

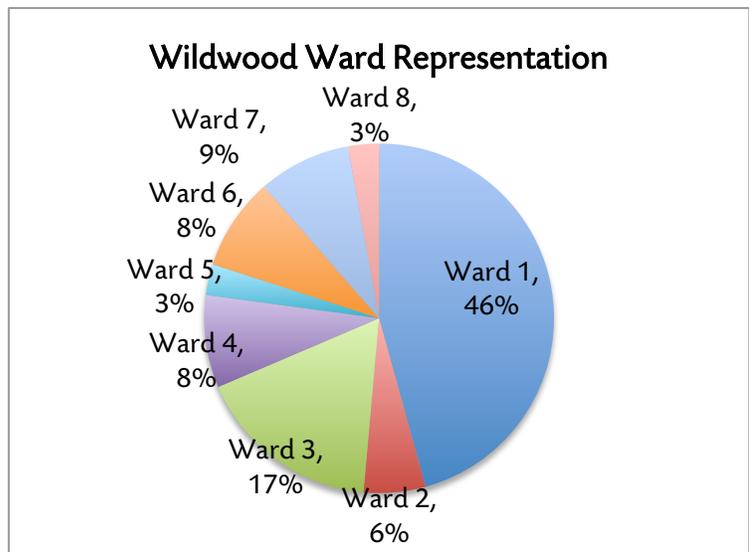
## Background

On January 25, the City of Wildwood and its technical consulting team, hosted the first of two community park public forums at Wildwood Middle School from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. During the 2-hour public forum, Wildwood residents:

- Were briefed about the consulting team’s progress to date;
- Reviewed the results of the October 2010 community park online survey;
- Reviewed the site’s existing conditions;
- Learned about the consulting team’s three design alternative frameworks;
- Selected a preferred design concept; and
- Created ideal park designs based on typography, community open space guidelines and amenity preferences.

## Attendee Demographics

Representing all eight wards, thirty-six residents attended the public forum. Of those attending, six or 16% were members of the Community Park Advisory Committee. The chart to the right details the distribution of residents by ward.



## Presentation Summary

Bill Burke of Oates & Associates began the 30-minute presentation by acquainting the attendees with the project schedule and stating that the project is now in Phase 3, with approximately three to four months remaining. Jessica Perkins of Vector Communications reviewed the results of the 2007 Open Space and Recreation Survey and the more recent 2010 Community Park Survey. Burke continued the presentation by acquainting the residents with the site’s existing conditions, tree habitat and typography and its size comparison to other St. Louis parks. Then, Breck Gastinger of Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscaping presented three possible park design frameworks – low road, high road and loop schemes. Each of these design frameworks address the following design goals:

- Restore, celebrate local ecologies – meadow, forest, and stream;
- Create cohesive series of park elements;
- Create memorable places and spaces;
- Design for all four seasons;
- Design for low and high use (weekday, weekend, event);
- Create a flexible structure for future adaptation;
- Consider phasing opportunities; and
- Ensure accessibility and connectivity.

Following the presentation, attendees asked questions and prepared to create park designs.

## Park Design Results

Residents were divided into six groups and were asked to individually rate and rank the three schemes based on program inclusivity, balance of active and passive areas and connectivity. After the individual rankings, each group designed the park area with amenities and trails.

## Most Preferred Scheme

Four of the six groups ranked the loop scheme or framework as most preferred because it:

- Provided greater connectivity and accessibility to all areas of the park;
- Allowed more opportunities for a diverse range of park activities;
- Seemed more pedestrian and bike-friendly; and
- Was more aesthetically pleasing.

Of the two remaining groups, each favored the low road scheme as the most preferred because it protected the surrounding neighborhoods from road access and limited the number of activities at the northwest corner of the site. For these two groups, their choice was based on protecting the adjacent neighborhoods from additional traffic and noise.

The next most preferred scheme for four of the six groups was the low scheme because it:

- Was less expensive to build since it had one road throughout the park;
- Provided accessibility; and
- Preserved open space.

**Placement of Amenities**

After selecting the preferred scheme, attendees were instructed to design the park site by placing the most preferred (as indicated from the online survey) passive and active amenities on the scheme’s map. Then, using yarn, attendees created a trail system throughout the park. With the park design almost complete, attendees were asked to review the list of moderately preferred and least preferred amenities and select one or two from the list to include in the park design. The table below details a list of all active and passive amenities by preference.



*Attendees developing park plan*

	Active Amenities	Passive Amenities
Most Preferred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-Use Trails</li> <li>• Sledding Hill</li> <li>• School-age Playground</li> <li>• Toddler Playground</li> <li>• Open Play Lawn</li> <li>• Stocked Fishing Lake</li> <li>• Single-Use Trails (pedestrians)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park Pavilions</li> <li>• Trail Connections (major destinations)</li> <li>• Amphitheater</li> <li>• Natural Open Play Lawn</li> <li>• BBQ Pits</li> <li>• Trail Connections (neighborhoods)</li> </ul>
Moderately Preferred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming Pool</li> <li>• Basketball Courts</li> <li>• Tennis Courts</li> <li>• Soccer Fields</li> <li>• Special Needs Playground</li> <li>• Baseball Fields</li> <li>• Single-Use Trails (cyclists)</li> <li>• Softball Fields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Features</li> <li>• Farmers’ Market Space</li> <li>• Natural Wildflower Garden</li> <li>• Dog Park</li> <li>• Botanical Labeling of Plants</li> </ul>
Least Preferred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volleyball Courts</li> <li>• Rock Climbing Wall</li> <li>• Fitness Stations</li> <li>• Frisbee Golf</li> <li>• Ropes Course</li> <li>• Horseshoe Pits</li> <li>• Skateboard Park</li> <li>• Equestrian Trails</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Art Sculptures</li> <li>• Interpretive Signage</li> <li>• Butterfly Garden</li> <li>• Rain Garden</li> <li>• Vegetable Garden</li> </ul>

Focusing on the placement of the most preferred amenities, among the six groups, commonalities existed. For example:

- Toddler and school-age playgrounds: Three groups placed this amenity at the northern edge of the site; and the remaining groups centered this amenity close to the central meadow.
- Stocked fishing lake: all groups located this amenity in southeast corner of the site, close to the detention basin.
- Amphitheater and sledding hill: Three groups placed this combined amenity on the western edge of property along the cedar covered slope; and one group placed it on the southern edge of the property. Of the remaining two groups, one eliminated the amenity completely; and the other group eliminated the sledding hill and placed the amphitheater on the western edge.

Park pavilions, BBQ pits, restrooms and parking lots were placed generously around the major activity areas, such as the playgrounds, fishing lake and amphitheater.

Regarding the moderately and least preferred amenities (as determined from the 2010 online survey), each group chose different amenities to enhance the park experience.

- Three of six groups included a dog park;
- Two of six groups included a skate park;
- Two of six groups wanted to include either a multi-use field for soccer and baseball or a combined tennis and basketball court area; and
- One of six groups selected horseshoe pits, fitness stations and a butterfly garden.

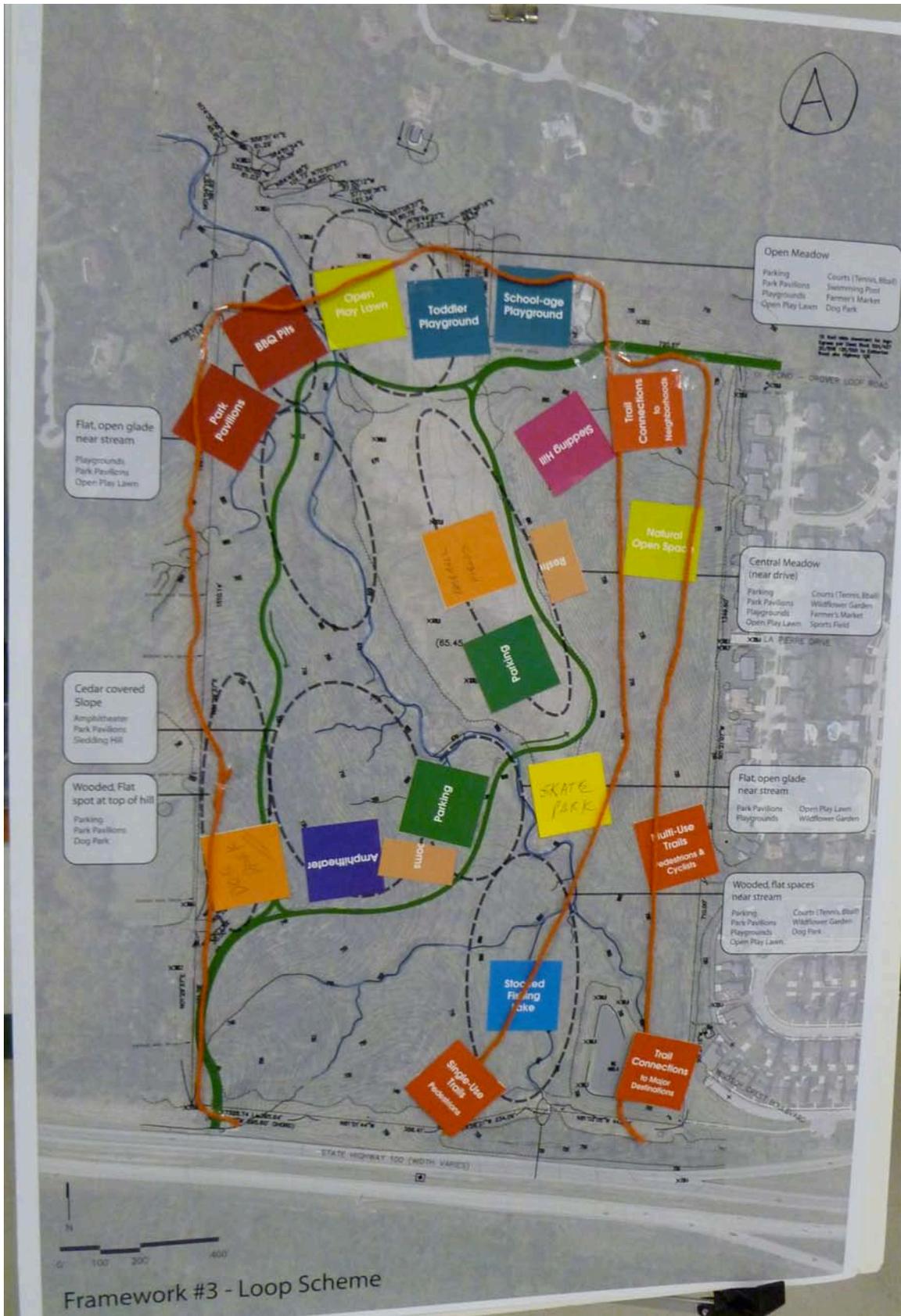


The maps for each group can be found in the appendix.

*Team Park Design Maps*

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# Park Plan Design – Group A







# Park Plan Design – Group D

