



2020 CAL ANDERSON PARK

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION + VISION

Frequently Asked Questions | August 2020



What is the purpose of this project?

The 2020 Cal Anderson Park (2020CAP) project was convened by the Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) as a planning and outreach process to receive and address potential design and programming interventions to Cal Anderson Park. BLM protests following the murder of George Floyd, and community activism in general over the years, have accelerated efforts in park departments and organizations around the country to take a deeper look at the assumptions, language, investments, and designs of public space systems. There is a need/opportunity, right now, to address how these issues play out at Cal Anderson Park. In our efforts to provide services to our residents, we recognize the historical barriers in different communities, and we aim to prioritize those most disadvantaged.

What is the outcome of this project?

This project is a first step in a process to support the evolution of programming and development of the park as a place that expresses the varied cultures of Capitol Hill and the greater Seattle community. The outcome of this project will be a report that summarizes potential design and program interventions, vetted by the community, prioritizes immediate action items and longer-term planning efforts.

How will the City keep the park safe?

The City is assessing the safety of the park and what needs to occur to open the park. SPR is committed to working with neighbors and the community on how we can best provide a safe and welcoming environment. We hope this project provides an opportunity for Seattle residents to provide input into what public safety in the park looks like to them.

How is the City going to make sure that BIPOC and LGBTQIA voices are heard? Will those voices be prioritized over neighbors, Capitol Hill residents, or other voices?

Our goal is to capture as many perspectives as possible in order to ensure a successful outcome for the project. We aim to center the voices of those most historically marginalized in our City. We are working directly with organizations that are led and/or serve the LGBTQIA+ and the BIPOC communities and always welcome suggestions to expand our network. If you believe we have missed an organization, please let us know via email at 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov

Can the City add an off-leash area in the park?

Due to the overall size of the park, the variety of uses, and the permitted uses over the reservoir, Cal Anderson is not well suited for this purpose. However, the City recognizes the need for an off-leash area in the Capitol Hill neighborhood and is actively looking for opportunities to accommodate this need in a current OLA study. Please e-mail 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov with questions or concerns on this topic to further inform the study.

What will happen to the health and human services currently being offered in the park? Will those services remain? Can they be expanded?

The human services currently being provided by HSD (Human Services Department), will continue into the foreseeable future.

I want to add my voice to the conversation...how do I provide my comments, concerns or questions to the City?

You can participate in the conversation in any number of ways to meet your interests and needs. The City will host three public meetings to facilitate a dialog about the park with the community. They are scheduled on [August 5th/6th](#), [September 9th/10th](#), and [October 7th/8th](#).

You can also email the City your questions, concerns and comments to 2020CalAnderson@seattle.gov.

Project updates will be posted on the project website and through social media:

Website: www.2020CalAndersonPark.com

Facebook: [seattleparksandrecreation](#)

Twitter: [@SeattleParks](#)

Instagram: [@Seattleparksandrec](#)

What's going to happen to all the public art, community garden and conversation corner that were created through the CHOP/CHAZ event?

Part of this project is to hear from the community if these features should have a permanent home in the park, and if so, where should they be located. Input, thus far, would suggest that these elements remain in some way. The project team will be evaluating the opportunities and constraints associated with locating these features in the park. Options will be presented at our next public meeting in September, along with any other new programming or ideas that may have come from our planning process. We will have a discussion about these features during the September meeting, and then update any concepts or ideas to present them back to the community in October. Please attend our September or October public meetings to give us your feedback! You can also participate in our on-line surveys associated with public meeting through our website at www.2020CalAndersonPark.com.

What's going to happen to the Shelter House in the park?

The park is currently closed including the Shelter House. When the park re-opens the Shelter House may or may not re-open immediately for rental use. As an outcome of this process, the final report will recommend uses of the Shelter House to support the community and activation of the park. At some point in the future, when the park is recognized as being safer, the shelter house could support a variety of community-based programming.

When will the fountain, fields, restrooms and other facilities in the park be open again?

At this point in time, a date to re-open the park has not been determined.

What programming or changes are proposed for the park?

Given the direction of the polling and surveys, the following programs would likely be proposed: Human Services and Activation, Health and Safety Upgrades, a Gardening Program, Conversation Circles, an Art Program.