

Heron Habitat Helpers
History of Citizen/City Advocacy Supporting
Kiwanis Memorial Preserve Park and Heron Habitat
Prepared by Donna Kostka
1956 – 2001

1956 – Kiwanis club donated 7-1/2 acres in Kiwanis Ravine to Seattle as a park to be preserved in its natural beauty.

1969 – The Magnolia Community Club stopped dumping of fill into the Ravine.

1984-1991 – Friends of Discovery Park (Friends) stopped placement of electric service vault in Ravine to protect herons and the wildlife corridor.

1991 – 1996 – Brygger Drive Alliance fought development adjacent to Park (MUP's 9808694 and 9007431) that slipped after record '96 rainfall. Lawsuit settlement cost builders' insurance company the remainder of four mortgages, and the City of Seattle \$135,000. The Alliance also challenged MUP 9006232, and the applicant was required to plant a native vegetation buffer and establish a setback to prevent encroaching on the Ravine.

1992 – 1993 – Friends collected \$763,540 from State WWRP, King County Seattle SPIF, and Metro Community Funds to assist City in purchasing additional property on Ravine. Friends was supported by 28 groups and civic officials.

1998 – City purchased land and erected sign on 36th Ave. West and Ohman.

2001 – Heron Habitat committee established by Friends of Discovery Park with Donna Kostka and Heidi Carpine as leads. Pre-cursor of independent organization, Heron Habitat Helpers, established later in the year.