

October 2008

Fisher-Mill Plain Neighborhood Park Frequently Asked Questions

When will construction start?

Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2012. Construction may begin sooner if additional funding becomes available through a future property sale or other sources.

How much will it cost?

The total estimated project cost, including planning, design, permitting and construction is approximately \$700,000.

How is this project being paid for?

Funding to design and construct new parks comes from:

- Park impact fees, which are paid whenever new homes are built
- Real estate excise taxes, which are paid whenever property is sold

Maintenance will be paid for with property taxes collected by the Greater Clark Parks District (www.clarkparks.org), which was approved by voters in the unincorporated urban area of Clark County in 2005.

Why can't construction start sooner?

Park impact fees and real estate excise taxes are linked directly to the local housing market. The housing market has slowed down. As a result, we have less funding available to design and build new parks.

Why can't the county develop the full eight acres?

Typical neighborhood parks are 3-5 acres. At eight acres, Fisher-Mill Plain Neighborhood Park is too large for the county to develop with existing funding. Staff is developing a concept plan for a five-acre park. Clark County may sell the remaining three acres to help fund the parks program in the future if market conditions become more favorable.

What will happen to the southern three acres if it isn't sold?

It will remain undeveloped and open to the public, as it is now. It will be rough mowed several times a year.

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Who will maintain the park after it's built?

Clark County Public Works is responsible for maintaining the park. Regular maintenance will include mowing, weed removal, tree and plant care, garbage pick up, and repairs as needed.

What happens when this area is annexed by the City of Vancouver?

Ownership of the park will transfer from the county to the city. However, through an agreement between the city and the county, Clark County would continue to manage the development plans. After construction is complete, the county may also transfer maintenance responsibility to the city.

The property tax collected by the Greater Clark Parks District for long-term maintenance of the park will continue to be collected after annexation. If the county decides to transfer its maintenance responsibility for the park to the city, the money for maintenance would also be transferred to the city. For more information about the Greater Clark Parks District, please visit the Web page at: www.clarkparks.org.

Can I install a gate from my yard into the park?

Neighbors who share a property line with the park may pay to have a gate installed in the park's chain link fence *after construction is completed*. Interested neighbors should contact Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation to request a gate agreement. For more information, call Brian Potter at (360) 619-1123.

Why is the park called "Fisher-Mill Plain"? Can the name be changed?

This is a placeholder name the county uses to identify the property. It was chosen because the park is located inside the Fisher-Mill Plain Neighborhood Association boundaries.

The name may be changed if neighbors desire. Opportunities to suggest and vote on a new name for the park will be provided during the park design process.

How can I get more information about this project?

Please visit the project Web page at www.clarkparks.org/projects/fisher.htm/

Or contact:

Troy Pierce, Project Manager

Clark County Public Works

Phone: 360-397-6118 x. 4403

E-mail: Troy.Pierce@clark.wa.gov