

**2010 City Council Budget Action (SLI)**

Approved

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**Budget Action Title:** Othello Park Public Safety Improvements -- Short-Term and Long-Term Improvement Plans

**Councilmembers:** Burgess; Clark; McIver; Rasmussen

**Staff Analyst:** Kieu-Anh King

**Budget Committee Vote:**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>TB</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>RC</i>	<i>JD</i>	<i>JG</i>	<i>BH</i>	<i>NL</i>	<i>RM</i>	<i>TR</i>
<b>11/10/2009</b>	<b>Pass 7-2-Absent</b>	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	Y

**Statement of Legislative Intent:**

The City Council requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks):

- a) Conduct a public input process and begin implementing short-term public safety improvements at Othello Park no later than Wednesday, March 31, 2010, and,
- b) Provide a written report on the short-term improvements to the Council's Parks & Seattle Center Committee, also no later than Wednesday, March 31, 2010, and,
- c) Provide a written report and briefing on long-term improvements (2010 - 2012) proposed for or possible at the Park to the Council's Parks & Seattle Center Committee no later than Monday, August 16, 2010.

Short-term public safety improvements in Items (a) and (b) above are proposed to include landscaping improvements, vegetation management (e.g., removal or trimming of bushes, shrubs and/or trees, to improve sightlines at the Park) and lighting improvements in the Mayor's 2010-2015 Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Long-term public safety improvements in Item (c) above might consist of major park redevelopment or renovation or construction of additional park features (play areas, picnic areas, etc.). Improvements might also include increased programming and public events at the park, with a focus on increasing legitimate park usage and discouraging antisocial behavior and crime at the park and in surrounding communities.

The Council intends that Parks work with local community groups, including groups such as Friends of Othello Park and the Othello Park Alliance, to devise short- and long-term improvement plans that address community members' concerns about public safety and park use.

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**Background.**

The Mayor has proposed appropriating \$250,000 of 2008 Parks Levy funding, in Parks CIP Project # K730106, to increase legitimate park usage and address chronic public safety issues at Othello Park, located in Southeast Seattle. Improvements will not be major or comprehensive, but will include landscaping modifications, vegetation management and lighting improvements. Final design concepts will be determined through a community process. Additionally, the City's Neighborhood Matching Fund recently awarded a grant to Friends of Othello Park, which will support a needs assessment for future Park improvements and community-oriented programming.

**Responsible Council Committee(s):** Parks and Seattle Center

**Date Due to Council:** March 31, 2010; August 16, 2010