

**From:** Charles Litweiler <litweilerc@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 6, 2022 8:39 PM  
**To:** Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Comment on tonight's presentation-Reindahl Park Master Plan

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am sending this message along to you as you will be voting on the Imagination Center site. You already know my opposition to putting the Center on the site of the present Shelter. Even if there is agreement that the Shelter must go (id don't agree) that is not a reason for siting the Center there. Thanks for reading this.

Chuck Litweiler

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**From:** Charles Litweiler  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 6, 2022 8:33 PM  
**To:** [afreiwald@cityofmadison.com](mailto:afreiwald@cityofmadison.com) <[afreiwald@cityofmadison.com](mailto:afreiwald@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Comment on tonight's presentation

I don't remember the exact word you used but it was something to the effect that most people want the Park Shelter 'torn down.' Even if no one likes my alternative...if the Shelter must go I think it should be done more carefully than 'torn down' denotes.' A better word might be 'deconstructed.' The building could be removed in smaller pieces ....sizes small enough that the surrounding trees are not damaged. Removal of the Shelter is not an excuse for siting the Imagination Center on t he same site. The Shelter should remain in place until something else is available to serve the same purpose--picnics, graduations, other gatherings.

Chuck Litweiler

**From:** Charles Litweiler <litweilerc@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 11, 2022 8:59 AM  
**To:** Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>  
**Subject:** Fw: Reindahl Park-Addendum 711-22

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I observed carefully yesterday and the open side of the Park Shelter would NOT be visible from the Center site I propose. This does not change my position. The primary reason for siting the Center where the current Park Shelter is should NOT be whether people are using/selling drugs and getting drunk at the present site. How is the situation handled at comparable Shelters in Madison? Demetral would probably be the most comparable. Is our situation that much worse or unique that it should be an important factor in removing the Shelter?  
Chuck Litweiler

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**From:** Charles Litweiler  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 10, 2022 12:54 PM  
**To:** [pacommission@cityofmadison.com](mailto:pacommission@cityofmadison.com) <[pacommission@cityofmadison.com](mailto:pacommission@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Reindahl Park

The Imagination Center should not be built on the site of the present Park Shelter. There is no compelling reason to site it there...requiring the removal of 15 mature trees. There is plenty of treeless space nearby, It baffles me that so far the trees have not been considered an asset.

Originally I proposed siting the Center to the west/northwest past the trees. After paying closer attention I think that the space to the southwest close to the westward bend of the bike path would be better. The Center would still be visible from East Washington. Three trees were mysteriously cut in mid- February 2022 -2 of them on the north side of the bike path. Those acts remove any possible space excuse for not moving the Center site.

It is not clear what thought has been given to meeting the needs the Park Shelter now serves. A few days after the Center unveiling in late January 2022 I asked this question of the Center outreach person. The answer I later received is that there would be picnic tables in the vicinity of the Center. Now people can often be found picnicking, talking, relaxing in the grass between the parking lot and the Shelter. Children in particular climb to the top of the hill. An example of heavy use: on a Saturday in early June this year there was what was probably a citywide event. The parking lot was full, cars parked along Portage Road eve in the bike path. Black families were picknicking over the entire area around the Shelter. This may be an extreme example but where do large groups of people go when the Shelter and the trees that would have shaded them are removed?

I no longer think that the Shelter needs to be removed. It has been well maintained this year. The problem of drug and alcohol abuse could be mitigated if the Imagination Center were built nearby. The west side of the Shelter is a draw for bad behavior mostly because the west

side is hidden from view. Being in plain view from Center users would discourage bad behavior.

IF the Shelter must be removed because it is considered ugly the alternative is to fill up the cavity with dirt, rounding it off to the present top. The trees would be spared and people could still use the 'hill' as they do now. You are still left with how to meet the needs now met by the open Shelter.

Tree related: please do nothing for at least the next few years about the damage the Encampment inflicted on the trees in the Park. Let Nature take her course and revisit any other questions then. We did nothing to protect the trees. We are not smart enough to micromanage their recovery. The only reason to remove any dead or dying trees now is if they present a danger to people using the bike paths.

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I will try to be available for questions at the meeting. I have trouble with accessing Zoom