

Date: **Sat Dec 03 2005**

Note taker: Noelle Higgins-Cedar Table

Community group represented: Seward Park, no answer

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Name of facilitator: Cheryl Fraser

## **OPEN SPACE SEATTLE 2100: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION**

**Sat Dec 03 2005**

1. What is open space (to you)?

JT- As a child, I considered open space to be a Park, Playing Field or a blacktop playground; a place for children. But for the future and present, I consider it to be a different kind of place, an inclusive place like Seward Park. A place with many zones for different uses, safety, biking, run, elderly person and children. A natural place that incorporates habitat.

B.J. B- Inviting and safe and clean places. That are connected to residences, accessibility, workability, close by, rhythm, friendliness, bike-able, walkable, stroll-able places, traffic-free spaces, Alki, Seward park, Madrona.

AM- I think (open space) places have changed from when I grew up in DC, from growing up in DC. Places need to be inclusive, for multiple users, for different user groups. My community is Muslim and we need private places to Pray, when we are in public. We needs places for religious spaces, outside spaces? What would be better an indoor space that has an open door policy, not only for prayer but also for breastfeeding mothers.

JT- Yes, we need culturally sensitive places that are traffic free and safe places.

Sum up- culturally sensitive places, Linear spaces. Multi-zonal places. Mixed use.

2. How do you use open spaces? What do you like to do there?

ALL-Biking, running, praying, children's entertainment.

Family gatherings, children's places, family "use" places, exploratory pieces/places for children, learning and educational opportunity and aspects for children.

JT- For Family reunions places that are multi-zonal are particularly helpful, swimming pools for kids, BBQ facilities, age or able body access to trails.

3. What types of urban open space would you want for your grandchildren?

JT- seems like places could be overcrowded.

ALL- places with connections to interior places that have entertainment and technology available, places with exercise rooms for mothers, and game rooms and computer/media rooms for kids. Places connected to community centers. Teenage spaces that have entertainment for children over 10, there are few current places available to entertain teenagers.

Neighborhood parks

Historical parks/places that have been remained parks or in the public realm through generations.

Places that use technology to connect you tot the future and present.

Techniques for successful places- protect what works now, keep trying fresh ideas and keep up with technology.

4. What types of open space would you like to have in the

(a) ...now?

Spaces that are connected-“system based”, campus type places.

Places that incorporate science and education.

Welcoming places.

Information available –good wayfinding systems.

Safe places

Appropriate lighting.

These places need rangers, not security presences (no profiling). They could be Garden spaces at religious centers,(churches).

(b) ...in the next 10 years? [Suggest any other types from the list below].

ALL-Rooftop garden's, green roofs with views and create new types of open spaces. The same places that exist now. Available spaces, (pocket parks, left over places.) Interactive educational spaces. Hybrid spaces, Multi-use spaces, Culturally inclusive spaces-for people of different faiths, garden spaces connected to churches.

Reused spaces in neighborhoods, with good locations.

5. (a) What are the most important types of open space for you/your community?

AM-Game rooms, technology based entertainment for kids.

Places that integrate cultural/spiritual community.

JT-Good wayfinding and connectivity to different use spaces-in the neighborhood.

Walkable for children.

Parks that educate (about ecology or habitat.)

Parks that have different roles.

(b) What are they like?

ALL-“Welcome” places. Safe places that are connected to indoor spaces. Places that people know in their community. Places where kids can walk to. Inclusive places that introduce parks to new people and address particular cultural needs,( like prayer friendly rooms for Muslims.)

(c) What is there?

Prayer spaces. Private spaces. Views out.

(d) Do you have good examples?

Fort Dent-Tukwila.

6. How far away should an open space be from your home? How would you get there?

Neighborhood spaces. Walkable.

7. What other methods could you access to get there?

Bus. Car. Bike.

9. What barriers are there for you to have better access to open space and what needs to be changed?

AM-

1. For the Low Income groups that I know the need for financial support is a barrier. Places like the zoo and science center can change a child's life and interests if they have an opportunity to attend them. Make them free, give financial support to these groups.
2. Information- share information about what is in parks, advertise, create websites, make flyers available in community centers. If new communities(ethnic communities or communities that do not traditionally use parks) don't know about places they need to be informed.
3. Neighborhood parks-need to communicate a welcome and signage needs to let people know what's available.

4. Attractive programming.
5. Places that advocate for the needs of kids or elders - Survey/ask kids and older people what they want and provide it, follow up to see what's working.

**OPEN SPACE TYPES:**

Urban Parks

Neighborhood Parks,  
Commons  
Pocket park  
Large parks - multi-use,  
pastoral  
Multi-use/Hybrid parks  
"Loose-fit spaces"  
Dog park  
Public Art  
Children's play areas,  
playgrounds  
Adventure parks, water  
parks  
School yards  
Views, viewpoints, open  
water  
Leftover spaces  
Active Recreation, sports  
fields

Urban Plazas

Urban Plaza, Squares  
Parking lot parks  
Widened Sidewalks and  
Outdoor cafes  
Court, courtyard

Regional parks  
and urban habitat

Environmental learning  
parks

Natural Areas, Forest  
Preserves,  
Greenbelts  
Wildlife preserve  
Habitat patches  
Habitat corridors

Waterfront

Shorelines and beach  
parks  
Urban Waterfront  
Stream corridor parks  
River parks, Linear parks

Gardens

Community Garden  
Farmer's Market  
Healing gardens  
Parking strip gardens  
Botanical gardens

Streets and Trails

Pedestrian Street  
Traffic-restricted streets  
(woonerf, transit malls)  
Pedestrian/bicycle priority  
streets  
Parkways and Boulevards  
Multi-modal corridors  
(Atlanta)  
Water Street  
Greenway

Bike/Pedestrian Trail

Street end  
Widened sidewalk,  
Forecourts  
Corridors  
Celebrated intersections

Infrastructure and  
Institutions

Natural Drainage edges  
Reservoirs  
School Grounds  
College campus  
Hospital grounds  
Retirement homes

Structures

Rooftop gardens  
(and balconies)  
Atriums, greenhouses,  
arcades  
Green walls, green  
structure  
Community gathering  
and learning  
Indoor recreation - courts,  
playgrounds

**What would your favorite place look like in the year 2100?**

**JT-something for everyone, old, young, able and disabled. It needs to have access to the water, trees, indigenous (*native*) plants, educational and safe. Access to other parks is possible and communicated well so that the community is aware of it. That is safe with good lighting, effective signage, it is educational. Has both open and closed (*interior*) spaces to connect with the environment.**

**Any other things you would like to tell us about open space needs for your community? (Who are you defining as your community?)**

Thanks for coming out! May we contact you again for future events?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Big Ideas

1. Open space is changing.
2. Need to be safe spaces that are welcoming to minority groups.
3. Educational spaces that are fun.
4. Linear spaces that address multiple uses for exercise and connect open spaces to each other.
5. Family/community size spaces.
6. Spaces for privacy, solitude, spiritual and religious practice.
7. Spaces that are connected to spiritual practice.
8. Environmental education.
9. Financially supported spaces for access.
10. System based spaces.
11. Roof-top spaces.
12. New types of spaces.
13. Integrated accessible, pedestrian friendly spaces.