

# HEADS UP!



A Message From Clark County Public Works About a Project in Your Area

AUGUST 2017

## PROPOSED CAMP EAGLE'S REST VETERANS RETREAT

*At Bratton Canyon Park, north of Northwest 389th Street and west of Northwest Ninth Avenue*

### PROJECT

Columbia River Veterans Organization proposes to use about 30 acres in the eastern section of Bratton Canyon Park to develop a short-stay camp for military veterans, especially those who have been deployed.

The nonprofit organization wants to provide a rustic outdoors experience for veterans, a place for “relaxation, quiet comradery and healing.” Veterans would stay at Camp Eagle’s Rest at no charge for a few days or a week and participate in outdoor recreation, group discussions and other activities.

### LOCATION

Bratton Canyon Park was previously known as Woodland Campground. The Washington State Department of Natural Resources transferred the 80-acre property to Clark County in 2011.

The site is forested and largely undeveloped, with the exception of an 18-acre area that includes tent sites, a picnic shelter, picnic tables, barbecue grills, a wash station and vault toilets. Camp Eagle’s Rest would be developed east of the existing campground.

Clark County allows parking for day use from April 15 through Oct. 15. The site is open only to walk-in visitors during the off-season. Overnight camping currently is not allowed.

### ORGANIZERS

Columbia River Veterans Organization was incorporated in December 2016.

Several prominent community members serve on the group’s board of trustees, including:

- Bob Knight, Clark College president and former Vancouver Barracks commander.
- Royce Pollard, former Vancouver mayor and former Vancouver Barracks commander.
- Larry Smith, former Vancouver City Council member and former director of Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation.

The organization’s executive director is Sean Guard, Washougal mayor since January 2010.

### PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Columbia River Veterans Organization would be responsible for all aspects of developing Camp Eagle’s Rest, including fundraising, planning, permitting, brush clearing and construction.

Envisioned construction includes cabins for veterans (four guests per cabin), a restroom-shower-laundry building, an office-kitchen-mess hall building and outbuildings for storing supplies and equipment. Preliminary estimates place development costs at \$968,000 and annual operating costs at \$303,000.

Columbia River Veterans Organization has set a \$3 million fundraising goal, which it believes will be sufficient to build the project and operate it for the first five years.

## COUNTY INVOLVEMENT

Clark County is considering entering into a long-term lease with the group, for a nominal \$1 a year in consideration.

The Board of County Councilors has informally discussed this project and is generally supportive of the concept. Before proceeding further, the county wants to ensure the community is aware of this proposal and has an opportunity to ask questions and offer feedback.

## OPEN HOUSE

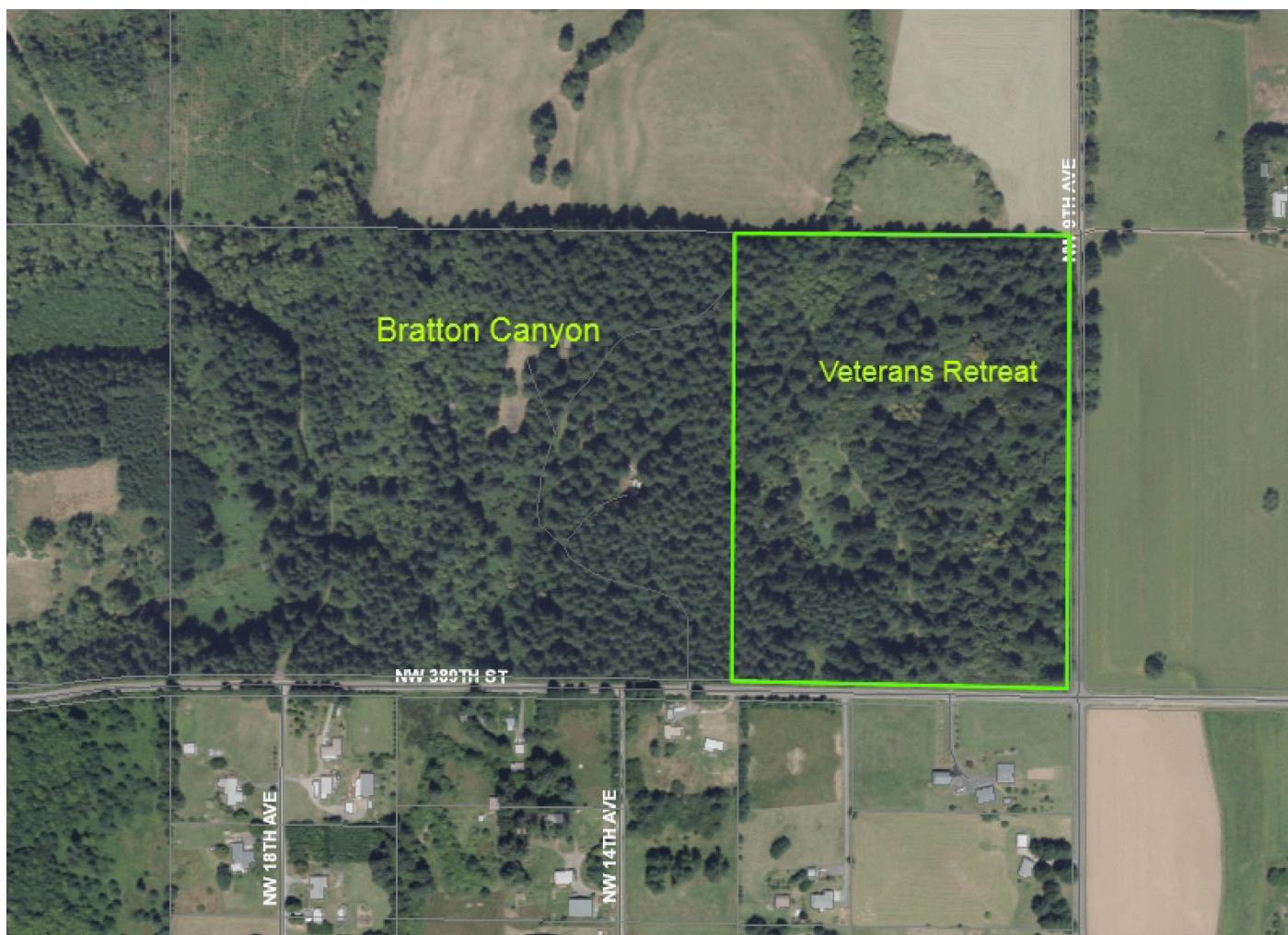
Nearby residents and other community members are invited to an open house, from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the La Center Community Center, 1000 E. Fourth St.

People can drop by at any time to learn more about the project and ask questions. The Columbia River Veterans Organization intends to make a presentation at 5:30 p.m.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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