

Fort Ward Park Priorities and Issues Identified by Community via Emails and Letters January-March 2009

| HISTORIC/CULTURAL USES | # | PARK OPERATIONS | # | ACTIVE RECREATIONAL USES | # | PASSIVE/CASUAL USES | # | ENVIRONMENTAL/NATURAL RESOURCES | # | OTHER | # |
|--|----|---|----|---|----|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| 1. African American History | | 1. Maintenance Facility | | 1. Picnics | | 1. Pedestrian and Passive Uses | | 1. Arboretum | | 1. Park Planning | |
| a) Signage of historical African American community, historic markers | 2 | Move maintenance yard | 16 | Noise and alcohol signage needed with ban of amplified sound. | 5 | Maintain walking/running paths and add distance markers | 2 | Re-establish arboretum at Fort Ward as part of master plan | 2 | Work with the community to develop a mission statement and park plan | 2 |
| b) Protection and restoration of community graves and artifacts | 16 | Move horticultural area | 3 | Better management and oversight of reservation and permit system | 3 | Improve overall passive pedestrian use | 1 | Add more trees | 2 | Remove October 2008 Facilities Presentation from website | 3 |
| c) Exhibit for museum | 3 | Regular cleaning and upkeep. Additional screening and buffer. | 4 | Alcohol- prohibit/ban alcohol /ABC permits | 1 | Walking Park is a plus | | | | Create Advisory Group/Committee: ID short /long term goals, managed growth/stewardship | 3 |
| d) African American History--Input and Research | 6 | Restore maintenance area to sod | 2 | Overcrowding and overuse--control, reduce picnics, reservations, group size-no large groups. | 2 | Pedestrian/vehicular are shared-- safety concerns. Cars go too fast in the morning | 1 | Replant trees lost to attrition | 1 | Postpone improvements and spending until master plan complete | 1 |
| | | Improvements are evident - satisfied | 2 | Noise abatement w/ adequate enforcement on weekends | 1 | Improve speed bumps -now they are ugly and impede pedestrians and are an ADA issue | 3 | Inventory all trees | 1 | Balance use,compatible uses important | 2 |
| 2. Identification of Historic Areas | | | | Change rental policies and increase reservation fees | 1 | Likes pedestrian area | 1 | | | Written Commitment from Staff - MOU with community | 2 |
| a) Preservation of all historical areas, including pre and post Civil War | 5 | 2. Security | | Need for larger picnic site with moveable tables | 1 | More Historical emphasis with decreased recreational use | 1 | 3. Drainage | | Park planning should be funded by City Council and have a transparent public process | 5 |
| b) Identify w/ signage- visible and clear. | 7 | More security for park | 1 | | | Protect open space | 1 | a) Drainage along east property line/ throughout park | 1 | | |
| c) Fund archeological survey and study of area | 7 | | | | | | | Erosion control throughout park is needed | 1 | | |
| | | 3. Communications/Assistance | | | | | | | | 2. Volunteer Ideas | |
| | 3 | Who do you go to? What is the process for contacting authorities? | 1 | 2. Dog Park | | | | | | Public/private partnerships and grants needed | 1 |
| 3. Recognize and protect Civil War history | | | | Better signage with rules for users with dogs | 1 | | | | | Coordinate volunteer/neighborhood corp. for park clean up | 2 |
| 4. Research all significant areas/archeology | 1 | | | Move dog park | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | 4. Park Amenities | | Add area for "small dogs" | 1 | | | | | 3. Misc. | |
| 5. Market/ Promote "Park Story"/ History | | Site amenities/furnishings should be appropriate for a historic area. | 1 | Dog park needs to be enclosed | 1 | | | | | a)Overall improvement needed | 1 |
| Tours: African American Community, Oral History, Walking Tour, Cell Phone technology | 4 | Remove entrance booth | 1 | | | | | | | Signage in Spanish | 1 |
| Begin planning, preparations for 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. | 1 | | | 3. Parking/Vehicles | | | | | | Get land from Episcopal High School | 1 |
| Add archeological recreation/education programs | 1 | | | a) Parking issues--continue to provide on street parking for special events | 4 | | | | | | |
| | | 5. Other Maintenance/Operations | | d) No additional parking | 1 | | | | | | |
| 6. Interpretive Trail-- of cultural, natural, Af. American resources | 1 | Incorporate green practices in maintenance | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | | Train staff to maintain historic areas | 1 | 4. Special Events | | | | | | | |
| 7. Resource Management | | | | a) This site is good for large events and regularly used by the community. Keep special events here | 2 | | | | | | |
| OHA should manage the park | 2 | | | b) Improve the amphitheater and picnic shelters | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | | | a) Large events have negative impact and should be moved or reduced | 4 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 5. Facilities | | | | | | | |
| | | | | a) No additional pavillions | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | | | b) Repair existing facilities, including restrooms | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | | | c) Rehab/Upgrade Amphitheatre | 1 | | | | | | |
| | | | | 6. Soccer Field | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Keep Lit Soccer Field | 34 | | | | | | |
| | | | | Turn lights off when not in use | 1 | | | | | | |