



# MURASE ASSOCIATES

## Public Workshop 1 Summary

Public Workshop 1, December 14, 2004  
7 pm at York Elementary School

### I. Introduction

- Project Overview Jim Sandlin / VCPRD
  - Provided an overview including brief project history, parks needs assessment, and assembling the consultant team.

### II. Site Analysis

Dan Jenkins / Murase

- Provided an overview of physical site information collected to date
- Regional / Local Context
- Natural Resources
- Infrastructure / Traffic / Parking
- Character / Views
- Audience Additions and Comments
  - Audience was encouraged to add and correct information provided by the consultant team.

#### - Summary Notes

- Closest bike path is at 152<sup>nd</sup> and Padden Pkwy; consider safer circulation routes
- Site is outside of UGB; does this raise questions for utilities and parking
- Site has no connection to sanitary; consider implications of septic and wetlands
- Nehalem Homeowners Association is concerned about security and their own wetland area
- Equestrians are currently free to use the site; largely consist of adjacent neighbors
- Night lighting is a concern; enough for safety, not too much for wildlife and neighbors
- Flooding is a concern; consider septic and wells
- New housing is being developed south of the housing that is adjacent to the southwest corner of the site. Concern with people cutting through the existing housing to reach the park.
- Horse trails are present in the south and middle of the site; consider continuing use
- Ponding water occurs in the southern portion of the site during heavy rains and is connected to the Nehalem HOA wetland. Properties off site to the south experience flooding in heavy rains.

### III. Project Goals

Melinda Graham / Murase

- Review Consultant Ideas
  - Discussed the meaning of Community Park and prompted developing over-riding goals to guide the project.



- Audience Additions and Comments
  - Audience was encouraged to generate and discuss community goals for the park.
- Summary Notes
  - Plan the park to be safe and secure.
  - Plan the park to meet the needs of people of all ages and physical abilities.
  - Plan the park to maximize preservation of existing trees and habitat – enhance habitat.
  - Plan the park to have minimum negative impact on existing neighbors – access, lights, vandalism, noise, safety, visual access.
  - Plan the park to be open day and night; all seasons.
  - Plan the park to provide clear separation between public and private property.
  - Plan the park with appropriate placement of uses and clear access points related to uses.
  - Plan the park to be economically responsible – long term maintenance, minimize economic impact.
  - Plan the park to meet future needs.
  - Plan the park to take advantage of the wetlands.
  - Plan the park to provide clear connectivity and access within the site.

#### **IV. Program Elements**

Melinda Graham / Murase

- Review Consultant Ideas
  - Discussed possible park elements that could be included to further the overall goals of the project.
- Audience Additions and Comments
  - Audience was encouraged to generate and discuss specific park elements for the park.
- Summary Notes
  - Ball Fields - adult softball, little league, soccer
  - Trails - walking, dogs, equestrian, bike (3 mile perimeter)
  - Playgrounds – blend in with environment, maintainable, timeless
  - Natural Habitat Areas – interpretative areas, overlooks, nesting
  - Picnic shelters
  - Group gathering spaces – outdoor classroom/amphitheater, fire place
  - Views – overlooks, open expanses

#### **V. Challenges and Opportunities**

Melinda Graham / Murase

- Review Consultant Ideas
  - Discussed possible challenges and opportunities inherent in a project of this size and nature.
- Audience Additions and Comments
  - Audience was encouraged to generate and discuss specific challenges and opportunities.



- Summary Notes

*Challenges*

- Light pollution for wildlife, night skies, surrounding neighbors
- Economic concerns – how will it be financed
- Additional uses not currently accommodated – off leash dog areas, etc.
- Maintain clear boundaries/buffers with adjacent uses
- Groundwater pollution – from septic, parking areas
- Access – control for security and impacts from traffic
- Parking availability – meet needs of all uses

*Opportunities*

- Organized sports bring in funding
- Ability to meet community sport field needs with this site
- Place to preserve a piece of rural life
- Serve as a mixed use model for parks
- Opportunity to tap into volunteer and non-profit groups
- Opportunity to meet the needs of community children
- Provide habitat for water fowl

**VI. Summary**

Melinda Graham / Murase

- Where We Go from Here
  - Review of how this meeting relates to the overall master planning process.
  - Discussion of the current project phase – data gathering, assessing site constraints.
  - Overview of the next phase – consider multiple layers of data to generate park options.
  - Schedule: Second Public Open House event to be held at the end of January. Final plan and presentation anticipated in late February.
  - Thanks to all participants for their time and valuable input!
- Mingle, take a look at the image boards, leave comments
- No summary notes

**Other**

- Public input handed in on comment sheets and provided via email will be summarized and distributed the first full week of January.