

PARKS TASK FORCE (PTF) MEETING NOTES

April 30, 2024 | 6-8 PM | Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

City of Gresham: Tina Osterink & Carrie Pak (Interim P&R Manager)

MIG: Matt Hastie & Tiffany White-LaPierre

PTF: Claire Lidar, John Hartsock, Stella Butler, Natalie Mitchell, Sue Ruonala, Christian Burgess, Catherine Nicewood, Kayla Viramontes, Ed Chin, Sheena Raab

Community Members: Carol Rulla, Janet Unruh, Cathy Keathley, Jim Buck, Anthony (Rockwood Community Rep – no last name provided)

Agenda	Notes/Actions
Introduction	This Meeting began with introductions kicked-off by Tina Nunez-Osterink, MIG staff (Matt Hastie & Tiffany White-LaPierre), and Parks Task Force Members.
Presentation and Agenda Review	<p>After introductions, Matt shared the meeting presentation and let the attendees know that there would be pauses throughout the presentation for questions or clarification. Matt then reviewed the meeting purpose and agenda. Matt advised anyone not on the PTF to hold questions until the end to allow for PTF members to have enough time to share their thoughts first.</p> <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send the meeting materials to PTF (PPT, Agenda, Notes, Maps)
PTF Role Overview	Matt reviewed the intended role of the PTF and outlined expectations and what they can expect along the way.

	<p>PTF Meeting Schedule – Matt shared that we intend to meet with the committee four (4) times throughout the process (once in each phase of the project).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second meeting will discuss the LOS Analysis and Needs Assessment (August/September 2024), • The third meeting (anticipated in November 2024) will cover System-wide Goals and Policies and recommended improvements. • The fourth/last meeting will be around January 2025 and will focus on the Draft Gresham Parks 2035 Plan.
Community Engagement Goals	<p>Community Engagement Goals – these include building on previous work; uplifting historically excluded or underserved groups; ensuring we work with other CBOs and networks and leverage them, making the process accessible to anyone who wants to be involved; ensuring accountability by letting people know what we have heard and how we will or have used that information; building long-term capacity for engagement; setting realistic expectations that take into account the City does not have unlimited resources and will need to prioritize that can be done; and improving community understanding of the planning process.</p>
Project Timeline & Milestones	<p>Project Timeline & Milestones – coming up on completion of the review stage, Matt explained that we have updated the City’s park system inventory, and started to review conditions. The next stage is the analysis phase, then drafting strategies which will highlight goals and objectives as a whole and the strategies the City will take to address them, and the final stage is the completion of the Final Plan. We will be meeting with this group at each stage of the project. We will also be doing some targeted, on-site engagement and pop-up activities to ensure we hear from a variety of people along the way.</p> <p>The City will be using the Engage Gresham website for engagement. Tina explained that this website is the same where info for the Levy is housed for those who may be familiar with that project.</p>

Project Building Blocks	<p>Project Building Blocks – we are not starting from scratch. We are building upon work already completed since the 2009 Parks System Plan. Building blocks include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core vales and Strategies identified by PRCAG • 2009 Parks System Plan and other planning policies and efforts • Trust for Public Land (TPL) Financial Analysis • Concept Plans for Undeveloped sites by Juncus Studio • Existing inventory info and GIS data • Relationships with community groups and partners • Capital improvement projects
Status Report & Review: Completed Tasks	<p>Status Report & Review: Completed Tasks – Consulting team has conducted a review of background materials, toured selected facilities, developed the community engagement plan, and established project branding for consistency with the project as it moves along.</p>
Status Report & Review: In Progress	<p>Status Report & Review: In Progress – The following are currently underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Baseline Funding Analysis • Summary of Existing Programs • Operations and maintenance analysis • ADA Accessibility site visits and evaluations (which feed into other ADA planning within the city) • Targeted engagement meetings (Spanish/Russian/Ukrainian language focus groups) <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send updates on the in-progress reports to PTF and make them available on the project Webpage as they are completed.
System Evaluation: Demographics	<p>System Evaluation: Demographics –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gresham has an aging population

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% of the population is under 20 years of age • Gresham has a high percentage of Latino residents and immigrants. • Anticipated to have a relatively slow rate of growth, adding about 9,000 residents in the next 30 years (based on US Census data and projections from the Portland State University Population Research Center) <p>Later in the meeting a PTF member questioned whether this number took into account the middle-housing activities and the addition of multi-family homes in the community.</p>
<p>System Evaluation: Facilities Map</p>	<p>System Evaluation: Facilities Map – MIG stated that they have been doing work to re-categorize the current system which shows the different types of parks.</p> <p>MIG called out that areas of the map where hatching patterns are indicate that area/site has been identified for future use/development within the next 15 years (the lifespan of this plan).</p> <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send GIS facilities map to PTF • Double-check number of community gardens at City facilities
<p>System Evaluation: Parkland Inventory</p>	<p>System Evaluation: Parkland Inventory – Matt described the characteristics of the different park categories as he went through the Park Classification table. Matt called out the Non-City Owned or Managed facilities letting the PFT know that there are some sites that Gresham does not have responsibility over but has agreements to be able to use them as public spaces.</p> <p>Parkland Inventory Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Parks • Neighborhood Parks • Special Use Areas • Trails & Paths • Nature Parks • Non-City Owned or Managed Facilities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Space and Conservation Areas <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send Inventory Spreadsheet to PTF
System Evaluation: Facilities Condition	<p>System Evaluation: Facilities Condition – MIG shared that the parks and facilities visited by the consultant team are in fair to good condition.</p> <p>The following were mentioned as highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are some maintenance challenges throughout the system • Gresham has a significant amount of undeveloped parkland • The system has ADA accessibility challenges throughout • The focus of planning efforts is to ensure before anything else is built that the City can maintain what it already has
System Evaluation: Programming & Partnerships	<p>System Evaluation: Programming & Partnerships – Not a lot of City-run programs, but there are a lot of programs and events happening in the parks run by individuals and other Community Based Organizations. The City does a great job of leveraging other community resources towards this end.</p> <p>There are a number of partner-owned facilities adjacent to parks and they program activities and events in the parks.</p>
System Evaluation: Funding	<p>System Evaluation: Funding – Funding constraints exist for current and future development and maintenance.</p> <p>Expenditures have continued to increase, but despite constraints the City has done well with obtaining grants to fund projects</p>
Discussion Questions	<p>Discussion Questions – Matt informed the group that we would be moving into the discussion segment of the meeting and provided directions on how we anticipated the flow of that segment going.</p>

	<p>MIG shared an online collaboration tool, Mural, to collect feedback from the discussion questions. Tina was asked to call upon each PTF member to answer each question. PTF members were instructed to use the chat function if they wanted to add additional information.</p> <p>Community members/visitors were asked to share any feedback they had at the end of the meeting after all PTF members had a chance to share.</p> <p>The discussion questions asked were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you like or value most about Gresham’s Park System? 2. Which facilities do you visit most often? 3. Are there specific geographic areas or populations that are currently underserved by park and recreation facilities or services? 4. Are there specific types of facilities or amenities that you think are lacking overall or in specific areas? 5. What are your overarching goals for enhancing the park system? 6. Recognizing that the City may not be able to address all needs with available resources, what are your top funding priorities? 7. Who do you consider to be some of the most important partners in helping deliver recreation programs and activities in Gresham? <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share Mural boards and meeting notes with the group
Next Steps	<p>Next Steps – MIG covered the next steps in the planning process which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Targeted Engagement Meetings (May) ○ Online Community Survey (Summer) ○ Pop-up in Parks (Summer) • Technical Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operations & Maintenance Assessment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Level of Service (LOS) Analysis and Equity Mapping ○ Systemwide Goals & Policies ○ Park and Facility Recommendations ● Next PFT Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ August/September 2024 – will cover the Needs Assessment and Level of Service Analysis
Closing	<p>Closing – City staff and MIG thanked guests for attending the meeting and dismissed everyone.</p>



Image of Mural Board: Parks Task Force Meeting #1, April 30, 2024

Link to Mural:

<https://app.mural.co/t/greshamparksplan20409892/m/greshamparksplan20409892/1714424257822/cfaa2e5ee6d8013f356d215b572eaa45c31f51e2?sender=ub9a7f47ac294115201820185>

Mural Board Images



Image of Mural Board Question: What do you like or value most about Gresham's park system?

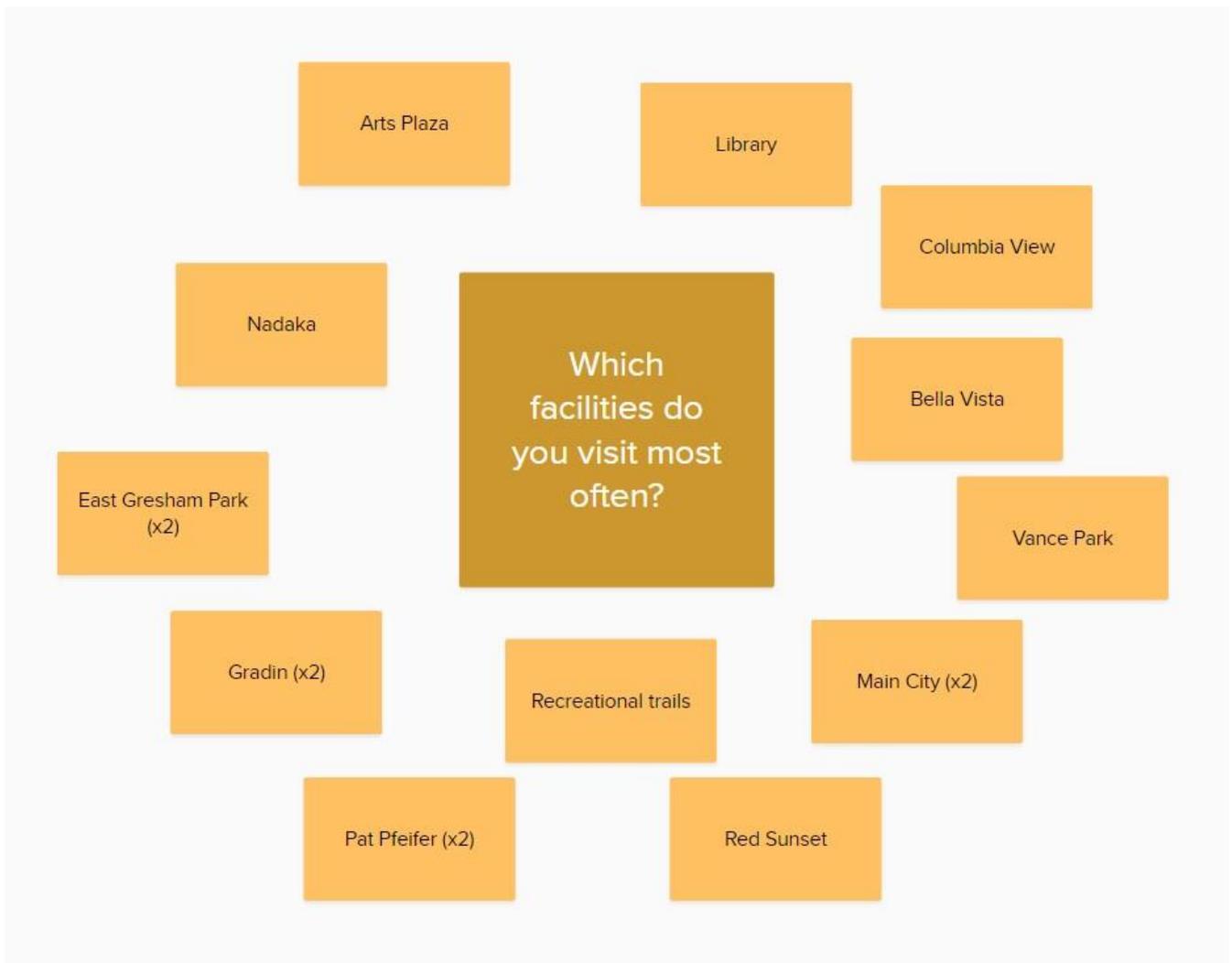


Image of Mural Board Question: Which facilities do you visit most?

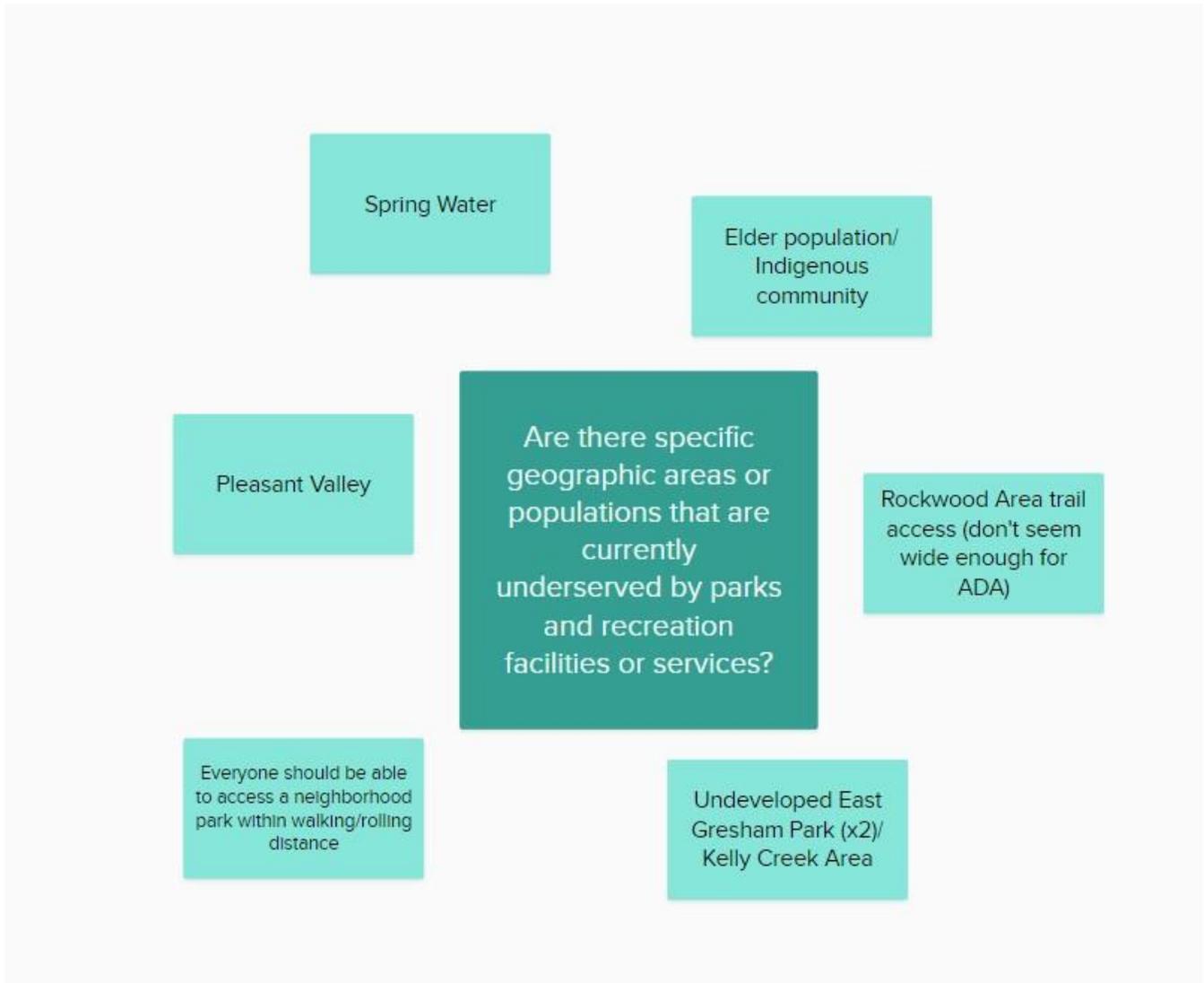


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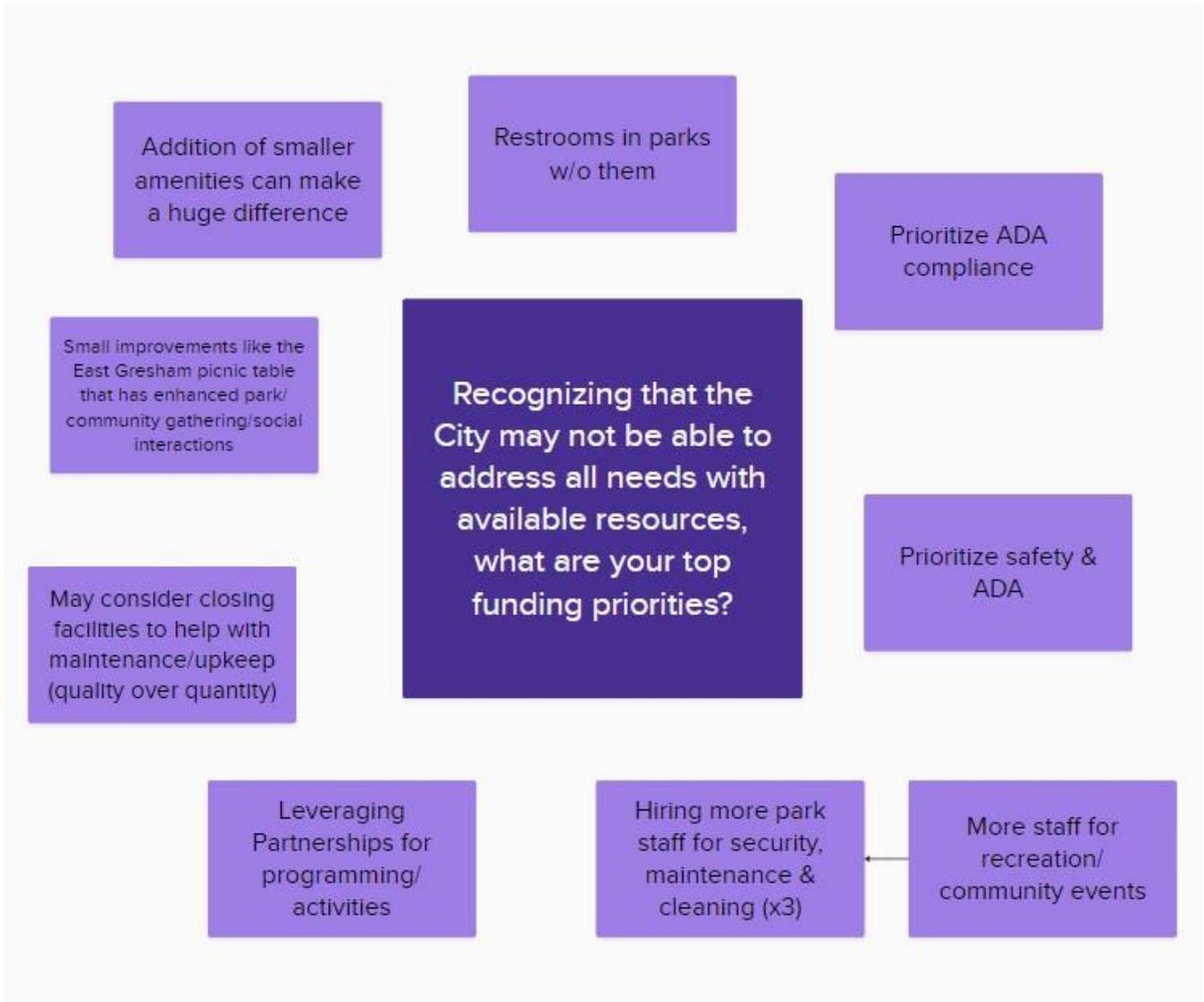


Image of Mural Board Question: Recognizing that the City may not be able to address all needs with available resources, what are your top funding priorities?



Image of Mural Board Question: Who do you consider to be some of the most important partners in helping deliver recreation programs and activities in Gresham?



Image of Mural Board: Represents community member input to any of the questions asked of the Parks Task Force. Community input was gathered at the end of the meeting.



Image of Mural Board: Represents misc. comments that were not related to any of the questions asked during the meeting.