

Kick-Off Meeting - 7/26/19

Friday, July 26, 2019

8:34 AM

AGENDA FROM BENNETT

SIGN IN SHEET PASSED AROUND

GREAT URBAN PARK CAMPAIGN - WEST LOUISVILLE PARK INITIATIVE (name/role/goal as provided)

Bennett Knox, Parks/JMF

Boz Lundren – Lockett & Farley

Jocari Beatti - comm outreach with parks, get kids and families outdoors

Jessica Kane - program manager, Parks JMF

Allison Smith - brownfields, City of Louisville

Major Waltman - Olmstead, here since inception, maintain historic design intent

Johni Ison - Center for Neighborhoods, figure out a role for Center for Neighborhoods

Matt Gullo – Lockett & Farley

Jordan Basham - with Louisville MSD, design of pond, address a few drainage issues

SteVon Edwards – WLORI community council member

Erin Wagoner - MSD, Project Manager, restoring pond - connection with water ways

Kurt Mason - West Jefferson County Community task force,

Also with USDA Natural Resources Conservation - outdoors as learning space

Laura Mattingly - USACE, how does masterplan relate to project

Andy Reed - USACE

Eboni Cochrane - Community Council Member, resident of Chickasaw neighborhood

Metro Parks Engineer

Paul Wilkes - KDFWR, Neighborhood Fish Program

Sarah Flarsheim – Metro Park volunteer coordinator (representing Parks' Community Relations)

Victory Asezua - Community Council Member, UL Student, member of community

Hailey Buckner - Summer Works Program, JMF

Venkata Gullapalli – Parks' Engineer

Arrived after meeting start:

Lisa Brents - Community Council Member, Nativity Academy, on staff at JMF, community liaison for project

DeAndre Bibb, Jr. - member of summer works JMF

Taymon James – SummerWorks youth, JMF, learn more about community, he lives around here

Jason Canuel - Parks

- INTRODUCTION - (Bennett)
- SHARED AGREEMENT OF MEETING RULES (SteVon)
 - How this project is going to go.
 - Lot of partners
 - Community Use of the Spaces - making sure we are listening to the community
 - T, true
 - H, helpful
 - I, innovative
 - N, necessary
 - K, kind

- We all drove here, think about the people
- Do not interrupt
- Speak loudly
- Listen
- All opinions are valid
- OVERVIEW OF MEETING GOALS
 - Come out with concrete action steps in the process
 - Stakeholders coming together with commitment to inclusive design process
 - Inclusive Process
 - Meet the goals - compressed schedule, limited budget
 - Meet the timeline
 - Make sure we have an agreed framework for community input
 - Make sure the community has the opportunity to be in the room at every step
- PROJECT OVERVIEW / STATUS / HISTORY
 - Project History
 - This project came out of the 2008/2009 Louisville ECHO Program
 - Lack of access to nature for children in cities
 - Grant from Forest Service for ECHO program
 - Other elements added to program over time
 - No equitable access as far as nature for neighborhoods - nothing in west Louisville, no trails, no boat ramps
 - Money from Metro and USACE for Master Plan for Infrastructure Improvements
 - Direction on Chickasaw and Shawnee
 - Early direction from Olmsted plans - boat ramps, environmental education, boat ramps (2001 Chickasaw Master Plan)
 - Lot of these moving forward - boat ramp in Shawnee, bicycle track in Shawnee, Outdoor Learning Center in Shawnee to support ECHO program
 - Chickasaw - complimentary infrastructure through programming, undirected enjoyment of park, job component - health equity and social determinants of health, clean environment, educational attainment, job opportunities
 - Chickasaw Project History
 - MSD - Parks / Olmsted Grant, design drawings / support to restore Chickasaw Pond, includes amenity design for L&F
 - Clean Pond
 - Fish & Wildlife - stocked pond, fishery, “catch and take” goal
 - Opportunities
 - Compliment Shawnee, flat water canoeing - basic skills / education
 - Improve Drainage
 - Pathways - connectivity in and to park
 - Need to refine concepts
 - Road that goes down to boat ramp...neglected
 - Issue with riverbank - washed away due to flooding, request to USACE to fund stabilization of riverbank...this is a huge need
 - Disconnect drainage of pond - drain to river, disconnect from combined sewer system and treat it before it goes to river

- Final Component - nature play access, on the knob that overlooks the river, play that relates to nature...the master plan does not really address this and we can work with community to define what this is
- Parking Lot - potential redesign
- Gullo - how much was community involved in the initial MP? Knox:- a number of stakeholder meetings and public events where input was sought out, Parks believes they had good input, but can always do better. Hence this process. Suggestions moving forward: Stevon - perhaps door to door, community will find out if we modify landscape, should stick to the final goal, pond is still used to teach kids how to fish...DOOR TO DOOR WAY IS THE ONLY GOOD WAY TO GET WORD OUT (NOTHING DIGITAL - FACE TO FACE IS ONLY WAY) ...Knox - summer works does do some of this door to door work, but this is only a summertime solution
- Project Ready Stuff:
 - Testing Results -
 - Allison Smith - Brownfields Program Manager Metro Louisville
 - 1995 Sampling - found sediment in pond, heavy metals, limited recreation
 - 2005 Sampling - of fish, found dioxins in tissue, signs went up "don't eat fish"
 - Current - remove sediment in pond for pond upgrade:
 - Sampling in pond
 - Sampling around pond
 - Results - No VOC's in sediments, low levels (safe limits) VAH's, OCDD found in sediment and (Dioxin) is not an issue - not soluble, 3000x weaker than most dioxins, food chain issue DOES NOT EXIST - dioxin does not get into fatty tissue of fish AND sediment will be removed; worked with State Super Fund Branch: letter issued for public health and safety - the pond is safe (report was shared, also shared at community council)
 - Questions:
 - Eboni: How do VOC's disappear? Allison: time, breakdown through bacteria and other natural factors
 - Eboni: This community needs additional support
 - 300x less...could still be bad
 - Cumulative impacts: not the only thing this community will be exposed to; not only impacted by one thing - slew of chemicals in the air, small amounts of particles in the air
 - Bennett - "if community does not have any concerns" we would normally, work with letter provided to move soils around the park, this would be the least expensive option if the community is comfortable with this direction
 - What would it take to demonstrate the cumulative impacts that Ebony is addressing? Ebony - can't speak for other folks and would have more questions later; Major - we have 1995 report as well as 2005 report as well as raw data from this years report
 - Lisa - we are thinking about the full range of impacts from within the park; Ebony - other environmental concerns, how

do other chemicals impact what we've found in the pond?

Bennett - how do we work with community to show impact?

Coming Clean - collaborative community group about addressing environment...Ebony will take it to them and return with questions / issues

- Kurt - informing people about change, Chickasaw park has a history, trust in who is providing information, need to rely on data and go through risk assessment: go through a process of determination of what we know and determine if that risk is low enough to offset the values of what this project brings; with regard to FWL: protect the fish, engage the community - the West Louisville Task force is providing information and allowing community to digest respond
- Victory - what is plan B? Currently taking out of pond and spreading it around ... maybe it's okay, but why keep it here? Are there other locations for the soil? Bennett: USACE relied on testing from 1995 and made a recommendation - if it tests positive: take off site to a regulated fill (cost prohibitive) or place against the Levee and cap with clean soil. Initial recommendation from 2016 was to assume contamination and regulate as a capped (e.g., 2' of clean soil) ... capping is still an option, three options:
 - Use the soil on site
 - Cap the soil on site (import to cap and for additional drainage improvements)
 - Remove soil off-site and bring in new soil as required.
- Jordan Basham - discussion about cleaning pond
- Matt Gullo - discussion about capping option
- Question for KYDFWR - is depth the only issue or is soil? Just depth. With KDFWR – In July they did electro-shocking to determine fish population. Only found 6 fish, not enough to perform statistically valid fish tissue testing. Given the results of the soil test, FWL did feel that they could stock the lake in a healthy way.
- Jessica Kane - now it is cheaper to relocate the soil than going to a hazardous landfill...but still a large volume and we would have to import topsoil to affect drainage; Basham - we do have a design on drainage and could check volumes
- Bennett - possible solution: we could get ballpark figures for placing in the park vs. relocating soil and importing new (MSD could get a volume on soil in the next month to check costs)
 - Ebony - moving soil would help with community acceptance
 - Bennett - If we are dealing with contamination issues, we could
 - Stevon - what is the budget? We have \$195k for design, a portion of which will go to green infrastructure improvement. The only construction we are able to

fund is the Green Infrastructures, removing invasives, modify culvert under road/levee to improved outfall (\$35k for design and construction of GI work) ... total budget \$230k (survey, testing, geotech, design) ... the other capital will need to be raised

- Kurt - reviewed soil direction and added that pond would need to have a layer of placed soil
- Bennett - suggests two immediate action items:
 - Take information on testing back to membership networks
 - Request MSD to perform volume calculations to determine ball park cost of the various options.
- Lisa - the overlay of uncontaminated soils could provide the community with a reassurance that they are safe, for community trust; Eboni - sure, this all sounds good, but from a trust standpoint the community will still check; great idea that MSD is working on the volume issue; but will still want a double check; Gullo - is there an educational path for the community? Eboni - give info in terms of both scientific and layman terms, need to keep cumulative impacts on our minds; suggested Metro Parks/Louisville go to local industry for what they can do to help this process
- Bennett - Two Action Items:
 - Volume from MSD
 - Get information to Kurt and Eboni
- REVIEW OF TIMELINE / INTRODUCE MAJOR MILESTONES
 - Bennett: On Grant - September of 2020 for completion of grant funds...for next year, to meet grant goals, need construction/design docs for an actionable summer works project (green infrastructure (GI) items including a bioswale and bio-remediation below the pond outfall-culvert pipe in the SW corner of the park.
 - Need Design for GI - by February / March of 2020
 - Gullo: working backwards from March of 2020, this is a DRAFT, will need to be tweaked based on conversation
 - Reviewed Park Design Process and Timeline
 - Gather information - looking for Geotech (to be completed in next two weeks), understand soil in pond
 - Give community best options going forward from Masterplan - implementing of details (materials, plant life, sculpting earth, etc.)
 - Further along what has been completed so far
 - Need Community input on safety, engagement
 - Timeline:
 - September - initial concepts, before that working with Steering Committee and what this looks like ... we need the community's input
 - Public Input Meetings - September - give information, determine what they want; October - present findings and a design based on what they are looking for
 - How do we propose to go about the Public Input process?

- First - Site Visit (steering committee)...we know community wants fishing, canoeing opportunities... have stakeholders, including WLORI community council members) take initial effort to frame improvements
 - Public Meeting - what does a community input meeting look like?
 - Major - PROVIDE FOOD, needs to be a guided process, at Victory - had a big picnic, provided food, had 150-200 people show up...brought preliminary conceptual ideas that we knew we needed to stick to (posters, produced information
 - Give people a reason to come out
 - Planning Team (L&F) to provide original thoughts like mitigate steepness of berm, allow people to comment on already provided designs
 - Second - September
 - Eboni: Stations - various concerns with solutions to each ... which solution resonates with the public, post-it notes placed by public on the presentation board
 - Ebony: love the guided process, as long as it is full-disclosure
 - Johni: Neighborhood Groups - can only organize around what people are interested in; be consistent - door to door, on a regular basis, small pop ups on blocks surrounding
 - Major: set up stations for each issue with solutions to each, let people comment - sticky notes and surveys to get ideas for each
 - Young Adult Outreach Effort - capture a few people to do this to get groups going, make it an attraction or an event, bouncies / flyers to get people to park
 - Johnnie - send community council into community to bring people to event
 - Bennett: Do this in the Park twice ...
 - Jason Canuel: get parks to host a site to connect to social media
 - Really need to communicate this to the neighborhood organizations - make sure we get this to as many people as possible
 - Bennett - confirmed no objections to timeline provided
- REVIEW OF DESIGN PROCESS (incorporated above)
 - DISCUSSION OF STAKEHOLDER / PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS (incorporated above)
 - CONFIRM SCHEDULE AND TIMELINE (incorporated above)
 - COMMENTS / CONCERN / SUGGESTIONS / MEETING INPUT
 - Kurt - rolling out to community, user groups who use the park - make sure we are connecting to them, church / schools, food is a good idea ... make sure you get them away from it ... station is the ticket to the food just to make sure you get them out
 - Johni - raffle prizes, need to attend booth to get tickets for raffle
 - Amps / River City Drum Corps / West Louisville Tennis Club - connect to them to draw on their memberships and perhaps have them provide their own tent
 - Eboni - Smell My City App, make sure we download, it will help the park
 - ADJOURN