



## Meeting Minutes

PROJECT:	Swansea Park Master Plan	DATE:	Jan. 22, 2008
LOCATION:	Cross Community Coalition	TIME:	6-7:30 pm
ATTENDEES:	See Sign-In Sheet (Community Outreach)		

Jill Wuertz, from the Denver Parks and Recreation Department, began the meeting with introductions and goals of the master plan and the meeting. She explained that this meeting was intended to present the three concepts for park improvements and to receive feedback from the community. This is necessary before a final preferred concept for the master plan is determined. Kim Douglas from studioINSITE, the landscape architecture consultant, presented the three concepts, Concept 1- The Commons, Concept 2- The Concourse, and Concept 3- The Circuit. Notes were taken by Jessica Bagwell with studioINSITE. After the presentation comments and suggestions were taken from the attendees.

### SYNTHESIS BASED ON COMMENTS

Concept Two and Three, the "Concourse" and the "Circuit", will be combined to create the preferred alternative. The sprayground will remain close to the pool and picnic areas will be added. The playground might be placed where the tennis courts are presently or be farther north in the park. There will be two baseball fields like Concept three, with the youth field being the more southern field. There will be some sort of buffer along the railroad tracks. The turnaround at Beekman Place will be taken out and the skate area will be moved to the northern area of the park. Basketball and tennis courts will be located in the northern portion of the park. There will be two horseshoe pits. The competition soccer field will remain as shown in concept 2. A community garden site will be integrated into the park plan and an enhanced connection from the park to the south will be investigated.

### COMMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE CONCEPTS

#### Concept 1:

- Entrance @ Beekman place is good
- Continuous loop path is nice
- Parking at north end of park @ 50<sup>th</sup> St. is good idea
- Would be nice to have a wall @ entrance
- Want to keep Larry Walker field in existing location
- Show the west path along RR tracks connecting to community to the south

#### Concept 2:

- Like that the baseball field next to the alley is removed- foul balls would hit adjacent homes
- Are we prescribing too many activities for the park?



- Where do spectators view from?
- One tennis court is enough, do not need two.
- Put sprayground near the pool
- Study the options for connecting Cross Community Coalition and Church parking lots to the park- perhaps link a path through the lots from the park to the south (better connection to 28<sup>th</sup> Street)
- Picnic areas around the sprayground would be great
- Like the 2 sand volleyball courts
- 1 tennis court is enough
- 1 horseshoe pit is good (2 would be nice), nice addition to park
- Good that the playground & sprayground are near each other
- Like the community garden and the options it provides the park
- Like the picnic areas and pavilions

#### Concept 3:

- Can tennis court be utilized for Badminton play?
- Like horseshoe pit
- Railroad fence could be a wall that is painted seasonally by the community
- Hedges instead of a wall is good because graffiti is concern with a wall
- Maybe the RR could pay for fencing along the tracks?
- Would be good to create a RR crossing at 47<sup>th</sup> & York
- Would prefer two basketball courts over two tennis courts, or one basketball and one tennis court.
- Like path around entire park
- Roundabout at Beekman Place is not needed with two-way traffic.
- More parking would be preferred in the recreation center parking lot
- Would like volleyball court near baseball field
- Make southern baseball field a youth field.
- Maybe put skate park in area between Beekman entrance and volleyball courts

#### GENERAL COMMENTS from Recreation department:

- Do a combination of Concepts 2 & 3
- Put Skate Park into Concept 2 in the northern area.
- Like playground /spray ground near each other in Concept 2 -- put into Concept 3.
- Good to have a larger soccer field because the soccer field is too small @ Elyria
- Need 2 baseball fields, two sizes are okay
- Basketball and tennis grouped together
- Community Garden would be good at this park
- Solid railroad fence/wall will have graffiti issues
- Could have less planting area and more parking area within recreation center parking lot

#### COMMENTS from community:

- Railroad wall can be plant material or a community art wall
- The lack of a restroom is one reason people do not come to the park
- Two-way alley with parallel parking is preferable to turn-around (concept 3)
- Like a 2-way alley all the way along the eastern edge- opens up park and provides a use on the alley as opposed to a barrier, makes park more visible and accessible
- Like new options for parking and accessing the park (to the north or along the alley)
- Community will like the park if it has lights



- Need lights at entrance for safety
- When Recreation Center is closed there is no bathroom access
- Having a bathroom separated from the Rec center could be unsafe
- More use for basketball courts than tennis but tennis is liked by some.
- Presently there is not enough walking space – they have a lot of walkers
- Elyria children utilize the Swansea baseball fields (none at Elyria- need to keep two fields here)
- Need to show dugouts at baseball fields
- Volleyball is good
- Horseshoes are great!
- Little League baseball is popular
- The benefits of a community garden:
  - Brings people in daily
  - Creates ownership
  - Provides a food supply (there is not a grocery store nearby)
  - Perennial garden could be easier to maintain
  - Perhaps less vandalism is likely with vegetable type community garden
- Fruit-producing ornamental trees would be nice- perhaps integrate an orchard in the design... fruit for the community
- Picnic areas wanted, near South entrance with good visibility.
- Need more shade than presently available
- Need a path along the RR tracks to the west of CCC so that there is a safe way for residents to the southwest to access the park
- Need access route from Elyria park
- Would be good to have a connection between Elyria & Swansea park
- Need safe bike route between parks- primarily for the kids
- Johnson and Swansea Rec Centers should work together to coordinate programming, currently Johnson transport it's leagues from Johnson to Swansea Park for play
- Unite neighborhoods, they are only .5 miles apart
- CCC wants to support connection to park
- CCC will share parking lot for park use when not in conflict with their own programs