

Memorandum of Understanding between Vashon Park District and Vashon Senior Center

Project Name: Ober Park -- Every Body's Playground

Purpose: In 2017, as part of its Strategic Planning process, the Vashon Park District (VPD) identified two underserved populations: the special needs community and senior citizens. The "Ober Park -- Every Body's Playground" project will better serve both of these communities.

Vashon Park District (VPD) has recently acquired a grant from King County to revamp the children's playground at Ober Park. The intent is to replace deteriorating play equipment, replace the wood chip base and make the playground more accessible for people with disabilities. In addition, VPD plans to install three new exercise stations on the outer edge of the existing concrete walkway. (See the area outlined in red on the attached conceptual drawing.) Two of the exercise stations will be Senior/ADA-appropriate, while the third will be more appropriate for youth and active adults. All three stations will be accessible.

Vashon Senior Center (VSC) and VPD have a mutual interest in providing older adults with more opportunities to exercise and partake in fun social activities. Senior playgrounds are popular in Europe and Asia and are becoming more prevalent in North America. Harry Caine, the mastermind behind Canada's first outdoor Senior Wellness Park located in Tsawwassen's Winskill Park, is a retired pharmacist. Harry believes that by eating well and exercising regularly, many seniors can significantly improve their overall health and reduce their need for pharmaceuticals. Senior exercise stations often allow 2-3 people to exercise together so it becomes a social event. Social isolation is far too common for older adults on Vashon-Maury Island. Exercising at Ober Park will provide an opportunity for older adults to meet people of all ages and improve their health.

Kids, parents, special needs folks, youth, and older adults all get to play at "Every Body's Playground."

Raffle Fundraiser: King County grant funds will be used to purchase one of the Senior/ADA exercise stations and a station geared toward Youth/Active adults. Vashon Senior Center (VSC) will assist in fundraising for the expressed purpose of purchasing a second senior-appropriate exercise station at Ober Park. VSC has a license from the Washington State Gambling Commission to conduct raffles. VSC will manage a raffle for a 7-day stay in August 2020 on a houseboat in Amsterdam donated by owners Carla Stone and Andrew Niss. This donation was provided, in part, to facilitate cooperation between the two organizations on behalf of seniors. The revenue generated from this raffle (minus VSC's expenses for the raffle license fees, printing, promotion, and \$2,000 provided to raffle winners for travel expenses) will be used to purchase Senior/ADA outdoor exercise equipment for Ober Park.

The raffle will commence by October 1, 2019 and end by December 31, 2019. The hope is to sell 500 raffle tickets at \$50 each for a gross of \$25,000. Although VSC will work jointly with VPD in a concerted effort to sell raffle tickets, nothing in this MOU legally obligates VSC to provide VPD with a specific amount of revenue. Selling 500 raffle tickets is an audacious goal and will require significant effort from volunteers. VSC does not guarantee a specified amount to be raised.

Marketing materials, such as posters, will include both VPD and VSC logos. The materials will be approved by both organizations' executive directors before printing.

Expenditure of Funds: VPD will consult with VSC representatives as part of a planning committee to decide on the appropriate equipment to purchase. "Appropriate equipment" will be defined as general style desired and will not be specific in design and/or vendor. The specific design and vendor will be subject to the VPD's bid process. Once VSC is assured that the equipment to be purchased meets seniors' needs, funds raised by the raffle (minus expenses) will be release to VPD so that they may proceed with equipment purchase and installation. The exercise equipment will be owned, operated, and maintained by VPD.

Failure to Perform: Should the fundraising effort fail to raise enough money to purchase a Senior /ADA exercise station, VPD and VSC will consult on how best to utilize the revenue raised. This might include but is not limited to:

- Holding the funds at VSC until additional revenue is secured;
- Installing equipment which can be augmented in the future when funds are available; or
- Subsidizing other senior-focused exercise activities.

Duration of Agreement: This agreement extends through December 31, 2020. If the "Ober Park -- Every Body's Playground" is not complete and the Senior/ADA exercise station has not been installed, this MOU may be extended by mutual agreement between both parties.

Signatures:

Bob McMahon, Chair
Vashon Parks District Board of Commissioners

Date

Liz Illg, President
Vashon Senior Center Board of Directors

Date