



# Fircrest Pool and Community Center: Public Meeting #1

## Meeting Summary Notes

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### Introduction

The City of Fircrest held a public meeting on Tuesday May 29, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:30pm to introduce the current phase of the Roy H. Murphy Pool and Community Center re-design to the public, and to get public feedback on pool features and site design options.

The meeting included a presentation that provided an overview of the project, including project context, overall schedule, public participation opportunities, a brief introduction to financial options, Fircrest history, and a Q&A period.

After the presentation, participants were invited to give their comments and feedback on site design options, pool features, and learn more about the park's history and funding options.

Approximately 100 people attended the meeting, including members of the project team, City staff, and City Council:

- ARC Architects
- BERK Consulting
- NW Vernacular
- Fircrest Parks and Recreation staff
- Steering Committee
- Fircrest City Council

BERK, NW Vernacular, and ARC Architects presented a slideshow – see link for this.

The following provides a summary of the comments and feedback heard during the public meeting.

# Public Feedback

## PRESENTATION Q&A

Participants had the following comments and questions during the presentation Q&A period:

Theme	Comments
<b>General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Is it just the pool or also the community center? Answer: A masterplan for both buildings is being designed. Budget will determine what is built.</li><li>■ Design Team should attend activities during the summer to see how the park works during large events</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■</li></ul>
<b>Pool Features and Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Lap swimming and play space for kids, too many fountains and slides makes it difficult for adults for swim.</li><li>■ Parking and festival space is important</li><li>■ Keep the kiddie pool or incorporated into larger or two pools;</li><li>■ Current is aged.</li><li>■ Trying to keep lap and kiddie pool, don't need more splash pads.</li><li>■ 46-year resident, meeting needs of seniors and kids is important. A new Pool and Community center supports the community and property values.</li></ul>
<b>Admission and Operating Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Admission cost and will this change with the new design? Answer: This is being studied – goal is to keep pricing similar to existing.</li><li>■ If not a resident of Fircrest, will cost go up significantly? Answer: This is being studied – it could be increased but will be similar to existing</li><li>■ Lifeguard, pools don't make money, more money that put in; people love pool because simple and basic; high use of park; no bathroom in T ball fields, kids have to come in to community center.</li></ul>
<b>Indoor/Outdoor Pool</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Modular year-round option considered? Answer: This can be looked at for possible additional funding.</li><li>■ Openair.com pools that combine both with operable walls and windows to allow some variety and longer use period.</li></ul>
<b>Pool Leaks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Concerns about current pool leak and how that would impact plan for the redesign/replacement. Answer: Yes the pool needs to be replaced in the near future.</li></ul>

## HISTORY BOARD

General impression based on comments and questions is the feeling of Fircrest and the role of the park as a community anchor and civic space are key. People were excited about the city's history. They thought that for people entering Fircrest, the feeling is noticeable, that you really know it when you are within the city limits and that this stems from the combined effect of lower speed limits, trees, the houses, curvilinear roads. Based on this feedback here is a short list of key values to consider in the design of the new community center:

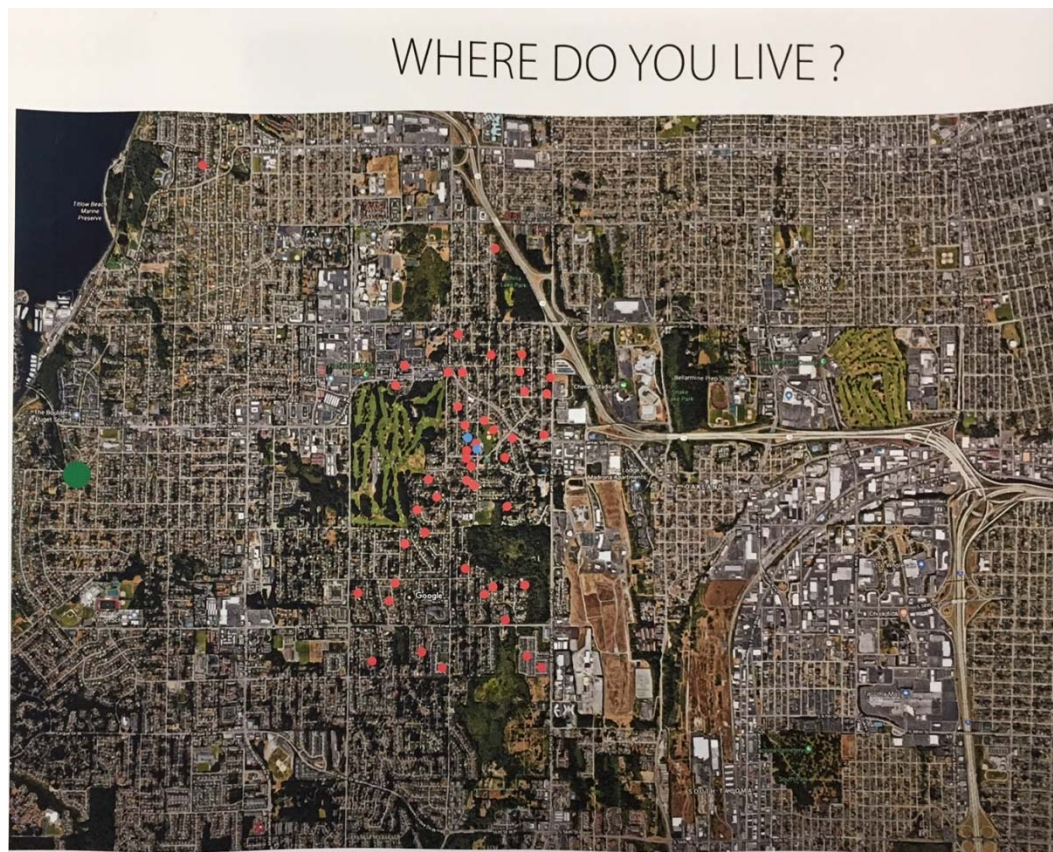
- The role of Fircrest Park from 1907 to present as a civic space for recreation and community functions for the enjoyment of all residents.
- Designed landscape and architectural features supporting a City Beautiful Movement inspired approach of blending aesthetics and utility to support resident needs.
- New design that stands as a product of its time and relates to the surrounding context of 1- to 2-story single family buildings and the original streetscape within the 1907 plat.
- Do not replicate historic styles or create a false sense of history.
- Extend historic tree and landscape plantings characteristic of the 1907 plat and the first period of development to integrate new development with the surrounding context.

The following seem to be key design elements for relating to the city:

- Massing and scale
- Orientation on site
- Streetscape and landscaping

## WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

Participants indicated where they live on a map. Most participants were Fircrest residents, with a few from University Place.





## POOL VISIONING

Participants were asked to vote for their two favorite pool features or activities. Participants were most interested in activities for people of all ages, including competition and lap lanes, swim lessons, and toddler play or kiddie pool. A lot of people were also interested in a waterslide and the vortex & current channel areas

Feature	Dot Votes	Feature	Dot Votes
Water Slides	16	<b>Competition and Laps</b>	<b>37</b>
Diving Board(s)	13	Climbing Wall	2
Aerobics	11	Scuba and Safety Training	1
<b>Swim Lessons</b>	<b>36</b>	Kid Play	4
Vortex and Current Channel	13	<b>Toddler Play</b>	<b>24</b>
Starting Blocks	5	Toddler Toys	0

WATER SLIDES

DIVING BOARD (S)

AEROBICS

SWIM LESSONS

VORTEX AND CURRENT CHANNEL

STARTING BLOCKS

COMPETITION & LAPS

CLIMBING WALL

SCUBA & SAFETY TRAINING

KID PLAY

TODDLER PLAY - 18"- 24" DEEP

TODDLER TOYS

ROY H. MURPHY COMMUNITY CENTER AND POOL  
CITY OF FIRCREST  
arc  
5.29.18

Vote for your top 2!

## SITE DESIGN OPTIONS

Participants provided feedback on the three proposed site design options for the pool and the community center. In general, participants were interested in preserving as much of the open fields and sports fields within the park, and locating a rest room in an area that was more accessible to various park activities. Some had concerns about parking and access, as well as noise levels that may be caused or affected by the proposed site designs. The following table provides a summary of comments heard on each site design. Some comments below apply to all 3 sites but were noted on only one board.

Site Design Option	Pros	Cons	Other Comments
<b>Street Edge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encroaches less into the sports fields.</li> <li>▪ Bath house location is more accessible for more uses (pool, ball fields, etc.).</li> <li>▪ This option seems to help minimize the sound/music with walls/buildings along Contra Costa that act as an “echo” wall to bounce sound back.</li> </ul>		
<b>Gateways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Like the parking location in this option. The current drop-off location is problematic to residents along Contra Costa.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Loss of grassy area where the pool would go.</li> <li>▪ Back-in or front-in angled parking is not a good idea on Electron- there is too much traffic on this street.</li> <li>▪ The pool location is in an area that has flooding issues and is the current T-ball practice area.</li> <li>▪ Concerns about noise from proposed site for basketball courts.</li> <li>▪ Concerns about acoustic amplification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parking near Tot Lot is a problem.</li> <li>▪ What about putting a splash pad near the Tot lot?</li> <li>▪ Someone suggested combining or considering a new site design option. For example, rather than having the community center and pool parallel to Contra Costa, could the building be angled to create a grand entryway.</li> </ul>
<b>Woonerf</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Like the location of the proposed bath house</li> <li>▪ Connection to park from CC works well</li> <li>▪ Could move bathhouse and connect to the park better</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Proposed bath house/ restroom blocks view of park – would be good to move to the north of the pool</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Connect events.</li> <li>▪ Whittier space? For misc.</li> </ul>

## Street Edge Option



### PROS & CONS

I prefer this option because it encroaches less into the sports fields; and the bath-house is more accessible from street users.

I prefer this second edge placement encroachment into the park. But I have no objection to the whole project.

Even well as that Contra Costa is on "edge" wall that puts the rest of the park in the shadow of the wall. The street edge is a good idea, but it's so much better.

Like the location of the Table Pic (central to entire park)



### ROY H. MURPHY COMMUNITY CENTER AND POOL STREET EDGE

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# Gateways Option

## PROS & CONS



PROS  
Like parking location  
Convenient to park  
Public restrooms  
in location  
on street level

CONS: (potential)  
Basketball  
courts make  
noise

Back-in or  
front-in car  
parking is not  
a good idea  
on this site  
due to  
much traffic


CON:  
Loss of grassy  
area



## ROY H. MURPHY COMMUNITY CENTER AND POOL GATEWAYS

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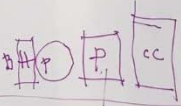
## Woonerf Option




**PROS & CONS**

- lap pool - priority
- consider a roof - "more all seasons"
- promenade/entry from E.W.
- connector bet. W & park
- plumb'g e "tanner's" house.


Whittier Space?? for pool




**phase 1**



**phase 2**





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**WOONERF**  
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## OTHER COMMENTS

Participants provided additional comments on a Open Comment board. Their comments have been grouped by topic in the table below.

Topic	Comment Details
<b>Separate kiddie pool</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You must keep a separate kiddie pool for the toddlers so the dad/mom could stay at the kiddie pool while the older kid swims in the bigger one.</li> <li>Please keep kiddie pool separate. There are several reasons. One being safety for the little ones. When the bigger kids are in the kiddie pool they end up taking over. Kids will be kids. And there is room for all of us of all ages. Two – there is a sanitary issue. Thanks for all you are doing!</li> <li>Please keep a separate kiddie pool.</li> <li>Separate kids pool.</li> <li>Kiddie pool is a <u>must</u> for this community.</li> </ul>



Topic	Comment Details
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Separate kids pool.</li> </ul>
<b>Combined pool for all ages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please consider the current kiddie pool being turned into a splash pad, and combining with the big pool. So families with all ages can occupy the pool at the same time.</li> </ul>
<b>Water slide, lazy river, splash pad vs. minimal design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All of the kids would love to have a water park or lazy river.</li> <li>▪ Water slide!</li> <li>▪ I want a water slide!</li> <li>▪ 56<sup>th</sup> and Tyler Pool has a big water slide and lazy river already. Just a thought.</li> <li>▪ Tons of spray parks and we have tons of pools with slides and fountains in other locations in Pierce County already. Please keep pool the same shape and the way it is, but just fix/repair what needs to be repaired.</li> <li>▪ Keep it simple- fun and financially easy on families.</li> </ul>
<b>Adult activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please keep the main pool as it is with adults being able to swim laps and children can play and dive for toys and shoot hoops in shallow end. Adults need an outdoor pool to relax in the sunshine and swim at the end of a busy year! Very important.</li> </ul>
<b>Classes and programming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I think there should be swimming lessons.</li> <li>▪ I would love to have an exercise program class in the pool.</li> </ul>
<b>Indoor/ outdoor options</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please explore option of indoor/outdoor or covered pool – usable year-round.</li> </ul>
<b>Cost and affordability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Affordable for all.</li> <li>▪ Please keep cost affordable- like what it is now! Also, don't add too many fancy features!</li> <li>▪ Please keep the pool entrance fee as low as possible so our kids and their friends in University Place are able to swim and play with them in the summer.</li> <li>▪ Please consider resident-only hours.</li> </ul>
<b>Other pool examples</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Take a look at <a href="#">Pioneer Park Pavilion</a> in Puyallup. It opens up to quadrangle. Used a lot for weddings, events, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Other comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Block-close-Electron from Spring to Contra Costa. Make that part of park property: whether for “new” recreation center, parking, better walkway to Tot Lot, more picnic area.</li> </ul>