



To: Park Board

Agenda Item #: VII.B.

From: Ann Kattreh
Parks & Recreation Director

Action

Discussion

Date: October 6, 2014

Information

Subject: Fred Richards Vision Plan

Action Requested:

Provide review, comment and a recommendation on the Fred Richards Vision Plan. The City Council will take formal action on this item on October 21, 2014.

Information / Background:

On April 22, 2014 the Edina City Council retained Schoenbauer Consulting, LLC to undertake a repurposing vision study for Fred Richards. The attached report summarizes the findings of the first step in the planning process and establishes a broad vision and baseline development program for the site. The main goal of this step is to establish the parameters for “highest and best public use” of the property, which will be used to guide development of a detailed master plan. If the Park Board recommends and the City Council approves the vision plan, the next step would be to engage a firm to complete a detailed master plan for the park.

Public Involvement:

The general public, neighborhood residents, various stakeholders, and special interest groups were invited to participate in an open public process to ensure that pertinent planning issues were discovered and addressed by the study. The public process included:

- Public meetings – where all interested parties could provide input and perspectives
- Site walks – to give residents a chance to discuss site-specific issues and concerns
- Interviews, phone calls, and email exchanges – with defined stakeholder groups and special interest groups (including representatives of the Pentagon Park development group)
- Social media – using the city’s web-based public access portal to gather additional information on the community opinions

Public input into the planning process was insightful and central to establishing a core vision for the property as the city moves forward in making important decisions about repurposing the site.

The following details the public engagement and proposed approval process:

First week in June - Letter mailed to almost 1500 homes – (South of Hwy 62, East of Hwy. 100, West of France Ave. and north of 77th Street.) This letter informed them of the June 12 open house and provided Fred Richards website information

Week of June 9 - A website, online survey and Speak Up Edina public engagement session started

June 2 – Kick-off sessions with city staff, Park Board representatives and City Council representatives

June 12 – Open House – Public Works Facility – 100–125 attendees. Surveys given to all attendees to fill out and web address provided to fill out survey online

June 21 – Site Walk – 10 a.m. at Fred Richards – 20–25 attendees

July 8 – Park Board Work Session – 5:30 p.m. – Community Room at City Hall

July 9 – Site Walk – July 9 at 7 p.m. – 20–25 attendees

July 30 – Open House – 7 p.m. at Public Works – 18 attendees

August 4 – City Council Work Session

August 11 – Park Board Work Session – 6 p.m.

October 6 – Park Board – Review and Comment

October 21 – City Council

Project Goals:

Schoenbauer Consulting had the following Project Goals:

The purpose of the study was to engage the public to gather information and ideas about repurposing the Fred Richards site to position the City Council to make an informed decision about its future use. Key principles established for the study include:

- Maintaining an open and transparent public process
- Seeking creative ideas and options
- Providing context and background information to aid the City Council in analyzing and considering repurposing opportunities

The consultant spent considerable time gathering background information and listening to various stakeholders and members of the community. Specifically, the team's charge was to:

- Understand the community issues and perspectives associated with repurposing the site
- Provide a public conduit for generating ideas
- Define viable options for City Council consideration
- Undertake baseline development cost evaluation
- Provide perspective related to findings from the public process
- Recommend a plan of action for the City Council to further consider

Recommendation:

Staff is seeking feedback on the Fred Richards Vision Plan. If recommended by the Park Board, the plan will be presented to City Council at the October 21, 2014 meeting when we will ask the City Council to approve the vision plan and authorize us to begin the process for selecting a firm to complete the master plan and eventually the construction documents.

The City Council will thoroughly and thoughtfully consider your action on this matter at their October 21 meeting. Staff requests that Park Board consider the proposed plans and provide one of three actions:

1. Recommend (generally support)
2. Do not recommend (do not support)
3. Recommend with specific changes

Attachments:

Vision Master Plan – Fred Richards Repurpose Study
Notes from public process

VISION MASTER PLAN

FRED RICHARDS REPURPOSE STUDY



CITY OF EDINA

10/01/14



FOR LIVING, LEARNING, RAISING FAMILIES & DOING BUSINESS

VISION MASTER PLAN

FRED RICHARDS REPURPOSE STUDY

Prepared By:
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FOR LIVING, LEARNING, RAISING FAMILIES & DOING BUSINESS

Introduction and Acknowledgments

INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC PROCESS

On April 22, 2014 the Edina City Council retained Schoenbauer Consulting, LLC to undertake a repurposing study for Fred Richards. This report summarizes the findings of the first step in the planning process and establishes a broad vision and baseline development program for the site. The main goal of this step is to establish the parameters for “highest and best public use” of the property, which will be used to guide development of a detailed master plan.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The general public, neighborhood residents, various stakeholders, and special interest groups were invited to participate in an open public process to ensure that pertinent planning issues were discovered and addressed by the study. The public process included:

- Public meetings – where all interested parties could provide input and perspectives
- Site walks – to give residents a chance to discuss site-specific issues and concerns
- Interviews, phone calls, and email exchanges – with defined stakeholder groups, special interest groups and nearby developers
- Social media – using the City’s web-based public access portal to gather additional information on community opinions

Public input into the planning process was insightful and central to establishing a core vision for the property as the City moves forward in making important decisions about repurposing the site.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The consultant team appreciated the opportunity to work with the City of Edina in undertaking an open public process for this challenging project. The team especially acknowledges input from the many residents and stakeholder groups that were involved. Their individual and collective insights and perspectives were instrumental in drawing reasoned conclusions.

The consultant team also thanks the Park Board and city staff. Their commitment to an open public process ensured that all opinions were duly considered. Their understanding of the larger planning context and how the site fits into the larger city picture was also of high value.

Sincerely,

Jeff Schoenbauer, Schoenbauer Consulting, LLC
Principal-in-Charge / Project Manager

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Table of Contents

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT GOALS	1 - 2
Overview/Background	1
Steps in the Repurposing Process	1
Project Goals	2
SETTING, TRENDS, AND PUBLIC OUTREACH	3 - 8
Overview	3
Planning Context and Park Setting	3
Park Use Trends and Facility Demands	4
Public Outreach Findings	6
Safety and Security	8
VISION MASTER PLAN	9 - 22
Overview	9
Creativity and Uniqueness a Core Value	9
Balancing Active Uses with Preserving Natural Areas and Sense of Place	9
Vision Master Plan Overview	10
Parkway Corridor	12
Regional Trail Corridor	13
Internal Park Trails, Promenades and Boardwalks	14
Community Activities and Events Area	15
Adventure Play Area	16
Field Games Area	17
Open Parkland Area	18
Naturalized Buffers	20
Repurposing the Maintenance Building	22
Urban Agriculture Area (Alternative)	22
IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS	23 - 26
Overview	23
Interrelationship and Collaboration with Pentagon Park Redevelopment	23
Technical Conditions and Challenges	25
Cost Projections for Repurposing Site	26





The 42 acres of open space land provides a unique park opportunity for the City.



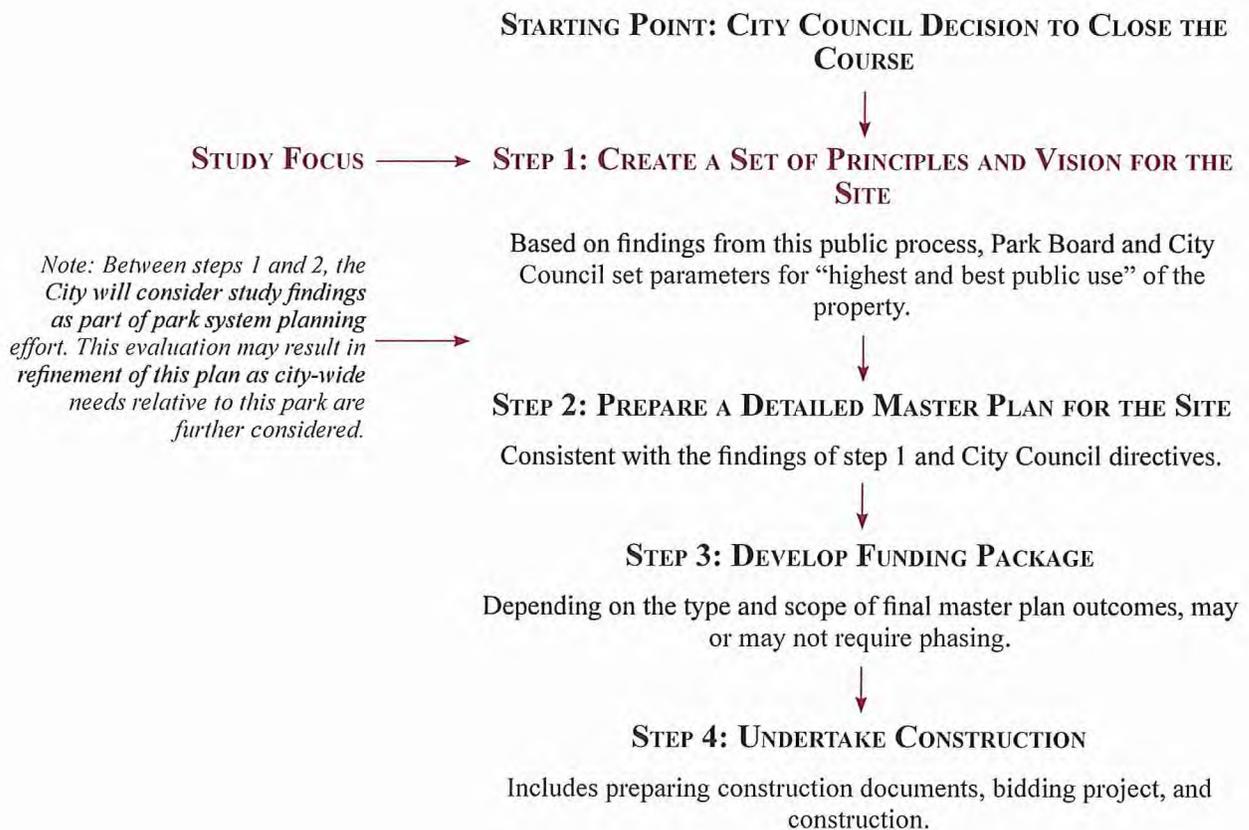
Background and Project Framework

OVERVIEW/BACKGROUND

On March 18, 2014, the Edina City Council accepted staff and Park Board recommendations to cease the golf operation. On April 22, 2014, the City Council authorized undertaking this repurposing study, which was to be forward looking and would not focus on revisiting the decision to close the golf course.

STEPS IN THE REPURPOSING PROCESS

This study is the first step in the process of repurposing the Fred Richards site for public use, as the following illustrates.



As illustrated, the public process is purposefully robust and allows the community numerous opportunities to refine outcomes through each of the outlined steps.



PROJECT GOALS

The purpose of the study was to engage the public to gather information and ideas about repurposing the Fred Richards site to position the City Council to make an informed decision about its future use. Key principles established for the study include:

- Maintaining an open and transparent public process
- Seeking creative ideas and options
- Providing context and background information to aid the City Council in analyzing and considering repurposing opportunities

The consultant spent considerable time gathering background information and listening to various stakeholders and members of the community. Specifically, the team's charge was to:

- Understand the community issues and perspectives associated with repurposing the site
- Provide a public conduit for generating ideas
- Define viable options for City Council consideration
- Undertake baseline development cost evaluation
- Provide perspective related to findings from the public process
- Recommend a plan of action for the City Council to further consider



Setting, Trends, and Public Outreach

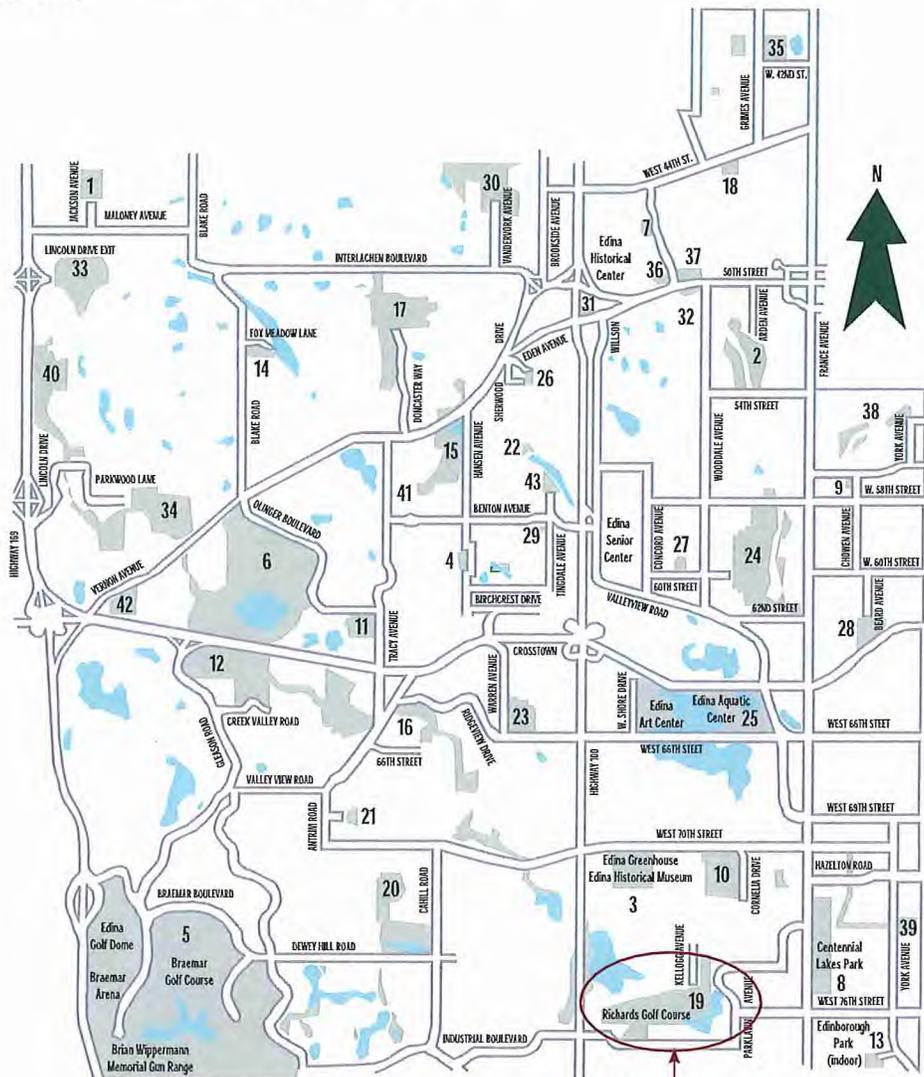
OVERVIEW

The following considers the setting for the park, local recreational trends and demands for facilities to meet community needs, and public input into the process. Collectively, these findings shaped planning outcomes and the vision for the park.

PLANNING CONTEXT AND PARK SETTING

The Fred Richards site is located in the southeastern part of the city, as the following park map illustrates.

1. Alden Park
2. Arden Park
3. Arneson Acres Park
4. Birchcrest Park
5. Braemar Park (Courtney Fields)
6. Bredeesen Park
7. Browndale Park
8. Centennial Lakes Park
9. Chowen Park
10. Cornelia School Park
11. Countryside Park
12. Creek Valley School Park
13. Edinborough Park
14. Fox Meadow Park
15. Garden Park
16. Heights Park
17. Highlands Park
18. Kojetin Park
19. Lake Edina Park
20. Lewis Park
21. McGuire Park
22. Melody Lake Park
23. Normandale Park
24. Pamela Park
25. Rosland Park (includes disc golf course)
26. Sherwood Park
27. St. John's Park
28. Strachauer Park
29. Tingdale Park
30. T. Lea Todd Park
31. Frank Tupa Park
32. Utley Park
33. Van Valkenburg Park
34. Walnut Ridge Park
35. Weber Field Park
36. Williams Park
37. Wooddale Park
38. York Park
39. Yorktown Park (includes skate park)
- OPEN SPACE AREAS
40. Lincoln Drive Floodplain
41. Garden Park Addition
42. Krahl Hill
43. Moore Property



FRED RICHARDS SITE



As a starting point for the public process, baseline considerations included:

- Repurposing of the site is a very unique opportunity for a developed city
- General consensus that the site will become a park
- Size, location, and opportunity suggest the park falls under a “community park” classification, with this process being used to define how the site is best developed to meet community needs and fit into the local park system
- Outcome needs to be of high public value and serve a cross-section of residents (neighborhood and larger community)

Other key considerations include:

- Any park development needs to be compatible with, and complementary to, the adjoining land uses
- Connected, but not intrusive, to adjoining properties
- Accommodate the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail
- Be sensitive to environmental issues (e.g., Nine Mile Creek watershed and stormwater management concerns)

If done well, the general consensus is that the park will instantly become an important and perhaps cornerstone component of the local park system.

PARK USE TRENDS AND FACILITY DEMANDS

The Park Board provided insights into city-wide and site-specific park trends and facility demands. Overall, the common theme was to create a unique park experience focusing on getting children and families outdoors more, along with providing a pleasant place for nearby business employees to use during work days. Serving the park needs of the entire community versus a select group or neighborhood was also important to the Park Board.

Key considerations and observations include:

- **Sports fields** – addressing the need for field space, especially related to field games like soccer and lacrosse; focus should be on youth age groups; lighting is probably not needed
- **New forms of recreation** – be open to emerging forms of recreation, like Futsal, that would appeal to different age groups
- **Urban agriculture** – expanding on the community garden theme
- **Outdoor adventure and creative play** – providing unique and adventuresome play areas that go beyond typical play equipment; perhaps with a focus on natural play and/or outdoor adventure
- **Attract hard to reach groups** – emphasize a welcoming environment and facilities that appeal to the 15 to 18 year age group, a notoriously challenging group to engage
- **Develop the park for all seasons** – including winter activities, such as cross-country skiing, ice skating and snowshoeing; includes access to a warming house
- **Accommodate groups** – by providing areas for group gatherings and staging events; repurpose clubhouse to accommodate flexible group use; consider additional modest-sized shelters or structures for group use



- **Integrate the regional trail** – establishing trailhead amenities; establishing a “bike library” which makes bikes, trikes, and other peddle-power vehicles available for public use; perhaps include bike shop and/or offer repair classes
- **Buffering** – it is as important to buffer views from both inside and outside park
- **Provide adequate but not excessive parking** – includes meeting day-to-day parking needs; also includes collaborating with Pentagon Park developer to meet peak parking needs (i.e., evenings, weekends, and events) with off-site shared parking facilities in select locations
- **Be cautious about overbuilding** – larger scale features such as community center, indoor athletic facilities, competitive pool, youth center, etc. are not well-suited for this park

Over the years, the City has undertaken a variety of park and recreation focused surveys to help inform planning decisions *on a system-wide basis*. Since these surveys have a community-wide and not site-specific focus, caution is needed in applying these findings to individual parks. To that end, integrating the findings of these surveys and this study into the larger system-wide planning effort the City is undertaking (mid-2014/early 2015) is an important recommendation by the Park Board. This will allow the City to fully understand how Fred Richards fits into the larger system and help fine-tune the development program for the park within that context. (The steps in the repurposing process defined on page 1 purposefully accommodates this approach.) Of considerable importance in fine-tuning the master plan is accommodating pertinent demographic changes across the city and how that may affect final development decisions.

Within the system-wide context, the development program as currently envisioned for the site does in fact address many of the top priorities defined in the various surveys. For example, the 2006 *Community Attitude and Interest Survey* focusing on parks and recreation identified walking and biking trails as being very popular, as is creating and/or protecting natural areas and wildlife habitat. The amenities envisioned for the park that focus on families and youth sports are also consistent with survey results. For example, development of outdoor athletic fields was supported by a majority of households.

The 2013 *City of Edina Survey* related to use and rating of park and recreation facilities found 79 percent of household members reported using the trail system during the past year, with 84 percent reported using neighborhood parks. Nearly half (48 percent) of household members reported using the larger community playfields during the past year.

The 2014 *Grandview Resident Survey* finds that residents are very supportive of projects that foster a stronger sense of community. Residents also think the City should create more recreational opportunities, as well as cultural and arts opportunities for people of all ages and incomes.



PUBLIC OUTREACH FINDINGS

The public process was open to all individuals and groups to ensure that everyone with an interest in the park had a chance to voice their perspectives. The public outreach process included:

- Open public meetings (including comment cards)
- Resident-focused site walks
- Online comment forms for repurposing Fred Richards
- Speak Up, Edina!
- Direct emails (to staff)
- Interviews with the Pentagon Park developer
- Interviews with a cross-section of nearby apartment and local businesses

The following captures the overall themes and sub-themes that came out of the collective process and helped shape the development program for the site.

COMMON THEMES FROM THE PUBLIC OUTREACH PROCESS

Participants uniformly agree that the site is an important community asset, with the vast majority feeling turning it into a park is the best way forward. There is absolutely no interest in selling the property for development or using the site for stormwater management associated with the commercial redevelopment south of the park.

Although individual perspectives vary, creating a well-designed community park that serves all residents best describes how the majority of residents envision the site being repurposed. A number of sub-themes also emerged through the public process, including:

- **Provide a diversity of uses** – offering a friendly and accommodating social environment that is inviting to all residents, with a particular focus on families and children’s activities (“kid” friendly)
- **Create a park that is unique and innovative** – go beyond typical features to make the park more interesting and different than a typical park; design for year-round use
- **Enhance natural qualities of the park** – including the appearance of ponds and using more natural buffers
- **Manage vehicular and pedestrian access** – to ensure ease of access and limit disruption to established neighborhoods

SPECIFIC ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH EXISTING NEIGHBORHOODS

Residents in the surrounding neighborhoods have varying opinions on how the property should be repurposed, although there is fairly uniform agreement that a park is the most appropriate end use. As would be expected, residents also have specific and quite reasonable concerns that need to be duly considered as the planning moves forward. Most notable of these include:

- **Adequately buffer adjacent properties** – to minimize sense of encroachment and invasion of privacy; using a naturalized buffer is generally preferred



Site walks were used as a means to better understand specific concerns of adjacent residents.





Understandably, residents on the north side of the site are concerned about buffering between the park and private properties.

- **Prevent parking and vehicle access from disrupting the neighborhood** – which essentially means providing park access and parking on the south side
- **Locate active use area (game fields, play structures, etc.) away from residential areas** – such as on the south and east sides of the property; use trees and vegetation to help screen these areas
- **Keep the regional trail on the south side to extent possible** – focus on lower-volume and slower paced park-like trails within the park
- **Limit pedestrian access from the north to select locations** – most likely from the cul-de-sac at the end of Kellogg Ave.
- **Bury power line along the north property line** – to improve the aesthetic for the park users and homeowners
- **Limit lighting to critical areas** – do not provide field lighting, and make sure that lighting associated with roads, parking lots, and buildings on the south side of the park are not disruptive or excessive

PERSPECTIVES FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES AND PENTAGON PARK DEVELOPER

Interviews with local businesses and Pentagon Park developer reinforce or build upon the themes already described. For example, a nearby daycare provider would definitely use a community park, with having access to play equipment, splash pad, trails, community garden, nature-based activities, and even a simple grassy area for active play being very desirable. Adding more natural areas would be great for field trips.

Businesses also see much value from the park. Simple, well-designed features like trails, sitting areas, and picnic areas are important for lunchtime and breaks. The park aesthetic itself would lend itself to a pleasant place to go to think and work informally with coworkers in an out-of-office setting. Having easy access to small meeting spaces within the park would be beneficial.

Having access to active recreational facilities is also important to a growing number of employers as part of their wellness focus. Seagate, for example, has employee programs for walking, running, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, yoga, and boot camp, to name a few. The Pentagon Park development team also expects future employers and employees will use the park for personal and corporate wellness efforts. Easy access to the regional trail and trailhead facilities enhances bike and walk-to-work commuter programs.

Under the right circumstances, local businesses expressed an openness to collaborate on developing outdoor fitness facilities for mutual benefit. One example of this is putting a fitness course along a trail within the park.

(Note: Additional discussion related to the Pentagon Park development is provided on page 23.)



AREAS OF CONCERN AND CRITIQUE

Overall, the public process proved invaluable to identifying issues and defining opportunities, and ultimately shaping the vision master plan. For the most part, participants were respectful of each other, City staff, and elected officials, and participated in good faith in providing input.

In the context of good faith, residents found it important to document areas of dissatisfaction – most of which related to the closing the golf course. Key points of feedback include:

- Dissatisfaction with the process and timeframe associated with closing the golf course, with many feeling it was rushed and did not allow for real public debate
- Mistrust about the City's intent to allow the Pentagon Park developer to use the property for stormwater management
- Concern that the City really intends to sell the property for commercial development
- Lack of concern for those most affected by changing land uses, especially homeowners that have a lot invested in their properties and are concerned about impacts that reuses, parking, and access will have on them and the neighborhood
- Lack of clarity on how the City plans to fund any new park development

It also needs to be stated that some nearby residents simply do not accept the fact that the golf course should be closed and feel the City's approach here and in general is ill advised. Hopefully, this process (and the steps going forward) will help alleviate these concerns and build a higher level of trust between all participants.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

According to Edina Police, there is very little crime going on in local parks – with no robberies, assaults, or weapons violations being recorded. Edina Police feel parks are safe for residents and visitors.

Other related research draws similar conclusions. For example, research on trail-related crime conducted by Schoenbauer Consulting, LLC in 2010 yielded the following results:

- Respondents (law enforcement officers) consider trails to be safe, with the vast majority (87%) reporting that trails account for less than 5% of all unlawful activity in their jurisdiction, and nearly 50% saying that it is less than 1%
- Trespassing on adjacent property is considered low incidence, with issues of more serious crimes against persons or property being very infrequent

Police often cite parking lots as their biggest concern, where occasionally theft from cars can be an issue wherever the opportunity for a quick getaway exists.

While people's concerns about the security deserves due consideration, parks and trails are actually considered quite safe by police agencies and account for a relatively small percentage of unlawful activity and safety problems.



Vision Master Plan

OVERVIEW

The *vision* master plan is the first step in translating public input into an actual development program for the park. The following describes desired end uses and related physical features envisioned for the park as an outcome of step 1 of the repurposing process. The goal is to set forth a cohesive storyline for the park so that residents, Park Board and City Council have a point of focus for continued refinement as part of the next steps in this process.

CREATIVITY AND UNIQUENESS A CORE VALUE

Discussions during the public process often centered on the desire for a creative and unique design outcome for the park. Irrespective of individual opinion on many site issues, this perspective is clearly a shared and core value of participants.

This step in the process focused on defining the core vision for the site (i.e., community park) and describing the basic design intent associated with the individual functional uses. The detailed master plan phase (step 2) is where much more specific and detailed attention is given to finding creative ways to achieve the vision and creating a compelling high quality park experience. With this in mind, the goal with the forthcoming descriptions is to establish a baseline for discussions to come as the design process moves forward.

To further inform the next step in the process, a variety of photos and character sketches are provided to highlight design approaches and themes. While the final design for Fred Richards will be refined under the next step, these are provided to reinforce the importance of quality design in translating the individual elements described in this report into a truly inspired public amenity that will serve the community well for many decades to come.

BALANCING ACTIVE USES WITH PRESERVING NATURAL AREAS AND A SENSE-OF-PLACE

The vision master plan strives to balance active recreational uses to meet community needs with preserving open space and the site's sense of place and aesthetic qualities. While providing a variety of recreational and educational opportunities is a fundamental goal, showing restraint in the size and location of the built footprint is also an important public value. Under this plan, approximately 35 to 40 percent of the park is envisioned for active recreational uses, such as field games, play areas, and community gathering spaces. The remaining 60 to 65 percent is set aside for more passive, or "quiet," forms of recreation, open space, ponding areas, and buffers. Examples of passive uses include park trails, sitting areas, informal-use lawn areas, and wildflower gardens.



STRIVING TO BALANCE ACTIVE USES WITH PRESERVING NATURAL AREAS AND A SENSE-OF-PLACE



The vision master plan strives to find the right balance between meeting community needs for active recreational facilities ...



... while still preserving natural open space and the park's sense of place.

**VISION MASTER PLAN
OVERVIEW**

The vision master plan describes a cross-section of features and amenities envisioned for the park to meet current and anticipated park and recreational demands. The following graphic illustrates the conceptual location of the major use areas and development features envisioned under the vision master plan.



Under the plan, each area of the park addresses specific types of active and passive recreational uses to meet the needs of families and individuals. Active recreation refers to team sports or other activities that involves the use of playing fields and play areas. Passive recreation refers to the more personal and often “quiet” activities such as walking, observation, kite flying, yoga, and so forth. Taken together, the recreational features will provide a well-rounded palette of activities for families and individuals to enjoy.

The more active recreational uses are envisioned on the southern and eastern sides of the park, largely adjacent to the proposed Pentagon Park redevelopment area. This orientation offers several key benefits:

- Concentrates the more active uses where parking and vehicular access can be best accommodated, including the shared use of parking associated with future commercial development on the south and east side of the park
- Takes advantage of an existing larger open space, which is not available on the western side where the property is narrower and broken up by existing wetlands
- Leverages the repurposing of the clubhouse and maintenance facility to support active use facilities (i.e., group gathering space, restrooms, storm shelter, etc.)
- Limits concerns about disrupting existing residential properties along the north property line

The more passive recreational uses are envisioned on the northern and western sides of the park, largely adjacent to the established residential neighborhoods. With the existing (and perhaps expanded) ponds, rolling topography, natural and manicured green spaces, this area of the park is well suited for walking paths, overlooks and observation points, and other forms of casual recreation (e.g., kite flying, picnicking). A more passive approach to development also helps provide a distance buffer between the existing residential area and the more active park uses.

The design layout for the park includes numerous opportunities to integrate community art, sculptures and other forms of community expression for public display. These types of features are important to creating a unique sense of place in the park that goes beyond the individual recreational features.

The following provides an overview of the various development use areas within the park identified on the vision master plan. Each of these are subsequently defined in terms of the type and character of the various uses that would be envisioned within a given zone. *Importantly, these descriptions represent a starting point for detailed design.* Continued refinement of the ideas, amenity locations, and design approach is both expected and encouraged during step 2 in the process.



PARKWAY CORRIDOR

This corridor includes the parkway and associated parking areas to service the day to day needs of the park. The parkway is an important feature in ensuring ease of vehicular access to the park from the south (and east and west), where much of the use traffic will likely come from. Ease of access from the south is also vital to limiting the extent to which park users access the park from the north – where there is no real option to provide parking and local streets are not intended for heavier day to day traffic. The parkway also allows for shared use of parking lots with adjacent commercial properties during peak use times – most notably evenings and weekends.

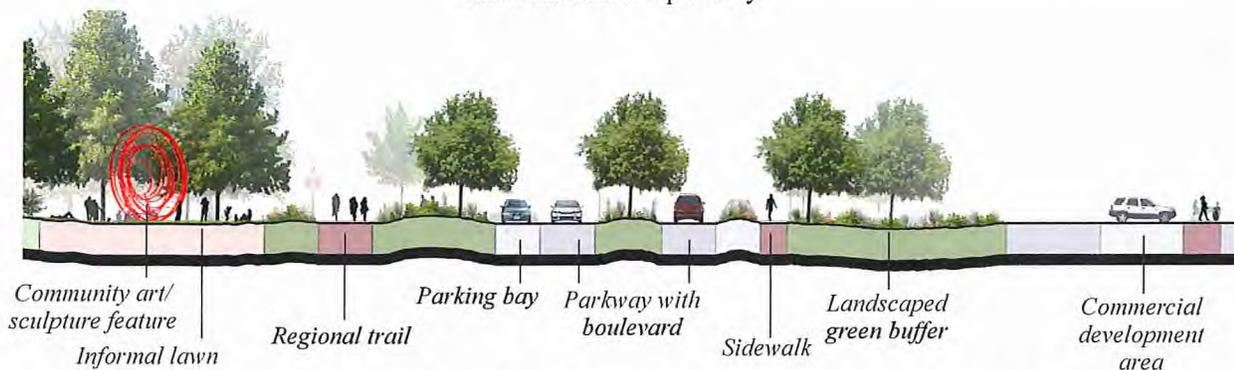


Example of a parkway design that creates a aesthetically appealing edge to a park.

The parkway is envisioned as a shared benefit amenity with the Pentagon Park development area, with encroachment into the park property being limited in order to preserve park space. Heavier traffic volumes (and truck traffic in particular) should be directed toward 77th Street to preserve the character of the parkway and keep traffic volumes lower.

The actual design of the parkway will evolve as part of a coordinated effort with the new developments south of the park. This includes determining the points of connection with 77th Street. (Note: through previous action, the City Council determined that a connection to 76th Street on the east side was not desirable.) The parkway will be built as phases of Pentagon Park are approved and developed.

Another important aspect of the parkway is its importance in establishing a “park-like” aesthetic edge along the south property line. The parkway also plays a key role in creating a much more appealing buffer between the site and commercial development than is currently the case. The following graphic illustrates the streetscape character envisioned for the parkway.



The parkway serves a functional purpose of providing park access and parking. The design character of the parkway is of equal importance in establishing a park-like aesthetic edge to the park, and creating an appealing buffer between the park and the commercial development to the south. Note that the boulevards and landscaped green buffers are envisioned as important landscape features along with being part of the overall stormwater management plan (i.e., bioswales and raingardens to filter runoff).

Onsite parking will be provided to meet day-to-day needs. Peak use (evenings and weekends) parking needs will be met by taking advantage of well-placed designated public parking areas associated with the commercial developments on the south side. (These will be defined as part of future development agreements with the Pentagon Park developer.)



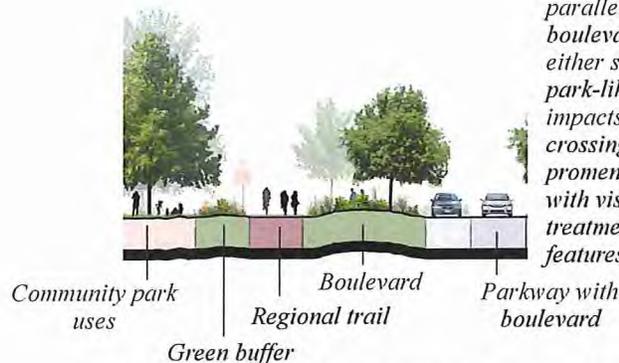
REGIONAL TRAIL CORRIDOR

The vast majority of park-dedicated parking will be accessed from the parkway. The largest parking lot within the park will be located near the active use zones. Additional more limited parking will be provided along the parkway in smaller bays that are integrated into the overall parkway and park design to be as unobtrusive as possible. A small to modest size public parking lot may also be needed off of Parklawn Avenue to service that area of the park.

As a regional facility, the regional trail serves a broad range of local and non-local users. The trail will be designed to meet regional standards, which is 10 feet wide and hard-surfaced (typically asphalt pavement). The corridor plan for the regional trail shows it entering the park area from behind the Burgundy Place development on the west side, and exiting along Parklawn on the east side. Between these two points, Three Rivers Park District is flexible as to where the trail is best located relative to the future development of the park and commercial area to the south. The main goal of the District is to ensure the trail through this area is as pleasant and safe a user experience as possible.

If well-located and designed, the regional trail will be a positive and important recreational amenity for park visitors and those living or working in the surrounding area. To minimize the potential for use conflicts with other park uses and activities, much of the regional trail will be located on the south side of the park along the parkway corridor. As the character sketch below illustrates, the goal is to create a pleasant trail experience while limiting the amount of park space it consumes. Keeping the regional use traffic on the south side of the park in this area also helps alleviate concerns about encroachment of the regional trail on residential properties on the north side.

On the south side of the park, the regional trail will primarily parallel the parkway. As shown, boulevards and green buffers on either side of the trail help create a park-like experience with minimal impacts on other park uses. All crossings with other trails and promenades will be designed with visual cues (e.g., pavement treatments, signage, landscape features) to minimize conflicts.



On the east side, the goal is for the regional trail to connect with (but stay on the periphery of) the community gathering, active use, and field games areas. Staying on the periphery of this active use zone is important to minimizing user conflicts. *(Note: The alignment through this area is conceptual and will be refined during step 2 – detailed master planning phase.)* Trailhead facilities would be integrated into an overall design for this area of the park. Design features that serve the park and regional trail include parking, access to restrooms, sitting areas, refreshments, and bike rental.

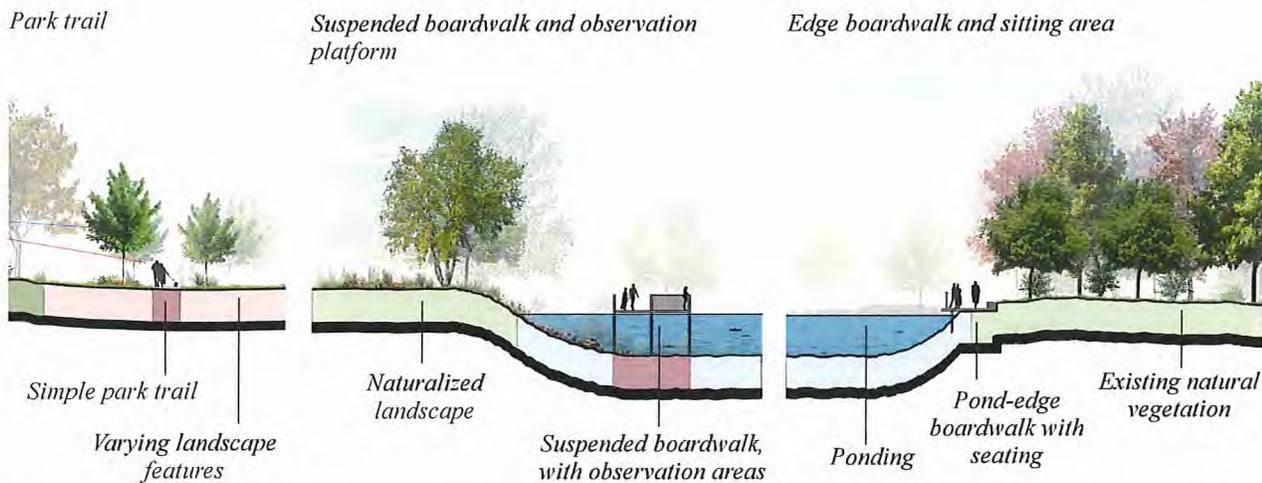


INTERNAL PARK TRAILS, PROMENADES AND BOARDWALKS

Internal park trails provide a stand-alone park amenity along with providing access to the various park uses. In contrast to the regional trail, these trails have a more intimate and curvilinear character. Although bike use is not prohibited, park trails are designed more for pedestrian-level and slower-paced use than is the case with the regional trail. Generally, an 8-foot trail width is envisioned, although wider segments may be needed in busy areas, such as near the active use areas. Narrower trail segments may also be suitable to access overlooks, sitting areas and natural areas.

In general, park trails will be hard-surfaced for accessibility and durability, but the surface treatment could be different to distinguish them from the regional trail. In select locations, such as the north arm and in natural areas, narrower aggregate surfaced trails may be also be appropriate.

The vision master plan complements the park trails with promenades and boardwalks that add architectural elements and invite casual strolling in the park. These features also provide various opportunities to sit, observe, reflect, and gain access to a variety of activity nodes and park features. The following character sketches illustrate the general character of the park trails and boardwalks that would meander through the park.



As these character sketches illustrate, a combination of park trails and boardwalks are envisioned to provide a variety of casual trail experiences throughout the park.



Access to the internal park trails will be primarily from the parkway corridor, south parking lots, and regional trail. More limited trail access from Parklawn (east side) and Kellogg Avenue (north side) is also envisioned.

Eliminating the cul-de-sac at the end of Kellogg is a possibility to help manage pedestrian access and reduce concerns about excessive parking along the street. Final determination as to the desire and practicality of this approach will be considered as part of the detail design phase. (Additional input from affected property owners along Kellogg will be needed.)



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS AREA



The existing clubhouse is of good quality and can be reasonably repurposed for described park uses.

The main design goal of the community activities area is to repurpose the clubhouse and create compelling surrounding outdoor spaces to complement it. These indoor-outdoor spaces are envisioned to accommodate a wide-range of activities and user groups. Examples include:

- Special events
- Organized group gatherings
- Social gatherings, such as weddings and family reunions
- Theater or music in the park (small scale)

The community activities area is envisioned to be an appealing place to spontaneously gather, socialize, and simply hang out. In this context, the aesthetics of the area, sense of place, and viewsheds across the park are all important to creating a space people want to use all days of the week. The design theme established for this area will also influence the design character and quality expectation for the rest of the park.

The clubhouse is envisioned to be repurposed to a flexible-use and programmable community space for events and group gatherings. Day-to-day, the restrooms and possibly vending will be available to park users. In winter, the facility can be used as warming house or a place to organize for outdoor activities, such as informal skating, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. The facility will also serve as a de facto trailhead for the regional trail.

The clubhouse building is of good quality and well maintained. Architecturally, the aesthetics of the building warrant updating for park purposes. The color, exterior facade treatments, etc. will all evolve to be consistent with design themes that emerge for this area of the park, and the park in general.



The outdoor spaces in this area are of equal importance. Flexible outdoor spaces for gatherings, casual socializing, and just hanging out are imagined. Design features include arbors, ornamental planting, benches, etc. Art pieces, sculptures, and other forms of community expression are also appropriate design features as part of an overall high quality design theme. The graphic illustrates the general location of the design components and character of the community use area.



ADVENTURE PLAY AREA

The major objective of this use area is to robustly engage youth and teens in appealing non-programmed outdoor activities. This includes providing a variety of innovative play and outdoor adventure components that appeal to age groups from the very young through the 15 to 18 year old age group – the latter of which being a recognized challenging group to engage.



For the younger age groups, envisioned play components include theme-based adventure-type play structures at a community park-scale. The creativity of the design is key to making this a park feature that children will be eager to return to time and again. The vision master plan identifies the general location for the play area. Actual features, shape and size will be determined during detail design phase, with additional input being needed from targeted groups. The accompanying photos are just examples of how wide-ranging the possibilities are for imaginative approaches to play areas that goes beyond traditional play structures.

Character sketch illustrates the general location of adventure play area.



Imaginative play can be as simple as a small raft in a shallow pond (upper right) to site-specific designs that fit the overall design theme for the park (above). Incorporating "active participation" features (right) is also an increasingly popular approach to play areas.

All of these examples highlight the increasing sophistication of creating play areas that are fun, stimulating and educational.



Adding a splash pad for younger children would be another interesting play feature that expands the recreational value of the play area.

For older age groups, providing a challenging outdoor adventure-based recreational area space is envisioned. Although not an exhaustive list, examples of the types of features envisioned include:

- Slacklines
- Bouldering rock and/or climbing wall
- Ropes ladder and/or course, along with cargo nets
- Balance logs or beams



Slacklining is one those unique recreational activities that appeal to multiple generations, and can serve to bring people of various backgrounds and age groups together to have fun and socialize.

The proximity of the adventure play areas to one another and other park uses is an important design consideration. Providing adequate separation between age groups to avoid conflicts is obviously important. Conversely, the design should still allow for different age groups to observe the activities of other groups as part of the socialization aspect of the park experience. Designing these areas for ease of monitoring is also important, especially when a parent has children of varying ages and interests using different play features. Adequately buffering the noise from the play areas is also an important design consideration.

FIELD GAMES AREA



Youth-oriented fields for sports like soccer, are in demand across the city.

The field games area covers an area of 5 to 6 acres, with the final acreage being determined as specific community facility needs are refined through the design process. The final footprint of the field games area will also be influenced by the shape and size of adjoining elements, especially the play and outdoor adventure use and the north arm areas.

The field game area is envisioned as a well-maintained green space surrounded by trees and ponds. Field access, parking, and restrooms will all be on the south side of the field games area. Trees and natural vegetation will be used along the northern edge of this area to buffer adjacent properties and dissuade people from entering the field games area from the north side of the park.





Youth-oriented field games are one of the best ways to bring families together in a park setting.

As a baseline, the field games area is intended to address youth-oriented sports such as soccer, lacrosse, and perhaps football. Although not a full solution, providing field space on this site helps address the unmet demand for more sports fields throughout the community. For reference, space requirements for standard soccer field sizes include:

- Regulation full size – 1.75 to 2.0 acres
- Intermediate – 1.0 to 1.25 acres
- Junior size – 0.5 to 0.75 acre

Taking it a step further, accommodating other forms of established or emerging field activities is worthy of consideration. Examples of this include:

- Wiffleball (0.25 to 0.50 acre) – alternative to baseball and softball for smaller field spaces and oriented toward young children and family or group fun
- Futsal (0.25 to 0.50 acre) – game played on a hard surfaced, basketball sized court with a smaller, heavier low bounce ball
- Sand volleyball and footvolly (0.10 acre) – latter is sand volleyball without using hands
- Puckelball (from Sweden) – basically entails adding moguls or rolling grade to a soccer field to create a very unique dimension to playing a soccer ball



Puckelball is one example of one-off twist to a common game that would be unique to Edina, and likely Minnesota.

Other important design considerations related to the field games area include irrigation, field grades, and soil type (i.e. sand/peat or basic topsoil). Although considered, providing lighting was not widely accepted as appropriate for this community park setting.

OPEN PARKLAND AREA



The open parkland area is all about creating pleasant places for people to be outside doing casual recreational activities or just sitting in the park enjoying the day.

Providing quiet spaces for casual recreation and simply enjoying being outdoors in a beautiful setting is the theme for this area. Passive uses – such as walking along a well-designed trail or promenade, or sitting on a bench overlooking a pond – is a prime focus for this area, as is “quiet” active recreational and exercise uses. Examples of the latter include places for yoga classes, to toss a frisbee, or fly a kite.

Key elements envisioned for this area include:

- Curvilinear walking trails (that are separate and distinguishable from the regional trail)
- Promenades with community art, sculptures, and other forms of community expression
- Sitting areas, with shade structures, arbors, and/or vegetation
- Lawn areas for casual recreation and informal play
- Flexible-use activity nodes and structures for outdoor recreation (e.g., yoga classes) and casual gatherings (i.e., senior groups, group picnicking)

The master plan view and character sketches on the next page conceptually illustrate how design creativity and the use of various design elements (i.e., promenades, community art, sculptures, etc.) are important to creating a unique park identify and high quality community park experience.

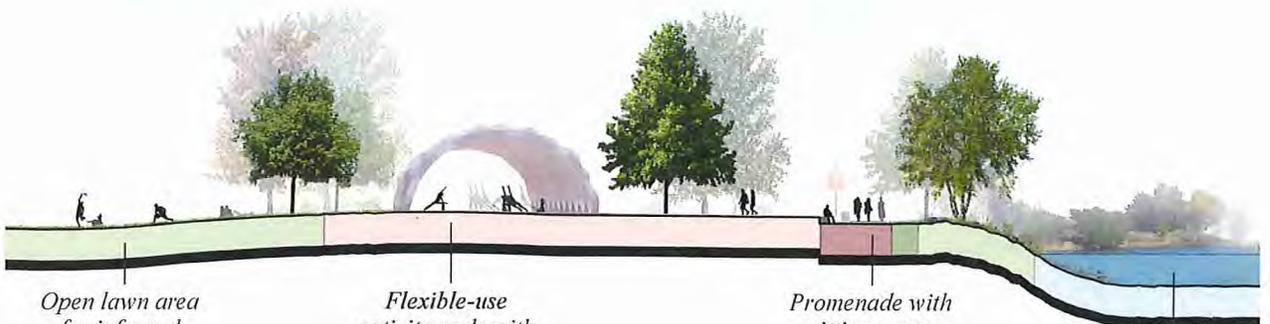




The vision master plan illustrates a diversity of park use areas, activity nodes, and features that can be incorporated into a final design to create a compelling and unique park setting.



Open parkland for casual uses Seating area with shade structures Internal trail Boardwalk across wetlands Open parkland



Open lawn area for informal recreation Flexible-use activity node with structure Promenade with sitting areas Ponding area

As these cross-section character sketches illustrate, the park offers numerous opportunities to create a variety of compelling outdoor spaces to meet defined community needs and provide a diversity of park experiences.





In select locations, such as the far west end or north arm, using narrower, aggregate surfaced trails may be an appropriate alternative to paved park trails.

As the overall vision master plan illustrates, the western part of the open parkland area is envisioned as a naturalized passive use area with a limited palette of developed features. Key features in this area include ponds, expanded natural areas, and simple walking paths with sitting areas and observation areas – the latter of which being placed to take advantage of expansive views across the park.

Expanding the existing ponding areas is envisioned to enhance the park aesthetic and habitat for wildlife, along with improving stormwater management and better managing flooding concerns associated with the Nine Mile Creek watershed. (Note: this relates to addressing City of Edina water management concerns, and does not address any stormwater management issues associated with the Pentagon Park redevelopment. The latter is the responsibility of the developer.)



The north arm area of the park is currently an undefined and undeveloped space. Uses envisioned for this area are consistent with the larger open parkland area to the west, albeit focused on neighborhood play space and quiet walking trails. Features such as a butterfly or wildflower gardens or colorful prairie exhibits would add interest and provide a pleasant place to walk or sit and observe nature. Smaller open lawn areas would provide space for informal neighborhood use. Specific improvements envisioned for this area include:

- Continuation of the internal park trails – perhaps a bit narrower and soft-surfaced for those seeking a more casual, natural trail experience
- Adding to and improving buffering between the park and residential properties
- Addressing poor drainage and grade issues to make the central part of this area more usable and less prone to maintenance issues; perhaps use rain gardens to help manage stormwater in a more appealing manner
- Providing open lawn areas for casual outdoor play, with a neighborhood use focus
- Providing a smaller, neighborhood-focused play structure (would complement, not duplicate, the larger adventure play area)

(During the planning process, developing the north arm for urban agriculture was considered as a potential alternative use. This is considered in more detail on page 22.)

NATURALIZED BUFFERS

Naturalized buffers are envisioned along the entire northern property line to create an appealing edge to the park and demarcate the park from adjacent residential properties. The buffers will be designed to mutually benefit park users and adjacent homeowners. From a park user’s perspective, the goal is to preserve the park’s sense of place while walking along a trail, and to avoid feeling like one is intruding into someone’s backyard.

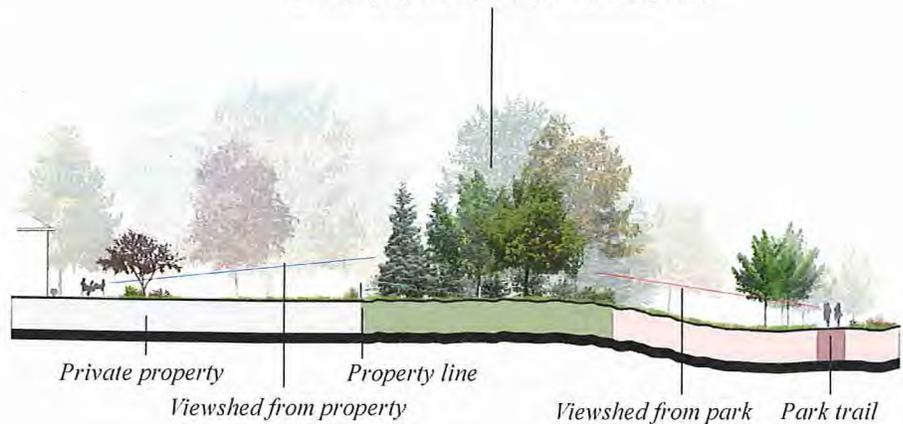


From a homeowner’s perspective, the goal is to maintain a sense of privacy while still providing select views of the park. Although a costly initiative, burying the power line running along the north property was supported by residents. Using vegetation to reduce the extent to which lights from the Pentagon Park area can be seen should be part of the buffer design.

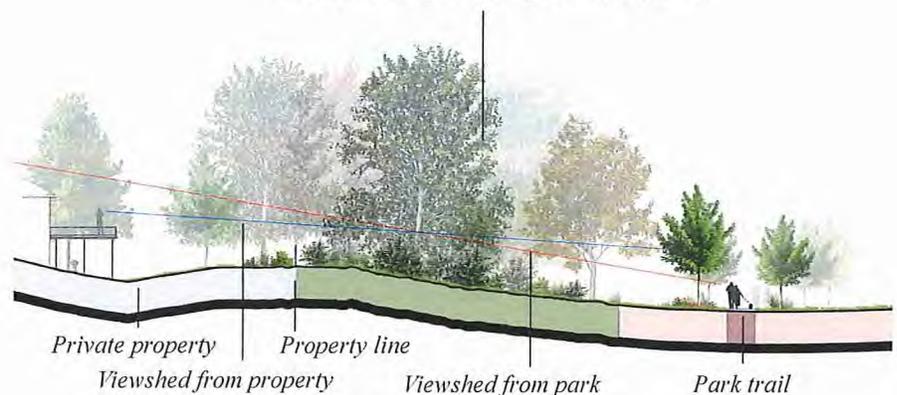
The following character sketches illustrate several options in terms of buffer treatments, which would be used based on actual circumstances and homeowner input.

As these cross-section character sketches illustrate, the goal is to adequately buffer adjacent properties from park activities for mutual benefit. The exact design treatment along the property line will vary depending on site-specific circumstances and preferences.

Dense natural buffer to more fully screen private properties from park development



Managed natural buffer to allow for select views into the park from private properties



As the cross-sections illustrate, maintaining separation between residential property lines and built features, like trails, is important for park users and homeowners. In general, 50 or more feet is a common baseline for minimum separation, but the exact distance is situational. Grades along the property line, density of vegetation, elevations of adjoining houses and decks, etc. all factor into final design decisions and separation requirements.



REPURPOSING THE MAINTENANCE BUILDING



A variety of options are available for repurposing the existing maintenance building. Using the building for storage, maintenance, and restrooms is a clear option. Providing space for other uses – such as bike rental, storage, and maintenance classes – also needs to be considered as the detail design for this area takes shape.

Using part of the building for an indoor-outdoor adventure play area offers some potential to expand play options. (Note: This approach needs more consideration as part of the City’s system-wide parks planning effort to determine need and viability.)

As with the clubhouse, the maintenance building is of good quality and in good repair. Here too the architectural aesthetics of the building warrant updating for park purposes. The color, exterior facade treatments, etc. will all evolve to be consistent with design themes that emerge for the clubhouse.

URBAN AGRICULTURE AREA (ALTERNATIVE NORTH ARM USE)



The urban agriculture idea builds upon the well-established community garden theme.

As previously noted, developing the north arm for urban agriculture was considered as an alternative use in lieu of open parkland. The following outlines that discussion.

The urban agriculture idea builds upon the community garden program that has taken root in many communities around the country. A community garden is essentially where a city provides small plots for residents to grow produce for personal consumption. The urban agriculture program takes this to the next level in which growing produce can be for personal consumption, resale at farmers markets (which could be held in the park), sold locally, or used for cooking classes. Adding an educational component, such as how to grow produce, is also commonly integrated into the urban agriculture theme.

Providing a space and/or structure for healthy eating cooking classes builds upon this theme. Accommodating organized farm-to-table events within the park is also an opportunity.

Specific elements and facilities related to this use area include:

- Fenced agricultural field area – 2 to 4 acres
- Shed and shelter structure for storing equipment and organizing activities
- Utility service – water, electricity, etc.

Taking this one step further, the shed and shelter structure could be upgraded to three-season shelter that could provide indoor/outdoor space for classes, farm-to-table events, and general group use.



Additional examples and ideas can be found at:

- foodtank.com/news/2014/02/capital-city-farming-10-urban-agriculture-projects-in-washington-dc
- csmonitor.com/World/Making-a-difference/Change-Agent/2014/0603/12-agrihoods-aim-to-make-farm-to-table-living-mainstream
- designtrend.com/articles/11703/20140314/argitopias-are-popping-up-all-over-the-place.htm
- jonesvalleyteachingfarm.org/our-story/our-impact/



Implementation Considerations

OVERVIEW

There are a variety of implementation considerations that will impact the repurposing of the Fred Richards site from a golf course to a community park. The following outlines the most predominant of these at a vision master plan level. Each of these, plus other considerations, will have to be more fully vetted and addressed during the detail master planning step in the process.

INTERRELATIONSHIP AND COLLABORATION WITH PENTAGON PARK REDEVELOPMENT

The City and Pentagon Park development team have been working together for some time on a redevelopment plan for the commercial area south of the park. The development team has also been engaged in this planning process to ensure mutual understanding of issues and desired outcomes associated with repurposing the Fred Richards site.

Discussions with the development team suggest a common vision of repurposing the Fred as a high-value community park is both achievable and mutually beneficial. This common vision is even reflected in the developer's overarching theme of "wellness" for the Pentagon Park redevelopment. The City's own tag line of Edina being a place for "living, learning, raising families and doing business" reinforces the importance of the private development area and public park be designed as complementary aspects of the larger community form.

The following outlines the key provisions of the City's resolution granting rezoning of the Pentagon Park redevelopment area, along with some key points of focus that came out of this process.

RESOLUTION GRANTING PRELIMINARY REZONING TO PUD FOR THE PENTAGON PARK REDEVELOPMENT AREA

A resolution granting preliminary rezoning to PUD and an overall development plan was approved by the City Council in March of 2014. The rezoning resolution extensively covers the findings and conditions of approval that will guide the development. Key provisions of the resolution include that the land use proposal will:

- Be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan
- Meet the intent of the PUD, with the site guided as "Office Residential" (which is a transitional area between higher intensity districts and residential districts); primary uses include offices, housing, limited service uses, limited industrial, parks and open space
- Create a more efficient and creative use of the property; this includes better vehicle and pedestrian connections, enhanced green space and ponding, a mixture of land uses, improved architecture and sustainability, and shared parking with the park



Under the resolution, the proposed project must also meet the pertinent goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, including:

- Design public open and green linkages that bring both amenity and positive image to neighborhoods, corridors, and business precincts
- Design public streets to serve not only vehicles but also pedestrians, people with mobility aids, and bicycles
- Create walkable streets that foster an active public life; streets that are energized by their proximity to a vibrant mix of activity-generating uses
- Preserve and make accessible natural areas and features as part of a comprehensive open space network
- Within larger redevelopment sites, promote a fine-grained and interconnected network of local streets and paths, encouraging pedestrian circulation and providing a choice of access points
- Encourage infill/redevelopment opportunities that optimize use of city infrastructure and that complement area, neighborhood, and/or corridor context and character
- Stay committed to the “podium” height concept, with podium being defined as the part of a building that abuts the street, or provides the transition to residential neighborhoods, parks, and other sensitive land uses; the intent with the concept is to create a consistent street wall envelope and a comfortable pedestrian environment

KEY POINTS OF FOCUS FOR CONTINUED COLLABORATION

With respect to the Fred Richards site, continued collaboration between the City and developer on infrastructure development and design of buildings and streetscapes is imperative. Key points of focus going forward include:

- Designing the parkway to provide ease of access to the park and development area, with the roadway being located on the southern edge of the park with minimal encroachment into park acreage; the aesthetic qualities of the parkway’s streetscape should complement the design themes and character established for the park
- Building facades in the new development should provide a aesthetically pleasant backdrop as viewed from within the park and along the parkway; this includes an appealing architectural style, ample trees and vegetation, and limiting lighting impacts on and across the park
- The park site and Pentagon Park development will *independently* manage their own stormwater – although this does not preclude seeking mutually beneficial stormwater management outcomes (as determined by the City to be in its best interest)

The provisions of the City’s rezoning resolution along with the key points of focus listed above provide a clear direction and set of expectations on the interrelationship between the park and the Pentagon Park development area to the south. The importance of the design for these two areas being of high quality and complementary cannot be overstated. Doing so is imperative for the park to retain a compelling sense of place.



TECHNICAL CONDITIONS AND CHALLENGES

(INCLUDES NINE MILE
CREEK WATERSHED RELATED
CONSIDERATIONS)



Although well-maintained and visually appealing, the poor soils across the park will have to be addressed as part of any park development.



Through insightful design, the aesthetic value, water quality and overall function of the site's wetlands and ponds can be much improved.

Aesthetically, the Fred Richards site offers a very appealing setting for a community park. Unfortunately, development of the site brings with it some significant technical challenges that will have to be addressed. Most pressing of these is dealing with poor site soils, protecting wetlands, and addressing stormwater management issues that go well beyond the site itself.

With respect to site soils, peat and clay predominant across the site. These soils are prone to saturation and general instability, making it more difficult and costly to build structures and otherwise keep the park in top form. Even keeping the golf course in good playable shape required extensive use of soil-stabilizing fabric underlayment across much of the site. Going forward, accommodating site soils will undoubtedly be a factor in design decisions pertaining to the type and location of site features. Practical limitations on site grading will likely be one of the most pressing issues as development plans take shape.

With respect to wetlands, all of the current ponds and waterways found across the site are protected under wetland conservation laws. Depending on type and quality, any relocation requires mitigation, even if done onsite. Depending on independent value assessments, mandated replacement ratios can range from 2 1/4 up to 9 acres for every 1 displaced wetland acre. From a practical and philosophical standpoint, every attempt needs to be made to avoid displacing the existing ponds and wetlands.

Water management issues associated with the larger Nine Mile Creek watershed further complicates onsite stormwater and wetland protection issues. Succinctly stated, there is a need for additional stormwater management capacity throughout the watershed – including the Fred Richards site. This relates to both water quality and water volume. The increasingly routine occurrence of flooding across parts of the golf course illustrate that this issue is not going away and that this site needs to be part of the broader stormwater management solution.

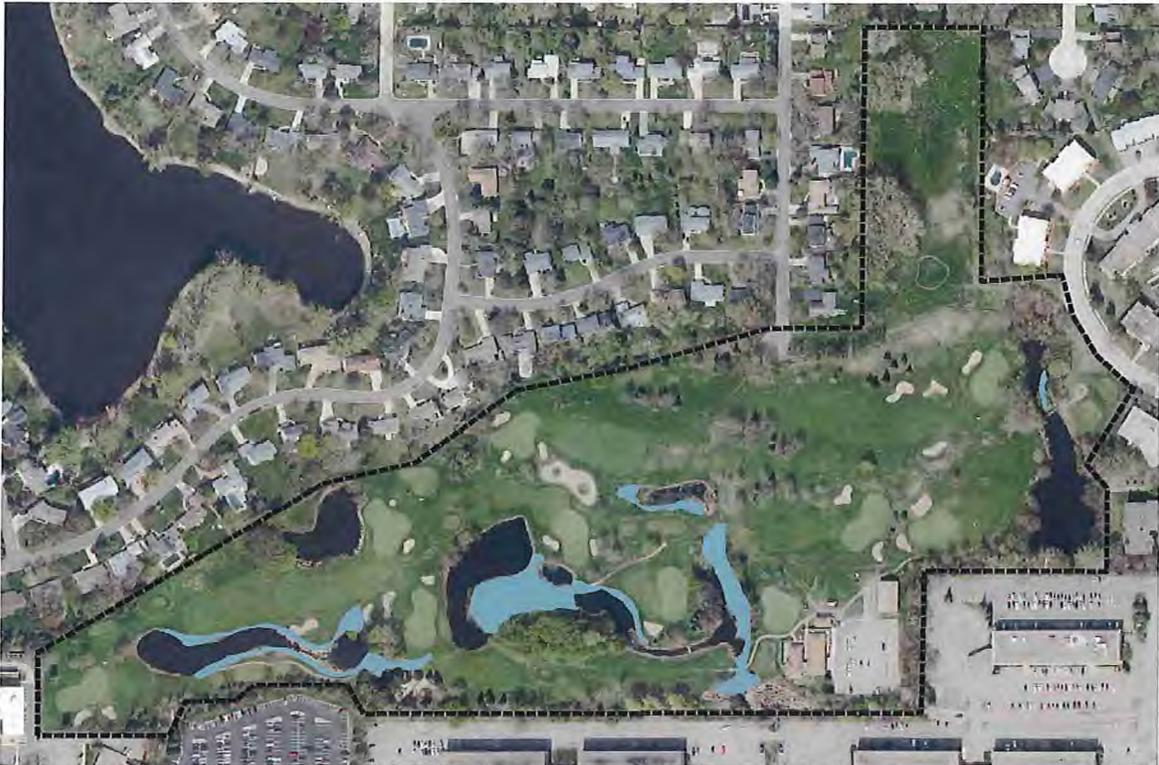
If done well, increasing the surface area of ponds within the park would be beneficial in several important ways. First, increasing the size and scale of the ponding areas would obviously help address the stormwater management issues previously defined.

Second, and of perhaps greater importance to the park user, a *well-designed* expanded system of ponds and wetlands could further enhance the aesthetic qualities of the park. Well-shaped and located ponds can provide additional “edges” to work off of when designing trails, providing sitting areas, and creating different spaces within the park.

Third, well-designed ponds and wetlands can dramatically increase the value of the wildlife habitat within the park. For example, providing wider naturalized buffers along the ponds over what is currently the case would greatly improve habitat quality and quantity. Typically, a higher quality buffer needs be 30 to 60 feet wide, depending on the site-specific circumstances.



Taken together, the potential benefits of adding ponding as part of an overall design can be significant – both at the park level and larger watershed level. For reference, the following graphic illustrates the extent to which existing ponds and wetlands have been expanded as represented on the vision master plan shown on page 10.



The blue areas represent expanded ponding relative to existing ponding and wetland areas. Note that the final shape and size of ponds will be determined during the detailed master plan phase of the project.

COST PROJECTIONS FOR REPURPOSING SITE

The forthcoming cost projections provide a range of potential costs associated with repurposing the site from a golf course to a community park. The projections are based on a combination of site-specific development issues and professional judgments based on developments of similar characteristics. The projections are based on 2014 dollars, which will require inflation adjustments over time. (Also note that 2014 was a volatile year in project bidding for similar work (i.e., bids have been coming in higher than expected), with a fair amount of uncertainty remaining in the marketplace going forward.)

At the vision master plan level, the level of plan detail combined with market uncertainties pose inherent limitations in projecting potential costs. The intended use of the cost projections is to aid the City in developing an overall funding and implementation strategy, including:

- Defining the magnitude of the investment needed to develop the park



- Comparing the relative cost of a basic level of development with that of a more robust approach that more fully achieves the vision as set forth in this plan
- Prioritizing and budgeting for capital improvement program

COST ESTIMATING CATEGORIES

For budgeting purposes, the cost estimate is broken down into categories. Several categories are associated with city-funded development, and several categories relate to work completed by others or the city acting in partnership with others. Others include the Pentagon Park developers, Three Rivers Park District, and Nine Mile Creek Watershed District.

City-funded development categories include:

- **Baseline park development package** – includes the core elements of repurposing the park from a golf course to a community park; generally, this includes the community activities and events area, adventure play area, and basic field games area; open parkland area development is limited to trails and a limited palette of other site amenities, such as sitting areas
- **Open parkland area enhancements package** – includes the major development elements in this area, such as the promenades, boardwalks, developed activity nodes, art and sculpture, etc.; also includes some enhancements to the community activities area
- **Field games area enhancements package** – includes upgrading the fields from topsoil surfacing to sand-based fields and related elements, such as underdrainage

Partnership or by-others funded categories include:

- **Parkway package** – includes the roadway and related streetscape elements; the presumption is that the Pentagon Park developer will be the lead and primarily responsible for this work
- **Regional trail package** – includes the regional trail and related development; the presumption is Three Rivers Park District will be the lead and responsible for this work
- **Pond expansion, stormwater management, and water quality improvements package** – includes expanding ponds and related; City may be responsible for costs, but as part of a larger Nine Mile Creek watershed planning strategy

COST ESTIMATE RANGES

The following summarizes the cost ranges associated with each to the listed categories. Cost ranges are provided due to pricing and quantity variabilities associated with this level of planning. Cost ranges include 15% add-on for testing, design and survey fees, along with 2% for geotechnical testing and permitting.



City-Funded Development Categories:

Baseline park development package	—————	\$2,966,000 to \$3,559,000
Open parkland area enhancements package	___	\$2,897,000 to \$3,476,000
Field games area enhancements package	———	\$ 713,000 to \$ 855,000
Total	—————	\$6,576,000 to \$7,890,000

Costs associated with partnership or by-others funded categories are more broadly considered since others play a lead or partnership role in developing design solutions. For planning context, it is expected that the parkway package will be in the \$2 million plus range. The regional trail package will be in the \$500,000 plus range (although this will be highly influenced by the need for bridges and dealing with soil conditions).

Pond expansion, stormwater management, and water quality improvements package is highly variable and dependent on overall size of the ponding expansion. For budgeting purposes, \$1 million is a reasonable starting point, with many factors influencing the final costs for this type of work.

Also note that setting aside a 10% to 20% cost contingency is recommended for each of the above categories to guard against unknowns in final design outcomes and changes in the bidding environment at the point of development.



NOTES FROM PUBLIC PROCESS

VISION MASTER PLAN

FRED RICHARDS REPURPOSE STUDY



CITY OF EDINA

10/01/14



FOR LIVING, LEARNING, RAISING FAMILIES & DOING BUSINESS

Comments from 1st Public Open House for Fred Richards Repurpose Process – June 12th

- Do not want trail close to residential property
- Want kid friendly park
- Social environment – but not fields
- Issues of funding (TIF)
- Concerns: want quiet buffer – no noisy athletic fields, want “wildlife” type of park; no overhead lighting
- Concern: safety & security – want fence to south to be kept till development occurs
- Want ped & bike trails
- Want NE area to stay as green space – retain water features; kids play area (currently no place for kids to play in neighborhood)
- Want access to park from south
- Desire to accommodate active uses
- On east side – remain green space; tennis court or other active use would be nice for businesses to use during day
- Concern – access of trail from west
- Question: Has a budget been set?
- Revenue generation opportunities should be pursued
- Floated out Tin Fish idea – “No!”
- Would Seagate & other businesses contribute \$\$\$?
- Would like to see where city parks are currently & what is in them
- Do not want lighting
- Stormwater – need to do due diligence – mistrust city & developer
- Dog & Pony show!
- Keep tree cover; add trees where possible – especially by commercial area
- Keep wildlife
- Provide adequate parking; no parking along streets for park use
- IF new water features are added keep away from residential areas
- Model = Bredeson Park
- Centennial Lakes = too much
- Belief that Pentagon Park will use park for stormwater management. Mistrust. NOTE: floodplain area
- Concern – lack of budget
- Want horse therapy either in Edina or someplace nearby
- Need green space for kid play
- Kids on east side have no place to play
- Make north side a wildlife barrier for residents
- EGs: NYC & Buffalo, NY have equestrian use in heart of city; truly unique opportunity for city

- Access to park is limited. How will people access other than from south side? Some want east side access; others do not
- Need to provide access from north but respect residents
- Owner of apts. On Parklawn – need for play area. Water mgt. been issue in past. What is the plan?
- Look at old park from 30 years ago – had fields
- Want family to be able to use park. This means serves many. Desire for trails & play area
- Like “We Can Ride” as volunteer opportunity
- Want winter use – groomed XC skiing
- Soccer club (3000+ players) – need fields – especially for K-4
- Play area plus restrooms
- House on Kellogg on cul-de-sac: major activity should be on south end. Concern re: parking along Kellogg
- Opposed to fields. To be done right would need artificial turf & is opposed to this
- General traffic and parking concerns
- Water mgt = huge issue
- Trails & natural areas desired
- Why do we have to provide play area for apt. kids? They should have to provide their own area
- Idea: urban farm – more than community garden; would be revenue generator. Opportunity for teaching & volunteering
- Edina-based horse therapy program exists for adults & kids with autism
- Not against horse therapy just serves too narrow of a population
- Horse idea = concerns about parking & odor

Summary of Comment Cards from June 12th Public Open House (n=40) & online Comments

Batch 1:

- Green space, trees, flowers, natural beauty, wildlife
- Equestrian use
- No equestrian use
- Green space for youth activities – soccer, baseball & softball diamonds
- All green space; no development except bathroom facilities
- Belief that Pentagon Park will have to use Fred Richards for stormwater mgt
- Playground; kids in neighborhood need place to play
- Bike trail connections
- Urban farm/community gardens
- Perimeter bike trail; meandering walking paths
- Sitting areas
- Lawn games
- XC ski trails
- Maze, or circular path for walking meditation
- Concerned that “We Can Ride” group got unfair access
- Need heavy citywide input on final design
- Athletic facilities for youth with concessions
- Tennis courts w/lights, sand volleyball, basketball courts, badminton courts, BBQ gas grills, jungle gym
- Bathrooms, shower facilities
- Dog park
- No additional parking or traffic; noise is a concern
- Park must serve all
- Keep golf course
- Refuge for people and wildlife
- Wading pool, splash pad
- MTB trail system
- Signs for park closing at night; security in general
- Issues with crime – esp. as related to adjacent apartment complexes. “Many residents adjacent to the Fred believe a park redevelopment on the Fred would create a gateway for the drug dealing, prostitution and theft that exists in the apartments to spread to the park as well as our neighborhood.” (For further info see email from Marie Sullivan - hardcopy)
- Not a Centennial Lakes
- Need a budget
- Restaurant in clubhouse

- Connect with Cornelia

Batch 2:

- Wading pool
- Park for all – young & old
- Play structures
- Connectivity to 9 mile creek bike path
- Once it's built, advertise it – esp. to those in apts who may not be plugged into conventional ways of obtaining information
- Multi-use park – rectangular fields (soccer & lacrosse), sand volleyball, skate park, play area, warming house
- Youth athletic complex for soccer etc
- Gazebos
- Surround area with walking/exercise path
- Community garden, picnic areas to rent for gatherings
- Putting course, chipping/pitching
- No equestrian
- Dog park
- Equestrian center – support for We Can Ride
- Need a better process for the Fred
- Numerous links to active lifestyle ideas; benefits of (see June 25th email from Deanne Miller)
- Make sure whatever is built is self-sufficient
- Not another park with soccer fields, hockey rinks and play equipment
- Turn Fred into a biology lab. (See Bob Rofidal email dated June 13)
- Continue the Centennial Lakes theme
- Urban farm (Steve Curry email June 17th)
- Archery range

Notes from various stakeholder conversations

Day Care – July 7th

- Would definitely use a community park; esp. if they relocate across the street as part of redevelopment
- Like: splash pad, perimeter trail, community garden, nature-based park, grassy area for active play (eg, soccer), field trips etc
- Note: staff currently go to Normandale to walk or jog
- 175 kids; 40 staff

Café Inc. – July 7th – Store Manager will pass request for feedback on to Chet Funk

Briarcliff Apts – July 7th – Dean Akins 952.941.2400

- Sent letter to Ann & Park Board advocating for a golf course school to teach kids the game of golf; life-long sport. Organization = First Tee (example)
- He had no comments about any other type of park use. He feels Edina has spent lots on hockey, why not golf?

Willow Greens Condos – July 7th – Britt 952.239.7835

- Spoke with Britt briefly. Per her request, sent email outlining various ways to provide input

Seagate – July 21st – Pete Wentzell 952 402 7169 (& 2 staff from fitness center)

- Seagate has programs for staff such as: running, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, yoga, boot camp, etc. Soccer & ultimate Frisbee are lunch time clubs. They would be interested in open field space. Soccer could use youth-size fields.
- Interest in regional trail ; they have about 40 bike commuters and Seagate is difficult to commute to via bike
- Have discussed putting a fitness course around Seagate property; security issues would preclude non-employees from using such a facility. They are considering installing a fitness course in about 12 months. They would be interested in talking with the City about possibly collaborating on this effort; where the course would be at the Fred and Seagate employees would use it. Potential for cost-sharing (omit this from report).
- Concern: park users wanting to park at Seagate. Security issue. They would be towed.
- Hockey rink on ponds???
- Departments have employee gatherings – interest in volleyball and/or bocce ball. Plus grills
- Some interest in the community garden idea.

Notes from Park Board Work Session on July 8th

- It is as important to buffer view from inside park as from outside park – buffering, berms etc
- Question: What is the opportunity for shared parking with businesses?
- Per benchmark study, Edina needs: (* indicates park board member felt these amenities are most appropriate for Fred Richards)
 - Community center
 - Indoor athletic facilities
 - Soccer fields*
 - Dog park (have one in NW Edina)*
 - Competition pool
 - Youth activities center
 - Performing arts center
 - Area to stage events – eg: fun run (creates parking needs)
 - Community garden*
- Check out Queens Co. Park/Farm (NYC) – explore idea of something more than a community garden but less than a farm
- Need to evaluate uses of all Edina parks – How does Fred fit?
- Check out 2006 Parks Study
- Consider natural play area – moveable & buildable pieces
- Themes: unique, get kids outdoors
- Fields for 5-11 year olds needed (no lights needed). Note: if only for practice (vs. practice + games) the traffic is reduced by about 50%
- Need opportunities for 15-18 year olds. EG: warming house for XC skiing/snowshoeing. Bike shop that is run by youth volunteers. Farm stuff. Welcoming environment
- DECA could run bike shop or coffee shop
- Consider bike library; not just Nice Ride. Note: there is a charitable group in Minnetonka that does this) They offer bikes, trikes, etc
- Need tennis courts
- Check out Futsal
- Disc golf
- Keep changing demo's in mind – immigrant populations recreate differently – esp. picnic space
- If possible, create a connection to Cornelia School

Comments from June 21st Site Walk

Note: There were about 20+ people in attendance at various times

- Do not want parking area at cul-de-sac on north side OR a thru street
- East side – entrance by Edina Lake trail – want buffer; keep woods. Amount of water is typical after good rain. Note: lots of concrete buried underneath area.
- Desire for natural buffer between residents & park
- RE: buildings along Parklawn – can we get them to change the lighting so it does not shine in people's homes?
- Keep traffic away from cul-de-sac area on north
- Some residents prefer buffer over view; some want buffer + view (Art prefers view)
- Question: Isn't demand for trails in Edina already met? Want balance between residents and Edina overall
- Would like to bury powerline
- Keep trees on south end in order to block view of Pentagon Park buildings
- Prefer parking on Pentagon property
- A while ago, Council said a parkway or any road would not occur on park land; some preference for no road on south side
- Barr building – shield with trees
- West end – keep trail away from homes
- Upside of pines = year round buffering

Comments from July 9th Site Walk

Note: There were about 35+ people in attendance at various times

- Question: what is the distance of the perimeter of the property?
- Lots of process questions: What is the budget? How will property taxes be affected? What is the 2015 status of The Fred?
- Want developer to pay for any parkway
- 9 Mile RT should be at southern end
- Lots of discussion about stormwater mgt.
- Expressed lack of trust of Council
- Concerns re: traffic and parking on north side impacting residential areas
- Discussed depth of buffer – min. 50'. Some thought this inadequate; others did not
- Want residents to have flexibility to put up a fence. Do not want Council to pass ordinance prohibiting this
- Questions re: Lake Edina paved trail – will it remain? Told them it will have to fit overall design

- Question: have we walked site with Park Board? Note; plan to have August Park Board session at clubhouse
- Recommendation: do traffic count today as baseline
- Northern "peninsula" – want maximum privacy – visual and noise
- Make sure space between yards does not become a park access ; minimize parking on streets to north
- Do not want cul-de-sac area to become thru street
- Do not want Lake Edina area to become road access
- Like idea of garden – not animals
- Concern re: field noise & lighting
- Focus should be on uniqueness
- Continued frustration re: process that led to Fred closing & path forward

<http://www.travelingthought.com/2012/07/friday-fun-local-splash-pads.html>

and beautiful - so residents love it ---

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/66/Gramercy_Park_interior_W_gate.jpg

<https://www.planning.org/cityparks/briefingpapers/tourism.htm>

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**From:** WinnieandSteve Martin [<mailto:martins6012@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 25, 2014 10:33 AM

**To:** Edina Mail

**Subject:** Community input, Speak up Edina feedback

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I have a grave concern with the lack of communication and information that is currently being made available to residents of Edina about the Fred Repurpose Project.

To date, there has been minimal information provided and no recent updates as to information after the Open Forum, 6/12, and Walk this past Sat., 6/21. At the Open Forum there were 100 people in attendance and all names/emails were taken. To date, there has been no correspondence, or follow up.

The Repurpose website link currently contains no new updates although there has been "talk" that this topic will be discussed at Council 7/1, and "maybe" another potential walk-through sometime early July. <http://edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-richards-repurpose>

I spoke with Mary Brindle, 6/6, about my concerns at the Art Fair Booth about the lack of communication by the City, and Park and Rec. which I believe correlates to the lack of feedback you are receiving from residents. I know Council Member Sprague has urged people to reach out via the website and I know Mr. Gilgenbach and Council Member Bennett had dialogue regarding the poor number of hits/input given via Speak Up Edina. <http://speakupedina.org/discussions/fred-richards-repurpose-process>. To date, only 8 have responded and 1 blog was posted by Park Board Member Steele.

I bring this to your attention with the hope that there will be more of an effort to make residents aware of not only impending changes, but also options. Residents need to be given an opportunity to rank their preferences with all options weighed. A continuous theme in this community, specific to Council/City decisions, is a lack of transparency. Any efforts that can be made to provide more information, more media blitzes and more transparency will only help the process to run smoother.

Residents want a better process. 42+ acres is an absolute gem. The Repurpose Project deserves more attention, due diligence and creativity than what is currently on the docket. This could be

so many things.....meeting the needs of many residents.....if only those residents were notified that they actually had a voice and could weigh in on the options.

Thank you.

Winnie Martin  
[martins6012@gmail.com](mailto:martins6012@gmail.com)  
6012 Ewing Ave. S. 55410

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From: Winnie And Steve [<mailto:martins6012@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, June 22, 2014 10:43 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Sat walk

Mayor Hovland,

Thanks for the walk on Sat. I apologize for leaving early, but flooding basement called.

I can't stress to you enough the importance of getting The Fred Repurpose Process "right.". From all interested parties in Edina everyone can agree the "process" is wrong.

Get this right. The Schoenbauer's shouldn't be the ones to decide our 43 acres in a span of 3 months. That land belongs to the community and the opportunity to do something great is upon us. Wetlands, walking paths.....all been done. Look further and deeper.

Please be our voice - show the community we can get this right. Be transparent and put ALL ideas on the table.

Thanks.

Winnie Martin
Martins 6012@gmail.com
C). 952-484-5575

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**From:** Dan Mueller [<mailto:dan.mueller04@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 20, 2014 1:20 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Future Use of Fred Richards Golf Course

Mayor James Hovland,

Since I was unable to attend the last council meeting where ideas were presented for the future use of the Fred Richards Golf course, I am writing you to give some of my thoughts.

I have just recently heard about the plan to turn the property over to We Can Ride MN for therapeutic horse riding and other events. I strongly urge the council to oppose this plan. This proposal would have very limited use for Edina citizens and only hopes to bring potential few visitors to Edina businesses. I do not want my property tax dollars supporting this plan. If the council thinks this is a good use for the golf course, they should sell the land to a non-profit and use the revenue to lower our property taxes.

I support a plan that would provide multiple outdoor activities for mainly Edina residents of ALL ages, and other visitors from surrounding communities. This would be a great opportunity to have a park that would have activities like: mountain biking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, fitness/obstacle course, another Frisbee golf course, and maybe archery. I would also support a modest fee structure to create and support the infrastructure for these activities. The Three Rivers Park District has some great examples of how to get maximum use out of it's parks for all ages. We could do the same with this property and have it at place that is close to it's citizens. We don't need another park with kid soccer fields, outdoor hockey rinks and playground equipment. Or a park that has a very specific limited use and is not entirely accessible to it's citizens.

The city should pursue a use for the property that will encourage it's citizens to continue fitness activities as a lifelong endeavor.

Thanks for considering my thoughts.

Dan Mueller

5614 Sherwood Ave.

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From: Johan Rosenberg [<mailto:bjrosenberg@bluroseadvisors.com>]

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 6:44 PM

To: James Hovland

Cc: jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Edina Mail; jaschoenbauer@gmail.com; keschoenbauer@gmail.com; Stacey Thiele; Winnie; jwhitemn@hotmail.com; Dana Wais; Mary Mitten; Susan Slocum

Subject: Fred Richards Park - We Can Ride In Edina Municipal Park

Dear Mayor Hovland, Edina City Council and the Schoenbauers:

As you know, we presented our proposal last week at the 1st public planning meeting. I have to say it was pretty charged and not what anyone expected. Jeff and Kathy managed some very emotional people very well. We Can Ride In Edina Municipal Park supporters represented over 50 people in the room, and we were by far the majority of people attended the meeting. The fact that the Schoenbauer's met with us earlier in the day, and our opportunity to present after everyone else had spoken, gave us the chance to introduce our proposal. Thank you! I know there were many Edina residents in our group who waited to present their point of view until after we had presented and then we simply ran out of time. That can happen. I am certain with your commitment to this public forum over the direction of the Fred – everyone will have more opportunities to share their views and have input.

I happen to have quite a bit of experience with municipal projects and finance, having worked on over 2,000 projects/financings for school districts, cities, counties, state agencies, universities and hospital systems during the past 25 years, and so I know first-hand what a tough position government leaders sometimes find themselves in when managing all the interests of many constituencies. Frankly, because we have a AAA city, with an improving tax base (news to me, but great news – well done!), I have no criticism and I honestly personally would have been fine with just your internal City decisions for the Fred. So it is therefore that we commend and thank you for opening a sincere and genuine dialogue encouraging interaction with the public. Given the additional burdens of the path you have chosen, we want you to know we stand ready to “Do All the Work” to support our proposal, given the chance and time. This includes RFP preparation to solicit nationally recognized developers for a master site plan and architectural renditions, delivering a fiscally responsible budget, with a legal structure that is “off balance sheet and “off credit” for the City, and also supporting all the projected economic development gains with a feasibility study. We recognize our proposal is ambitious, but we think Edina is ready for and deserves a bold plan.

Leaping to conclusions from what was presented at the meeting and in conversations with others, it seems to us the choices for the Fred appear to be 1) an Equestrian Center, 2) an Urban Farm, 3) a Sculpture Garden, 4) a Frisbee Golf Course, 5) an Open Park, or 6) Athletic Fields. Personally, I think the first three in the list are most exciting, and the last three somewhat uninspiring but arguably safe and acceptable. Many of the issues that were raised came from the neighboring residents and we are confident the Equestrian Center will bring satisfaction to about 90-95% of the desires and concerns that were raised, incorporate all of the additional requests and wants, with the exception being that we probably can't satisfy the people who want athletic fields.

We invite you to think about how the Equestrian Center finally responds to our underserved populations of disabled, autistic, and other people with daily challenges, in the spirit of Inclusion, weaves them together with our mainstream populations with riding lessons for everybody and embedded with opportunities for volunteering, coupled with economic development and marketing opportunities that come with an event course.

Lastly, we think Mayor Hovland, and future mayors too, are going to love the Equestrian Center's walking path on Saturday Mornings at 9:00 AM with its beautiful flower beds, fences and beautiful horses not only on quiet mornings, but also on event mornings when the Center is humming with exciting activity and vitality.

We have spent a lot of time talking and gathering information that we want to share with the City and are available at your convenience to meet to discuss this exciting opportunity for our City. Please let us know when it is convenient for you to meet.

Thank you

Johan Rosenberg (Edina Resident)
4511 Oak Drive, Edina, MN 55424

B.J. (Johan) Rosenberg

Blue Rose Capital Advisors, Inc.
212-991-8424 (Main NY)
952-746-6050 (Main Mpls)
952-746-6030 (Direct)
612-839-7627 (Cell)
bjrosenberg@blueroseadvisors.com



From: Stacey Thiele [<mailto:SThiele@SoundCapital.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 10:12 PM
To: Stacey Thiele
Cc: Johan Rosenberg
Subject: Repurpose the Fred - Come Ride with Us.....

Dear Friends:

Please see attached a proposal to re-purpose the Fred Richards Golf Course into a state of the art municipal owned equestrian riding center. This proposal will be presented at the first public meeting next week.

The first public meeting will take place on **Thursday, June 12, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the Edina Public Works Building, 7450 Metro Blvd., Edina, MN 55439.** The June 12 meeting is open to the public. All Edina residents are invited and welcome to attend. This is the time to evaluate various proposals for 43 acres of beautiful land. Please, come and learn what we can offer the community.

Show your support by picking up a Horse on a Stick at the entrance at 6:30 PM.

Please pass the word along and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks.

Stacey
www.wecanrideinedina.org

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 7:37 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/23/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	A park for all, young and old.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Wading pool for little kids (like the ones Minneapolis has in several parks). Play structures for kids. Connectivity to bike path that will be built in the future (9 Mile Creek).
Any additional comments?	After it is built and during the construction, please advertise the existence of the park to the apartments in the area. Many immigrants are not plugged into conventional ways of obtaining information and reaching out to them will help them become aware of this new resource.

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 12:11 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

<p>Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.</p>	<p>A multi-use park that meets the current and future needs of the Edina residents is best. This should include rectangular fields for Soccer and Lacrosse. Soccer, alone, accounts for 40% of Edina's school aged children. Soccer and Lacrosse are both growing - more and more kids are playing Soccer and Lacrosse. Other things to consider at the new Fred Richards would be cross country skiing and snow shoeing. Some creative small space venues like a couple of Futsal courts for public use, Sand Volleyball that can be used for Footvolley as well (volleyball using any part of your body other than your hands) would be great. How about a wiffleball field - these are small in scale and a ton of fun. Even a well designed skate park would be fun.</p>
<p>In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?</p>	<p>A great playground is always a benefit for the community. Some kind of 4 season warming house/community building would be great.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>The Field Sports are in dire need of new rectangular fields. Not capitalizing on Fred Richards would be an insane waste of an opportunity. An idea would be to look at our youngest field players - the 2-7 year olds who are playing soccer and lacrosse. They always draw the biggest crowds. Why not consider how to make Fred Richards your landing zone for the youngest athletes. Lastly, Creek Valley continues to sink. If we recreated this footprint at Fred Richards, we would still not have enough land. However, space for, at a very minimum, game-only soccer fields would alleviate some of Edina Soccer Club's issues.</p>
<p>Name</p>	<p>Jeff Northrup</p>
<p>Phone</p>	<p>612-910-0833</p>
<p>Email</p>	<p>jeff@concordusa.com</p>

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 1:27 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	I would like to see some allocation to soccer fields and lacrosse fields. Lighting would help, but without is fine, as younger kids play earlier. Amenable to neighborhood needs
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	It would be a huge improvement that the younger groups of soccer players (U8-U12) utilize the Fred Richards complex, over the Creek Valley floodplain/mud pit we use today. At somepoint every year, one of the five fields goes unplayable due to "mud humps" or sinking fields. Needs to be addressed.
Any additional comments?	Playground equipment is a must.
Name	Gerry Greene
Phone	847-942-6670
Email	gerry.greene@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 1:46 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	As a community with active children and a storied history in athletic excellence I believe it would be in the City of Edina's best interest to redevelop the FR Course into a youth athletic complex for soccer along with other growing field sports.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	In addition to athletic fields the best facilities I have visited throughout Minnesota and the US have play areas for youngsters as well as gazebos for shade and comfort.
Any additional comments?	I encourage the City of Edina to invest in the future of the city by increasing its efforts to be family friendly for young families and to provide more opportunity for active and healthy lifestyle choices.
Name	Josh Roy
Phone	507-380-0552
Email	joshua.a.roy@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 3:54 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	id like to see a golf course at this site.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	kids play ground equipment
Name	cliff akins
Phone	952-941-2400
Email	cliffa@premierapts.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 5:50 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	Edina is a great city that due to lack of space, suffers from inferior fields and playing space for sports like soccer and lacrosse. These sports are rapidly growing both nationally and locally in Edina. The Fred Richards complex is a significant opportunity to create a best in class complex for field sports, and take a big step toward making Edina at least equal to surrounding communities when it comes to field sports.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Fred Richards is a large enough plot of land to accommodate several needs in our community: 1. Surround the entire area with a walking/exercise path so that the surrounding neighborhood has a tangible benefit. 2. Build as many high quality, sustainable fields for soccer and lacrosse that can be accommodated by the plot of land.
Any additional comments?	Let's be forward thinking on this issue! We have an opportunity to reinvigorate a sizable Edina community asset that for several years has been highly underutilized. To my knowledge, Edina has few, if any, sizable pieces of land that can be redeveloped for the good of our community and field sports. programs.
Name	Gordon Wright
Phone	612-810-9771
Email	gordonpwright@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 6:25 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	We absolutely need more rectangular sports fields in Edina! Our families are so tired of driving to other communities for soccer and lacrosse, and heaven forbid you are a team manager and need to book a field or reschedule something!! MORE FIELDS!!!
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Warming house would be great - and perhaps the ability to sell concessions for games and tournaments.
Any additional comments?	MORE FIELDS PLEASE!!!!
Name	Dawn Martin
Phone	612-964-8989
Email	dawn.martin@biworldwide.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 3:14 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/25/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

<p>Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.</p>	<p>A park that provides year-round amenities for all residents--not just those living adjacent to it; one that is not a drain on city resources/funds and potentially makes money for the city for the overall park/rec budget; and, finally, one that is respectful of property-owners adjacent to the park. I know that it is a tall order, but I believe it can be done and that the city is on the right path.</p>
<p>In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?</p>	<p>My feedback above is over-arching. Here are some specific amenities to consider: YES to amenities like walking/biking paths, a playground, and beautiful gardens. Potentially a community garden. And, maybe some picnic areas to reserve/rent for family gatherings or even small business events. Perhaps an area to rent for weddings? It's my understanding that wedding/reception sites are profitable and needed in the suburbs. Although I agree with the reasons to close The Fred as Par 3 course, perhaps an area could be dedicated to a golf practice area with a small putting course, chipping/pitching. These are great skills to develop for both the beginner and experienced golfer. A practice facility could be used for golf lessons, also. For year-round use, some winter attractions like cross-country skiing, snow shoeing or ice skating. I know that Edina needs sports fields and although the adjoining property owners are against it, I wonder if there is a way to provide that and be respectful to homeowners. Many of the amenities I've suggested have wide appeal, but if I was being completely self-centered, I would love to see an outdoor bocce court :) NO to an equestrian center. I love horses, but dedicating public space to just one interest group is not the way to go. Edina has too much density for horses...perhaps a suburb like Credit River would be more appropriate.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>I do understand that adjacent homeowners are</p>

	concerned about the changes in their neighborhood and quality of life. For years they have had a summer-only public park adjoining their backyards. For that reason, I think planning and redevelopment should include a buffer area or planned in a way to be respectful to those residents.
Name	Connie Carrino
Email	ccarrino@q.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 8:29 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/26/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	I am pleading for a dog park with enough space and trees for dogs and their owners to have a meaningful experience. Dogs need shade and squirrels to chase. I will refrain from commenting on our current dog park(s) and just tell you that I need to drive to other cities for a decent walk.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Leave it treed and wild. Put some walking paths and separate bike paths and just leave it alone. Maybe some restrooms. We don't have any 'wild' spaces - all the natural spots have been 'improved'. And make a separate dog park with an area for small dogs.
Any additional comments?	Walking dogs on sidewalks will be much more difficult with the addition of bicycles. How can we consider adding horses when are family pets are not treated as well as neighboring communities? Or buy the empty land on 39th and France and make that an official dog park?
Name	JoAnn Hillstrom
Phone	952-929-4160
Email	jahillst@yahoo.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2014 12:12 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/28/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	Equestrian center
Name	Jill Scullard

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 7:37 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/23/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	A park for all, young and old.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Wading pool for little kids (like the ones Minneapolis has in several parks). Play structures for kids. Connectivity to bike path that will be built in the future (9 Mile Creek).
Any additional comments?	After it is built and during the construction, please advertise the existence of the park to the apartments in the area. Many immigrants are not plugged into conventional ways of obtaining information and reaching out to them will help them become aware of this new resource.

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 12:11 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

<p>Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.</p>	<p>A multi-use park that meets the current and future needs of the Edina residents is best. This should include rectangular fields for Soccer and Lacrosse. Soccer, alone, accounts for 40% of Edina's school aged children. Soccer and Lacrosse are both growing - more and more kids are playing Soccer and Lacrosse. Other things to consider at the new Fred Richards would be cross country skiing and snow shoeing. Some creative small space venues like a couple of Futsal courts for public use, Sand Volleyball that can be used for Footvolley as well (volleyball using any part of your body other than your hands) would be great. How about a wiffleball field - these are small in scale and a ton of fun. Even a well designed skate park would be fun.</p>
<p>In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?</p>	<p>A great playground is always a benefit for the community. Some kind of 4 season warming house/community building would be great.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>The Field Sports are in dire need of new rectangular fields. Not capitalizing on Fred Richards would be an insane waste of an opportunity. An idea would be to look at our youngest field players - the 2-7 year olds who are playing soccer and lacrosse. They always draw the biggest crowds. Why not consider how to make Fred Richards your landing zone for the youngest athletes. Lastly, Creek Valley continues to sink. If we recreated this footprint at Fred Richards, we would still not have enough land. However, space for, at a very minimum, game-only soccer fields would alleviate some of Edina Soccer Club's issues.</p>
<p>Name</p>	<p>Jeff Northrup</p>
<p>Phone</p>	<p>612-910-0833</p>
<p>Email</p>	<p>jeff@concordusa.com</p>

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 1:27 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	I would like to see some allocation to soccer fields and lacrosse fields. Lighting would help, but without is fine, as younger kids play earlier. Amenable to neighborhood needs
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	It would be a huge improvement that the younger groups of soccer players (U8-U12) utilize the Fred Richards complex, over the Creek Valley floodplain/mud pit we use today. At somepoint every year, one of the five fields goes unplayable due to "mud humps" or sinking fields. Needs to be addressed.
Any additional comments?	Playground equipment is a must.
Name	Gerry Greene
Phone	847-942-6670
Email	gerry.greene@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 1:46 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	As a community with active children and a storied history in athletic excellence I believe it would be in the City of Edina's best interest to redevelop the FR Course into a youth athletic complex for soccer along with other growing field sports.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	In addition to athletic fields the best facilities I have visited throughout Minnesota and the US have play areas for youngsters as well as gazebos for shade and comfort.
Any additional comments?	I encourage the City of Edina to invest in the future of the city by increasing its efforts to be family friendly for young families and to provide more opportunity for active and healthy lifestyle choices.
Name	Josh Roy
Phone	507-380-0552
Email	joshua.a.roy@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 3:54 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	id like to see a golf course at this site.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	kids play ground equipment
Name	cliff akins
Phone	952-941-2400
Email	cliffa@premierapts.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 5:50 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	Edina is a great city that due to lack of space, suffers from inferior fields and playing space for sports like soccer and lacrosse. These sports are rapidly growing both nationally and locally in Edina. The Fred Richards complex is a significant opportunity to create a best in class complex for field sports, and take a big step toward making Edina at least equal to surrounding communities when it comes to field sports.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Fred Richards is a large enough plot of land to accommodate several needs in our community: 1. Surround the entire area with a walking/exercise path so that the surrounding neighborhood has a tangible benefit. 2. Build as many high quality, sustainable fields for soccer and lacrosse that can be accommodated by the plot of land.
Any additional comments?	Let's be forward thinking on this issue! We have an opportunity to reinvigorate a sizable Edina community asset that for several years has been highly underutilized. To my knowledge, Edina has few, if any, sizable pieces of land that can be redeveloped for the good of our community and field sports. programs.
Name	Gordon Wright
Phone	612-810-9771
Email	gordonpwright@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 6:25 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/24/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	We absolutely need more rectangular sports fields in Edina! Our families are so tired of driving to other communities for soccer and lacrosse, and heaven forbid you are a team manager and need to book a field or reschedule something!! MORE FIELDS!!!
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Warming house would be great - and perhaps the ability to sell concessions for games and tournaments.
Any additional comments?	MORE FIELDS PLEASE!!!!
Name	Dawn Martin
Phone	612-964-8989
Email	dawn.martin@biworldwide.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 3:14 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/25/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

<p>Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.</p>	<p>A park that provides year-round amenities for all residents--not just those living adjacent to it; one that is not a drain on city resources/funds and potentially makes money for the city for the overall park/rec budget; and, finally, one that is respectful of property-owners adjacent to the park. I know that it is a tall order, but I believe it can be done and that the city is on the right path.</p>
<p>In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?</p>	<p>My feedback above is over-arching. Here are some specific amenities to consider: YES to amenities like walking/biking paths, a playground, and beautiful gardens. Potentially a community garden. And, maybe some picnic areas to reserve/rent for family gatherings or even small business events. Perhaps an area to rent for weddings? It's my understanding that wedding/reception sites are profitable and needed in the suburbs. Although I agree with the reasons to close The Fred as Par 3 course, perhaps an area could be dedicated to a golf practice area with a small putting course, chipping/pitching. These are great skills to develop for both the beginner and experienced golfer. A practice facility could be used for golf lessons, also. For year-round use, some winter attractions like cross-country skiing, snow shoeing or ice skating. I know that Edina needs sports fields and although the adjoining property owners are against it, I wonder if there is a way to provide that and be respectful to homeowners. Many of the amenities I've suggested have wide appeal, but if I was being completely self-centered, I would love to see an outdoor bocce court :) NO to an equestrian center. I love horses, but dedicating public space to just one interest group is not the way to go. Edina has too much density for horses...perhaps a suburb like Credit River would be more appropriate.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>I do understand that adjacent homeowners are</p>

	concerned about the changes in their neighborhood and quality of life. For years they have had a summer-only public park adjoining their backyards. For that reason, I think planning and redevelopment should include a buffer area or planned in a way to be respectful to those residents.
Name	Connie Carrino
Email	crcarrino@q.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 8:29 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/26/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	I am pleading for a dog park with enough space and trees for dogs and their owners to have a meaningful experience. Dogs need shade and squirrels to chase. I will refrain from commenting on our current dog park(s) and just tell you that I need to drive to other cities for a decent walk.
In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?	Leave it treed and wild. Put some walking paths and separate bike paths and just leave it alone. Maybe some restrooms. We don't have any 'wild' spaces - all the natural spots have been 'improved'. And make a separate dog park with an area for small dogs.
Any additional comments?	Walking dogs on sidewalks will be much more difficult with the addition of bicycles. How can we consider adding horses when are family pets are not treated as well as neighboring communities? Or buy the empty land on 39th and France and make that an official dog park?
Name	JoAnn Hillstrom
Phone	952-929-4160
Email	jahillst@yahoo.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Saturday, June 28, 2014 12:12 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 06/28/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	Equestrian center
Name	Jill Scullard

-Edina Team.

Notes from Council Work Session on August 4th

- Be cautious about indoor play as Edina has that at Edinborough
- Like balance of active/passive use
- Like buffer on north end; want more input on this
- Keep access to south; be thoughtful about access from north
- Urban ag – could be area for young kids – place for older & younger kids; or could be unstructured fields with paths and connected to rest of park
- Play area – need nature-based play area; esp. for those w/disabilities
- Provide lots of outdoor seating near clubhouse
- Field games – allow for unorganized sports
- Support parkway – provides access & parking
- Consider themed areas for western area – picnic area, bird area, reflection pond, etc.
- Play areas are a greater need than urban ag
- Like diverse uses for diverse people
- Provide gazebo somewhere
- Look at Brooklyn Bridge Park – has play spaces by age group
- Concern re: parking for urban ag
- Have we done a global search for uniqueness? Need cutting-edge land uses over next 100 years
- Question re: notification process. A notice was mailed to 1500 homes near The Fred during the 1st week of June about the re-purposing process

Notes from Park Board Work Session on August 11th

- Want schematics of picnic areas
- Concerns re: stagnant water – design for flow to address this
- Internal trails – create loops of varying distances
- Discussion re: winter uses – skiing, snowshoeing, skating etc.
- Clubhouse could be used as home for nature-type activities
- Demonstrate age-specific play areas – eg – south part of north arm
- Report should provide input on capital and maintenance costs. Concern re: is there more spending in the SE part of city?
- North arm ideas – apple orchard (history), prairie orchard, dog agility area, tot-size maze, stone building (quarry history)

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 10:22 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 07/30/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

<p>Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.</p>	<p>My neighbor was at the July 30th meeting, and I am very concerned about the poor communication of that meeting. The city did not have the meeting on their main webpage and they did not put it on facebook or tweet about the meeting. They could have included a link to the slides if the consultant or the city really wanted to communicate with the residents. The slides were ready, why weren't the current slides available before the meeting.</p>
<p>In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?</p>	<p>If there is a community garden, it should only be available to Edina residents. And there should be No Parking on Kellogg.</p>

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2014 4:09 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 07/31/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?	Very opposed to the current vision. I especially don't like the agriculture and sports fields. I am not interested in large areas of water that are covered in green scum (look at Normandale Park in Bloomington for reference).
Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?	The area should stay an executive golf course- it is the best use of the land, it is profitable, paid off and serves both young and old. Spend the money on marketing an already fabulous asset.
Any additional comments?	Residents of Edina are not being heard on this issue- Why?

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Friday, August 01, 2014 3:55 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/01/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?	This is not the vision I had expected the city of edina to develop in replacement of a extrodinary asset as Fred Richards. How is a Urban Agriculture Area reflective of the homeowners in Edina and this South Corneilia area? This proposal is less inclusive than Fred Richards as a golf course as users. This is not what i would support at all.I
Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?	Yes, Fred Richards Golf course should stay as is and additional ammenties such as footgolf, slack lining, frisbie golf and winter activities to add revenue and usage. We are a family community that values athletic family orientced activities
Any additional comments?	yes, this is a terrible location for the urban agricultural area with access only from the south. Which means increased traffic in the neighborhoods and trespassing on propertys because there is not good access to this garden. This should not be one of the options on the table. What other options is the City proposing. the city promised that we would get several solutions presented to teh neighbors and there is nothing interesting that meets the needs of the community. Seniors, teenagers and non gardeners are not represented with this solution. Once again, the city is excluding options that are best in class and are not opening up discussion and solutions with the neighborhoods.
Name	Colleen Wolfe
Email	colleenwolfe5@comcast.net

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Friday, August 01, 2014 11:16 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 08/02/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

<p>Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.</p>	<p>In your power point slides the area of the Urban Agriculture seems like a bad fit. The city said it wanted to use the land for many people, this large area for urban farming is using a large amount of space for very few people. You have such a large narrow area, with only access from the south, boarded by private homes and townhouses. On the last walk through, you said that area was being looked at for passive play area. It currently is used by people for many passive things; to fly kites, Frisbee playing, kids play with soccer balls all the time. In the spring when it floods, kids feed the ducks for month there is so much standing water.</p>
<p>In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?</p>	<p>Wouldn't it be better to put the urban farm on just north of the bike path, where hole 1 and 2 are right now. Then there could be multiple ways to enter the Urban Farm so people don't have to carry things so very far, lots of close parking, the bikers would have something to look at, and the tenants in the new office space could utilize the farm during the day. Cornelia Elementary already has a vegetable garden, and a friendship garden that they use for instruction.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>The homes on Kellogg, Gilford, Oaklawn and the town homes just to the east of the park are being disproportionately disadvantaged with the design in the power point. Why is there walking paths on 2/3 of the park where the more expensive homes are, and all the active use amenities are where the less expense home boarder the park property. Please be fair about how you allocate the space and do not cater to the wealthier families.</p>

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Sunday, August 03, 2014 4:50 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/03/2014 via: edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

<p>Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?</p>	<p>As a resident of Kellogg Ave, I am concerned about the traffic, parking and noise levels that will be generated by the proposed sports fields. Kellogg is a quiet street where neighbors can walk and young kids are safe on bikes. The street's character and low traffic should remain as it is today. The circle at the end of Kellogg should not become a drop off zone for players nor should Kellogg and parts of Sedum bear the brunt of parking generated by the athletic fields. It does appear this would be the quickest access to the fields. I think the impact upon neighbors of the noise generated by the athletic fields has been highly underestimated. Our summers months are so short and neighbors enjoy evenings in their yards. The sounds of whistles, yelling and cars parking on our streets every evening until 8:00 and on Saturdays would be quite unpleasant. I very much appreciate that the fields would not have lighting! I am also concerned about the potential urban agriculture. Again, the closest access is Kellogg Ave and a cut through of neighboring yards or at the Kellogg circle. This raises parking, privacy and safety concerns. Finally, I am concerned that a Parkway will simply generate closer business traffic. Is there a plan for signage to direct park goers to the parkway or designated parking areas and away from the neighborhood streets?</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>Summer months are a difficult time to be asking for input and meeting attendance on this important project. Cabins and vacation schedules result in poor attendance at meetings, but not a lack of concern from impacted neighbors. Thank you for asking for and considering my input.</p>
<p>Name</p>	<p>Laura Berzinski</p>
<p>Email</p>	<p>berzinski@comcast.net</p>

Phone	952-929-3441
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-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Monday, August 04, 2014 11:21 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/04/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

<p>Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?</p>	<p>I live at 7408 Kellogg and I am writing to strongly object to the City's consideration of urban agriculture for the Lake Edina Park as part of the Conceptual Vision Master Plan for many reasons. For the City to even consider this as a concept throws out the Comprehensive Plan for the City and demonstrates the City's complete disregard for peoples reasonable expectation that the Edina will follow its Comprehensive Plan. Lake Edina Park is used as a mini park for many passive uses. My children are school aged and use the park for everything from playing tag, to just about any game that involves a ball. When they were little the neighborhood organized a Saturday baseball in the park for the kids. Just this weekend I saw a family I didn't know on the north end of Lake Edina Park playing with a soccer ball and a portable net. It's common to see families out with Frisbees, kites, small electronic planes and many other passive uses in the park.. In 2008, Edina spent a great deal of time, money and hired an outside consultant to come up with a plan for development, environmental stewardship and parks and recreation within the City that would carry us well into the next decades. The mere thought of urban agriculture on the Lake Edina Park site, crumples up and throws away this plan on several levels.</p>
<p>Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?</p>	<p>Winter Activities, such as a hockey area using one of the golf buildings as a warming house.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>The Comprehensive Plan contained a specific section on Parks, Open Space, and Natural Resources that was intended to guide the Council, staff and their respective consultants on creating "Community through People, Parks and Programs" which form the boundaries and plans for all Edina Parks in the future. As part of this effort at visioning, the Park and</p>

Recreation Department of the City set up a classification system for the City based mostly on the size of parks. This included a classification for what is called "Mini-Parks." These small parks are: "characterized by a size of approximately 2 acres or less and is designed to serve primarily the needs of pre-school age children, although it may provide facilities to serve the needs of other age groups. Edina's Mini-Parks typically do not have scheduled athletic facilities. Mini-Parks are typically used to address limited isolated recreational needs. Service Area - ¼ mile." Lake Edina Park is listed as a Mini Park in the Comprehensive Plan and the Council must not ignore the guidance from the Comp Plan as it relates to Mini-Parks. Nowhere in the Comprehensive Plan does it refer to "Urban Agriculture" as a component of Edina's Mini Parks and the very idea goes directly against the agreed elements of the plan. Urban Agriculture does not serve the recreational needs of the pre-school age children. Urban agriculture is intended to provide self sufficient food production at its highest and best use. Before this plan goes any further the need for Edina residents for urban agriculture needs to be clarified. Urban Agriculture is not an isolated recreational need as also dictated by the Comprehensive plan. Farming and gardening are not the types of recreation contemplated in the plan. Regardless of the vision for adjoining property like Fred Richards golf course, this is an urban parcel. There are many new family's that border this parcel who need a recreational area for children to run, play games and generally enjoy open passive use space and the Consultant has failed to recognize this need in its study as shown by the current proposal using the space that is Lake Edina Park. Lastly, from an environmental standpoint, there is a good chance that this parcel is an undocumented seasonal wetland as defined by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Many neighbors' report long periods of standing water on the Lake Edina Park parcel during the spring and other times during the year. While not delineated at this time, in order for the City to abide by one of its primary goals of protecting existing natural resources, it must investigate this possibility before making any further investigation of an urban agriculture. Wetland issues may prevent any such redevelopment in the future because of restrictions pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act, Section 404. Furthermore, Lake Edina Park was never studied under any environmental review for any of the other

	<p>surrounding projects and we think that the City as the Responsible Governmental Unit needs to undertake an Environmental Review as required by the Minnesota Environmental Review Act before undertaking any further action on this project. Together these elements demonstrate the folly in pursuing urban agriculture at Lake Edina Park. If the City proceeds it would be as if the Comprehensive Plan means nothing and no resident should be able to reasonably rely on this document in the future. It would be the same as rejecting any input from the Planning Commission or Parks and Recreational Commission or the Energy and Environment Commission.</p>
Name	Laura Schleck
Email	dschleck@comcast.net
Phone	952-925-5847

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 2014 5:43 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/05/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

<p>Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?</p>	<p>The information provided for the south and west areas appears to be appropriate. For the current Lake Edina Park space, there is little explanation regarding the "urban agriculture" area. Where is the access going to be? Is the bike trail installed last year going to be removed and relocated to the south side with the regional trail? Also, for the urban agricultural area, this is about a 7 acre parcel. How are users going to access their gardens on the north end? They certainly are not going to walk with equipment to the far end; they will use a vehicle to drive up to the garden or park on Kellogg or Gilford and walk through the residential yards to access. One item not mentioned is limiting vehicle access to the park from the north side; it states just pedestrian access limitations. Vehicular traffic needs to be limited to just from the south and east sides. Also regarding the urban agricultural area: is the city going to remove the stately cottonwood trees at the north end of Lake Edina Park? I would not want to see these removed. As a resident of this area, I'd prefer that Lake Edina Park remain a park for passive use only.</p>
<p>Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?</p>	<p>I think that a nice conversion of the Fred Richards golf course would be to change it to footgolf. It's a growing sport, would minimize cost conversion, and would effectively appeal to the teenage crowd that the city desires.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>Residential properties that are within the area where more active park uses are desired should receive a property tax reduction and privacy screening costs should be included to be covered by the city, i.e. fencing costs for all properties backing up to an active area such as urban agriculture.</p>
<p>Name</p>	<p>Brian Machart</p>

Email	machartfamily5@gmail.com
Phone	952-997-2988

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:57 AM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/07/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?

I am dismayed to see that my home on Gilford Dr., which borders Lake Edina Park, will now look upon community gardens whose upkeep is up to random individuals. This brings increased foot traffic and is of no benefit to me or my neighbors. Public land, for a few to garden? Also, have you no awareness of the water that pools in Lake Edina Park after heavy rainfalls? That does not function well as an agricultural field. Beyond that, we get to deal with the noise and congestion of athletic fields? It really appears that one end of this land is being slammed with activities that will bring in higher numbers of people and the noise and issues that brings. People will park on our street and cut through. They do it now on a minimal basis to access the park and golf course. This will only increase with this plan. I realize I live by public land, but what the city does with public land comes with a responsibility for the city to not create a situation that promotes intrusion on private citizens and their property. I have every right to be concerned about the value and safety of my property, my greatest financial investment, being negatively impacted by this plan and I don't feel that is adequately addressed in this plan.

Name	Rachel Christian
Email	r_christian1@aol.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 12:24 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/07/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

<p>Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?</p>	<p>First there was the millions of dollars of unforeseen cost over runs with the Braemar sports dome. Now the City Council is trying to justify their vote to close Fred Richards golf course based on a questionable annual operating loss. Then without a blink, they propose a re-purpose of the land at the cost of 10's of millions of dollars!!! Where is the "Stewardship of tax payers dollars" that was referred to during all of the council meetings this past year??? The council continues to make decisions, spend tax dollars and cast votes without examining all the options and costs. The vote on Fred Richards should have included the cost of re-purposing!! It does not matter if the costs are coming out of the golf operation or the park and rec budget. Costs are costs and all but a couple of council members should be ashamed to claim "stewardship". This mismanagement of public funds should be an embarrassment.</p>
<p>Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?</p>	<p>It should be re-purposed back to a golf operation. Even at a loss it would take 100's of years of losses before it would cost the city what the proposed re-purpose will cost.</p>
<p>Any additional comments?</p>	<p>The individuals who compiled the proposal to close Fred Richards should have done their jobs in presenting a comprehensive plan that should have included the cost of re-purposing. The job that was done by our city manager and park & rec director exhibits a gross offense of incompetence and poor management. A result of of either laziness or lack of experience. Neither of which should be tolerated. It is time to take a step back and gather ALL of the facts before making a decision that will cost tax payers millions of dollars.</p>
<p>Name</p>	<p>Tim McNamara</p>

Email	tim@mcpub.net
Phone	952-926-6154

-Edina Team.



The CITY of
EDINA

...For living, learning, raising families & doing business

Fred Richards Repurpose Process Public Open House June 12 – Comments Welcome!

Background:

- At the March 18, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council accepted the recommendation of staff and the Park Board to close Fred Richards Golf Course at the end of the 2014 season.
- At the April 22, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council authorized a consulting services proposal for a reuse study and visioning for a master plan for Fred Richards Golf Course.
- The city will use an inclusive public input process in order to create a park design plan for the future of Fred Richards Park.

Please provide input on this important project for the City of Edina!

1. Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards:

play ground and a park where children can
play and have fun.

2. In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?

a Basketball Court

3. Any additional comments?

Thank you

**Please drop off or mail to: Parks & Recreation Department 4801 W. 50th Street, Edina, MN 55424
Or, you may complete this form online at: <http://edinamn.gov/fred-richards-repurpose>.**

Optional:

Your name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!



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Fred Richards Repurpose Process Public Open House June 12 – Comments Welcome!

Background:

- At the March 18, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council accepted the recommendation of staff and the Park Board to close Fred Richards Golf Course at the end of the 2014 season.
- At the April 22, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council authorized a consulting services proposal for a reuse study and visioning for a master plan for Fred Richards Golf Course.
- The city will use an inclusive public input process in order to create a park design plan for the future of Fred Richards Park.

Please provide input on this important project for the City of Edina!

1. Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards:

1. Play Ground
2. Skating path
3. Walking path
4. Fountain in the middle of the park
5. Decorated with flowers parks

2. In addition to the ideas you listed above, what specific amenities and/or activities would you like to see accommodated at Fred Richards?

1. Monthly children programmes
2. Yoga center
3. Various programs which will attract with all age groups.

3. Any additional comments?

Please drop off or mail to: Parks & Recreation Department 4801 W. 50th Street, Edina, MN 55424

Or, you may complete this form online at: <http://edinamn.gov/fred-richards-repurpose>.

Optional:

Your name: Srimathi Sivadevan

Email: Srimathi.sivadevan@gmail.com

Phone: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!



The CITY of
EDINA

For living, learning, raising families & doing business

Fred Richards Repurpose Process Public Open House July 30th – Comments Welcome!

Background:

- At the March 18, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council accepted the recommendation of staff and the Park Board to close Fred Richards Golf Course at the end of the 2014 season.
- At the April 22, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council authorized a consulting services proposal for a reuse study and visioning for a master plan for Fred Richards Golf Course.
- At the Public Open House on July 30th, resident feedback to potential site amenities will be solicited based on information gathered at open houses, site walks and surveys. The overall vision for repurposing Fred Richards will be discussed based on information received from residents.

Please provide input on this important project for the City of Edina!

1. Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards.

2. Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that are not reflected in the current vision?

Soccer Golf

Miniature Golf Course - large course like what's at Wisconsin Dells. There is a good one at Wabasha Minnesota also. You have water there for fun holes. Fun games for families and youngsters of all ages

3. Any additional comments?

We need something for additional income for the city we need some activities for seniors. Seniors don't want a place to walk.

✓ Please drop off or mail to: Parks & Recreation Department 4801 W. 50th Street Edina, MN 55424

Optional:

Your name:

Jim Halverson

Email:

JPHALVERS@gmail.com

Phone:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!



The CITY of
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For living, learning, raising families & doing business

Fred Richards Repurpose Process Public Open House July 30th – Comments Welcome!

Background:

- At the March 18, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council accepted the recommendation of staff and the Park Board to close Fred Richards Golf Course at the end of the 2014 season.
- At the April 22, 2014 City Council meeting, the City Council authorized a consulting services proposal for a reuse study and visioning for a master plan for Fred Richards Golf Course.
- At the Public Open House on July 30th, resident feedback to potential site amenities will be solicited based on information gathered at open houses, site walks and surveys. The overall vision for repurposing Fred Richards will be discussed based on information received from residents.

Please provide input on this important project for the City of Edina!

1. Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards.

Short sited, there needs to be
access to an executive course in Edina
when the driving range is redone

2. Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that are not reflected in the current vision?

not a vehicle for putting on park developers
to "sell" their space. Not any water
run off from the putting green area into
the park.

3. Any additional comments?

not a sand box play area

Please link slides to a tweet before the meeting

✓ Please drop off or mail to: Parks & Recreation Department 4801 W. 50th Street Edina, MN 55424

Optional:

Your name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 4:02 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/07/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?	The "Adventure Area" description is vague. It would be unappealing to teens. Having a climbing wall is laughable - they are a bit passe and are not used at other parks. I hope the space provided for sports playing fields accomodates at least 2 soccer-sized fields. Soccer is growing and growing in Edina (ESC has more teams than ever) and fields are hard to come by. I do not have strong opinions one way or the other about the other features of the proposal.
Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?	Batting cages would be fun for teens and would not take up too much room. Maybe some kind of maze too. There needs to be more creativity and innovative ideas. What do the other cities in the area not already have?
Any additional comments?	Futsal is, by definition, an indoor sport.
Name	Tia Smythe
Email	tiasmythe@gmail.com

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:39 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process form has been submitted on 08/07/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey

Please describe the type of park you would like to see created at Fred Richards.	Leave as is, very nice golf course for older people to play
Any additional comments?	We as older people need more golf courses that we can enjoy!

-Edina Team.

Janet Canton

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 10:18 AM
To: Ann Kattreh; Janet Canton
Subject: FW: Fred Richards Golf Course

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Ann Kattreh and Janet Canton.



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: MIKE SUSAN MCGOLDRICK [<mailto:smmcgoldy@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 9:16 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fred Richards Golf Course

I don't normally send emails regarding issues within the city, but due to how the Fred Richards closing process has been handled, I needed to voice my opinion to the city council.

Although, I understand the financial challenges with Fred Richards in the future, I don't know why there is a rush to close it at the end of this year. When I saw the costs and improvements needed in the presentation earlier this year, most of the large expenses and improvements weren't needed until several years in the future.

What is more concerning, is the recent news that the upgrades to the executive course at Braemar will not be completed by next golf season, so the city will be left with no executive course for the golf season next year.

My son played in the Friday morning junior golf league at Fred Richards this year and if that course is closed and the executive course at Braemar is still being updated, where will all of the junior golfers in Edina play next summer?

I don't understand the rush to close Fred Richards at the end of this year. Can you please consider keeping it open until the Braemar renovation is complete, otherwise junior golfers will be left with nowhere to play next season.

I look forward to seeing your reply and action on this important issue so that junior golfers are not left with nowhere to play next year.

Mike McGoldrick
952-922-0986

August 9, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

Having attended the meetings on the Fred Richards conversion to a park, I am compelled to point out what I feel is needed for a logical decision and some factual observations regarding this area:

1. An actual topographical site map showing the areas that have sub soil conditioning is needed to help decide which areas have the highest possibility of having a level, stable surface. It has worked for years in that the fairways look stable and level after 20 years.
2. We spent a lot of money 20 years ago digging out many areas, then laid down nylon mesh and backfilled. It worked.
3. Are we trying to solve some sort of water ponding issue? Leave the ponds as they are in that it is adequate for us in the area. The sketched plans show many more ponding areas. What's the square footage of ponds now as versus what is proposed?
4. The input from the adjacent residences, I believe, is that the sector proposed for facilities is preferred to be on the south side, i.e., the 77th Street side. The sketch shows that the active play area is concentrated in the northeast side of the park. Nothing along the 77th Street side. The consultant's answer is that is because of some sort of soil condition. Back to number 1. It's a guess. But there is currently a water hazard (i.e. pond) in that area now; not particularly suitable for a stable playground.
5. The proposed parkway on the south side is the perfect place for parking on the roadway or for access to parking areas in the south sector of the park. This then would suggest the sporting/play facilities should again be on the south side.
6. The proposed garden area or agriculture area is in what is now a buffer zone between residential single homes and apartment areas. This area has been used as an informal general use area for the people (apartments and single-family home residents) for 50 years. It has worked well, but is not heavily used, which says something about needs for our area, but I see kids, 2 or 3 throwing a football, etc., kite flying, soccer games, Frisbee throwing, etc., is what I observe. This is an overflow/flood ponding area taking water from Parklawn Avenue. From time to time there is standing water for a while; I would say, 1 year in 3. As this area is used now, it is not a big deal and informal use is not interrupted. Leave it alone.
7. I believe the consultant leaves much to be desired. He says, again and again, nothing is final. The council will decide. Consultants are hired to provide expert knowledge in specific areas of design that the council does not have expertise in. He mentioned sand boxes which are no longer installed because of the risk of infectious disease, etc. It bothered me that he was not aware of this. We need a more competent consultant. A breath of fresh air was stated by our mayor at the council group meeting that nothing of inventiveness was presented by our consultant. He gets my vote.

I have lived at 7505 Kellogg Avenue, the last house adjacent to the park, for 40 years. The decisions on the park have a direct impact on my financial investment, which now looks negative.

Sincerely,



Arthur G. Lowell
7505 Kellogg Avenue S.

Janet Canton

From: jbennerotte@EdinaMN.gov
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2014 1:23 PM
To: Janet Canton
Subject: Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form submission

Hi,

A Fred Richards Repurpose Process Vision Survey form has been submitted on 08/11/2014 via:
edinamn.gov/index.php?section=fred-repurpose-survey-vision

<p>Please describe your overall reaction to the vision for Fred Richards?</p>	<p>The combination of activities on the city is appealing. However, the City continues to look at this site in isolation from its other needs. Currently, Edina has a community center only because the school district has excess space at the former Edina East High School. I have heard many people say that within 10 years, the school district will want to take back all the space, leaving Edina with no community center. There is a limited amount of developable public land in Edina for such a facility. The current facility is not adequate or competitive with what is provided by neighboring competing community, and the long-term planning of a new community center needs to have a higher priority than it is currently being given. There is a portion of the Fred Richards site that would be ideal for a community center in terms of access - the extreme SW corner. It is right off of Highway 100 and could be easily accessed from anywhere in the city. It could have shared parking with the Pentagon Park reconstruction, given that that business center's parking lots are likely to be relatively empty in the evening hours. The other possible site, right across Highway 100, from City Hall, would also be good, but again in that case, it is being looked as another development project, rather than as an opportunity to put in additional city infrastructure. Either location could be made to work, and I'm not aware of any other public land that is available. Please wake up and deal with the City's long-term needs, rather than looking for a quick and painless fix.</p>
<p>Are there any specific amenities and/or activities you would like to see that <u>are not reflected</u> in the current vision?</p>	<p>Community center in the SW part of the Fred Richards property, developed as part of a Master Plan with the Pentagon Park redevelopment. And please, buffering was necessary before because the Pentagon Park Buildings were very ugly and didn't age well. The City needs to apply high design standards to that property, that would complement a modern</p>

	community center.
Any additional comments?	<p>I'm glad to see that the city is talking about additional community garden space and it does appear that the space is appropriate for the use. However, it has the disadvantage of being located in the City's SW quadrant, when really to improve access to community gardens, it would be better to have space in the other three sectors of the city. Also, please keep in mind that the city is doing little now for adult recreation, focusing almost entirely on youth. To have a healthy community, we need to go beyond providing golf courses and walking paths, but putting in other programs and facilities that appeal to middle aged and older adults. We have no adult soccer leagues - at least as far as I'm aware. It is a sport people can easily play into their 50s. I would like to see the City develop outdoor recreation programs and services specifically for middle aged and older adults. If all the current fields are taken up by youth sports, then maybe Fred Richards should be a place where we start doing more sports programming for adults. Again, we only do this if this is part of a larger vision for Edina - a piece in the puzzle that makes Edina a better and healthier place to live for all who live and work here. Finally, you will get far more feedback and a wider cross section of the public if you rely more on surveys and less on public meetings. Public meetings are places where the people who loud voices and a personal agenda show up, who may be less likely to think about the good of the community rather than "what is in it for them."</p>
Name	Joel R. Stegner
Email	joel.r.stegner@gmail.com
Phone	952-843-3440

-Edina Team.

Summary of Comments from 9.23.14 Open House (by slide)

1. Fred Richards Vision Master Plan

- Until the plans are finalized for Hillcrest ramps, I feel the area should stay as is
- Parkway should only provide access to park – business access from 77th
- Are the developers going to contribute: financially, engineering, plan input, donate structures in their name
- Developer – Number of stories per building? Parking ramp? Prefer situated as far from park as possible.

2. Parkway Corridor and Regional Trail

- Will the public have any say on how the design will evolve as part of a coordinated effort with Pentagon Park development?
- Open parkland will greatly benefit developer. How much is it contributing to the funding of this project?
- The traffic issue from 77th - to what direction on France? Can France handle any more?

3. Internal Park Trails, Promenades and Boardwalks

- Neighborhood could benefit from a circular bike route
- Why isn't the bike trail marked on the maps?
- Potential traffic on Kellogg & parking
- Concerns re: field noise – esp. 5-8 M
- Which of the trails are paved?
- "Promenades" "Boardwalks" – sounds like another Centennial Lakes. Can't it be more natural like Bredeson?
- Fields would have less impact on office space than residential area – move it closer to parking; away from homes

4. Community Activities and Events Area

- Show amount of actual/projected parking
- It would be helpful to label the types of paths
- Is there going to be space for the Edina Arts Center to use? Film festival?
- Idea: Urban farm to teach not only children but adults – farm to table
- Urban farm – grow & teach & sell produce to community and help fund the maintenance of this park

5. Adventure Play Area

- Footgolf!
- Plans for ice rinks on shallow ponds in winter?

- Field games – Level? Type? Ages? No. of fields? Parking for fields?

6. Field Games Area

- No park-related parking allowed on Kellogg south of Hibiscus or Sedum east of West Shore Drive please
- How should sound from the park be buffered from the neighbors to the north & particularly summer evenings
- Kellogg Ave – only access from the north – traffic & parking generated fields
- Please keep character of Kellogg as it is. It is a quiet street where kids can bike & walk
- Should not include soccer or baseball fields. Traffic on the north neighborhoods.
- No lights
- Field areas generate the most noise & traffic. Would be better to place them farther from neighborhood
- With the new fields at Pamela & Braemar why do we need more fields for games?
- Are more fields really needed at the cost of the neighborhood's peaceful character?
- Important that fields do not have lights
- No parking on north side
- Like the fact that there are trails on the north side and around the property
- If the field games are near Kellogg people will park on Kellogg. Move field games west and south
- Noise buffer – noise generated by fields – whistles, cars, yelling. This is a quiet area now – we enjoy the peace. Concerned about noise level 5-8 PM every summer evening

7. Open Parkland Area – General (none)

8. Open Parkland Area – North Arm

- Prefer dirt trails
- Keep open gam area generic. Don't put in specific sport fields.
- No ballfield lights. Only light pollution friendly lighting for safety on trails. No sports allowed in evenings.
- Limit fertilizers. Keep environmentally friendly.
- Make pedestrian access from parking lots to park safe. Markings and crosswalks on parkway to give pedestrian ROW. Think about where Nine Mile RT & peds cross.
- I believe the city has a plan to have the Pentagon Park developer pay to create this park. This is city land and only city money should be used to pay to develop the park.
- I like the trails going around the whole park

9. Naturalized Buffers

- Noise buffer needed for fields
- Restrict bike traffic to be separate from foot traffic on paths. Safety issue.

- Limit parking on Parkway to keep flow of traffic moving. Also keep speed limit down on Parkway to eliminate thru traffic
- Move field games area SW of existing proposal to encourage access from Pentagon Park lots.
- Limit traffic thru North neighborhood. Parking permit for homeowners on Sedum and Kellogg
- No parking for others