



Creating Places that Enrich People's Lives

## MEMORANDUM

To: Ben Jaszewski, Parks and Planning Superintendent

From: Paul Paige, Landscape Architect (MN)

Date: June 9, 2022

Re: Lakeview Knolls Concept Planning Process Summary and Recommendation

Dear Ben:

The following summarizes the process, engagement summary, and recommendations related to the development of a preferred concept plan for Lakeview Knolls Park. The concept planning process focused on the incorporation of new pickleball courts and related supporting site features. The process included the development of (3) concept plans based on the previously determined program which included:

*Approximately (12) additional pickleball courts*

*Supporting parking*

*Proximate drinking water and restrooms*

*Stormwater treatment as required*

*Trail connections*

*Screening/landscaping*

*(2) T-ball fields – proximate to each other*

Based on this program, the (3) concepts explored incorporating the ideas into different areas of the park, including the northern, central, and southern portions of the park. The (3) concepts are included as an attachment to this memorandum within the summary of engagement.

**Engagement Process** – The (3) concepts were brought to stakeholders (neighborhood and pickleball representatives) for input. Input was gathered both in person and online with the following activities:

1. Initial meeting with pickleball representatives to gain input on the optimum program related to number of courts, spectator seating ideas, parking and restroom proximity, and the general layout and location of the courts within the park.
2. An online survey and engagement site was active from May 23 – June 6 and included background information, concept alternatives, and a survey asking for feedback on each concept. Users could also leave comments on the concepts and other users could like or dislike the idea or concern. Approximately 148 users visited the online information and approximately

120 users submitted the survey that was available on the site. Detailed information from this survey is included as an attachment.

3. A meeting in the park was held on June 2, 2022 from 5:30-7. Approximately 25 people attended including residents who lived near the park and pickleball enthusiasts.

***Engagement Summary*** – Concept 2 was overwhelmingly the preferred approach throughout the engagement process. The concept was supported for the following reasons:

1. Proximity of the proposed pickleball was adjacent to the existing pickleball courts.
2. The southern location of the new improvements caused the least amount of disturbance to the central and northern portions of the park, which are both well used and active areas in the park today.
3. The parking lot access is from 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave N/Cty Rd 30, which minimizes the traffic on Juneau Lane compared to the other concepts.
4. The concept provides new and better trail connections from 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave N/Cty Rd 30 to the existing trails in the park.
5. The concept proposed the removal of the chain link fence that currently inhibits views to the park from 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave N/Cty Rd 30. The fence was initially installed in the park due to the adjacent ballfield. The concept relocates the ballfield, thus enabling the removal of the fence and improving the views into the park.

For the reasons stated above, Concept 2 is being recommended as the preferred approach to the planned upcoming improvements at Lakeview Knolls Park, with the incorporation of ideas received from stakeholders during the engagement process.

***Input from the process related to Concept 2*** – Through the engagement process, there was great input from all the stakeholders. Discussions with neighbors at the meeting in the park provided ideas about how Concept 2 could be adjusted as it is refined in the design process, including potentially moving the pickleball courts slightly to the east, consideration of additional landscaping, and consideration of sound mitigation techniques to minimize the affect of the additional pickleball activities. It is intended that all of these ideas are assessed as the park design is refined during the next steps of the process.