Third and Evergreen

Background
The City of Lake Oswego’s goal is, “to plan, acquire, develop and maintain a system of park, open space and recreation facilities, both active and passive, that are attractive, safe, functional, available to all segments of the population and serve diverse current and long range community needs.” Millennium Plaza Park certainly meets this goal for the larger community. However the Evergreen neighborhood needs a place that is always available for the use of its families and children. Rossman Park on 4th and C streets is an excellent example of the type of facility that meets this need for First Addition residents.

At the east end of Evergreen Street is a small ¼ block of open green space that is surrounded by deciduous trees on the north and evergreens on the west. The Evergreen neighborhood would like to see this city-owned open space developed into a city park similar to Rossman Park in First Addition. It would complement Millennium Plaza Park, a space intended for large community gatherings such as concerts and the Farmers’ Market. Possible facilities at the 3rd and Evergreen site might include elements such as children’s play structures, open lawn, a shelter for picnics, restrooms and attractive landscaping including shade producing trees. It would also provide a restful space for City Hall and other area employees.
The City is becoming increasingly aware of the limitations of the existing City Hall building at 380 A Avenue. Because the property discussed above is owned by the City and is located adjacent to the existing City Hall parking lot, it would be a logical place for a Civic Center expansion. The neighborhood understands that this is an option that the City would like to maintain, but believes that it is important to emphasize expansion options that would not prevent park development.

**Action Items:**

**City Responsibility**

1. Keep the Evergreen Neighborhood Association informed of City plans for this area.
2. Provide funds in subsequent budget cycles for the construction of a small neighborhood park for Evergreen residents.
3. If a Civic Center is envisioned for this block, design it in such a way that provides a green space to function as a small park for the Evergreen neighborhood and a restful space for city employees.

**Neighborhood Responsibility**

1. The neighborhood must remain proactive with the City on this issue. ENA strongly supports a neighborhood park in this location.

At the appropriate time, solicit funds from individuals or groups for park development.
At the east end of Evergreen is a gathering place called Millennium Plaza Park. Community members, sometimes in the thousands, attend concerts, a Farmers’ Market, candle light vigils, an annual Holiday tree lighting, and private events such as weddings. Evergreen neighbors enjoy their close proximity to Millennium Plaza Park, allowing them to walk or bike to many free events. However, music can sometimes be loud and disturbing to close neighbors. Additionally, the traffic and parking requirements for these events can mean an inconvenience to neighbors, particularly those who live on 3rd, 4th and Lake Bay Court. These issues are addressed in detail in the Transportation chapter of the plan.

The Park and Recreation Department manages the park system in the City of Lake Oswego. The policies for park use are established by City Council Ordinance. Copies are available on the City’s website or can be obtained at City Hall. The Department currently requires that all events in Millennium Plaza Park end by 10:00 pm. During the Farmers’ Market, held every Saturday, May thru October, vendors are required to park their delivery vehicles at City Hall and not on neighborhood streets. Parking arrangements are made with local
businesses during the larger summer events like the annual Lake Run to provide additional parking. Based on an arrangement with the Lakeview Village shopping Center, the City can use that lot four times per year for large events.

**Action Items**

**City Responsibility**

1. As the plans for Millennium Plaza Park are completed, include the planting of additional shade trees in the lawn area to provide additional protection from the sun for visitors to the park.
2. Uphold an agreement with the Evergreen Neighborhood Association that allows the association to hold two events at Millennium Plaza Park each year, depending upon availability, at no cost.

**Neighborhood Responsibility**

1. Establish an official neighborhood contact or committee to review and make recommendations for changes to the City’s present Millennium Plaza Park practices. The rules for all parks are available for review on-line at: [http://www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/Park%20Rules%20Final%202004.pdf](http://www.ci.oswego.or.us/parksrec/Park%20Rules%20Final%202004.pdf)
2. Identify areas where available off-street parking is under utilized during events at Millennium Plaza Park. Inform the City and investigate the possibility of shared parking arrangements with those property owners.