

Question Report

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Topic

Olbrich Park - North Parcel Park Development Plan

Question Details

#	Question
1	There are many environmental and safety concerns with dog parks, has this been taken into consideration?
2	How many attendees are on this call?
3	What is the planning for additional bike parking? Given proximity to the bike path and current ratio of car:bike parking this seems
4	Has there been studies/ analysis of wildlife habitat and impact of project?
5	Could you please share a bit more about how you'll navigate the design and decisionmaking process with this and subsequent feedback?
6	What percent of respondents said they wanted less than 50-75 parking spots?
7	Do you have any estimate of how many people will be using the parcel, regardless of which plan is chosen? That affects need for
8	There are existing walking trails in this parcel/area. Would those be maintained as walking trails in either plan?
9	Can you describe the dog park permit process? Is that included with dog licensing fees? Or would someone be checking if folks have a permit when they're using the park?
10	Please PLEASE consider permeable paving for what parking you do install (least possible please). Given the wetlands/floodplain
11	honestly why are we even developing the land? it's a nice nature area already. could use the money somewhere else
12	(Agree with Ian Jamison's comments)
13	33% of Wisconsin households have dogs (stat from World Population Review). This is more than the 26% of households with children (stat from US Census data). With the city encouraging increased density in housing a dog park becomes more and more necessary.
14	The current North Plat represents a precious, irreplaceable corridor for wildlife and birds migrating along a major local flyway. Dogs, bikes and paving already threaten wildlife and the quiet of this treasured neighborhood sanctuary. Why did you offer no option to
15	It's clear from reading the survey comments that inclusion of a dog park has a lot of opposition from non-dog owners, who also opposed the inclusion of an off-leash dog park at two other nearby parks. Many on social media have suggested that residents travel
16	Is there anything about the environmental remediation process that might affect the development plan? For example, would certain
17	Paul the naturalist from Madison Park walks. Thanks for your comment!
18	The presentation made NO mention of the relationship between these improvements and the Garver Mill site. Please describe in
19	If we weren't paving over a ton of this park space, there'd be more space for dogs and natural space
20	can't we put dog park in olbrich on garrison where there's already a bunch of open space no one uses
21	As a dog owner in the neighborhood, I often see other dog owners with off leash dogs in parks and sidewalks. Having a dog park within walking distance of the neighborhood could decrease the off leash presence of dogs elsewhere in the neighborhood, which is
22	Has there been any consideration to changing the cars driving on the connection between bike paths on the south side by Olbrich Maintenance Building? With the dumpsters in the way it is hard to see cars coming. It doesn't seem like the cars need to be driving on that segment and has caused safety concerns.
23	The current wild area of the North Plat includes resident-created and -used narrow walking paths. Will these be retained? And what
24	Keeping it natural with no parking lot will help with flood control.
25	RE: offleash dogs in a potential dog park: If there is a water feature, how would it be connected to the already-polluted wetlands, and
26	The presence of dog parks are famously hostile to thriving wildlife. Yet all past planning for thid North Plat have extolled as a 'green corridor' link to the Voit property and northward. Why impair this corridor?
27	Are there any emerging plans for how this parcel and surrounding area might sync up with the former Voit Farms area?
28	Would love to see an off leash park in the area but I don't think this is the right space.
29	Why the focus on plazas, and turf areas with Garver Feed Mill across the parking area, and OB Sherry, and the Olbrich park so close by? How do we get a nature, water study for the park if one is not provided? I'm not a naturalist but I've seen lots of wildlife and it is a watershed. It seems like an essential especially if a parking lot is planned.
30	The current planning maps do not appear to show the existing trail along the north of the property (along the creek). Connecting this trail to the proposed trails would make a lovely loop for a walking path through the park.
31	A dog park is a terrible idea. We don't need to add an another use to the area that will add additional parking demand. Dog waste is a threat to the health of the creek. There are plenty of open grass fields in the area and the greatest need in this area is for more unmowed natural areas, both prairie and woodland. We need to restore and increase natural landscapes, both for native wildlife and
32	I think everyone needs to remember that the current "natural area" is on contaminated soil as he mentioned, and so likely all current plants there need to be removed, soil capped, and area replanted. No matter the plan, the area still needs to get cleaned up and so all current "nature" people keep talking about does have to get removed to help the health of the existing area and wildlife!!
33	I agree with the comments regarding keeping this area in its natural state, albeit, with some soil and wetland remediation due to toxic substances. Leave it natural for the wildlife, and improve it with native vegetations and at most, with some walking paths. The
34	It's messed up that the city would pave over a large area of park land as a cost-free gift to a private business to use for vehicle storage. And we'd be constructing it and maintaining it at public expense. Olbrich Park has 5 lots already—a ridiculous amount of parking.

35	As a resident of Garver apartments, I would like to point out that parking needs at Garver Feed Mill are hardly limited to just the winter market; there are often weddings and other special events, sometimes multiple in a couple days' time, and the parking spillover impacts grass and other natural areas, as well as private parking spaces for apartment residents. Many of these event attendees don't live locally, and I see quite a few out-of-state plates attending them; bussing and biking are not options for these folks, so additional parking will be a welcome way to avoid any damage to surrounding areas (opening up the gravel space to parking, the space a lot would be placed, has helped alliviate these issues)
36	Great comment Nicholas!
37	There are many open fields at OB Sherry Park and Olbrich Park that are very rarely used (the most common use is by owners letting their dogs off leash). It would be a shame to replace natural areas with more unused turf.
38	Parking ramps generally cost \$40-45,000 per stall.
39	OB Sherry which is nearby has a lot of just open green lawn. Wonder about a dog park there instead? Could even add a few parking spaces off Leon.
40	(Agree with Tim Wagner)
41	I completely agree with what Nicholas says about what a poor use of the space creation of *more* parking would be (and parking primarily for use by patrons of private businesses). With regard to remediation of contaminated land, please talk about what plans there are to (1) take stock of animals currently inhabiting or ranging through the area and (2) doing due diligence to protect them (if that's even possible) while remediation is happening. Thank you.
42	Thanks Tim for pointing out need for holistic planning that takes into account Voit Farm development.
43	What is the carcinigens from?
44	We have here what COULD be an East Side Arboretum extending from the lakefront to Highway 30 and we're letting it leak through our fingers.
45	I agree with Tim's parking ramp recommendation - if we need to add parking, Garver should put in a ramp on their property. Given that this additional parking would be for Garver, the public shouldn't have to pay for it with our dollars or public space.
46	Where are the carcinigens exactly?
47	Is Parks taking steps to ensure everyone is able to access the park regardless of whether they own a car?
48	I agree with the sentiments about not adding more parking to this space (maybe a few spots for accesibility). I do not understand why we would reduce our greenspace to help out a private company and people who do not live nearby. also, people can bike here. additionally, you say that it is not for garver feed mill, but how do you know it wont just be used this way?
49	that may now be the official rationale, but those businesses are pushing for it because they want to use it. if you're going to allege this is not for them, what actions are you taking to deter and make it clear that this business CANNOT use new parking spots. this feels like talking out of both sides of our mouths
50	responding to comment about parking need, as someone who lives in an adjacent neighborhood, I would much rather have folks parking on my street (which they already do and it's fine!) as an alternative to creating more new parking.
51	I love the fact that this is one of the wilder places in the area that isn't developed - there aren't many places like that nearby. Please keep it underdeveloped and wild. (I think that there are many better places for a dog park, that are already flat and green.)
52	I'd also challenge the idea of accessibility. Accessible for WHO? The poor are less likely to own cars. So are the elderly. Students are less likely to own cars. Non-white folks are less likely. Yet the city is jumping into car facilitation with GUSTO, while walking, busing, a tiny number of ADA spots would better serve these groups
53	The area is a wetland with the associated mosquito population. It doesn't make a lot of sense to have picnic area and children's play area where there will be the ongoing mosquito issue.
54	Given the historical use of the North Plat, we can expect that areas of contamination will vary from place to place. Will the City make available mapping of where the conaminants lie,specifically the contaminants, and in what concentrations?
55	Engineering previously installed a bike path through OBS Park, and two bridges over Starkweather Creek, one at the end of Ivy Street and the other up to Milwaukee Street through a protected wetland. We were told this second bridge would take the form of a ramp clearing the swamp. Instead, construction savaged the wetland-- which may now be irreparable. Word is, Engineering never communicated with Parks as they worked, or they might have done a better job of protecting this environment. Are these Departments communicating now, as you plan changes to the North Plat? Taxpayers need to know that the environment isn't at the bottom of your planning priorities.
56	Betty, thank you for your eloquent remark.
57	"Starkweather Creek in Madison had the highest concentration of PFOA and PFOS among the samples taken by the DNR statewide in 2019." - Wisconsin DNR
58	The parents of Eastmorland are with you Finn!!
59	We are with you Finn! We are one of those families driving to pump tracks. We support a pump track for all the kids in the area.
60	I agree with Betty about making this an educational site. I would add that this area also has historical significance. Native Americans gathered at this junction of waters for many centuries, and remained in this particular area into the first decades of the twentieth century.

61	Just in case we run out of time for me to speak: I'm on Ivy St for 16 years and have at least two or three dogs during this time. I oppose a dog park in this space for the reasons already expressed and I opposed a dog park at OB Sherry because if a tiny dog park gets shoved in a spot that currently exists, we won't have the opportunity to plan for a larger and more appropriately-placed dog park in the Voit farm planning because of proximity.
62	YES TARA!!!! Thank you
63	Voit should be kept primarily as a conservancy, not a dog park. Plus, Voit would not be walking distance for most of our current residents
64	Tara and Cathy, I feel lucky you are my neighbors!
65	I'm hoping Parks is considering current and future park amenities in the area for big picture plans to both preserve a green corridor for wildlife along Starkweather Creek AND amenities for resident uses like dog parks, bike paths and kids play areas. These decisions shouldn't just look at each parcel individually, rather should look at facilities possible in this whole area.
66	Strongly in favor of nature area/ walking trails - something all people can use in park deficient central-east isthmus. Visitors to Garver and Olbrich Gardens would use as well. Already 5 dog parks on east side - by some reports underutilized. Carpool to them!
67	Can this be zoned conservation instead of park playground?
68	Can we get this feedback incorporated into a second round of design options (ideally including options with dog parks in other existing nearby turf at OB Sherry, Olbrich), and send these out as another survey with rank choice voting? I think that would give a better picture of community opinion than the two options in the initial survey.
69	Strongly support the least parking spaces (0-25), the most wild area preserved, increased trails, and no dog park. Green space is harder and harder to come by and as someone said, once it's gone, it's gone. Wild green space is also as mentioned a big draw to the area - not having parking hasn't impacted attendance at Garver events, no reason to believe that limited parking will prevent people from continuing to access green space here.
70	Catjy Debevec. 3 of those 5 parks are tiny.
71	Where will the recording be available?
72	Please send the information for the next meeting to people who attended here tonight. Thanks.
73	thank you!