
Coordinated by:

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
Management Committee**

Nancy Hendrickson, Chair

Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 797-1870

Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 27, 2002

Metro Regional Center, Room 270

600 N E Grand Ave.

Portland, Oregon 97232

AGENDA

Welcome and introductions/ 5 min. 5:30 - 5:35 pm

Updates 5:35 - 5:40 pm

Preliminary concept design - recreational facilities 5:40 - 7:00 pm

This is a joint meeting of the SBLMC and representatives of the Regional Arts and Culture Council. Together, they from the PAC, or Project Advisory Committee, for this project. The concepts will be presented by the design team, led by Kurt Lango of Lango Hansen.

Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee
Summary Meeting Notes
August 27, 2002
5:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Nancy Hendrickson *	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Elaine Stewart	Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces, Wildlife Area Manager
Patt Opdyke *	North Portland Neighborhoods
Emily Roth *	The Wetlands Conservancy
Troy Clark *	Portland Audubon Society
Frank Opila *	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Pat Sullivan	Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces
Holly Michael *	Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife
Kristin Calhoun	Regional Arts and Culture Council
Jim Morgan *	Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces
Patricia Farrell	Pacific Habitat Services
Bob Grummel	Grummel Engineering
Nanda D'Agostino	Artist
Valerie Otani	Artist
Kurt Lango	Lango Hansen Landscape Architects
Stephen Hayes	Regional Arts and Culture Council
Ean Eldred	Eldred Design
Denise Rennis *	Port of Portland
Jerry Mayer	Artist
Dennis O'Neil	Regional Environmental Management

* denotes voting member

As noted in a mailing to the Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee (SBLMC) prior to this August 27 meeting, it was a meeting of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) for the Smith and Bybee Lakes facilities project as well. All members of the SBLMC are members of the PAC, as well as three representatives from the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC).

Presentation – Preliminary concept design of recreational facilities

Kurt Lango, of Lango Hansen Landscape Architects, and artists, Nanda D'Agostino and Valerie Otani, gave a presentation on the preliminary design concept for the proposed recreational facilities at Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. It included segments on public art, parking, the canoe launch site, demolition and restoration of the old parking lot, entry improvements, etc.

Two alternative designs were presented, neither of which, in its entirety, will likely be the definitive plan. Lango reminded those present that both designs were based on the October 1999 Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Recreation Facilities Plan prepared by Dean Apostol.

D'Agostino's and Otani's approach to the project proposes intertwining the art and the landscape design; juxtaposing wide sweeping curves of planted materials with small focal points of art. The hope is to make visitors aware of the special qualities of the wildlife area. The artists also see the art component as a way for people to become intrigued by and curious about the natural setting and the phenomena that are taking place around them. It should also provide places to pause, slow down and reflect. Following the presentation, the design team solicited

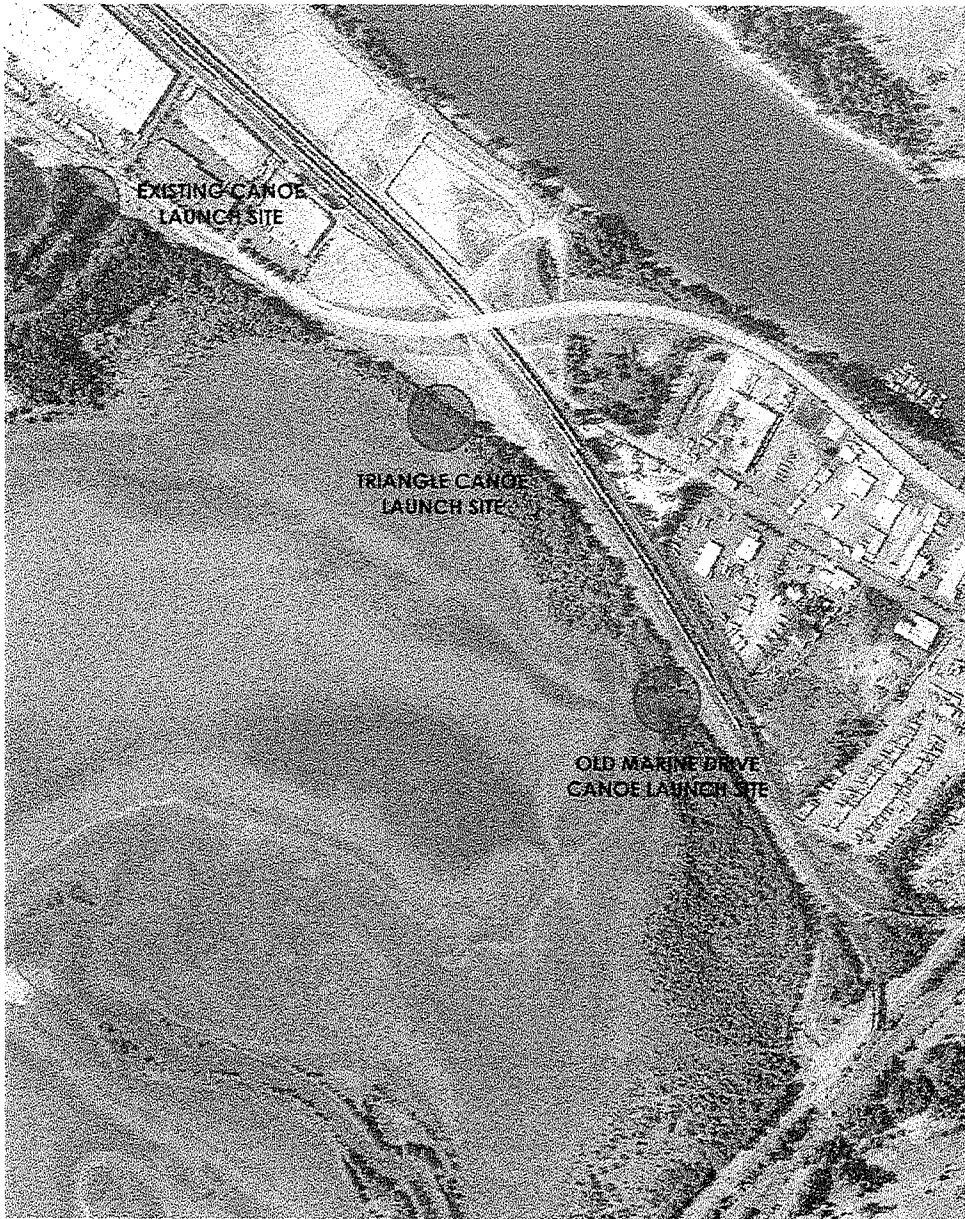
comments from the Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee, which will be considered in the final design. Committee members made a number of observations and expressed concerns for elements of the design that the SBLMC has considered important, some even vital.

Included is a list of those discussion points as compiled by Elaine Stewart. A show of hands was asked of the PAC as to how many needed additional information and analysis before being able to provide direction to the design team about the canoe launch site. In addition a straw vote was then taken as to an early preference for either of the two designs. The results of those unofficial PAC votes are also included in the attachment.

Actions are listed below which will be taken prior to the next SBLMC meeting by the PAC. All will be done via e-mail due to severe time constraints. In response to comments made at tonight's meeting, additional information will be provided to the PAC members. They will then:

1. respond with questions and comments
2. be provided responses to those questions and comments
3. vote on the preferred design

The next Management Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24 2002.



TRIANGLE CANOE LAUNCH SITE

- GOOD VISIBILITY AND SECURITY FROM ENTRY ROAD
- CLOSE PROXIMITY TO RESTROOM, PARKING AND INNER LAKES TRAIL
- GOOD VEHICULAR ACCESSIBILITY
- SIGNIFICANT IMPACT TO EXISTING NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS
- DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY LAUNCH SITE FROM LAKE
- HIGH CONSTRUCTION COST FOR DREDGING AND BOARDWALK
- DIFFICULT PERMITTING PROCESS
- HIGH LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE COST
- POOR ADA ACCESS FROM OLD MARINE DRIVE

OLD MARINE DRIVE CANOE LAUNCH SITE

- MINIMAL IMPACT TO EXISTING NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS
- EASY TO IDENTIFY LAUNCH SITE FROM LAKE
- LOW LONG-TERM MAINTENANCE COST
- GOOD ADA ACCESS FROM OLD MARINE DRIVE
- POOR PROXIMITY TO RESTROOM, PARKING AND INNER LAKES TRAIL
- NEED TO MITIGATE EXISTING STORMWATER OUTFALL AT CANOE LAUNCH SITE
- PROXIMITY TO RAILROAD TRACKS



CANOE LAUNCH FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS



**Notes from discussion on preliminary concept design – recreational facilities
Project Advisory Committee meeting, August 27, 2002**

Soft surface trail – what is the elevation? May flood in winter and spring. (Roth)

Maintenance – what will the costs be? Need to pare project down to the minimum to avoid costs that we can't afford on our lean budget. (Clark)

Soft surface trail – is it in sensitive habitat? (Opdyke) [ems – no]

Willow “weaves” – can you describe more fully? (Roth) [Nanda described them]

Art on the lakes – does not like the idea, recommends that art on the south side of the 40-mile Loop Trail be minimized, because the natural area is art in itself. (Opila)

Viewing blinds are located along the interlakes trail, are there plans for any wildlife viewing areas along the trails here? (Opdyke) [not at this point but may have an opportunity along the soft surface trail]

Does not want to see art on the lakes, wants the other installations to be more permanent and not transient/ephemeral. (Bob Neilsen)

Interested in art on the water, idea of vertical change. (Ian)

No opinion on whether art should be on water, but concept seems disparate with rest of art proposed for site, is more apparently man-made. (Steve)

Why not pull out the dozen or so bird blinds abandoned in the lakes and use them to make a sculpture on the shore? (Clark)

Less is better – feels that perspective from the Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes is being left out here. (Clark)

Reference sculpture in lakes could incorporate large woody debris, which would also serve habitat functions. (Morgan)

Native American references – this area not used for major boat launches or fish weirs, but first peoples did build ovens for baking wapato; fire-cracked stones have been found there. (Morgan)

Use of very large stones – these large rocks are generally erratics deposited during Missoula floods and tend to be located on higher sites, not at low elevations like the lakes. (Morgan)

Parking – may also have to mitigate for parking at old canoe launch site if that is final selection. (Morgan)

Willows – will lose a lot to beavers, and shape of the walls will be lost to observers as trees grow, damage occurs, etc. (Morgan)

Soft surface trail – is going into a wetland area, and there may be permit challenges to building it. (Morgan)

Entry – habitat trees need to be integrated into the restoration work. Otherwise, if cottonwoods are planted around them the habitat trees will soon be covered up. (Morgan)

Agree with Opila to keep develop on north side of road. (Morgan)

Has the railroad's access to their rails been dealt with? (Clark) [yes]

Earlier plans had an interpretive center in the southeast corner of the wildlife area, is this now abandoned? [yes, current plan is new approach]

Stormwater outfall – need to ensure it's only stormwater and not full of pollutants. (Roth)

Feasibility analysis did not address all the pros and cons of the canoe launch, two things in particular are 1) operational concerns from cars (surface pollution), 2) look at the water levels and how they compare at the sites. Need to weigh environmental impacts of the two launch sites. (Rennis)

Picnic tables – should we have them? (Davis)

Canoe launch – east site allows for getting boat further into lake even as it dries because of sand substrate. (Opila)

Art in the lakes – not necessarily opposed to it but issue of scale – prefers a more intimate experience. (Michael)

Habitat trees – intended to be symbolic or functional? (Michael) [Nanda – goal is to be useable but depends on siting]

Bat houses close to people are often vandalized because a lot of people still do not like bats. Maybe do installation in more distant location. (Michael)

Vandalism – is there a contingency for repairs? (Michael)

Like a lot of the art, will there be interpretive signage? How will people learn about the art? (Michael) [Calhoun – RACC is moving toward more descriptive identification. Nanda – likes the model of descriptive writeups at a central location but not necessarily right next to art where it may interfere with experience]

Soft surface trail – hesitant about more human intrusion next to habitat. (Michael)

Endorses focusing art on north side of the road. (Michael)

Trail width – the section of the 40-mile Loop Trail along the wildlife area was narrowed from 12' to 10' as part of the North Marine Drive widening project, to avoid encroaching further into wildlife area. Can we do the same here? (Hendrickson)

First concept (using old canoe launch) will have many places where people will cross the road, this is a safety issue. (Everhart) [Kurt – design elements will direct people where to go]

North Portland Rd. entrance – Port is not interested in conveying message about navigation, wants to stress the naturalness of the area and blend it with the wildlife area. (Rennis)

Prefers not to have art installed in the lake. (Rennis)

Likes continuity of art from BES facility to N Portland Rd to Marine Dr entrance. (Roth)

Bioswales – not a fan of their use for parking lots (Rennis) [Bob G. – would use trap basin/catches; Rennis OK with this]

Where kids will eat – big rocks will be good for low picnics. (Clark)

Kurt summarized:

- 1) Soft surface trail concerns include elevation and wildlife impacts.
- 2) Canoe launch – general preference for the old boat launch site
PAC disagreed with this point, does not feel issue is settled.

Show of hands – how many need additional analysis/information to feel comfortable providing direction to design team about canoe launch location? 4 need more, 2 OK

Straw vote – 7 favor old launch site, 1 favored triangle site, 1 abstained (2 had left earlier).

Next steps: provide additional information to PAC, they will ask questions, those will be answered, then PAC will vote. All to be done via email, about a week for each step.

From: "Hendrickson, Nancy" <NANCYH@BES.CI.PORTLAND.OR.US>
To: 'Pat Sullivan' <SullivanP@metro.dst.or.us>
Date: 8/19/02 10:43AM
Subject: SBLMC

Pat, thanks for sending this out with the minutes. I have included the actual letter, and an email I sent out in June. I didn't get any responses to the email in June, so this is the final letter as far as I know.

<<2002-06-25 letter OPDR Port Trail LUR.doc>> <<RE issues discussed at the 4-23 and 5-28 meetings.rtf>>

I can't seem to find the email from Denise - or Elaine - that was a notification that the LUR was submitted. I had wanted to send that out as well. Maybe Elaine has it. If you could send that out as well, that would really give everyone the scoop.

Thanks again,
Nancy

CC: 'Elaine Stewart' <stewarte@metro.dst.or.us>

From: "Hendrickson, Nancy" <NANCYH@BES.CI.PORTLAND.OR.US>
To: 'Pat Sullivan' <SullivanP@metro.dst.or.us>
Date: 8/19/02 4:06PM
Subject: FW: Submittal of 40 mile loop LUR application

Pat (and Elaine),

Here is the email I was thinking about. Please include this with the other two things I have sent you if you have not sent the packet already.

Thanks a bunch,
Nancy

-----Original Message-----

From: Rennis, Denise [mailto:rennid@portptld.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2002 9:52 AM
To: 'Elaine Stewart'; 'Nancy Hendrickson'
Subject: Submittal of 40 mile loop LUR application

You may already know this from Gerry, but the 40 mile loop application was submitted to OPDR last week while I was on vacation. The usual process is for OPDR to review for completeness. Records show they ALWAYS have more questions and we expect to get this returned. Then, after they are satisfied all the information is there, they put it out for public comment. So, don't expect to be seeing anything from them for a while. I will try and let you know when we have heard that it is going out for public comment.

CC: 'Elaine Stewart' <stewarte@metro.dst.or.us>

From: Patricia Sullivan
To: S&BVoters+Elaine+Gregg
Date: 8/16/02 5:16PM
Subject: S & B Aug 27 Agenda

Attached is the agenda for the upcoming August 27 meeting of the Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee. I am also sending the meeting notes from the July 23 meeting. Please see the note at the bottom of the agenda indicating this will be a joint meeting with the representatives of the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC). We hope to begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. See you then. Pat

Everyone- FYI

-Elaine

-----Original Message-----

From: Rennis, Denise [<mailto:rennid@portptld.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2002 9:52 AM

To: 'Elaine Stewart'; 'Nancy Hendrickson'

Subject: Submittal of 40 mile loop LUR application

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From: Lora Price
To: Patricia Sullivan
Date: 7/22/02 4:03PM
Subject: Smith & Bybee Lakes Art Visioning Workshop Notes

Hi Patricia, I'd appreciate it if you could send this memo and attachment on to meeting participants as well as Mgt. committee members. Thank You!

Dear Workshop Participants and S&B Management Committee Members:

For your interest, please find attached, meeting notes from the Art Visioning Workshop for Smith & Bybee Lakes. Thank you to those of you that participated. Your input was valuable and appreciated. For those of you that could not make it, the design team invites any additional thoughts you may have about the lakes to help guide the creation of the public art.

Specifically the design team would like to know:

1. What are the qualities of the lakes that you would most like to see reflected in the art?
2. Are there natural concepts or historical themes that you feel could or should be expressed through the art?
3. What interesting or significant experiences have you had with other people on or around the lakes?
4. Describe a memorable experience you have had with public art in a natural setting?
5. Are there spots around the lakes that you feel are particularly special? Where and Why?

You may send comments to Lora Price; Project Manager at Metro Regional Parks 600 Ne Grand Ave, Portland, OR 97232 or to pricel@metro.dst.or.us.

To briefly update you on the project's progress and next steps; the design team is actively conducting analysis and feasibility assessment to tackle the technical, environmental and traffic design constraints parallel to exploring public art concepts. They will be reporting their findings, and providing recommendations and several alternative public art concepts at the next Project Advisory Committee Meeting to be held on August 27th at 5:30pm at Metro in room 270. This will be an important meeting to provide input on!

