Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan-Phase Two

June 27, 2019,  2:44 PM

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ii.  Survey questions  8
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Summary Of Registered Responses

As of June 27, 2019, 2:44 PM, this forum had:

**Attendees:** 309  
**Registered Responses:** 116  
**Hours of Public Comment:** 5.8

**Topic Start**  
June 18, 2018, 1:38 PM  
January 29, 2019, 10:38 AM

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**QUESTION 1**

Which of the four (4) Concept Plan Options best represents the vision that you see for Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park?

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**QUESTION 2**

Are there specific aspects of your selected Concept Plan Option that work better than others?

- Answered: 68
- Skipped: 48
**Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two**

Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

**QUESTION 3**

Please tell us your preference for each of the proposed new amenities (0 being not preferred at all, 5 being the most preferred)

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Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

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**Painted retaining wall**

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Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

### Shade structure

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### Exercise station – static types near playground

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### Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts

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Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan - Phase Two

Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

**Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer**

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<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
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**Natural play components – near playground**

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Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two

Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

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**QUESTION 4**

Please list some of the advantages and disadvantages of how the amenities and walkways are arranged in the various concept options

Answered 62
Skipped 54

**QUESTION 5**

Please provide any other comments or suggestions that are not covered in the above questions.

Answered 48
Skipped 68
Survey Questions

QUESTION 1
Which of the four (4) Concept Plan Options best represents the vision that you see for Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park?

• Concept Plan 1
• Concept Plan 2
• Concept Plan 3
• Concept Plan 4
• I don’t have a preferred option

QUESTION 2
Are there specific aspects of your selected Concept Plan Option that work better than others?

QUESTION 3
Please tell us your preference for each of the proposed new amenities (0 being not preferred at all, 5 being the most preferred)

Row choices
• Drinking fountain
• Bike rack
• Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance
• Painted retaining wall
• Mural wall
• Shade structure
• Exercise station – static types near playground
• Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts
• Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer
• Natural play components – near playground

Column choices
• 0
• 1
• 2
• 3
• 4
• 5

QUESTION 4
Please list some of the advantages and disadvantages of how the amenities and walkways are arranged in the various concept options

QUESTION 5
Please provide any other comments or suggestions that are not covered in the above questions.
Individual Registered Responses

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 18, 2018, 6:05 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
Inclusion of the small-side soccer on the tennis court. Soccer is widely played in the area, but there is currently no all-weather surface for soccer nearby.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4
Curious as to why the small-side soccer concept can’t be part of all concepts (as ‘pickle ball’ is, for example)? Suggest adding it to all concepts.

Question 5
Same comment as above - inclusion of small-sided soccer would require only minor modifications / additional cost. It’s not clear why this is not included in all concepts.

Roger Coleman
inside Silver Spring
June 19, 2018, 2:45 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

David Asch
inside Silver Spring
June 18, 2018, 7:53 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
- Minimal change to the amount of green space.
- ADA compliant without unnecessary paved areas.
- Enlarging green space by eliminating steps from basketball courts to tennis courts; moving ramp closer to Philadelphia Ave.
- Converting old concrete steps by the corner of Chicago and Boston to more useful seating area.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
Options 3&4 contain pavement running through what is now green space. These would severely break up the open areas currently used for soccer and other activities. I do not support those options. A drinking fountain should be contained in all options. There was a fountain by the parking lot near the basketball courts years ago, so a water supply should not be difficult.

**Question 5**
I am pleased that the plans were altered as a result of the two meetings and that community input was indeed a consideration.

---

**Name not shown**
inside Silver Spring
June 19, 2018, 4:42 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 2

**Question 2**
Like #2's use of existing Boston Ave sidewalk for access to playground (instead of creating an additional concrete walkway from parking lot to playground which would interrupt the open area).
Like #2's more-peripheral relocation of walkway/ramps between basketball courts and tennis courts (expands open area centrally, and provides more direct access to both courts from the Philadelphia entrance).
Appears to be a better SWM solution than #1, but this is difficult to judge.
Minimize regrading in order to balance with preservation of trees & hills.
Like keeping the entrance at Chicago/Boston intersection (people will enter there regardless), with the shady conversation pit at the retaining wall. But need to balance with nighttime safety.
BUT would prefer NO walkway from tennis courts to playground, as with Option #3, (If there is to be a walkway, the boardwalk over retention pond & flexi-pave surface are preferred.)
AND would like to add a water fountain if possible, as with Option #4.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4

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**Name not shown**
inside Takoma Park
June 20, 2018, 11:28 AM

**Question 1**
- How will the bioretention areas be set off from open areas to protect them from foot traffic? If border shrubbery, needs to be evergreen.
- Do we have any specific polling data from physically disabled neighbors, current/potential users of the park? I’d like to understand their preferences about accessibility.
- What about the wooded area at the southwest edge of the park (behind the tennis courts)? This is an active play area with trees that need attention.
Question 2
The mini-pitch for soccer. Many kids want more fields for soccer.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Arlene Koby
inside Takoma Park
June 20, 2018, 5:13 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
I just changed my preference to #4, with completing my responses and feedback below, having made me aware that there is value to that plan.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
1. The new park entrance near the playground--if the plan has the same existing playground boundaries, the entrance is where there is a storm drain.
2. Parking lot--I question the value of reducing the size of the parking lot to get a few more feet of green space. I don’t think those extra feet would make any difference in how the field is used. I expect it would make the parking lot renovation more costly. I like the idea of easy parking. A tight parking lot creates the potential for accidents–fender benders and, with little kids coming for soccer practice and parents rushing, possible other issues. Also, if the final plan does not include a path abutting the parking lot or renovations that would involve major work on the parking lot, I would not see revising the footprint of the parking lot as worth the cost, and, if it’s money on the parking lot vs other improvements...

The concept plans make it look like the entrance to the parking lot is moved from the existing location. Is there a reason for that?

4. Porta potty and parking lot--you’ll want to consider the location of the porta potty in relation to the parking lot entrance and accessibility. If the porta potty is re-located, you’ll want to consider the size of the lot to be sure the servicing truck can get to it easily.

5. Porta potty and water fountain--I would not want them next to each other.

6. Water fountain--I like the idea of a water fountain more for dogs than people; so I’d want the design to incorporate that aspect. I recall one of the pictures showing dogs at a fountain. In Googling public fountains, I saw some of the problems. In this day where it’s easy to bring water, it’s less of an issue. If there were a fountain, I expect many people would continue to bring their own water bottles. Someone might want to survey the basketball players (evening) and playground users. I think people like the concept of a water fountain; would they really use it? Again, I think there’s value for the dogs. Another note, there are rats in the neighborhood, and they like water sources. Have to keep that in mind, in the design. Also, mosquitoes. In looking at the problems associated with the water fountain, I’m less enamored with the idea.

6A. Any ideas to encourage basketball players to throw away bottles and trash, other than more bins?

7. Entrance at Chicago and Boston--I think it should stay. Eliminating it would make access to the park inconvenient for many, and I think people would create a path, cutting thru on the grass.

8. The idea of the seating in that corner is interesting; the pictures make it look wonderful. However, that would be for new uses, not to fill an existing need, unless, maybe, when there is kiddie soccer on that section of the field; maybe. Perhaps, poetry readings, outdoor performances? I heard one person speculate that it would invite negative uses, being somewhat hidden from the street. Need some ideas of how that would be used in order to get people interested.

9. Walkway--I am rethinking my response in the earlier survey as to the value of the walkway around the entire path. In looking at Option 4, I am now wondering if I might use it. My dog is getting older; maybe she would like that path in the future, with the ability to step off and sniff. Could you
add distance markers, so that people would consider it a measurable walking/jogging circuit? I think it's a matter of how this amenity is presented to people. Are people against others being able to walk around the entire park on a path? And, if you compare Option 4 to Options 1 and 2, it's just adding a bit more of a path. Since a path is being added to address ADA, why not allow them to have access to the entire park. Also, Options 1 and 2 do not allow access to the entire playground area. If a disabled grandparent came to be with the kids at the playground, where do they go once they enter the park? And, where do they sit? Altho I previously commented negatively on the full circuit, I am now for it, having looked at the plans more closely.

I question Option 3 that has a path cut thru the field.

10. Personally, I would not use the exercise stations. However, in the concept designs, it does not look like they take away space that is currently used in other ways. If that offers benefits to other users of the park, or brings in more park visitors, fine. I would not be surprised if some of the basketball players would use them. I'm guessing you got few responses from them.

11. Shade structure— I heard one person comment about the placement in the design concept creating a visual barrier (for care givers). Perhaps, placed elsewhere?

Question 5

1. A high priority for me is still management of water, so it does not flood out to surrounding streets. I am hopeful that the bioretention fields will help. So, I would not want to see any plan that would reduce what is proposed. And, if there were any additional options explored, please re-examine.

2. Having attended both meetings and read the feedback results, I see a lot of resistance to change. I believe that is typical of many projects. As I said above, I think how things are presented during the next step will be important. Explaining the positive and negative aspects of changes will help. After the last meeting, I heard one attendee saying, "No one wants exercise stations." The person next to her said, "I do." The people opposing often do not give reasons for being against an amenity. The explanation seems to be, "Don't fix what isn't broken." We haven't been given enough explanations or examples of how various changes will be good or helpful. So, people don't see the value of the changes.

3. At the last meeting, people were asked to identify their favorite concept. That was requiring feedback too quickly. Being able to compare them side-by-side on-line allows more analysis, insight and, I think, evokes different answers. In giving this feedback, I now realize that I favor Concept Plan #4, with modifications. If possible, I'd keep a fully paved parking lot and move or remove the shade structure.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 21, 2018,  3:41 PM

Question 1
Question 4

Disadvantage:
- Concept 1 path between basketball court & tennis court interrupts field and sledding hill.
- Concept 3 plan path and benches between playground and basketball courts effectively cuts the playground off from the open field area.
- Concept 4 plan path in front of mural wall seems extraneous.

Advantage:
- Concept 2 path between Boston Ave. and tennis courts passes in front of the Memorial Bench, which improves access and siting of the bench.

Question 5

No response

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

I support any option that includes full or partial conversion of the tennis courts to soccer/futsal or multi-sport activity. I am neutral about the other features contained in Option 4, although the drinking fountain and bike rack appear popular. Soccer is hugeley popular in this community, but the current designated soccer areas (mostly grass fields) are terrible! I would be very surprised if Montgomery Parks did not have data on sport participation that they use to determine which facilities are needed ...

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0

Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 0

Question 4

I'm VERY supportive of retaining as much green space as possible and the beauty of the soccer court proposal is that green space will not be impacted.

There are many ways that the tennis courts can be adapted - with a little imagination tennis players and soccer players can both be kept happy!

It is unfortunate that the soccer/futsal or multisport area has been included in Option 4 only, otherwise I believe this feature would receive even more support.

Whenever i mention 'pickleball' to people, they ask "what's pickleball?" (enough said).

Question 5

The comment here about this redevelopment being a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is true! Montgomery Parks will not re-visit this park for another 30+ years! I think we need to keep this in mind when we consider all proposals and potential changes. What does our community need from the Park over the next 30 years?

Unfortunately, there is an element of ANY CHANGE IS BAD to this debate (much like the CO-OP/parking lot issue not far away), and I hope this does not prevent us from taking positive steps forward. It’s important to me that Montgomery Parks listen to all voices in the debate here. This is a public park and the Park needs to serve EVERYONE.

Question 1

• Concept Plan 1

Question 2

This keeps the park open for a variety of use. Works on the drainage, not overly programmed and make it ADA Compliant.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 1
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 1
Natural play components – near playground: 0

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 24, 2018, 10:21 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
This seems to leave the park mostly like it originally is and was mentioned at the meetings. The others seem to redo and put in too many 'other things' besides a good basic open park. Too much other stuff is not needed here.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 0
Bike rack: 1
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 1
Natural play components – near playground: 0

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Ty Miller
inside Silver Spring
June 25, 2018, 6:14 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
My younger daughter is a big time soccer player and we travel to the Germantown Soccerplex weekly during spring, fall and winter. Soccer fields here in Silver Spring are in very poor condition. As a parent who has visited Silver Spring Intermediate Park many times (most often due to the playground) I can attest the tennis courts are under utilized and a futsol/soccer court would be a tremendous addition.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 0
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Andy Sullivan
inside Silver Spring
June 25, 2018, 9:41 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
Hi folks, thanks for your work on this -- as a neighbor and regular user of this park I’m pleased to see it’s getting an upgrade. I’d recommend strongly for option #4 -- given the popularity of soccer among the
younger set, converting this under-utilitized tennis court to something that kids could use as well would better serve the needs of this community. Thank you!

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 3  
Bike rack: 3  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0  
Painted retaining wall: 1  
Mural wall: 1  
Shade structure: 4  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 4  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 4  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 4

**Question 4**

The tennis courts currently are off-limits to those who would use them most -- kids on scooters, bikes, etc. -- while they are rarely used for tennis. I don't know what "pickleball" is, but I know that this court would get plenty of use as a two-on-two or three-on-three soccer court.

**Question 5**

No response

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**Ken Maddox**  
inside Silver Spring  
June 25, 2018, 9:56 AM

**Question 1**

• Concept Plan 3

**Question 2**

No response

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 3  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1  
Painted retaining wall: 2  
Mural wall: 3  
Shade structure: 1  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2  
Natural play components – near playground: 1

**Question 4**

I'd very much like to see proper drainage so open field areas near the tennis courts could be used by volleyball enthusiasts who have set up net(s) and played evenings (once a week during weekdays) and mornings (usually weekend day) for many years. I would not like to see walkways cut through those open field areas adjacent to the tennis courts. Thanks.

**Question 5**

No response

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**Lei Miller**  
inside Silver Spring  
June 25, 2018, 10:20 AM

**Question 1**

• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**

The mini soccer court is a great idea!!!!

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5  
Painted retaining wall: 5  
Mural wall: 5  
Shade structure: 5  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**

No response

**Question 5**

No response

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**Steve Byers**  
inside Takoma Park  
June 25, 2018, 11:16 AM

**Question 1**
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan - Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 1

- I don’t have a preferred option

Question 2

No response

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4

I think one of the big disadvantages to seemingly all of the plans is how they cut up the greenspace which exists now in the park. To make the playground ADA compliant the county should build a better entrance at the Boston ave entrance to the playground not run a path through the field to get to the playground.

Question 5

No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 25, 2018, 4:21 PM

Question 1

- Concept Plan 1

Question 2

For me, the most important thing is to preserve the un-interrupted green-space which exists currently. Concept Plan 1 seemed to be the least intrusive so that is my selection.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4

Given the poor condition of multiple use fields in the area it would be great to have a decent multi-use, well drained open space that could be used for soccer (most important) but also other open field sports activities. This would be in addition to the multi-purpose courts, which could also be used for small-sided soccer games

Question 5

No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 25, 2018, 5:17 PM

Question 1

- Concept Plan 3

Question 2

Keep the additional parking spaces as 19. Locate the porta-potty appropriately.
Add pickle ball overlay to the tennis courts but do not try to accomodate other sports such as basketball or soccer, these would interfere with tennis activity. Add a second tennis backstop for individual practice. Add an exercise workout area off to the side near the hill.
Allow for free play area needed by local volleyball players and young child soccer training.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 1
Natural play components – near playground: 3
Question 4

too many walkways will cut up the playing areas.

Question 5

The tennis courts are used a lot and should not be coupled with activity which interferes with tennis by having stray balls and children run into the tennis courts.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 25, 2018, 9:03 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

Yes, that the courts could be modified to include dedicated space for soccer, an very popular sport in our neighborhood.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4

No response

Question 5

No response

Jacob Boyce
inside Takoma Park
June 25, 2018, 9:39 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

The conversion of the existing tennis courts into a multi-sport facility that includes futsal/soccer is a well thought through compromise that does not impede on existing greenspace but at the same time provides a decent area for kids to play pick-up soccer. Has to happen!!!

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 0
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 5

Meg Goetz
inside Silver Spring
June 25, 2018, 9:25 PM

Question 1

No response

Question 2

I would like to see the tennis courts modified to create a an area that allows for soccer/futsal.
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
Small sided soccer does not take up more green space, that’s good.

**Question 5**
County must think about what facilities are needed by this community, soccer must come out on top.

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**Heidi Coleman**
inside Silver Spring
June 26, 2018, 6:34 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 1

**Question 2**
Plan 1 addresses important needs; namely improved drainage and ADA accessibility. It does so without changing the essential nature of the park (a local, neighborhood gathering place) and its current advantages, which include open green space, in a natural setting, that is not overly programmed, surrounded by trees. As many people have expressed at the public meetings, “less is more”.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 3

**Question 4**
Walkways - Considering the size of this small park and the desire to preserve green space and its current character, Plan #1 is ideal and Plan #2 is a close 2nd choice. Plan #4 is excessive and Plan #3 is most objectionable, since it breaks up the green space. Amenities - I would favor the addition of a water fountain and bike racks. I would support painting the retaining wall, but have concerns about the maintenance, over time, of a mural. I strongly object to the installation of exercise stations or a shade structure. They are not needed and would take away from the green space in this small park.

Courts - I live right across the street from this park. Although not quite as popular as the basketball courts, the tennis courts are used regularly. I strongly support maintenance of the tennis courts and inclusion of pickleball lines. NOTE: They need to be installed as depicted in Plans #1-3; not as in Plan #4, since they need to make use of the tennis net. I have serious concerns about “small sided soccer”. With only two courts at this park, it seems likely it would lead to conflicts, as it appears it could not be used for both purposes simultaneously.

**Question 5**
I appreciate the interest in soccer fields in this part of the county. However, SSI Park (and its parking lot) is just too small to support more than the practice spaces (for very young children) that are currently in use. The larger parks in the area should continue to be used for this purpose (e.g., Belle Ziegler/Jequie, Ed Wilhelm, Bullis, Lee Jordan, Jessup, Argyle and others).
Ensure that there continues to be a space where volleyball players can set up their net.
I also favor options that maintain the greatest number of trees.

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**Ronald Murphy**
inside Takoma Park
June 26, 2018, 8:18 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 2

**Question 2**
No response

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 1
Bike rack: 1
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
Natural play components – near playground: 2

**Question 4**
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan - Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

No response

Question 5
My opinion is to change the park as little as possible. It is functioning well in its present state.

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 26, 2018, 8:51 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
I chose Option 1 primarily because it represents a minimal design (walkways do not break up existing open areas of the park) and does not have a picnic shelter next to the playground (ie Option 4 has similar walkways but I did not choose it because I do not like the addition of picnic shelter next to the playground).

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 4
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 4
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2

Question 4
I prefer minimal walkways (ie walkway design in Option 1 or Option 4). While Option 1 is my first preference, I do like the exercise stations in Option #4.

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 27, 2018, 8:54 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
The location of the sidewalks in option 2 seems optimal. It preserves as much green space and play areas as possible. Additionally, the use of boardwalks is a pleasant touch that will preserve more plantlife than option 1. I also appreciate the more minimalist aspects such as not having exercise stations or designated seating at the play area. Exercise stations are rarely used and just take up space, and the playground already has a retaining wall that can serve as adequate seating. That said, I don’t see why the steps at the corner of Boston and Chicago need to be...

Amy Bernath
inside Silver Spring
June 26, 2018, 8:54 PM
preserved. It seems this area could be better served as green space.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 5
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
Option two provides the best layout of walkways because it doesn’t have paths cutting into the middle of the wide open green space. For example, Option 3 would have a sidewalk cutting from the north east corner through the middle of the soccer fields to reach the playground. This seems unnecessary since the playground can be accessed from the sidewalk along Boston. It would be nice, however, to combine the aspect of option 3 which removes the steps from the corner of Chicago and Boston. I also think the walkway closest to East-West Highway should be as close to the road as possible to preserve the space.

The most glaring amenity that needs upgrading is to address the tennis courts, which all options do. Converting the courts into a multi-use seems like an optimal way to maximize this space. To that end, Option 4 appears to address this the best.

There is some benefit to a small shade structure near the playground, but it should be open on all sides to avoid attracting people who would use it as a space for illegal purposes or sleeping at night. Exercise stations appear needless (there’s plenty of ways to exercise in the park) and often seem underutilized.

Finally, the parking lot is rarely (if ever) full and it is often used by people attending the community college across the street. As this park is mostly utilized by those living nearby, the parking lot does not need to have 19 spots. Option 4 appears to address this issue the best by limiting parking but maintaining overflow if needed.

A bike rack would be a good touch as well as a spot to place bikeshare bikes as those are often scattered about. The existing port-o-potty is an eyesore so if anything can be done to place that in a discrete location (perhaps in a permanent shelter) that would be ideal.

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 27, 2018, 10:30 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
I like that the open field is preserved and the walkway to connect the playground with the rest of the park (sorely needed) does not obstruct the field (as it does in option 3). The boardwalk is a nice touch. Not sure I understand the need for seating at the Chicago/Boston Ave Entrance. But I do like the idea of better seating at the playground, either benches or seating steps. I love the idea of a mural wall to add color.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 5
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 1
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
I prefer the walkway to connect the playground to the rest of the park stay on the perimeter to keep the field open. The playground gets a decent amount of shade from the trees so I don’t think it needs a shade structure and it would take up a good bit of space. Please keep the picnic tables though. I would love to see improvements and expansion to the playground equipment- more variety would be very welcome, including some natural play options as suggested. Painting a mural on the retaining wall would be a great touch. Hard "NO" to the exercise station.

Question 5
I oppose the addition of a fenced dog-park. It would take up too much field space. The park is already used for off-leash dogs in the early mornings, which I think is fair and sufficient. Strongly support refreshing the tennis courts, I like the multi-purpose idea.

ann lafferty
inside Silver Spring
June 27, 2018, 8:27 PM
Question 1

- Concept Plan 1

Question 2

Option #1 is better because it retains the low-key, flexible, and nature aspects of the park. It also preserves the open, grassy area, which is currently the central aspect of this park, and maintains the 3 existing areas (or ‘rooms’):
1) lowest area, between tennis courts, walkway, and playground
2) highest spot - on the long side of the parking lot
3) area parallel to Boston Ave, along the wall
However I would like these items from option 2 to be included: location of the walkway and boardwalk, and the "drainage improvements at lawn area".

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4

Walkways should be the minimal necessary, and on the outskirts of the park. Please maintain the open areas to the greatest degree possible.

I’m opposed to the “seating at Chicago/Boston Ave Entrance”. Seems like a great idea, but I don’t think anyone would use it (who uses the current steps? Currently rarely used as seating - but could be - though in the warmer months, some do sit there, esp. teenagers). Also, the seating would be obscured (below ground level), & it would be a good place for un-park-like behavior, esp at night.

I also don’t like the shelter at the play ground. There are trees there already (no maintenance required for that shade!) and the shelter would obscure the sight line. If I were at the playground with my little ones, right now I can see all areas of the park where the older ones are playing, more independently. The shelter would be an obstacle to the view of the other parts of the park.

A better location for the exercise stations is Jesup Blair park. There is a lot more unused space at that park.

Question 5

Who will maintain the retaining wall, if it is painted in a nice mural? I love the look of the waves, but we already have had graffiti on several occasions on that wall. Who is the one who makes the call to the Parks and gets the tags erased? How long does it take for the Parks to get the right color paint? I’ve been calling/emailing/sending photos about the rotten timber on the basketball retaining wall for over a year, and still not fixed.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 28, 2018, 10:54 AM

Question 1

- Concept Plan 2

Question 2

No response

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 1
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4

Keeping the walkways to one edge is most appealing to me. And I’d rather limit any additional man-made structures (shade, exercise, walkways). I live across the street from the park and am not in favor of any formal programming of spaces - be it exclusive tennis or dedicated soccer space. I am especially opposed to any turf-like additions for soccer. We currently have a harmonious and respectful balance at the park - with kids using basketball and tennis courts for other purposes and with adults and dogs sharing the grassy spaces with kids. More formal programming would disrupt that balance.

Question 5

Water fountain and fixed trash cans are a great idea!
inside Silver Spring  
June 28, 2018, 12:08 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

1. Overall. I think Option #4 is the most inviting and beautiful. It creates a space that is not overly manicured but provides better access which effectively opens up more of the park for use. It made me smile when I saw it and I’m excited for work to begin and to use the new space for walking, playing with my children and seeing my neighbors. By creating a rich inviting space, more people will come. It could really bring an already robust neighborhood closer together. Thank you for your thoughtful presentations and all of the hard work put into the design process. Please try and consider those who are not responding but will also use the park such as Montgomery College students, children, neighbors who weren’t able to attend the meetings, and neighbors who don’t currently use the park but may if it offers them something they want to use (i.e. walkways, exercise stations)

2. Bio-retention areas and boardwalk paths: The feature of option #4 that most delighted my children and intrigued me are the boardwalk paths over the bio-retention areas. Children and adults alike will enjoy that feature and connecting the path to a natural play area is a fantastic idea.

3. Exercise stations: I support the exercise stations both beside the playground and the basketball court. Perhaps current park users will not use them, but I believe they will attract new users and the goal of a public space should be to cater to and attract as many diverse members of the community as possible.

4. Seating at corner of Boston ave/Chicago ave. When Takoma Soccer uses the fields, many parents bring seating but many more stand around watching the game. Having a seating area in a space that is relatively underused would be great. I do think park visitors should still be able to enter the park through that intersection since it is the closest point facing the East Silver Spring neighborhood and many people do enter the park that way.

5. Shade structure. I don’t think the shade structure is necessary because there is plenty of natural shade provided by the trees. I see the advantages of a shade structure because it provides shelter from rain and also shade in the winter when the trees have lost their leaves, but if you are looking at the budget, I think this is not essential.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 4

Question 4

1. Location of pathways: The location of the pathways in Option #4 are the best in my options because they provide access to all points of interest in the park but do not break up the open space. Option #3 by contrast has a path that divides the open space. I especially like the path/boardwalk over the bio-retention area nearest to the playground. This area is currently an underused part of the park. The drain is a little foreboding and even scary to small children. Not to mention the source of many a lost ball. Putting the bio-retention area there with a path converts it into a more usable/purposeful space.

2. Parking lot. Thank you for re-evaluating the use of the parking lot. I like that you have kept the lot at a larger size and included plans for a dedicated location for the port-a-potty (please see my comment below on the bathroom). I also like the idea of creating overflow parking that would provide a more water permeable surface. Runoff has probably been the most agreed upon matter that the renovation should address.

3. Adding inlay for pickleball and soccer on the tennis court: I don’t know much about pickleball or hard surface soccer but if there were a court to play it, I might want to learn. My children felt the same way and immediately looked up pickleball on the computer and were intrigued. My only concern was for the tennis players. It would be a shame if all the competing lines on the court made it difficult for anyone to play any sport. I’m assuming this can be dealt with but it is my concern.

4. Static exercise station by playground: I like the idea of static strength equipment near the playground. Children can experiment on the equipment and adults can have a little workout while their children play. It’s actually great for children to see their parents exercising so providing a venue for this is great in my opinion. Please use mulch or other permeable ground cover at the exercise station.

5. Natural play components- I love the idea of facilitating natural play elements. I’m conflicted about it being right beside the playground. On one hand it’s nice for caregivers to have all the child-centered features to be together, but on the other hand I want children to explore the entire park. The space behind the tennis court is already providing a degree of natural play albeit there is a concrete incline and poison ivy (neither of which stops my children). Adding some more rocks to climb on in that area would be nice.
6. mural/ painted wall: I don’t have a preference between a mural or a painting concept but I do support creating a more dynamic visual on the existing retaining wall. Any opportunity for public art should be embraced.

Question 5

1. Bathrooms: I know that several people requested a bathroom. Of course that would be nice since the port-a-potties are only around in the summer and not nice to use. My family has always used the bathrooms at Montgomery College which is open almost all of the time and is just across the street. Is there any way to put up signage and establish a more formal partnership with the college so that park users know that the college just across the street has bathrooms? There’s also a water fountain at the college.

2. night use: When the weather is nice, the park is used after dark. There is some lighting on the basketball court, but not enough. Please consider fully illuminating the basketball court in the evenings.

Gray Kimbrough
inside Silver Spring
June 28, 2018, 12:08 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

I like the idea of adding elements to the playground, but I think that an imaginative play structure or rope climbing structure could be better than a natural play area. I also think that the exercise stations are the least important elements of this plan.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4

Walkways should go around the open field, not through it, although the walkways should be ADA compliant.

Question 5

You need to increase the height of the fence around the basketball court so one is not chasing the ball all over the open field.

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 28, 2018, 1:14 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 2
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two

Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 1
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 5
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 28, 2018, 4:21 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
* Regrading the fields to address drainage/swampiness is good, while keeping the fields open (instead of bisected by paths). The generally-minimal-improvements approach is appealing (but not quite as minimal as Concept 1)
* I don't have any deep thoughts about whether the big retaining wall should have a simple pattern, a mural, or just be painted.
* As long as the Boston/Chicago entrance is retained (which is the way I always enter the park, and which is one reason I don't like Concept 3), I don't have deep thoughts on the seating steps either.
* I would prefer the tennis courts not be made multi-functional, but if functions are added, please just add one (e.g., pickleball), as in Concept 2: adding multiple lines (as in Concept 4) would make the courts kind of a mess for actually playing tennis. Very much in favor of regrading and resurfacing the tennis courts.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 1
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
* Walkways not bisecting the fields is good -- so NOT the path from parking lot to playground in Concept 3.
* A drinking fountain would be terrific -- ideally near the playground and not the basketball courts (or perhaps we could have more than 1 location).
* Additional seating near the playground would be good (but it isn't essential it be permanent as in Concept 3 -- it could just be more movable picnic tables).
* The paths in Concept 4 are the same as Concept 2 except for the added path along the retaining wall. The problem with the Concept 4 approach is that the path goes between the trees on the way to the playground -- kids like to climb those trees, and having hard surfaces and people walking underneath may not be ideal. Also, that path is not really needed; the sidewalk already serves as a connector between the parking lot area and the playground area.
* Again, please keep the Chicago/Boston entrance to the park open.

Question 5
* Be sure to keep a good but not crazy sledding hill. Kids wanting big steep hills go to Takoma Park Middle School to sled. Littler kids in the neighborhood looking for a gentler slope -- still a real hill, still some decent speed and distance, but nothing crazy -- come to this park. So don't make a 5-foot long gentle slope that will bore the kids, but don't make it too steep either. The hill that is there now is pretty good (from the trees area near Philadelphia down to the tennis courts, kind of following the line of the asphalt path).
* Please include regular maintenance of the park in your planning (and now). The swings on the playground currently squeak terribly and need to be oiled. It is easier to play on the grass when it is regularly mowed. Hand sanitizer in the porta-potty. Etc.
* Keep in mind, as you look at the green dots that were put on the multi-purpose courts part of the Options poster, that that was when kids got extra stickers and started putting them on the poster by that and the natural play areas (the latter of which I think is actually a good idea). Don't read too much into those green dots.

Elizabeth Becker
inside Silver Spring
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

June 28, 2018, 7:50 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 1

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

David Minton
inside Takoma Park
June 29, 2018, 7:46 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
I live on Boston Ave. which is already experiencing severe traffic problems when there are soccer matches - the street basically becomes a one-way lane and besides being not functional it is a danger to cars, residents and the young people themselves as they dash in and out of cars to play. PLEASE keep the park natural and do not overplan or overthink it!

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 5
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4
See below.
My family and others on Boston Ave. could accept Concept 2 as an alternative to Concept 1. But for MANY of us that is as far as we can go. I am in favor of painting the retaining wall - but only a neutral color that blends with the park. We don't need to make a "statement" with Silver Spring iconography or any other symbolic artwork. STAY NATURAL!
Question 5

Please keep in mind the law of unintended consequences: the more this park is overplanned to address "wants" (but not needs) the more likely that unwanted consequences will follow which the County will have to fix later as complaints mount up. There are MANY families on Boston Ave. who will complain bitterly if Phase 3 or 4 are implemented which will create more people, more eyesores, and more hassles. This park should NOT be turned into a soccer field. Nor should the County clutter a beautiful park with exercise stations, gaudy murals, extended play areas, or other structures being considered. Please keep this a natural open park!

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 29, 2018, 8:37 AM

Question 1

• I don’t have a preferred option

Question 2

No response

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 0
Bike rack: 0
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 5
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 5
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
June 29, 2018, 2:15 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

Multi-sport area.

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 1
Bike rack: 1
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5

Angela Greenfield
inside Silver Spring
June 29, 2018, 10:03 AM
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
June 29, 2018,  6:18 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
Really like the idea of the soccer component and shelter + exercise stations for those who would like to use those.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Melissa Tooley
inside Takoma Park
June 30, 2018, 10:04 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
I am very excited about the prospect of a natural play area at the playground, particularly one that allows younger children (under 3) to be able to explore and challenge their motor skills and physicality. I think the tennis courts should stay designated as tennis courts (and potentially pickle ball courts) and not be made into multi-use areas for things like small-sided soccer—the beautiful thing about soccer is that one can play it anywhere there’s grass, but that is not the case for tennis (or pickle ball) which is why the courts should be specifically designated as tennis courts. However, if some of the grading is fixed to prevent as much water pooling, I am not sure that the full boardwalk loop (from tennis courts over to Boston Avenue) is necessary, and could just use the plan from Concept 3.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 1
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
As someone with young children who lives a few blocks away from the park, I would recommend putting the drinking fountain and restroom facilities closer to the playground, as little legs will have a harder time making it all the way across the park to access these amenities when necessary. Having the shaded seating area near the playground will be helpful for snack time, and taking a break in hotter weather.

Question 5
One thing we’ve noticed is that Silver Spring Intermediate Park, like almost all of the playgrounds in the vicinity, is designed for kids at least three years old and older, with few opportunities for younger toddlers/older infants to participate in outdoor play other than the bucket swings. Most equipment at the county’s playgrounds, including SS Intermediate, prevent younger children from 1) experimenting with pulling up and climbing (e.g., equipment features: ladders instead of steps, or steep steps; nothing to hold onto when climbing; a big drop from the bottom of the slide to the ground; etc.), 2) experimenting with cause and effect (e.g., “steering wheels” are located at the top of something too big for them to climb), and 3) having a place to “make-believe” (e.g., pretend houses, boats, or other structures). Takoma Park’s Urban Park has some
equipment that meets this description, but it is the only park in the vicinity that does, which is not sufficient to meet the needs of the many families with young children in the area. And because little ones nap often, and have smaller windows of time to get outside, having options close to home is particularly important. There are four babies under 7 months old on our street alone, and we know at least 6 others within a few blocks of the park. As such, I would also recommend adding some "non-natural" elements at the playground for younger children as well (small slide/playing equipment). My mother was a pediatric physical therapist and early childhood development expert who instilled in us the importance of building these types of skills early, and the detriment of not doing so. Our older daughter (now 3.5 years old) quickly developed amazing physical fitness and motor skills by playing at a few different parks in DC that were walkable from the house we lived in (11th & Monroe Trolley Turnaround Park, Raymond Playground, and Powell Recreation Center) which all had areas for older kids to play but also areas that were much more accessible to little ones. In addition to being places for physical development, these parks were also great for our daughter’s social-emotional development, as well as for nurturing the neighborhood. Many parents brought similar-aged children to these parks, and we cultivated friendships and strengthened the community spending many weekends and early weekday evenings there. We hope that our younger daughter, who is 7 months old, will have the same opportunities despite growing up just a few miles away from where her sister did.

Joseph Simpich
inside Takoma Park
July 1, 2018, 6:59 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
Plan one comes closest to the ideal that the park remain as open green space as possible in order to accommodate all those who visit the park.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
Because the park is a rare open space in an urban setting, exercise stations of either type would take up too much valuable space. Apart from meeting the legal ADA requirements, any changes need to be judged against this primary concern. By having as much open space in the Park as possible allows flexibility for park visitors to use it as they may, rather than having single use facilities, such as a relatively large soccer field, installed. Currently, three small fields are being used, making it more accessible to all, and not to just one small group.

Question 5
The best course of action for the Park is to take a "less is more" approach so that it may retain the flexibility to work for as many people as possible. Keeping excessive fixed structures allows for visitors to make the park what they want it to be upon their visit, whether it be a picnic gathering, a football or soccer game, a game of tag, or simply a place to lay out and get some sun. Resisting the temptation to over-engineer the Park should be goal one.

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 2, 2018, 5:38 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
Less change is the best as this park is used every single day for many different activities by many different people. Even a casual observer can see that this park is used much more heavily than Takoma Park’s Bell Ziegler Park just a few blocks away. Those who want soccer facilities can go to Ziegler Park where the soccer field is unused for any activity on most days.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
The less walkways the better because it is a free play park. I don’t think a
walkway from the bus stop down to the tennis court makes any sense. There is not enough room. It would be better and safer for handicapped people to use existing sidewalks to go around the basketball court down the existing walkway to the tennis court. Putting a drainage swale across the free play area has already forced the removal of a long-term neighborhood volleyball game. The swale didn’t solve any problems and forced a recreation change without any alternative. Park planners need to be more aware of the impact of their “clever” changes. Options 3 and 4 are attempts to pack the park with amenities that will not be in regular use but will greatly reduce the free play for which the park is loved. Soccer is not a free-play sport, nor should it be part of the goal of a small neighborhood park.

Question 5
Open space and the resulting creativity of children and adults is critical to the use of Silver Spring Intermediate Park. Where else would you be able to see young teenagers playing hockey on the basketball court during a rainy Sunday morning as I did several weeks ago? Or students working at the picnic tables? Where else would you see neighbors and their dogs meeting in the park to talk and just enjoy the open space? Again, I challenge you to look at Belle Ziegler Park if you want to see an unused park. Compare that to the lovely neighborhood meeting place that our park has been for many years. Why would you want to change that for a few weeks of organized sports?

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 2, 2018, 12:24 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
The multipurpose courts are the best part of Plan 4, because the current tennis courts are used for other activities just as often as tennis. So many kids in this area play soccer, but the fields are useless after rain. Also, the fields do not incorporate goals. A soccer court could easily have permanent goals which would help so many kids in this area develop. The exercise stations would not work as well, because they could potentially be dangerous or unsuited to the little kids on the playground area.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2

Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4
In Plan 4, the water fountain is not very centrally located and far away from a large part of the park. A second entrance to the tennis courts would be helpful.

Question 5
As a high school student who continues to play soccer, I grew up playing at this park. One of the biggest things that I wanted was a goal to shoot on. I probably played more soccer on the tennis courts than the fields, because there was at least a fence to kick against.

Andrew Silton
inside Takoma Park
July 2, 2018, 4:31 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
It would be great to have the option to play small-sided soccer and other sports on the courts. I can’t see a reason not to have a wider range of activities available at the park, including soccer. This plan would, however, be better if it dropped the exercise stations. I just can’t see them getting much use.

Question 3
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
The addition of small-sided soccer on the courts would be awesome. But
again, we could go without the exercise stations.

Question 5
No response

**Tamra Mendelson**
inside Takoma Park
July 3, 2018, 11:54 AM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
I prefer the multi-sport plan for the tennis court area, specifically one that includes soccer. I don't know anyone who plays pickleball.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 0
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 3
Natural play components – near playground: 2

**Question 4**
Don't turn this into a soccer field. It is an open, organic, free-use space. Keep it SIMPLE!

**Question 5**
No response

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**Kathi Minton**
inside Takoma Park
July 4, 2018, 9:38 AM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 1

**Question 2**
I prefer to have more open space and less structures in the park. I like the ideas of 4 but not the exercise stations and shelter, worry that it will give kids more areas to hang out at night and smoke pot, more than they already do.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 0
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5
Question 4

I like the idea of fixing up existing areas but not adding more man made structures to the park. The more green the better, tired of the county paving over everything, especially in Silver Spring where we have more and more apartment buildings filling the skyline. Where is our open green space that is walkable? That is why this park is important to keep green and clean.

Question 5

No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 4, 2018, 1:53 PM

Question 1

• Concept Plan 4

Question 2

Given that this is likely to be the Parks Department’s only opportunity to improve this park for many years, Plan 4 improves facilities in a way that is important for a growing Silver Spring. I like that Option 4 has a water fountain, shade/picnic area, fully ADA compliant and connected walkways and more open green space (due to less parking).

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 1
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4

I prefer the shelter to be towards the parking lot side of the park, which I consider to be more adult oriented and noisy side of the park. Noise and garbage near the playground may be intrusive to kids’ playing but less intrusive to the other side of the park which already has parked cars, traffic and noisy basketball games played by adults and teenagers. If the re-design does not remove too many trees from the area near the playground, existing seating and natural shade should be sufficient for supervising parents and kid-oriented parties or gatherings. Unless they are specifically designed in a manner that is attractive and accessible to kids that play at the park, I think exercise stations would also be better placed near the basketball or tennis courts.

Question 5

I prefer Flexi-Pave surfaces over concrete surfaces as much as possible or affordable. It appears the playground itself will not be upgraded during this round of improvements. If a playground structure upgrade will occur within the next five to ten years, it may be better to only add minimal upgrades to that side of the park at this time. I find a taller and wider hitting wall to be more needed than small sided soccer or pickle-ball.

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 5, 2018, 9:42 AM

John Kent
inside Silver Spring
July 5, 2018, 7:49 AM
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4  
Mural wall: 4  
Shade structure: 5  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 3  
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring  
July 6, 2018, 5:29 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3  
Bike rack: 4  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0  
Painted retaining wall: 4  
Mural wall: 5  
Shade structure: 0  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2  
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
Please keep much open green space as possible, protect the trees, and address ADA compliance and drainage with the least amount of change.

Question 5
I like the walkway and boardwalk and the drainage improvements at the lawn area from Option #2.

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring  
July 6, 2018, 8:12 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
Little kids love the park because they can race around on the grass, enjoy imaginative play under the trees, stop for a snack at the picnic table, and kick around a ball in an unstructured way. The needs of these preschool and elementary schoolers should be paramount in planning the park improvements. They are the ones who most heavily use the park, and if it is overdeveloped with the needs of adults and older kids in mind, who are frankly less in need of the playground and play areas in any case, little kids and their families will lose a treasured community asset.

Question 5
Please do not cut down trees that were planted with care and with future generations, birds and clean air in mind. Too many trees are being cut down in our area, and it is bad for the air quality and for the health of the planet.

Anthony Ross
inside Takoma Park
July 6, 2018, 1:13 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
It's the only plan that accounts for soccer use, which is the primary interest for my kids. However, it's also the only plan that reduces the unnecessarily large parking lot, and the only plan that adds shelter near the playground, which would have been welcome 8 years ago when my kids were toddlers. As far as I can tell, concepts 1 and 2 are essentially “do nothing” other than tweak some of the ADA and drainage aspects which seems like a massively wasted opportunity.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 3
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan - Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 4
Concept four feels like the most thoughtful of the options with regard to amenity distribution. I'm not sure I have a whole lot to say about the various walkways other than I like the boardwalk concept for the wet areas. I will say that the bike rack seems more useful over by the playground than next to the parking lot.

Question 5
To maximize the use of our recreation facilities, I strongly feel that they need to be as flexible and multi-purpose as possible. That's why concept #4 is the only serious option for me. But I would go further down that road and tweak the basketball court as well, so that it can serve both basketball and futsal. This is a very common approach to such courts throughout the world. I would also like to see, as I have in other countries, a metal ping-pong table under a tree by the play area. This democratizes access to the sport and is a very cheap and simple addition to a park.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 7, 2018, 11:30 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 7, 2018, 11:36 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 4
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 7, 2018, 11:35 AM

Question 4
#4 will enable dog walkers to walk perimeter of the park even in wet, soggy conditions.

Question 5
The parking lot is always full of litter. Perhaps they can increase the
clean-up/garbage pickup.

erik voeten
inside Takoma Park
July 7, 2018, 11:59 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
Any option that supports improvement of soccer facilities.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 5
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 5
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 7, 2018, 12:37 PM

Question 1
• I don’t have a preferred option

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5

Question 4
It would be great to have a level, clean and clear place for the kids to play soccer year round — there are so many who play in the neighborhood!

Question 5
No response

Emory Baldwin
inside Takoma Park
July 7, 2018, 1:03 PM

Question 1
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
The multi-purpose courts is a brilliant idea that will provide the most recreation value for people of all ages in our community.

**Question 3**

- Drinking fountain: 5
- Bike rack: 3
- Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
- Painted retaining wall: 0
- Mural wall: 3
- Shade structure: 5
- Exercise station – static types near playground: 4
- Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
- Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
- Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
No response

**Question 5**

(1) The shade structure will also cast some welcome shade on the playground equipment, which will help keep it cooler in the summer months.

(2) The painted retaining wall might be more conducive to graffiti than a ceramic mural, or even a textured concrete/stone facade.

**Name not shown**
inside Takoma Park
July 7, 2018, 4:31 PM

**Question 1**
• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
No response

**Question 3**

- Shade structure: 5
- Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
No response

**Question 5**
I would love if this park were accessible to children under the age of three years old! It would be great to have a natural play space that incorporates this, as well as non-natural play elements designed with younger children in mind. There are many babies in this neighborhood (and more on the way) and no local parks have a play space they can use easily. Thank you for considering it!
our local park to play.

**Name not shown**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 7, 2018, 8:28 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
As a high school soccer player, when I was younger I played on similar futsal courts and it helped to nurture my love for the game. I think having this court will inspire many others to play as well.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3  
Painted retaining wall: 2  
Mural wall: 3  
Shade structure: 2  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 2

**Question 4**
A water fountain is so important especially for young athletes whom will be working at the park.

**Question 5**
Soccer is a game that many people in the Takoma and Silver Spring area enjoy. I among many others would greatly benefit from the addition of the futsal court and I believe it will help to bring the community closer together.

**Name not shown**  
inside Silver Spring  
July 8, 2018, 7:59 AM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3  
Painted retaining wall: 2  
Mural wall: 3  
Shade structure: 2  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 4  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 2

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 3  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 3  
Shade structure: 2  
Exercise station – static types near the basketball courts: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
Don't need to add walkways  
High high high priority around revitalizing the playground - more options for older kids, fenced in. If there's any way to replace the wood chips with mats that would be ideal.

**Question 5**
No response

**Name not shown**  
inside Silver Spring  
July 8, 2018, 6:46 AM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
No response

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 3  
Shade structure: 5  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 4
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
As an observation, it is interesting that the feedback from the community leads more towards Option 1 and yet the responses to this survey show a strong preference for Option 4. For younger families like ours, having more to do in a park is preferable. We live near Bullis park which is very over-utilized - the soccer games in particular produce a LOT of crowding. We'd prefer to see this park get more use.

Question 5
Thanks for your work to get this park's improvements underway!

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 8, 2018, 9:14 AM

Question 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 4
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Robert Severi
inside Silver Spring
July 8, 2018, 4:00 PM

Question 1

Question 2
I live on Richmond Avenue, and we have been playing volleyball in the park for nearly 30 years. Leveling off various areas of the park would be a big plus, not just for children's soccer for other sports like volleyball. Walkways are fine, as long as they don't cut into valuable leveled play areas.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 5
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 1
Exercise station – static types near playground: 5
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 5
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 1

Question 4
Walkways are fine, but not through or across the entire park. This would interfere with valuable sports play areas. A pull-up bar, which takes up almost no space would be a nice addition for teens and adults. I imagine that feature would be incorporated into the Exercise Stations. Compared to the basketball courts, tennis courts, and children playground areas (all great features), exercise stations would take up very little space. They’re not expensive to construct, and they support the ever growing interest in calisthenics, and general fitness.

Question 5
I’ve lived on Richmond Avenue for more than 30 years. I remember when the gymnasium was on the corner of Boston and Chicago Avenues. Silver Spring Intermediate Park is a great park (despite it’s ridiculous name... consider renaming it Boston Park. That’s what everyone calls it.) It could be so much better. I applaud the future changes. By the way, I don’t play basketball, but great job on the basketball court renovation. Those kids deserve it.

Ingrid Suisman
outside Planning Areas
July 8, 2018, 5:38 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Natural play components – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
outside Planning Areas
July 9, 2018, 4:43 AM
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Question 1

- Concept Plan 1

Question 2

No response

Question 3

Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4

No response

Question 5

No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 9, 2018, 8:58 AM

Option 4 seems like the most ambitious plan with more amenities while also preserving a good balance between open space and accessibility. The pathways look like the are the closest to the perimeter of the park. The shade structure and drinking fountain are good additions but their placement needs to be carefully considered.

Shade structure: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 3
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Option 4 seems to let you circulate throughout the park without having to exit the park onto the sidewalks and go from the playground to the tennis courts without having to travel the long way around like in Option 3. The path from the play ground to the tennis courts is the closest to the perimeter of the park, retaining more open space. The path from the playground to the parking lot takes away some space in that play area by that retaining wall, but hopefully with regrading it will be gained on the other side. Regrading will hopefully provide better drainage, while improving the usability of the open space. The exercise stations don't seem necessary and just take up open space. The shade structure is a good idea, but probably needs to be over by the basketball courts, which lack in shade, not by the playground which already has a good canopy. Maybe in the spot where the exercise station was planned? Water fountains at the basketball courts, tennis courts and playground would be nice. Extra picnic tables and benches by the playground would be nice as well. The natural play area addition should make an area the kids already play in more useful. I've never heard of pickleball, but it couldn't hurt to have options. I prefer the mural to a plain painted wall. We need more public art.

I wish the dog trail around the tennis courts had been retained - it seemed like a nice way to utilize the space behind the tennis courts. I'm not sure I understand the opposition to this amenity - the space is not used at all.

Rush Seale
inside Silver Spring
July 9, 2018, 10:50 AM

Option 4 seems like the most ambitious plan with more amenities while also preserving a good balance between open space and accessibility. The pathways look like the are the closest to the perimeter of the park. The shade structure and drinking fountain are good additions but their placement needs to be carefully considered.

- The change to the overflow parking lot should be eliminated. While it will help with stormwater runoff, the amount of space affected is low and the cost and the set amount of funds can be better used elsewhere.
- I believe the one picture given for seating steps in the upper left corner of option #2 shows the most extensive possible outcome and that a landscaped seating step arrangement that mix grass and materials to limit runoff would be useful and generate better feedback.
- the ADA ramp railings should have gaps to allow for access through
- the fence around the basketball court should be raised
- the tennis court wall for volleying should be raised and widened to allow for more than one person to use at the same time

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 5  
Shade structure: 4  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 5  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**

- There should not be a concrete walkway that connects through the playground and tree/natural play area. ADA accessibility to the playground is provided from the adjoining street entrance or flexipave path from the tennis court.
- The path from the tennis court to the play area should be as close to the boundaries as possible.
- The shelter should be moved to next to the entrance to the tennis courts

**Question 5**

I realize that the playground equipment is on a different schedule but there should be the addition of playground equipment for older children that could be added without any changes to the existing sets. The cost for this could be recovered from the elimination of the overflow parking lot, which due to the now limited changes in size will not have a large effect on water runoff. As mentioned above, the scale of the seating at the Chicago/Boston entrance in the design options slide is why several people at the forum were against it. By including the seating/steps at a reduced scale and not with 100% impervious surfaces, there would be much stronger support and also address some of the runoff to make up for the overflow parking elimination.

**Kathy Jentz**  
inside Silver Spring  
July 9, 2018, 11:19 AM

**Question 1**

• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**

No response

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 5  
Shade structure: 4  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 5  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**

No response

**Question 5**

No response

**Name not shown**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 9, 2018, 11:46 AM

**Question 1**

• Concept Plan 1

**Question 2**

No response

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 3  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 4  
Shade structure: 4  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4  
Natural play components – near playground: 3

**Question 4**

The current topography of the open spaces or playing fields means that there are essentially 3 fields. They are large enough for children to play
games on them but still a bit smaller so they are not conducive for larger
sport games to be played on them. It’s more beneficial for small kids and
smaller groups of adults to play on. It’s not being monopolized by adult
sport teams using the fields for practice. One benefit is availability, if one
field is being used you can use one of the others. It’s extremely rare that
you go to the park and can’t use one of the fields. I think that is a major
benefit. It’s a place where younger kids and smaller groups of adults can
use the space without being forced out by larger organized sports teams
using the fields for practices and games. I would like that to remain the
case. I would also add that the fields do not lie dormant, they are used
quite often.

**Question 5**

I live within eyesight of the parking lot. I was surprised that it was noted as
underused. Granted during business hours there is not tons of parking
used but after business hours the park comes alive and parking can be at
a premium. I am all for reducing non-permeable areas around the park
because drainage is an issues but reducing the parking lot seem a bit odd
to me. We have seen spill over into the neighborhood during spring and
fall toddler soccer season on weekend mornings, which is fine. But if you
limit the parking then more cars spill into the neighborhood. I’m talking
mainly about late afternoon when parking can fill up quickly for basketball
and tennis parking along with toddler soccer practice. The recourse
would be to find parking in the streets in the neighborhood, most of which
are permitted areas. Takoma Park area is zone 1 and any cars not with
zone 1 passes are subject to fines. I believe the same is true for the Silver
Spring areas and the Montgomery College area has it’s parking challenges
even in late afternoon. Handing out parking fines in the area seems to
make the park less inviting. Perhaps that is part of the plan to get folks
less reliant on car traffic. I’m curious what the plan is for additional
parking. I believe option 4 had some spill over parking options, I think it
would be wise to consider that as an option for any plan that reduces the
parking lot size.

Lastly, I would add that Chicago ave is used as a cut through from 410 to
Sligo Avenue. Speeding is an issue. Increasing the parking on the streets
around the park may increase the danger of crashes in the area. I would
allow that it may ultimately make the area less attractive as a short cut
but still worry about traffic safety in the area with the streets crowded
with additional cars.

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**Name not shown**
inside Takoma Park
July 9, 2018, 11:48 AM

**Question 1**

- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**

- Concept Plan 1

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 2
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 4
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 4
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

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**Name not shown**
inside Upper Rock Creek
July 9, 2018, 11:48 AM

**Question 1**

- Concept Plan 1

**Question 2**

Prefer the field to remain as is. ... with open space for all usages.

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 0

**Question 4**

No response
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

**Question 5**
No response

**John Seelke**  
inside Silver Spring  
July 9, 2018, 1:20 PM

**Question 1**
• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
I like the options for indoor soccer or similar sports so that the park can appeal to more kids playing different sports.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 0  
Bike rack: 0  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0  
Painted retaining wall: 0  
Mural wall: 0  
Shade structure: 1  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
The multi-purpose soccer field would be a major improvement for neighborhood kids.

**Question 5**
No response

**Kenneth Somodevilla**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 9, 2018, 3:57 PM

**Question 1**
• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
No response

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 0  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 4  
Shade structure: 5  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
No response

**Question 5**
No response

**Name not shown**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 9, 2018, 3:16 PM

**Question 1**
• Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
The multi-use sports field would be much more in keeping with the needs of the neighborhood than simply a tennis court. Dozens of kids in the neighborhood play soccer, and opening the space to them would be a huge improvement for the neighborhood.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 0  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4  
Painted retaining wall: 3  
Mural wall: 4  
Shade structure: 5  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
No response

**Question 5**
No response
**Name not shown**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 9, 2018, 4:04 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
Only option 4 allows for reasonable soccer use at the park, and soccer access is a significant need in our local community. Many existing nearby fields are not well maintained and cause potential physical hazards to youth playing on the fields. The all-weather surface option 4 would provide would offer a safer playing space for soccer while also increasing soccer access in wet weather conditions. Option 4 also allows for varied use of the park space and maximizes the physical space in the park.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 0  
Bike rack: 1  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1  
Painted retaining wall: 0  
Mural wall: 0  
Shade structure: 1  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 4

**Question 4**
see above

**Question 5**
No response

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**Name not shown**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 9, 2018, 8:20 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
I believe that having a covered multi sport arena would be very beneficial to most people who desire physical activity. Some of the fields in the Takoma Park region are not exactly well maintained, and this would certainly be helpful for myself and my soccer team.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0  
Painted retaining wall: 5  
Mural wall: 5  
Shade structure: 3  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 0

**Question 4**
For the multi-purpose courts, it would be useful for multiple sports, which would make playing sports of any kind much easier. Exercise stations would not be as effective as getting people to commit to physical activity.

**Question 5**
Exercise stations are stupid.

---

**Iain Mackenzie**  
inside Silver Spring  
July 9, 2018, 10:15 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
The addition of the mini soccer field(s) is a much needed and welcome addition.

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 5  
Bike rack: 4  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4  
Painted retaining wall: 1  
Mural wall: 0  
Shade structure: 5  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 5
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 5
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
The trees do provide some shelter in the play area but I like the addition of the shelter area in option 4. The drinking fountain is also a much needed addition.

Question 5
This area is desperately short of adequate space for kids to play soccer. The number of kids who play locally is huge. Just look at the local Takoma Soccer club. The tennis courts are not well utilized and would be put to far better use as a mini soccer field(s). No offence to pickle ball but the number of kids playing soccer compared to pickle ball doesn’t even come close.

Amanda Boyce
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 9:13 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
I would really like the tennis courts to be painted for a soccer court and for there to be a water fountain and natural play options.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
No response

Question 5
As I read through the other comments prior to responding to the survey, I reflected on the park and its importance in our neighborhood. The park was the central fixture for us when we first arrived 14 years ago. At that time, the neighborhood was in transition and our children were some of the only kids to play in the park. The basketball courts were popular then and the tennis courts were used as well. That being said, the park was often empty and truly underutilized, so much so that we regularly commented it was as though we purchased our own park when we purchased our home. All of that has shifted over the last few years and we now have many young children in the neighborhood. The park is a central hub of activity, a place to connect with neighbors, a place to let your children play and explore, and a place to play volleyball, soccer, frisbee, tennis, basketball, baseball, etc. The park is used by a great many neighbors and we feel protective of the space and its importance to the families living here. Although my own children are grown, I would ask that we consider the needs of young children and provide a natural play area as we move forward. I would also ask that we keep as much open space as possible so that the long-running volleyball game can continue here.
neighbors can have picnics together, and families can have games of tag, ultimate frisbee, soccer, etc. I would ask that you consider adding a fenced area for a dog park as the park is currently used as a somewhat impromptu daily dog park and I am aware that some non-dog owners feel uncomfortable with dogs off-leash. I would ask that the tennis courts remain and the basketball courts as well. In my opinion, we do not need more soccer fields nor is this park large enough to sustain such fields. The park is a gem and serves numerous purposes for those of us living here. Let’s not lose sight of that as we seek to design and improve the space for generations to come.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 10:09 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
Small sided games are ideal for kids because players get more touches and it’s a high skill version of the game. Providing good quality soccer facilities locally is important for an equity point of view. Not everyone can afford Wheaton Sports Pavilion, Travel Soccer Teams, Maryland Soccerplex, etc. The grass fields designated for soccer in our area are atrocious. 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. Using an existing facility differently does not increase the hardscape area of this Park.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 0

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Colleen McCarthy
outside Planning Areas
July 10, 2018, 11:40 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
No response

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 11:51 AM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 4
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 4
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Name not shown inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018, 12:01 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018, 12:47 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 1
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 5
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 12:25 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 1
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 1
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 1
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 1:13 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 5
Painted retaining wall: 3
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 4
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
Minimal walkways preferred. Enough to meet ADA compliance, but not more.

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018, 1:54 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 3:56 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 2

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 4
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 4
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 3
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response
Elliott Vanskike
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 4:42 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
My favorite part of this plan is the opportunity to get an all-weather, multisport surface in the park. My family (wife and 2 middle school-aged boys) live 2 blocks away and use the park regularly. I think we would be even more frequent users if there were a surface that could be used for practicing soccer skills.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 5
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 4
Mural wall: 5
Shade structure: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 3

Question 4
In my experience, exercise stations are rarely used and quickly become *dis*used. Parts get worn and rusty. I don’t see those aspects of the proposed plans as a good long-term use of funds. I think the multisport surface is a smarter and lasting investment for the park.

Question 5
I coach soccer and can definitely say that a multisport surface is needed. Too often, the soccer fields in the area are overgrown or have large bare, dirty patches. Before every practice and game I go through the field picking out large rocks and pieces of glass. The surface isn’t appealing for soccer (or any other outdoor sport) and it’s not really even safe. Games and practice are too often canceled--even in light rain--because the dirt turns to mud.

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018, 5:00 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 5
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 2

Question 4
The drinking fountain appears to be the most practical and needed amenity proposed. It’s clearly needed by kids and adults making use of the park and might have the added bonus of lessening the water bottle litter. Placing it near the popular basketball court makes sense. The park has some great shade trees already. Another concrete pad and shade structure is not the best use of money, in my opinion.

Question 5
My preference is for minimum adjustments to this great neighborhood park. Correcting drainage issues and improving handicap accessibility will make the park more enjoyable for everyone and be an effective use of county funds. As a neighborhood resident, I don’t want to see too much of the park covered in concrete/surfaces or unnecessary amenities.

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 5:19 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
Minimal changes to a park that seems to work well for the community. Happy to see the drainage and ADA compliance addressed.

Question 3
Nancy Nickell
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018, 5:32 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 1

Question 2
This unique park is the jewel of the neighborhood. It provides peace, beauty and play space to all ages. The gently rolling landscape is beautiful, and provides safety for children and for dogs to run around. However, a shade structure would be hard to see into, and would invite undesirable activity. Lighted play space at night would be very bad, could spur fights and underage drinking, as well as lots of noise. More shade is needed, in the form of more trees. Also, fields would spur parking in the neighborhood - many of us have no off-street parking and permit parking ends at 5pm. This is already a big problem on Saturday mornings, and that is as much as we can tolerate. There are other fields nearby, including Jequie Park, Takoma Park Middle School - both within walking distance.. Fields are heat islands. We have lost many trees in this park and in the neighborhood, we do not need any more hot fields or courts. The white retaining wall glows in the moonlight. It reflects the colors of sun during the day. A mural would ruin it. Murals are for walls surrounded by hardscape, not beautiful greenspace. Children and other human beings need space for free play - to toss Frisbees, fly kites, toss a baseball or football, lay a blanket down and just hang out. All these things and more happen here. There is enough competition in this world, and enough space nearby for competitive sports with parents driving their kids and watching them. In terms of ADA, beautiful Oak trees were killed to build the large sidewalk on Chicago. That sidewalk provides a way around the park. It would be absurd to pave the park for a person on a walker or in a wheelchair. Such a person can already access the playground, and can take the sidewalk to the port-a-potty. Even most of the single-family homes in the neighborhood have small yards. Ours is too small for even badminton or croquet. But we can set either up in the park. Apartment dwellers have no yard. Let this jewel continue its sweet sparkle.

Question 3

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 5:35 PM

Question 4
All except one would create a heat island effect, placing more stress on the remaining trees and hastening their death. It would destroy the park as a peaceful space, it would become a cut-through. Pavement would also reflect sound, destroying peace not only in the park but in the neighborhood.

Question 5
The parking lot is desperately needed. Every space is used on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings, and lots of other times - including any Sunday when the weather is decent. Parents bringing kids to sports can be very inconsiderate when they park on the street - they often park far from the curb, and/or take up 2 spaces with one vehicle. Since I work on Saturday mornings and return before noon with lots of equipment, it is often very hard to park and unload my car. The parking lot is a vital resource to the Takoma Park and Montgomery County Police, who often pull drivers from the 2-lane Hwy 410 and search the cars. This often happens at night, with offices using the lights on their cruisers. The lot is large enough for an officer to work with backup cruisers. It also serves as a staging area for vehicles doing utility work nearby. Today I saw a mail truck in the lot. Nearly every day I see trucks for tradesman in the lot, their occupants stopping for some peaceful green space and a port-a-potty break.
Mural wall: 3  
Shade structure: 3  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0

**Question 4**

No response

**Question 5**

No response

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**Robert Franklin**  
inside Silver Spring  
July 10, 2018, 7:14 PM

**Question 1**

- Concept Plan 1

**Question 2**

It is the least intrusive. Bike racks may be a convenience for people who bike there and might encourage people to bike there instead of driving.

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 1  
Bike rack: 5  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0  
Painted retaining wall: 5  
Mural wall: 0  
Shade structure: 0  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0  
Natural play components – near playground: 0

**Question 4**

The park is very widely used as it is. I have seen exercise stations in other locations and they are hardly ever used, they would just take up space. There is a decent play area now that is frequently used. I even use to do chin ups. A natural play area would take up space and there are natural areas nearby. As stated the park is widely used now. Adding walkways is not needed and would only present tripping hazards given the use of the park now.

**Question 5**

I live across the street from the park. I see how it is used. It is widely used by diverse groups now. Anything to increase its use will lead to overuse and destruction of the grass, trees, and other flora. This will diminish the value of this asset and the quality of this neighborhood. I note that other nearby parks (Belle Ziegler and Jessup Blair), the soccer fields are virtually all dirt. I want to keep Silver Spring Intermediate Park green and grassy.

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**Ben Bevington**  
inside Takoma Park  
July 10, 2018, 7:23 PM

**Question 1**

- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**

No response

**Question 3**

Drinking fountain: 2  
Bike rack: 1  
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1  
Painted retaining wall: 0  
Mural wall: 1  
Shade structure: 0  
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2  
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2  
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5  
Natural play components – near playground: 1

**Question 4**

There is a serious shortage of places for children and adults to play sport in Takoma Park, especially when rain regularly means games need to be cancelled. I’m particularly keen to encourage more children to play soccer, and the small-sided soccer court provides that whatever the weather. It’s also a great way to improve players’ technical skills. These are common in other parts of the world and with the World Cup coming to the US in 2026 now’s the time to invest in the young players who are already dreaming of playing in that tournament. The beauty of this proposal is that it’s multi-purpose so benefits other sports too.

**Question 5**

No response

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**Name not shown**  
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 7:44 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 4
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 4
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018, 8:12 PM

Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 8:31 PM

Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 8:12 PM

Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 8:31 PM

Creating the small group soccer markings on the basketball court is a great way to help kids have more fun.

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
Creating the small group soccer markings on the basketball court is a great way to help kids have more fun.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 1
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 3
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 4
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
The addition of the exercise station near the tennis court is good, and the placement of the sledding hill is good too.

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 9:06 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 3

Question 2
I feel like the location of these walkways follows the natural path in the park and allows for maximum use of the open space. One can go from the parking lot to the play area and the tennis courts.

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 0
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 0
Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 0
Natural play components – near playground: 0

Question 4
I think the option 3 directs the flow to the playground which is the most common area in the park. Kids and families come here to play. it has the best options for pathways in my opinion.

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 9:22 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 2
Mural wall: 1
Shade structure: 2
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 3
Natural play components – near playground: 0

Question 4
Better drainage is key, Fixing uneven grassy area and basic things like removing poison ivy throughout

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 9:14 PM

Question 1
• Concept Plan 4

Question 2
No response

Question 3
Drinking fountain: 2
Bike rack: 3
Seating steps -near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 0
Painted retaining wall: 0
Mural wall: 0
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 3
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 3
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 5
Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
Better drainage is key, Fixing uneven grassy area and basic things like removing poison ivy throughout

Question 5
No response
**Lauren Dunton**
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018,  9:30 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
No response

**Question 3**
Drinking fountain: 3
Bike rack: 2
Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
Painted retaining wall: 1
Mural wall: 3
Shade structure: 5
Exercise station – static types near playground: 2
Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 2
Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 3
Natural play components – near playground: 5

**Question 4**
No response

**Question 5**
No response

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**Name not shown**
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018,  9:54 PM

**Question 4**
No response

**Question 5**
No response

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**Carolyn Mackenzie**
inside Silver Spring
July 10, 2018,  9:47 PM

**Question 1**
- Concept Plan 4

**Question 2**
No response

**Question 3**
No response

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**Name not shown**
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 10:41 PM

**Question 1**
Leave the park as it is.

**Question 5**
Please, oh please leave the park as it is. We all love and enjoy it just as it is.

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Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.
Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park Improvement Plan- Phase Two
Help improve Silver Spring Intermediate Neighborhood Park.

- Concept Plan 2

Question 2
Improves on the core issues without radically changing Park.

Question 3

- Drinking fountain: 0
- Bike rack: 0
- Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 3
- Painted retaining wall: 4
- Mural wall: 3
- Shade structure: 4
- Exercise station – static types near playground: 0
- Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
- Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 2
- Natural play components – near playground: 4

Question 4
No response

Question 5
No response

Name not shown
inside Takoma Park
July 10, 2018, 11:39 PM

Question 1

- Concept Plan 2

Question 2
It's a hard decision between option 2 and 4. Of both I prefer the majority of the open field be unobstructed by walkways and new additions. In terms of the walkway, I love the boardwalk and prefer Flexi-pave over concrete. The beauty of this park is that there isn’t concrete which skins knees creates runoff and makes it hard to enjoy the breadth of the space without feeling confined to "zones." This park in its current state is appreciated by most to remain as is. We just need better turf, drainage and cosmetic maintenance and safety upgrades of existing areas. I like the addition of the extra play/exercise stations as layering in some new attraction. However, I sincerely hope, if option 4 is preferred that the design of those "stations" reflect the natural environment that exists. Neutral, wood, static!, much like what one would find in a National Park. The parking lot could be shortened as in option 4 to better design the entrance area and maintain the most amount of natural green space as possible, however "overflow" parking on the grass would be difficult to manage in practice and may lead to more disputes and safety concerns when vehicles enter a mixed parking/play space.

Question 3

- Drinking fountain: 5
- Bike rack: 3
- Seating steps - near the Chicago/Boston intersection entrance: 2
- Painted retaining wall: 5
- Mural wall: 5
- Shade structure: 4
- Exercise station – static types near playground: 1
- Exercise station – dynamic types near the basketball courts: 0
- Multi-purpose courts – tennis, pickleball, small sided soccer: 4
- Natural play components – near playground: 5

Question 4
advantages-ADA compliance and access-walking/biking routes. PLEASE keep surfaces natural and flexible. NO CONCRETE
BEST FORMAT-keeps the walkways on exterior/perimeter of open space.

Question 5
Would love to see another re-design after final comments posted- a blending of option 2&4. Would also enjoy these proposed modern upgrades but in clear reflection of design and respect to natural materials versus hard building structural elements.