



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
505 Market Street, Suite A, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3300
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Jason Filan, Park Operations Manager
Jennifer Schroder, Director, Parks & Community Services

Date: May 29, 2009

Subject: Draft response letter to Ms. Kim Veldee RE: Recycling at Everest Park

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize Mayor James Lauinger to sign a letter as presented or modified responding to Ms. Kim Veldee.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

On April 27, 2009, a letter (Attachment 1) was received at the City, addressed to the Kirkland City Council, and authored by Ms. Kim Veldee. In the letter, Ms. Veldee expresses concerns regarding recycling opportunities at Everest Park.

For the City Council consideration is the draft response letter to Ms. Veldee (Attachment 2)

Attachment 1: Letter from Kim Veldee, 4/27/09
Attachment 2: Draft City Council Response

RECEIVED

April 27th, 2009

Kirkland City Council
123 5th Avenue,
Kirkland, WA 98033

MAY 18 2009

CITY OF KIRKLAND
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

Dear Kirkland City Council Members;

Greetings! I am honored to have the privilege of writing to you. My name is Kim Veldee and I live in the Norkirk neighborhood of Kirkland. I am currently attending sixth grade in Peter Kirk Elementary and enjoy playing softball. It was softball that encouraged me to write this letter, for I have taken an interest in the recycling program at Everest Park; Kirkland's little-league baseball and softball fields. As both my brother and I play there, my family has noticed the absence of recycling bins present. Every day, players, coaches, and onlookers are forced to throw out recyclables into the garbage because there is no other option; they aren't allowed the choice to reduce the amount of garbage on the planet and recycle. According to the Everest Park snack shack, a total of approximately 650 cans and bottles are sold each week during baseball season, which adds roughly 15400 grams to the dump each week. I have also perceived that a majority of other neighboring city's ballparks encompass recycling bins, and we do not. Has not Kirkland been boasting about its contribution to recycling?

This is where you, the Kirkland City Council, could lend a hand. If you could possibly supply Everest Park with as many as four recycling bins, I am sure that the effect would be constructive towards helping create Kirkland into a greener, cleaner area. You can help me use the current year of 2009 and beyond to bring Kirkland and the world closer to becoming eco-friendly. To assist and guide people towards recycling in your contributed bins I, personally, would help my friends, teammates, and family to decide to recycle. I will feel discouraged and useless if your decision is declining my proposal and not taking into mind the importance of recycling and keeping a clean Earth. For your response, I can be reached by letter at the address above.

Please take time to consult over the decision. I am not asking for much more than a mere favor in donating a few bins to my home field. Please take into consideration my proposal, for, if you understand it and assent to giving the bins in charity, I would feel accomplished and grateful for making a difference, and would have a new respect for the City of Kirkland, for their wise decisions, and the help that they would be bringing us closer to becoming a greener, cleaner planet. I would like to thank you for taking the time to read my letter and taking into consideration what I am asking of you.

Thank you for your time and please reply soon,



Kim Veldee

June 17, 2009

DRAFT

Ms. Kim Veldee
6th Grader
Peter Kirk Elementary

Dear Kim,

Thank you for your letter dated April 27th to the Kirkland City Council about recycling at Everest Park. I'm pleased to report that the City has had a recycling program at Everest for about two years. About ten recycling totes are located near the snack shack and by the enclosed dumpster. We are hopeful some of the 650 weekly cans and bottles you noted in your letter that are sold by the concession stand are making their way into the blue recycling totes.

As you know there are many benefits to recycling and the more everyone recycles the better the environment. If you are willing to help spread the word to your teammates, friends, family, and others that use the park to recycle, we certainly would appreciate it. If you want to take it step further and create signs for the dugouts and stands directing park and field users to the totes, we'd appreciate that too. Please feel free to contact Park Operations Manager Jason Filan to share your ideas. He can be reached at (425) 587-3341 or jfilan@ci.kirkland.wa.us.

It's great to see the youth of the Kirkland community caring enough about our parks and environment to send us a letter. We appreciate your enthusiasm and willingness to encourage more recycling at Everest Park.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,
Kirkland City Council

By: James L. Lauinger, Mayor