



Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

June 27, 2019, 2:43 PM

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Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Summary Of Registered Responses

As of June 27, 2019, 2:43 PM, this forum had:

Attendees: 150
Registered Responses: 48
Hours of Public Comment: 2.4

Topic Start

April 27, 2018, 10:56 AM

Topic End

November 27, 2018, 11:52 AM

QUESTION 1

How close do you live to the park?

| | | % | Count |
|--------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Less than 1/2 mile | | 97.9% | 47 |
| More than 1 mile | | 2.1% | 1 |

QUESTION 2

How often do you visit the park?

| | | % | Count |
|------------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Several times a week | | 54.2% | 26 |
| Once a week | | 16.7% | 8 |
| A few times a month | | 16.7% | 8 |
| Less than once a month | | 12.5% | 6 |

QUESTION 3

Which park facilities do you use most often (eg. basketball court, tennis courts, playground, open play areas, etc.)?

Answered 47

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Skipped 1

all also **area areas** around ave **ball basketball** been boston children **court courts** enough field frequently **from great** had **kids** mainly **open park** people **play playground** s **soccer** space **tennis them** through up use used volleyball **walk** week were younger

QUESTION 4

What do you think is the most important feature of the park that gives it its unique character?

Answered 46

Skipped 2

activities adults **area** areas **basketball** children court courts different **dogs** field fields **from games green** just kids love mature **neighborhood** one **open** other **park** parking **people play playground** s **soccer** space **sports** tennis they **trees** up use variety were **young**

QUESTION 5

Are you interested in a loop path within or around the park?

| | | % | Count |
|-----|---|-------|-------|
| Yes |  | 27.1% | 13 |
| No |  | 72.9% | 35 |







QUESTION 6

If you would like a path, how important is it that the loop path is fully accessible (with no steps or steep slope along the path)? (0 being not important at all, 5 being very important)?

| | | % | Count |
|--------------------------|---|-------|-------|
| 0 (not important at all) |  | 18.6% | 8 |






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| | | % | Count |
|---------------------------|---|-------|-------|
| 1 |  | 2.3% | 1 |
| 2 |  | 4.7% | 2 |
| 3 |  | 14.0% | 6 |
| 4 |  | 9.3% | 4 |
| 5 (very important) |  | 2.3% | 1 |
| I do not want a loop path |  | 48.8% | 21 |

QUESTION 7

Are you satisfied with the current playing fields? If not, what improvements would you like to see? (select all that apply)

| | | % | Count |
|--|---|-------|-------|
| Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields. |  | 50.0% | 24 |
| No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface. |  | 29.2% | 14 |
| No, I am not satisfied. I would like to enlarge the field size. |  | 4.2% | 2 |
| No, I am not satisfied. I would like benches or a seating area to watch games. |  | 4.2% | 2 |
| Other |  | 37.5% | 18 |

QUESTION 8

Would you like to see exercise station(s) installed in this park?

| | | % | Count |
|-----|---|-------|-------|
| Yes |  | 17.0% | 8 |

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| | | % | Count |
|----|--|-------|-------|
| No |  | 83.0% | 39 |

QUESTION 9

Would you like a shade structure in this park?

| | | % | Count |
|-----|---|-------|-------|
| Yes |  | 38.3% | 18 |
| No |  | 61.7% | 29 |

QUESTION 10

Please provide a detailed comment/description of any drainage issues and areas of ponding or standing water within the park or adjacent to the park that you have observed or experienced.

| | |
|----------|----|
| Answered | 36 |
| Skipped | 12 |

after area areas ave been between boston court courts down drainage during entrance field flooding from grass heavy issues like lower much near over park path playground puddles rain rains s seen soggy standing system tennis was water WSSC years

QUESTION 11

Please provide any other comments or suggestions that you may have regarding needed improvements to the park

| | |
|----------|----|
| Answered | 43 |
| Skipped | 5 |

- all also area areas basketball could court courts do dog dogs field fields from keep kids like lot more need neighborhood one open other park parking play playground possible soccer space t tennis they think trees up USE used

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QUESTION 12

If you live within 1/2 mile of the park, did you receive a post card inviting you to the April 18, 2018 community meeting?

| | | % | Count |
|---|--|----------|--------------|
| Yes |  | 76.6% | 36 |
| No |  | 21.3% | 10 |
| I live more than 1/2 mile from the park |  | 2.1% | 1 |

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Survey Questions

QUESTION 1

How close do you live to the park?

- Less than 1/2 mile
- Between 1/2 mile and 1 mile
- More than 1 mile

QUESTION 2

How often do you visit the park?

- Several times a week
- Once a week
- A few times a month
- Less than once a month

QUESTION 3

Which park facilities do you use most often (eg. basketball court, tennis courts, playground, open play areas, etc.)?

QUESTION 4

What do you think is the most important feature of the park that gives it its unique character?

QUESTION 5

Are you interested in a loop path within or around the park?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 6

If you would like a path, how important is it that the loop path is fully accessible (with no steps or steep slope along the path)? (0 being not important at all, 5 being very important)?

- 0 (not important at all)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 (very important)

- I do not want a loop path

QUESTION 7

Are you satisfied with the current playing fields? If not, what improvements would you like to see? (select all that apply)

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like to enlarge the field size.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like benches or a seating area to watch games.
- Other

QUESTION 8

Would you like to see exercise station(s) installed in this park?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 9

Would you like a shade structure in this park?

- Yes
- No

QUESTION 10

Please provide a detailed comment/description of any drainage issues and areas of ponding or standing water within the park or adjacent to the park that you have observed or experienced.

QUESTION 11

Please provide any other comments or suggestions that you may have regarding needed improvements to the park

QUESTION 12

If you live within 1/2 mile of the park, did you receive a post card inviting you to the April 18, 2018 community meeting?

- Yes
- No

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- I live more than 1/2 mile from the park

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Individual Registered Responses

Ronald Murphy

inside Takoma Park

April 27, 2018, 11:56 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

Question 3

The open area.

Question 4

The open green area and the trees.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

The pooling water near the tennis court door appears to have been eliminated by the swale recently constructed. I understand that the swale is only temporary, and an underground solution will soon be in place. This is important, because the swale interrupts the open space, making use of it difficult.

Question 11

I sent the following to Ms. Huang on 4/26/2018:

Ms. Huang:

Thank you for the recent opportunity to share the community's thoughts about your plans to change SSI Park. I live on Boston Avenue across from the park and have enjoyed using it and seeing others use it for more than 30 years. I taught my daughter to ride her bicycle in the tennis courts. I am familiar with its nature, its use, and how it integrates with the surrounding neighborhood.

I believe that most users of the park would agree that among its most valuable features are the open green area and the trees. I urge that you do nothing to alter either. The addition of walkways through the space would destroy the open area, limiting options for its use and changing the park's essential character. Significant construction would endanger the health of the trees.

The park is already well-used by many people in a variety of ways, and I believe that additional features such as exercise stations and dog amenities would add little to its enjoyment. I understand that changes related to ADA compliance are required, but I hope they can be accomplished with minimal impact on the park's character and visual appeal.

Finally, I prefer no changes to the parking lot. I do not believe the results of your study accurately represent its use. Eliminating it or reducing its size will significantly affect surrounding traffic. On a recent weekend, a large number of visitors were at the park, and the lot was full. Excess cars were parked along Boston Avenue, which is to be expected, but several were parked in the no-parking zone where the street narrows, making normal use of the street difficult. The increased traffic endangers park users crossing Boston Avenue to access the park. Eliminating or reducing the size of the parking lot will make the situation both worse and more frequent.

Again, I thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns about changes to SSI Park, and I look forward to the next meeting.

Sincerely,

Ron Murphy
701 Boston Ave
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Question 12

- Yes
-

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Arlene Koby

inside Takoma Park

April 27, 2018, 1:54 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open area

Question 4

Is it unique? Does it matter? All of the amenities have value.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.
- Other - I don't use the fields; so they are fine as is, for me. I am guessing that many people who use the fields, and might have suggestions, will not see this questionnaire.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

I live on Takoma Ave, downhill from the park. Years ago, we had obtained old WSSC diagrams of their system under the SSI park. The park has not been dug up since; so there has been no correction to the situation. It is my recollection that current WSSC diagrams differ (based on neighbor conversations with WSSC about water problems). When the school was demolished, perhaps, the water/waste system was not changed, sealed, or whatever would have been appropriate. Or, maybe it's another

explanation. Regardless, the WSSC system does not collect/direct storm water going into the park appropriately. Instead it allows torrents of water to flow downhill, flooding houses during heavy rainfalls. Several years ago, during one heavy rain, Boston Ave no longer looked like a street but a river. Also note, the rain water overloads the sewer system. Therefore, some of the flooding is with sewage back up. I would want any park upgrades to include WSSC and address this water/flooding issue.

Question 11

*Some of your questions should have an option, in addition to Yes/No. I am actually neutral regarding an exercise station(s), altho I would not use it myself. The location and maybe expense might sway me more to No.

*A shade structure--I might be swayed either yes or no, but I would not expect to use it myself.

*I don't need dog-walking amenities. I walk my dog thru the park. We would have no value in a paved path, and dogs would not necessarily stay on a paved path. I think green space is more important. The waste bag stations were a nice idea, but I don't know that they've ever been refilled.

*The playground area--why does it need to be connected to anything else? Users just walk on the grass from the playground to wherever. I don't understand that point.

*I think there could be more security at the edge of the playground area, to keep active toddlers safe from the street, when parents/caregivers get distracted.

*I think the number of parking spaces should remain as is. Yes, there are times, it is empty, but there are times it is overflowing. It makes me think of grocery stores that close down check out stations when customer lines are short, as opposed to keeping them open, so that shoppers do not have to stand in a line at all. If parking is reduced, during active soccer weekend usage, the overflow would impose on the streets and inconvenience residents. Also, many (most?) of attendees at the meeting were fine with the existing layout of the park and did not necessarily want a larger field, which reducing the size of the parking would allow as the alternative.

*I think the tennis courts should stay, even if they are sometimes unused. We should not be trying to maximize the use of the courts but allowing them to be available when someone wants to play tennis. Some players would seek other facilities, if they found they often had to wait in line to play. I visit the park most mornings, and my sense is that they are often in use, often by tennis players, altho not always by tennis players. That might raise the question of the signage that states the tennis courts are to be used only for tennis. If that were enforced, the park could use an equivalent enclosed area to be used as a safe space for toddlers to run, for teaching bike riding, occasionally for dogs... Then we would have the question of where to put it and what to give up. If we keep the "tennis courts" basically as is, perhaps, the sign should read that tennis players have priority over other users of the space, but not exclusive use. Keep the door!

*Heidi Coleman sent written comments (4/23/18) to MNCPPC re the proposed options for SSI park. She also shared her submitted comments with the North Takoma ListServ. She did an excellent job of relaying shared sentiment. Rather than repeating all that she said, I would just say

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I agree! She did such a good job that others might not feel the need to comment. Be aware that her thoughts represent those of many in the neighborhood.

*I did receive a post card re the meeting, I realized, after the fact. It did not get my attention. I became aware of the meeting via the North Takoma ListServ.

Question 12

- Yes

Michael Johnsen

inside Takoma Park

April 30, 2018, 1:32 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open Area, Tennis Courts, and playground when my kids were younger

Question 4

Large size, open areas, trees

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.
- Other - The fields need to include proper drainage and maintenance to keep grass growing on them.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

Drainage has been a huge problem with most of the water draining down Boston Avenue - my basement, down the hill, has been flooded during excessive storm events because of this.

Question 11

General - There are large areas of the park along 2 borders (Houses and Philly Ave) infested with invasive vines shrubs and trees. It would be great to have more established plantings and useable space for wildlife with the invasive cleared and native-based landscaping installed. What trees are in these areas are mostly not in great shape even if they are getting mature- only a few might be worth keeping for a park. A water fountain that works would be a nice touch - one with a lower bib and tray for dogs. This would be a nice gesture for dog walkers, as well as keeping the clean-up stations filled with bags. Keep the nice mature trees already established in the park to the greatest extent possible and plant more for shade.

Dog paths - I don't want or need a "dog path" - I walk my dog daily through the park and we like to walk on grass around the park (avoiding the play areas and courts). If there is not a fenced in "dog park" included in the design, then the bone you are throwing to dog owners (pardon the pun!!) for a path is simply a waste of money and space.

B-ball hoops - The basketball hoops are always in use- the recent renovations are really nice. A better established table (and shade, if installed) might be a good idea near the b-ball courts. Tables for the b-ball courts might work better on the strip of grass between the courts and Chicago Ave.

Tennis - Often in use but needs to be cleaned and maintained - and I would personally use it more. Keep a table outside the courts.

Playground - I always see folks walking their kids up to the playground and is an essential part of the park. I support a focus on accessibility from the Philly Ave side of the park to the playground and possibly a small expansion of it.

Parking - I'm all for making the parking lot smaller (can it be made smaller with the same amount of spaces?). Many people park there to attend the college-- not sure this is its intended purpose but it being a park, I'd like to minimize the transportation uses of this valuable resource but still allow people who need to drive there a place to park.

Fields - I'd keep it at the current field arrangement (2) - a larger one between the playground and tennis court and one defined by the retaining wall at the corner of Boston and Chicago. But they need to be properly developed (soils and grass).

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Paths - an ADA path between the b-ball hoops, tennis court, and playground connecting the two sides of the park (bus stop to Boston) is most appropriate and minimizes the asphalt and costs of the loop designs. I support cleaning up the sidewalk on Philly Ave and making it wider - and then eliminating the concrete slope between it and the tennis courts, cleaning up the vines, and installing mature trees and plantings. While the expansion of the sidewalk will remove vegetation, removing the concrete slope and replacing with a nice retaining wall then planting trees and landscaping can provide the natural barrier between the tennis court and the road.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

April 30, 2018, 1:35 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

Tennis courts, open areas for pickup volleyball

Question 4

Besides the basketball, tennis courts, and playground. I like that the park is unstructured open area for multiple uses. I think the park is too small for any other programming. I would not like it if there were parts of the park that were by reservation.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

- Other - I think the park would work better if the drainage and grading were more even especially on the portion next to the wall and between the tennis court and the playground. I do not want more paths than now because that would reduce unstructured space.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

I believe the worst drainage is at the bottom of the steps going to the tennis court (at the bottom of the path coming down from Philadelphia, and the section of the park near the Miles Reinke bench.

Question 11

I believe both of the options shown on the website have too many paths in the middle of the current field area. I believe the fields part of the park is currently used for things like pickup ultimate frisbee and kids playing soccer, tball or just playing catch -- so having formal field areas will place more limits on where and how people use the fields. For example, I am part of a pickup volleyball game that uses the fields year round on once or twice a week, we change the layout of our net depending on the wind and the sun, and what other uses are going on. So having paths will limit how we can set up. The only reason it might make sense to put a loop path is to keep kids from biking in the tennis court area. I do not think this park should be for reserved spaces (fields, courts) it is too small, and generally everyone accomodates each other. A reservation system could turn it into a park that is not as much a neighborhood park.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

April 30, 2018, 1:51 PM

Question 1

- More than 1 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

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Question 3

Open play areas, primarily the open area adjacent to the tennis courts between the tennis courts and basket ball courts up on the hill. A group of people very close to the park as well as others like myself who live several miles away regularly play volleyball (we bring net, line markers, ball) on Sunday mornings and Wednesday or Thursday evenings in the spring, summer, and fall. The number of people varies (8-12), drawing from a much bigger pool (20-30) on a weekly basis in nice weather. We normally play for 2+ hours, open to all and in the past, when numbers warranted it, set up another net to accommodate players. A very nice way to interact with locals and visitors. Drainage in this area has proven to be a problem, as noted on your site diagram, so any efforts to fix that would be a big improvement but we also move the portable court around to avoid wet ground as necessary. I hope sufficient space would be allowed for these informal but regular neighborhood volleyball games to continue which have been ongoing for over 20 years.

Question 4

Nice combination of play areas for kids and adults (basketball/tennis) with sufficient open areas for other activities (volleyball net(s) to be set up) within the confines of a quiet neighborhood.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Other - If graded means better drainage I'd love to see that done.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

See answer to #3 above and reference your own determination of drainage problems adjacent to tennis courts in open areas.

Question 11

Regular grass cutting as needed would enhance use of park for me and others who reside closer.

Question 12

- I live more than 1/2 mile from the park

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
May 2, 2018, 10:20 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Less than once a month

Question 3

open areas

Question 4

it's a great informal meeting spot in the neighborhood for dog walkers and pick-up team sports

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Other - I don't use the playing fields

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

No response

Question 11

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I think that unstructured green areas are vital to the nature of the park. And the addition of a multipurpose shade structure that could be used for observing adjacent structured or unstructured play areas, as well as for gatherings/picnics would be great.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

May 4, 2018, 5:44 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

Question 3

playground, open space

Question 4

trees, diverse array of options

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 3

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

water primarily pools near the entrance of the tennis courts and the main lower grass area

Question 11

please make the grass areas safer for kids with better grading and stormwater solutions. please take into account the interests of families with young kids who are the primary users of the park.

Question 12

- No

David Asch

inside Silver Spring

May 4, 2018, 10:36 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Less than once a month

Question 3

No response

Question 4

It's a friendly, neighborhood park with nice basketball courts, tennis courts, a playground, and just open space that's used for various purposes

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

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Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 9

- No

Question 10

Gets very muddy in the lower reaches of the park. People on Boston Ave take on a lot of water during storms.

Question 11

- Address ADA compliance issues.
- Drainage is the most pressing issue and the trickiest to resolve.
- Unenthusiastic about having a manicured park or 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.

Question 12

- No

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 5, 2018, 5:58 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

open play areas

Question 4

expansive green space

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

The park has drainage issues. It comes and then it goes.

Question 11

The main feature that draws people to SSI park is its expansive green space. This space inspires a shifting kaleidoscope of activities. Parents play catch with their kids, the weekly volleyball teams, children's soccer teams, dogs & owners congregate in the early morning, people amble about, kids race around or launch kites on windy days. The green space is a place for the imagination. The salubrious effects can't be overstated. Alter and diminish this green space with a system of unnecessary paths and white elephants like exercise stations and doggie fun zones and the longstanding character of SSI park is gone

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

May 8, 2018, 3:19 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 3

Playground and open play areas

Question 4

Open play areas.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 2

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- No

Question 10

No response

Question 11

- Consider removing large concrete slopes by the tennis courts and replacing with trees.
- If a path is put into the park, make it as unobtrusive as possible by hewing as close as possible to the edge of the park and existing park features. Do not insert a path that bisects the large field between the tennis courts and playground (as option 2 does); this large open field is heavily played on.
- Keep any exercise equipment away from the playground for child safety.
- If possible, do not use concrete for any paths. Use a material that is better for young children and can better absorb falls.
- Make the retaining walls safer.
- Limit the removal of any large trees
- Keep the memorial bench that is in the park.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

May 14, 2018, 2:10 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open green space.

Question 4

The variety of trees, the amount of open green space, the way it's embedded in the neighborhood.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

After heavy rain, water pools at the opening to the tennis courts and at the lower portion of the park near Boston Ave. Residents living below the park often experience flooded basements.

Question 11

Given the small percentage of open green space in East Silver Spring, I believe that it is essential that any plans consider that open, non-developed space as the number one priority.

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Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 14, 2018, 8:32 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Playground and open play areas

Question 4

Mature trees, great playground, open layout, variety of spaces

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 1

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

Puddles by the entrance to the tennis courts and standing water on fields near playground.

Question 11

A real bathroom would be nice to have and water fountains.

Question 12

- Yes

ann lafferty

inside Silver Spring

May 15, 2018, 8:26 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open areas.

Question 4

Flexibility in the type of activities, and green space.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.
- Other - I see value in having non-level playing fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

Last month after a gentle 2 day rain, I saw ponding in 3 areas: between the tennis court and Phila Avenue, directly in front of the tennis court

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entrance & extending toward the playground, and in the field where the gym used to be (low field closest to Boston/Chicago intersection)..

Question 11

I would like to see the park continue to have a tree planting program, as the very tall and old trees, which provide shade to the park and neighborhood, are slowly dying. Minimal removal of small trees, which will provide shade for the future.

Other points in the PDF presentation from April 18:

1) Parking lot: it is used by the Parks ground crews to park their trucks when the park is mowed. If the parking lot is reduced or removed, these vehicles will have to park on the street. Most recently I saw 1/2 of the vehicles parked early in the morning right where the elementary school bus stop is. Lot is sometimes empty, but it is an existing feature that is used and relied upon by park visitors.

2) Playground: PDF notes "no connection to other park feature", I feel it does not need to be connected as its separation gives a buffer from such activities at the basketball court (foul language known to happen there!) PDF also notes "not enough seating" - one recent Saturday I was at the playground 2 different times, first time there was a father lying on the perimeter wall, playing with his baby and lifting the little one in the air. Later, also sitting on the perimeter, where 3 women (while their children played), and on the other side, 5 teenagers talking. Only 1 person was sitting on the bench at that playground. I do not see the need for more seating.

3) Open Play Areas- PDF notes: "uneven play surfaces". The soccer teams that play on the fields are young and seem to be working on learning the game and how to play. A level field would be an improvement but I do not see it high on the list of improvements. Indeed, learning how a ball rolls on an uneven surface is a good experience.

4) Dog Walking. PDF notes: "lack of dog amenities". What I see the dogs at the park enjoying most the company of other dogs. Dog furniture is useful for some types of dogs but not all dogs do well with that. There is another dog park very close by, and it does have "dog amenities". No need to duplicate dog amenities at SSI Park.

5) Decaying retaining wall at basketball court: the improvements to basketball court are lovely but the infrastructure is crumbling. Higher priority should be keeping the existing features in good shape. Currently the holes in the wall are being used as cup holders. This makes the park look trashy and unkempt.

6) Bus stop enlarged - why does the bus stop need to be bigger? There is a big problem with trash, btw, at the bus stop.

7) Exercise station: we already have a variety of areas dedicated to one type of exercise- tennis courts, basketball courts, and playground. More programmed exercise equipment would be better at another location.

8) Add a Picnic shelter and picnic area: we already have 3 picnic tables. These tables are movable, and groups move them around as suits their occasion the best. For instance, for kids birthday parties, I've seen all tables moved together and under a tree, which were decorated with balloons. The location chosen provided the maximum amount of shade for that time of the day. Other times, where is a picnic table by the basketball court, and one by the playground, and the third by the tennis

court.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 24, 2018, 3:31 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Less than once a month

Question 3

Playground

Question 4

The use of the park as a dog park

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 3

Question 7

- Other - Do not use playing fields

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- No

Question 10

No response

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 11

No response

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 24, 2018, 4:04 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Playground and open play spaces. In the past week, we have used all facilities except parking and portapotty.

Question 4

Open uninterrupted spaces for running free (as a young kid).

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Other - The grass is spotty and could use reseeding.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

Lots of soggy areas (which my two boys love - we've spent hours playing in the mud and running through the big puddle that used to linger by the tennis court entrance). After the improvements, things seem better - but after last week's storm, there was a river rushing through the park. The drains couldn't handle the water flow from the new ditch.

Question 11

I am in favor of improving everything to do with the philadelphia Ave side of the park. The sidewalk, entrance and wooded area are all hazardous. I am not in favor of breaking up the space for walking loops or exercise stations. My kids love to run around the park - with kites, gliders, and balls - and walkways would impede that play. In addition, parking is a problem for the park on the weekends - especially during soccer season or on good weather days. Finally, I would make an argument for changing the tennis court to a multi-use court. It is the safest place to learn how to ride a bike or roller skate and can be the driest place to play ball. Tennis can take first priority, but there aren't enough tennis players to prevent other local kids from making use of the surface.

Question 12

- Yes

Meredith Santora

inside Takoma Park

May 29, 2018, 5:40 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

Question 3

Playground but use it less frequently since my 6 year old thinks it's too babyish and not 'fun' enough. He says the only cool thing is the zip line.

Question 4

There are actually fossils in some of the rocks!!! My son found these with his friend when they were splitting rocks and looking for critters.

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

• 3

Question 7

- Other - They are way to soggy when it rains

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

Since we spend the majority of time at the playground, the field on the way to the tennis courts was constantly a muddy soggy battle. I hated having to tell my son, "don't go over there," when we are in a play space for him.

Question 11

The playground needs to have more diverse and challenging structures. It needs to be able to grow with the children in our neighborhood from 1-10 years let's say and still remain high interest. I also think that some natural landscaping could be used to provide more play spaces for kids.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 29, 2018, 10:17 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

open play areas and basketball court

Question 4

the open space with hills and trees. I love that the open space is not one

big field. Lots of grass with little hindrance to the green space.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

Due to the drainage issue in the park much water flows down hill and into the basements of those down stream from the park. Leave as much green space as possible and little hard walkways.

Question 11

The park does not need a dog walk or a loop around the tennis courts. It just needs some drainage issues addressed as well as the ADA. I feel that there are solutions being offered without any problems being there. This park is used by a variety of people/ages as well as how it is used by those park visitors.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 29, 2018, 10:21 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- A few times a month

Question 3

When my children were younger, we used the playground equipment and open play areas several times a week. We also used the picnic tables for get-togethers and birthday parties. My daughter's soccer team practiced there.

Question 4

Mix of facilities: basketball courts, tennis courts, playground equipment, playing fields, open space.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

I have noticed standing water and soggy areas in the park over the years.

Question 11

The basketball court improvements are fantastic -- thanks so much. Please improve the condition and drainage of the playing field areas.

Question 12

- No

Jeff Kenton

inside Silver Spring
May 30, 2018, 11:06 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

Tennis

Question 4

It's simple open space.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

Fixing drainage issues is important to me.

Question 11

Don't think exercise stations would get much use.

Question 12

- Yes

Gregor Wallace

inside Takoma Park
May 30, 2018, 2:22 PM

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

open play areas, tennis courts

Question 4

No response

Question 5

- No

Question 6

No response

Question 7

- Other - No i am not satisfied. The field(s) should be upgraded to provide all weather soccer field. Approx. basketball court sized and could be fenced similar to tennis court.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

No response

Question 11

Montgomery Parks should be doing MUCH more to provide quality (public access) playing surfaces for soccer players. Considering the number of kids and adults who play soccer in the county, the public access soccer fields in this area are a disgrace. Ask anyone who plays - grass fields are not an option for soccer, they just don't hold up to regular use. Take Bullis for example, it might be fine after one season of 'rest' (i.e. no use), then turns into a dust bowl after one season. The County should be actively looking to install small sided (3 v 3 teams, approx. basketball sized) all-weather soccer 'courts' at Montgomery Parks like SS

Intermediate. Surface could be turf, or even a concrete product - many options available. It would function similar to the basketball area, or tennis area. It could be fenced like the tennis court to contain the ball and keep dogs off the surface. From TKPK/SS area, kids have to travel to Maryland Soccerplex (\$\$\$) or Wheaton Sports Pavillion (\$\$\$) to access a decent playing surface. Good surfaces = good skills/players which is so important at U12 age. And small sided games are what all the best national development programs promote for young kids (think any country in S America) . I would predict that if you built a facility like this it would be (at least) as well used as the basketball court. They should be standard on ALL county parks that have the space. It's about time the County recognised the potential of soccer in this area and invested in the right infrastructure in order to allow the game to grow.

Question 12

- Yes

Heidi Coleman

inside Silver Spring

May 30, 2018, 3:52 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Tennis court, open play areas

Question 4

Open green space, not overly programmed, provides opportunity for multiple creative uses

Also, the trees (mature, flowering, etc.)

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

No response

Question 8

- No

Question 5

- Yes

Question 9

- No

Question 6

- 4

Question 10

When there is heavy rain, there is pooling in the lower portions of the park, e.g., near the tennis courts and between the courts and the playground.

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 11

I support making the park ADA accessible and addressing drainage issues if possible, but I STRONGLY request changes that are as minimal as possible. I DO NOT support breaking up the open space into separate "fields", I DO NOT support adding paved walkways either crossing the open green spaces or circling the tennis courts. I DO NOT support leveling the land and losing the natural differences that currently exist. I support the LEAST amount of disruption. The park is loved, versatile and well used BECAUSE it has not been overly programmed. Do everything possible to keep as many of the trees as possible (both large and small!!) We've already lost many. Please help us keep those that remain (including the REPLACEMENT trees). Consider strategically adding more, especially in locations where shade would be desired.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

No response

Question 11

No response

Question 12

- Yes

Question 12

- No

Gray Kimbrough

inside Silver Spring
May 30, 2018, 4:32 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Playground and open play areas

Question 4

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring
May 30, 2018, 4:48 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

Question 3

Playground

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 4

Mature trees shading the playground, mix of sports options

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 4

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

Every time it rains there are ponds in the central grassy area

Question 11

Discourage off-leash dogs somehow, PLEASE. They are a menace

Question 12

- Yes

Karen Reinke

inside Silver Spring

May 30, 2018, 6:58 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Memorial Bench, open play area, tennis courts

Question 4

Intimate scale, easy access for neighborhood families

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Other - In terms of the fields, the problem isn't level ground, it is DRAINAGE. Soggy, standing water during the spring and summer prohibits free play of soccer and volleyball.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

The field between the playground and the tennis courts has been used for a weekly neighborhood volleyball game for over 20 years! However, due to drainage issues on that field, the game often has to be relocated to Nolte Park. Though there may not be standing water, the ground is saturated and remains soggy for many days after a rain. It is a shame that rather than walking a couple of blocks, folks have to get in their cars to find a dry field...

Question 11

The park is of such significance to our family, that in 2016 we installed a Memorial Bench here for our son. We spent countless hours here with both our children when they were young, and we could think of no better place to sit and reflect on our son's life, our family, and our wonderful community of support, love & hope. We certainly hope that the Bench will continue to provide a respite in the park for our family, our neighbors, and our incredible community.

Question 12

- Yes

Emory Baldwin

inside Takoma Park

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

May 31, 2018, 9:53 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Dog walking

Question 4

It's a valuable play space: for kids, sports teams, basketball/tennis, and dogs.

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 3

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

There are always muddy, swampy patches whenever there is snow melt or heavy rains. That's wonderful for dogs like mine who like to roll in mud puddles, but terrible for the grass and everyone else.

Question 11

Thank you for giving this wonderful park this care and attention to make it even better. This is exactly what I like to see my tax dollars used for.

Question 12

- Yes

Elliott Vanskike

inside Takoma Park

May 31, 2018, 11:14 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

basketball courts and open play areas

Question 4

very close to lots of SS and TP residents, serves people of lots of different ages

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 4

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like to enlarge the field size.
- Other - a covered soccer field would be a huge boon for kids to practice and adults to play games under lights (same as bball courts are used now--kids during day, adults in evening)

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

hard to miss the water at corner of park at Boston/Chicago--it's often

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

VERY wet

Question 11

The A field in the proposed designs could easily be turned into a covered soccer field. Anyone who has played soccer in SS/TP knows that field space is at a premium. A space that could be used for practice or small games, rain or shine, would be popular and would be a great addition to the park. Such fields are common in European parks.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

May 31, 2018, 1:07 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

open areas

Question 4

open space for multitude of activities, basketball court

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

over the years, it has been revealed that the demolition of the school was done in a less than optimal fashion. as a result, there is a significant problem with run-off flooding the stormwater drains and sewer lines in the neighborhood. if i remember correctly, there is concrete debris just below the surface of the lawn across much of the north end of the park. any improvements need to address this situation and must be coordinated with WSSC. the neighbors on Boston, Takoma and Margaret have significant troubles with flooding during intense periods of rain and snow melt.

Question 11

please keep the addition of paved areas to a minimum. we already have enough problems with runoff

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

May 31, 2018, 3:40 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

We use all areas of the park equally.

Question 4

The park has several features enabling our family to use the park for a variety of outdoor amusements. We value the fact that in one park, there is a playground, tennis court, basketball court, open field, climbing trees and a wooded/ wild area behind the tennis courts.

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

• 4

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like to enlarge the field size.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like benches or a seating area to watch games.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

No response

Question 10

After rainfall and snow melt there is standing water in several areas of the park. the largest problem area is on the path that leads to the tennis courts and the immediate grassy area next to the path. the grassy area surrounding the tennis courts also becomes saturated and sometimes water collects on the tennis court. The field closest to the intersection of Boston ave and Chicago suffers from saturation as well and the grass dies as a result and is replaced with weeds.

Question 11

1. comments made by dog owners who let their dogs off leash
Comments in support of a park that would cater to the continued practice of allowing off-leash dogs should be noted as such and not given the same courtesy of comments from law-abiding park users. A number of dog owners spoke at the initial planning meeting of allowing their dogs off-leash to run in the park.

Someone was taking notes of attendees' comments at the meeting but upon reading the posted comments, it appeared that the comments of off-leash-dog-owners were not identified as comments in furtherance of prohibited activity. For example, it was noted that many people objected to the proposal to remove the gate to the tennis court. While some of the comments were about children using the court to ride bikes, most of those objecting appeared to have an interest in using the tennis courts for a dog park. Since it is prohibited to take a dog off-leash in the park, these comments should not be given equal weight to the preference of tennis players who would prefer not to have to police the courts by asking people to leave so that they may appropriately play tennis. Removing the gate is a good solution to reserve the tennis court for its designated activity.

2. permeable walking path

Several dog owners also objected to the inclusion of a walkway in the park because they said they preferred to let their dogs run lose after thrown

balls. But I did not hear from leash-law compliant owners. How do they feel about a walking path? I like the proposal of a path and feel that if one could be made of water permeable material, it would satisfy the concerns about drainage, protect turf all while providing a nice route for anyone taking a walk through the park.

3. ADA compliance

I fully support the proposals to ensure the park entrances, pathways and the retaining wall/ guardrails meet with current ADA guidelines. the guardrail on the top of the retaining walls along Boston avenue are especially dangerous because there is a steep slope leading to them. Anyone could easily fall and slip through the railing. It also appears that the grass/weeds along the sidewalk on Boston ave and not routinely mowed, possibly due to the location and difficulty maneuvering a large mower in that space. leveling off the slope and installing a railing with less space between the bars would make it safer.

4. Art for the retaining wall along Boston Ave

The retaining wall has occasionally been vandalized with graffiti. I support pursuing an art installation on the wall perhaps in the form of a mural or mosaic. There is a mosaic in the tunnel/underpass along Georgia avenue just North of the East west Hwy intersection that was funded in part by the Takoma Foundation. The mural has remained for several years without being vandalized.

Thank you for providing an additional opportunity to comment.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

June 1, 2018, 1:32 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open area

Question 4

Its only open area with a stretch up uninterrupted grass

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

No response

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

Puddles in grass

Question 11

the grass gets worn thin by the wear and tear from soccer groups already pretty bad-would not want more "organized" activity that what is already happening

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

June 2, 2018, 6:53 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open play areas

Question 4

The open play areas and the rolling terrain which allows all kinds of free play and other activities by children and adults.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

The park is in a low area and absorbs water runoff from the neighboring streets during heavy rains, which are more and more frequent. It usually ponds south of the basketball court and near the tennis courts which is the lowest point of the park. The water is absorbed fairly quickly in the present terrain. Park users adjust.

Question 11

This is a neighborhood park. It is not designed for, nor is it supposed to have athletic playing fields. For as long as I have lived here, the park has been used for free play, picnics, birthday parties, sledding, dog exercise, and other uses as mentioned at the meeting. It is also a neighborhood gathering place. Everyone has been comfortable with those uses. It has also been used by persons outside of the neighborhood in spring and fall for soccer and tennis practice for young children which is why the parking lot is full on certain days. I think the neighborhood is comfortable with this ad hoc use of the park, but strongly opposes trying to turn the open free play areas of the park into formal playing fields for outsiders. That is not the role of a neighborhood park.

Question 12

- No

Anthony Ross

inside Takoma Park

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

June 3, 2018, 11:48 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

Question 3

We used the playground a lot when my kids were toddlers, now we mainly use the tennis courts and basketball courts -- but not for tennis or basketball, we use them for soccer.

Question 4

Can't think of any -- it feels very haphazard and lacking in intention.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Other - No, I am not satisfied. I would like artificial fields, since grass fields last about a season before being destroyed.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

I feel like I've seen water pooling plenty of times on parts of the paved trail, but can't recall specifics.

Question 11

I agree that the park needs to be considered more holistically, because all the elements are disjointed. Definitely agree that the parking lot is a waste. What I would love love love to see, and would bring me to the park on a much more frequent basis, are turf fields that can be used for soccer,

frisbees, whatever. Grass fields simply can't hold up to the frequency of use they get here in conjunction with getting torn up while wet, etc... Turf is a much better long-term investment. The other thing I would love to see is for the basketball courts to be multipurpose, with small size soccer goals. This is very common in Europe and other parts of the world, and allows them to serve multiple audiences.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

June 4, 2018, 6:55 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

Open area

Question 4

Open area - no loop path is necessary - there's a sidewalk around it!

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 10

No response

Question 11

No needed improvements. Parking is utilized fully on weekends.

Question 12

- No

Question 10

No response

Question 11

No response

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring
June 4, 2018, 8:57 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- A few times a month

Question 3

field/open play areas

Question 4

shaded, nice equipment

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- Yes

Mister Banks

inside Silver Spring
June 4, 2018, 10:42 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Playground with kids, tennis courts, basket ball courts, open area. We use the steps for exercise. I jog the perimeter of the park as well.

Question 4

My children would speak of the playground. I love the proximity. The variety of activities that we have enjoyed from time to time from sports, picnics and almost daily playground use, sharing with an international cast of neighbors.

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- Yes

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

I cannot jog the perimeter behind the tennis courts after it has rained. My children enjoy splashing in the mud puddles between the steps and tennis courts before I can stop them.

Question 11

I previously suggested a fenced doggy area bordering the tennis courts. The pet owners love letting the dogs off the leash, but currently use open areas which can pose a problem to joggers and those afraid of dogs - 2 of my family. I am not certain if the doggy trail allows the canines off the leash. Perhaps a field and the trail could be connected to allow such activity in a confined area. Dogs owners could use it in the early mornings, and athletes in the afternoons.

Question 12

- No

Rebecca Willis

inside Silver Spring

June 4, 2018, 10:57 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

open play areas

Question 4

the trees, the community that uses it

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

I do not think that drainage has been a major concern.

Question 11

We love our park just how it is. Many of the proposed improvements are completely unnecessary and unwelcome. What is the point of a loop trail in a park of this size? Or a sledding hill? It barely snows here anymore. However, I could see a shaded pavilion for picnics being a nice addition.

Question 12

- No

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

June 4, 2018, 11:31 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

fields-open space

Question 4

the different parts of the field. love that different activities can happen on each part. the higher level can be football while a soccer ball can be kicked around on the lower fields.

Question 5

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- No

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

There has always been some drainage issues but not enough to stop us from using the park. the new ditch dug by the park folks makes it a little better but not much. wish there was more grass in the area next to the playgrounds. no standing water.

Question 11

leave the trees and open space for various folks to play and use the park.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park

June 5, 2018, 12:50 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Less than once a month

Question 3

Open field area - to have baseball catches or kick around a soccer ball.

Question 4

The basketball court gets the most use. I love the wall bordering the park at Boston Ave. Once Montgomery College removes its gym and tennis courts, the park's tennis courts will be much more in demand.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 5 (very important)

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.
- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.
- Other - Keep field A as large as possible.

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

Not seen

Question 11

I like the idea of getting rid of the weeds along Philadelphia Ave., but that side of the park must have protection for park users and other children from traffic on Philadelphia Ave - either fencing or thick hedges. It would also dampen some of the traffic noise into the park.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 7:33 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- Less than once a month

Question 3

None at present, but I did use the playground and recall the struggle to get a new playground put in. We had to overcome great resistance from NOPE (Neighbors on the Park's Edge) who felt that the splintery wooden structures and hot metal slide had been good enough for their children and they didn't want bright colored plastic to replace it.

Question 4

The parking lot which allows non-neighbors, likely non residents of Montgomery County, to gather on the basketball court. While I appreciate the need for a safe, well-maintained basketball court, I resent how much litter is left behind by those players.

Question 5

- Yes

Question 6

- 2

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like benches or a seating area to watch games.
- Other - Benches are a nice idea but I would not want them to become sleep stations for homeless people who congregate just a few blocks away.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

No response

Question 11

No response

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 8:05 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

Playground

Question 4

Open space

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

No response

Question 11

No response

Question 12

- Yes

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring
June 5, 2018, 10:59 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

tennis courts, open area

Question 4

It is one of the few parks in the area where you often see children in unstructured play. The central area has a feeling of spaciousness. It invites running freely. I really like the trees near the playground area.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

No response

Question 11

This is a small park. If soccer fields are added, they will consume too much space, leaving little space for other activities. I love the basketball and tennis courts, but that is really enough.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Takoma Park
June 5, 2018, 11:26 AM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

I live across from the largest playing area adjacent to Boston Ave. Mainly use to open play area, we also use the "upper field" a fair amount. We use the basketball courts a great deal. Play ground and tennis courts are used but not as often as when my kids were younger.

Question 4

With the three open play areas being small sized, it lends itself to toddler soccer. That serves a need where real young kids can play on dedicated fields. The toddler soccer is usually limited to weekend mornings. But because the fields are small they are not being used from sun up to sun down for adult sports practices and games. What makes the park unique is the open space is open for people to come to the park and use it as they see fit or as they imagine. It's used for traditional games and imaginary games that kids and adults can dream up. From kite flying to sun bathing, to impromptu soccer games, frisbee or baseball tossing, to games without names, the key is the space is not monopolized by scheduled adult or older kids practices.

While I realize that the park does not belong to the immediate neighborhood, the basketball courts are a huge draw for adult and younger kids. The basketball courts do bring in a lot of car traffic and the demand for the parking space goes up, particularly during rush hour. Chicago Avenue is a cut through from East West Highway to Sligo Avenue and often because its a short cut cars speed up and down it. With limited parking in the Park the additional parking spills into the neighborhood and I do worry about safety. They park does draw a lot of younger kids, additional cars in the neighborhood, and the Chicago Avenue speedway does pose additional dangers. These are my main thoughts and concerns.

Question 5

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- Yes

Question 6

- 3

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.
- Other - In general I like the configuration as is. The Upper field has some large ruts in the corner farthest from parking lot, closer to play ground. Lower field along Boston has a constant puddle. If those were fixed the field situation would be OK

Question 8

- Yes

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

As I already mentioned, there is a puddle on the lower field, closest to Boston Ave. That can remain for weeks depending on the amount of rainfall. I have heard stories from older neighbors that Boston Ave once had a creek run beside it. Drainage issues are significant in this area. I have seen to lower half of the park become a pond during large hurricane type rainfalls. I have seen waters rage towards the drain in the corner farthest from parking lot on the Boston Ave side much like a creek that has spilled it's banks.

Question 11

I would say that the drainage does need to be improved, not sure how best to do it. The upgrade to the basketball courts are great. I think the maintenance of the park is pretty good.

To me the big thing is the traffic around the park. Not sure if a traffic pattern study has been done. But allow me to point out that at the intersection of Philly (East West Highway) and Chicago there is a heavily used crosswalk during rush hour, busy bus stops on both sides of Philly and the parking lot entrance to the Park. Remember, the basketball court and parking lot is most used in late afternoon, the waning rush hour. There is a lot going on in that area. I would say that there is an accident at that intersection every 3 weeks if not sooner. The turn from Philly onto Chicago from the west heading east is deceptively hard. My big fear is that someday a car is not going to make that turn and wind up in the basketball court, that would be a disaster. Not to be all gloom and doom but the traffic in the area is not a safe as you might think. I'm not sure how lessening the parking in the park helps that. Perhaps that has been

planned out, I hope so.

Lastly, I just want to reiterate my fear that the expansion of the playing fields will take away from the mix use aspect of those fields and turn those fields into a dedicated practice and game facility where the fields get over used and torn up and turn into a mud patch. I really enjoy the way that kids and even imaginative adults can come to the park and have an open space to use to their enjoyment. I fear an expansion of those fields will lead to over use and an aspect where its hard to use them unless you are a sports team there to practice. I also believe that if the area does become a practice and game park then the traffic problems will increase exponentially.

Question 12

- Yes

Lauren Dunton

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 1:39 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Playground, open play areas

Question 4

The open space and neighborhood feel

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 3

Question 7

- No, I am not satisfied. I would like a more evenly graded surface.

Question 8

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- No

Question 9

- Yes

Question 10

No response

Question 11

The crossing at the intersection of MD 410 and Chicago Ave is very unsafe, cars do not observe the cross walk and speed through the intersection to make the lights in opposite directions. We have to cross from the other side of 410 to get to the park, and it can be very harrowing.

Question 12

- Yes

Nancy Nickell

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 3:40 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open play areas, sometimes I walk through them; I look at them and love them every single day. I also use the trees in the park to shade me when I walk up Philadelphia Ave. or run on Boston. Ave. Occasionally I walk on the sidewalk around the basketball court, as it is a heavily paved area. I would NOT cut through the park if paths were installed, but many people would, and it would destroy the peace.

Question 4

The trees and gentle slopes of the land. It is perfect. So different from a flat, hot, ugly athletic field. It invites imagination, the inner child that lives within all of us every day of our lives. I have seen small, local equinox rituals, people doing Tai Chi individually, pairs of young men practicing martial arts, kids hitting baseballs that adults have thrown, humans and dogs with Frisbees, humans and dogs running and bonding with each other, individuals doing Down Dog, people sitting on blankets apparently

journaling, kids riding bikes across the grass, kids and adults flying kites, a young couple sitting on the wall at the steps on the Chicago Ave. side, making out (for a couple of weeks in a row). Every day I see people sitting on those steps just looking out over the park. Sometimes just one person, apparently enjoying the beauty. Sometimes pairs or groups of people just talking.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

I have seen standing water after hard rains. But it only remains for a few hours. I believe it could be easily fixed. Flattening the park would only make it worse. There are far worse drainage issues on Chicago Ave. across Philadelphia.

Question 11

The only thing this park needs is more trees, and to have the existing wall strengthened. We have lost a magnificent Locust and at least three magnificent Oaks since I have lived here. Sidewalk construction on Chicago and Boston helped kill the trees. Construction equipment was actually parked on the roots and a concrete truck sat on them as well. There are plenty of athletic fields in the immediate area. Children - and everyone else - need lovely outdoor spaces to play. No competition. No being watched by parents or anyone else. No need to make a video to share on social media.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

inside Takoma Park
June 5, 2018, 5:37 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Tennis courts

Question 4

Tennis courts, open unstructured swath of green space, playground

Question 5

- No

Question 6

No response

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

water pools on lower path near tennis court and sometimes at back of courts

Question 11

Less is more - so little space around like this one though if it was possible, we'd take an additional tennis court or two!

Question 12

No response

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring
June 5, 2018, 8:12 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open play area.

But we used the tennis courts and playground frequently when we and our kids were younger.

Question 4

1. Open, unstructured, green space for multi-purpose use: spontaneous play, dogwalking, sledding, neighbor interactions.
2. Trees both mature and young -- their beauty, oxygen, and shade.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- I do not want a loop path

Question 7

- Other - I am satisfied with the layout generally. But it is critical that stormwater treatment improvements be made, to be in compliance with state/county regulations, and to facilitate year-round enjoyment of the fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

As described by others

Question 11

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- I strongly object to the planned network of paved paths throughout the park, as they would obstruct the adaptive uses of the open field. If ADA-compliant walkways are needed, place them around the perimeter of the park (where it would be easier to grade). For the same reason, I also oppose the addition of special-purpose structures (fitness stations, viewing stands, shelters, dog-exercise equipment) within the main area of the park. It simply isn't big enough for all that.
- I suspect your parking study was flawed. The lot seems full most of the time, especially during soccer games.
- Due to the size of this park, it really should be maintained as an informal neighborhood park. Please do NOT set up a reservation system for fields or organized team sports. Keep it first-come, available for pick-up games and free play.
- Please preserve as many of the trees as possible. Some need the attention of an arborist and possible treatment.
- It would be very nice to add a well-maintained water fountain, and to have the porta-potty kept cleaner.
- It would be nice to add a few benches around the perimeter for supervising children at play on the fields.

Question 12

- No

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 9:54 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Several times a week

Question 3

Open play areas

Question 4

It's free and open, and everyone can use it the way they want to. Last Sunday, in the rain, boys were playing hockey on the basketball court -- no skates, however.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

No response

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

When it rains a lot, there is ponding by the basketball court and around the tennis court, but it quickly drains after a day or so.

Question 11

Leave the park the way it is. It works! Don't mess with things that work.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 10:21 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Once a week

Question 3

Open play areas

Question 4

All the places that people can use for whatever they want to play or do at that moment: picnic, throw balls, play with their children or dogs, or just run.

Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan

Share your suggestions to improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 5

- No

Question 6

No response

Question 7

- Yes, I am satisfied with the current fields.

Question 8

No response

Question 9

- No

Question 10

No response

Question 11

Don't make any changes that interferes with the way the park is currently being used. I have lived here for almost 20 years, and I have never heard any complaints from the neighborhood.

Question 12

- Yes

Name not shown

inside Silver Spring

June 5, 2018, 10:46 PM

Question 1

- Less than 1/2 mile

Question 2

- Less than once a month

Question 3

I use the large field and on occasion the tennis courts.

Question 4

The open space. The relatively large, open field. No buildings. In region that is becoming increasingly dense (which I agree with) it is important to have some open, green space in the neighborhood

Question 5

- No

Question 6

- 0 (not important at all)

Question 7

- Other - My daughters played soccer on these fields. Some grading and drainage is needed but nothing that obstructs like seating or shelters. Flexible use.

Question 8

- No

Question 9

- No

Question 10

there are distinct low points where water collects and the ground becomes boggy. These points are unfortunately directly where the playing fields stand. Again, grading and drainage.

Question 11

keeping this space as flexible as possible is key to me. I've never seen more than 8 cars parked in the lot at one time (not a scientific polling) and feel a smaller parking lot w more green is good, Certainly accessibility is important for everyone to enjoy the setting so artfully landscaped and designed walkway w appropriate grades is important but a walking path is not necessary. If shade is an issue, I'd say do this with plantings. this encourages imaginative play for kids and wildlife watching for adults.

Question 12

- No