



Raleigh Park Open House #2 Summary (5/23/17)

Nearly 50 community members participated in an open house meeting about Raleigh Park on 5/23/17. During the meeting, staff presented concepts for changes to the park based on feedback heard during the November 2016 open house. Patrons rotated through four stations (Stream Enhancement, Pool Improvements, Tennis Courts, Trails). The comments below are arranged thematically.

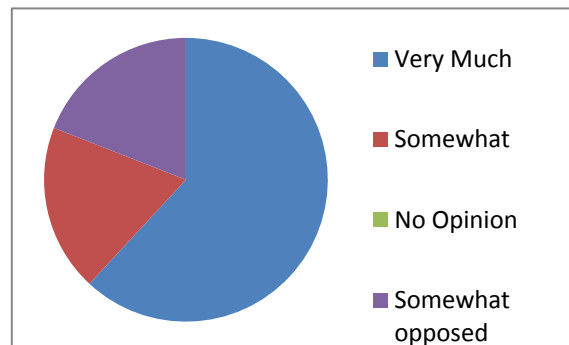
Content summary:

- Many people wanted to see enhancements to the stream corridor, but some had concerns about the loss of grassy areas or places to walk due to proposed vegetation planting.
- Participants supported the new pool deck and perimeter fence.
- There was a high level of interest in creating a pickle ball court on the single tennis court.
- Expansion of the trail system was strongly supported.

Stream Enhancement Summary

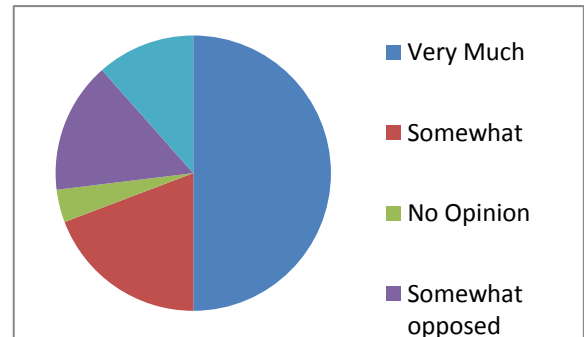
Based on a voting exercise, conversations, and written comments, there is a desire among a majority of participants to revegetate much of the stream corridor. The proposal includes “daylighting” the creek by moving it to a new channel that wraps around the south side of the pool, instead of running it through a pipe under the pool. Several patrons expressed interest in allowing people, especially children, to walk through any revegetated areas. THPRD staff are comfortable with people accessing replanted areas as long as damage is kept to a minimum.

To what degree do you support stream enhancements and rerouting in the three proposed locations?				
Very Much	Somewhat	No Opinion	Somewhat opposed	Very opposed
26	8	0	8	0



The ash grove area near SW Miner Way is a wetland area that has been seasonally mowed for recreation. Use of the area is light since it is wet for most of the year. The area currently has a horseshoe pit that is seldom used and sometimes has picnic benches. Patrons generally favor restoring this area to a natural space with improved trail access and benches.

How much do you support changing the Ash Grove into a natural area with just a trail? (Includes removing benches and horse shoe pits)				
Very Much	Somewhat	No Opinion	Somewhat opposed	Very opposed
13	5	1	4	3



Representative Stream-Specific Comments:

- Love the look but concerned about the limitations for children to enjoy and explore the creek (N edge of picnic and south edge of ash grove) where there is constant activity during summer months. South edge of pool area doesn't seem to attract as much activity.
- If south edge of pool gets planted, we should have the alternate south trail. If no south trail (between pool and school), I would definitely contest the planting. The area behind the pool and tennis courts are primary off-trail walking areas and well-used by all.
- Kids love the creek, it would be a shame to block any part of the creek. I know the park is rented out to kids groups during the summer and those groups should be consulted.
- Worried about hard and bare riparian areas - glad to see plantings.
- The more natural the better.

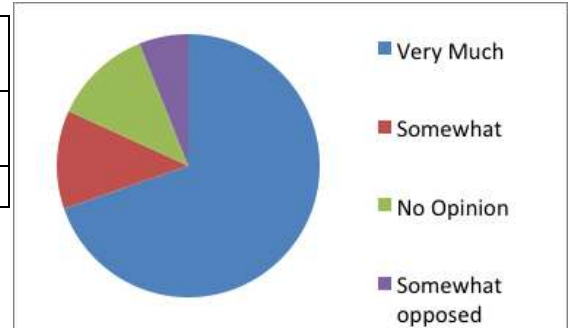
Pool Specific Summary

Improvements to the pool include a new pool deck, a curb or seat wall along the east and south edges, and a new fence design. This station was informational, but received only positive comments. The curb or seat wall would help to keep water and debris from entering the pool and could provide seating for pool users. Enhancements to the pool are planned for fall 2018, but could change depending on the timing of plan development and permit acquisition.

Tennis/Pickleball Summary

Pickleball is a racquet game, similar to tennis, but played on a smaller court with a different net. Patrons supported the idea of transforming the single tennis court into a pickleball court or overlaying pickle ball lines onto it so we could offer both tennis and pickleball, if nets were changed out.

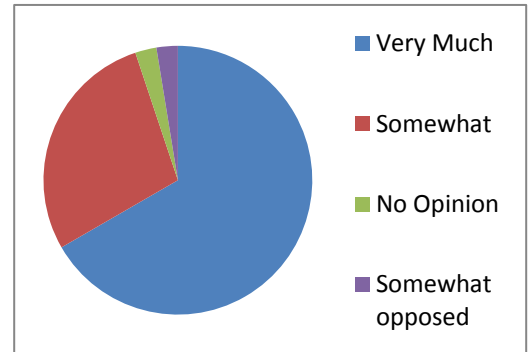
To what degree do you support the change of a tennis court to a pickleball court?				
Very Much	Somewhat	No Opinion	Somewhat opposed	Very opposed
23	4	4	2	0



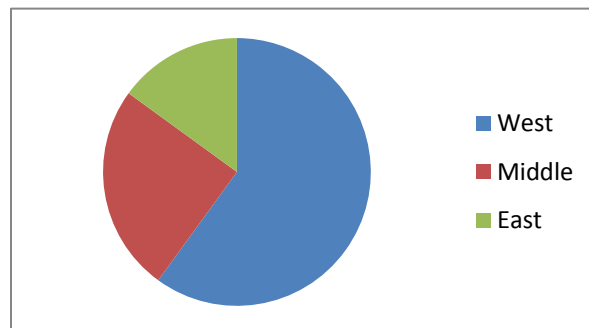
Trail System Summary

Staff presented a proposed soft-surface loop trail system which was widely supported by patrons. Park users who enter through the SW Miner Way entrance preferred that enhancements were made to create a westerly trail that connects with the existing bridge (which will eventually be improved or replaced).

How much do you support the new park-wide trail system?				
Very Much	Somewhat	No Opinion	Somewhat opposed	Very opposed
26	11	1	1	0



Which of the three Ash Grove trails would you be most likely to use?		
West	Middle	East
12	5	3



Representative Trail-Specific Comments:

- I would like to see a perimeter trail/path around the whole park, including North side - N middle park N of stream.
- Leave area for walking around perimeter - don't plant to the edge of the park - N middle park N of stream.
- Nature Play area - N middle park N of stream.

General Park Comments:

- Off-leash dogs still a concern
- Please do something about the wet and slippery areas on the slope below the apple trees and to the north of the footbridge.
- Please restore the wetlands. I'd like more bike parking, less car parking, more natural space. Flooded homes, roads, and basements downstream is not cool. Change status quo.
- An impromptu discussion led to an interest list for a bocce court. Fourteen people found this amenity favorable.

Next Steps

1. Refine trail plan to incorporate natural areas SW Miner Way entrance. Evaluate trail routing in areas where patrons expressed drainage concerns. Determine if a trail along the north side of the park is feasible.
2. Decide whether whole court pickle ball or dual court option is best for lower tennis court.
3. Refine stream and forest enhancement planting plans. Determine if or how patrons can access these areas safely.
4. Evaluate general park amenity requests including more bicycle parking, a bocce court, and play equipment for older children.
5. Review current park management in regard to dogs on/off leash.

Raleigh Park Soft Surface Trail & Stream Relocation Proposal

Legend

- Hard Surface Trail
- Proposed Soft Surface Trail
- - - Alternative Proposed Route
- Foot Bridge
- New Stream Corridor
- Stream Removed
- Current Stream
- Forest Restoration
- Stream Planting & Restoration
- Split Rail Fence
- ▨ Pickle Ball Court

