

Third Public Meeting

Public Meeting Summary and Photos

The third and final public meeting of this planning process was held on April 13 at Cole Elementary School. The purpose of the meeting was to review the final concept plan, which combined the top desired amenities from the public engagement process and the needed facilities as identified in *Plan to Play*. Similar to the other public meetings, the team promoted the meeting event through email notices, social media, and printed flyers.

At the beginning of the meeting, the team presented a summary of the planning process and previous meetings that had taken place. Following the presentation, attendees broke out into facilitated small group discussions. The breakout discussions were productive with attendees expressing their thoughts and concerns to team members. Below is a summary of some of the comments from the meeting.

Several attendees reported concerns about vehicle speeds on Tusculum Road and difficulty crossing the street safely. The team's transportation professional suggested options for slowing traffic, including a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) for pedestrians and the need to enforce the speed limit and traffic laws. During the conversation, one attendee asked about the potential for a roundabout, which might slow traffic but would be difficult given the approaching grades for this site. Another resident suggested a pedestrian bridge or tunnel; however, the construction cost for either would be extremely high. Induced parking demand on nearby streets, like Emely Court, is also a concern.

Fencing and park access was another main discussion topic at the meeting. Residents discussed their thoughts on where the fencing should go, mainly at the entry at Bart Drive, where people have driven onto the site. One person suggested that a durable material for the gate is needed so it cannot be cut easily. At least two attendees noted the Bart Drive and Tusculum Road entries need gates. Other items mentioned were a need for a restroom building or at least a port-a-potty, park rules, and hours of operation signage.

This park project has received broad support throughout this process and the majority who attended the meeting expressed their excitement for this new park. However, one attendee said the park is unnecessary because of nearby Pitts Parks, located roughly a mile away, though this park will have different amenities. In summary, most comments received related to traffic and safety and not the proposed concept plan and design elements for the park.



Public Meeting Map Comments

1. Something to slow down traffic on Bart.
2. Lots of fast traffic on Bart and Tusculum.
3. Higher gates on all slides that don't have opening. Closing time at dusk (that changes during the seasons).
4. Concerns for homeless community. Don't want potential unsafe element close to kids. Want good material for the gate so that it can not be cut easily.
5. Gate on Bart Drive entrance.
6. McLendon Park or Tusculum Park would be a name more in-line with the history of the area.
7. Not happy with this [item #12 and #13].
8. Restroom (or at least port-a-potty's).
9. [I] think pickleball is a fad and shouldn't have dedicated space.
10. [I] prefer the sand volleyball court over pickleball.
11. Concern with parking on Emely Court
12. Lots of loose dogs; makes it challenging to walk from house to pedestrian entrances.
13. Will vehicle access be closed with a gate down at dusk.
14. Concern at curved part of Tusculum. People will not see crosswalk.
15. Concern with crossing the street (Tusculum) to park.
16. A crosswalk here will be extremely dangerous regardless of traffic calming measures. I wonder if an under-rated tunnel like the one at two rivers park could provide safety.
17. Traffic at the Tusculum entrance will be a problem.

Public Meeting Comment Cards

1. Should be able to voice ideas openly. Public forum.
2. Me gustaría que añadieran algún mural bonito para fotos. Me encanto el nombre. (translation: I would like you to add a nice mural for photos. I loved the name.)
3. Disagree with park because have one in the area already. Less than one mile away. I question safety and security. The community and with the park being able to address the criminal element and issues and concerns to be a secure park and within the community.
4. Me gustaría o seria lo ideal para mi tener un poston (gate) en la entrada principal (Bart Drive donde el anuncio estara). He vivido en la esquina 277 Bart Dr. por 21 años y por ese lado caminan y pasaban carros (antes que el Sr. McLendon pusiera el tronco de árbol). Algunos jóvenes caminan por allí y me molestan a mis perros (no es mucho problema) pero al estar abierto y acceso 24-7 el problema puede agravarse. Si necesitaron emplear a alguien para abrir y cerrar pueden contactarme (entiendo también que tal vez debe ser un agente de policía). Gracias de antemano. (translation: I would like or would ideally like to have a poston (gate) at the main entrance (Bart Drive where the sign will be). I have lived on the corner of 277 Bart Dr. for 21 years and cars walk and drive by that side (before Mr. McLendon put in the tree stump). Some young people walk through there and bother my dogs (not much of a problem) but with it being open and access 24-7 the problem can get worse. If you needed to employ someone to open and close can you contact me (I understand also that maybe it should be a police officer). Thanks in advance.)
5. With little kids, having a restroom is so important. Also, without a bathroom, you wonder what people will resort to on such a large property...?

