

Gibby's Field

location: 1400 block, E 18th Ave, Vancouver BC

year: 2007

team lead: Megan Turnock and Kari Dow

volunteers: Erika Mashig, Shannon Kavanaugh, Claire Tebbs, Heidi Redman, Elizabeth Liang

partner: Kensington-Cedar Cottage: Gibby's Field Subcommittee
Primary community participants: Dan Fass, Kim and Jeff Nulty

summary:

Gibby's Field is comprised of three lots owned by the City of Vancouver that have never been developed. The site is ecologically and historically significant because it contains a remnant creek bed and is a rare reminder of the neighbourhood's agricultural past. In 2000-2001, a group of citizens successfully had a temporary development moratorium put on the site, pending the creation of a community vision for its future.

To build on this initial work toward protecting Gibby's Field, community members requested help from Community Studio. Community Studio volunteers helped plan a neighbourhood picnic, including producing display boards describing the history and present condition of Gibby's Field. The neighbourhood picnic drew over 100 residents, many of whom signed up to receive updates on future events and news.

Following the successful picnic, Community Studio volunteers helped organize a charrette to generate a community vision for the future of Gibby's Field. The charrette yielded a list of the most important social and ecological aspects of the site, and participants agreed to work toward the dedication of the site as a public park.

For more information and news on Gibby's Field, please visit the website at <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/gibbys/>

