



Baker Park Redevelopment

Community Survey Feedback and Recommendations

Baker Park has been a community problem due to crime and drug activity. Crown Hill Urban Village (CHUV) Committee for Smart Growth supports development of Baker Park into an active-use park that will encourage neighborhood use at all hours, and discourage crime.

CHUV Committee for Smart Growth conducted a community survey in the summer of 2016 to identify community priorities for growth. Five hundred and seventy-five (575) neighbors responded, the majority living inside Crown Hill Urban Village or the proposed expansion area.

Sixty-nine percent (69%) of survey respondents said redevelopment of Baker Park was an important community priority. Community concerns about crime and slow response time was the top priority on our survey with over 85% of respondents agreeing this was an extremely important, or very important priority.

Specific park-related comments regarding that were submitted on our community survey are below:

“Provide proper lighting in public green space areas, alleyways.”

“More dog parks would be awesome, as well as more patrols around those green spaces currently available. More often than not there are drug deals being conducted at Carkeek and I have heard from several people that the trails and park, which are beautiful, are too dangerous so they stay away. That's not good.”

“Soundview park is very Dark at night and I can hear drinking/drug use in the dugout areas.”

“Parks make neighborhoods great places to live. Groundswell NW identifies and preserves green space in and around Ballard.”

“More space for pea patch and urban gardening.”

“Off leash dog areas.”

“An off leash dog area, or agreed upon hours where folks could have their dogs off leash. There are more dogs than children and we do need to make some space for them too. So that dog owners don't feel they have to sneak time in existing parks to run their dogs around a bit. There is no off leash dog park in this neighborhood and the closest are 15-20 minutes away either west, or north.”

“We do need green spaces but how will we keep them open and friendly to families? The ones we have now are taken over by "homeless" people and addicts. This is true even when used by some families, E.g. at Ballard Commons. More police presence in these areas would help- bicycle and mounted police. Actual public restroom buildings (not just porta-potties) would be good.”

“Community food sources such as gardens and p-patches should be available in some of the green spaces.”

“Keep & maintain Soundview, Crown Hill Park & turn other parks to NGOs for good--like the Baker Park spot could be a pea patch. The park south of 85th between 13-14th could be a pea patch. Partner with the PNA to manage.”

“Groundswell NW has done a great job of encouraging green space in Ballard, including in the Crown Hill area. They are a perfect partner, along with the Parks Department and the Department of Neighborhoods to preserve what green space we have left. They even actively seek out areas that can be developed into green space. Because every resident needs a place to walk his dog, or his baby. We should also encourage street trees. I know the City has a program for that.”