



## **Zina Linnik Capital Project at McCarver and Wright Parks Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. What is the Zina Linnik Capital Project?**

**Answer:** The Zina Linnik Capital Project at McCarver and Wright Parks is a \$3.5 million community-wide effort to transform the two parks that bookend and bridge the Hilltop and Central Tacoma neighborhoods and is named in memory of Zina Linnik, McCarver Elementary School fifth grader, whose tragic death in 2007 gripped the community.

### **2. What renovations and upgrades are included in this capital project?**

**Answer:** The renovations and upgrades are designed to create safer, more attractive, more family-friendly spaces for recreation, play and community gatherings and include:

- ✓ Playground and equipment (McCarver and Wright Parks)
- ✓ Community and school gardens (McCarver)
- ✓ Sprayground Water Park Feature (Wright)
- ✓ Reading circle and program amphitheater (McCarver)
- ✓ Plaza and community gathering space (Wright)
- ✓ Running track and walking trail (McCarver)
- ✓ Program building renovation (Wright)
- ✓ Security gating and entryways (McCarver)

### **3. What are major sources of funding for the \$3.5 million capital project?**

**Answer:** Generous support has been provided from both private and public sources (examples below):

- ✓ Washington State Department of Commerce
- ✓ Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
- ✓ City of Tacoma
- ✓ Bamford Foundation
- ✓ The Ben B. Cheney Foundation
- ✓ Sequoia Foundation
- ✓ Russell Family Foundation
- ✓ McCarver Elementary School fifth graders (\$632.88)

### **4. How much money has been raised to date?**

**Answer:** About 80% of the total requirements.

### **5. Why are Parks District tax levies not funding these renovations and improvements?**

**Answer:** Taxes can give you nice parks; philanthropy can give you the parts of your dreams. Parks District tax levies fund operating and maintenance costs. Parks District Bond Issues fund capital projects. Monies raised by the last bond issue, passed in 2001, was spread District-wide among XX parks based on thorough strategic capital planning that included broad community input. Metro Parks targeted substantial bond dollars toward infrastructure improvements – investments that reduce ongoing maintenance and operating costs and pave the way for future capital projects. Bond dollars were insufficient to fund improvements in all parks, or even all improvements desired for parks that received substantial bond money. McCarver Park did not make the list; Wright Park did. While bond funds renewed Wright Park's infrastructure, they were insufficient to fund the desired new sprayground and playground equipment.

**6. Who is on the Capital Campaign Committee?**

**Answer:** This grass-roots neighborhood initiative, coordinated by the Greater MetroParks Foundation, is co-chaired by Joanne Bamford, Charley Bingham, and Jim Dawson. The Steering Committee includes: Debbie Bingham, Richard Brady, Diane Dimmer, Melanie Dressel, Booth Gardner, Michael Grunwald, Art Jarvis (ex officio), Steve Knauer, Lyle Quasim and Herb Simon.

**7. What community organizations are involved with this Capital Project?**

**Answer:** Coordinated by the Greater MetroParks Foundation and led by the McCarver fifth graders, this is a story of great partnerships involving the Design Class from the University of Washington (Seattle), City of Tacoma, Hilltop Action Coalition, Central Neighborhood Council, foundations (public and private), students and faculty at UPS and UW (Tacoma), School District (?) In the final analysis, "...it's about people helping kids to dream ... and also helping each other to dream as well. All those partnerships coming together from individuals to organizations is the way that it should be on many community initiatives. And, it's the kids that are leading the way on it. That's the most exciting part of this," said Tacoma City Council Member, Lauren Walker.

**8. Why two parks instead of just one?**

**Answer:** Both parks are located in core, densely-populated, urban areas of Tacoma within walking distance of large populations of low-to-moderate income families. Recently constructed multi-family residential units have brought a significant number of new families into both neighborhoods. For these families, Wright and McCarver Parks will provide their only "backyard" space in which to play and recreate.

**9. How will ongoing maintenance be funded?**

**Answer:** Two sources of funding for ongoing maintenance: Metro Parks operating budget and \$500,000 equipment replacement and maintenance endowment being raised as part of the Zina Linnik Capital Campaign.

**10. Are there opportunities to provide "in-kind" donations/services to this project?**

**Answer:** Yes. The GMPF welcomes in-kind donations/services that offset budgeted project expenses. All in-kind donations/services related to construction must be pre-approved by the Metro Parks project manager.

**11. Are there commemorative naming opportunities associated with the contributions to this project?**

**Answer:** Yes, the GMPF will offer these naming opportunities on a first-come, first-served basis to those making fully-documented pledge commitments at or above the qualifying ranges. All naming requests will be subject to final approval by the GMPF Board in consultation with Metro Parks Tacoma officials. Naming categories range from \$7,500 to \$950,000.

**12. What is the Greater MetroParks Foundation (GMPF) and what's its role in this project?**

**Answer:** First established in 1991 as the Tacoma Recreation Foundation and renamed the GMPF in 1999, it is a 501(c) (3) organization that nurtures community support, volunteerism and philanthropy to enhance parks and recreational programs run by or affiliated with Metro Parks Tacoma (MPT). Funding examples include uniform drives, grant proposals, MPT employee giving campaigns, corporate sponsorship proposals, and most recently, the highly successful "Legacy Campaign." The GMPF is coordinating the capital campaign for the \$3.5 million Zina Linnik Capital Project at Wright and McCarver Parks.

**For additional information about how you can support the Zina Linnik Capital Project at Wright and McCarver Parks, visit the Greater MetroParks Foundation (GMPF) website**

**([www.metroparksfoundation.org](http://www.metroparksfoundation.org)) or contact Drew Ebersole, Executive Director, GMPF at 253-305-1066.**