



Marthaler Park Improvements

Re: **PRAC Meeting #4**
WSB Project No. 010052

Agenda / Minutes:

1. Master Plan Open House Review:

- a. The Open House was well attended, 20-30 attendees. We got a good mix of users from within the community and good participation on the engagement pieces we had available for feedback. The number on the left indicates highest program priorities while the number to the right indicates lowest priority items. The highlighted items are the higher preference program items selected at the open house. Summary of preferences includes:

i. **Existing Program Uses:**

2 / 0 - Small / Non-reservable Picnic Shelter

4 / 0 - Large Reservable Picnic Shelter

6 / 0 - Paved Trails

3 / 0 - Parking Areas

3 / 0 - Sledding Hill

4 / 0 - Playground Equipment

2 / 0 - Park Signage

4 / 0 - Tennis

1 / 0 - Paved Volleyball Court

3 / 0 - Basketball Court

4 / 0 - Open Space

ii. **Previously Discussed / Proposed:**

5 / 0 - Modern Restrooms

2 / 2 - Fishing Pier

1 / 0 - Pond Improvements for Fish Habitat

4 / 0 - Performance Stage / Amphitheater

4 / 0 - Native Area Improvements / Buckthorn Removal

1 / 1 - Pond Skating

1 / 0 - Warming House / Multipurpose Room

2 / 0 - Park and Trail Lighting

1 / 1 - Pond Overlook

1 / 0 - Drinking Fountains

1 / 0 - Shoreline Fishing Areas

2 / 2 - Trailhead Facility

1 / 1 - Sand Volleyball

1 / 0 - Hilltop Overlook

iii. **Other Potential Uses:**

- 2 / 1 - Destination Playground
- 2 / 0 - Nature Playscape
- 4 / 2 - Splash Pad
- 0 / 2 - Pickleball Court
- 4 / 3 - Art / Sculpture
- 1 / 4 - Off-leash Dog Area
- 0 / 2 - Exercise Equipment / Fitness Stations
- 2 / 2 - Skatepark
- 2 / 0 - Community Gardens
- 3 / 2 - Mountain Bike Trail
- 0 / 2 - Bocce Ball / Lawn Bowling
- 3 / 1 - Gagaball Court
- 0 / 2 - Horseshoe Court

- b. Questionnaires were also provided for participants to write down comments. Those comments included:

- Remove buckthorn
- Save parking lot but repave, add berm to keep sledders off parking roadway
- Do not make sledding hill bigger, it is big enough for number of users
- Add panelboard to tennis court for one-person play
- Canoe/kayak access to pond; for residents, scouts, practice/education
- Lights at sledding hill, gets dark too quickly in winter weekends
- Parking lots visible from the street for security
- Basketball in view of police station to help with crime, add fence to help contain balls from rolling away
- Is steeper hill a liability issue for the City (snowboarding, jumps, etc.)?
- Add more art and trails to the park
- Like many of the features of the current park, need wider trails and better maintenance of trails
- Would like to see modern restrooms and amphitheater

2. **Next Steps:**

- a. Review information heard from Open House and current cost estimate. Provide Phase 1 recommendation to Council for approval for development of construction plans.
- b. If deemed desirable, alternate would be to request additional funding for improvements beyond current allocated budget.

3. **Project Schedule / Overview:**

- a. Complete Master Plan Update and supporting cost estimate
- b. Finalize Phase 1 scope
- c. Park Board / City Council Approval of Master Plan Update
- d. Establish wetland delineation areas if needed (Fall 2017)
- e. Develop Construction Documents for Phase 1 (Fall / Winter 2017)
- f. Project Bidding (Spring 2018)
- g. Construction (Summer 2018)

4. **Comments**

- a. Summary of preferences from the open house and an overview of the cost estimate were presented to the committee, after which residents in attendance provided the additional comments below:

- i. Concern about headlights / noise in south parking lot adjacent to residential. Asked about the possibility of removing row of parking closest to property line or providing parallel parking along south edge of parking lot instead. Could also route vehicle circulation clockwise to reduce visibility of headlights from residents.
 - ii. Concern about overhead lighting in parking lot spilling into residential area. Further consideration to be given during fixture selection and locating.
 - iii. Questions brought up about size of proposed parking compared to what is there now. Current lot contains approx. 65 spaces. Cars parking along both Wentworth and Humboldt have been an issue. The city expects demand for parking to increase given the proposed improvements. The proposed masterplan currently includes approx. 110 spaces, split between two lots.
 - iv. Discussed size and number of proposed shelters. Concern that one larger shelter was not enough and perhaps 2 medium size shelters would better serve user groups.
- b. Committee discussed project budget, including \$1.5M from 2018 CIP and potentially \$500K from Dakota County. Funds from county are for a 50% cost share of the regional trail and trailhead building construction.
 - c. Committee approved a motion to recommend that City Council include priorities 1-5, 8 & 12 from the cost estimate for phase one construction. Additional priorities could be bid as alternates or deferred to a later phase. Approval for phase one construction plans expected to go to City Council in early October.