

FOLKER PARK

SITE PLAN UPDATE – April 4, 2017



PLANNING PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Advisory Group Members:

Since November 2016, the Advisory has met 1 – 2 times per month.

Barbara Garner - University Area Community Council Parks/Recreation Committee Chair

Karen Strash-Purtzer - Horizon House Activities Coordinator

Sarah L. Zachares - Horizon House Resident

Dora Archer - Horizon House Resident

Gay Hile - Horizon House Resident

Victoria Wise - Horizon House Resident

Rose L. Osborne - Horizon House Resident

Martha Shields - Horizon House Resident

Cleda Foster - Horizon House Resident

Sandy Faunch - Horizon House Resident

Site Plan

Theme

An "Intergenerational" Health and Healing Park that is ADA accessible and inclusive for all users.

Priorities

- **ADA 8-Foot Wide Paths:**
 - **1 Fitness Path** – 8 foot wide for ADA, must be either asphalt, concrete paved or ADA accessible boardwalk (a combination of materials is acceptable).
 - **1 Healing Path** – 8 foot wide for ADA or could have passing areas and a min. of 6 feet width, must be either asphalt, concrete paved or ADA accessible boardwalk (a combination of materials is acceptable).
 - Symbolic references to the Celtic Healing Knot – symbolizing infinity and eternity.
- **Lighting:** Lighting along the trails and at all trailheads, must be dark-sky compliant and down-casting to prevent light pollution.
- **Safety Call-box:** at least one safety call box is requested in park
- **Seating and Picnic Benches:** to be sited throughout the park as they relate to areas, final seating designs to take in account need to ADA accommodation and increased amount for Seniors
- **Fitness Area:** Intergenerational Fitness Equipment designed for all users
- **Welcoming Plaza:** Icon Sculpture, Seating (must have backs and be designed to accommodate disabled users), Bright Perennial Flower beds
- **Community Gardens or Perennial Flower Beds** (located within Right-of way purview)
- **Water Access for Watering:** spicket or equal (for keeping gardens alive)
- **Crosswalk:** Suggested location to cross at intersection of E. 42nd Avenue and Folker Street from proposed welcoming plaza to southern boundary of the Providence Horizon House property (located under MOA Traffic Department's purview)

- **Art Area:** sculpture gardens, unique seating areas that allow for ease of access from plaza, Art could be rotating or permanent pieces.
- **Play Area:** Nature or Artistic themed, non-obtrusive, younger users (toddlers to 12 yrs. old)
- **Outdoor Musical Instruments Area:** Preferred chimes or equal, to be sited away from residential, ideally along path near play area.
- **Birding Area:** Native plant buffer, opportunity for interpretive signs about plant and animal species, bird houses
- **Reflexology Path:** mosaic of stones, therapy skills area, tranquil "healing" area
- **Bridge of Flowers:** a mobility training bridge over "flower stream" to aid in climbing skills
- **Stream of Flowers:** "Forget-Me-Nots" (*Myosotis alpestris*) flowers are to be planted to mimic a stream formation through site, (Forget-Me-Nots, the official Alaskan state flower, also a symbol for the Alzheimer's Association:
<http://www.alaska.org/advice/forget-me-not>
<http://www.flowermeaning.com/forget-me-not-flower-meaning/>
- **Labyrinth Plaza:** Ideally constructed of concrete or equal material, with in-laid labyrinth pattern detail
- **Forested seating wall in berm:** west side to be a bench/retaining wall, keep existing trees, east side to be a subliminal seating space for watching events on the labyrinth plaza
- **Existing Vegetation:** keep as much of the existing vegetation as possible. Where possible, construct around all healthy species and utilize best development and management practices to revegetate after construction with native species, as directed by professional landscape architect and arborist.

Approvals (dates tentative)

1. University Area Community Council (April 2017)
2. Parks and Recreation Commission (May 2017)
3. Site Plan Administrative Review (June-July 2017)

Implementation Plan

Year 1-2: Fundraising; survey, engineering/landscape architecture designs

Year 2-4: construction

Year 5-10: monitor, on-going maintenance

Fundraising (\$300K-\$500K estimate needed to realize project goals)

2017 MOA Bond - \$200,000

2017 APF Challenge Grant - \$12,000** (to be determined) in matching grant