

HERMAN FRANKS PARK

EMIGRATION CREEK

STAKEHOLDER MEETING - ONE 11/9/16 MINUTES

DATE/TIME

November 9, 2016 at 4 to 5:30PM

LOCATION

Publik Coffee Roasters' Large Meeting Room - 2nd Floor
975 S West Temple, SLC, UT 84101

ATTENDEES

1. Brian Tonetti - *Seven Canyons Trust*
2. Jeff Niermeyer - *Seven Canyons Trust*
3. Laura Bandara - *Seven Canyons Trust*
4. Chelsea Gauthier - *Seven Canyons Trust*
5. Seth Bockholt - *Bockholt Landscape Arch.*
6. Ellen Parrish - *East Liberty Park Comm. Org.*
7. Bernard Mo - *SLC Public Utilities*
8. Jason Draper - *SLC Public Utilities*
9. Kristen Ricker - *SLC Parks & Public Lands*
10. Tyler Murdock - *SLC Parks & Public Lands*
11. Lizel Allen - *SLCo Flood Control*

MEETING

INTRODUCTIONS

Brian Tonetti opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. He asked attendees to introduce themselves.

PRESENTATION

Brian present the mission and vision of the Seven Canyons Trust, who they are, how they started, and what they hope to do. He presented the current conditions of the hydrology with 21 miles of buried creeks in the valley. He presented three similar daylighting precedents from across the country. He started with City Creek Park, highlighting the partnership between Salt Lake City and the LDS Church and its impact in uncovering 1,000 linear feet of creek. He moved on to Dolph Creek, a precedent from Portland, Oregon. He highlighted this project's impact of daylighting 1,000 linear feet of creek, implementing green infrastructure, and achieving many City initiatives for under \$500,000. Finally, he highlighted a precedent from San Pablo, California on Wildcat Creek that daylit 500 feet of creek routed through a baseball field, and the project's ability to achieve an agreement for the multiple uses of the park.

Next, he unveiled the proposed Herman Franks Park Emigration Creek Daylighting Project. He announced the scope of the project between the ballfields and surrounding roads. He invited attendees to the project's first community design charrette on November 18th from 5:30 to





8PM at the Tracy Aviary, and asked attendees to share the event with any interested parties or residents of the area. He shared the timeline of the project. Then, he presented next steps to raise awareness and build community support for the project through an installation and art project.

Seth Bockholt shared his excitement for the project. He presented the 1867 map of Salt Lake City and how the City's residents have lost access to the waters that once flowed through their neighborhoods. He stated that he plans to continue to work with the Seven Canyons Trust to help their mission and vision. He invited the stakeholders along on the process, as feedback will help create a collaborative design vision. He suggested stakeholders take advantage of this pro bono work to discuss the potential to reimagine this park without expending any funds.

ROUNDTABLE QUESTIONS

Brian switched to the Stakeholder Meeting - One handout. He discussed the potential to daylight 1,000 feet of creek at the park. He shared potential benefits of the project including improved water quality, a community amenity, wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, and a living laboratory for nearby schools. He moved on to the questions outlined in the handout. He opened the discussion up to the attendees.

He asked the second question on the handout:

“What do you envision for the project area?”

Laura Bandara suggested looking at the project as an opportunity for environmental education. Jeff Niermeyer informed attendees of the history of the park and the hydrology of the area. He suggested preserving the culvert for flood flows and daylighting a portion of the flows through the park to educate the public about the hydrology and create a community amenity. He warned about two existing wells in the northwest edge of the park and the need to preserve these to flow into Liberty Pond, which serves as irrigation for Liberty Park.

Bernard Mo mentioned Public Utilities sent out a surveyor to the site. The surveyor confirmed that the northeast corner of the site is the highest, making grading the creek channel challenging. He asked if the creek channel could go down the south and west-sides of the park, instead. Brian mentioned that the dog park is there, and that alignment would likely not be supported by the community.

Jason Draper warned that the waters will likely need to be pumped up to the surface to prevent the large cut needed to remove the culvert outright in this alignment. He suggested creating





an intermittent stream that could be turned off and on three or four times a day. This would provide water quality benefits. Seth suggested using a water feature to pump the water up to the surface, such as a fountain or sculpture.

Written responses:

- "Unfenced. Signs and dogs. Safety for children." (Ellen Parrish)
- "Multi-use park space. Connection of park to neighborhood. Storm water quality treatment." (Jason Draper)

"Are there any specific improvements, within the project area, you would like to see?"

Lizel Allen said that the culvert that contains the waters of Emigration Creek is probably undersized, as it pressurizes in high flow situations. Salt Lake County Flood Control plans to enlarge the culvert at some point. However, there is no funding at this time. She recommended to design the project for the 100-year flood. She suggested a design that might enhance the capacity of the system and mitigate some of the culvert issues.

Written responses:

- "Contamination of Emigration Creek; danger to children + dogs." (Ellen Parrish)
- "SLCo Flood Control Easement. Maintenance access. Hydraulic capacity." (Lizel Allen)
- "Aeration. Intermittent flows?" (Jason Draper)

"Do you have any concerns with the proposed daylighting efforts?"

Kristen Rikers expressed concern about the scope of the project. The scope included space where baseball players warm-up, and where the bleachers and concession stand are. Brian clarified that the project will not disrupted any of the current uses at the park. He hopes that the project can enhance the current uses, such as a berm where families could sit and watch the game. Kristen was unsure if there was enough space to include this.

Lizel said that the project should take maintenance into account. Jeff said that access will need to be maintained for the grate at the outfall to remove sticks and other garbage that collects there. Brian hoped that this project would actually help mitigate maintenance needs, and make it easier to access for maintenance crews. Precedents show that daylit channels are easier to maintain than culverts.

Chelsea Gauthier asked if there were water quality issues to take into account. Brian said Emigration Creek is impaired with *E. coli*. He suggested that the design elements and signage could help discourage children and dogs from getting into the water. Seth suggested that the





water feature could include a UV water filter to clean the water before it went into the channel.

Seth asked participants about the trees in the area. He said they looked old and may need to be removed soon. Kristen did not know of any plans to remove them. Although, the City Forester had to remove all the trees on the north-side of the park. She will follow-up to see if there are any plans to remove these trees.

Tyler Murdock mentioned there is some concern about how the public perceives where the project is coming. He suggested the Seven Canyons Trust be very clear in its outreach about who is leading the project. Brian hoped that he had been clear who the project was coming from. If he hadn't, he asked Tyler to let him know. Chelsea suggested clarifying this with lawn signs or a banner at the park with logos. Tyler suggested clarifying roles with a poster at the design charrette. Seth said that this was an opportunity and an important point to emphasize. This project is not using tax dollars. It is pro bono. He encouraged participants to take advantage of the process to create well designed concepts.

Ellen Parrish expressed potential concerns about safety. Brian said that these concerns were often unfounded. He thought they were more perceived issues, rather than real ones. He mentioned that there are daylight sections of Emigration Creek upstream, and these do not have any such issues. He said that the Seven Canyons Trust was not purposing anything new, but rather an extension of what already exists.

Written responses:

- "Dog waste, children playing." (Ellen Parrish)
- "Future flows currently Emigration Creek through the piped sections is undersized. Approximately 10-year capacity. At some point, Emigration Creek will be improved to increase capacity to 100-year flows." (Lizel Allen)
- "Technical daylighting & elevations, bank slopes, safety, flood control, water quality with dog uses." (Jason Draper)
- "Baseball leagues use this area to view games and warm-up. Several mature trees in this area. Existing playground. Concessions and parking in that area." (Kristin Riker)

"Are there any more stakeholder groups that should be at the table?"

Ellen suggested contacting the School Board Representative of the area, Heather Bennett. She suggest reaching out to Youth City, who has a building at Liberty Park, and the Sugarhouse Boys & Girls Club. Brian mentioned that these would be good groups to reach out to for the community design charrettes. He suggested the Department of Water Quality. Jason suggested



to reach out to Sandy Wingert there. Seth suggested reaching out to Nancy Monteith at the Salt Lake City Parks & Public Lands. Ellen suggested to reach out to the Sugarhouse Community Council, specifically Judi Short and Amy Barry.

Written responses:

- "School board, George S. & Dolores Dore Eccles Foundation. Get Jackie Biskupski on board. She used to live on Roosevelt right by the park." (Ellen Parrish)
- "Urban Forestry. Parks Maintenance." (Jason Draper)

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:33PM -

