 2500 and those that weren't in at the start.

Response: Parts of this comment are illegible, but understanding the gist of it, the answer is that the Plan Update does include language to explain that the acreage number continues to evolve as new acres are added and some acres are determined not to make sense for forest restoration. GSP staff will routinely evaluate the current acres to be involved in the program, and update our analyses, mapping and work plans to reflect the results of that evaluation.

2. Great work! Thank you. For the strategic plan and executive summary documents, consider including mention of the audience for these docs, or your intent in creating them.

Response: Discussions throughout the preparation of the Plan Update included the topic of the audience(s) for the document. The current status of that question is that it was decided not to specifically call out the audience in the text of the document. The purpose of the Plan Update is stated in the Introduction of the document.

3. From Magnuson Park: There was a long planning process to remove willows in Native Plant Border along the roadway. The willows were all cut down. But then Parks did not follow through with Natural Crews or hired group to do restoration replanting. Now the work to rehab/replant this cut area is left to volunteers. This is frustrating and misleading by parks...can you please reconsider and have a crew or crews come and plant new plantings in the Native Plant Border in Magnuson Park.

Are you aware of the non-profit group here in Seattle called Earth Ministry. Environment=congregations. They do great work and consider connecting with them.

Response: Regarding the comments on willow cutting, GSP has since conducted a site visit with this commenter (who is a Forest Steward). The site visit included discussion of the work along the edge of the GSP zone labeled "Native Plant Border", including the willow cutting that was directed by another group within Seattle Parks and Recreation (landscape crews). GSP has been working with Magnuson Park Forest Steward Tom Kelly as well as professional crews on restoration work needed in this area, and will continue to do so. Regarding the comment on the Earth Ministry group, GSP will keep that in mind as a potential partner and engage in the future as appropriate.

Panel Questions/Comments

The event included a session with a panel made up of representatives for each of the three Plan Update focus areas and a facilitated discussion. Below are the questions and comments submitted from the attendees to the panel.

1. What are the phases of restoration? (Peter W.)
2. 2020 is right around the corner. What can we do to advocate for the necessary continued Park District funding?
3. Public grant funding neighborhood matching fund/community building (Carol)
4. Continuing funding – financial incentive to keep it going; show leverage funding; \$2.1M in volunteer time in 2016 (Peggy)
5. Current thinking on gap creation? (Lex)
6. Seed rain opportunity to engage with neighbors to start the dialogue (Steve)
7. Pull back on trail system. Cooperation between departments on trail projects (Barbara)

Additional Note

A question was posed after the State of the Partnership presentation as to the status of the “Natural Area Use Guidelines”. The person posing the question was not sure of the title of the document and staff present were unable to answer the question, but committed to working on finding the answer after the event. This follow-up has since occurred.