

Poulsbo Event and Recreation Center Online Community Chats – March 2021 Summary

The City of Poulsbo conducted an Online Open House March 1-31, 2021 to share information and to gather additional feedback and clarification preferences from the first community survey from Fall 2020. The PERC Online Open House presented the first survey results, hosted a short questionnaire and additional comments opportunities.

An additional component of the Online Open House, the PERC project team hosted two Community Chats held on March 27 and March 30, 2021. The Community Chats included a brief presentation on the background of the PERC and the findings of the 2020 community preference survey. Interested community members attended the meeting and shared their thoughts, questions, and concerns about the PERC. The Community Chats are available for viewing at this link: <https://cityofpoulsbo.com/perc-online-open-house/>

The following summarizes some of the key questions and comments raised during the two Community Chats. City responses to questions are shown in *italics*:

- It is important that the City continue Parks and Recreation offerings at the PERC and be careful that community use is prioritized.
- What is the KPFD contribution and how certain is their funding? *The KPFD could possibly provide 50% of total project development costs (Phases I, II, and III). The KPFD is authorized through the legislature to distribute sales tax rebates to regional public center projects through 2042.*
- Will the City be asking residents to vote a bond for the City's portion of the project? *Yes, the City's portion of the project will require the community's financial participation through a voted bond or other tax assessment.*
- Provide basketball facilities. If outdoor, please considered covered courts.
- Weddings and a commercial kitchen to support events.
- Can't wait for it to open.... a fabulous spot for everyone
- Would like to have an indoor track.





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- The PERC should have a pool. The NKSD pool is difficult to share.
- What are performing arts opportunities at the PERC? *The PERC will provide for some form of performance venue, which could range from a performance center with stage and support facilities to a combination of indoor and outdoor venues created through portable stage and lighting systems. The decision will be based on cost, space, and potential use scenarios.*
- There needs to be trails and walking areas at the PERC. Provide non-motorized connections to the community.
- Need more than 'on-site' walking paths. Make sure trails connect to something.
- Would like to continue fitness and yoga classes at a Poulsbo Parks and Recreation center.
- Will there be a conflict between parks and recreation uses and rentals? *No. The use by Parks and Recreation programs should easily integrate with other uses.*
- What type of partnerships are being considered? Will partnerships increase user fees for Poulsbo residents? I am all for partnerships but not those that use too much of the use. *The City is considering partnerships with educational institutions and the business community in College Market Place. The YMCA is joining the conversation. The PERC user fees will be based on the selected uses and the popularity of those uses.*
- What is the parking and transportation concern? Do you have enough space to accommodate 'regional events'? *Parking and accessibility are important pieces, and the City is looking at alternatives to acquire more property and developed shared parking arrangements with our neighbors at College Market Place.*
- The priority should be to make the PERC accessible to all.
- The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) suggests a community pool is an important asset. I'd like to see a pool at the PERC.
- How certain is it that the PERC will make it to Phase II and Phase III? *The City is very focused on Phase I and believes that demonstrating a feasible project will improve the certainty that the KPFD will fund later phases. Community support will be an important part of that feasibility.*





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- Mr. Lenny Zilz, Steering Committee member from Columbia Hospitality provided an overview of the Kitsap Conference Center and how the PERC could be a complementary facility in North Kitsap.
- Do not lose the hometown feel by focusing too much on regional events.
- The PERC should include rock climbing and disc golf.
- The City should consider that there are several local bond subscribers that may be supportive of the PERC.
- How does Hamilton Field relate to the PERC? Will the PERC replace it so it can develop as housing? *Hamilton Field is not currently owned or controlled by the City. Market forces will determine the eventual fate of Hamilton Field.*
- How large of an events space does the City envision? *The size will be based on the final use analysis. Currently, the City is considering between 7,000 and 12,000 square feet for a multi-use events space.*
- Is their space for a community garden? *The City recognizes the benefit of a community garden at the PERC and is evaluating space and use limitations. The final decision will come later in the planning process.*
- The PERC is a “huge project” and much needed as an important part of the community.
- A pool would be nice, but they are very expensive.
- Are there sustainability goals for the project? *The City knows the PERC must be an environmentally sensitive project to garner the community’s support but is not considering LEED or other accreditation at this time.*
- Why is the PERC at College Market Place? *The property was deeded to the City as part of the Olhava Development Agreement. It was intentionally set aside for park use and the City has been seeking funding to develop it.*
- How big is the PERC? *Currently the City owns 6 acres and is looking to acquire another 2 to 4 acres to support the complete development of the PERC. The City anticipates an up to 30,000 square foot building with outdoor turf fields.*



April 2021