



Pro Parks Levy

Final Report



Lake Union Park reclaims much of the lake's shoreline and green spaces and fulfills the Olmsted vision of a magnificent waterfront park at the south end of Lake Union.

Prepared for the Citizens Oversight Committee of the
2000 Neighborhood Parks, Green Spaces, Trails, and Zoo Levy

December 2010

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Contents

Introduction	1
Income	3
Leveraging of other funds	5
Other City funds.....	5
Non-City funds.....	5
Expenditures	7
Development	9
Public involvement	9
Sustainable design.....	10
Development spending by subcategory	10
Development highlights.....	11
Acquisition	14
Planning and public involvement	14
Acquisition spending by subcategory	14
Acquisition highlights.....	15
Opportunity Fund Acquisition and Development.....	18
Opportunity Fund leveraged funding	18
Opportunity Fund acquisition highlights.....	19
Opportunity Fund development highlights	20
Programming, Maintenance, and Environmental Stewardship.....	23
Woodland Park Zoo	23
Recreational Programming.....	24
New Park and Green Space Maintenance	26
Enhanced Park and Facility Maintenance	26
Environmental Stewardship	27
Appendix A: Sector codes used in appendices.....	31
Appendix B: Development projects.....	32
Appendix C: Acquisitions	36
Appendix D: Programming, Maintenance, and Environmental Stewardship	39
Major contributors and partners in Pro Parks Levy projects	40
Members of the Citizens Oversight Committee	41

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▲ Fremont Peak Park, 2007

Introduction

In November 2000, Seattle voters approved an eight-year \$198.2 million levy lid lift for Parks and Recreation. Emphasizing the final years of the levy, this report summarizes accomplishments of the Pro Parks Levy, formally known as the *2000 Neighborhood Parks, Green Spaces, Trails and Zoo Levy*.

The Pro Parks Levy funded projects at more than 110 sites all over the city, implementing park and open space priorities from neighborhood plans, acquiring green spaces, improving athletic fields, adding pedestrian and bike trails, supporting Woodland Park Zoo programs and maintenance, enhancing park maintenance and expanding recreation programs for youth and seniors. Citizens in every neighborhood in the city have benefited from these projects. In addition, the City added 47.1 acres to its park system.

The four major categories for funding were:

- **Development** – neighborhood parks; playfields and facilities; trails and boulevards
- **Acquisition** – neighborhood park space; greenbelts and natural areas
- **Acquisition and Development Opportunity Fund** – new acquisition and development projects identified by neighborhood and community groups

- **Programming, Maintenance, and Environmental Stewardship** – recreational programming for youth and seniors; operational support for Woodland Park Zoo; maintenance of new parks and green spaces, and enhanced maintenance of existing properties; and environmental stewardship programming.

Sustainable design was a focus for all Pro Parks projects. Two community center projects, Laurelhurst and Montlake, received Gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accreditation. Ross Shelter House, one of the early Pro Parks projects, created the first park facility with a green roof.

Environmental stewardship accomplishments included utility savings, a significant reduction in Parks' use of paper, and extensive environmental education and outreach. Additionally, two of the major park development projects removed over 8,000 tons of contaminated soil and provided habitat restoration. Parks crews provided enhanced maintenance to high use areas, restored green spaces, and supported numerous volunteer projects to build trails and remove invasive plants.

Thousands of children, teens and seniors benefited from recreational and educational programs offered through the levy at Seattle parks, community centers, and the Woodland Park Zoo.

These and other accomplishments of the levy are described in this report. For information about individual levy projects and programs and to see an interactive map of levy projects, visit the web at www.seattle.gov/parks/proparks/

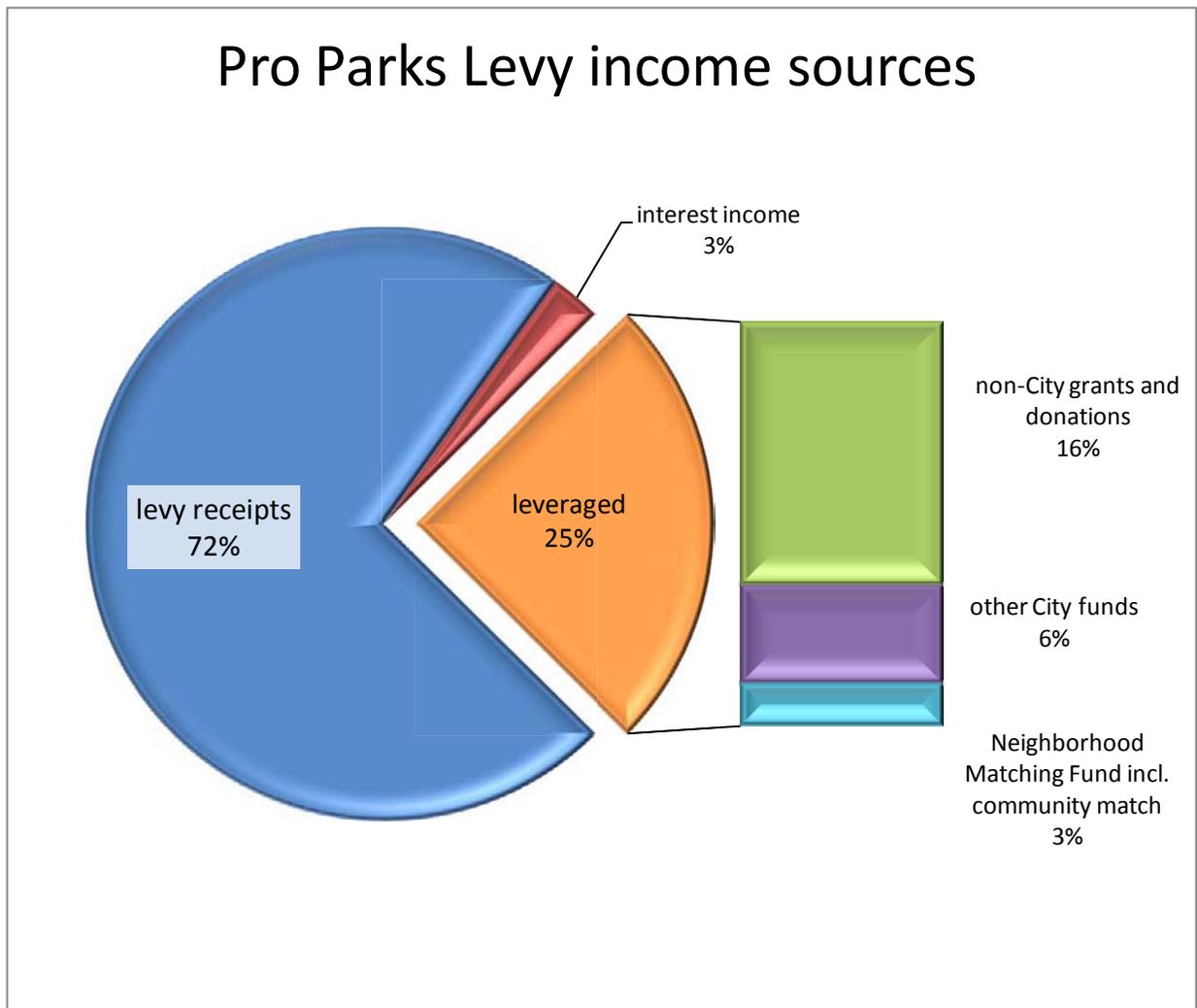
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Income

Financial information in this report includes revenue and expense through October 2010 plus projections through completion of the levy. The annual cost to the average Seattle property owner during the life of the levy (eight years) was estimated at 34 cents per year per \$1,000 assessed value, about \$119 a year for a \$350,000 home. Levy receipts provided \$198.2 million or 72% of the funding of Pro Parks projects, and interest on the levy funds provided another 3%. A remarkable 25% of the total funding was leveraged with other sources including non-City grants

and donations (16%), other City funds (6%) and Neighborhood Matching Fund (3%).

Interest income exceeded the levy's plan by \$5.4 million. The Levy Fund is managed as part of the City of Seattle's investment portfolio. The plan anticipated paying interest on funds borrowed to complete Pro Parks projects and these funds would subsequently be replaced when tax receipts were received. Because project spending was slower than anticipated, there was no need to borrow funds. Interest income was therefore greater each year than anticipated, allowing more to be spent on levy projects.



Pro Parks Levy income sources Pro Parks Levy Fund only

(in \$ millions)	Actual plus Projected ¹	Added to Plan ²	% of Plan
tax receipts	\$198.2		100%
interest income	\$7.4	\$5.4	368%
leverage from Pro Parks Levy Fund (see below)	\$40.9	\$40.9	
Total	\$246.5	\$46.3	123%

all leveraged funding

(in \$ millions)	City funding ³	non-City funding ⁴
leverage from Pro Parks Levy Fund		\$40.9
leverage from other funds, departments, and sources	\$16.6	\$3.4
Neighborhood Matching Fund and community match ⁵	\$3.1	\$4.1
subtotal	\$19.7	\$48.4
Total	\$68.1	

notes

1	<i>Actual plus Projected</i> consists of income through October 2010 plus anticipated income for the remaining life of the levy.
2	<i>Plan</i> is the levy's initial financial plan from July 2000.
3	<i>Leveraged City funding</i> includes the Cumulative Reserve, Shoreline Park Improvement and other funds; and funding from Utilities, Department of Neighborhoods, and other departments.
4	<i>Leveraged non-City funding</i> includes revenue from the State and County, private donations and miscellaneous.
5	<i>Neighborhood Matching Fund community match</i> of \$4.1 million consists of \$3.1 million cash match, \$0.6 million in volunteer labor, and \$0.4 million in-kind donations.

Leveraging of other funds

Based on experience from prior levy and bond measures, the City anticipated that the levy program would be enhanced by leveraging other fund resources. The structure of the levy anticipated using levy funds to serve as a match for other fund sources, and many of the projects funded through the levy had community support which enhanced the opportunities for additional project contributions. The table above summarizes the \$68.1 million leveraged from outside the Pro Parks Levy, increasing the levy's impact significantly. In addition, \$5.3 million from the Pro Parks levy helped complete funding of the \$31 million Lake Union Park development project.

Other City funds

A total of \$16.6 million was provided by other City resources for Pro Parks projects. Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle City Light and other departments provided substantial funding on projects that involved coordination. For example, Pinehurst Pocket Park in the northeast section of the city received \$87,000 from Seattle Public Utilities. This collaboration provided for storm water runoff management by creating a rain garden at the edge of the park.

In addition, \$3.1 million in Department of Neighborhoods matching fund awards were the spring board for many levy projects. In the last years of the levy, Ballard Corners Park, Mt. Baker Ridgeview Point, and Junction Plaza in West Seattle are some of the parks that benefited from Department of

Neighborhood Matching Funds. These City funds were further leveraged by community match as described below.

Non-City funds

A total of \$44.3 million was provided by a variety of sources – county and state agencies, individuals, private organizations and foundations, and even some federal agencies. For example, in the last years of the levy over \$200,000 was donated by Shah Safari, Inc. for Counterbalance Park: An Urban Oasis on Queen Anne Hill, and the Arboretum Foundation contributed over \$2 million to the Pacific Connections Garden. King County Youth Sports Facilities Grants provided additional funding for projects such as the I-5 Colonnade and the Magnuson Park athletic fields. And the largest source of leverage, specifically for acquisitions, was the King County Conservation Futures Tax which provided \$20.0 million.

In addition, \$4.1 million was provided by various communities as their match for Department of Neighborhoods matching fund awards. This match consisted of about \$1.0 million in donated time and in-kind materials and \$3.1 million in cash. These community-initiated Neighborhood Matching Fund awards mainly supported Opportunity Fund projects, thereby fulfilling the goal of the Opportunity Fund component to allow the City and its citizens to achieve a combined neighborhood park vision.

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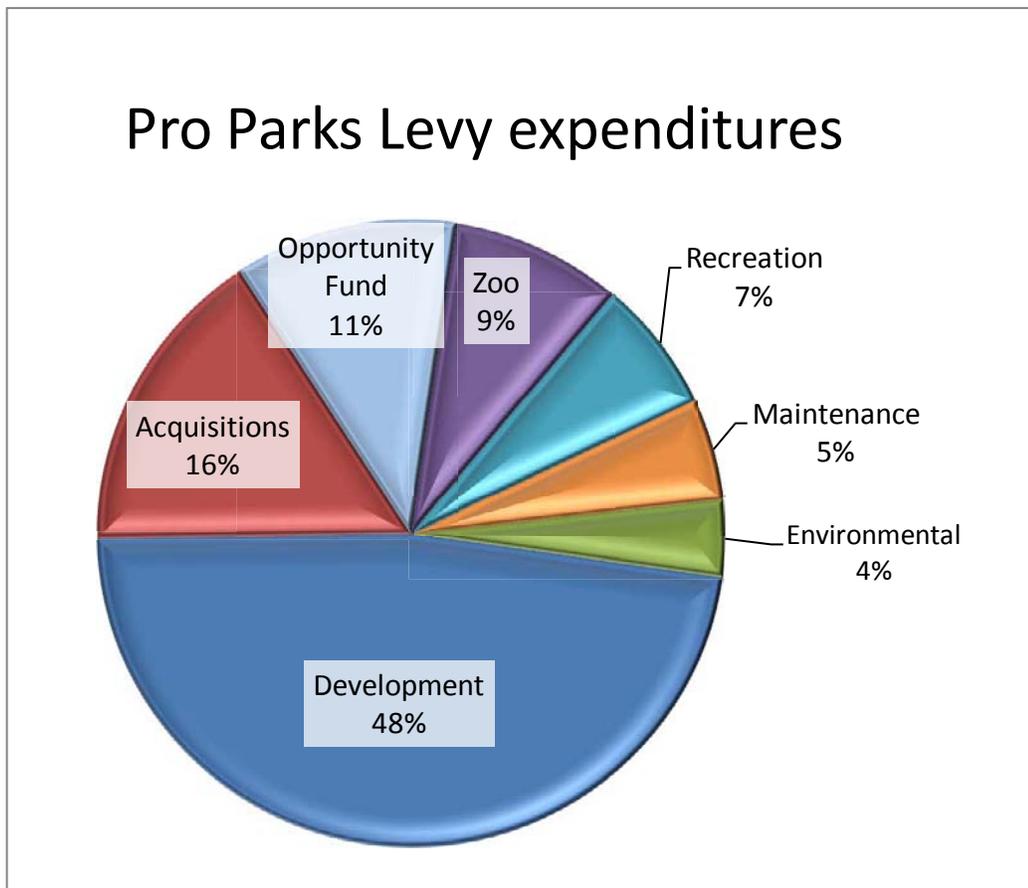
Expenditures

The largest amount of levy expenditures, 48% or \$117.1 million, funded development projects. These projects ranged from small neighborhood parks such as Seven Hills Park to major park developments such as the award-winning Cal Anderson Park on Capitol Hill, completed in 2005.

An additional 16% or \$39.4 million was allocated for Neighborhood Park and Green Space acquisitions, with the remaining 36%

spent for Opportunity Fund projects (both acquisitions and development), environmental stewardship, enhanced maintenance, and zoo and recreational programming.

The capital (non-operating) portion of the levy had \$185.1 million available. This was 133% of plan – \$46.3 million additional – due to the excess interest income, grants and donations.



Pro Parks Levy expenditures

(in \$ millions)	Actual plus Projected ¹	Added to Plan	% of Plan
Capital elements			
development	\$109.5	\$14.3	115%
development - SDOT ²	\$7.6		100%
acquisitions	\$39.4	\$13.4	152%
opportunity fund ³	\$28.6	\$18.6	284%
total capital	\$185.1	\$46.3	133%
Operating elements			
zoo programming	\$21.8		100%
recreational programming	\$16.9		100%
maintenance ⁴	\$12.9		100%
environmental stewardship	\$9.7		100%
total operating	\$61.3		100%
Total	\$246.5	\$46.3	123%

notes

1	<i>Actual plus Projected</i> consists of expenses through October 2010 (96% of the total) plus anticipated expenses for projects not yet completed.
2	<i>Development – SDOT</i> includes trail projects managed by the Seattle Department of Transportation.
3	<i>Opportunity Fund</i> is comprised of acquisition and development costs of community-initiated projects that were not explicitly named in the levy but were anticipated as opportunities arose.
4	<i>Maintenance</i> includes new park and green space maintenance of \$7.6 million, and enhanced park maintenance of \$5.3 million.

Development

Counterbalance Park: An Urban Oasis, 2008 ►

The name honors the counterbalance trolley system that once took people up and down Queen Anne Avenue, a unique element of Seattle's history, and identifies the site as a community gathering place, a place for art, activity, and enjoyment.

The development category provided funding for 95 named projects that improved parks and park facilities, created new parks on undeveloped sites, restored wetlands, enhanced buildings and improved ballfields and trails. Appendix B lists the development projects by subcategory.

In the final years of the levy, development project completions included the following:

- 2008 – Pacific Connections Garden Phase 1 in the Washington Park Arboretum, Counterbalance Park: An Urban Oasis, Georgetown Playfield renovation, Lake Union Park Phase 1, University Burke-Gilman / Peace Park Improvements, and Orchard Street Ravine access improvements
- 2009 – Burke-Gilman Trail from Golden Gardens to the Locks, Green Lake Park Shade Garden, Queen Anne Boulevard, Dakota Place Park Development, Morgan Junction, Warren G. Magnuson Park Wetlands and Athletic Fields, and the Japanese Garden Gatehouse
- 2010 – Thomas C. Wales Park (formerly Dexter Pit), Myrtle Reservoir, Seven Hills Park (formerly Capitol Hill Park), John & Summit (formerly Bellevue Substation), and



Jefferson Park Expansion (formerly Beacon Reservoir)

- Development projects currently in progress are Crown Hill, Dakota Place Park Phase II, Delridge Skatepark, First Hill, and University Heights in the Neighborhood Parks category; Magnuson Park Wetlands Shore Ponds in the Major Parks category; and Jefferson Park Phase II, and Meadowbrook Field #1 in the Opportunity Fund category.

Public involvement

Seattle Parks and Recreation has a highly-developed public involvement policy that has served as a model for other City departments. Citizens participated in dozens of public processes related to development projects. They participated in project advisory teams, attended public meetings addressing project planning and design, and joined in ground-breakings and dedication celebrations at newly opened or improved parks. Seattle Parks and Recreation has worked with community athletic groups to incorporate emerging sports such as rugby. Thanks to citizen input, for instance, Magnuson Park now contains one of the premier synthetic rugby fields west of the Mississippi River.

Sustainable design

In support of sound environmental practices, Pro Parks projects have been built with sustainable features that will:

- reduce operations and maintenance costs
- reduce initial and ongoing adverse impacts on the environment
- increase the ecological function of landscapes, forests and natural areas
- increase the comfort, health and safety of park visitors and building occupants.

Development spending by subcategory

At completion of the projects, development spending will be 114% of plan as a result of leveraging \$14.3 million.

Neighborhood Parks: Neighborhood parks were identified in Neighborhood Plans and other planning efforts, including some of the City's park master plans. All but three of the 74 projects in this subcategory will be complete by the end of 2010.

Recently completed projects include two former parking lots on Capitol Hill that were converted to parks; Myrtle Reservoir in West Seattle; and Thomas C. Wales Park on the east side of Queen Anne Hill. A total of \$60.8 million was spent in this subcategory, with the bulk of the spending occurring in 2004 to 2006.

Major Parks: A total of \$27.5 million was spent in this category, with peak spending occurring in 2007. All five projects in the Major Parks subcategory have been completed: Cal Anderson Park (Lincoln Reservoir), Olympic Sculpture Park, Lake Union Park, Jefferson Park (Beacon Reservoir) and Warren G. Magnuson Park.

Jefferson Park Phase I opened in October 2010, and additional improvements will occur under the 2008 Parks and Green

Spaces Levy. The Magnuson Park Sports Field and Wetlands project received the 2010 Washington Recreation & Parks Associations' Best Park award, honoring outstanding facility design.

Playfields and Facilities: The seven projects in this subcategory have been completed. The Magnuson Athletic Fields project was named Mickey Merriam Athletic Field Complex and included five new ballfields:

- a synthetic, lit rugby field with secondary lines for Ultimate Frisbee
- two synthetic, lit soccer fields with secondary lines for Ultimate Frisbee
- a Little League field and softball field with synthetic infield and natural turf outfield
- an adult baseball field with synthetic infield and natural turf outfield without lighting.

The other playfields in this subcategory include Genesee, Judkins, Georgetown, Meadowbrook, and Loyal Heights Playfields, and the West Seattle Stadium improvements. A total of \$18.2 million was spent for this category, with peak spending occurring in 2008.

Trails and Boulevards: Of the \$10.3 million allocated to the ten trails and boulevards projects, Seattle Parks and Recreation was responsible for \$2.7 million, including projects such as Queen Anne Boulevard and Longfellow Creek Trail.

The Seattle Department of Transportation is responsible for \$7.6 million in projects including the Burke Gilman Trail and the Mountains To Sound Greenway. The Burke Gilman trail terminus at Golden Gardens was finished in 2007. The Mountains To Sound Greenway and the Belltown / Queen Anne – Thomas Street projects are in development as of the end of 2010.

Development highlights



◀ **Georgetown Playfield, 2008**

Improvements converted three acres of sand and clay field surface into synthetic and natural turf. The synthetic turf portion accommodates soccer and a softball field.

Japanese Garden Gatehouse, 2009 ▶

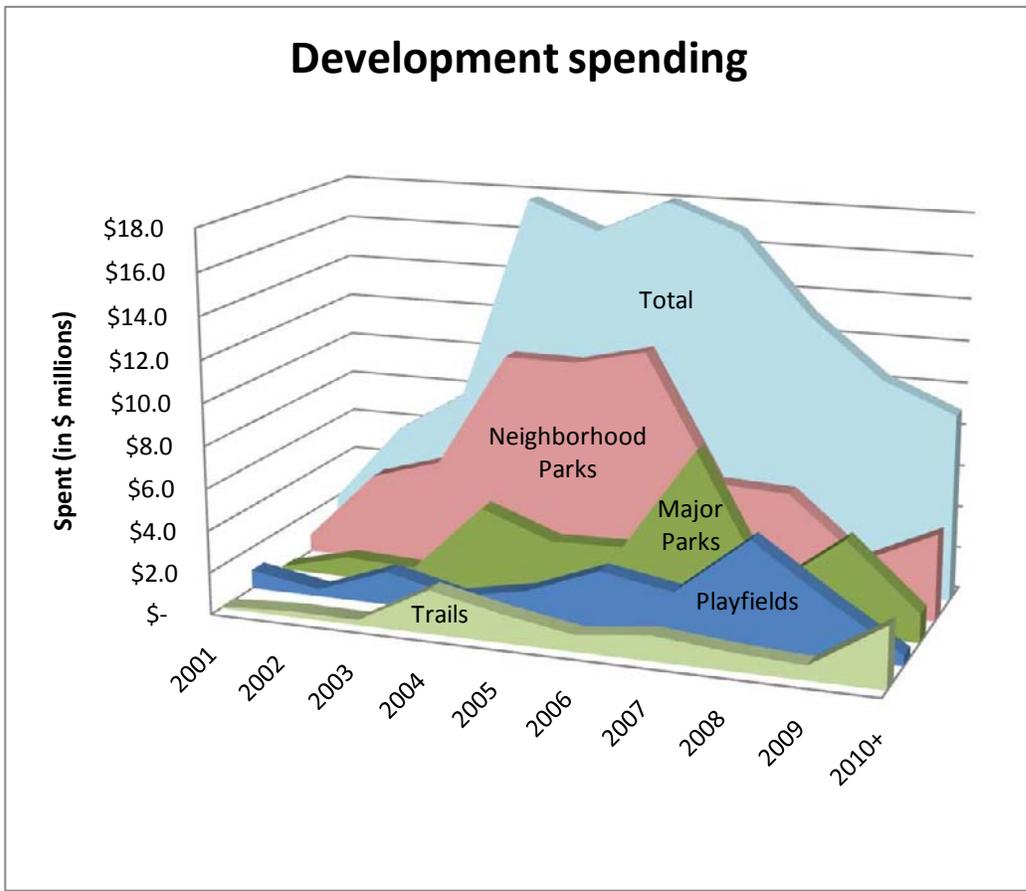
The new 1,170 square foot entry structure includes a ticket booth with direct access to the garden, a storage room, a meeting room, restrooms, and a maintenance area.



◀ **Beacon Reservoir (Jefferson Park), 2010**

This improvement project was constructed on 43 acres of the Jefferson Park / Beacon Reservoir. It includes a geometric play area, a comfort station, a sports meadow, newly surfaced tennis courts, and over 20 acres of new open space. It also offers beautiful views of the city as well as Olmsted-inspired tree-lined pathways.





Development spending

(in \$ millions)	Neighborhood Parks	Major Parks	Playfields	Trails & Boulevards	Total
2001	\$0.9	\$0.1	\$0.9	\$0.1	\$2.0
2002	\$4.2	\$1.0	\$0.3	\$0.3	\$5.8
2003	\$5.2	\$0.8	\$1.6	\$0.3	\$7.9
2004	\$10.7	\$4.1	\$0.8	\$2.1	\$17.8
2005	\$10.7	\$2.9	\$1.5	\$1.4	\$16.5
2006	\$11.5	\$3.0	\$2.8	\$0.8	\$18.1
2007	\$5.5	\$7.9	\$2.2	\$1.2	\$16.8
2008	\$5.4	\$1.8	\$5.0	\$0.9	\$13.1
2009	\$2.5	\$4.5	\$2.7	\$0.7	\$10.3
2010+	\$4.2	\$1.4	\$0.5	\$2.9	\$8.9
Total	\$60.8	\$27.5	\$18.2	\$10.5	\$117.1
Plan	\$52.8	\$23.1	\$17.9	\$9.0	\$102.8
added to Plan	\$8.0	\$4.4	\$0.3	\$1.5	\$14.3
% of Plan	115%	119%	102%	117%	114%

Acquisition

Green Space acquisition ►

The Pro Parks Levy dedicated \$10 million to Green Space acquisitions to preserve and expand Seattle's natural environment.



Property acquisition was a primary focus of the levy. The acquisition category provided funds toward land purchase for 18 named neighborhood park projects and for green space preservation. Over 47 acres were acquired through land purchases and donations. Appendix C lists the acquisitions by year.

Acquisitions in 2008 to 2010 were all made in the Opportunity Fund and Green Space categories. Green Space acquisitions during this period included Longfellow Creek, Duwamish Head, Fauntleroy Trail, and Seola Beach Greenbelt.

Planning and public involvement

Partnerships with the community were critical to identifying priority properties, potential uses of acquired sites, and additional resources. For example, a large acquisition in 2008 helped rectify an imbalance in Ballard between density and a relative lack of green space. Parks worked with Groundswell Northwest and Whittier Community Council who strongly supported the purchase of the Seventh Elect Church site (now being developed as Kirke Park with funding from the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy). Parks also worked extensively with the community to acquire two of the

larger acquisitions, University Heights and Crown Hill.

Acquisition spending by subcategory

The levy reserved \$16 million for Neighborhood Park acquisitions and \$10 million for Green Space acquisitions. The levy's financial plan of \$26.0 million for acquisitions did not include planned spending of any leveraged funding. The levy funding was critical in securing \$13.4 million in additional funds, leading to a total of \$39.4 million in acquisition spending, or 152% of plan.

Neighborhood Parks: Of the 18 neighborhood park acquisition projects identified in the levy, 16 were acquired. One project, the Sylvan Way site, will not be completed because the target property was developed with housing. The funding for this project was instead directed toward the purchase of 1.04 acres in the Longfellow Creek watershed. The second project, First Hill, will be acquired in 2011. The bulk of spending in this category took place in 2002, 2003, and 2007.

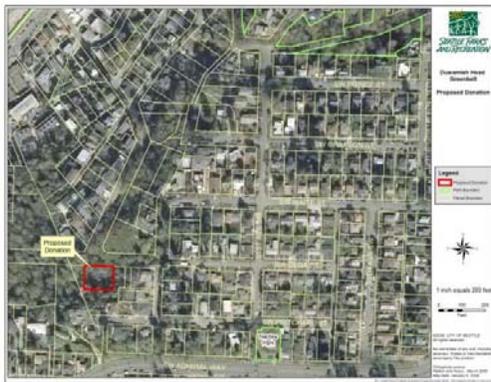
Acquisitions provided the land for many neighborhood park projects that were then developed with funding from this levy as well as from the 2008 Parks and Green

Spaces Levy and other funding sources. Neighborhood parks comprised the bulk of acquisition spending, with \$28.4 million or 72% of the \$39.4 million total.

In addition, a 0.2 acre site at 12th Avenue at E. James Court in the Central District was acquired at no cost as a result of a transfer of jurisdiction from the Department of Neighborhoods.

Green Spaces: Many small green space acquisitions allowed Parks to expand or connect critical green areas such as St. Marks Green Belt and the Harrison Ridge Green Belt. Two properties, at Seola Beach and Duwamish Head, were donated to the City. Through acquisitions, Parks preserved close to 20 acres in this subcategory.

Acquisition highlights



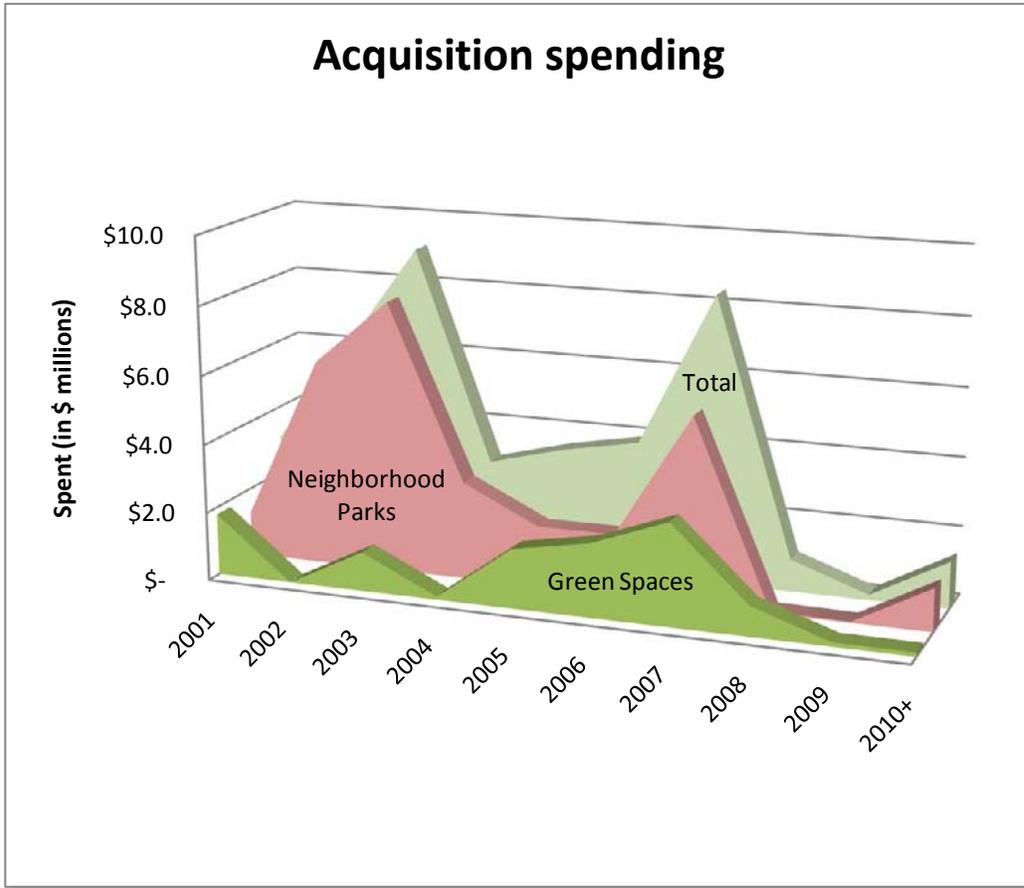
◀ **Duwamish Head, Locker Donation, 2008**

The .29-acre parcel located at the terminus of 53rd Ave SW and SW Olga St., in the Duwamish Head Greenbelt, was donated to the City by a long-time Seattle resident.

Seola Beach Greenbelt, 2010 ▶

An example of “nice things come in small packages,” this addition to the Seola Beach Greenbelt is only 600 square feet. A long-time Seattle family donated this property.





Acquisition spending

(in \$ millions)	Neighborhood Parks	Green Spaces	Total
2001	\$1.3	\$1.8	\$3.1
2002	\$6.0	\$ -	\$6.0
2003	\$7.9	\$1.1	\$9.1
2004	\$2.9	\$0.1	\$2.9
2005	\$1.8	\$1.7	\$3.5
2006	\$1.8	\$2.1	\$3.9
2007	\$5.4	\$3.0	\$8.4
2008	\$0.1	\$0.9	\$0.9
2009	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.2
2010+	\$1.3	\$0.1	\$1.4
Total	\$28.4	\$11.0	\$39.4
Plan	\$16.0	\$10.0	\$26.0
added to Plan	\$12.4	\$1.0	\$13.4
% of Plan	178%	110%	152%

Opportunity Fund Acquisition and Development

9th Avenue NW, now Kirke Park ►

Purchased in 2008 with Opportunity Funds, this site is now being developed as Kirke Park using funds from the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy.



The Opportunity Fund provided tangible benefits in many Seattle neighborhoods. The Pro Parks Levy allocated \$10.0 million for projects proposed by citizens.

After an extensive public education and review process, the first cycle of the Opportunity Fund in 2002 included 19 citizen-initiated park acquisition and development projects. In 2005, after another extensive public process, the second cycle funded 21 additional development and acquisition projects. Additionally in the last years of the levy, Jefferson Park Phase II and Meadowbrook Field #1 were funded. Appendices B and C list the Opportunity Fund acquisition and development projects.

Three Opportunity Fund acquisitions took place in 2008: the 9th Avenue NW site, 12th Avenue and E. James Court, and Denny Triangle. Additional Opportunity Fund acquisitions made in 2009 and 2010 include University Heights, Gateway North, and Crown Hill.

In the final years of the levy, Opportunity Fund development project completions included the following:

- 2008 – Cesar Chavez Park, Ballard Corners, Ercolini Park, and the Marra Farm Community Project
- 2009 – Mt. Baker Ridge Viewpoint, and the Amy Yee Tennis Center new courts
- 2010 – Cascade Peoples Center, and Junction Plaza.

Opportunity Fund leveraged funding

The \$10.0 million in levy funding was leveraged with \$18.4 million in additional City funding, grants from the State and private donations, for total expenditures of \$28.4 million. Private donations for Opportunity Fund development projects in the later years of the levy included donations from Starbucks Neighborhood Parks Program, Safeco Insurance, Norcliffe Foundation, Seattle Foundation, Seattle Parks Foundation and many neighborhood contributions which substantially contributed to Mt. Baker Ridge Viewpoint, Fremont Peak Park, and Junction Plaza. Many Opportunity Fund projects began as Department of Neighborhood Matching Fund projects, and Opportunity Fund spending was enhanced through these awards.

Opportunity Fund acquisition highlights



◀ **12th Avenue and E. James Court, 2008**

This 7,332 square-foot property at the southeast corner of the intersection was transferred to Parks from the Department of Neighborhoods. Parks removed the existing building from the site and held planning meetings with the community in 2010.

University Heights, 2009 ▶

After an extensive public process, the community prioritized the site at the corner of NE 50th Street and University Way NE for open space acquisition. The property is adjacent to property owned and managed by the non-profit University Heights Center for the Community.



◀ ▼ **Gateway North (Georgetown Pump Station), 2010**

This 11,652 square-foot site was acquired in 2010 to add to an adjoining street end park on the Duwamish River.



Opportunity Fund development highlights

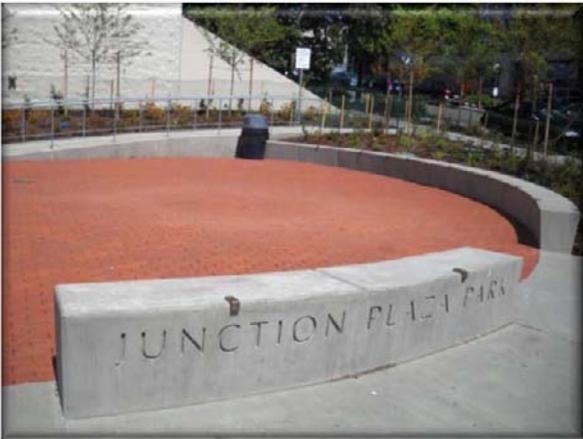


◀ **Cesar Chavez Park, 2008**

Together Seattle Parks and Recreation and the community, led by Sea Mar, collaborated with sculptor Jesus Moroles and the firm of Jones and Jones to redevelop an under-used portion of open space into a spirited park.

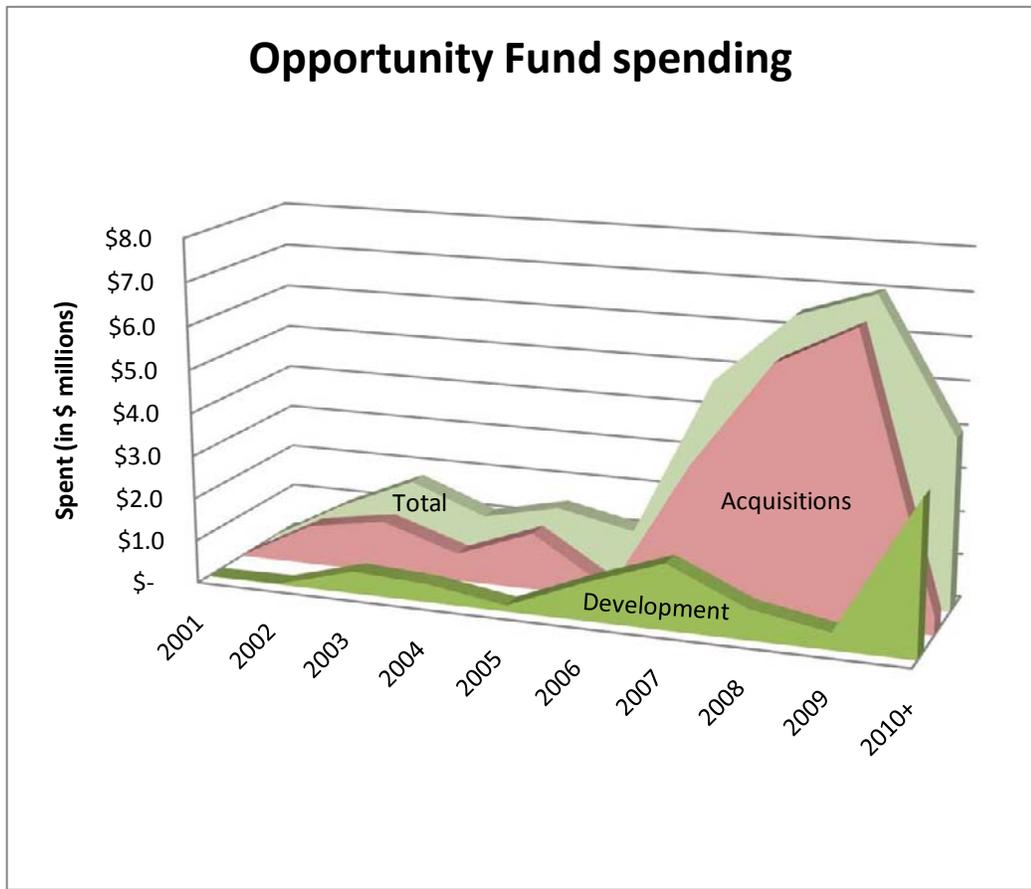
Mount Baker Ridge Viewpoint, 2009 ▶

This steeply-sloped site was developed into an urban viewpoint park. The park design features a unique sculptural viewing platform that extends from the sidewalk to capture the western panorama of downtown Seattle, Beacon Hill, Elliott Bay and the Olympic mountains.



◀ **Junction Plaza, 2010**

The design creates an open space that encourages daily use for relaxing, eating or people watching, and that can also be used for Junction Association festivals like the West Seattle Festival and other programs.



Opportunity Fund spending

(in \$ millions)	Acquisitions	Development	Total
2001			\$ 0.0
2002	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.0	\$ 1.0
2003	\$ 1.2	\$ 0.4	\$ 1.7
2004	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.1	\$ 1.1
2005	\$ 1.3	\$ 0.1	\$ 1.5
2006	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.8	\$ 1.1
2007	\$ 3.3	\$ 1.5	\$ 4.8
2008	\$ 5.7	\$ 0.7	\$ 6.4
2009	\$ 6.6	\$ 0.4	\$ 7.0
2010+	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.5	\$ 3.8
Total	\$20.2	\$ 4.5	\$ 28.4
Plan			\$ 10.0
added to Plan			\$ 18.4
% of Plan			284%

Programming, Maintenance, and Environmental Stewardship

Grub Club for teens age 13 to 18 at Bitter Lake Community Center ►

Cooking – the next best thing to eating. The 4 o’clock hour can mean only one thing when you’re a teen, it’s time to eat! This cooking class teaches basic kitchen skills, shopping on a budget, and planning healthy meals.



◀ Education programs at Woodland Park Zoo

Forest Explorers, Wild Wise, SOAR (Save Our Amazing Raptors) and other outreach programs served more than 23,350 Seattle students in 2007.

This category included four subcategories: operational support for the Woodland Park Zoo, recreational programming for youth and seniors, maintenance of new parks and green spaces acquired and enhanced maintenance of existing properties, and environmental stewardship. The total amount planned for this category was \$61.3 million, including programming costs and staffing. Appendix D lists the projects funded under the levy.

Woodland Park Zoo

The levy provided \$21.8 million to Woodland Park Zoo. These funds supported education and outreach initiatives along with animal care and health, maintenance and repair of zoo grounds, exhibits and interpretive displays, and fundamental zoo operations such as safety, security and

admissions management. Under-served or low-income Seattle schoolchildren also benefited from levy funding with access to a number of zoo activities and programs.

Admissions and Transportation Subsidies: The School-to-Zoo program, fully funded by levy monies, was open to any Seattle school with 30% or more students qualified for free- and reduced lunch programs. Schools received free zoo admission for every class and reimbursements for bus transportation. In addition, the School-to-Zoo staff developed programs for students in kindergarten through 4th grade aligned with Seattle Public Schools science materials.

Technology: The zoo improved technology by upgrading scheduling software to coordinate admissions, events maintenance set-up and school group registration. Levy funding also provided training to teachers.

Repairs and Major Maintenance:

Significant zoo repair and maintenance projects were funded by the levy. Improvements in the final years of the levy included replacements to the African Savannah sign system and upgrades in the Patas monkey area. In the Australasia facility, the zoo created an aviary and bird feeding area as well as making seismic upgrades to the building.

Levy funding supported the redesigned interpretive signage that was a key element of Maasai Journey, the zoo's featured attraction in 2007. In other areas of the zoo, an old exhibit yard was converted to an exhibit for red crown cranes, and improvements were made to the elephant exhibit and holding area. New doors were installed in the Asian bear holding area, and the main loop pathway was rebuilt near the new Humboldt penguin exhibit.

New interpretive projects include the snow leopard area and a renovation of the entry experience at the nocturnal exhibit.

Resource conservation improvements at the zoo included conversion to low-flush toilets and waterless urinals, updated controls on HVAC systems and renovation of the water system in the wetlands exhibit.

Recreational Programming

Seven areas of recreation programming were funded by the levy, providing a connection to children, teens and senior citizens. Over the eight-year levy span, \$16.9 million was spent on recreational programming and staff.

Teen Development: This program provided outreach to support youth development through our Signature Program model, Late

Nite, O2, and community center teen leaders. The staffing model developed in 2005 was continued, providing programming for teens at the 28 community centers and teen life centers, four more than before the levy.

Kids Program Access: This program supported low income families by providing financial assistance through scholarships to before-and-after school care. All 22 childcare programs in our system had eligible children who received benefits from the program, with the majority of scholarships given out in the southeast sector.

Youth Teen Development Fund: This fund gave Teen Development leaders an opportunity to expand services, programs, events and activities for teens. This fund built partnerships within the community by awarding 16 matching grants, from the 32 applications that were received, totaling \$145,500 – as well as making contributions to the VERA Project and Mayor's Youth Summit and Town Hall. More than 10,000 hours of programming were delivered over the last years of the levy with an average of 3,200 youth served per year.

Youth Transportation: This program assured that children had access to vans, buses, ferries and trains to visit parks, attend events and participate in field trips. Transportation was provided for partnership activities with over 25 organizations including the Power of Hope Leadership Camps, Stevens Pass and Snoqualmie Pass Snowboarding, Advisory Council basketball teams, American Cancer Society, National Forest Service trips, Vertical World rock climbing, Austin Foundation, and 4-H Prudential Leadership.

Wading Pools: Levy funding provided extra days of operation at 11 sites, and additional hours of operation at five community center sites. In 2008, daily attendance averaged 128 people per site. Wading pool operation has been cut since the end of the levy.

Learn to Swim: In partnership with Seattle Public Schools, Learn to Swim was a voucher program that provided free instruction for children in grades 3 and 4. Nearly 14,000 individual swim classes were taught, with 66% of those participating indicating that they were “new to swimming.” Promotional materials were translated into ten languages plus English. Rainier Beach pool had the

highest level of participation. Many families with children using vouchers also enrolled siblings in the program. The enrollment increase in free summer beach swimming classes in 2008 was partially attributed to the Learn to Swim program and public awareness of the importance of this life skill.

Lifelong Recreation ►

The Lifelong Recreation program (formerly the Senior Adults program) worked to improve and increase programming for adults over the age of 50 in targeted geographic areas. The Northwest Senior Games grew in participation each year, serving more than 500 athletes in ten sports. At the end of the levy, the City of Seattle assumed all salary expense for this program as part of the City’s general fund.



New Park and Green Space Maintenance

Levy funds helped provide routine grounds maintenance and gardening activities in properties that were acquired or parks that were developed through the levy. These resources removed litter and garbage and maintained lawns, play areas, park furniture and fixtures, pathways, irrigation systems and other park assets.

Enhanced Park and Facility Maintenance

This subcategory encompasses the Peak Use Maintenance Team, and cleaner comfort stations, pools and community centers.

Peak Use and Comfort Stations: The Peak Use and Comfort Stations Program provided many services such as second shift cleaning of comfort stations in high use parks, athletic fields and play areas; and evening and weekend litter and garbage collection of regional and neighborhood parks, sports fields and summer beaches. It provided beach fire enforcement for safety and air quality stan-

dards along with increased garbage, litter and maintenance at Alki and Golden Gardens Beaches, and supported the City Center Summer Park Activation Programs and special events.

Cleaner Pools: Pro Parks funding provided the ability to do intensive pressure washing and chemical cleaning which resulted in a visible improvement for the public at all ten pools. The pool natatorium, locker rooms, windows, family changing rooms, bleacher seating and lobbies received special attention. In 2008 the focus was on chemical cleaning of the pool decks and locker room tile. Aquatics added the weekend pool operators to its budget once the levy ended. The two pool operator positions continued to support the Aquatics program in 2009.

Cleaner Community Centers: The roving “Clean Team” provided 3,000 hours of maintenance to meet the demands of 26 recreation centers. The Pro Parks Cleaner Facilities program was converted to General Fund at the end of the levy.



◀ **Peak Use Maintenance Team**

This team was divided into three geographic teams which allowed for targeted response to unique issues in each community. Examples included enhanced cleaning for 25 downtown park special events, and cleaning of our downtown parks seven days a week.

Environmental Stewardship

This subcategory encompasses the Environmental Stewardship Unit; the Tree Maintenance, Natural Area and Landscape Crew; the Athletic Fields Crew; and the Naturalist Program.



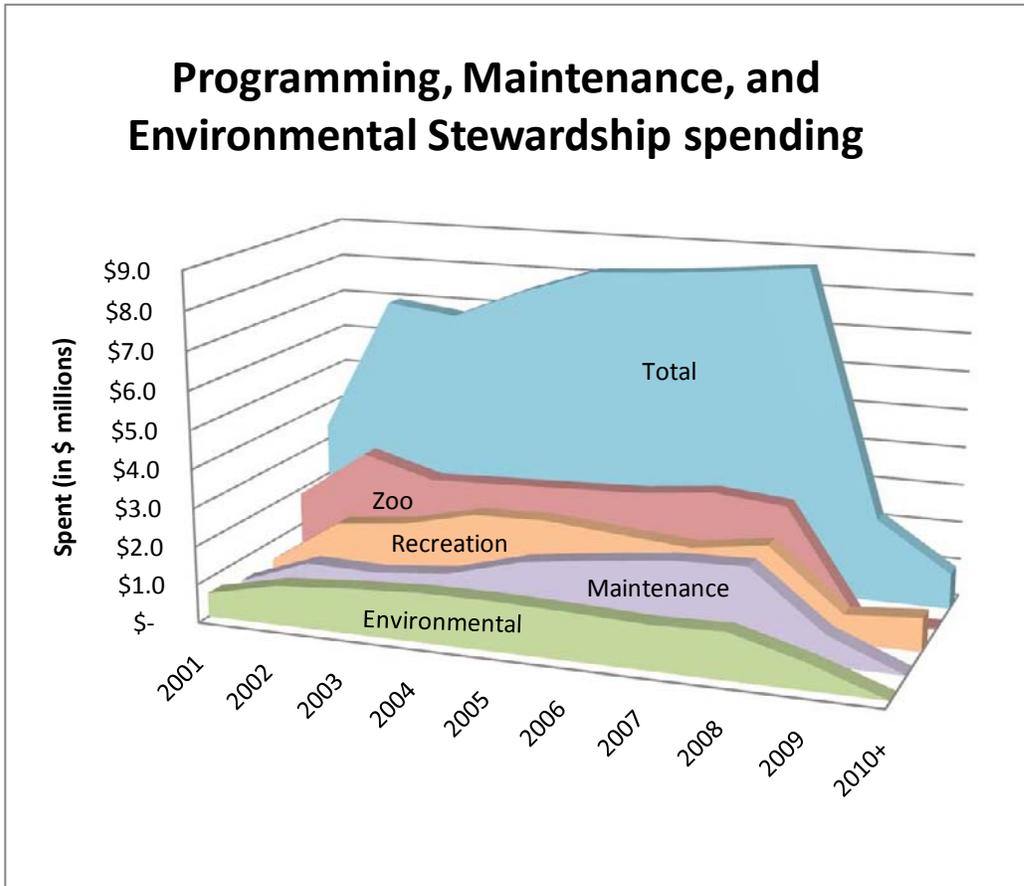
◀ **Tree and Natural Area Maintenance**

The three-person crew performed all types of tree work including pruning, felling and removal, clearing invasive plants, preventive tree maintenance at high visitation sites throughout the park system, and helping plant over 1,300 trees and shrubs. In 2008, the crew removed 649 trees, pruned 1,959 trees, ground 286 stumps, and evaluated 67 significant trees for preservation. The crew helped clear over 75 large caliper hazardous trees during the last year of the levy.

Naturalist Program ▶

The levy provided funds for education services for the public at Carkeek and Seward parks. In 2008, almost 2,500 people participated in classes, tours and programs at 21 community centers. Staff developed strong community partnerships with organizations including the Audubon Society, Seattle Public Schools and the National Science Foundation.





Programming, Maintenance, and Environmental Stewardship spending

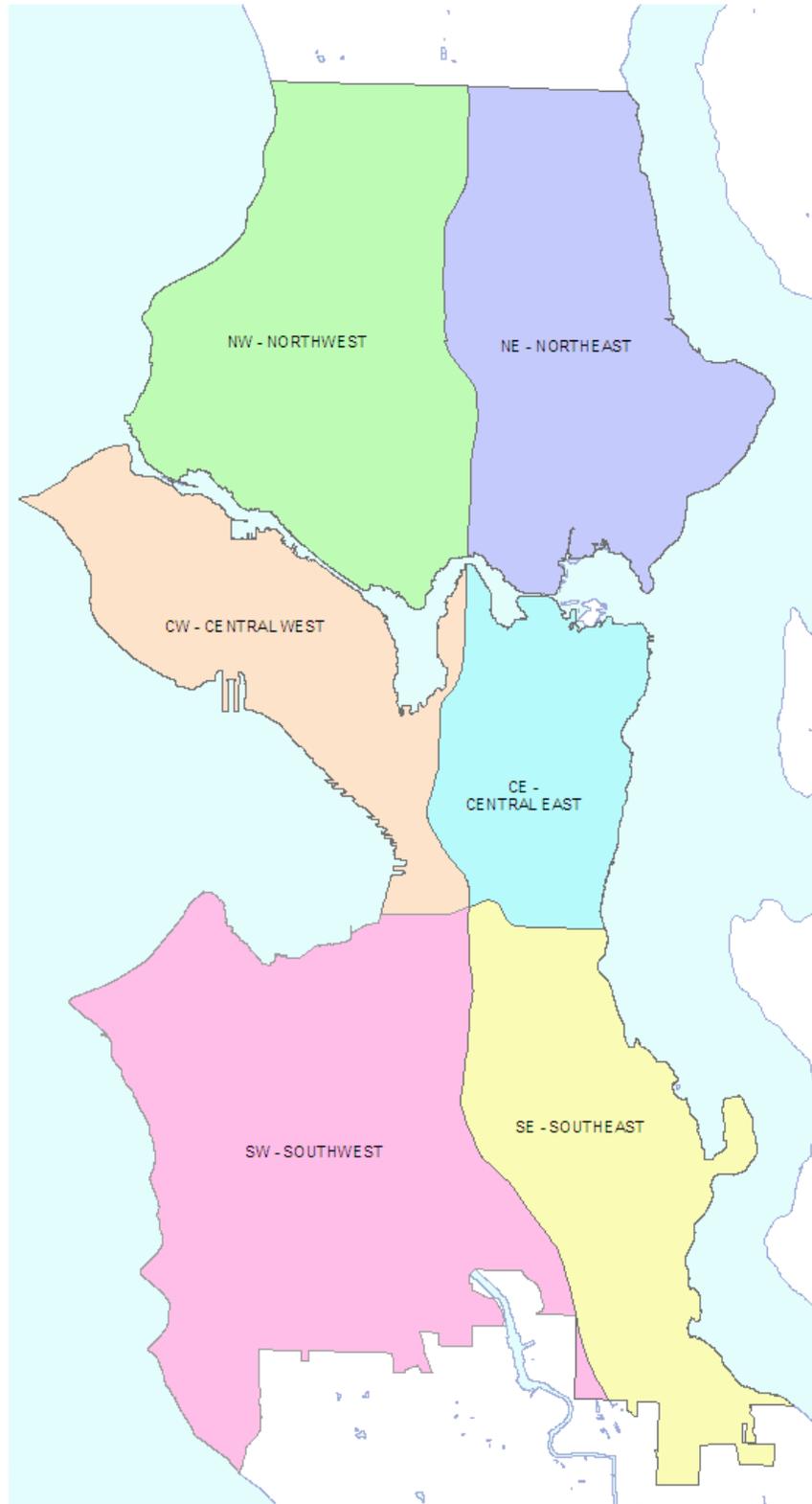
(in \$ millions)	Zoo Programming	Recreational Programming	Maintenance ¹	Environmental Stewardship	Total
2001	\$ 1.9	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.6	\$ 3.4
2002	\$ 3.2	\$ 1.7	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.0	\$ 7.0
2003	\$ 2.6	\$ 1.9	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.2	\$ 6.8
2004	\$ 2.7	\$ 2.3	\$ 1.2	\$ 1.3	\$ 7.5
2005	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.4	\$ 1.8	\$ 1.3	\$ 8.2
2006	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.0	\$ 1.2	\$ 8.3
2007	\$ 3.0	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.2	\$ 1.2	\$ 8.4
2008	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.3	\$ 1.2	\$ 8.6
2009	\$ -	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.7	\$ 2.2
2010	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.9
Total	\$21.8	\$16.9	\$ 12.9	\$ 9.7	\$ 61.3
Plan	\$21.8	\$16.9	\$ 12.9	\$ 9.7	\$ 61.3
% of Plan	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

notes

1	<i>Maintenance</i> includes New Park and Green Space, and Enhanced Park and Facility maintenance programs.
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Appendix A: Sector codes used in appendices



Appendix B: Development projects

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) incl. levy and leveraged
Major Parks		
Cal Anderson Park (Lincoln Reservoir)	CE	\$5,702
Jefferson Park - Beacon Reservoir Acquisition & Development	SE	\$7,689
Lake Union Park - Development	CW	\$31,049
Magnuson Pk Wetlands	NE	\$5,702
Olympic Sculpture Park- Belltown/Lower Queen Anne Waterfront Connections	CW	\$2,448
Neighborhood Parks		
6th Ave NW Pocket Park (Whittier Substation) Development	NW	\$125
Alki Bathhouse Improvements	SW	\$757
Alki Substation (Nantes Park) Development	SW	\$135
Ballard Commons Park (formerly Ballard Municipal Center)	NW	\$2,679
Bergen Place Park Improvements	NW	\$277
Bitter Lake Reservoir Open Space Development	NW	\$1,171
Boren-Pike-Pine Redevelopment (Plymouth Pillars)	CE	\$1,211
Bradner Gardens Improvements	SE	\$248
Burke-Gilman University Area Improvements	NE	\$127
Carkeek Park Improvements	NW	\$551
Cascade Playground Improvements	CW	\$1,079
Columbia Park Improvements	SE	\$355
Cottage Grove Park (formerly Brandon Mini Park) Development	SW	\$750
Counterbalance Park Development	CW	\$1,167
Cowen Park Improvements	NE	\$619
Crown Hill School Open Space Development	NW	\$ -
Dakota Place Park (formerly California Substation) Development	SW	\$1,062
Ella Bailey Park (formerly Magnolia Elementary Field Improvements)	CW	\$1,571
Ernst Park (formerly Fremont Park) Development	NW	\$453
First Hill Park Development	CE	\$140
Gas Works Park Improvements	NW	\$1,167
Georgetown Playfield Improvements	SW	\$1,892
Golden Gardens Park - Bathhouse Renovation	NW	\$1,902
Green Lake Park Plaza & Shade Garden Development	NW	\$442
Greenwood Park Development	NW	\$1,330

Pro Parks Levy Final Report

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) incl. levy and leveraged
Greg Davis Park - Development	SW	\$73
Hiawatha Entry Improvements	SW	\$362
Homer Harris Park (Central Area Park) Development	CE	\$512
Interstate 5 Colonnade (Open Space) Development	CW	\$1,916
Jefferson Park - Pathway Development	SE	\$511
Jefferson Park - Tennis Courts	SE	\$682
Jimi Hendrix Park (formerly Colman School Parking Lot) Development	SE	\$567
John and Summit Park Development (Bellevue Substation)	CE	\$348
John C. Little, Sr. Park (formerly 37th Ave. S) Development	SE	\$596
Kubota Garden Improvements	SE	\$1,079
Lake City Civic Core Development	NE	\$909
Lake City Mini Park Development	NE	\$341
Laurelhurst Community Center	NE	\$3,085
Linden Orchards Open Space Development	NW	\$62
Magnuson Park Building 406 Improvements	NE	\$616
Magnuson Park Community Garden	NE	\$119
Magnuson Park Off Leash Area	NE	\$708
Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Improvements	SE	\$532
Mineral Springs Park Improvements	NW	\$722
Montlake Community Center	CE	\$3,438
Morgan Junction Park (formerly Morgan Substation (Alternate Site))	SW	\$431
Myrtle Reservoir Development	SW	\$942
North Teen Life Center Development	NE	\$687
Northgate Park Development	NE	\$1,472
Northlake Park (formerly 7th Ave NE Street End)	NE	\$292
Orchard Street Ravine Improvements	SW	\$313
Oxbow Park Development	SW	\$805
Pioneer Square (Occidental) Park Improvements	CW	\$2,372
Puget Boulevard Commons Development	SW	\$671
Rainier Beach Public Plaza - Development	SE	\$177
Rainier Playfield - Improvements	SE	\$71
Ravenna Creek Daylighting	NE	\$2,154
Ross Park Shelterhouse Improvements	NW	\$625
Roxhill Park - Wetland Development	SW	\$485

Pro Parks Levy Final Report

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) incl. levy and leveraged
Schmitz Preserve Park Improvements	SW	\$485
Seven Hills Park (formerly Capitol Hill) Development	CE	\$589
Seward Park Annex Renovation	SE	\$834
Solstice Park (formerly Lincoln Park Annex Redevelopment)	SW	\$315
Southwest Community Center - Computer Lab	SW	\$109
Southwest Community Center - Teen Center	SW	\$772
Spruce and Squire Park (Horiuchi Park) - Development	CE	\$209
Thomas C. Wales Park (formerly Dexter Pit Park) Development	CW	\$780
University Heights Open Space Improvements	NE	\$254
Wallingford Playfield Improvements	NW	\$825
Wallingford Steps Development	NW	\$632
Ward Springs (4th & Ward) Park Development	CW	\$127
Washington Park Arboretum Improvements	CE	\$6,138
Westcrest Park Improvements	SW	\$521
York Park (Substation) Development	SE	\$154
Opportunity Fund		
12th Avenue Urban Center (12th Avenue and E. James Court)	CE	\$648
Amy Yee Tennis Center	SE	\$604
Ballard Corners Park (formerly Ballard Pocket Park)	NW	\$170
Belltown Cottage Park	CW	\$128
Brighton Playfield and Science Park	SE	\$255
Cascade People's Center	CW	\$239
Cesar Chavez Park	SW	\$818
Dakota Place, Phase II	SW	\$400
Delridge Skateboard Park	SW	\$500
Ercolini Park	SW	\$503
FloWare Park Renovation	CE	\$465
Fremont Peak Park	NW	\$407
Graham Hill Elementary Playground	SE	\$100
Haller Lake Community Street End Park	NW	\$196
Hitt's Hill Open Space Reclamation	SE	\$100
International District Community Center Gym	CW	\$250
Jefferson Park Development (Phase II)	SE	\$1,100
Junction Plaza Park Development	SW	\$408

Pro Parks Levy Final Report

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) incl. levy and leveraged
Licton Springs - Habitat Restoration, Phase 2	NW	\$99
Mapes Creek Walkway	SE	\$135
Maple Leaf Community Garden	NE	\$150
Marra Farm Community Project	SW	\$159
Meadowbrook Playfield, Field #1 Renovation	NE	\$351
Mt Baker Ridge Viewpoint	CE	\$907
Pinehurst Pocket Park	NE	\$200
Powell Barnett Legacy Project	CE	\$721
Van Asselt Community Center Expansion	SE	\$150
Playfields and Facilities		
Genesee Playfield Renovation	SE	\$993
Judkins Playfield Renovation	CE	\$578
Loyal Heights Playfield Improvements	NW	\$2,437
Magnuson Park Athletic Fields	NE	\$12,323
Meadowbrook Field Renovation	NE	\$742
West Seattle Stadium Improvements	SW	\$1,690
Trails and Boulevards		
Belltown/Queen Anne Connections - Thomas Street	CW	\$2,219
Burke-Gilman Trail Extension (8TH TO 67TH)	NW	\$510
Cheasty Boulevard Trail Improvements	SE	\$1,101
Chief Sealth Trail	SE	\$400
Lake Union Ship Canal Trail - Open Space	CW	\$760
Lake Washington Blvd Improveme	SE	\$749
Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail	SW	\$100
Longfellow Creek Trail Improvements	SW	\$289
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail	CE/CW	\$2,080
Potlatch Trail	CW	\$121
Queen Anne Boulevard Improvements	CW	\$500
West Lake Union	CW	\$1,700

Appendix C: Acquisitions

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) including leverage	Acres
Neighborhood Park Acquisitions			
6th Avenue NW Pocket Park	NW	\$593	0.21
Ballard Corners Park (see also Opportunity Fund acquisition parcel)	NW	\$543	0.11
Counterbalance Park: An Urban Oasis	CW	\$1,865	0.28
Dakota Place Park	SW	\$733	0.34
Delridge Open Space (includes Longfellow Creek, Puget Creek and other areas)	SW	\$1,762	5.05
First Hill Park	CE	in process	
Homer Harris Park	CE	\$1,215	0.50
John and Summit Park	CE	\$2,301	0.21
Linden Orchard park	NW	\$791	0.33
Morgan Junction Park	SW	\$974	0.19
Nantes Park	SW	\$397	0.30
Northgate Park	NE	\$3,354	1.67
Seven Hills Park	CE	\$3,138	0.39
Smith Cove Park	CW	\$6,750	7.33
Sylvan Way	SW	abandoned	
Thornton Creek Green Space	NE	\$2,900	3.86
York Park	SE	\$161	0.27
Neighborhood Park Acquisitions	TOTAL		21.04

Pro Parks Levy Final Report

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) including leverage	Acres
Green Space Acquisitions			
Duwamish Head Green Space	SW	\$1,107	1.17
East Duwamish Green Space	SE	\$506	0.62
Harrison Ridge Green Space	CE	\$856	0.19
Kiwanis Ravine Green Space	CW	\$473	0.48
Kubota Garden Green Space	SE	\$1,049	1.29
Leschi Green Space	CE	\$794	0.17
Longfellow Creek Green Space	SW	\$785	0.98
Me-Kwa-Mooks Green Space	SW	\$1,239	2.14
NE Queen Anne Green Space	CW	\$725	0.27
St Marks Green Space	CE	\$579	0.33
SW Queen Anne Green Space	CW	\$5	0.01
Thornton Creek Green Space	NE	\$922	1.00
West Duwamish Green Space	SW	\$1,087	9.97
Westlake Green Space	CW	\$618	0.06
Green Space Acquisitions	TOTAL		18.68
Green Space Donations (dollars shown are expenses associated with accepting the donation)			
Duwamish Head Green Space	SW	\$23	0.29
East Duwamish Green Space	SE	\$21	0.76
Fauntleroy Trail Easement	SW	\$8	n/a
Seola Beach Green Space	SW	\$9	0.01
Wolf Creek Ravine	CW	\$13	0.13
Green Space Donations	TOTAL		1.19

Pro Parks Levy Final Report

Project	Sector	Expended (\$000s) including leverage	Acres
Opportunity Fund Acquisitions			
12th Avenue and E. James Court	CE	\$91	0.17
Ballard Corners Park (see also Neighborhood Park Acquisition parcel)	NW	\$295	0.11
Crown Hill Park	NW	\$4,684	1.71
Denny Triangle	CW	\$2,913	0.20
Ercolini Park	SW	\$938	0.53
Fremont Peak Park	NW	\$1,578	0.56
Gateway North (Georgetown Pump Station)	SW	\$145	0.27
Greenwood Park Addition	NW	\$644	0.30
Hing Hay Park Addition	CW	\$3,300	0.31
International District CC Room	CW	\$103	0.01
Junction Plaza	SW	\$453	0.15
Kirke Park	NW	\$3,215	0.90
Maple Leaf Community Garden	NE	\$440	0.37
Mt Baker Ridge View Point	CE	\$65	0.11
Pinehurst Pocket Park	NE	\$175	0.19
University Heights	NE	\$2,494	0.34
Opportunity Fund Acquisitions	TOTAL		6.23
All Acquisitions and Donations	TOTAL		47.14

Appendix D: Programming, Maintenance, and Environmental Stewardship

Project	Expended (\$000s)
Zoo Programming	\$21,785
24 Hour Security / Emergency Response	
Admissions / Cashiers Accounting	
Animal Care and Health	
Education Programs	
Low-Income School Access / Admissions / Transportation	
Major Maintenance	
Repair and Maintenance	
Website Support / Fiber Optic Network	
Recreational Programming	\$16,945
Learn to Swim Program	
Out of School and Summer Youth Programs	
Programs for Senior Adults	
Maintenance	\$12,923
New Park / Green Space Maintenance	
Enhanced Park and Facility Maintenance	
Environmental Stewardship Programming	\$9,701
Inflation Allowance	
Landscape and Athletic Fields	
Natural Areas	
Trees	

Major contributors and partners in Pro Parks Levy projects

Arboretum Foundation

King County Conservation Futures Tax

King County Real Estate Investment Tax

King County Youth Sports Facilities Grant

Kubota Garden Foundation

Laurelhurst Community Center Advisory Council

Montlake Community Center Advisory Council

Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs (City of Seattle)

Seattle City Light

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods – Neighborhood Matching Fund

Seattle Department of Transportation

Seattle Parks Foundation

Seattle Public Utilities

Sound Transit

South Downtown Foundation

State of Washington

United Parcel Service

United States Environmental Protection Agency

University of Washington

Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (now the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office)

Members of the Citizens Oversight Committee

2000 Neighborhood Parks, Green Spaces, Trails, and Zoo Levy

Douglas Dunham, Chair

Joyce Moty, Vice Chair

Neal Adams

Alan Alabastro

Cindi Barker

Lisa Chun

Gwen Colwell

Juan Garcia

Don Harper

Terry Holme

Cheryl Klinker

Sharon Lee

Sonia Singh

Alec Stephens, Jr.

staff to the committee:

Susan Golub, Seattle Parks and Recreation, 206-684-7046, susan.golub@seattle.gov



**Award-winning Cal Anderson Park
in Seattle's dense Capitol Hill neighborhood**

Part of the levy's Major Parks category, its development was a cooperative effort among City departments and other agencies. Opened to the public in 2005, the popular park serves as much-needed open space and provides sports fields used by residents throughout the region.

Pro Parks Levy website:

www.cityofseattle.net/parks/proparks



Prepared by

Seattle Parks and Recreation

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