



Project:	Vilas Park Master Plan	Location:	DeRicci 309 – Edgewood College
MSA Project No.:	15885004	Date:	Sept 23, 2019
Meeting Purpose:	Community Partner Advisory Group	Time:	3:00 – 4:00 pm
Meeting Organizer:	Dan Williams		

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone
Kate Kane	Parks Div., City of Madison	kkane@cityofmadison.com	608-261-9671
Paul Dearlove	Clean Lakes Alliance	paul@cleanlakesalliance.org	608-255-1000
Issis Macias		issis@cleanlakesalliance.org	
Carrie Sanders	Edgewood College	csanders@edgewood.edu	608-663-2847
Tyler Leeper	Wingra Boats	tyler@madisonboats.com	608-233-5332
Gregory Hatzinger	St. Mary’s Hospital	Gregory.hatzinger@ssmhealth.com	
Dave Branson	Union Sportsmen’s Alliance	btrades@sbcglobal.net	608-256-3161
Tim Yanacheck	Mad City Ultras	tyanacheck@gmail.com	608-335-5452
Dan Williams	MSA	dwilliams@msa-ps.com	608-216-2066
Dan Schmitt	MSA	dschmitt@msa-ps.com	608-216-2059
Melissa Huggins	Urban Assets	Melissa@urbanassetconsulting.com	608-819-6566

Directions:

Park in any available lot near the main entrance.

Carrie Sanders will be in the lobby to greet attendees, where they will need to register their vehicles at the Campus Assistance Center – and then will be guided to the room.

Meeting will be held in DeRicci Hall – Room 309.

If you have issues finding the room or have a last-minute conflict and will be unable to attend, please contact Dan Schmitt at (608) 216-2059.

Action Items:

1. Project Introduction 3:00 – 3:15
 - Put presentation on website.
 - Send out survey link to groups. Send ppt and link to group.
2. Partner Role in Project 3:15 – 3:20
3. Open Discussion 3:20 – 3:55

Runners – Not in conflict with any what others are doing except for traffic.

\$3 million for parks for improvements over next few years. What does that buy for the park? Not a lot of money for major redevelopment.

A: Poor condition of roads – improvements have been held off until after plan. \$.5m to improve a parking lot.

What condition substrate?

A: Fill so likely an issue.

A: Landmass made from the bog = poor soil conditions. Lagoons also need to be deeper.

A: Coring boring yielded some problematic conditions. Vilas Park Shelter would take up all of the \$1.5 million.

A: Expect some private donations.

A: ID – long term plans for future support

What parks mean to you?

- 100 K race – takes the whole day. Shorter races only use for ½ day, lots of picnicking & socializing after race; a few go swimming.

What to maintain & enhance?

- Clean water, improve water quality, beaches, good bathrooms, floating lagoons.

What to improve?

- Park and pleasure drive – people park and eat their lunch looking at the lake.
- How could bus fit into park and pleasure drive? Need to provide better public access to the beach and south side of the park and to the zoo.
- Add turn around at zoo lot on the south.
- Standing water on park and pleasure drive at zoo parking lot during rain events.
- Stormwater connected to clean water, start thinking about areas that need attention given limited funding.
- Cars going wrong way on park & pleasure drive. Corner of orchard & park very congested because no left turn.
- Cut weeds so water moves and clean beach. Remove the geese and keep the carp.
- Pass through park for bikes and runners. Is a regional park not necessarily a neighborhood park. Did not embrace Wingra Boats as local resource.
- Opportunity for shelter parking to serve kids games in location of ice-skating rink. Zoo access on the south creates conflicts for other uses. Consider some access to where people should access zoo.
- Need to improve access, especially transit. Difficult to find your way around. Besides shelter, all areas experience conflict with zoo visitors.
- Zoo visitors don't use other activities. No overlap of interests. Same on north end with yoga users.
- Plenty of access at shelter, including parking. Have had up to 200 kids signed up for fishing events.
- Weeds in lagoon an issue.
- Carrie – Does place making activity with her class. Traffic is very frustrating. Difficult to have a leisurely stroll along the lake. Vilas feels car focused.
- Heavily used lake for anglers with boats. Usually launch at Wingra Park. Need bus/trailer parking in Vilas. Provide better access for large number of people with boats. Wingra Park is no fee – potential to add fee to pay for improvements to lake access.
- Putting in fishing pier in helped attract different clientele.
- Renting shelter helps keep competing interests away.
- Shelter reservations are not always observed and can cause conflict for scheduled events.
- Vilas as a community park.

Comments

- 12 years ago – circle ground zero for heroin & prostitution. Should meet with MPD to see how things are now.

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- Madison Fire Department uses the Wingra Launch for access to the lake for emergency rescues.
- Tyler - Only 2% of beach users also visited Zoo (on the same day). Vilas is heavily visited by out of state guests. License plates from 4-5 different states observed regularly. Water quality is an issue because of shallow depth. Clear water promotes vegetation growth due to high nutrient loading.

1. Wrap-up 3:55 – 4:00

Next Meeting to be held in early 2020 to review initial concept plans.