



Fort Ward Neighborhood Meeting, July 19, 2011

The following are notes from our community meeting when neighbors and members of the public were asked to provide impressions and suggestions drawn from their collective experience living near Fort Ward. The purpose of this event was to “get to know you” and for local neighbors to have the opportunity to give us their input. Thank you to all of those residents who took time out from their busy schedules to attend the event and provided input.

The District invited the surrounding property owners drawn from the existing parcel list as well as provided notice on our website, www.biparks.org. This outreach effort is being done at this time to provide staff guidance as part of our stewardship for Fort Ward. This park, along with Fay Bainbridge, was earlier this year transferred to the District from the State of Washington. To add recollections or ideas email, perry@biparks.org. Thank you.

Comments:

Trail work /condition is good (BIMPRD efforts to date)

Horses are typically seen at the top portion of the site and the Parade Grounds.

Post Trail maps on both kiosks.

One suggestion: add parking at the south end to relieve boat landing pressure; add separate approach for kayaks.

Add signage at the boat launch. Some boat lengths may not be practically accessible (no Queen Mary). Maintain what we have without adding to the cost.

Paved trail is in bad shape/pave or gravel?

Buoys: are we going to continue to maintain them?

Better shore access for beach and other park users.

Does BIMPRD own the Parade Grounds (not currently owned by BIMPRD, however, this property is subject to a resolution to transfer, along with other COBI park properties, as of July 20, 2011).

Two wells on property?

More and accurate historical signage (one change and accurately detailing the length of WWI, as well as a reference to the Spanish American War related to Fort Ward), information on the gun emplacements/ “bring back the guns”.

Walking tours and similar applications of Fort Ward.

Misinformation on the Vinton emplacement.

Emplacements could be cleaned-up.

Incorporate the historical information collected on Fort Ward and make it available on-site, Historical Society and websites.

Mowing at the upper portion of Fort Ward along Fort Ward Av. Is noted (residents note the change in maintenance of the park and impacts to the residents immediately across the street, "we have different standards.")

"By keeping a mowed field it could be dangerous" (Impact of traffic, park user and pedestrian interface).

Traffic vs. the number of people and children that walk Fort Ward neighborhoods. or wait for school buses along Fort Ward Av.

Speed limit is too high; people do not follow the speed limit, particularly to and from the fish farm, construction crews, and some neighbors.

Since mowing I haven't seen the pheasants.

Speed bumps / humps on Pleasant Beach Road.

Restore the tennis courts... there use to be two, another at Evergreen.

Have a playground in the mowed area.

Install benches along walkways/ return the two benches at the shore.

Better or more mutt mitt bags ... recyclable?

Repairing fences / are we?

Horses or no horses?

Leave an area unmowed along the beach.

First impressions that come to people's minds when they first think 'Fort Ward' is 50/50 split shoreline as opposed to the upper forested / trail area (show of hands).

Thank you for all who attended our community meeting!