



News Release

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For Immediate Release

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PHOTOS: Available upon request

Arboretum Launches Broad Community Survey!

Public Input Will Help Shape the Design and Use of the 28-Acre North End Parcel, Returning to the Park at the End of the Decade!

Seattle, WA—On Mother's Day 2023, the Arboretum Foundation and UW Botanic Gardens launched a [broad, state-funded survey](#) to learn about the needs and preferences of our community regarding the future of the Washington Park Arboretum. We're hoping to get feedback both from current park users and those we wish to better serve in the future.

A focal point of the survey is the North End parcel, the 28-acre peninsula on the shores of Lake Washington that will return to the Arboretum at the completion of the SR 520 bridge project. Community input will help shape the design and use of this land.

At this early stage, we are collecting very broad input and ideas, but priorities include recognizing the Coast Salish peoples as the original inhabitants of the land, expanding shoreline access, and restoring Arboretum Creek.

“We want to ensure that all community voices are clearly heard in this process,” says Arboretum Foundation Executive Director Jane Stonecipher. “One of our key goals is to identify and remove barriers preventing people from participating in the many wonderful resources that the Arboretum has to offer.”

University of Washington Botanic Gardens Director Christina Owen says, “This is a truly unique opportunity to influence the future of the Arboretum and the programs we provide there. We want to hear from all voices in our community.”

The study is being funded by the Washington State legislature, and the results will be made public. Data collection is expected to be completed by September 2023, and the final report will be published in November.

Look out for our survey team the next time you visit the Arboretum, or complete the survey online at surveymonkey.com/r/arboretum2023. It takes fewer than 10 minutes.

More details about the survey: Visit our survey project page at arboretumfoundation.org/community-survey.

Who's conducting the survey? The Arboretum Foundation, in partnership with UW Botanic Gardens, has contracted with [Seva Workshop](#) and [Biederman Redevelopment Ventures](#) to conduct the study.

About Washington Park Arboretum: The 230-acre Arboretum is cooperatively managed by Seattle Parks and Recreation and the University of Washington Botanic Gardens, with major support from the Arboretum Foundation. The City owns the land and maintains the roads, trails, lawns, and utilities, while the University owns and curates the plant collections. The Foundation raises important funds to support Arboretum operations and special projects.



PHOTOS: Our survey team at work in the Arboretum (courtesy Seva Workshop and BRV)

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