

## CHARACTER ZONE SCRAPBOOK

## 6.7 ACTIVE ZONE

## Character

The Active Zone is a reimagining of Parmac, a neighborhood composed of warehouse and light industrial uses that once relied heavily on the rail corridor. It is widely recognized as an area of Kirkland where change will inevitably occur. The area in its current state has welcomed a piecemeal arrival of activity-oriented businesses which will set the tone for the corridor and how the neighborhood can be re-imagined tomorrow. With few immediate residential neighbors and a desire to make the area a catalyst and a destination, the Active Zone is a unique place on the corridor to welcome small-scale recreation elements that foster community and social interaction. It is also unique because the activities, spaces, and edge activation will make this stretch of trail active into the evening and in rainy weather with lighting and areas of cover. The near term improvements of active programming are relatively low cost measures to generate interest and catalyze further growth of this under-utilized zone. Long term development is expected to build upon the initial activity to provide a greater range of amenities as well as housing and commercial space.

## Forbes Creek Crossing

The crossing of a restored and daylighted Forbes Creek signals the transition from the reflective and passive experience of the Highlands Pass to the urban and developing Active Zone. This crossing and gateway is an opportunity for a signature bridge structure.

## Activity Spine

Envisioned as a central axis of activity, the spine can be populated with varied sports programs and facilities

to add to the existing building uses of sports and fitness activities. Court sports, passive elements, and integrated play are interspersed down the center of the corridor.

## South

The primary trail shifts west to create added space for the sports program and public spaces. A side path runs along the eastern edge of the corridor. The southern end of the Active Zone (between Forbes Creek and NE 112th St.) includes an integrated play area, bocce and pickle ball courts. A small pavilion and plaza provide a meeting space or place to rest and relax between activities.

## North

The northern end of the Active Zone includes a basketball court and horseshoe pits. Batting cages are also shown as an extension of the existing batting cage facility. Construction of these elements represents a low infrastructure cost relative to the level of activity they bring. As the adjacent buildings develop, supported by the activity of the corridor, elements of the Active Zone may be replaced.



