From: Manel Lacorte
To: Huang, Wen
Subject: Re: Redevelopment Silver Spring Intermediate Neighbourhood Park
Date: Friday, July 13, 2018 10:37:18 AM

Thank you very much for your kind and detailed reply, and all best for a successful renovation process. ML.

On Fri, Jul 13, 2018 at 10:33 AM, Huang, Wen <wen.huang@montgomeryparks.org> wrote:

> Hello Professor Lacorte,
>
> Thank you for spending the time writing this email to me. At this time, we know that we will transform the tennis courts from single use to multi-purpose courts, but it is still under study as to what functions will be incorporated into this park. There are several tennis courts around this region. The Parks is going to observe the usage of all the tennis courts near the vicinity of this park to determine whether we want to incorporate all three (tennis, pickleball, soccer) into this park, or maybe only two for this park and the other in a nearby park or vice versa. This will be an on-going study during the detail design process, but before the study is done, I can't say that soccer is definitely part of the multi-purpose courts in this park.
>
> Thank you for your attention to the project.
>
> **Wen Huang**
>
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>
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>
> **From:** Manel Lacorte [mailto:mlacorte@umd.edu]
> **Sent:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 6:29 PM
> **To:** Huang, Wen <wen.huang@montgomeryparks.org>
> **Cc:** Manel Lacorte <mlacorte@umd.edu>
> **Subject:** Redevelopment Silver Spring Intermediate Neighbourhood Park
>
> Dear Wen Huang,

I am aware this message reaches you past the deadline of July 10 for public comment about the different plans for improving Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park. However, I would still appreciate if you could consider my personal comments in favor of OPTION 4 for the following reasons:

1. It is a proposal that includes improvement of soccer facilities, which is a hugely popular sport in our neighbourhood. Specifically, OPTION 4 has the tennis area becoming a Multisport Court that allows for small sided soccer (i.e. futsal). Tennis is also retained in this proposal.

2. It is important to provide good quality soccer facilities locally from an equity point of view. Not everyone can afford Wheaton Sports Pavilion, Travel Soccer Teams, Maryland Soccerplex, etc.

3. The grass fields designated for soccer in our area are not safe enough for our children. All weather surfaces provide a safer playing surface (no dust or rocks!) and a predictable bounce, The surface would be akin to a tennis or basketball court so playable even during wet conditions,

4. Using an existing facility differently does not increase the hardscape area of this Park.

I have lived in the US for many years, and now I have children in school age which would greatly benefit from all the advantages of OPTION 4. I am originally from Spain, where this type of small-sided hard court soccer are extremely popular (as in other countries in Europe) and make a great contribution to a positive, healthy, and active environment in neighbourhoods of all kinds.

Thank you in advance for taking into consideration my comments in favor of OPTION 4. Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to hearing from you. All best. Manel Lacorte.

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Manel Lacorte

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