



July 14, 2003

Mr. Jack Tomkinson
Urban Sparks
4229 Baker Ave NW
Seattle, WA 98107
VIA Email: jackt@cascade.org

RE: I-5 Open Space and Mountain Biking Trails

Dear Jack:

Thank you for your email concerning mountain biking trails as part of the design for the I-5 Open Space. I conferred with Parks Superintendent Ken Bounds, and he asked me to respond on his behalf. We greatly appreciate your collaboration in the planning of this new open space. The project will benefit significantly from the activities that the mountain biking community can bring to this site including:

- providing mountain biking opportunities for adults and youth within the City;
- contributing volunteer effort to build the trails and to secure grants;
- contributing to the maintenance of trails; and
- acting as a deterrent to inappropriate uses.

Parks approved a Concept Plan for improvements that defines the general size and configuration of the main elements. The plan allocated approximately:

- 1 acre for OLA (Parks review recommended increasing this slightly);
- 1.8 acres for mountain biking; and
- 3.5 acres for unstructured areas, paths and landscaping.

We are in the process of determining the best design for the overall project. As you know, there are many different interests at the table in the design process. From this point, we will work with our consultant and project constituents to refine the Concept Plan and produce a Schematic Design. The final configuration of the project elements and the resolution of any outstanding issues will be addressed with the goal of creating the best possible overall design solution for the public open space. Our consultant will prepare options over the next few weeks. Creativity and compromise will likely be necessary as we work together to reach this goal. We look forward to reviewing our recommendations with you and other constituents in late July and at a public workshop in early August.

Jack Tomkinson
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We are excited to have Urban Sparks and the Backcountry Bicycle Trails Club as partners on this project, and we look forward to having mountain biking facilities as an integral component of the site.

Sincerely,

Michael Shiosaki
Planning & Development Manager
Pro Parks Levy Program
Seattle Parks & Recreation

cc: Kenneth Bounds, Superintendent
Erin Devoto, Director, P&DD
David Goldberg, Project Planner