

From: Michael Rewey <hiwayman@chorus.net>

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To: Park Commission <pacommission@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: frdfass@aol.com

Subject: Agenda Item 10 - Adoption of the Warner Park Southeast Recreation Area Development Plan

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Park Commissioners.

Please find Wild Warner's comments on the Warner Park Southeast Recreation Area Development Plan.

Michael Rewey

for Marie Jacobsen, chair

Warner Park – Southeast Recreation Area Development

Wild Warner Comments

6/9/2024

Wild Warner is very pleased with the general development plan. We also note that positive changes have been made in the plan recently (7/3/2024.)

The plan embraces nature while addressing the needs of the nearby neighborhoods (lighting changes, pathways, basketball court, more canopy trees, etc.) and also addressing currently underserved sport needs.

Please note some of our comments and concerns.

Five Rectangular Fields

- Do Fields #1 thru #4 all have to be the same size? Could Field #1 for example be made smaller in the final plans to accommodate, for example, 12 and under soccer players.
- Could the construction of Field #1 be delayed until need for it is shown?
- It would be desirable to place trees, such as oaks, along the perimeters of the fields. The trees would provide shade for spectators and would break up the vast open space of the combined fields.

Pickleball Courts in NW Corner near Warner Woods

- It is understood that noise attenuation on the court fences is commercially available. That would be desirable on the fences facing the west and southwest sides towards Warner Woods.

Lighting

- It is appreciated that all facilities will be dark sky compliant and lights will only be on until 10 pm, and then only when a facility is in use.
- It is understood the basketball court will not be lit.

New paths

- It is understood that all paths will be detailed during final design – with public input.

Large Cottonwood Removal

- Thank you for showing the exact location of the Cottonwood on the plan.
- **When the fields are configured during final design all attempts should be made to preserve the iconic tree.** See the reference to Field #1 above.

Single Track Somewhat into Warner Woods

- Even though limits of any single track have been positively clarified in the revision of July 3rd and the conceptual track will not come even close to any the existing woodland paths, **Wild Warner does not accept that the single track be placed in any area of the woods.**
- The location in question provides excellent habit for wildlife and is rarely trespassed by humans.
- It is desired that another location acceptable by Wild Warner be found, perhaps roughly parallelling Castle Creek?

Managed Meadow and Tree Plantings

- Wild Warner likes the proposed width of the buffer along Warner Woods. Can we help?
- Ensure that there will be no ponding in this area.

Castle Creek

- Extend the proposed managed meadow/buffer along Castle Creek.
- Some trees along the east-west segment of the creek would help screen the view of the fields from the neighborhood.

Tennis Courts will be removed

- Great. Can Wild Warner help with the native tree and shrub plantings restoration?

We look forward to working with you and staff so we can help make the final plans the best they can be for all.

**Marie Jacobsen
Wild Warner Chair**