

COMPENDIUM OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

2010 PARKS PLAN

| Support for Community Visioning Group | Community Support | Need for Parks and Open Space | Center point/Gathering Place for Westside | Value of Amphitheatre, Education Center etc. | Public Private Partnership |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| I have been involved in the Community Visioning Group that developed the concept, explored suitable available sites for such an amenity and has now identified and contracted to acquire what appears to be an ideal site. | During this process I have talked with hundreds of Olympia residents and heard nothing but positive feedback for this project. | The site we have identified is perfect for an outdoor theatre as well as a plaza. | This project has the potential to become a central feature that binds the West Olympia community together much the way the Farmer's Market binds together downtown. | More importantly, the plaza would provide a valuable public facility which is currently lacking on the west side. This is something the West Oly community desperately needs and hope you will get behind the project as well. Thank you for your time and consideration. | As a business owner and resident of West Olympia, I am so excited about the potential Public / Private partnership in providing a West Olympia Public Plaza. |
| This project is rapidly moving forward through the Community Visioning Group's efforts to create an open space to benefit the residents of West Olympia. | This proposed public facility has broad support among West Olympia businesses and citizens. | This project should be a high priority to the City of Olympia, as it benefits a large portion of the City's residents in an area that needs the open, public space to compliment its growing neighborhoods and businesses. Thank you for considering this project's prominent inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. Thank you for all you do in support of our community! | I would love to see a civic gathering place that contrasts with the commercial district and mall. | Adding to the Current Landscape The Community Center design includes a Carillon Bell Tower to identify the Center's location and to add visual interest to the landscape. The Carillon Bell Tower bells can also be used to commemorate special historical events, such as Washington Statehood and national holidays and celebrations. | This is a key project that is a private/public partnership. Thank you for considering this project's prominent inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. |
| I support the Community Visioning Group's efforts to create an open space to benefit the residents of West Olympia. | It would be a great addition to the Olympia area. Thanks for considering it. | This project should be a high priority to the City of Olympia, as it benefits a large portion of the City's residents in an area that needs the open, public space to compliment its growing neighborhoods and businesses. Thank you for considering this project's inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. | This project is more than just a park - it is an ambitious attempt to develop a focal point as a key point in developing and implementing a community vision. In short, this is the cornerstone for an effort to make this geographic area more than "just the West Side." | I have recently become aware of a new project proposition in west Olympia that will allow for an outdoor amphitheater at the West Olympia Public Plaza. I think this would be fantastic as I know that this will provide many opportunities for great entertainment! I sincerely hope you consider this project. Thank you! | This public-private project will provide the City with private partners that will help share the financial burden of the plaza development and in the end provide for a beautiful community asset for years to come. I ask the council members to please vote to include this important project in your plan for our city parks. |
| The Community Visioning Group (CVG) has been actively working to secure land and to develop an appropriate public asset on the west side. | We are beginning to reach out into the neighborhoods to gather further support for what promises to be a project with great public/private partnership potential. Given current fiscal conditions, this should add merit to the project. I strongly encourage you to give the West Olympia Plaza project priority as you finalize your plan. | This project should be a high priority to the City of Olympia, as it benefits a large portion of the City's residents in an area that needs the open, public space to compliment its growing neighborhoods and businesses. Thank you for considering this project's prominent inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. | As a resident near the Evergreen State College, I believe that a public plaza would enhance the quality of life for all of Olympia's citizens, and would also draw the attention of out of town visitors, much as our beloved Farmer's Market and the beautiful downtown core do. | We need something like this over here. I vote. | |
| This project is rapidly moving forward through the Community Visioning Group's efforts to create an open space to benefit the residents of West Olympia. | I am in full support of this project going forward. I will be bringing the issue up at our annual meeting of the Cooper Point Neighborhood Assoc. next month. I am very confident that they will also be in full support of such a benefit to our westside. | I. Proposed increases in population and Housing in West Olympia There are more than 1,000 new homes that are planned for the area near the proposed Community Center. This will add 3,000 or more residents who need usable open space and facilities for community gatherings that would be served by this Community Center. | This project should be a high priority to the City of Olympia, as it benefits a large portion of the City's residents in an area that needs the open, public space to compliment its growing neighborhoods and businesses. Thank you for considering this project's prominent inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. | My family lives off of Cooper Pt. in West Olympia and is an active part of this community we would love to see a new park built over here that would facilitate the Arts combined with the beautiful outdoors! | |

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| <p>This project is rapidly moving forward through the Community Visioning Group's efforts to create an open space to benefit the residents of West Olympia.</p> | | <p>This project should be a high priority to the City of Olympia, as it benefits a large portion of the City's residents in an area that needs the open, public space to compliment its growing neighborhoods and businesses. This project ties together the parks of West Olympia.</p> | <p>What a fabulous idea to have a public space as a focal point for the community. It certainly has my support.</p> | <p>I also think that it would be a great location for activities not suited to the large passive park, Grasslake. Thank you.</p> | |
| <p>I very much appreciate the foresight that is being expressed in the CVG work.</p> | | <p>My family uses the outdoor locations to spend quality time together and enjoy the fellowship of others in our community. I feel it is very important to keep on top of our growth and continue to add beautiful community areas to our future plans. Please count me in the support of the West Olympia public plaza. Thank you.</p> | <p>A community facility like this can become the focal point for civic life in West Olympia and become as important to West Olympia as the Farmers Market is to downtown Olympia.</p> | <p>This project will provide a public asset and facility long needed by the West Olympia community. I recognize the desire to focus on downtown projects, but I strongly suggest there is a need to balance that priority with an initiative that supports west side residents and neighborhoods.</p> | |
| <p>The Community Visioning Group design for the Community Center is already generating excitement and this public-private partnership can be a successful model for the future. I urge city leaders to include the Westside Community Center in the final Parks Plan. The proposed Westside Community Center is important to the future of West Olympia for the following reasons:</p> | | <p>[it is important] to create an open space to benefit the residents of West Olympia. This project should be a high priority to the City of Olympia, as it benefits a large portion of the City's residents in an area that needs the open, public space to compliment its growing neighborhoods and businesses. Thank you for considering this project's prominent inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan.</p> | <p>WEST OLYMPIA PUBLIC PLAZA. Our Office supports this project; the Olympia's west side needs a public, civic space to give it a center or heart if you will. Without this kind of amenity it will continue to evolve around the CAR and commercial retail buildings. This is a great opportunity to change the urban sprawl mentality in to a much more sophisticated people oriented part of our community. Please do whatever is necessary to have this included in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan. Thank</p> | <p>I would just like to say that I have heard that Olympia is considering a Public Plaza that would include an outdoor amphitheater. I would like to throw my hat in the ring for such a project to be seriously considered. As a resident of Olympia for nearly 29 years, I think that would be a great asset to our community! Thank you!</p> | |
| <p>I currently sit on the board of directors for the CVG and our Architectural Firm has had a key role in the preliminary design of the park.</p> | | | <p>This new plaza would be a great addition to our community by attracting more commerce to west Olympia. Our town needs something like this; a positive place for individuals that both live and work in the area to go to during the day. It would also attract individuals outside of the area to come and experience West Olympia. Please accept this email as my recommendation for moving forward with this new addition to our town. Thank you.</p> | <p>I believe that it is much needed in our community.</p> | |
| <p>This project is rapidly moving forward through the Community Visioning Group's efforts.</p> | | | <p>V. Partnering With Schools Capital High School, two of Olympia's four middle schools and several elementary schools are located near to the proposed Community Center. This facility can provide new opportunities for schools to interact with the community and provide performing space for student</p> | <p>I believe that it would be a great asset to our community.</p> | |

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| <p>I feel that this is a vital project to the growth of West Olympia and our community as a whole. The hard work of the Community Visioning group to help create an open space interconnected with the great asset of Yeager Park, will help provide an active safe area for our community.</p> | | | <p>III. Promoting Walking and Non Car Transportation To Civic Events The Community Center is located next to Cooper Point and Harrison Ave, one of the two primary intersections in West Olympia. This central location will allow many residents to walk or bike ride to the facility by using the bike lanes on Cooper Point Road and Harrison Ave. Increasing the use of non-auto transportation is one of the primary goals of the Comprehensive Plan and conveniently located facilities can help achieve this objective.</p> | <p>IV. Providing Community Meeting Space There are many community organizations in West Olympia, such as neighborhood and homeowner associations, cultural groups and business groups who need meeting space on the Westside. The Community Center can help meet this need and provide a space for the various parts of the community to come together.</p> | |
| | | | <p>we need a West Olympia Public Plaza.</p> | <p>It sounds like a wonderful facility for many art venues for presentations</p> | |
| | | | <p>A public plaza of this kind on the west side of Olympia will greatly enhance the community and provide a gathering place for a variety of events and community gatherings</p> | <p>this is a great opportunity for the community.</p> | |
| | | | | <p>I also participate in a choir group and believe it would bring great benefit to our community.</p> | |
| | | | | <p>Regarding the Plaza Project, do the civil engineers who have contributed to the conceptual design feel that this design can be built with bringing in a lot of fill dirt? That property seems to be in a pretty wet area</p> | |
| | | | | <p>II. Providing Performing Arts Space The design for the Community Center includes a public amphitheatre for staging plays, concerts and other events. Also, the proposed building could allow studio artists space in which to create and display visual arts. Currently, there are no comparable facilities outside of downtown Olympia. #</p> | |

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| | | | | <p>With the added learning center education of tomorrows youth is a great addition to the community. As a person that grew up in Olympia and Graduated from Capital High School and has returned to now raise my own family this is vital to the investment of our young people. Not only will this benefit the West Olympia Community, it will greatly benefit the whole Olympia Area. I am excited to see this project move forward and I see this as a project that should be a high priority for the city of Olympia. Thank you for considering this project's prominent inclusion in the Parks, Arts, and Recreation Plan.</p> | |
| | | | | <p>As the area's singular destination marketing organization, the Olympia Lacey Tumwater Visitor & Convention Bureau has the responsibility of positioning all of Thurston County as a great place for visitors. Our experience indicates that the community characteristics that area residents find attractive and which contribute to their quality of life are also the same characteristics that attract visitors. We cannot help but believe that the development a West Olympia Public Plaza will be attractive and useful to residents and visitors alike. This project in West Olympia will not only add to the asset base, it will help to define and shape the nature of that part of the overall community. We urge your support for this project and its inclusion in the updated Parks, Arts and Recreation Plan. Thank you for considering this request.</p> | |
| | | | | <p>The same elements and characteristics that enhance residents' quality of life are the same as those that attract visitors and repeat visitations. That translates into increased spending and improving economic development. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.</p> | |

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| | | | | <p>PRAC Comments</p> <p>West Olympia Public Plaza</p> <p>One of the 2009 City Initiatives proposed by the Olympia City Council was a plaza in West Olympia. The nonprofit West Olympia Community Visioning Group is spearheading efforts to acquire a site for a West Olympia Public Plaza. While still in the preliminary, conceptual planning stage, ideas for the plaza could include a Timberland Regional Library branch, amphitheater, carillon tower, fountain, off-leash dog area, trails, and/or open space. A public plaza of this kind on the west side of Olympia would greatly enhance the community and provide a gathering place for a variety of events and community gatherings. Depending on how the plaza is developed, some or all of the site could be managed as part of Olympia's park system. This plan does not set aside funds for a proposed West Olympia Public Plaza, but recognizes that OPARD may play a role in the maintenance or development of one at some point in the future. Should an opportunity arise for the City to take ownership over a parcel for this project, it should be</p> | |