



Project:	Vilas Park Master Plan	Location:	Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, 2001 Taft Street
MSA Project No.:	15885004	Date:	February 10, 2020
Meeting Purpose:	Youth Engagement Workshop	Time:	6:00 pm – 7:45 pm
Meeting Organizer:	Marcus Pearson		

Attendees:

Workshop attendance included seven youth participants, all of a middle school age. Rob Franklin facilitated, with assistance from Marcus Person (Urban Assets) and Matt Frater (MSA). Kate Kane (City of Madison) and Boys and Girls Club staff were also in attendance to assist with activities and provide oversight.

Action Items:

1. Open House and Meal

- A. Pizza and soft drinks were delivered and offered to youth at B&GC for those willing to participate in the activities. Several students offered to participate, while the majority of expected attendance chose not to participate in the event. Over the open house and meal, participants and organizers shared experiences with both the Boys and Girls Club and the Park System at large.

2. Presentation

- A. Marcus (UA) led a short overview of the park site, and what the City is hoping to accomplish through public engagement activities.
- B. During the overview, several participants offered insights about why they utilize Vilas Park. These included:
 - i. General outdoor sports
 - 1. Basketball
 - 2. Field use
 - ii. Water-based activities
 - 1. Fishing
 - 2. Swimming
 - iii. In total, only 2 of 7 participants indicated they had previously been to Vilas Park.

3. P.O.D. (Pic or Draw) Activity

- A. Participants broke into teams to complete a recreation-based scavenger hunt of items common to Vilas Park. Attachment A contains the full scavenger hunt list.

4. Park It Exercise

- A. The Park It exercise is designed for participants to showcase how they use the park system, as well as gauge amenities and activities that would promote use of the park to participant youth and others like them. While some desired amenities are location-specific, others are general desires that youth would wish to be incorporated. The table below contains all activity and amenity mentions, sorted from most to least unique number of mentions.

Amenity	#
Swimming	6
Food/Drink/Refreshments	5
Canoe/Kayak Rental/Launch	5
Flower Garden	4
Basketball Court	4
Playground	4
Restrooms (flushing/all-gender)	4
Public Art/Engagement	4
Bridge (ADA accessible)	4
Fire pits	3
Community Garden	3
Wifi	3
Fishing piers	3
Trees	3
Soccer Field	2
Movies	2
Petting zoo	2
Water amenities (slides, etc.)	2
Stage/Bandshell	2
Dog Park	2
Benches/Seating	2
Football Field	1
Splash Pad	1
Hiking Trails	1
Zipline	1
Open field	1
Volleyball Courts	1
Additional Shelters	1

5. Southside’s Got Talent

- A. The final exercise of the evening engaged participants in creation of stories, song, and dance about park activities. Narrative inclusions revealed unique park preferences of focus, and included the beach and basketball courts.

6. Closing

- A. The meeting closed with rewarding youth for participation, including a participation gift. It was communicated that there will be additional opportunities for engagement, and you were encouraged to continue along in the process.