



CITY OF
Vancouver
WASHINGTON

Elizabeth Austin Playground at Fruit Valley Park

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Agenda

- Park overview
- Kuni Foundation donation
- Community engagement
- Playground design
- Project timeline
- Future improvements



Park Overview

- 6-acre neighborhood park in west Vancouver
- Serves over 1,000 households
- Beautiful natural environment with many large trees
- Current amenities include a playground, sports court, community garden and large open lawn area



Kuni Foundation Donation

The Elizabeth Austin playground at Fruit Valley Park

- The Kuni Foundation donated \$1 million to build an inclusive playground at Fruit Valley Park
- The playground will honor the legacy of community leader and mother, Elizabeth Austin
- Elizabeth championed inclusive spaces that were accessible to youth of all abilities before her death in 2021 from cancer



Community Engagement

Designing together

- Outreach began Summer 2023
- Hundreds of neighbors helped select the playground theme
- Online surveys helped identify the specific pieces of equipment and design features
- Strong community support



Elizabeth Austin Playground

- Inclusive play environments encourage strong physical, mental and social development in all children
- Theme: Play Like a Bird
- Highlighting the natural beauty of the park setting and supporting bird habitat and conservation education



Playground Design



Key Inclusive Features

- Accessible rubber surfacing
- Full support seat and harness on the track ride
- Spinning equipment with level entry surface for easy access
- Sensory spaces with instruments, sculptures and quiet retreats
- Clear edge definition
- Water play
- Climber with transfer station



Elizabeth Austin Playground Timeline



Future Park Considerations

More change coming to Fruit Valley Park

- The Fruit Valley Community Center is a small, City-owned building in the park that was open for limited event rentals through the Fruit Valley Neighborhood Association
- A recent assessment deemed the building in very poor condition, it will be removed during construction of the new playground
- We are working with neighbors to identify other amenities that could be added to the park in the future
- Community Development will also start work on a new Fruit Valley Action Plan in 2025, which could inform future park improvements



Full Fruit Valley Park Timeline





Discussion

Questions or comments about:

- Kuni Foundation donation
- Community engagement
- Playground design or accessibility
- Fruit Valley community center building and future plans





Motion to Approve

- Motion requested:
Move to approve the Elizabeth Austin playground design and construction plan at Fruit Valley Park.



Thank You

