From: David Asch
To: Huang, Wen
Subject: Re: Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park – Improvement Plan
Date: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 11:14:48 AM

Hi Wen,

When I filled out the survey, I chose Option 2. When I reached the last phase and reviewed my selection, I noticed that Option 4 was selected and changed it, writing it off to my bad eyesight. When I hear that there have been so many selections of Option 4, and this was an unpopular choice among my neighbors, I wonder if there's a glitch in the software?

Best Regards,

David

On Mon, Apr 23, 2018 at 4:50 PM Huang, Wen <wen.huang@montgomeryparks.org> wrote:

> Dear Mr. Asch and Mrs. Adler,
>
> First of all, I appreciate your kind words and positive feedback. We do notice that most people who attended the meeting and spoke up were seniors who have been living here for a long time, but we don't see many representatives for families with younger kids which I believe there are a lot, because every time I visited the park, I saw the playground was used a lot.
>
> The park is improved for the next 20-30 years' of use so we need to make sure that the improvements meet long term needs. Your suggestions are very thoughtful and we will take those into consideration for the adjustment of initial design. Meanwhile, it will very helpful if you can spread the words and have more families who were not able to come to the meeting to express their thoughts on the improvements. We will open up an on-line comment link within this week so more people can have the opportunities to express their needs/concerns. The notice will be posted in the project page at: https://www.montgomeryparks.org/projects/directory/silver-spring-intermediate-neighborhood-park-improvement-plan/, as well as the park page at: https://www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/silver-spring-intermediate-neighborhood-park/
>
> Thank you again for taking the time to send us your thoughts and I appreciate your continue attention to this project.
>
> **Wen Huang**
>
> **T**: (301) 495-2466 | **F**: (301) 585-1921

www.montgomeryparks.org

From: David Asch [mailto:dasch804@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, April 21, 2018 8:31 PM
To: Huang, Wen <wen.huang@montgomeryparks.org>
Subject: Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park – Improvement Plan

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:

-
- 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)

804 Philadelphia Ave.

Silver Spring, MD 20910