



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

5900 West Green Lake Way N., Seattle, Washington 98103 (206) 684-4074

September 13, 2021

Dear Boathouse Supporters,

We are long overdue for an update about the Green Lake Community Boathouse project, and at last we have some solid news to share. We've done a lot of work behind the scenes, we are still in the race, and with the full backing of our boards and the patience of our donors and grant funders, we are in it to win it.

As you will recall, we hit a bit of a setback last winter when the project bids came back well over our budget. It was an undeniably painful moment in our eight-year quest to fulfill the vision of a new home for our programs on Green Lake. Market upheaval and fluctuations due to the pandemic were an unexpected blow just as we were expecting to move into construction.

In true form our team recovered, reevaluated, and started looking for solutions. We pitched previously untapped public resources for more funds, with your help – thank you so much to all who wrote letters to support our requests for state and federal funding. We secured additional commitments from the State, County and City to shore up the budget. The architects also went back to the drawing board to find additional cost savings. All told, even with increased costs of construction, we have closed the gap by over one million dollars. The team is now revising the drawings and the plan is to rebid the work in October in time to award the construction contract before the end of the year.

To account for increased construction costs in the Seattle market we have updated the total project cost to \$8.3M of which we have secured \$7.6M. We are continuing to lobby public agencies to help close the gap and have worked with Parks to develop a phasing plan, if necessary, to allow construction to start early next year. Likely, the project will need a combination of additional public funding, private fundraising, and phasing to help us get all the way to the finish line. However, with over 90% of our funding in place, our best plan is to press forward before we experience further cost increases.

That's the view from here of our future boathouse. We are optimistic and enthusiastic about continuing the process and have some new fundraising plans in the works that will be fun and community-building. From our hearts, we thank you for continuing to believe in our vision, and we deeply appreciate all your support. You motivate us and help keep the boat steady.

Please reach out if you have questions or ideas for us. And stay tuned for more news as we get ready to go out to bid!

Sincerely,

Mike Stanley
Facilities Chair
Green Lake Rowing Advisory Council