Beacon Hill | John H. Shields Park

SPOKANE MOUNTAINEERS

PAUL KNOWLES
Presentation Outline

Introduction
Make Beacon Hill Public Background / Update
John H. Shields Park (aka “Minnehaha Rocks”)
Renovation
Q&A

Above: Banta Property (Beacon Hill) acquired through Conservation Futures in 2021.
About Me

About Me

Left to Right: Connie Connelly and Bob Horrocks (Mountaineers Members), Carolyn & Alder, and Rowan
Make Beacon Hill Public

Urban Growth Area (UGA)
Make Beacon Hill Public (Pre 2020)

Why preserve Beacon Hill?

46 miles of trail!

A majority of those miles on private property.

Provides open space to underserved area (Hillyard / NE Spokane)
Make Beacon Hill Public (Pre 2020)

Proposal

Preserve through Conservation Futures 250 acres of private property (shown in yellow)

Apply for Recreation & Conservation Office Grans

Connect existing public parkland into contiguous publicly-owned recreation area
Make Beacon Hill Public (≥2020)

- Trust for Public Land
- Avista Utilities
- Evergreen East MBA
- Inland NW Land Conservancy
- City of Spokane Valley
- Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Inland NW Trails Coalition
- Millwood Brewing
- Osprey Investors
- Spokane Regional Sports Commission
- Wheelsport
- Spokane Mountaineers
- Many community emails over the years...
Make Beacon Hill Public (≥2020)

Outcomes

$1.5 million in RCO grant funding received

160 acres acquired by Spokane County(●) and City of Spokane(●)

Actively working on conservation easements on Avista property
Camp Sekani – Capacity issues, amenities needed.

Shields Park – Negative activity, Capacity issues, amenities needed.

Combs Property – Access enhancements needed (i.e. trailhead)

Make Beacon Hill Public – Phase 2(?)
John H. Shields Park

Overview

- Climbing Focus Area
- East Parking Lot
- West Parking Lot
- Centennial Trail

Sekani Heights Development
John H. Shields Park  West Half - Today
John H. Shields Park

Issues

- Dumping (Vehicles & Trash)
- Graffiti
- Safety Concerns
- Capacity
- Deteriorating amenities.
John H. Shields Park

Opportunities

Parking | Accessibility | Amenities | Park Identity | Connectivity | Functionality
John H. Shields Park

Features

- Paved Parking
- Lighting
- Water
- Landscaping
- Bike Path
- Formalize Access Points
John H. Shields Park

Features

- HAWK Light /
  Formalized Crosswalk
- Plaza / Rest Area
- Lighting
- Water
- Bike Path
John H. Shields Park  

Features

2nd Driveway
Lighting
Water
Landscaping
Accessibility
Boulder / climbing
Playground
John H. Shields Park

Features

- Multiple age groups
- Creates climbing progression
- “Activates” portion of park that sees negative activity
John H. Shields Park

Public Support

Met one on one with several organizations.

Met with adaptive climbing community to seek input.

Still need to seek general public input on proposed project.
John H. Shields Park

Costs | Funding

Estimated Total Cost:
$700,000

Potential Funding:
$300,000 REET (2023)

Partner Contributions
Grant Funding
John H. Shields Park

Funding Avenues | Timing

- Stakeholder Meetings
- General Public Input
- Project Development
- American Rescue Plan Act
- Funding Decision
- Funding Avenues
- Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office Grants
- Ranking Decision
- Construction

You Are Here