

Summary of comments received at the Oct 6, 2022 public information meeting regarding the Reindahl Park Master Plan Update:

- Concerns were expressed regarding pedestrian and bicycle access to the park, from the East Washington and Portage Road sides.
  - The Parks Division will work closely with City of Madison Traffic Engineering staff as changes to East Washington and Portage Road are considered. Parks will advocate for safe crossings for park visitors coming via bike or foot.
- Parks was asked to ensure that accessibility was considered as the master plan is implemented.
  - The Parks Division shares this value. Parks staff works closely with the Disability Rights Commission as well as the Federal Access Board to develop our parks in a way that is inviting and accessible to all.
- Concerns were raised as to the transparency of this planning process, communication with surrounding neighborhoods and the Alders.
  - The Parks Division strives to be transparent in our decision making and planning processes. For the Reindahl Master Plan, we have followed our standard procedure of post cards and alder notifications, a public survey, outreach to user groups, and connections with local schools, as well as a project portal and social media posting.
- Additional park land is desired at this location.
  - The Parks Division looks to expand a park when it is determined it is to the benefit of the system to expand. The process includes stating our goals in a planning document, working with the City Real Estate office and waiting for a willing seller. We do not condemn lands for parks as a standard practice.
- A concern regarding dogs on leashes was mentioned.
  - The Parks Division strives for balance in our system, in the case of dogs, this means allowing them (on leash) in many but not all parks. Reindahl, as a community park, is a park where dogs are allowed on-leash. Up to the recent past, dogs were not allowed (even on leash) in most Madison Parks. After much discussion with the public during 2019, in early 2020, the City of Madison amended the Madison General Ordinances to allow for leashed dogs to be present at the majority of parks in its system ([MGO 8.195](#)).<sup>1</sup> As a part of this ordinance update, leashed dogs are allowed to be at parks categorized as mini, neighborhood, and community parks. Dogs are not allowed at conservation parks, at playgrounds, at beaches, in park shelters, or several other specific locations.<sup>2</sup> Unleashed dogs are only allowed at designated off-leash dog recreation areas.
- Concern for the existing trees in Reindahl Park has been expressed numerous times during the planning process.
  - We recognize the high value that mature trees bring to our park system, and are therefore very judicious in the removal of trees. The City of Madison Parks Division manages a large system of over 6,000 acres of land in over 270 parks. Each year we plant hundreds of trees and each year we must remove trees as part of our management of the park system. The reason for the tree removals vary from health and

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<sup>1</sup> [https://library.municode.com/wi/madison/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=COORMAWIVOICH1--10\\_CH8PUPR\\_8.195DOREARhttps://library.municode.com/wi/madison/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=COORMAWIVOICH1--10\\_CH8PUPR\\_8.195DOREAR](https://library.municode.com/wi/madison/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COORMAWIVOICH1--10_CH8PUPR_8.195DOREARhttps://library.municode.com/wi/madison/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COORMAWIVOICH1--10_CH8PUPR_8.195DOREAR)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/dogfree>

safety issues to the need for a new park feature. Again, in our effort to provide balance, we thoughtfully manage our tree inventory, but we cannot save every tree. In this case, as park features are added or changed, we will take into consideration this concern that we share, and in the design and implementation of new features, we will strive to remove as few trees as possible.

- Meeting attendees have mentioned the need for restrooms at the park.
  - Parks recognizes that restrooms are necessary for a park that receives as much use as Reindahl Park does. And given the geographically spread out nature of the use, more than one set of restrooms will likely be needed. The installation of restrooms at the spray park (underway currently), will only serve the spray park for the most part, as they will be behind locked gates when the spray park is closed for the day or for the season. The master plan calls for restrooms at the current large shelter location, within the new Imagination Center. If the Imagination Center is placed at a location outside of the park, then Parks will strive to build a new shelter/restroom building in the general location of the current shelter. In addition, the master plan calls for a small shelter/restroom building centrally located to the north of the tennis courts to serve the soccer fields, the tennis courts, the cricket field and general park users.
- Concerns have been stated regarding PFAS and stormwater regulations and park development in the future.
  - Parks works closely with various regulatory agencies as we develop construction plans for our park facilities. We are held accountable for all of the regulations and permitting requirements that any development effort must face. In addition, Parks puts forth the extra effort to build sustainable and environmentally responsible parks to the extent allowed by resources we are provided.