

Forest Glen Park – Hiteon Creek

in Beaverton, between Southwest 125th and Southwest 135th Avenue south of Southwest Brockman Road



BEFORE

Corridor is partly maintained with mowed turf; wild vegetation is dominated by reed canary grass

Forest Glen Park is a 3.6-acre linear park within a developed area of single-family residents. The park was created with the dedication to the city of Beaverton of 20- to 40-foot corridors through Chaparral and Forest Glen subdivisions in the late 1970s. The corridors contain asphalt bike paths running beside the channelized Hiteon Creek. The creek has become part of the stormwater conveyance system for this area. Within the park, the creek is crossed six times by local public streets and cul-de-sacs through the park and bike path system. Approximately 3,900 feet of the stream channel is daylighted and easily accessible for restoration. Vegetation along the stream channel has little diversity and is dominated by reed canary grass, although a few species of native plants occur. Few trees or large shrubs capable of shading the stream are growing in the park. The narrow, straight channel has few meanders or pools. Within a few feet of the channel the corridor is still maintained in mowed turf. There two factors prevent aquatic wildlife and plant diversity.

The project proposed to widen and bench the stream channel to create additional emergent wetland habitat and slow stream velocity. Installation of low weir structures made of stone or wood was to create small backwater habitats to promote better plant and animal diversity. The corridor was to be landscaped with the appropriate native wetland, riparian and upland plant species that would have enhanced the water quality and habitat value of Hiteon Creek.

The park is easily accessed by pedestrians, cyclists and disabled citizens because of the adjacent path. Hundreds of regular users and new visitors might have developed greater awareness of the value of small streams in an urban landscape. The city was to publicize the restoration and invite the public to participate in the “hands-on” portion of the project. Local residents wanted to share in the restoration project by assisting as volunteers at a planting party, installing bird boxes and landscaping their yards with plants that would be beneficial to the emerging new habitat along the creek.

Proposed timeline and tasks

October -December 1992	Prepare design and planting plan
Nov. 11, 1992	Neighborhood meeting
Dec. 8, 1992	Neighborhood meeting
December 1992 -Feb. 7, 1993	Type II design review
December 1992 -Jan. 24, 1993	Fill/removal permit; site development permit
February 1993	Order plants
March 1993	Site grading
March 17, 1993	Planting instruction workshop
March 20, 1993	Planting party
Sept. 28, 1993	Planting instruction workshop
Oct. 10, 1993	Planting party

Benefits

The project would have provide the following benefits:

- Improve water quality in the upstream reaches of Hiteon Creek.
- Enhance habitat for riparian and wetland dependent wildlife.
- Community awareness and identification with Hiteon Creek as a part of the natural landscape.
- Accessible opportunities to view wildlife in an urban setting.
- An opportunity for community involvement by local residents.
- A “living classroom” to learn about the importance of riparian and wetland ecosystem.

Budget

Proposed – \$32,258

Actual – withdrawn

Metro/US Fish and Wildlife grant award – \$14,700

Reason for withdrawal

The city of Beaverton re-prioritized personnel workloads. The restoration project was withdrawn due to lack of staff.

Helpful hints – what worked, what didn't

Beware of redistribution of project manager's time off proposed grant projects. This was the reason that the project did not get accomplished.

Partners

Area residents

Friends of Beaverton's Johnson Creek

Local service clubs

Contact

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