



MEMO

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department

To: Mayor Kuntz and City Council
From: Dave Erickson, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director
Re: Skyline Drive Overlook
Date: March 21, 2018

BACKGROUND:

The Skyline Drive Overlook is located on a wide spot of right of way on Skyline Drive. For decades people have been parking in the location to enjoy the view of the valley and other purposes. The area is currently maintained by the Public Works Department.



The overlook was officially created around 2004 when the adjacent lots were established. Over a period of months in 2009 the Public Works, Police, Executive, Fire and Parks and Recreation Departments worked together to develop potential solutions that would address historic use concerns reported by neighbors, allow the area to continue to function as a viewpoint to benefit the community and improve the ability for officials to police the area. Some of the concerns at that time included: graffiti, noise, alcohol consumption, night time use, trash and pushing the rock barriers and other items down the hill.



To help address the issues, it was requested that the property be formally recognized as a City park area and incorporated into the park system.



A review of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan was completed. Incorporating the area was consistent with the goals in the plan including the specific goal of “Developing viewpoints where the topography prevents direct access to provide visual access to the water”.

The public information gathering process used to create the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan also identified a deficit of 9.9 acres of Special Use Areas in the park system. Incorporating the area helped to address this need by reducing the deficit by .08 acres.



The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board reviewed and discussed the proposal to add the area to the park system at their January 19, 2010 meeting. After a discussion, they unanimously recommended including the Skyline Drive Overlook in the parks and recreation system and classifying the area as a Special Use Area.

On February 11, 2010 the City Council discussed the proposal to add the area to the park system and after a discussion, approved Resolution 2010-17 which added the new Special Use Area. It remains incorporated into the system and Comprehensive Plan.

In conjunction with a street paving project in 2011-2012 the overlook was paved, tall curbs were installed to control vehicular access, and Public Works installed regulatory signs with the hours the area can be used and trash cans. The signs allow law enforcement the ability to regulate the use of the area. Public Works empties the trash daily.



The area continues to receive regular positive and negative use.

The Police Department provided the following incident summary for the period from 2016-2018 for the overlook:

YEAR	INCIDENTS	NATURE
2016	31	Disturbance(2), Drugs(5), Extra Patrol(1), Fireworks(1), Juvenile Probable(3), Liquor(1), Noise (6), Parking(2), Robbery(1), Suspicious(3), Trespass(2), Warrant (4).
2017	39	Noise(9), Accident(3), Agency Assist(1), Drugs(7), Extra Patrol(2), Fireworks(1), Juvenile Probable(3), Lewd Conduct(1), Liquor(1), Suspicious(5), Traffic Offense(2), Warrant(3), Weapons(1).
2018	6	Trespass(3), Noise(1), Drugs(1), Public Assist(1).

For comparison purposes, the Police Department was able to provide information about the quantity of incidents for other City Park areas for the same time period. More detailed information of the nature of the incidents for each of the parks was provided separately.

PARK	2016	2017	2018
Lincoln Park	79	22	0
Rotary Park	25	39	2
Centennial Park	49	49	1
Memorial Park	31	42	6

In February 2018 a citizen request was received to shut down the overlook to vehicles to help stop reckless driving along Skyline Drive. The email read:

“Dear Mayor Kuntz,

Less than 24 hours after the fatal accident on Skyline Drive last weekend, I was headed to the grocery store and was eastbound on Skyline when a car came speeding around a corner and was halfway in my lane. I had to pull to the right and luckily, I wasn't next to one of the ditches that line the Drive. This occurred a few dozen yards from the roadside memorial for Ms. Carroll.

I can sit on my front porch and watch cars go up and down the hill at ridiculous speeds at any given time of the day, and the harrowing experience I described above is not an isolated incident. I have been tailgated and nearly rear-ended as I pull into my driveway on multiple occasions and it just happened again tonight and I'm sure everyone who lives up here has had similar experiences.

People use Skyline Drive for three reasons:

- 1. Because they live on Skyline Drive or have occasion to visit someone who does.*
- 2. To go to the overlook*
- 3. (Usually in conjunction with #2) To use our street to practice their rally car driving skills.*

Mayor Kuntz, I believe it's time to close the overlook to vehicles. Put up concrete barriers and close it. Yes, it's a beautiful view but it really serves no purpose. I've seen kids out there stumbling drunk, nearly been hit multiple times by people backing out of the lot, and if the lot is full on a weekend night, the kids are parked across the street at the bottom of someone's driveway. When I go home for lunch, it's full of high school kids and every morning it looks like a garbage dump in spite of the availability of trash cans.

The speed limit on Skyline is 25 for a reason. Blind corners, hidden driveways, and this time of year there's deer everywhere. Speeding puts us all in danger. A couple of my neighbors have reached out to the police department in the past but they didn't do anything. I know our neighborhood isn't a high-crime area so I can understand how it might not be a priority, but I'm gonna hazard a guess that if people were using the streets of a high-end subdivisions like Broadview as a race track EVERY SINGLE DAY, the police would be very much involved.

I hope to gather more neighbors and present our concerns and desire to close the overlook to the City Council. Closing the overlook might not make it all go away, but I believe it will greatly reduce unnecessary and dangerous driving on Skyline.

Thanks for listening.

Shelley English”

A second email was also received:

“Dear Mayor Kuntz,

I hope this communication finds you well.

I am writing about the traffic dangers on Skyline Drive. Unfortunately, there was a tragic death of a young woman on February 17, 2018 in a motor vehicle accident. It has only been a matter of time before a death occurred along Skyline Drive. That accident occurred on a morning of bad weather. However, the volume of traffic and speed of drivers along that traffic is not what that road can handle. The speed limit is 25 mph with tight blind curves. The speed limit is appropriate. There are pedestrians, cyclists, dogs being walked, blind driveways, cars pulling out as well as deer. However, I would estimate that the average speed along the road is over 35 mph and probably exceeding 50 at times. It is used by a large number of people each morning and evening in a rush to get to work and school. It is used as a “faster” bypass route to Western or from Western to Miller avoid traffic and lights on Miller and Cherry. It is used by young people who are recklessly speeding, and often intoxicated on drugs or alcohol. The speed limit and dangers of the road are disregarded by the vast majority of drivers along that road. Many people are pushing the speed to test their “skill”. When I am driving the speed limit, I have people on the tail of my car and flipping my off!

At what point will the City of Wenatchee take action to enforce the speed limit at the top of the road and ideally reduce the number of people using it as a “faster” bypass. I will occasionally see the speed limit enforced closer to the high school. However, the more dangerous part of the road is not enforced.

Additionally, the people who frequent the Skyline Drive Overlook are frequently speeding to and from the overlook. I daily see drugs in use by drivers sitting there. Each morning, there are empty alcohol cans and bottle left there as evidence of the alcohol being consumed. Why is this essentially being condoned by the City through inaction and lack of enforcement of City laws?

If nothing is done, there will be an ongoing, daily and nightly risk of another severe injury or death.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Stone, MD”

At their meeting of February 22, 2018, Ms. English addressed the City Council with her concerns during the public comment section of the meeting. The Mayor and Council asked the Arts, Recreation and Parks Commission to review options with regard to the overlook.

As a starting place for the discussion, staff prepared the following spectrum of options that the Commission could consider. The options only address the overlook. There are pros and cons for each. Very preliminary

hard costs are included. Staff costs have not been calculated. There is currently no budget established or staff time allocated for any of these options.

1. Provide additional park amenities at the Overlook.

Add previously requested park benches and picnic tables.

Preliminary cost items: Benches, tables, and concrete bases (\$4,000)

2. Leave the overlook as it is.

Through this option, the overlook would remain as it is.

Preliminary cost items: Ongoing Police and maintenance staff time.

3. Install security cameras and establish a neighborhood block watch for additional enforcement.

This would continue the existing use of the overlook as a view point but install satellite based, solar powered security cameras and signs. It would also involve the neighborhood and create a neighborhood block watch for the area. This may help to prevent some use that is occurring, and also identify suspects in the case of incidents. Cameras could be extended down Skyline Drive. Neighbors would need to take the lead on the block watch program with the Police Department.

Preliminary cost items: Camera purchase and install (\$10,000), sign purchase and install (\$250), staff time - ongoing Police and Maintenance with additional Police time for establishment and administration of block watch, Public Works and IS for camera installation and support.

4. Install bollards along the road and eliminate vehicular access. (temporarily or permanently)

This adds concrete bollards just outside of the fog line and would eliminate the ability for vehicles to park at the overlook, effectively creating a pedestrian only oriented viewpoint. Approximately 32 bollards spaced on 4' centers would still allow pedestrians the ability to use the site. This could create issues of people parking in adjacent driveways or on private property similar to what was occurring at Saddle Rock before the trailhead was constructed. Additional regulatory signs would be purchased and installed. This presents some additional safety concerns as there are no sidewalks or pathways along Skyline Drive that lead to the overlook. Maintenance would not have the ability to park to remove trash or debris. This could be completed on a temporary or permanent basis.



Preliminary cost items: Concrete bollard purchase and install (\$41,600) sign purchase and install (\$400), staff time - ongoing Police and Maintenance with contracted or City Public Works to install bollards.

5. Close the overlook to all. (temporarily or permanently)

The overlook would need to be closed, perhaps with a guardrail. Improvements such as paving curbs and signs should be removed and the hillside re-graded to eliminate the flat spot to prevent visitors from gathering. Native grasses should be restored to prevent erosion and so that it doesn't appear and function as a gathering place. "No stopping" and/or "No Parking" "No Trespassing" signs should be installed along the length of the property to help eliminate historic use patterns. The overlook would need to go through the process of being removed from the City park inventory.

Preliminary cost items: Guard rail purchase and installation (\$4,060), re-grading of area, seeding of grasses (water until established), concrete and asphalt removal and disposal (\$13,000), sign purchase and installation (\$350), contractor or staff time – to complete installation of barrier and restore area with additional staff time to remove park from inventory. This could be completed on a temporary or permanent basis.

5. Close and decommission the overlook, adjust lot lines and sell property if adjacent owners are interested in purchasing the remnant parcels at appraised value.

In this option, the area would be closed and improvements removed similar to alternative number four. The area would be removed from the park inventory and comprehensive plan amended. Adjacent property owners would be contacted to determine their interest in acquiring the remnant properties. If they are interested, then values would be determined through appraisal and review appraisals. Boundary line adjustments would be completed to adjust the parcels and the properties sold.



The total square feet of the overlook is approximately 3,374. Using the appraisals and reviews of four recently completed open space acquisitions as a comparison, a cost per square foot was calculated. Using this, the total property value of the overlook is estimated at \$675. This number would need to be verified through an actual appraisal and review appraisal to ensure that the City isn't gifting public funds.

Preliminary cost items: Guard rail purchase and installation (\$4,060), re-grading of area, seeding of grasses (water until established), concrete and asphalt removal (\$13,000), sign purchase and installation (\$350), appraisal and review appraisal (\$5,000), property survey (\$5,000), boundary line adjustment, contractor or staff time – to complete installation of barrier and restore area with additional staff time to remove park from inventory, complete property sale process. If property is sold, then there would be some cost off set.

In all of the options, unless the City were to purchase the two adjacent lots, when they are developed, the view corridor will be eliminated.

In preparation of the March 19 meeting of the Arts, Recreation and Parks commission, on February 27, 2108 news releases were submitted to KOHO, Sunny FM, La Nueva, KPQ, NCWLIFE and the Wenatchee World with a request for comments about the overlook and its future to be provided to the PRCS Department prior to the meeting or to also attend the meeting.

The Wenatchee World ran a front page article on February 28th and featured the story on their Facebook page, NCWLife featured the story and also included it on their Facebook page. The Department Administrative Assistant appeared on La Nueva on March 5th. The Department Director, Park Maintenance Supervisor and Police Captain appeared on KPQ on March 8, the Department Director appeared on KOHO on March 16 and KOHO ran an article on their Facebook page and website. The meeting and agenda were also available through regularly advertised location and on the City website.

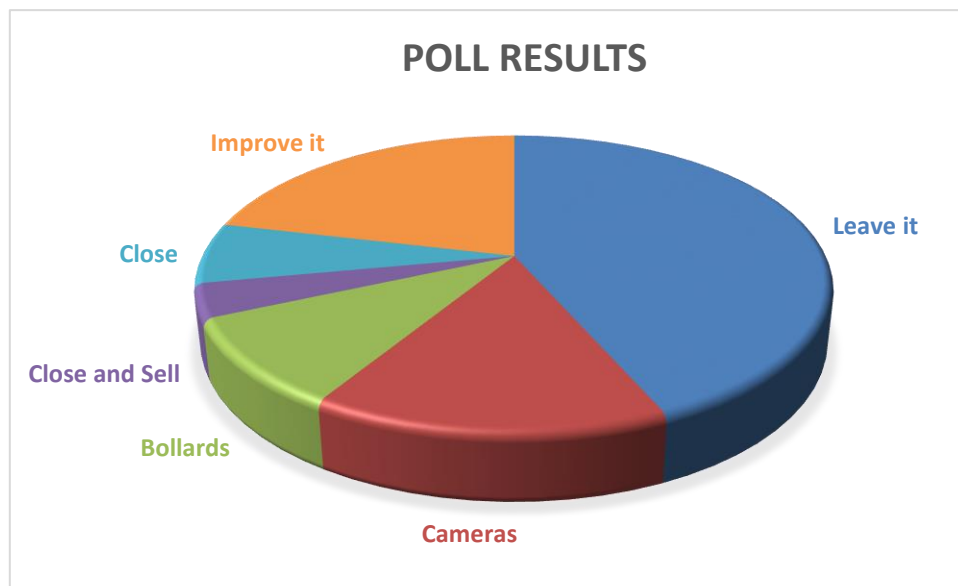
An online survey was prepared and posted to the City website homepage on February 27 along with a news article and it was also posted on the Department Facebook page. Comments received and survey responses

were provided to the Commission on March 2, 9 and 16.

The simple three question online poll asked if respondents had to choose an option (those presented above), which is their most preferred? They were also asked an open ended response question which asked “if they had any additional ideas for the Overlook” and the area in which they live. Over 5,800 people viewed the poll with 272 people taking the time to submit responses. The complete list of poll results was provided to the Council separately. The following are the results:

If you had to choose one, which of the following options is your most preferred? (In response order from most to least)

43.38%	Leave the Overlook as it is. (118)
21.32%	Make additional park improvements at the Overlook. (58)
15.44%	Install security cameras and establish a block watch. (42)
9.56%	Install bollards along the road and eliminate vehicle access. (26)
6.62%	Close and Decommission the Overlook, sell property. (18)
3.68%	Temporarily or Permanently Close the Overlook to all. (10)



The following is a listing of the responses submitted by respondents to the open ended question of if they had any additional ideas for the Overlook.

- As a resident of Appleland Dr., a street just under the overlook, i can say our cars have been broken into 3 times in 2 years. Its always on a night when the overlook has been full of people coming and going and they sit up there being loud and smoking pot.
- If space allows, build a sidewalk along Skyline to allow for safe pedestrian access. I live right off Skyline and use the road multiple times per day. I see people speeding to and from that overlook with little regard for safety. I make a point to go 25mph on Skyline, which often causes those behind me to honk or flash their lights. I used to enjoy running along Skyline, but it’s become far too dangerous. Revoking vehicular access to the overlook will absolutely make the road safer.

- WPD should regularly patrol the spot, but come on...
- The safety hazards are too serious to ignore.
- 1st off. Don't close it. It's too much a great part of Wenatchee. Lots of us have fond memories there. Add some lighting. Widen the roadway there. Someone complains and you want to shut it down instead of fixing, or making it better for all to continue to enjoy.
- Place a Porta potty there.
- "Come on folks! Please DO NOT shut down another public access location to the public! To begin, the argument that drugs are concentrated at certain locations is a falsity- they're everywhere! Let's take a drug dog to a local grocery store, and see how many people stop shopping at our local grocers because drugs are present at those locations. This to simply point out that these issues exist everywhere (we just aren't aware of it), but we are fortunate to have police officers who can control the contraband when it manifests at a public location. How many drug calls are made at other public parks? Do we shut them down? Do we shut them down because of parking, traffic or speeding issues? I hope no one near the Town Toyota Center/Walla Walla Point Park complains, and we are asked to shut down these public locations due to the problems I previously mentioned. Skyline drive is inherently dangerous. Many people have been injured and killed- from local doctors to young adults. Let's give people a safe place to be able to pull off and view the valley without taking their eyes off the road! Many walkers, bikers and others drivers share this road. Also, for folks with disabilities, this is the only place to view our beautiful valley! One could argue a hike up Saddlerock would provide the same view; however, what about those who are disabled or elderly? The places for the disabled or elderly to take in the stunning views of our (or any valley for that matter) are far and few between. When my legs fail me, I hope to be able to drive to the same outlook that so many generations of Wenatchee's citizens have done and see the amazing sight that is our home! There is something magical about our community and being a part of it when at the viewpoint!

Ps. Please do not sell the land! There will be no views unless you can afford to live in the skyline neighborhood. Only one lucky person/family will get to have what has been shared by generations!"

- I often go to Saddle Rock via Skyline for exercise. Numerous times I have driven by and noted trash and "punks" hanging out. I can just imagine the homeowners right by this spot must be frustrated. There are numerous other places to "hang out" or "hook up". Why have this nefarious element right in the middle of an otherwise quiet area that probably does not otherwise need much policing resources. Skyline is a winding 25 mph road with numerous hidden driveways. I am frequently tailgated (while doing the speed limit). I suggest fully decommissioning the pullout and creating a lot for someone to buy and build a home on. Structure the sale of the lot in such a way that the money goes to Wenatchee parks or young adult programs. I have driven by for decades and have noticed a huge increase in activity there over the last few years. I recognize that it is a spot that has a special place to some of us, and many just want to enjoy the view or eat lunch. Unfortunately, what is noticed is more punks and more trash and more smoke (pot?) and more speeders and more wrecks and more near misses or worse like the recent girl's fatal injury or something like Dr. Ed Farrar. At least put obvious security cameras and signage there. (Smile you are on camera!!! These cameras monitored 24 hours a day)

- Build a walking trail to access the trail from Anton.
- Line parking stalls to limit total number of vehicles.
- This space belongs to the citizens of Wenatchee. Just because a very small percentage don't like everything that happens at the park, shouldn't mean it should be closed.
- Sidewalk or bike lane along Skyline Dr.
- Leave it open to the public. If there is actually a need besides the cheering up the neighbors then increase patrols and add cameras if there is illegal activity. The neighbors knew what they were getting into when they bought property there.
- I drive past it twice a day on my way to and from work. Tons of trash. Tons of drugs. I hate to see it close but other than a ton of enforcement I don't see what could be done.
- Putting the overlook on a regular police patrol route for about six months would be worth a try. If drug use and other incidents are reasons to close publicly owned parks, then we would end up closing them all. I see people breaking the law in Riverfront Park on a daily basis. Do we want to close it or fix the problem?
- I don't think I've ever stopped at Overlook, but it's a Wenatchee landmark, and I like that if I choose to I can. Two complaints from the public is not enough to close it down. It would make sense to monitor the issue, to see if it really is a problem. Security cameras, and perhaps a no parking curfew after dark would be good ideas. This might require installing gates that could be closed. Whilst I can appreciate the local residents concerns, this seems to be a bit of a knee-jerk reaction.
- Leave it alone. We Wenatchee natives grew up with it. It's one of the only places to get a good overview of the valley. Don't let a few abusers and complainers ruin what has been a part of our culture for decades! You can bet that none of the long time residents are complaining about it. If anything, Skyline Drive should be widened, which is likely impossible and way to costly.
- Close and decommission the Overlook, adjust lot lines and sell property at appraised value
- You can bet this is the real agenda and ulterior motive of those who complain - can you say Black Rock Estates. ...
- I am 62 years old. I was born and raised in Wenatchee, till I entered the Army at age 21. That place is a peaceful place to go and look at the city of my birth. Sure there may be other reasons people visited it. But it is still filled with history of Wenatchee. If you must make changes, do it with respect to Wenatchee and the surrounding area.
- Improve it; benches, picnic tables, etc...no huge project.
- Love the Overlook - don't change a thing.
- The fatal accident was COMPLETELY unrelated to traffic at the overlook and mentioning on Page 1 was just asking for a negative response from the public.

- Nobody should be allowed to park at this overlook for more than 30 minutes. It is not, and should never be a Park N Ride location.
- The majority of people always seem to have to pay for the mistakes made by the minority. And half of the problem is growth in the valley, but another big part was the land around the overlook being sold for residential development instead of being pulled in as a city park years ago.
- If I had to CHOOSE ONE, I'd choose to leave the overlook as it is - but why not combine options 1 and 2 as a possibility? Installing security cameras isn't exactly molesting the site, it's just adding a level of protection.
- Additionally - your demographics need to ask HOW LONG someone has been a resident of Wenatchee. I welcome growth and new neighbors but I am vehemently opposed to people moving here and demanding we change to their standards.
- Security cameras like the lookout above Rocky Reach dam. Mose police presence on Skyline Dr, both at the overlook and patrolling the speed limit on the road
- Police activity on a regular basis just as when we were kids.
- Leave it open but implement a regular trash pickup and increase security drive-by by police.
- It's sad that a single persons compliant spurs a change for the entire community. It's likely the people who own lots or live next to it that have financial interests in shutting it down. Single person gain vs the community benefit. I will note- that the article stated "A" citizen complained which is singular. Could be more of course which in that case sure lets vote on it.
- I drive by that overlook nearly every day and there are always many kids parked there. This is clearly an area that attracts mischievous teenagers, messing around, doing drugs, wasting time. Just yesterday someone tried to back into the road and nearly hit me. I see no good purpose for the overlook and would prefer that it simply be closed altogether.
- Make park improvements AND install video cameras.
- This is a great area and is one of the only places overlooking the community if there is a way to improve the current area would be best. Installing cameras and improving the parking may help make this area safer.
- Great place for photos of the city and a place to simply sit and think how wonderful to live here. A place to appreciate our beautiful city. Please keep it open to the public! Also, if you close it to vehicles, disabled people (such as myself) wouldn't be able to access the view.
- I appreciate the traffic and speed concerns from neighbors/residents. However, the establishment of this overlook preceded the ownership of these houses by the majority of the owners and they purchased their homes with the knowledge that this overlook existed. I feel that there are creative ways by which we can modify people use/behaviors to help alienate some of these issues. This is a public spot and I hope it stays this way.

- The Overlook is a dangerous place. It is the site of drug deals gone bad, shootings, and the out of control automobile traffic it has created is a danger to anyone in the neighborhood. Red Apple Road and Skyline Drive have a speed limit of 25 mph which is never observed and never enforced. Closing the Overlook will eliminate some of the excessive speeding on these roads. It is not unusual to have cars speeding in excess of 40, 50, and 60 mph on this road, many are just coming and going to this Overlook. The Overlook is not the entire problem, but it is a big part of the problem. The one posted speed limit sign on westbound Red Apple Road was poorly located and then removed several years ago. It has not been replaced. Cars eastbound come down the steep Skyline Drive going too fast to see or observe the one posted 25 mph speed limit sign. A temporary readerboard type radar observation device works only for a pass or two by the speeders, it is quickly ignored by the offenders. Red Apple Road is a narrow old street with heavy congestion at various times of the day. It is used by many pedestrians, walkers, joggers, and bicyclists, school buses, and emergency vehicles (Regency Manor) and needs help before it is too late.
- The overlook provides an important and delightful view of Wenatchee enjoyed by residents and visitors. Let's improve it to address concerns. Install map/interpretive sign(s), benches and reduce and designate parking so it's less of a "pull out" and more a destination. Parking limits of 1 hour, or closing it overnight (10 p.m. to 5 a.m.) would give law enforcement and neighbors leverage to report rowdy and/illegal behavior and enforce safety for all.
- The overlook needs our assistance. Drug deals. Underage drinking. Loitering. I have heard horror stories from high school students about the drug deals that take place at the Overlook...during the school day! We could close it, losing a lovely Overlook or we could fight to take it back. I say we fight. Karen Rutherford
- This valley is beautiful and people need a place to go to Appreciate that beauty!! It is great that the lookout point was paved. That is an Improvement. Otherwise please leave the Lookout Point as is.
- Add signage with hours open. Have patrols or police officers drop by...looks like if there was a party going on by closing each side exits from the overlook, you could arrest each and everyone in attendance...with the cars parked, and if they ran for it, so be it...all you have to do is impound the cars, and let legal action begin against the parents/owners. They can't drive away so car is impounded/ towed and no parent is going to put up with that very long. Too nice of viewing area to just close because it takes a little (or lot) of monitoring by police, maintenance, neighbors. How about putting some of the young people getting into trouble, keeping the place cleaned up for community service?
- Close it to vehicles. It would be available to pedestrians and bicycle traffic. People who are there for the view right now, leave quickly after arriving because of the other individuals at the overlook frequently doing drugs in nearby cars.
- A neighborhood block watch is not going to be an effective deterrent. Security cameras might be somewhat effective but if police cannot respond to events in a timely fashion, it will not necessarily be effective.
- It's too bad that the Skyline overlook has been overtaken by a steady stream of young people (probably high school students) who continue to use it for objectionable purposes. Additionally, they

present a constant road hazard around the Skyline bend. For these reasons, I think only foot traffic should be allowed at the overlook. Many people walk the full length of Skyline, so restricting car access would not keep local residents from enjoying the overlook.

- I enjoy going to Skyline Drive and still see the beautiful view of the valley, which makes it easy for me to access the view area without having to get out and hike. I enjoy comparing the views I had there in the 60s and all the changes in the valley over the years. It is something I look forward to when I travel back to Wenatchee to visit my brother. Perhaps it's just nostalgia, but memories are important and I would like it kept much the same as it has been. Perhaps some aesthetic improvements would be beneficial.
- I'd like to see a comparison of calls/complaints of this location to any other park or public space in the commission's jurisdiction. Is it really that bad? I also adamantly oppose decommissioning and selling it.
- Improve safety turning into the park from both directions.
- Keep this part of our community out of the hands of developers, don't allow construction that would block the view from the Overlook or restrict that view to a handful of people who can afford \$1 million homes.
- security guard on weekends
- Establish parking hours. Between particular morning and evening hours. Then deem the park closed with appropriate signage. Have the city police drive by that area during the hours closed and give citations to those who are in violation. It may take a month or two for the citizens (kids) to figure out they need to find another place to go.
- Shutting it down would be a terrible option.
- The Overlook is part of Wenatchee's history. Don't destroy history.
- Make it pedestrian access only. Living below the Overlook, over the years, we've had a tire rolled down the hill, a golf ball through a neighbor's window, endless trash to be picked up, and it is assumed that a firework which started the Saddlerock Fire came from the Overlook.
- none. leave it alone.
- Make it a small park where folks could sit on benches and enjoy the view.
- While I don't live in Wenatchee any longer, I was there from 1966-1985 and still have family so visit often. There's a point when you give in and adapt to the fact that people use it for various (both legal and probably illegal) activities. Why not turn it into an actual park with grass, picnic tables, some parking, maybe restrooms? Have actual park hours where law enforcement can intervene with people there while it's closed. I know there are limited options due to current building code and ADA requirements, but I would prefer that to selling it.

- By and large, the people who park there are young men two or more to a car who play their music so loud it can be heard from near the intersection with Skyline Place. Many of them are vaping or smoking who knows what. I support closing the overlook to parking.
- Comfortable seating, picnic tables, low growing greenery.
- INCREASE SECURITY BY HAVING CITY AND COUNTY PATROLS USE SKYLINE DRIVE WHEN EVER POSSIBLE. THEY CAN ALSO USE RUSSEL-MILLERDALE TO MAKE PRESENSE KNOWN AT MAIN SCHOOL AREAS. WHO HAS TIME TO SURVEY HOURS OF VIDEO TO FIND OUT WHAT??? LAW ENFORCEMENT BUDGETS ARE BEING CUT AND NOW YOU WANT VIDEO OF SKYLINE DRIVE TO BE WATCHED?? NOT AS GOOFY AS THE MOVE TO SELL THE CANNON IN MEMORIAL PARK BY THE TILLY-JOHNSON REGIME BUT VERY CLOSE.
- Install sitting areas and light better ensuring not to affect neighbors. Guardrails for cars. It is a beautiful place to look at lights and the valley. If the over look creates a problem with snow removal in the winter then simply close the overlook during that time. Tho cold crisp nights makes for the best viewing of the city lights. Don't take anything away, make improvements, people will then use it. Even bringing the accident up in the introduction notice for this survey was ludicrous. Has nothing to do with this survey or any decision to do with the overlook.
- Traveling skyline is a very enjoyable experience. The lookout is a very lovely way to share the beautiful view with the valley. Many people enjoy walking, running and biking over skyline. Such activities have become increasingly dangerous in the last few years due to the increased traffic and speed of drivers. Traffic and congestion created by the lookout has increased the dangers of using this road. I suggest studying the traffic patterns related to the lookout and installing speed bumps and the sidewalk and downward pointing lighting that does not detract from the night time view.
- Need turning lane in center of road and a trash can at overlook
- This type of issue is ubiquitous in towns across America (I have lived in many places during my life and can speak to this personally). The solution is not to shut off access to parks simply because a few people are causing problems. Proactive solutions include improvements to after school programs for kids and young adults. Increasing funding for community sport and academic activities outside of school hours are generally the best way to combat these types of situations. Programs like these lift the entire community up and empower young people to be their best selves. Wenatchee is a changing, growing community. It is vital that this town looks at the big picture and is forward thinking in how it handles situations like these, which includes long term planning for serving the most important group of people a community has, its youth.
- I have read the transcript of the original complaint. I also do a fair amount of driving around Wenatchee. It seems like Wenatchee has a large, well funded, and active police force. An immediate action that could taken is simply having a patrol car stationed at or near the lookout for a couple weeks in the evenings/after dark to remind fast drivers that they should drive carefully.
- Leave it as it is now. Natural part of our city!
- Don't shut it down. If sketchy, stupid people hang out there it is an easy spot for police officers to find them. The majority of homeowners likely moved in after it was an established hangout spot. I'd

spiff the place up, put in a picnic table and make it more homely so that it will attract a more quality crowd and will thus deter highschoolers from going up there to get stoned on vape pens. If you get rid of it, you will kill an iconic Wenatchee hangout.

- I've enjoyed parking there to clear my thoughts for decades. It's over reacting to refuse access to the 75K+ residents of Chelan county because of a few teenagers and traffic violations.
- I frequently stop there as well as taking out of town guests there to enjoy the view. I think the addition of the cement barriers and garbage cans were wonderful.
- I have not noticed much garbage on the ground during my visits. There are problems to some degree in most public areas, it is not a reason to deny access to all residents.
- Closing the Skyline Overlook would turn it into a private access area to the neighborhood in that area. It is one of the few places to enjoy the fabulous view of our valley. Please don't take it away from the rest of the people of Wenatchee and those that stop to enjoy it.
- Keep it open! It is such a great view spot, it would be worth sprucing it up with landscaping and lightening.
- Add lighting at night to discourage illicit activity, expand parking, add a information plaque (like the one at dry falls) and embrace it for what it is - a local attraction. It feels like the city is killing anything and everything that makes it fun to be a teenager/young adult - why not embrace it and develop it into something better? The overlook on Skyline is more than just a hangout or a place to impress girls with the nighttime view. It's a place where people build memories and friendships. A place where people can unglue themselves from their phone and enjoy the view of our valley. Don't take this away from our community. It's one of the last few hidden treasures we have.
- Permanently get rid of vehicle access to reduce traffic and increase safety in surrounding neighborhoods. My 2 year old can't play outside because of the cars flying up Red Apple at speeds 50+ mph. We fear someone losing control and coming into our front yard. Please protect the residents of these neighborhoods. We're begging you
- Add a few benches.
- Add lights
- 1. Change hours to daylight only. 2. Put up a chain barrier at night so vehicles can't stop or park at overlook. 3. Change being in ANY park after hours to a crime (criminal trespass 2) instead of a civil infraction.
- Mayor Kuntz, members of the City Council and members of the Arts, Recreation and Parks Commission, I moved to Wenatchee in 1991. I lived a few years in Olympia and a few years in Omak, but have always returned to Wenatchee. Any time I have family or visitors to the area come for a visit, the Skyline Drive Overlook is the first place I will take them to get a ""big picture"" view of the place we call home. Because of its location, people of all ages and abilities can enjoy it. Cameras would be alright if there was an incident that needed to be looked at, but the idea of a neighborhood block watch doesn't seem feasible (unless the neighbors wanted that). Since it's right on Skyline

Drive, it seems that a drive by, by WPD or CCSO, throughout the dusk to dawn hours would be very doable as a deterrent? Or perhaps a posted "Dawn to Dusk Only" sign, giving law enforcement the legal ability to "educate" anyone there after dark to move on. Bollards to eliminate vehicle access, eliminates a segment of the population that most benefits from the pull out. Without access you are creating a safety hazard by having cars pull off the side of the road elsewhere. Close and sell. NO. With more and more open spaces disappearing it is important to preserve what we have. As we've all watched orchards get pulled out to make way for more homes, we need to continue to set aside no development areas to prevent more sprawl, especially towards the foothills. Additional improvements? Maybe. A picnic table or two. Vandal proof and secured of course. LEAVE IT ALONE or make minor improvements. Thank you

- Treat the overlook like a park. How do you keep people from trashing the other parks, or what do you do when they do? Implement the same measures at the overlook and continue to allow the public to use it same as any other park.
- Use the space to make Skyline drive a safer road. Perhaps long ago Skyline was adequate, however, this road is, in my opinion, one of the least safe roads in our area. This road needs to be widened, and adequate shoulders need to be added. This could be a beautiful bike ride, run or walk in our city.
- I strongly believe that the park should be closed. As a Wenatchee resident, I would never stop there to view our city, nor would I take visitors to the lookout or allow my kids to hang there. The activity that occurs at the lookout is not safe. In addition, I believe the presence of the earsore of a park reduces the value of the properties surrounding it.
- Overall, I say leave the Overlook as it is, however, if there have been security issues or such issues, then security cameras or some sort of additional security should be utilized.
- This is a historic and wonderful place we have always had access to ~ Do not close it down! I have lived in our beautiful valley my entire life and just because some new little issue has come up does not mean we have to completely take things away or out of the public's hands. Again, keep it safe but keep it open to all for the enjoyment of our beautiful valley.
- Close the park permanently to vehicles. Make a bike and pedestrian path from WHS practice football field and also the SaddleRock trail near the WRAC.
- The Wenatchee World article conflates two distinct problems. 1) speeding on Skyline Drive, which is omnipresent and never enforced 2) disruptive activity at Skyline Overlook (drug use, noise, littering) Undoubtedly some of the bad actors at the Overlook are also speeders, but changes to the Overlook will not affect speeding on Skyline Drive in general. Only traffic enforcement and issuing of citations will do that, and that never happens. Simply eliminating vehicular access doesn't really make sense, since the usage is almost exclusively vehicular - at that point it should be closed completely. I doubt that security cameras will have much impact, but are worth a try. It would be a shame to close the Overlook, sometimes you just have to accept some youthful shenanigans as a part of life.
- I have lived in this town my whole life. let's leave the beauty of the valley to the public...not to people who are lucky enough to be able to afford this upscale property

- Install attractive bollards and make a small park for walkers or joggers to enjoy
- I would say do nothing. The speed limit is already reasonable. If people at the overlook get too noisy or cause vandalism, enforce the law. This overlook is well used and the overwhelmingly majority cause no trouble.
- I've enjoyed parking there to clear my thoughts for years. It's over reacting to refuse access to the 75K+ residents of Chelan county because of a few teenagers and a few traffic violations. There are problems to some degree in most public areas, it is not a reason to deny access to all residents. Please don't take it away from the rest of the people of Wenatchee and those that stop to enjoy it.
- Celebrate it as a beautiful place to view the valley
- The overlook is an amazing space that has given generations of people a spot to enjoy the beauty of the valley. Install some lighting. It is absurd that those complaining about speeding vehicles are linking that as a result of the overlook. I would be willing to place a money wager that they too exceed the posted speed limit.
- Once you take away an amazing viewpoint...you can never get it back
- If a ""No Smoking"" rule can be imposed and enforced at the Overlook, the partying there might be significantly reduced. I strongly support police being more visible in this area as a deterrent to all of the problems.
- Short of closing it down, my second option would be to install bollards so the only access would be by foot and people in the neighborhood could still enjoy it if they wish to walk there.
- Security cameras and extra patrols because of speeding and illegal activity.
- None
- Skyline drive is used by hundreds for healthy recreational purposes. We would love to see the overlook support these members of our community with a pedestrian park- some grass, a telescope, a bench. NOT parking spaces.
- If you cannot eliminate cars at least put in security cameras to reduce criminal transactions.
- No parking. Maybe benches for people who walk or jog Skyline.
- No additional
- It seems a shame to close it down when many people enjoy the views there. Maybe a bit more security as a trial would be a reasonable approach for now and reassess in a year.
- Close permanently.
- install security cameras

- The Overlook has been a convenient and traditional place to stop and appreciate the beauty of the valley we live in, especially in the evenings. Without it, people would just pull off on the edge of the road creating a hazard. Because I don't see a list of complaints about the Overlook as it is, I can't address them. However I think that at least some could be resolved by improving the area in a number of ways rather than closing it. We should not sacrifice traditional scenic vistas to the machinations of developers. These beauty spots should remain available to all.
- This is the only public place in the city and surrounding area where people can find a sweeping view without having to hike. Thus, it is accessible to all people. Could rules be designed to for year round hours of 6am-10pm?
- A park there with a bench and pedestrian-only access would be lovely.
- Add seating and lighting to create an even better, more park-like amenity for the community.
- I think the entire issue that was brought before the city council is ridiculous. If there has been a dramatic increase in illegal activity at the Overlook, then the WPD should have statistics to back this up - and then this should be studied. If there has been no increase in illegal activity or noise complaints, then this is a complete waste of city resources.
- I don't think that the outlook currently is an issue. I have gone up there since I moved to Wenatchee, to enjoy takeout and to look at the city at night. If there are issues with speeding or illegal activity, isn't that what we help to pay police for?
- To solve the issues that I've heard from community members, why don't we just have police patrol the area more. That doesn't mean they have to harass those that are enjoying the views, but just make their presence known. Before long, any issues that were taking place, would probably reduce.
- Low speed limit, and make it safer.
- Fix the bumps, cracks and potholes. Or widen the road and fix them at the same time.
- The road is dangerous in the winter and would benefit from wider lanes for passenger vehicles and city/county plows."
- Maybe a camera would deter bad behavior, but otherwise, leave as is.
- Eliminate vehicular access and install benches for pedestrian traffic.
- I think also security cameras and extra patrols if warranted.
- none
- The overlook is a wonderful benefit to everyone. For many who cannot climb, this is one of the few ways to safely enjoy the beautiful view of our valley. The vast majority of people who enjoy it are safe and respectful. Please keep it.

- Kick the complaining neighbour out! Costing tax payers money to argue over something that was there when they bought their house is just stupid.
- The Overlook has been used and enjoyed by many many people over the years. To think that one person, especially one who doesn't live in close proximity to the Overlook, could shut it down, is just wrong. Maybe all the residents of the Raquet Club condos would be better served to petition management to fix the issue of their hidden driveway, and almost zero visibility when trying to exit said driveway, instead of closing a park several blocks away.
- It's a huge part of Wenatchee history! I suggest paving it and put guard railing as well as trash features and viewing benches! Possibly a monument of sort to recognize our beautiful view of the valley.
- Leave it be
- Leave it alone. It is valuable as a public resource. That view is incredible!
- Close it down. All I ever see is teens drinking, and tons of trash.
- It is a great spot to view city lights. Turn it into a small park. To keep the unsavory out of it you may need to just do more patrols add a camera and a few lights in areas so as not to distract from the city light view.
- Leave it alone.
- Maybe a sign warning about littering. The overlook is a Wenatchee institution of sorts... many of us have fond memories of visits there to see the light of town. Please keep it and improve it. Thank you
- fix the roads
- Close Skyline Drive to through traffic and do emphasis patrols to enforce current laws.
- More frequent drive-bys by Police in prime evening/early morning hours - especially on the weekend
- Leave it as is.
- Limit parking time....More police drive bye
- This iconic location should be left alone "as is". Local property owners knew of its use and existence when they purchased in that area. Most housing is a respectable distance from the overlook.
- It is a fantastic place to see nearly the entire valley. You can see from dam to dam and it's a spectacular view of both Wenatchee and East Wenatchee. Love that view.
- Make it a small park! Pave it , add a few tables for people to eat and enjoy the view. Don't close it! It's part of our valley! Every age goes there to relax and view our beautiful valley how it's growing.
- Leave it alone. Have the kids that get in trouble at school do community service to keep area clean. Maybe add a scenic overlook to the east Wenatchee side.

Additional comments were received via email:

From: phazer81 . [<mailto:mikehughes4021@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 10:11 AM
To: Cammy Coble <CCoble@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Skyline pull out

Hello from 1321 Red Apple Rd. I sent a message regarding the Skyline Drive mess to parks, hope they forwarded to you. Regardless, since I live on Red Apple Rd and experience daily dangerous law breakers, I hope you solve the problem soon. I have voiced my complaint (as have many others) to the Council & PD and fully appreciate the difficulty dealing with & resolving the problem of punks with their race cars & Skyline Drive headquarters, terrorizing the neighborhood, which is exactly what's been going on now for several years and they become more brazen law breakers by the week. Many wrecks, one death now at least, which I know was certainly caused by 'too fast for conditions', which is their motto, regardless of what the police have said in the paper, and a great many law enforcement contacts show they are a real danger to our community. They have hit deer, throw their garbage and booze bottles out the windows always, speed & race with reckless abandon up & down Red Apple, tailgate and harass etc etc. I've had 3 windows shot out and have been told by cops there are many others on my street with same deal. They represent a liability to the community and will soon hurt or kill local residents & other members of the Public, with their reckless disregard for safety and law. It's time to close off the headquarters up on Skyline, save for maybe two parking spots only for real visitors wanting to look over the valley, until such time as a better and more permanent solution can be found, and hopefully these monsters will relocate somewhere, anywhere else. There are approximately 15 to 20 creeps involved, always the same ones, all of us up here know their vehicles. I'm not sure if your next meeting to consider this problem (March 20) somewhere, city hall? is open to public, but if so I will attend, thanks, Mike Hughes 670-8098

From: sharon fleming [<mailto:gmataffySW@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2018 12:42 PM
To: David Erickson <DErickson@wenatcheewa.gov>
Subject: Skyline outlook

I live above the lookout and have been here for 38 years. It has always been a point of contention due to noise, safety to others, partying, bon fires, etc. the neighborhood has tried a number of times to have this looked at as a nuisance to those of us that enjoy our quiet and the safety of others. Cars race in and out of there and up and down skyline like it's a racetrack. Police don't patrol enough to catch the speeders. The sign stating the park closes at 10:00 does no good. I am in favor of totally closing the area permanently. My one concern is that the other night, three cars parked below me on skyline playing music while disturbing the peace. How can this be controlled?

Thank you, Sharon

From: Susan Ballinger [mailto:skylinebal@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 06, 2018 7:26 AM
To: David Erickson <DErickson@wenatcheewa.gov>
Subject: Skyline Drive Overlook
Dear Dave,

Thank you for reaching out the greater community regarding potential actions for the Skyline Drive Overlook.

It is the only place in the City and surrounding valley that allows a sweeping view that it is accessible to people of all income levels and all abilities. However, it is also a place where undesirable activities take place that is especially problematic to direct neighbors. The risk of smokers triggering a wildfire is also a concern, with the nearby shrub-steppe hillsides.

One idea is to impose set year-round hours at the park that minimize periods of darkness (6am-10pm), like at other regional and city parks. For example, the loop trail is over dawn to dusk (wiggle room with this definition).

This is a difficult issue.

A long-time goal is the re-paint the drive lanes (narrow them) to allow a wider, safer walking path along all of Skyline Drive...This would increase walking traffic and potentially bring more eyes-and-ears to the overlook that could decrease problem behavior there.

Susan Ballinger

From: Portia Pace [mailto:portiapace53@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 6:42 PM
To: Cammy Coble <CCoble@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Skyline Drive Overlook

I am a 64 year old walker. My route takes me past the overlook daily (weather permitting). I pick up trash on a daily basis putting it in the receptacles that are supplied at the lookout. What amazes me daily is the drug paraphernalia and alcohol containers I pick up. My thought is always...they drink at the lookout then head down the hill. When the lookout was revamped a few years ago I thought what a shame it would be if noone could park there any longer. Now my thoughts are anyone parking there should be ticketed and forced to move on because at a minimum they don't appreciate the view and they don't respect the area enough to simply put their trash where it belongs.

I love this valley and I grew up here.

On a side note very few people travel the speed limit. I constantly watch and make sure the drivers make eye contact and SEE me.

So many are texting and speeding and don't see the walkers. I've even ordered a brighter colored jacket to increase my chances of making it home.

I know many people see this route as a way around the high school traffic in the morning and the afternoon. I have even checked the clock before I leave to make the school is not starting up or letting out. This should not be something I need to worry about.

Thanks so much for your attention to this matter.

Portia Steele 615 Olympus Drive Wenatchee

From: J Banken [<mailto:jbanken@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2018 2:04 PM
To: Cammy Coble <CCoble@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Skyline Drive overlook

Dear Parks Commission,

I was very glad to see in today's paper that you are weighing options for the Skyline Drive overlook. I support removing the pullout so that cars cannot congregate there. In the last few years, it has become a magnet for litter, graffiti, and sordid gatherings. I used to walk up Skyline often but now there is so much fast moving traffic that it feels like a dangerous place to be. People come and go in the overlook at all hours of the day, and they are not there to see the view. What worries me most is the accumulation of empty alcohol cans and bottles (beer and hard liquor) that litter both sides of the road. Not only are people drinking while they are parked at the overlook, they are driving afterwards. I have also seen needles there, too, which I can only assume are related to drugs. As it is, Skyline feels like a dirty, dangerous part of town. Please make Skyline feel beautiful again!

Thank you very much for your thoughtful work on this. If it were possible, replacing the overlook with a path for biking and walking would be a wonderful addition to our community.

Sincerely,
Julie Banken

From: Julie Banken [<mailto:jbanken@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 2:16 PM
To: Cammy Coble <CCoble@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Trash on skyline drive

Hi Cammy,
I would like to add this picture to my previous comments about the pullout on Skyline. This is four bags of trash from one side of a short section of the roadway, and I had to stop picking it up because I couldn't carry more. If you look closely you can count the number of beer and hard cider and hard tea cans and bottles. I did not pick up the condom or the cigarettes as I forgot to bring gloves. Also I would like to add that cars did indeed drive too fast while I was there and tailgated those who had the courage to drive the speed limit.



Julie Banken
1317 South Hills Drive
Wenatchee

From: Mike&Linda [<mailto:alpine69@nwi.net>]
Sent: Thursday, March 08, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Cammy Coble <CCoble@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Skyline Drive overlook

To the Director of the Arts, Recreation and Parks Commission, and the Mayor, and the City Council of Wenatchee,

As residents of Wenatchee since 1979, we have enjoyed occasional viewing of the Wenatchee Valley from this location. And we have showed off the beautiful Wenatchee Valley from this location to many of our out-of-town visitors over the years. A few years back, the City of Wenatchee greatly improved this public overlook. It was very nice!

Since then the public overlook has become a place of criminal activity and a public hazard. The overlook has become a place where drug deals are made, even with adults in cars from out of town states. Drive by and look! The daily litter, of condoms, hypodermic needles, broken glass, and other trash, is indicative of the activity there. We have witnessed the City's attempts to regularly pick-up the trash. It is overwhelming. What used to be nightly activity is now daily also—seven days a week. There are occasional gunshots from that direction and loud voices at night. We are embarrassed for our City. We are very sorry for the surrounding property owners, especially the two home owners directly above the public overlook. One of our favorite overlooks of this beautiful valley is being trashed by local teenagers and others from out of town.

We believe that legal relaxation of Marijuana use in our valley, and the lack of police presence in the area, has contributed to the degradation of this once beautiful public overlook and to the declining safety of the driving public.

We ask that the City of Wenatchee close the Skyline Drive overlook permanently, adjust the local lot lines, and sell all interest in this public land at a fair market value. Maybe someday we will have a safe sidewalk along Skyline Drive.

Sincerely,

Michael and Linda Mckee
1406 Millerdale Ave.
Wenatchee, WA 98801



Lisa M. Stone, MD

509-670-3795 stonelm19@gmail.com 1550 Skyline Dr., Wenatchee, WA 98801

March 4, 2018

Dear Wenatchee Parks Commissioner,

I understand that you will be reviewing the use and future of the Skyline Drive Overlook Park on March 20, 2018. I live next to the Skyline Drive overlook and I would like to provide my perspective and suggestions for its possible use. I would also hope that you weigh the concerns and thoughts from neighbors affected by the use and abuse of this particular park more heavily than an opinion poll of the unaffected public.

I observe that only a small minority of the people stopping at the overlook are there to really observe the view. These individuals and families will get out of their cars and truly look at the view, take their pictures and get back in and drive away within about 5 minutes. There are a few that come and sit in their cars to eat their lunch.

However, it seems that the majority of cars are there to do things that are not legal in a park. This includes but is not limited to doing drugs, drinking alcohol, playing noise at an abusive level, buying and selling drugs, driving their fast cars up to and away from the overlook at speeds significantly higher than the speed limit. The City of Wenatchee crew that cleans up the mess up there finds drug paraphernalia including syringes, alcohol cans and bottles. I have spoken with them on several occasions. Every morning the area is a littered mess which spills onto my property and others in the vicinity. There are gang tags left on the concrete curb. I can hear the noise they play throughout my house on many days, evenings and in the middle of the night. There are cars there day and night, despite the fact that it is "closed" from 10 PM to 6 AM. It is pitch dark up there at night. So, people can do what they want with relative impunity.

The Wenatchee World article noted that the Wenatchee Police has responded to 79 incidents at the overlook since 2016, "many related to noise and drug use." The reality is that I could reasonably call the police almost every day or night for similar concerns. I have called for some of the most egregious events. However, I do not want to be seen as a nuisance by the Wenatchee Police.

The activities of the majority up there outweigh the minority who are there to see the view. These people scare away the people who actually want to see the view.

If you have never spent much time up there, I would encourage you to spend an hour or two up there on a couple of different days at different hours of the afternoon and evening. Do you feel comfortable and safe with the activities going on around you?

Prior to ownership by the City of Wenatchee, the overlook was used for decades for similar uses as it currently. From my conversations with neighbors who have lived there longer than I, it was even more wild at times than now. Shots being fired, fights, at least one sexual assault, a car going over the edge. This was in addition to the common partying, sexual activity, drug use. Therefore, decommissioning it and returning it to its previous state really does not solve a problem. It would make it more difficult for neighbors to address these activities as the police cannot respond to trespassing on private property unless the owner of the property is the one requesting an action.

There were discussions regarding low level lights and surveillance cameras. However, there is no electrical service to the area. Additionally, if there is an incident, there is not much the Wenatchee Police can do to respond in a timely fashion and catch the perpetrator. It is not clear how much this would do to deter people from inappropriate activities.

Therefore, it would seem that one of the most reasonable things would be close it to motorized vehicles. However, it would be available to those walking or biking. This would still allow the Wenatchee Police to respond to illegal activity but would likely reduce the amount of activity occurring in the first place. I would also suggest that "No Parking" areas be enacted and signs be deployed along that same side of the road to discourage people from parking up and down the street to engage in the same activities. When the Overlook parking is full, people park above and below the parking area to engage in the same activities. I have had 2-3 cars in the upper part of my driveway and in front of my house smoking dope, revving their engines and drinking.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this letter and consider the issues around this.

Sincerely yours,

Lisa M. Stone, MD

To: "City of Wenatchee" <feedback@wenatcheewa.gov>
Reply-To: "Mike Hughes" <mikehughes4021@gmail.com>

You have received this feedback from Mike Hughes <mikehughes4021@gmail.com> for the following page:

Saw brief article in paper on Skyline parking spot problem. Considering I live on Red Apple I am very familiar with the problem with this spot and the reckless, trouble-making, dangerous driving punks who use it as their headquarters. With many accidents and at least one fatality directly attributable to this location and its occupants, and considering the constant negligent vehicle operation and its associated problems to citizens like myself, it's definitely time to consider real solutions, perhaps including temporary shutdown until such time as a more permanent solution is found. Myself and many others have talked to the cops and city hall about the problem, but appropriate & effective solutions are not easy & much to consider. I'll be at your next meeting at city hall on the 20th, thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Clark [<mailto:heatherrenee92@icloud.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2018 7:57 AM
To: David Erickson <DERickson@wenatcheewa.gov>
Subject: Skyline drive lookout

Good morning,

I'm not sure whom to email about this... maybe if it is not you, you could forward my email to the appropriate person.

I recently saw on Facebook that there is a consideration of closing the skyline drive lookout. I would like to have my ideas heard. As a young adult it wasn't too long ago that I was in high school. Skyline drive look out is what we called Peckers point. It had that name for a reason. The only reason kids went up there was to do something mischievous 90% of the time. Weather that is smoking, using drugs, or other unfavorable activities. As a responsible adult I have yet to be up there. Also, I live up the street from the high school. Every day around lunch time I have cars from the high school racing up my road. And I don't mean 30 in a 25, I'm talking about 40, maybe 45 in a 25. It never fails that they are going to skyline look out. Yes, I have called the police. Unfortunately, there are priority's over catching speeding teenagers on my road. (Which I understand)

I guess my point is that skyline drive is not being used for the purposes in which I feel it was intended. Closing it would mean

that kids would have one less place to go for "extra curricular activities", less street racing, and less cars speeding up and down the community streets. I feel that the police monitoring hasn't been able to succeed in doing this so maybe we should take out a major factor in the equation.

Thank you, Heather Clark

From: Mari Groff [mailto:mariforemangroff@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 11:53 PM
To: Frank Kuntz <FKuntz@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Cc: David Erickson <DErickson@wenatcheeva.gov>
Subject: Overlook and dangerous Skyline Drive

March 15, 2018

Re: Please Fix Skyline Drive

CC: Wenatchee Parks Department Director Erickson

Dear Mayor Kuntz,

As you know, on Tuesday, March 20th, the Wenatchee Parks Department will consider changing the Skyline Drive overlook. We are glad for this. We live adjacent to this overlook and in recent times we have been discouraged to witness the overcrowding and flagrant partying taking place here, weekends and weekdays alike. Litter has increased. I used to let my kids help tidy around the lookout but not anymore. There are too many broken beer bottles and condom wrappers. Loud music and voices have disrupted us more this past year than previous years.

Our gate that used to be next to the lookout was stolen some time ago. People apparently lifted it right out of our chain link fence. On occasion trespassers wander down from the lookout onto our property; every time we have seen them trespass, we have confronted them and they have left.

We live downhill of the lookout and, back during the 2011-2012 roadwork on Skyline Drive, some dangerous boulders rolled down the hill right into our yard. I was in the yard with our children at the time and had a terrible fright.

All this said, our greatest concern is not the lookout or the inconveniences it causes those of us who live nearby.

Our greatest concern is for the wellbeing of all drivers, bikers and pedestrians who use Skyline Drive every day. Some of the behaviors taking place at the lookout result in impaired drivers driving recklessly on an already dangerous road. This dangerous road becomes downright treacherous when wintry conditions, and/or unexpected deer crossings, and/or pedestrian traffic, and/or drug and alcohol influence enters the picture. We are sincerely worried that more loss of life will occur on this road if the City does not act soon.

I could say “it’s an accident waiting to happen.”

But I’ve said that already.

I wrote an email to the City on December 5, 2016 after a car crashed down off Skyline Drive into our yard. (Our kids were out sledding at the time).



I said it again in a letter dated June 11, 2017 to the City Planning Division, where we asked the City to deny a new development proposal on Skyline Drive. (It is my understanding that this development, Blackrock Terrace Estates, is still a possibility. I am deeply disappointed the City would consider allowing this as it would certainly further exacerbate the dangerous conditions of Skyline Drive, as well as mar landmark Saddlerock, and intrude on the ambiance of neighboring Land Trust hiking trails.)

I said it again in an email to the City on January 19, 2018, the morning a car spun and crashed perpendicular on Skyline Drive, after hitting ice.

After that email, I received a response from a City Engineer, dated February 5th, 2018, explaining that there is not currently funding to upgrade Skyline Drive.

That was twelve days before a young lady died in a car crash on Skyline Drive. Have you driven the road since? If so you’ve seen the spot - bent, upended guardrail, a beautifully decorated

memorial cross.

The accidents are happening. They will continue to happen. Fixing the overlook is a first step, but we must do more to better ensure the safety of all who use this beautiful, and dangerous, road.

Sincerely,

Mari Foreman Groff
1512 Skyline Drive
Wenatchee, WA 98801

From: Karen Kerr [mailto:karenandstew@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 1:29 PM
To: David Erickson <DErickson@wenatcheewa.gov>; Stewart Kerr <kerr.sm@gmail.com>
Subject: Skyline Dr Overlook

Hello David.

I was on vacation and, unfortunately, missed filling out the survey re: the overlook.

We've lived on Skyline Drive for (6) years, and frankly, this park is an embarrassment to the community. That's because there is a serious lack of stewardship on the part of your department and the local police. One is not allowed to 1.) Use the park after 10 pm; 2.) Litter; 3.) Speed; 4.) Drive under the influence, and yet these infractions occur on a daily basis at this site.

It has been years since I've felt safe enough to walk my dog on Skyline Dr. opting instead to take her into town for her daily walks.

If you're going to keep the park open, then please, for the love of God, ENFORCE the rules. Install security cameras, have a modicum of police presence, and clean up the trash.

Karen

Stew: Please weigh in!

From: Stewart Kerr [mailto:kerr.sm@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 2:01 PM
To: Karen Kerr <karenandstew@gmail.com>
Cc: David Erickson <DErickson@wenatcheewa.gov>
Subject: Re: Skyline Dr Overlook

Hi David,
I entirely agree with Karen's comments.

The park is not enjoyable for the majority of us in Wenatchee.

I'm nearly constantly picking up scores of rubbish despite the trash can that's present. Loud music and screeching tires has become the norm which I find disappointing (especially for those of us living nearby with all the noise & litter).

My recommendation is to do away with the park. If a decision is made to keep it then please enforce the rules.

Stewart Kerr

From: Barb Cecie [<mailto:bcecie@nwi.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 7:43 AM
To: Cammy Coble <CCoble@WenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Skyline Drive Overlook

Hi Cammie, I hope I'm not too late to express my opinion on this issue. We are still out of state.

To the Arts, Recreation and Parks Commission:

It would be incredibly sad to shut down this overlook because of bad behaviour of the few. We have only lived in WA for 18 years. As far as I know, there are only 2 places (Skyline Drive and Fancher Hts) to safely stop and enjoy our beautiful valley from above. We frequent both places, especially when we have out of town company. There's nothing like it and all other spectacular views are unsafe, unless you are a hiker. Please, please do not shut them down or make them inaccessible by car.

I could be wrong but I believe the property owners in the area would have been aware of the lookout prior to their choosing to live nearby. Just like many other properties, there is good with the bad and these are things we should be considering before setting down our roots. These views are too valuable to shut us out.

Thank you for listening.

Barbara Cecie
12 N Cove Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801
701-651-6523 (cell)

From: Craig Lukens [<mailto:clukens@nwi.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 2:46 PM
To: Caryl Andre <CAAndre@wenatcheeWA.Gov>
Subject: Skyline Overlook...

Parks Dept.,

I cannot attend the meeting this afternoon, but felt it important enough to give some input as a taxpayer and business owner, regarding the Skyline Overlook.

My understanding is, a couple of people complained about the traffic on Skyline Drive to the mayor's office and then it becomes a campaign to close down the Overlook? Has there been any increase in the number of calls to WPD at the Overlook, or is it just a case of nearby residents irritated about increased traffic? I've yet to hear anyone provide any hard data regarding any amount of increased number of calls to WPD for illegal activity at the Overlook. I can look out my kitchen window and see cars parked there at night on occasion – and yes, last week, I saw the flashing lights of a police car there after 10pm at night. But, again, just how many more incidents are being called into the WPD? Does anyone know? And what kind of incidents are being reported? If there has not been an increase, then I'm rather astounded that there is even talk of installing a \$25,000 security camera at this location, or even 'shutting down' the Overlook. I'm happy that the city government is responsive to its citizens, but amazed at the amount of work being put into this, if there is no increase in crime at this location.

Personally, I sometimes use the Overlook to eat my lunch on a sunny day, or stop by to take in the city lights after the sun has set. It's really one of the only places on the Wenatchee side of the river to get a panorama view of the city and valley. If WPD needs to police this section of road because of out of control drivers, that has nothing to do with the Overlook, in my opinion.

To sum up, I'm against any action of closing the Overlook or even installing security cameras at this location if there truly is no hard data from WPD that shows an increase in crime. (If there are some occasional disturbance calls, who is to say that the next time someone parks there at 2am some NIMBY will call the police when someone literally stops to take a quick photo.) Even then, I'm not sure that an outright closing of the Overlook is necessary. We have many other pressing matters to deal with in the city....

Thank you for your time,
Craig Lukens

March 19, 2018

Mr. David Erickson
Director, City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
1350 McKittrick Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Re: Skyline Drive Overlook

Dear Mr. Erickson & Parks Commission:

Thank you for taking the time to reach out to the residents of Skyline Drive – and the entire community – to ask for input on the Skyline Drive Overlook Park before taking action. Certainly the neighborhood residents appreciate being asked for their opinion by the City BEFORE taking action.

The survey was a good idea, yet there are limitations. You could have received some additional, viable options on next steps if you had allowed for public comment in an “other” category, rather than limit the options to the five or so offered. Folks could have offered their suggestion(s).

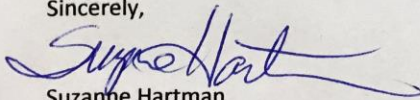
However, the real question is not just Overlook Park, the real issue is what is the City’s vision for Skyline Drive area overall? A decade or so ago, the City created the Comprehensive Foothills Plan and zoning that offered a vision for the south and west perimeter of the city. It seems that vision has been lost.

Traffic is a nightmare on Skyline Drive, and Overlook Park is just an attractive nuisance that contributes to the overall traffic, speed and litter issues. Closing Overlook Park will not eliminate the hazards of Skyline Drive. Surveillance cameras may help; increased police patrols at “prime time” (e.g. weekend evenings) may help. Yet, in all honesty until the City takes a serious look at the bigger problems on Skyline Drive, anything else is just a band-aid.

Public Works and Parks need to work closely together. Right now, the soonest any road improvements are considered for Skyline Drive is sometime in the 2020s. Can we wait that long? And, even worse, will those improvements just make Skyline Drive a more attractive “through-way” for drivers? Right now, the City is considering an 18-house subdivision, Black Rock Terrace Estates, that will only compound the issues faced by the Skyline Drive neighbors. Somehow, there has to be better coordination.

Thank you again for inviting public involvement. I hope you will continue to seek community input.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Hartman
1715 Skyline Drive
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Additional comments were found on social media sites:

👍👎🗨️ 30 Chronological ▾

2 Shares

Danny Gilstrap City will want to put in a round about.
Like · Reply · 1d

Jeffrey Herron Lamo sorry you can't close a publicly funded road! Seriously WOW!
Like · Reply · 1d

Jeffrey Herron I am tired of people in my neighborhood. Can you make it a gated community? What have we become and where are we headed.
Like · Reply · 1d

Jef Michel Dude, it is only the parking at the overlook, not the whole road. Take a deep breath.
Like · Reply · 1d

Jeffrey Herron How hard is it to patrol a single parking area? It was there when I was in school and no way in hell did we park there to do anything wrong. Too much exposure. So is it a social issue or a enforcement issue? You choose.
Like · Reply · 1d

Greg Berdan Cops are busy parking together down the road from the bars. They don't know what the word patrol means.
Like · Reply · 1d

Shelley English I never said close the road. Did you read this???

Shelley English Jeffrey Herron Do you think the police should spend their days patrolling the overlook? Do you live on Skyline? No? Then I'll invite you to come sit on my front porch and watch kids go screaming up the hill on their way to overlook. When just leaving your driveway is dangerous, it's a problem.
Like · Reply · 22h

Susan Whitehall They go screaming by my house too, think they'll close Crawford?
Like · Reply · 10h

Shelley English Nobody is asking to close the street. Perhaps you should read before you comment?
Like · Reply · 10h

John Bussell Tell them tough sh*t! And deal with it. There isn't enough places for kids to go now days. Let them have a place to get away from stuff at.
Like · Reply · 1d

Shelley English If kids were using your street as a race track every single day, you'd be ok with that?
Like · Reply · 22h

John Bussell I wouldn't live next to a high school, as that's expected by kids
Like · Reply · 22h · Edited

Write a reply...

Kris Ryals
Like · Reply · 1d

Sue Burnside Duvaul She just wanted to see her name in print?
Like · Reply · 1d

Shelley English No, I wasn't interviewed. I had no idea this article existed until Rebecca tagged me. Those comments are from my remarks at the meeting.
Like · Reply · 1d

Chris Mangold Nobody boinks on peckers point. Its right out in the open.
Like · Reply · 1d

Erin Dorgan True
Like · Reply · 1d

Write a reply...

Jeanette Woidyla-Zodrow Mike Mathena
Like · Reply · 1d

Mike Good Pecker Point has been around forever... and just like everything else in society, NOW we need to shut it down... closing this isn't going to make anything safer.
Like · Reply · 1d

Clark Rolfe Ogle No more watching the submarine races.
Like · Reply · 1d

Rebecca Cattin Shelley English
Like · Reply · 1d

Peter B. Ransford Tradition... leave it open!
Like · Reply · 1d

Shelley English Sorry, the safety of the people who live on Skyline supersedes your "tradition". BTW, the overlook was made into a city park to stop someone from building a 3-story house on that site. It was done to preserve the view. The view is preserved whether ... See More
Like · Reply · 22h

Write a reply...

Jesse Welch All it takes is one 206er to mess it up for everybody
Like · Reply · 1d

Shelley English Lolollll I've lived in Wenatchee for over 20 years and have never lived in the Seattle area. Wanna try again?
Like · Reply · 23h

Jesse Welch The term 206 er is more of a statement of mentality then it is a statement of your previous actual area code
Like · Reply · 22h

Shelley English Do you live on Skyline, Jesse? Do you drive it every day and have you had numerous close calls because of people driving like idiots? If people were using your street as a race track every day, you'd be ok with that?
Like · Reply · 22h

Shelley English You're from Kirkland and you're calling ME a 206er? Oh... my irony meter just blew up...
Like · Reply · 22h

Write a reply...

Kimberly Harmon I still go up to Peckers Point in the evenings on occasion. Its a great place to relax, think, and take in the city views. It's also a great place to sit and have a conversation. I've not don't anything bad up there.
Like · Reply · 1d · Edited

Chase Wheatcroft Yea, like when 20 high school kids are all attempting to park there at once not caring that they're stoping traffic
Like · Reply · 1d

Luis Tejada Mellissallll..that's lame 😊...
Like · Reply · 1d

Shelley English This article doesn't address my main reason for going to the Council and only contains a tiny fraction of my remarks. It wasn't the activities at the overlook, it was the way people drive on their way to get there. Less than 24 hours after the fatal a... See More
Like · Reply · 23h

Amanda Perry Oh, Shelley. It's cute that you expect these people to read for comprehension.
Like · Reply · 22h

Shelley English Sometimes I forget to lower my expectations. It's a curse, really.
Like · Reply · 22h

John Bussell Just need to put a few flyers out and then the school will show up. Also add speed bumps at the corner is more effective and makes more people happy
Like · Reply · 22h

Chris Mangold I dont think you are going to reduce traffic. That has always been the no.2 canyon to east Wenatchee speedway. Barriers will just turn it into a one lane because people will inch off the road to park and look. I can see the death toll going up if people have to walk in to there though.
Like · Reply · 21h

Shelley English Chris Mangold There's no room for anyone to park on the shoulders without their car being halfway in the road.
Like · Reply · 17h

Chris Mangold Exactly my point.
Like · Reply · 17h

Eric Miller Shelley English If there is no room to park on the shoulder, were do you suggest that people park. Is your driveway open to parking?
Like · Reply · 13h

Shelley English I'm not worried about where people can park.
Like · Reply · 12h

Write a reply...

Shelley English If any of you want the entire story, here's my exact remarks to the Council. I'm sure it's way more fun to comment without knowing the facts about what I said but in the interest of full disclosure, here you go:
Thank you Mayor Kuntz and the rest of ... See More
Like · Reply · 22h

Patrick Prazer Found the Block Nazi!
lolololol
Like · Reply · 22h

Chris Mangold They want another subdivision up there? How many times does that hillside need to slide off and take everything with it before they stop building up there.
Like · Reply · 21h

Jennifer Dillon
Like · Reply · 21h

Suellen Harris It takes no courage to rant on Facebook, but showing up at a public meeting and speaking about public safety speaks volumes about a person's character. Thank you Shelley English for putting community safety before personal interests.
Like · Reply · 16h

Susan Whitehall I've enjoyed parking there to clear my thoughts for decades. It's over reacting to refuse access to the 75K+ residents of Chelan county because of teenagers and traffic violations.
Like · Reply · 10h

Tony Gott So the thought is that if a parking area is closed then people will stop speeding and driving recklessly on that street?
Like · Reply · 6h



And from a different site:



And one more

Posts

KOHO 101
21 hrs · 🌐

Following complaints about noise, alcohol and other disturbances, the City of Wenatchee's Parks and Recreation Commission is examining what to do about the Skyline Drive overlook, a popular pull-out with views of the lower Valley. The Parks Board's next meeting, where they'll take public comment, is Tues. March 20 at 4 p.m.

What do you think should be done about the lookout on Skyline Drive? Cameras, limit parking and hours, close entirely, leave as is?



👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

5 Chronological ▾

1 Share

Savannah Pryor Well considering it's just a strip of parking - that used to just be gravel - I suggest the people complaining get over it. It's the side of the road. You can't control everything. Smh.
Like · Reply · 19h 4

Carolyn Hannas How about amping up patrols. 2
Like · Reply · 19h

Chad Fanton Yes we do employ people to police our public property. They should do so.
Like · Reply · 18h

Bruce Phillips Close it after 11 PM and patrol the area for violations. The lookout has been an icon in the valley fo as long as I can remember. Do everything possible to keep it open!
Like · Reply · 18h 4

Jeff Whitehall I see no reason to change anything.
Like · Reply · 18h 2

Keesha Bryson Considering the majority using it are high school and young adults smoking pot or buying and selling I think it is a great idea to do something about it
Like · Reply · 16h

Bruce Phillips Build a wall, and let the people that live nearby pay for it!!! 🙄🙄🙄 1
Like · Reply · 15h

Kathleen Anne Miller Close the overlook to cars. Every night, partiers leave behind tons of trash, condoms, beer cans, broken bottles, food wrappers, etc.
Like · Reply · 13h

Eddie Edwards Great viewpoint. Close it after 10 pm. Pass by often see trash, kids smoking.
Like · Reply · 13h

Javy Patterson Cameras would easily control this
Like · Reply · 9h

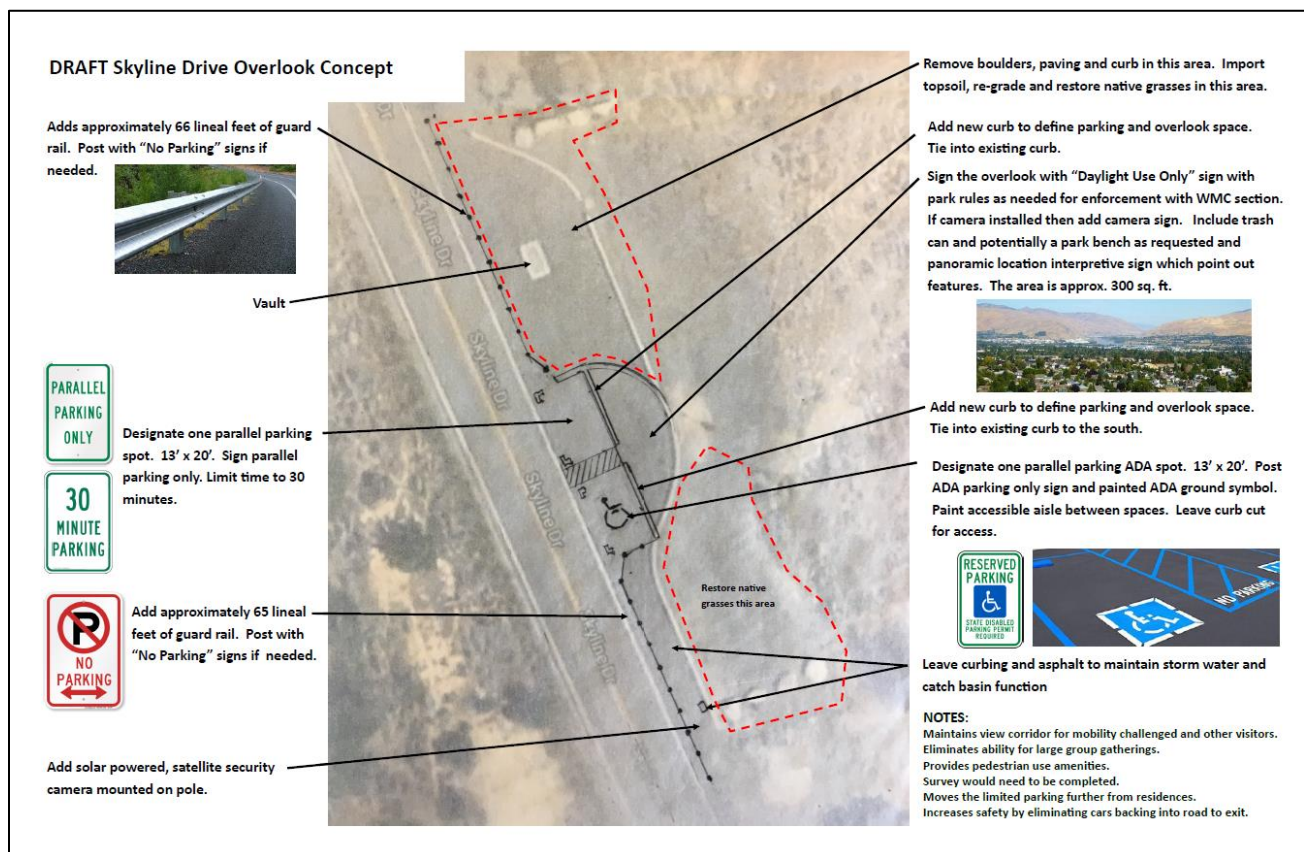
The following are telephone call comments received at the Department offices:

3/1/18 Michalle Jr. Rel 1804 Glen Street Northeast East Wenatchee, WA
 Would hate to lose it, it would be a lost to the community. People that live up there knew it was up there when they moved there.

3/19/18 Jean Poirier Cashmere, WA - Resident
 If the County owns the Street then we shouldn't bother wanting to close it. If it's a private property they do what you have to do but if we are all paying taxes on a public property then we shouldn't even think about closing it, leave it how it is. I will be attending the City Council Meeting next time they talk about this.

Staff discussed the Skyline Drive traffic concerns with the Public Works and Police Departments. Public Works indicated that due to their current workload they would not be able to look at completing a traffic study to review proposed calming revisions (speed bumps, widening etc.) to Skyline Drive until next year.

Because of workload and department staffing level issues, park staff used the comments received through the input process so far to begin a review of the Overlook design to address operational concerns and to prepare in case the alternative to retain the overlook was recommended. The sketch with notes is as follows:



The other alternatives presented above (selling/closing/leaving it as it is etc.) could be accomplished without the additional design.

The following is the park land conversion and disposition policy if the option to adjust the property lines and sell the property is selected. Precedent to dispose of park property without using this policy has been set previously with the Cashmere Park site disposition.

PARK DISPOSITION POLICY

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this is to establish a “No Net Loss” Policy and procedure for proposed park, recreation site or open space dispositions or conversions.

2.0 Policy

- 2.1 The disposition or conversion of park land must result in either mitigation or the addition of property of an equal to or greater recreational value, reasonably equivalent location and quality to the property disposed of.
- 2.2 Mitigation must be based on equal or greater value of the disposed property including the value of improvements and any displaced natural systems. There shall be no net loss of forest canopy coverage. Mitigation shall result in no net loss of recreational values or the experiential quality provided by the site. To the extent practicable, mitigation shall occur on site.
- 2.3 Properties previously funded by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office or other granting agencies must receive written approval from those grant agencies prior to the disposition of the property.

3.0 Procedures

- 3.1 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will consider requests to dispose of property.
- 3.2 Written requests will be submitted to Parks and Recreation staff for distribution to the Board and consideration at their regular meeting. Requests will include:
 - 3.2.1 Location and site plan of the disposition or conversion.
 - 3.2.2 Justification for the disposition or conversion.
 - 3.2.3 Alternatives considered.
 - 3.2.4 Justification that supports a replacement site as reasonable equivalent recreation or natural system and location or method of mitigation.
 - 3.2.5 Determination of previous grant funding and copy of agency approval letter if applicable.
 - 3.2.6 Appraisal and appraisal review of the proposed disposition or conversion.
 - 3.2.7 Appraisal and appraisal review of the proposed replacement and/or value of the proposed mitigation measures.

- 3.2.8 A site plan that clearly indicates the development/restoration proposed for mitigation. Development/restoration must be consistent with the current Parks and Recreation Capital Facilities Plan.
- 3.2.9 Maps, plans, graphics and other documents as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- 3.3 Staff will prepare a staff report based on the information and forward the staff report and disposition report to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
- 3.4 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will review the proposed disposition, replacement/mitigation information and provide a recommendation for action to the appropriate body.

4.0 History

- 2006-12 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan - Goals and objectives
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board review October and November 2007, April 2009
- City Council work session November 2007 and May 2009.
- City Council Resolution 2011-23 adopted February 10, 2011 as part of Park Design Standards and Development Policies Document.

In all cases, there is currently no funding or staff time allocated in the 2018 budget for any changes or work.

At their March 19, 2018 meeting, the Arts, Recreation and Parks Commission accepted additional public comment regarding the Overlook. 5 people attended the meeting and provided comments. A summary of their points are:

Mike Hughes – It’s a safety issue, talked to police about the “hot rod punks”, would support a 3 month trial shutdown with jersey barriers or leave a couple of spots to reduce groups, support adding grass and picnic tables and benches, drag racing on street, speed, road attributed to two deaths and hit deer.

Richard Scranton – Agrees with Mike. Lives across street. Fires an issue. Shut it down for good.

Ann McIntosh – Temporarily shut it down. Agrees with others on issues. Scary after dark.

Suzanne Hartman – Provided written comments above. Agrees with neighbors but need to look at bigger vision for community and Skyline Drive. Trash is bad.

Juan Mienda – For the addition of cameras. Skyline Drive in inherently dangerous road. Pedestrian safety an issue. Retain Overlook with cameras – disabled view point. Traffic is an issue. Don’t allow groups to gather. Park incident statistics are probably consistent. Speed bumps and traffic enforcement would help. Losing view point is like Chelan losing lake views.

The Police Chief answered questions regarding officer staffing levels, security cameras, and enforcement-education-engineering solutions.

Charlotte Mitchell from the Engineering Department answered questions regarding speed bumps

and humps.

Following the comments, the Commission discussed alternatives. ***After the discussion, Commissioner Peterson moved to add security cameras to the Overlook and forward the recommendation to the City Council for consideration. Adan seconded. The motion passed with an 8-0 vote.***

The Commission is scheduled to present the recommendation to the Council at their April 19, 2018 work session.

Attachments:

- Park incident summary
- Overlook poll results