



UNDERWOOD PARK FORUM (PUBLIC MEETING #2)—SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND NOTES

Meeting Date: 3/21/23 6-7:30pm

Questions/Objectives Posed to Forum Groups

- What components/amenities do you like?
- What components/amenities do you question?
- What do you like/dislike about this concept?
- Place sticky dots on your top three favorite amenities.

Summarization of Components/Amenities that are Liked

- Orchard Play Mounds—The orchard concept is well-liked. There are some safety concerns about having a play space close to the road and about visibility of children on the other side of the mounds.
- Nature Play Mounds—Well-liked all around, it's appreciated that they lean into the nature play theme and that they provide year-round play space (sledding in winter).
- Playscapes—Everyone is interested in increasing the amount of space allocated for the playscape and improving the space with larger and more nature themed play equipment. Lots of interest in including swings for kids in this space.
- Multi-use Field—Everyone is interested in preserving a field for informal use. Most people would like for the field to be improved (filling in divots, re-seeding) for better play, as well.
- Loop Path—People love the idea of an accessible path around the site. Stone dust or concrete pavers as the paving materials are well-liked.
- Woodland Loop Trail—People generally like the idea of a designated trail in the woods. People suggest adding some sensory elements here as well. There are some concerns about removing trees to make the trail.
- Sensory Butterfly Garden—Mostly liked, there are some questions about what it will look like, and about making sure that trees are not removed to make room for the garden. Some people also suggested moving it to the open space on the Brown Parcel.

Summarization of Components/Amenities that are Questioned

- Pavilion—Cost is a big concern with this idea. People who like the idea suggest that the pavilion be small, and not too modern. Keep the structure simple and made with natural materials. Some people also think that the pavilion is just unnecessary.
- Urban Swings—Most people were confused about what these are. Most people suggested replacing them with benches.
- Workout Stations—Most people had concerns about cost and use. People generally have the opinion that these will be underutilized and therefore not worth it. However, a few groups did suggest that these stations provide a “play” space or zone for teens, and that kids might use them as additional play equipment as well.

- Trail Gateways—People are concerned about the durability of the gateways and that they might not be worth the cost.
- Parking Lot—The parking lot location is contentious. The general opinion is that the parking lot should be small, accommodate enough parking for the park, and that a decision about its location should be made initially, not phased. People do like the idea of grass pavers/permeable paving, and including bike parking.

Summarization of Concept Pros

- People really liked the overall concept of nature play, the use of more organic/natural materials, and creating more opportunities for play.
- People are excited about the prospect of improving this park.

Summarization of Concept Cons

- There are significant concerns about the cost of all of the amenities. Many people suggested simplifying the site overall.
- People are also concerned about the maintenance this level of improvement will require.

Sticky Dot Tallies

- Playscape: 29 Dots
- Multi-Use Field: 16 Dots
- Nature Play Mounds: 15 Dots
- Orchard Play Mounds: 14 Dots
- Butterfly/Sensory Garden: 10 Dots
- Loop Path: 6 Dots
- Pavilion: 4 Dots
- Parking Lot in Current Location: 4 Dots
- Woodland Loop Trail: 3 Dots
- Urban Swings: 3 Dots
- Butterfly/Sensory Garden on Brown Parcel: 3 Dots
- Workout Stations: 3 Dots
- Trail Gateway: 1 Dot