From: David Asch
To: Huang, Wen
Subject: Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park – Improvement Plan
Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018 8:31:31 PM

Dear Ms. Huang,

My wife and I attended the community meeting on Wednesday, 4/18 where you presented the two options that you and your team devised.

First, a few comments about the presentation and the meeting:

- Your presentation was excellent. You explained yourself well and came up with some options that you felt would best serve the community
- Many of the people in the meeting were hostile and unnecessarily rude. We didn't speak at the meeting because we were embarrassed by the hostility of our neighbors.
- We hope that you weren't too disheartened by so much negativity. It was brave to put forward your plans and it did provide a good starting point.
- It was clear from the meeting that there was a demographic split between the people in the meeting; the older people (the hostile and rude ones) were mostly indignant that anyone would dare to touch their park. People with younger children may like the idea of some playing fields for them.

Demographically, my wife and I fall in the middle; while we are younger than many of the people who spoke, we no longer have young children. We also don't use the park much (no dog, no kids at home) although we live a couple of houses away from the basketball court entrance.

Our suggestions:

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- Address ADA compliance issues.
- Drainage is the most pressing issue and the trickiest to resolve.
- There is not much enthusiasm for a manicured park or for formal fields.
- It wouldn't be fair to other park users to have scheduled times for Montgomery County/Takoma Park soccer games.At the same time, dog walkers shouldn't take over the space either
- Refurbish the tennis courts -- resurface, new nets, new fence - and discourage use for anything other than tennis.
- Leave as much free space without paths/fields/gazebos/exercise stations. While we agree that your option 2 is well designed and clever, we think that option 1 seems more aligned to the interests of the community and is more in keeping with the characteristics of a neighborhood park with free range options for all ages and interests.
- Cut the number of parking spaces as you suggest, but do not construct a full-sized soccer field.

Best Regards,

David Asch (& Laurie Adler)
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