



**SEATTLE PARKS
AND RECREATION**

Mike McGinn, Mayor
Christopher Williams, Acting Superintendent
www.seattle.gov/parks



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NEWS RELEASE

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CAPITOL HILL CELEBRATES AT SUMMIT SLOPE PARK AND UNPAVING PARADISE P-PATCH DEDICATION

Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods and the Capitol Hill Community Council invite you to the dedication of Summit Slope Park and Unpaving Paradise P-Patch on May 1, 2011 at noon. This is an opportunity to meet your neighbors and fellow P-Patchers, and to learn about the new Parks and Green Spaces Levy Opportunity Fund project. Summit Slope Park is located at 200 E. John Street.

At the event, Dave Hannon, a high-energy, three-piece pop, rock and acoustic band will entertain participants, and light refreshments from our community partners -- Starbucks and Umpqua Bank -- will be served. Additionally, a Seattle Tilth Master Composter will lead a class on how to compost and build healthy soil. Class starts at 1:30 p.m.

The project provides a new park in this urban neighborhood with the Unpaving Paradise P-Patch community garden, lawns, seating areas, a barbeque and a skate feature. Pro Parks Levy funding provided for the development of the park, and money from the Parks and Green Spaces Levy was allocated to the new P-Patch in the park.

Parks acquired the .22-acre park in 2007 with funding from the 2000 Pro Parks Levy and King County Conservation Futures Tax revenues. Seattle Parks and Recreation hired Mithun Architects of Seattle as the consultant and worked with the community on the design of the park.

The P-Patch located in the park is named Unpaving Paradise P-Patch to reflect the fact that this park site used to be an urban parking lot, and to recognize the community group called Unpaving Paradise that was involved in the planning and fundraising for this park. Nearly 2,000 hours of volunteer work has been put in by the community to complete this project.

The P-Patch has 36 plots, one of which is a food bank plot that youth from Northwest School and Peace From the Streets, by Kids From the Streets will be gardening.

The new P-Patch is supported by \$150,000 from the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy funding dedicated to P-Patch Community Garden development.

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods' P-Patch Community Gardening Program provides garden plots for more than 2,000 residents in Seattle, as well as opportunities for market gardening, youth gardening, and community food security. With demand for P-Patch community gardening space continuing to grow, the P-Patch Community Gardening Program is expanding and/or building 15 new gardens thanks to \$2 million from the 2008 Levy.

The Capitol Hill Community Council Open Space Committee, Unpaving Paradise, nominated the John Street Enhancement Project to receive Parks and Green Spaces Levy Opportunity Funding. In April City Council approved Parks recommendations, and this project will receive \$260,000 in funding to turn E. John Street into a green street.

The Seattle Board of Park Commissioners will hold a briefing and public hearing on the skatedot feature in the park on May 12, 2011. The meeting is at 100 Dexter Ave at 7 – 9:30 p.m. The Board will then discuss and provide a recommendation to Seattle Parks and Recreation Acting Superintendent Christopher Williams. The Park Board is made up of citizen volunteers whose role is to gather public input on issues like this and provide recommendations to the Superintendent. While the Park Board doesn't make the final decision, they do provide a forum for unbiased discussion and input. They will also take written comments via email or regular mail through Friday, May 20.

May is National Foster Care month and all Capitol Hill Starbucks locations will be drop off locations for donations to Tree House. For more information contact Janet E Hutchings Assistant Store Manager at the Olive Way Starbucks, 206.568.5185.

For more information on the project please visit <http://seattle.gov/parks/ProParks/projects/JohnSummitParkDevelopment.htm> or contact Project Manager Kelly Davidson 800 Maynard Ave S. 3rd Floor Seattle, WA 98134 (206) 684-0998 kelly.davidson@seattle.gov. For information on the P-Patch Community Gardening Program's levy-funded projects, contact Laura Raymond at (206) 615-1787; laura.raymond@seattle.gov.

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