

# Northeast District Council

4534 University Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98105  
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## Members

September 7, 2012

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Community Council*

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*Wedgwood Community  
Council*

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Seattle Parks and Recreation  
100 Dexter Avenue North  
Seattle, Washington 98109

RE: Inverness Ravine Park Trail

Dear Parks and Green Spaces Levy Opportunity Fund Selection Committee,

At its September 6, the Northeast District Council (NEDC), representing 16 community and business organizations, endorsed the Inverness Ravine Trail project proposed by the Wedgwood Community Council (WCC) as part of the Parks and Green Spaces Levy 2012/2012 Opportunity Fund. We urge you to approve funding for this project.

The project is consistent in its character and goals with the Wedgwood Vision plan. This adopted plan calls for development of park space in natural settings and for creek-side trails. The project area, in its current state, is inaccessible. Opening the park to pedestrian use will help to address a northeast Seattle open space deficiency.

The proposed trail would be approximately 2,000 feet long, have four access points, and benches and signage. Benefits of this trail, apart from creating more usable park space in an area identified as deficient in park space and providing opportunities for recreation, education and fitness, include the following:

- Connect the Wedgwood and Inverness neighborhoods;
- Provide a more accessible pedestrian access from Wedgwood to the Burke-Gilman Trail and Matthews Beach;
- Provide the opportunity for walkable, day-time expeditions to a tributary of Thornton Creek for students at nearby schools; and
- And promotes environmental awareness of Thornton Creek and its ecosystem.

The Inverness Ravine Park abuts a number of single-family residences, and the security, privacy, and character of those homes is an important

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consideration that will need to be addressed in the design and outreach phases of the project. The ravine serves as habitat to native flora and fauna and its ecological functions will need to be maintained and enhanced through the work of the project.

The NEDC urges you to move forward on the decision to award funds for this project.

Sincerely,



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