

Milwaukee Street Special Area Plan

Written comments from July 25 public open house



Participants were asked what they liked, didn't like and if we missed something following the Comprehensive Plan elements of Land Use and Transportation, Green and Resilient, Culture and Character, Neighborhoods and Housing, and Economy and Opportunity. The subsequent online survey generally followed the same outline for answer comparison purposes.

Land Use

- I think city staff did an excellent job of facilitating the first public hearing, listening to input, and weighing the input when developing the current version of the plan. I don't think anything was missed.
- Reduce light pollution
- More park less housing save the barns
- Expand it to include out of town bus ticket sales. Pick up, drop off- more than just a park and ride.
- This is an important opportunity to address affordable housing needs of our community and specifically low-income housing. Make low income housing is a necessary basic need and should be part of our neighborhood.
- Like: Walkability; Don't Like: More low-income housing, mixed use 3-5 stories, would rather have single family homes; Miss: Higher population will need additional schools.
- Like: Existing Chicago Ave design/traffic- street is mostly resident friendly, minus some pass thru foot traffic. Please do not widen to increase speed and traffic. Please respect current function of existing Chicago Ave. Don't like: Phosphorus area fenced off large area or low impact on public access? Miss: Please back off a bit from Starkweather Creek where housing towards Milwaukee St.
- Like the big park idea & not tall buildings. Concerned about traffic and too many cars. City needs to look at traffic patterns, length of green lights, markings of yellow at ends of blocks, especially on Atwood Ave. It is very hard to get out on Atwood Ave now and people are going to the lights to get on Atwood. Concerned about water quality on East Side. Many people have to buy water already to drink and we need to improve water quality. I have been in the Atwood area since 1959 in 6th grade & now live on Jackson St. It has bike, car and a lot of walk traffic especially in summer with people at the ice cream shop. It is very crowded & confusing if you don't expect all that traffic. Keep the big, nice park that is in the plan. Thanks for the meeting.

Transportation

- It all looks good to me, however, the plan doesn't address issues from traffic engineering (e.g., additional stop lights, median on Milwaukee St., etc.
- Please check with the state regarding the future plan of Hwy 51/ Stoughton Rd between Milwaukee St and Hwy 30 and this new development. Access from Milwaukee St. to Hwy 51 will need acreage.
- Possible bus barn site?
- OK you're going to do what the developer wants no matter what we say or do.
- If a signal is put at Hwy 30 and Fair Oaks please consider a bike/pedestrian tunnel. In general encourage unimpeded bike use in the entire area.
- Chicago Ave needs to be bike friendly into neighborhood. Implies safety caution with limitations on traffic.

Green and Resilient

- I think you nailed it
- Reduce light pollution in the parks
- Why are parks in back instead of in front of property
- I would like to see the little pond at the north end of the property maintained as a destination for people and nature, not a utility to remove phosphorus. While that's important for our large lakes, to sacrifice this small pond is not acceptable to me. I hope we can consider and implement alternatives.
- I would like it to include The Goy Pound & improve the neighborhood- rather than improve the neighborhoods down the creek. We have clean water- don't pollute it please
- Too narrow a buffer between creek and start of housing. Explore use of existing wetland/marsh in East Parkland area NOW full of stinging nettle! Use this area to shunt water! What is to be done to improve this wetland? Stinging Nettle wetland is "off limits" in reality! Why NOT put phosphorus recycling in 10' tall stinging nettle.
- No tall buildings! Some single family housing would be nice.

Culture character housing economy and opportunity

- As a plan, it does an excellent job of addressing these issues with one exception: the Post office isn't moving and should be shown as such.
- Community garden would be good.
- I don't believe the city can give us affordable housing or be able to control the outcome of this project.