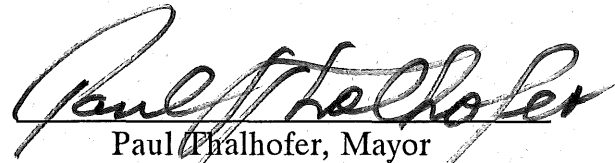


CITY OF TROUTDALE

AGENDA
TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL - WORK SESSION
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TROUTDALE CITY HALL
104 SE KIBLING AVENUE
TROUTDALE, OR 97060-2099

AUGUST 15, 1995 - 7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL
2. DISCUSSION: Columbia Park Master Plan.
3. DISCUSSION: Reynolds Little League Agreement.
3. ADJOURNMENT



Paul Thalhofer, Mayor

Dated: 8-11-95

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MINUTES
Troutdale City Council - Work Session
Troutdale City Hall
Council Chambers
104 SE Kibling Avenue
Troutdale, OR. 97060-2099

August 15, 1995

Tape #1 was missing. Started with tape #2.

Male: By having another field back there I am concerned with the parking situation, increase of foot traffic, people, cars, car door slamming, kids screaming and running all-around and things like that. I was originally in favor of Option "A" from Imagination Station but apparently that doesn't seem to want to go through. If there is a parking area back there I would like to propose that we keep it on the backside, away from the residences. That would be quieter for the people in that live in the area. I don't know what other advantage there would be to that, but at least that would make some people happier. The jogging path would be very beneficial if it did go all the way around the perimeter, being a track coach in the past and so forth, that could be used a lot by the high school cross country team.

Val Lantz stated there is a continuous perimeter path the way this is proposed.

Male: That's my basic concern at least on the west side. On the east side you got rid of the parking and got cul-de-sacs instead. I agree with that and the residences agree with that also. On the west side I would like to have parking away from the residence too.

Leslie Daoust stated everything in that park I have raised. I was there at the meeting when we said we do not want the developer to have this land, we will buy as much land as we can and I will raise the money for the park and I have done it and I will continue to do it. I do not want to give this up to a building. My thoughts here are to make this a dog run mostly leaving it like it is. There a lot of people, and I talked to so many people who are going to go through quite a shock when they can't walk there dog out here. There are always dogs out here, there's probably 30 a day going through here being walked. They need a place to go and I would ask that this become that dog run. Another problem is that we need a shaded area at Imagination Station. I propose that we have a covered picnic

shelter on the east side of the park and possibly back here with the bathrooms. It looks to me like there's room for it. Another thing we could do is plant trees and shrubbery and we could have a beautiful area to walk through. I don't think we are going to ruin anybody's view by planting a few trees.

Councilor Lloyd: Let's talk about these group picnic things, what has been the demand for this? I have heard everything from we'll cover up the whole soccer field with group picnic tables to eventually putting up one covered area there on the south side. What is the projected demand for group picnic tables?

Val Lantz: Actually there are two uses that are being considered at this site. Having a covered area somewhere in the area of Imagination Station really serves the people who come there on an everyday basis. The other kind of group picnic area is more the shelter and barbeque area where you can have company picnics or larger groups. It kind of depends on the reason why someone is coming on what kind of picnic you're talking about. I think the small shelter for the people who are coming to use the park in small family groups would be very workable in this space. The larger group picnic things, again I think if we start putting everything on that side it starts getting to many things going on in that space. We do have other parks that have the group picnic idea where we have large groups coming in for the picnic thing and we may not necessarily have to do that use in this park.

Councilor Lloyd: Why would we try to attract all these people to Troutdale? Why do we need all these things?

Val Lantz: We are trying to serve the people that are all ready in Troutdale.

Councilor Lloyd: I am all in favor of the covered group picnic area. I guess in my mind they could fit right there at the south end of that soccer field or put one where Leslie has her pointer but I don't see developing that huge group picnic table in order to get people from Portland or Beaverton to come out here to have a picnic here. I think it is just a little too busy.

Female: It seems to be a real children's park and we want to keep it as a children's park and we want to keep the theme that goes with it. When you bring in the picnic shelter area for family reunion and things like that, you've got so many large regional parks around that service that all ready and this is a kid's park.

Carolyn Taylor: There is a need here in Troutdale and people have expressed an interest in our survey for a group picnic area. It services the residence of Troutdale like the Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, families that want to have a reunion. There are all types of needs for the citizens here in Troutdale. The community park has one to two weddings every weekend and that building down there is booked months in advance. These are all local people very seldom is there anybody from Gresham renting that facility. I live right across

from the community park down there and I know the crowds that come and there really is not a lot of noise. They can build a picnic shelter across from me I wouldn't object to that at all because there is a need for it.

Doug Daoust: When the Parks Advisory Committee voted a couple of months ago for Option "C" we didn't have the benefit of the immediate neighbors. Now that we've heard from the immediate neighbors, I think we are willing to keep the west side at its natural state and move the group picnic areas to the south side Imagination Station, if they can fit, along side of the bathrooms. There is a need, according to the survey, for those group picnic areas and that's what we are going on. I think it would be real nice to provide a shaded area for the people using the ball fields and Imagination Station. One thing nice about Sandy's Fantasy Forest is they have a shaded gazebo that the parents can sit in when the sun gets to hot and we don't have that. One of the reasons we considered the north side of Imagination Station, well we also considered that but the more we talked about it putting the group picnic areas on the south side would leave that open view from Cherry Park Road into Imagination Station and leave that as a courtyard gazebo area to be kind of the entrance to Imagination Station and it would look real nice.

Mayor Thalhoffer: What would you do with that little building there?

Doug Daoust: Well it's meant to be a public square or it could be a gathering area. I don't think we have a design for it yet but it could be a gazebo.

Mayor Thalhoffer: Could you have a band playing there?

Doug Daoust: Yes, you could have the Troutdale Symphony.

Councilor Kight: How much area do we need? When we talk about group picnic areas, how many people are we trying to accommodate?

Val Lantz: 50 and up usually.

Doug Daoust: Well the architect for the site put two structures in on the west side, so I assume we are talking about two structures.

Councilor Lloyd: Well what are those? Do they hold 20 people or 50 people?

Val Lantz: Usually 50.

Discussion took place as to where to locate the buildings, the number of people that the buildings would accommodate and whether or not there was enough room to locate two buildings.

Councilor Kight: I really don't have a question but I did call the parks department in Gresham today and I was surprised at the answer that I got for my question. I talk to the gal who makes all the reservations for all the fields and parks through out the system in Gresham and she said the number one highest use above everything else was the soccer field, second the was softball and last was baseball. I was really surprised to hear that answer so I would like to save the soccer field and maybe that west side could develop into another soccer field if there's that kind of demand.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: I sit on the animal control advisory committee and we deal with a lot of issues that the county has to deal with regards to parks and dogs. I think that Mrs. Watson made a perfect comment when she said it's a kid park and right now I understand the need for people to be able to walk their dogs. It's not a park at this time and people feel like they can do that. I've seen a lot of people out there training their dogs and I know there is a need for that. When we get into a formal park setting where you have more people using this facility, a lot of times people really abuse that situation with dogs. I am a dog lover and I had a dog for years until he just died but he loved to run. People start thinking that if they are allowed to start taking their dogs into the park that the dog has a right to be off it's leash and the people let their dogs off leashes and then they attack people and then they attack children. I devote a lot of my own personal time to animal issues and I don't say this lightly but I think we would have a real problem. So I would have to fight that tooth and nail and if someone wants to duke it out with me over, I'll do it because it is just not appropriate for the use of this park.

Leslie Daoust: It would be a fenced dog run, there is a need for dog runs, an awful lot of us have them.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: There's nothing wrong with people walking their dogs in the neighborhood on a leash but when you start allowing them in the facility where they can take their dogs, a lot of people abuse that and feel that a dog has as much rights as a human being and I really can't agree with that.

Ron Northrup: 320 SW 26th Circle. I am here representing Reynolds Little League. I would like everybody know that Reynolds Little League has been involved in this park for a long time. Since this park was talked about ten years ago, Reynolds has worked hard to get two ball fields put in here. There's been talk about softball, one thing about softball is there is a softball field on the east side of Reynolds High School that Reynolds High School isn't using any more and none of the softball people approached anyone, I don't believe to rejuvenate that field. They contacted us the other day and ask us if we would like to turn that into a baseball field.

Councilor Berger-Kimber: Which one is that Ron?

Ron Northrup: On the east side of the school, the one that is over by the gym next to the

tennis courts; they don't use that field anymore. The high school plays on that field to the west the one that's on Cherry Park, and they also play on the two fields at Reynolds Middle School. Reynolds Little League also has put a good deal of money into this already and also has at this point \$15,000.00 earmarked to put into this park. We also have the volunteer manpower to come in and level that land to get it ready to put in baseball fields and also to work to put in the road and the parking facilities and also possibly level for the soccer field. That is all an expense that wouldn't be incurred by the city. The field to the north would definitely be a baseball field. The big difference between baseball and softball is there a mound in the middle of a baseball field and you don't pitch off a mound when you are playing softball. You can't play softball and baseball on the same field at the same time. Jim said he talked to Gresham. One reason Gresham doesn't have a huge need for baseball fields in their parks is like he said, they have two fields in their city parks dedicated solely for the use of little league baseball. Those are beautiful fields and kids love to play on those fields. Reynolds Little League had 40 teams in its league last year and we will grow more this year with the new apartments, new housing that are going in;. We service children between the ages of 6 and 12. The softball program is talking about going up into 18,19,20, 21 year-old kids. When they're talking about youth they are referring to kids that are out of high school also. We are dealing with a large number of young kids; we had 500 kids in our league last year. We're anticipating around 550 this year. We do need more fields. The southern field could be used in conjunction with the group picnic areas in the summer months when people wanted to have a softball game that is not a competitive ASA softball game, sure then you can use the mound. I feel with the commitment that Reynolds Little League has put in and the funding that Reynolds Little League has put in and the work that we are willing to put into this park; I would really like to see both of the fields as little league baseball fields between the months of March and August. This would allow us to play tournaments there, which enhances Troutdale. It would be an honor to host a district or state tournament. Gresham has been lucky enough for the last two years to have district tournament and the Dalles hosted the state tournament. We would love to see Gresham get the district tournament and Troutdale get the state tournament. That's also going to bring money into Troutdale. They would eat in our restaurants and stay in our hotels. This just benefits a lot of kids from this general area, we don't have kids from Portland, this is strictly from the Reynolds School District. There is nobody from Gresham that plays in our league. We have a few kids from Gresham just because of their addresses with way the weird streets the way they are out here and we have some Portland addresses also, but it's a Reynolds School District thing which is mainly Troutdale and we service a lot of those kids.

Mr. Galloway: Is the pitching mound something that has to be permanent? Can it be removed?

Ron Northrup: The mound is something that can be taken out with some work. There are temporary mounds can be bought and taken out. A temporary mound is expensive, real expensive. It is something that has to sit out in the weather.

Female: First, who from Reynolds called and volunteered their field to you?

Ron Northrup: I talked to the field director last night, Brian the incoming field director for Reynolds Little League and he told me that he had been talked to by the school about that field.

Female: Well I would not, not to discredit what you are saying, but until a name becomes tagged with that, that their willing to give away that field. I tend to disagree with that. I'm trying to clarify, is it Reynolds High School that's giving away the field or is it Reynolds softball that is giving it away. There are games at the field all summer with the little girls playing there.

RonNorthrup: It is Reynolds High School. They told us that they do not use that field anymore and we could turn it into a baseball field.

Female: Until a name comes and they are willing to write a check and sign on the dotted line, I disagree with that. It is used a lot.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: Maybe they are talking about just the high school doesn't use it because it's only the little girls that have been using it that I've seen.

Diane Barrio: I spoke at the last meeting. I'll show you where I live. I live right here, I view all the activities. I get police search lights in my living room window. I am a resident of this neighborhood but I helped build Imagination Station along with Leslie and Doug. I am a dog walker, I walk down my dog down this cul-de-sac here and and I walk Reynolds High School. I do walk the field because I do like to look at the sunrise and sunset of Mt. Hood. Reynolds High School and Hudson Lasher at one time were talking that they wanted some cooperation with the walking path that goes all around the high school and tennis field and the field that has high grass on it that has just been mowed. They want a walking path that goes around there so that's a possibility if we work with them on that. I am all game for little league, the problem I have is that we weren't addressing softball. It seemed to be mute issues and maybe it's a battle of the sexes, but ASA softball does not have "the man power" the little league has. We have Mr. Duffy who has seen it through a lot of political upheaval and that's part of the reason you don't have any softball voices here. It's gone through upheaval, the kids have been shorted out, the parents of gotten burned out and that's why there are no softball voices here. There is a transient that does live in here. I have disrupted his bottle can collecting here. We got him over in the dugouts one morning with a wine bottle that he threw at us, so security for this forested area is a big issue. You start knocking out more trees here, we use to have an owl that we could hear every night. He's gone. That was an issue last year when you talked about the Imagination Station, he no longer is there. The group picnic areas, you wonder who we would be attracting. A lot of people are all ready there for birthday parties. It's not that we're a tourist station, it's

what you want to do with you kids and your families.

Councilor Lloyd: What does that mean, does that mean you think it ought to be is right there?

Diane Barrio: That's a real good area right there. If you bury it in trees you are going to have security problems. If you put it here you're going to have a lot of traffic going back and forth, but if you thought about a fenced softball field and I agree with the parking back in here then you are saving that area kind of. You asked who are we trying to attract well, it's not who we are trying to attract, you say Troutdale and people say "Oh, East County wind and what idiots live out there" well, these ones. The idea that you can have a friendly game of softball, that's not what I'm talking about. A friendly game of softball is adults getting out there hitting the ball. That's not the girls who need a little league equivalent for softball, it requires a separate field. You can't really do it on the same field, that would be shorting both and serving neither,.

Councilor Kight: Are you saying you would like to have softball on the west side, is that what you saying?

Diane Barrio: Yes. Even if you don't do it right now, but approach and save the idea for later, do it has a dog walk now with the possibility of softball later.

Councilor Kight: The more I think about it, living next to a park gives one insight as to how people work and parking lots and so on and so forth. Do you see a problem with moving the parking lot down and into the center and southern portion of that park. Do you see a problem with that? Obviously the cost because of the road is going to longer with more paving involved, do you see a problem with that?

Valerie Lantz: I could see using the turf parking approach with controlled access so that when we needed overflow area for an activity that is going on in good weather and we needed more space to park over on this side, the turf would be viable enough to park on that so we wouldn't have to pave over the whole over there.

Councilor Kight: No, what I am saying is instead of having the parking lot on the north side of the west side where it is currently located, is move that parking lot down and to the south.

Valerie Lantz: No matter where we put our parking as long as we keep our control up here with a gate up here so they can't get in, the key here for the parking in the western half is controlling the access at the beginning. It doesn't matter as much where the parking is located as long as we control the access as well. Locating it further south does get it away from this neighborhood, currently there is only two houses on this side of the park but I don't know what the future development is going to be on these parcels and even though

there are no houses there now in the future there may be. Even though there is no one here saying we don't want it here now, in the future there might be.

Councilor Kight: Can you go in a little deeper maybe go east a little bit on the southern portion, can you do that?

Valerie: This is where the trails are going to be coming down and it starts impacting on the paths.

Rob Klever: 1420 SE Evans, Parks Advisory Committee. I do have the form here that Dragoo & Associates developed from the survey from 700 Troutdale residences. 60% of the residents responded to the survey. At one time there was a 16 team softball league around the area which has since disbanded because they don't have enough playing facilities which included the entire women's program. I think that we should be able to provide for everybody and a method of doing that is allowing the north side field, the smaller field, to become a good grass infield, with a mound, little league park that everybody can be proud of. This other field could be developed for multiple use, I also talked to a couple of cities including West Linn who is going through the same process that we are. They have a couple of fields that are designated multiple use, they do not have a grass infield, they do not have mounds, they have a rubber plate to pitch from for everybody to use. They can move it back and forth as needed, that would be similar to the thing we mentioned early in the evening about the base pads. Some leagues play on 60 foot base pads and some are 65 and that would satisfy the need for, if it develops that people would like to play on other than little league. I also mentioned earlier that Sandee Palisades ball field could also be further developed. It's there, it gets very little use, I have seen some T-ball players there in the early summer. That goes in line with one of the recommendations that the Parks Advisory Committee had set forth. I don't know if the council has received the over all parks plan for the entire city. One provision of that is that as we develop these parks lands and we have further sports fields coming on line that we upgrade the parks to become a city department. We would even go so far as to recommend hiring a recreation specialist, that along with the entering an agreement with the school district, so we have mutual agreements of all the ball fields in the area. That one person could schedule everything for the area for everybody. One thing that Dragoo & Associates mentioned is that we might also contract that person out as a city employee to satisfy the needs of Fairview and Wood Village if we don't have enough work for them. They don't have anybody that is fulfilling that function and they would have to pay us a certain amount of money for that service. One thing that I also want to mention on the survey, we talked about why we need certain things, in answering the question: how would you like to see this money used for neighborhood parks, meaning our bond money, for ages 18 and over. The number one response was for picnic areas at our facilities, followed by pathways, walk ways, upgrading playground equipment, benches, seating areas. The number one sports activities was for basketball courts which we kind of ran out of space to provide here at Columbia, followed by other sports fields and landscaping. That is what we

went by to get the overall plan for Columbia Park and that's why we tried to get someplace specifically for the picnic area. If we can make it happen in another place in the park that satisfies that need, that's great. None of us had really thought about having the maintenance facility on the west end because we all thought that was really taking away a lot of the parks lands for someplace that could be better utilized and really didn't satisfy the security requirements that the residences brought up. People are leaving at 6:00 and after 6:00, I think is when most of the problems arise with transient and people wandering.

Mayor Thalhofer: In the Reynolds High School area Columbia Park, how many outdoor basketball courts are there?

Rob Clever: None.

Mayor Thalhofer: None, that's what I thought and that's the number one activity that they were calling for on your survey.

Rob Clever: Yes. We had some half court fields plugged in on option "A" and we had talked about possibly putting in a larger covered basketball area in the northern part of the park where the soccer fields are at, but more people were in favor of the soccer field at that point. It was kind of overruled and we just kind of ran out of space.

Male: We were talking about the group picnic areas and a couple of meetings ago we were talking about two parks. Is there any group picnic areas at the second park, Sunrise Park?

Rob Clever: Nothing right now.

Male: That would that be conducive to groups, it's wide open, it's not planned to much. This park has a lot of things that you are trying to put in it. It is very narrow because of the green belt.

Rob Clever: Right we tried to utilize as much as we could.

Male: What about a basketball court or a soccer field at the other park?

Councilor Burger-Kimber: We did have a lot of concern from the whole neighborhood around Sunrise Park. They really complained about the basketball courts because they said they didn't want to hear bouncing balls.

Male: The biggest thing that I heard was that they had an objection to a road going through.

Councilor Burger-Kimber: There were three things, one was the facilities maintenance

building, the other was the road and the third thing was the basketball courts and the play structure being too close to the houses. It was planned for the north side, next to the houses that have gone in and they want it further. A lot of people wanted it to go away.

Councilor Thompson: People who go to that park are going to want to be able to picnic there.

Bruce Standard: I think that you guys found out that a park can't be everything to everybody and when you have 22 acres and part of its trees, then that eliminates part of your flexibility. As I see it, I would like to keep the west open either for a dog run or a small softball, small mini kind of park. It's a perfect little park but with those trees in there you are only going to have a 180 feet, it could be a small park for the softball players. I guess that's one possibility or a dog run or just leave it open for now. As far as I was concerned I think we could use that land for something better than for a maintenance facility. The other side, we have the bathrooms there and I think that bathrooms with some scattered picnic tables out towards the road along the outside among the trees. I hate to get into the group picnic thing. I think some additional tables would be enough. I think that Blue Lake and our city park, those are built for group picnics. I hate to throw a lot of things in there and make it cluttered. We have worked so hard at this that I would like to keep at least one of those fields as a little league field. As for the second field, I am not sure how that would work to have it as a shared field.

Female: You are willing to go to Blue Lake which is city of Portland park?

Bruce Standard: No, it's a Metro park.

Female: You've probably gone to Gresham's Red Sunset Park for a group picnic or maybe thought about it.

Bruce Standard: Well I just can't see having a company picnic up there. I'd say families that come together for the ball game or to go to Imagination Station, that's how I see it.

Female: Does it seem to you that Troutdale people are users of the communities around us and not promoting it to others?

Bruce Standard: Well you know if you look at the survey you know they did find out where people come from. Did they go to their neighborhood parks or did they leave our city to go to a Wood Village park or to a Gresham park. I don't know how mobile our people are but the survey says where people come from and where they will go and where they won't go. I am not an expert on that.

Mayor Thalhofer: I think we are getting a picture here of what this park should look like. Anybody else here who would like to speak to us? Anybody else at all. Leslie?

Leslie Daoust: The picnic area could be covered as needed because there's not shade out there right now. We are really desperate for shade. The people who are all ready holding birthday parties out there need a better place and a least a small covered picnic area. I think the spot I showed you is ideal. We also need a barbeque pit because people are trying to barbeque out there, if that's what people want to do then we had better provide one or else they are going to use their hand made barbeques and burn up the tables. I am definitely for the dog run. I would like to get beautiful trees donated for that soccer field and move the soccer field down to the baseball area.

Carolyn Taylor: 742 Jackson Park Road. We do need a picnic area out there, a small one. I don't think we need the big type structure, those are awfully large and would effect that park to much with the traffic and that would be 50 to 100 people. We do need a structure there to take care of the people who are using the park but I think we should look elsewhere for the group area. Maybe the Community Park or Sunrise Park, because there is a need for that.

Mayor Thalhofer: The community park lends itself to that sort of thing.

Mayor Thalhofer: Any questions of Carolyn

Tape ended, no additional tape found.

Paul Thalhofer, Mayor

Dated

Unapproved Minutes

Recorded by George Martinez, City Recorder

Prepared by Temporary Employee, July 2000