



The Washington Park Arboretum-- Update to the Seattle City Council Parks Committee

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This is our annual report to the Seattle City Council on progress to date.

Update Topics

- Current improvement projects in the Arboretum
- The Pacific Connections Garden: the New Zealand Forest
- The new Stewards Volunteer Program
- SR 520 Mitigation Projects & update on the status of our negotiations with WSDOT



- New Lights on Lake Washington Blvd.
- Traffic Calming on the Boulevard
- Improvements at the Graham Visitors Center

[illegible]

The New Zealand Forest-- Its construction began this summer.

The Innovative Stewards Volunteer Program



Creating a highly-skilled volunteer corps to help the staff care for our gardens.
Two volunteer groups have been recruited so far:

Pacific Connections Stewards

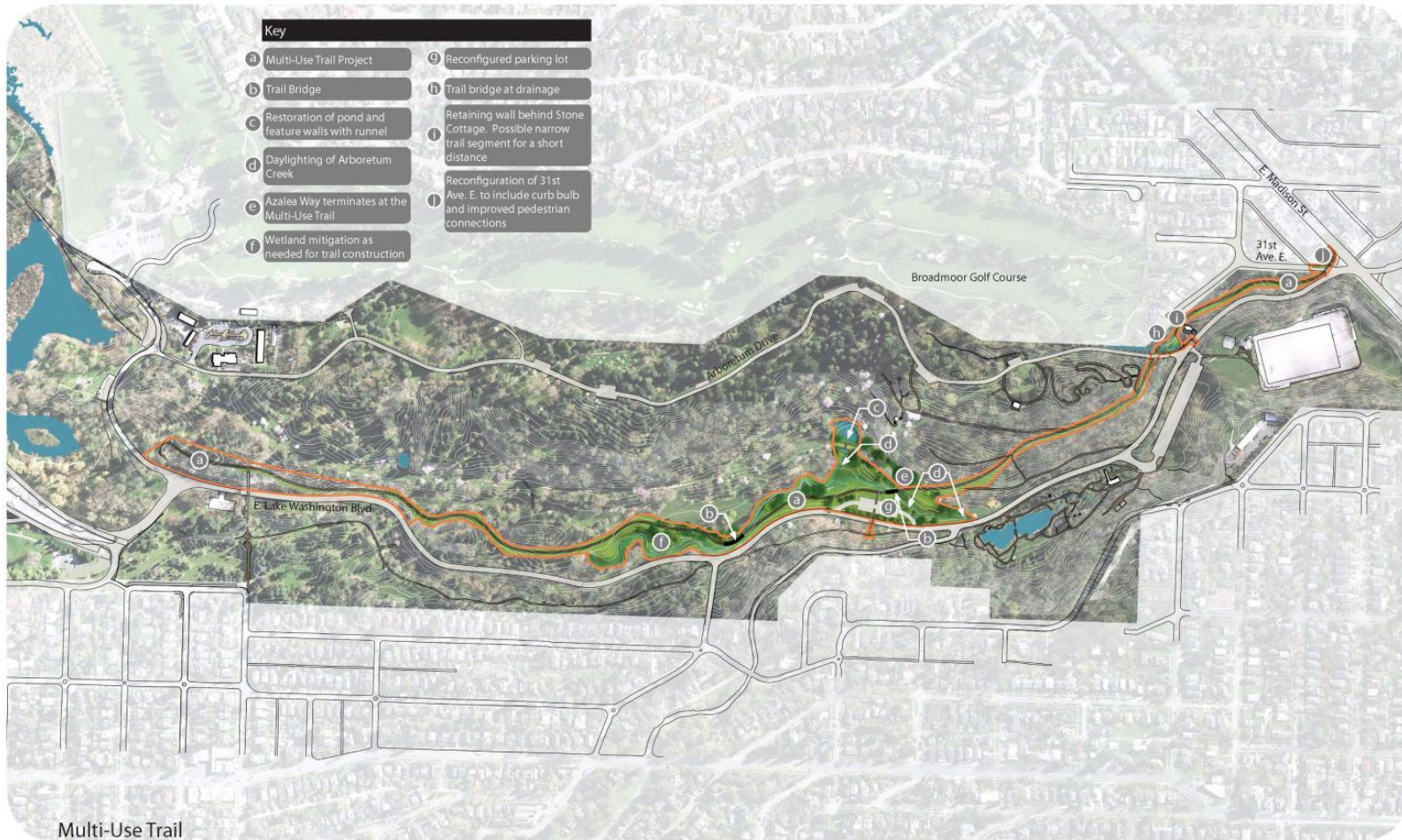
Azalea Way Stewards

SR 520 Mitigation Projects—The New North Entry

Enlargement A



SR 520 Mitigation Projects—The Multi-Use Trail

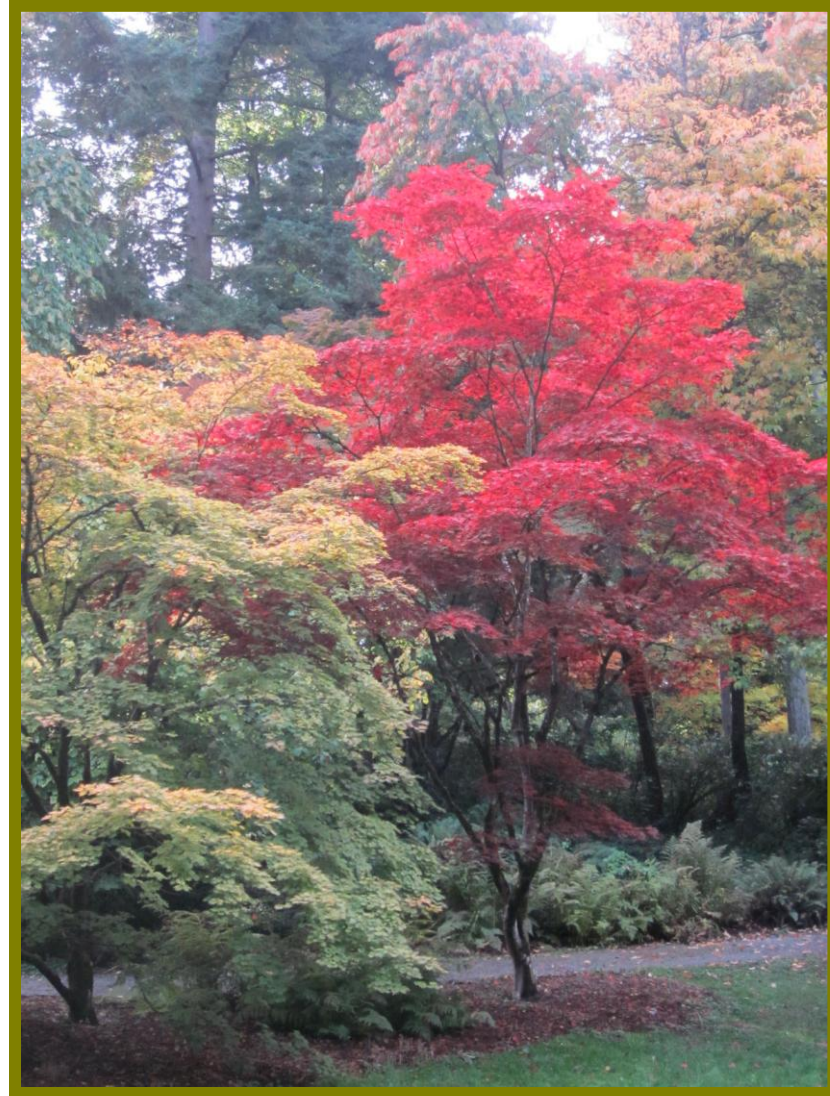


SR 520 Negotiations—Chronology for the Arboretum

- December 2010--Mitigation Plan Submitted to the Legislature which included a list of mitigation projects.
- March 2011--Memorandum of Understanding between WSDOT and the Arboretum parties signed; specific projects included.
- 2011 & 2012--WSDOT pays Seattle Parks & Recreation to prepare preliminary plans and budgets for mitigation projects.
- Fall 2011--Negotiations on a term sheet between WSDOT and the Arboretum began and all terms were negotiated by spring 2012, except the amount of WSDOT's financial contribution to the projects.
- Since then discussions have slowed; WSDOT has not yet offered any details on how much money they will contribute to the mitigation projects.



Questions?



Two scenes from the Arboretum—the environmental education program for kids and the Woodland Garden in the fall.