



## CITY OF KIRKLAND

### City Manager's Office

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001

[www.kirklandwa.gov](http://www.kirklandwa.gov)

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager

**From:** Kari Page, Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator

**Date:** October 26, 2016

**Subject:** PSRC VISION 2040 Award – Cross Kirkland Corridor Partnership between SRM Development, Google, Lake Washington School District and the City of Kirkland

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) VISION 2040 Award on behalf of SRM Development, Google, Lake Washington School District and the City of Kirkland for the Cross Kirkland Corridor partnerships that resulted in Feriton Spur and the turf fields at Lakeview Elementary School.

### **Background:**

According to the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC): *"Each year the Puget Sound Regional Council honors outstanding real-life examples of how the region is achieving our ambitious vision for growing wisely and creating great quality of life in all the region's communities. The awards are designed to recognize the superb work being done by public and private organizations to achieve our region's growth, economic, and transportation strategy, VISION 2040."*

Nominations for the award can be for projects, programs or plans in the four-county region (King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish Counties) that are developed in the public or private sectors, or through public/private partnerships. The VISION 2040 Award winners are selected by a committee of the PSRC Board.

At the November 1 City Council meeting the VISION 2040 Award will be presented to SRM Development, Google, Lake Washington School District and the City of Kirkland by Josh Brown, Executive Director, of PSRC. Representatives from the project partners (SRM Development, Google, and Lake Washington School District) have also been invited to attend.

In April of 2012, the City of Kirkland purchased a 5.75 mile portion of the Eastside Rail Corridor that runs through the heart of Kirkland and connects schools, parks, neighborhoods, transportation hubs, and business districts. In 2014, the Cross Kirkland Corridor Master Plan was complete. Within 3 years, the Cross Kirkland Corridor Interim Trail was opened.

The trail, now used by thousands of walkers, runners, and bikers each week, provides opportunities for adjacent public and private development. The first of those opportunities was at the Google Kirkland campus located near Lakeview Elementary. The corridor's proximity, immediately adjacent to Google's existing campus, was essential to the decision to expand their facility by another 180,000 square feet and add 1,000 new employees. This expansion provided

the impetus for a unique public/private partnership which brought Feriton Spur Park and other improvements to the community.

Feriton Spur Park was complete in August of 2015. Today, this section represents the first glimpse into the community's master plan for the Cross Kirkland Corridor. This family fun and fitness park (totaling \$3.2 million of private investment) includes the following elements for the community's enjoyment:

- 16 foot wide hard surface trail
- meandering secondary trail
- basketball court
- resting and gathering spots
- trees and landscaping
- beach dunes with a volley ball court
- children's play structure

Google/SRM Development extended the partnership to include the Lake Washington School District for the adjacent Lakeview Elementary school and subsequently converted their gravel playfield into a new turf field that is used for soccer, baseball, and outdoor activities.

DLR Group, the Master Plan consultant for the public improvements at Feriton Spur Park, submitted the nomination to PSRC in May of 2016. Attachment A is the nomination application packet including two letters of support (one from Mayor Amy Walen and one from Director of Support Services, Forrest Miller, of the Lake Washington School District).

In the nomination letter, Director of Support Services, Forrest Miller notes: *"Of the few public/private partnerships the district has been involved in, the Lakeview partnership is a model well worth repeating. The collaborative efforts of the partnership not only provided a solution that would appropriately benefit a wider group of field users but also one that is sustainable."*

In the nomination letter, Mayor Amy Walen notes: *"The City of Kirkland is fortunate to be a major host of one of the most important technology companies in the world. With the construction of Phase 2 of the Kirkland Google Campus, Google becomes one of Kirkland's largest employers, and with that, Google provides the glow that one of the most innovative companies in the world can give the Kirkland community. Google also acts as a magnet to other technology companies that provide jobs for our residents, and Google has brought technology, including WIFI to Kirkland parks, for the use of all residents. Foremost, the partnership that we are honoring here, represents the combined work of the Phase 2 build-out of the Google Campus with dramatic improvements to a major segment of our Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC) that threads through the Campus."*

The foresight between SRM, Google, Lake Washington School District and the City of Kirkland has allowed for great public amenities that benefit all. These partnerships provide the ground-work for similar developments along the Cross Kirkland Corridor that spur economic growth in the region, alternative commuting opportunities and healthy communities.

Attachment A: PSRC Nomination Application

# Cross Kirkland Corridor Park

Partnership between: SRM Development  
Google  
City of Kirkland

Master Plan by: DLR Group



PSRC Vision 2040 Award Nomination

DLR Group Contact (nominator):  
Jeremy Reding  
206/461-6000  
jreding@dlrgroup.com

City of Kirkland Contact:  
Kurt Triplett  
425/587-3001  
KTriplett@kirklandwa.gov

SRM Contact:  
Dave Tomson  
509/455-5477  
dave@srmddevelopment.com

Google Contact:  
Darcy Nothnagle  
dnothnagle@google.com

# Project Description

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In April of 2012 the city of Kirkland purchased a portion of the former rail line that runs through the heart of Kirkland and began converting it to a public trail that connects Lakeview to Totem Lake. The trail, now known as the Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC), provided many new opportunities for adjacent public and private development that were previously unforeseen. One of those opportunities was at the Google Kirkland campus located near Lakeview Elementary. In 2012 Google partnered with SRM and was looking to expand in the area. SRM identified a nearby site that was located due West of their current property that seemed like a perfect fit except that it was divided by the corridor, essentially dividing the campus. This provided the impetus for a unique public/private partnership to occur between Google, SRM, and the City of Kirkland.

SRM and Google hired DLR Group to help develop a master-plan that would enable them to connect the two sides at grade via a sidewalk/road as well as above grade via a pedestrian bridge. The at-grade connection(s) would enable employees to access the new building via 6th Street South instead of sending all of that traffic through the adjacent neighborhood. In exchange for the easements SRM/Google developed the portion of the trail that ran through campus into a linear public park. The park knots together the Cross Kirkland Corridor with a new paved multi-modal path and provides recreation opportunities including basketball, sand volleyball, TRX training, and a children's playground that features a zip line. The overhead pedestrian bridge connecting Phase I of Google's campus to the new facility spans the park, providing privacy visual interest for the public and secure access for Googlers. The amenities provided by the new park encourage the neighborhood to exercise, come together to play basketball or volleyball, and give city joggers/bikers a destination for their workout. The other benefit is that Google employees are encouraged to walk, run, or bike to work via the CKC, further reducing traffic. Bike lockers and showers are provided to those that use the CKC to commute.

Google/SRM extended the partnership to include adjacent Lakeview Elementary school as well and converted their gravel playfield into a new turf field that will be used for soccer, baseball, and outdoor activities.

In summary, foresight between SRM, Google, and the City of Kirkland has allowed for a great public amenity to be created that benefits all three parties. This partnership provides the ground-work for similar developments along the CKC that spur economic growth in the region, alternative commuting opportunities and healthy communities.

# Supporting Material

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**Letter of Support:  
Mayor Amy Walen**

Mayor of Kirkland, WA



May 20, 2016

Jeremy M. Reding  
DLR Group  
51 University Street, Suite 600  
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Mr. Reding,

On behalf of the City of Kirkland, I want to give my support to the Vision 2040 Award application that SRM, developers of Kirkland's Google Campus, is submitting to recognize and honor the partnership of Google and the City of Kirkland.

The City of Kirkland is fortunate to be a major host of one of the most important technology companies in the world. With the construction of Phase 2 of the Kirkland Google Campus, Google becomes one of Kirkland's largest employers, and with that, Google provides the glow that one of the most innovative companies in the world can give the Kirkland community. Google also acts as a magnet to other technology companies that provide jobs for our residents, and Google has brought technology, including WIFI to Kirkland parks, for the use of all residents. Foremost, the partnership that we are honoring here, represents the combined work of the Phase 2 build-out of the Google Campus with dramatic improvements to a major segment of our Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC) that threads through the Campus.

Along with participation in improving a segment of the 5.75 mile Corridor, a Corridor that connects over 1700 businesses, 7 neighborhoods, along with many parks and school facilities, the project also provided a variety of recreation amenities including a volleyball court, for community use within the Corridor right-of-way. Since completion this past year, Google has hosted several community events including a well-attended tree-lighting/musical event during the holiday season. The Google segment has been renamed Feriton Spur, to honor the historic antecedent use of this linear park area. Not to be forgotten, if not for the efforts of Google, what was a brownfield site has been transformed into green fields, green transportation and an opportunity for all to participate in a healthy lifestyle by walking and biking through the Campus and beyond.

Thanks for your serious consideration of the application for a 2040 Vision award.

Sincerely,  
Kirkland City Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Amy Walen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Amy Walen  
Mayor

# Supporting Material

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**Letter of Support:  
Forrest W. Miller, CFP, REFP, EFM**

Director of Support Services  
Lake Washington School District



**Support Service Center**  
15212 N.E. 95th Street  
Redmond WA. 98052  
Office: (425) 936-1100

May 20, 2016

PSRC – Vision 2040 Awards Program  
Attn: Michelle Leslie  
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500  
Seattle WA 98104

Re: Lakeview Elementary Community Field Partnership

Dear Ms. Leslie,

The Lakeview Elementary School field project is an excellent example of everything anyone would want in a public/private partnership. The partnership includes the Lake Washington School District, the City of Kirkland and SRM Development.

As a school district, our funding is limited. The district standard for elementary schools fields district is an all-weather amended sand field for P.E. and play. This type of field meets the educational program needs of an elementary school. However, it does not meet all community needs for recreation even though the district views our sites and buildings as community assets and welcomes community use. In order to provide assets that better meet everyone's needs, the district depends on public/private partnerships to provide solutions.

Of the few public/private partnerships the district has been involved in, the Lakeview partnership is a model well worth repeating. The collaborative efforts of partnership not only provided a solution that would appropriately benefit a wider group of field users but also one that is sustainable. There are three stages provided by this successful partnership: (1) a new synthetic turf multi-purpose; (2) scheduling field use and maintaining the field; and, (3) replacement of the artificial turf at the end of its useful life. The result is one that provides an ongoing appropriate asset to meet school and community health and recreation needs.

The visionary Lakeview Elementary Community Field partnership is one that all members are proud of and the community in-large enjoys.

Best Regards,

Forrest W. Miller, CFP, REFP, EFM  
Director of Support Services  
Lake Washington School District

# Supporting Material

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**Tour of CKC Park Improvements**



# COMMUNITY

public/private  
partnership to  
enhance local  
community



# ACTIVE



A sport court was installed to offer basketball and other activities to trail users.



# BEACHY



Though we are in the Pacific Northwest, we still love the beach, and our community members enjoy the opportunity to kick off their shoes and play beach volleyball. A great way for some fun at any level of competition the users choose.





The Cross Kirkland Corridor is open to runners, cyclists, and anyone who wants to get outside and on a trail in their community. The amenities installed by SRM and Google invite neighbors and passersby to be active and engage with this company that is such a significant presence in the city.

ENJOY



# HISTORY



The Cross Kirkland Corridor was originally a railway. When use of the rail system ceased, the space proved the perfect place for a public trail. A 5.75 mile, 16-foot wide trail with very little elevation change enhances recreational opportunities in this very hilly landscape.

The inclusion of a box car in this new park honors the history of the space that opened the door for the creation of this public space.





The line down the center of the grass circle, and extending in both directions is the legal separation of SRM/Google's private property, and the public park. While the public amenities are all located in the park, SRM and Google intentionally denoted this separation with a line on the ground as opposed to any sort of permanent fence or barrier in the landscape. Promoting inclusion and being part of the neighborhood are important to both SRM and Google, and they didn't want to create any visual implication of exclusivity.

Additionally, for fun, the stones in this line spell "Google Kirkland" in Morse Code.



**BLURRED  
LINES**



Next door to the campus is Lakeview Elementary School. The school's athletic fields was due for an update. SRM and Google struck a deal with the school to fund the new field for the school in turn for shared use. While specific times can arranged between the parties, in general the school has use of the field during the day and Google has use in the evenings. Opening the field for use during recess and P.E. classes for the school, and intramural teams of Googlers after business hours.



PLAY