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**MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP**

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk

This form is a public record

MEETING DATE: 2/23/12

SUBJECT: 2/16/12 CONTINUED

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: PAUL, ADOLPH, PHILLIPS

ADDRESS: 1212 SW CLAY apt #217,

CITY/STATE/ZIP: PORTLAND, OREGON 97209

PHONE: _____

DAYS: 503-224-9954

FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

FAX: _____

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD IN PERSON:

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IF YOU WISH TO SUBMIT WRITTEN INSTEAD OF ORAL COMMENTS TO THE BOARD:

1. Please complete this form along with your written testimony and return to the Board Clerk at the meeting, or submit by e-mail at: lynda.grow@multco.us
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MEETING DATE: 2-23-12

SUBJECT: Vance Park Parking

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Kathie Minden

ADDRESS: 612 NE 19th

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97230

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503-740-3541 EVES: Same

EMAIL: rkminden@comcast.net FAX: _____

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February 23, 2012

Multnomah County Commission Testimony

Good morning, Chair Cogen and Commissioners:

My name is Kathie Minden and I am Volunteer Chair/Director of nonprofit People for Parks in East County. This morning we are bringing forward our concerns around the liability issues concerning the lack of parking at Vance Park, a Multnomah County-owned park with an IGA with City of Gresham Parks & Rec. Vance Park is located along SE 182nd Ave., south of Stark St.

14 summers ago, the Rockwood community began “taking back” Vance Park as part of the early Rockwood community-building efforts in the late 1990’s. It was a dangerous, derelict, and overgrown parkland, and murder and rape had actually occurred. There were many easy-to-hide-in places, and we mostly avoided the back portion of the park, unless two or more walked together.

Today, Vance Park is a thriving, vibrant part of the Rockwood community, featuring a free interactive summer children’s garden with a live Monarch butterfly pavilion, a science pavilion, and free books provided by SMART (Start...). Many, many community groups such as Rockwood Kiwanis, CODA, BSA and Eagle Scout projects, Rockwood NA, schools, churches; community service; individual volunteers; and so many businesses all made Vance Park the community gem it is today. There is a playground now, too, and many families of every culture spend harmonious time together at the park with picnic lunch and suppers, sometimes playing volleyball or a casual soccer game. Disc Golf is a very valuable addition to the activities at the park, and provides a daily presence that helps monitor and report unsafe behaviors.

Due to the lack of an actual parking lot, I have kept the children’s garden very low profile. I do not post notices on the west side of SE 182nd Ave., and do very little advertising, but last summer (our fifth) word of mouth advertising spread the word very quickly. Usually, a mom with kids in tow would comment “We didn’t know you were here” and get on the cell phone; a couple of hours later, her friend and her children would show up. It was great, but with success comes challenges. The Home of God Ukrainian church to the north of the park, and Ascension Lutheran Church to the south are very supportive and generous in sharing their parking lots to the best they are able, but their congregations have each grown and require parking, and it is also hazardous due to limited parking visibility along the sidewalk.

We understand the Environmental Study must be done, but is there a way to separate the part of the park most used by the public, separate from the gravel pit area so liability issues are minimized? Is there a way to think short-term, interim, and long-term on Vance Park usage? Thank you for your time in hearing our concerns regarding parking today.

Kathie Minden – People for Parks/Chair – 612 NE 197th Pkld, OR 97230 503-740-3541

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MEETING DATE: 2-23-12

SUBJECT: Vance Park

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Catherine Nicewood

ADDRESS: 17401 NE Couch St.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland OR 97230

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503-285-6587 EVES: _____

EMAIL: rockwood present@gmail.com FAX: _____

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County Testimony February 23, 2012

Chairman Cogan and Commissioners thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you today about my concerns at Vance Park on 182nd Ave. between Stark and Division.

Since I moved to Gresham in 2006 Vance Park has become a safer place to exercise and play. Because of that, more people are using the park which causes the problem we are having today with no place to park. With cars parked on the street, people leaving Ascension Lutheran Church, Park Place Coffee, and Home of God Church are not able to see if there is a break in the traffic enough to pull out safely. The Home of God Church has services or classes daily. A girl from Home of God Church was injured crossing 182nd Ave. Ascension Lutheran Church main service is on Sunday mornings. They also have a day care/school during the week. Park Place Coffee is open daily. Park users use the two churches parking lots so when their parishioners come to church they have no place to park and they leave without coming to church.

National Night Out is held every year on the first Tuesday in August. Last year we had 400-450 people attend. Parking was a major problem. Some cars were double parked. Cars were parked on the west side of 182nd in no parking zones.

The park is also used for volleyball, soccer, disc golf, baseball, and the children's garden. Also the Pacific Islanders use the park for their evening gatherings with a meal and entertainment.

We as a neighborhood would like Vance Park to continue to be a great asset. But for it to be safe, we need more parking to accommodate all the people using the park.

I know an environmental study is being done on the gravel pit area of the park. The Neighborhood Association was promised the study would be done June 2010. Then we were told June 2011. Now I have been told June 2012 is the target date for it to be finished. The need for parking is not going away. Spring and summer is fast approaching. Would you consider finishing the environmental study soon, so plans can be made to accommodate more parking and make Vance Park a great asset the City of Gresham and the County can be proud of. Thank you.

Catherine Nicewood

Rockwood President

17401 NE Couch St. Portland, OR 97230

503-285-6587

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MEETING DATE: 2/23/2012

SUBJECT: Parking for Vance Park

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Laurie Harrington

ADDRESS: 2325 SW 18th St.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Gresham, OR 97080

PHONE: _____ DAYS: _____

EVES: 503.492.0972

EMAIL: L_NO_L@hotmail.com

FAX: _____

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February 23, 2012

Chairman Cogen and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to present comment today. I'm Laurie Harrington, a volunteer board member of People for Parks and a former Chair of the Fred Meyer Foundation Advisory Committee for the area covering Vance Park. As a long-time resident of East County, I've been witness to the success story of Vance Park. Unfortunately, the successful transformation from dereliction to vibrancy has left park users exposed to new safety concerns.

I have witnessed moms with young children trying to set up strollers between parallel parked cars with traffic whizzing by on 182nd. I've seen golfers and ball players dodging traffic to cross the street to the fields for games. Street parking is frequently unavailable on good weather days at the park. I see people using parking for the church and businesses to the North of the park and the Lutheran church lot in the midst of the park grounds. Current parking needs are in excess of the spaces available on the street and there is a deficiency of safe parking for special needs individuals. Park users are often faced with a tough choice. Dodge traffic or be bad neighbors by using a parking area that is not designated for park use.

At a Gresham meeting of HEAL stakeholders (Healthy Eating Active Living) addressing barriers to health in the built environment, it became clear to me we must do all we can to promote full use of our public grounds for the health of our community. Vance Park could be even more accessible to the very young and the very old with safe off-street parking as part of the plan. More park use means kids up to good rather than no-good, adults policing other adults, neighbors becoming friends, and healthier communities at very low cost to our society. Our park is enjoyed by all socio-economic groups and cultures and as such should be considered an affordable jewel in the crown of the public good.

Please complete the study necessary for us to solve our immediate safety needs and allow us to fully utilize this area. We need additional parking now. It would be a shame if we said we can't afford to finish the study. Being proactive costs some but being reactive costs more. This is an equal access issue, a public safety issue, and a health issue. Let's invest in our community in a real way – we don't need a bunch of programs, we've created a real community already—we're asking for an opportunity to grow those relationships in a safe environment with off street parking.

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MEETING DATE: 2/23/2012

SUBJECT: People for Parks - Parking at Vance Park

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: Disc Golf in community & need for additional Parking

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Chadwick Warner

ADDRESS: 17900 SE Mill Ct.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97233

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503 449-5140 EVES: _____

EMAIL: acerbanky@gmail.com FAX: _____

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February 23rd, 2012

Testimony for Multnomah County Commissioners & Chairman

Hello my name is Chadwick Warner, but most know me as simply Chadwick. I am here today to add a voice for the local disc golf community & raise awareness of this growing sport in our community. I currently run a not for profit disc golf club based in the Rockwood community. Our little club has grow to over 200 registered members. We play disc golf 3 days a week in the winter (Tuesday, Wednesdays & Sunday) & 5 days a week in the summer, with addition of our youth league & Mini's. We currently have a local event every Tuesday based out of Vance & Rockwood parks that attracts a variety of local disc golfers young & old. This is a year round sport & you will find disc golfers in any weather conditions.

Most disc golfers I know take pride in their local park and help defend the park against gangs, violence, graffiti & drug addicts. Disc golfers also organize to help maintain & improve the park through work parties & park clean ups. I personally have seen the impact of disc golfers in our local parks and truly believe that this sport has had a major impact in this park & the community.

Mainstream media has claimed that Disc Golf is the fastest growing sport in America, some would even dare to say that it could some day overtake ball golf. With the addition of 2 new parks in the area, one off of 172nd ave (Columbia View Park next to Hutton B Lee Middle School) with will be completed in the next few months & a world class course going in at Blue Lake in May. Thees additional courses will draw more traffic to our little course in Rockwood.

The bottom line is that between the growth of disc golf in the area, community garden, local churches, soccer field, summer volleyball, local disc golf leagues. There is a major need for additional parking at this park, to not only to prevent a dangerous safety issues, but to help grow our community.

Our main agenda for today is to discuss the parking issue, I would like to take moment to make a suggestion that may help the disc golf community & the ongoing issues with the fence & the gravel pit. For the longest time, he disc golfers have taken a bulk of the blame for the hazards holes in the fencing around the gravel pit. I can tell you from my own experience that disc golfers are not the only ones that go down into the gravel pit, but i am here to help solve issues & eliminate disc golfers from the equation. My suggestion is to put up some net barriers like found at ball golf practice courses, such as a 50 to 100ft net. in several problem areas. I believe that in the long run this would be a simple cost affective solution. Rather then the bi-yearly "fixing of the fence" that is currently happening.

Thank you for your time.

Chadwick

www.abdiscgolf.com

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MEETING DATE: 2/23/12

SUBJECT: VANCE PARK PARKING

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: DALE PORATH

ADDRESS: 8677 SE BRISTOL PARK DR.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: PORTLAND, OR 97086

PHONE: DAYS: 503 775-0580

EVES: SAME

EMAIL: porathd@msn.com

FAX: 503 775-0581

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: ATTACHED

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

1. Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk.
2. Address the County Commissioners from the presenter table microphones. Please limit your comments to **3 minutes**.
3. State your name for the official record.
4. If written documentation is presented, please furnish one copy to the Board Clerk.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS,

MY NAME IS DALE PORATH AND I AM REPRESENTING ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH WHICH IS LOCATED IN THE MIDDLE OF VANCE PARK. ASCENSION HAS BEEN IN its LOCATION FOR 54 YEARS SERVING ROCKWOOD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.

OUR MEMBERSHIP OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS HAS GROWN 38%; HOWEVER OUR AVERAGE ATTENDANCE HAS ONLY INCREASED BY ABOUT 2%. WE FEEL THIS IS IN PART DUE TO LACK OF PARKING RESOURCES. SINCE THE PARK HAS NO OFF STREET PARKING USERS FREQUENTLY USE THE ASCENSION PARKING LOT DESPITE SIGNAGE INDICATING THAT PARKING IS FOR CHURCH USE ONLY. OUR PARKING LOT IS FRENQUENTLY REFERENCED AS A SOURCE OF PARKING FOR PARK ACTIVITIES, AND WE HAVE BEEN WILLING TO PROVIDE PARKING FOR VARIOUS PARK GROUPS.

BOTH ASCENSION AND VANCE PARK ARE IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL PARKING. AS EVIDENCED BY THE NOV. 8, 2002 MEMO FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRESHAM CITY MANAGER IT IS STATED THAT "THE SINGLE BIGGEST ISSUE FACING VANCE PARK IS A LACK OF PARKING." WE HAVE BEEN IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CITY AND COUNTY AS TO HOW JOINT USE PARKING COULD BE DEVELOPED. I HAVE PROVIDED SOME OF THE POTENTIAL IDEAS DEVELOPED BY THE CITY AND ASCENSION TO PROVIDE THE MUCH NEEDED OFFSTREET PARKING. THESE DISCUSSIONS HAVE COME TO A STANDSTILL AS THE COUNTY HAS BEEN CONDUCTIONG A STUDY FOR THE ENTIRE APPROXIMATE 90 ACRES KNOWN AS VANCE PARK.

IN ADDITIONTO THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL PARKING, THERE IS ALSO A NEED TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT TO PROVICE ACCESSIBLE PARKING FOR THE PARK AND THE RECENTLY INSTALLED RESTROOMS. AS GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES THE CITY AND COUNTY ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO COMPLAINTS.

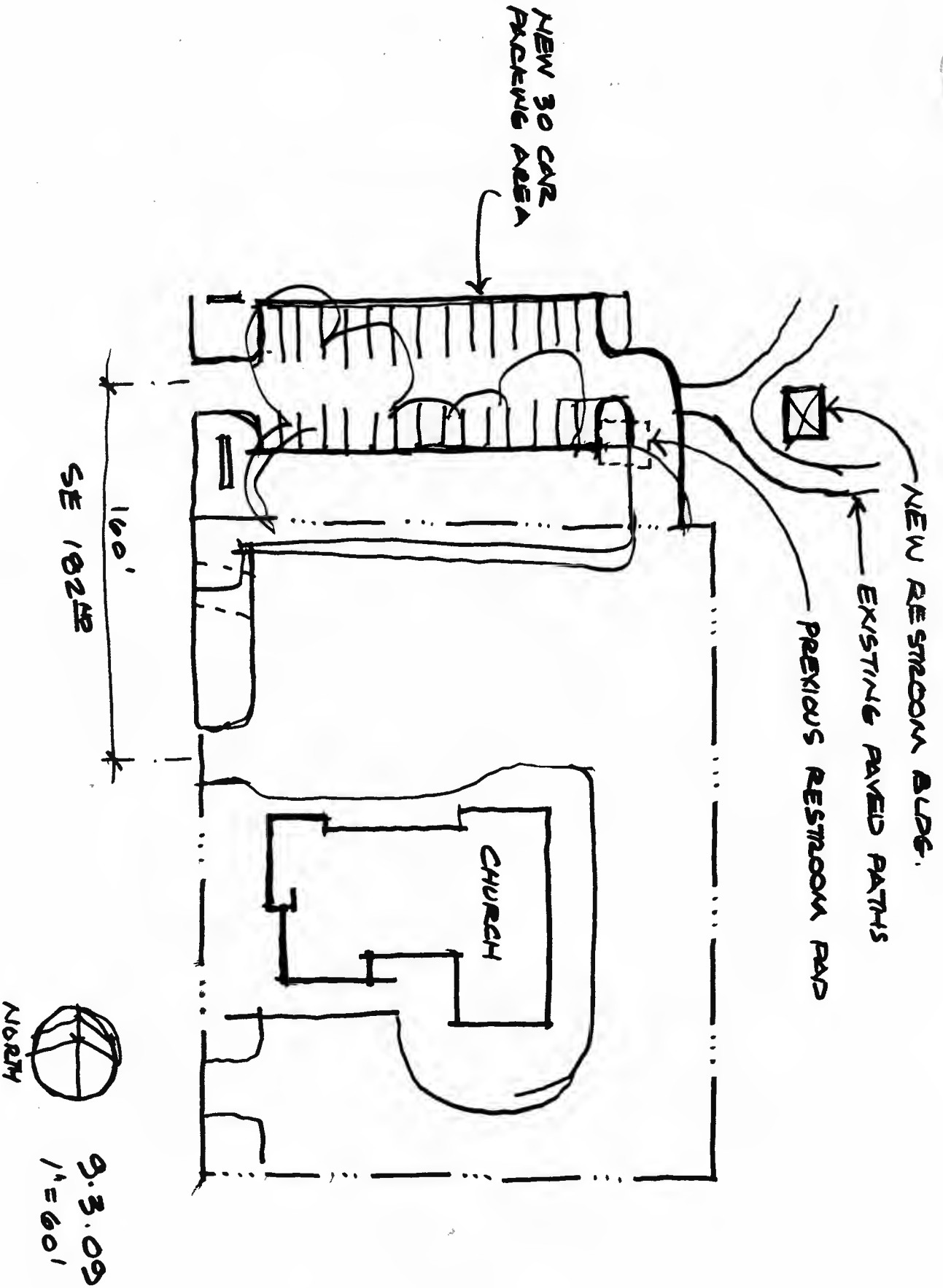
THE PARKING STUDIES THAT HAVE BEEN DONE TO DATE INDICATE THAT THE OFFSTREET PARKING COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IN APPROXIMATELY .53 TO .81 ACRES WHICH REPRESENTS LESS THAN 1% OF THE 90 ACRES. ASSUMING THAT THE COUNTY INTENDS TO RETAIN THE DEVELOPED PARK PORTION OF THE 90 ACRES AS A PARK, WE WOULD REQUEST THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE CONCEPT OF DEVELOPING JOINT USE OFFSTREET PARKING AND ALLOW THE STAKE HOLDERS TO FURTHER DEVELOP A PLAN AND NEGOTIATE A MEANS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

| ISSUE | WHO | CURRENT STATUS | NEXT STEPS | CRITICAL DATES |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| PAL Youth Center | Andree Tremoulet – CEDD | CDBG funds budgeted to assist with renovating bathrooms. | | |
| DIVERSITY | | | | |
| Latino Personnel | Richard Fung – HRD | Getting out job opportunities to Latinos, striving for 2-5 Latino staff, partner with Latinos to enhance skills. Working with Police, Fire & Emergency Services, DES, and others. | We have reached the goal of hiring more than 2 Latino staff to work for our organization during this year. We continue to advertise our job openings with the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and other community groups. | 11/02 |
| Diversity Task Force | Richard Fung – HRD | Develop and translate bi-lingual documents. Inventorying which documents to translate. | Met with the Latino Parents Alliance to have them help identify key documents needing translation. | Follow-up 11/02 |
| PARKS | | | | |
| Vance Park | Don Robertson – DES | Working with a group of volunteers to install new playground equipment. Also hoping to remove an old restroom building that has stood unused for at least 20 years (working with County). The single biggest issue facing Vance Park is <u>lack of parking</u> . Staff has explored options for building a parking lot, but several issues stand in the way, including funding, access off 182 nd , future mining plans. ← ? | Richard, Deb and Don in conversation with the County. | |
| Yamhill Park | Don Robertson – DES | Developed a partnership with MHCC Head Start for joint development of the Yamhill Park site. | | |

City proposal

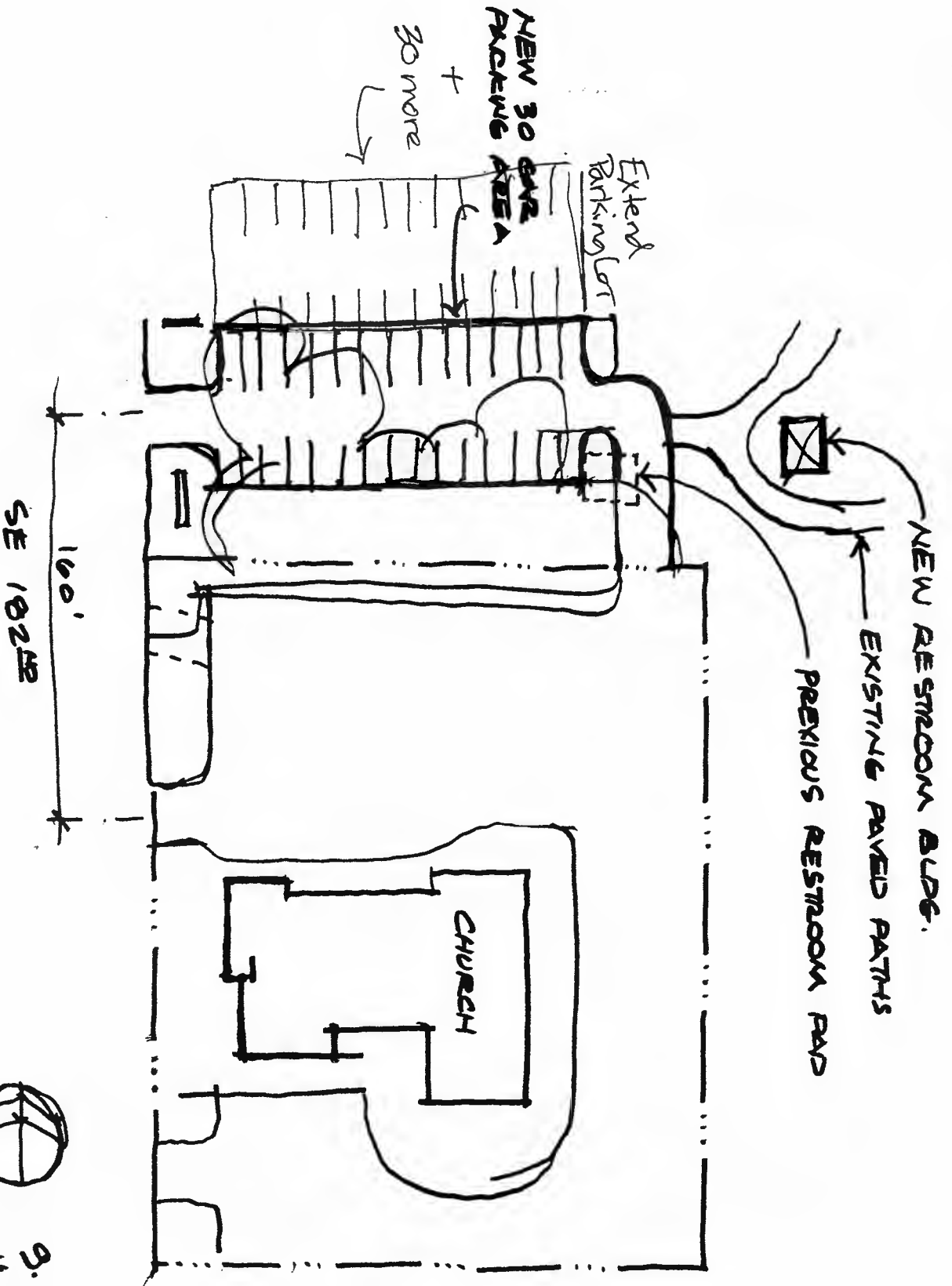
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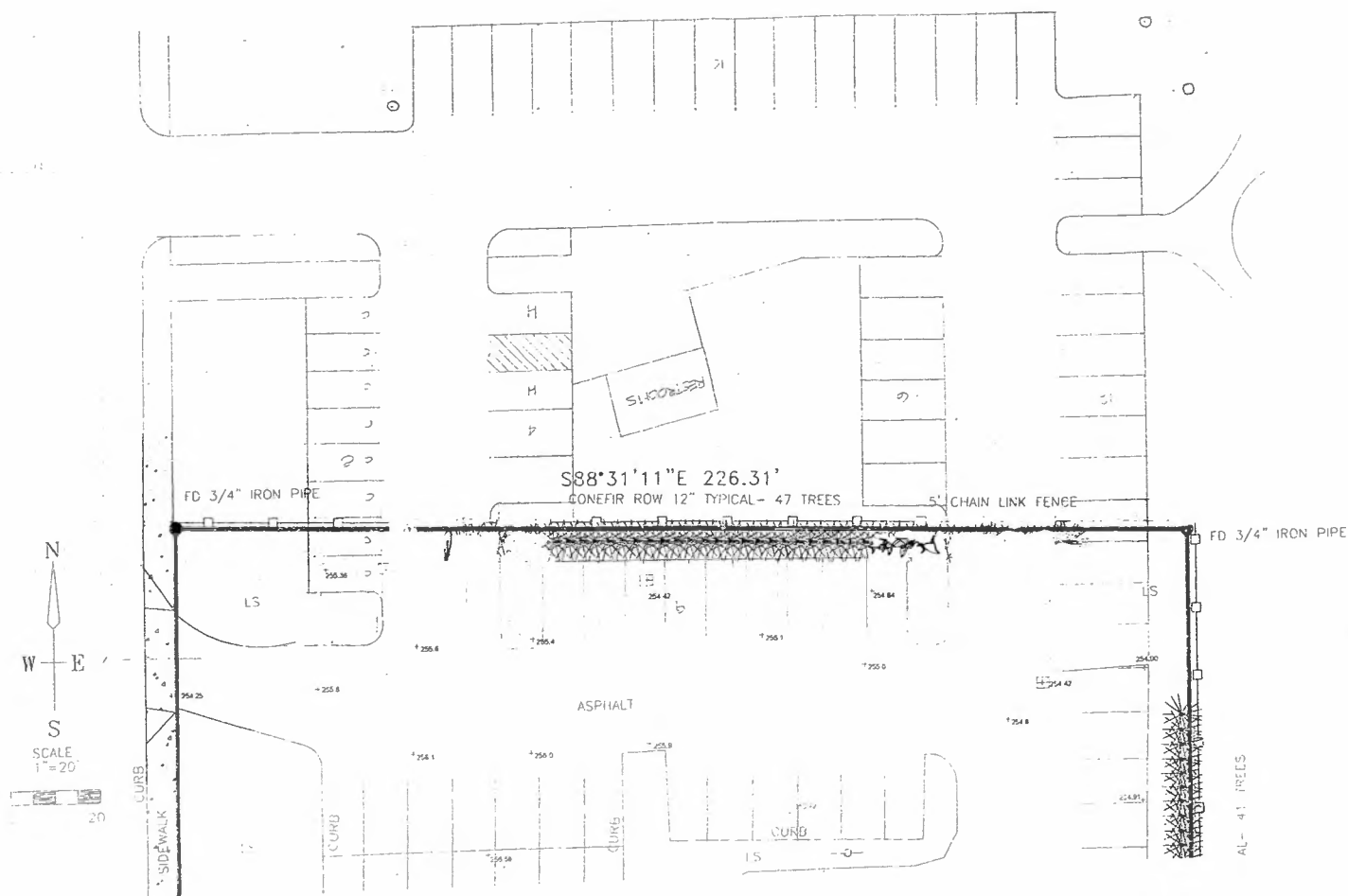
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City proposal + our ideas to add 30 more parking spaces



9.3.09
1" = 60'



6

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SUBJECT: Vance Park Parking

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Dennis Bohren ~~Bohren~~ Bohren

ADDRESS: 1285 SW 26th Ct.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Gresham, OR 97080

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503-665-8825 EVES: 503-492-1007

EMAIL: dennis.bohren@comcast.net FAX: _____

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