

Falcon Heights City Council Workshop

**City Hall
2077 W Larpenteur Ave.
6:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA
Wednesday, March 2, 2016**

1) Curtiss Field Recommendations

If you have a disability and need accommodation in order to attend this meeting, please notify City Hall 48 hours in advance between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 651-792-7600. We will be happy to help.

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The City That Soars!

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Meeting Date	March 2, 2016
Agenda Item	Workshop 1
Attachment	Survey Results, Park Commission's Recommendations, & Site Map
Submitted By	Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator

Item	Curtiss Field Recommendations
Description	<p>There are a number of factors that contributed to the recommendations in front of you. They include, but not limited to flooding issues, aging park equipment that were also not ADA compliance, a septic tank under the playground equipment, and updates to the Park Master Plan.</p> <p>In 2015, the City hosted two Open Houses on November 9th and November 18th and conducted an online survey for three weeks. The result of the survey is attached.</p> <p>Based on the survey results and feedback from the open houses, there are four common themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shelter 2. Greenspace 3. Beautify the Park 4. Amenities for all ages
Budget Impact	Any enhancements to the park will have a direct impact on future budgets. Most of the available monies have been used for demolition, electrical, preparing the site for KaBoom and WSB's Park Master Plan.
Attachment(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey Results • Park Commission's Recommendations • Site Map
Action(s) Requested	No formal action is requested, but staff is seeking direction for the next steps.

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To: Falcon Heights City Council
Re: Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendations
Date: February 3rd, 2016

Mayor Lindstrom, Council Members –

Per Standing Rules as defined in Falcon Heights' Administrative Manual, the Parks and Recreation Commission "...is to serve in an advisory capacity to the city council on all policy matters relating to public parks and facilities and recreation programs."

In recent history, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended updating the Parks Master Plan in 2013 and with council's approval, this was completed in 2014. During that process, commissioners sought feedback from residents concerning desires in the Falcon Heights Parks system.

However, during 2014 and 2015 the city experienced issues complicating the process, leaving uncertainty regarding next steps. Due to ongoing flooding at Curtiss Field, the city was approached by Capital Region Watershed District regarding the implementation of a water storage system to alleviate flooding. The city was also a recipient of a grant which provided a brand new playground at Curtiss Field. Ultimately, both processes included considerable construction and eventually changed the original Parks Master Plan. As the new playground was implemented, it changed the footprint of the Parks Master Plan; however, the Parks and Recreation Commission decided it would be a good opportunity to build on the momentum of the successful implementation of a new playground.

In the fall of 2015, the Parks and Recreation Commission hosted two Open Houses and an online survey for three weeks soliciting residents' desires for next steps at Curtiss Field. Residents were notified of this effort via post-card mailers, city weekly e-news, and a local newspaper through social media. The commission took the results of those surveys and Open Houses, included findings from the 2014 Parks Master Plan, and have formed the following recommendations.

Overall Guidelines

- Continue ongoing maintenance to ensure safety is a priority. From time to time the City of Falcon Heights utilizes playground/park 'audits' through various organizations that highlight areas of concern. Through different organizations, the city can understand priorities for safety as well as identify legitimate concerns. These efforts should be conducted at all parks.
- Continue understanding ADA compliance and improve access where possible. All new construction (including the new playground at Curtiss Field) is fully ADA compliant, but there are many amenities within each of the parks that are non-compliant. Understanding requirements and opportunities for improvement allows the city to set priorities when making improvements to city parks. These priorities are for all parks.

Priority Group A is a set of priorities that can be implemented in the near future:

- Update Curtiss Field to create a more ‘complete’ feeling. This includes replacing sidewalks connecting the park to Iowa Ave (including curbs) and reconnecting the sidewalk system on the east side of the pond connecting the playground to Idaho Ave. Finally, replacing access from the parking lot to the playground at Curtiss Field making access fully ADA compliant. Staff can create estimates of cost and time for these projects.
- Residents expressed interest in maintaining green-space at Curtiss Field for general use; additionally, they requested the replacement of the backstop near the north east corner of the park. Staff can create an estimate of cost for replacement.
- Create Landscape Plan at Curtiss Field. The Commission agrees that the City Forrester should continue to explore ways of including more successful tree plantings to beautify the park. Additionally, the commission would be interested in soliciting volunteers to implement and maintain plantings throughout the park to help beautify Curtiss Field.
- The Commission would like to update the Parks Master Plan after Council has decided on priorities moving forward. While the Parks Master Plan may not serve as literal ‘blueprint’ for parks, it does serve as a guiding document to help create priorities in the future.

Priority Group B is a set of priorities that require long-term planning:

- The most recent effort to solicit desires of residents aligned with desires revealed through the Parks Master Plan, specifically regarding the replacement of a building at Curtiss Field. During construction in 2014 and 2015, the city discovered it was in the city’s best interest to demolish the park building. The building would primarily serve as a place for programming, special events, rentals, and as a warming house for skaters in the winter. The Commission also found that if the council decides to pursue a building, plumbing is desired. Finally, the commission recommends that considerations regarding placement of the building include concerns of residents.

Other Considerations

- The Commission received considerable feedback from residents, both positive and negative. Other recommendations include installing a sandbox area and a splash pad if space is available.
- The use of a basketball court was the most divided response as can be viewed from the survey results. However, as residents are most interested in green space, the commission found that a basketball court and or permanent base would eliminate much of any remaining green space. As basketball hoops available in the area, there isn’t an immediate need for additional hoops at Curtiss Field. Finally, the commission continues to recommend a safe trail system connecting parks within the city as included in the existing Parks Master Plan.

Community Feedback – Curtiss Field Updates

Introduction

After the recent installation of a new playground at Curtiss Field (1551 W Iowa Ave, Falcon Heights, MN 55108) in June of 2015, Falcon Heights’ Parks and Recreation Commission desired to update planning and create a recommendation to the City Council on next steps for Parks Planning. The commission along with city staff wanted to reach out to city residents to further understand the priorities of residents. Through Open Houses (2), surveys hosted online and in person and through general feedback, the efforts revealed the following results.

Methodology

City Staff utilized as many communication channels as possible to promote the survey and Open Houses. Through city mailers sent to every resident, online postings (city website, weekly e-news emails, Facebook, and Twitter), announcing on broadcast City Council meetings, and posters at parks/some local businesses the commission attempted to contact as many residents as possible to participate.

Open Houses were held at Falcon Heights’ City Hall on November 9th, 2015 from 7pm – 8pm and on November 18th from 5:30pm – 6:30pm.

For those not able to attend either of the two meetings, surveys were available online and in person at Falcon Heights City Hall. They were available for three weeks starting Monday, November 9th, available through Monday November 30th.

Results

Results in this packet include feedback from Open Houses and survey results.

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Communications

Example of mailers sent to all residents of Falcon Heights:

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES & SURVEY– Curtiss Field

Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking your input! Open Houses will provide recent history of Curtiss Field and a discussion on what is desired for next steps.

Open Houses at City Hall
2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue

- Monday, November 9, 2015 from 7-8pm
- Wednesday, November 18, 2015 from 5:30-6:30pm

An online survey will be available at
www.falconheights.org
November 9-November 30



If you have questions call 651-792-7600 or email mail@falconheights.org

Example of online/email/poster used:



City of Falcon Heights

Community Open Houses & Survey Curtiss Field

Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking your input! Open Houses will provide recent history of Curtiss Field and a discussion on what is desired for next steps.

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Survey used to solicit feedback:

Falcon Heights' Parks and Recreation Commission along with City Staff want to hear the opinions of residents for upcoming opportunities for Curtiss Field.

Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking your input! Open Houses will provide an overview of recent history of Curtiss Field and a discussion on what is desired for next steps.

Open Houses at City Hall
2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue

- Monday, November 9, 2015 from 7-8pm
- Wednesday, November 18, 2015 from 5:30-6:30pm

The purpose of this survey is to guide the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Staff in the direction the residents of Falcon Heights would like to see their parks move forward. Specifically, the city is interested in resident's opinions regarding Curtis Field building on the momentum of the recently installed playground.

Please take the survey only once, any surveys done numerous times from the same computer will not be counted.

*Street Address:

Email Address:

**Please rate the following statements on a scale of 1-5
(5-Strongly Agree, 4-Agree, 3-Indifferent, 2-Disagree,1-Strongly Disagree)**

A new park building/shelter is important for Curtiss Field:

- 5
 4
 3
 2
 1

Indoor plumbing within a new building is a priority instead of the use of porta-pottys:

- 5
 4
 3
 2
 1

A basketball court is a priority at Curtiss Field:

- 5
 - 4
 - 3
 - 2
 - 1
-

A hockey rink is a priority at Curtiss Field (this includes temporary OR permanent structure including boards and a concrete slab):

- 5
 - 4
 - 3
 - 2
 - 1
-

A pleasure rink is a priority for Curtiss Field (an open skating area with no boards):

- 5
 - 4
 - 3
 - 2
 - 1
-

Creating a permanent base that could accommodate skating and hockey in the winter as well as basketball, tennis, pickleball and other sports in the summer is a priority at Curtiss Field:

- 5
 - 4
 - 3
 - 2
 - 1
-

Leaving remaining open space (green space) is a priority for Curtiss Field:

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2

1

Picnic space is a priority for Curtiss Field (including shelters and/or open space):

5

4

3

2

1

Are there amenities not listed in the survey you would like to see at Curtiss Field?:

Is there any other information or opinions you have about Curtiss Field you would like to share with the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Staff?:

Demographics help staff understand survey participation rates and determinants of influence on answers. This section is not required, but completion is appreciated. Thank you.

Age:

Under 18 years old

19 - 25 years old

26 - 35 years old

36 - 45 years old

46 - 55 years old

56 - 65 years old

Over 65 years old

How long have you been a Falcon Heights Resident?:

- Less than 1 year
 - 1 - 3 years
 - 4 - 10 years
 - 11 - 15 years
 - 16 - 20 years
 - 21 - 25 years
 - More than 25 years
 - I am not a Falcon Heights Resident
-

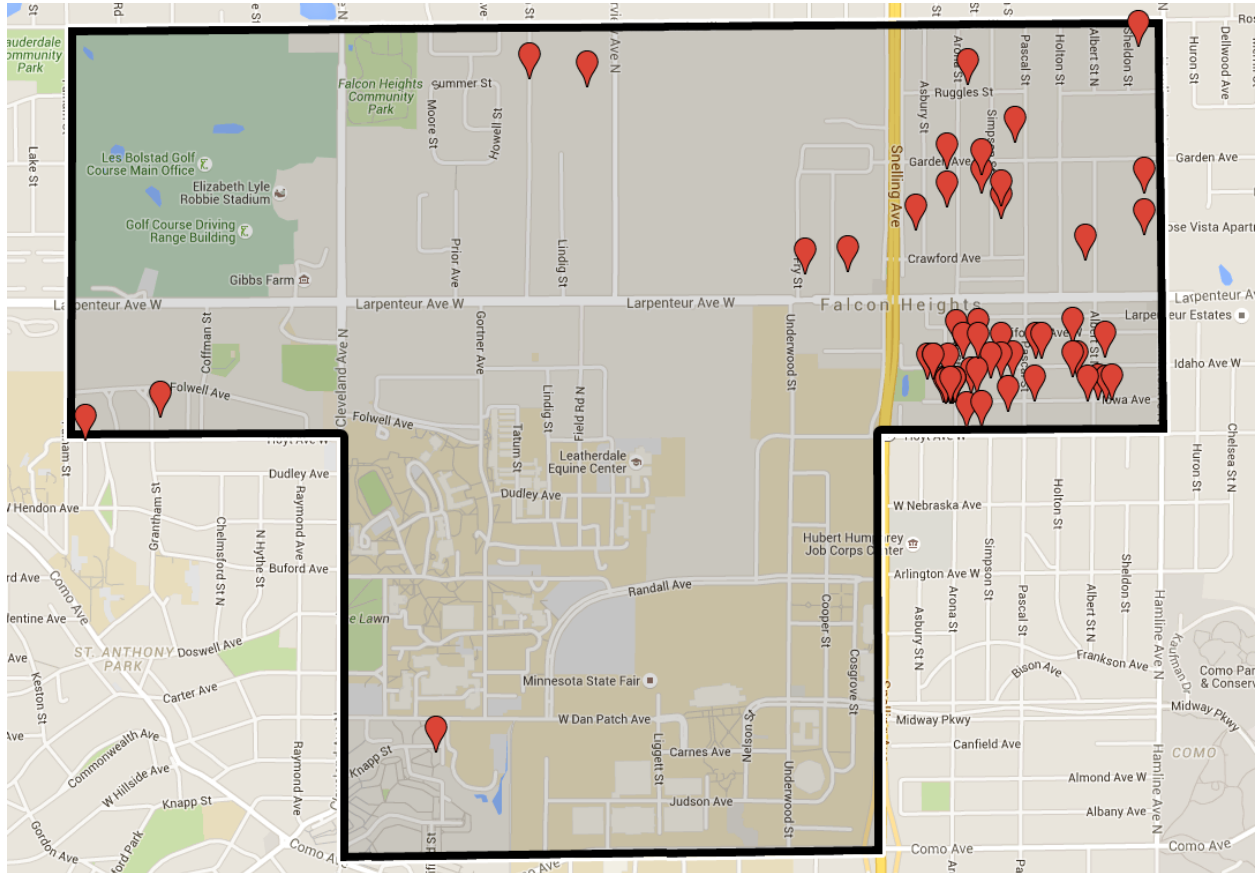
Please indicate in which neighborhood you live:

- 1. University Grove/1666 Coffman
- 2. Falcon Woods
- 3. Maple Court
- 4. Tatum, Lindig, Fairview
- 5. Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative
- 6. NW of Snelling/Larpenteur
- 7. SW of Snelling/Larpenteur
- 8. Hollywood Court
- 9. Falcon Heights Town Square
- 10. Northhome
- 11. NE of Snelling/Larpenteur
- 12. NW Cleveland/Larpenteur
- 13. University of Minnesota Campus
- 14. Minnesota State Fair

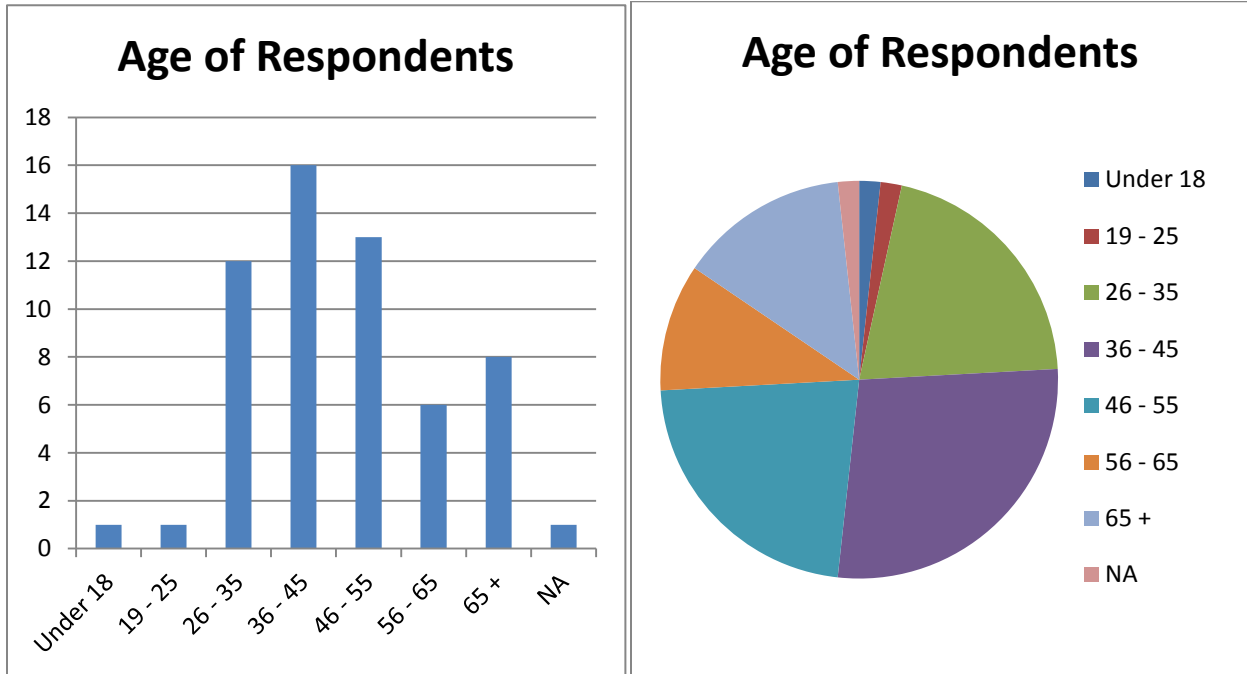
Demographics of Respondents:

58 Surveys were completed and approximately two dozen residents attended Open Houses.

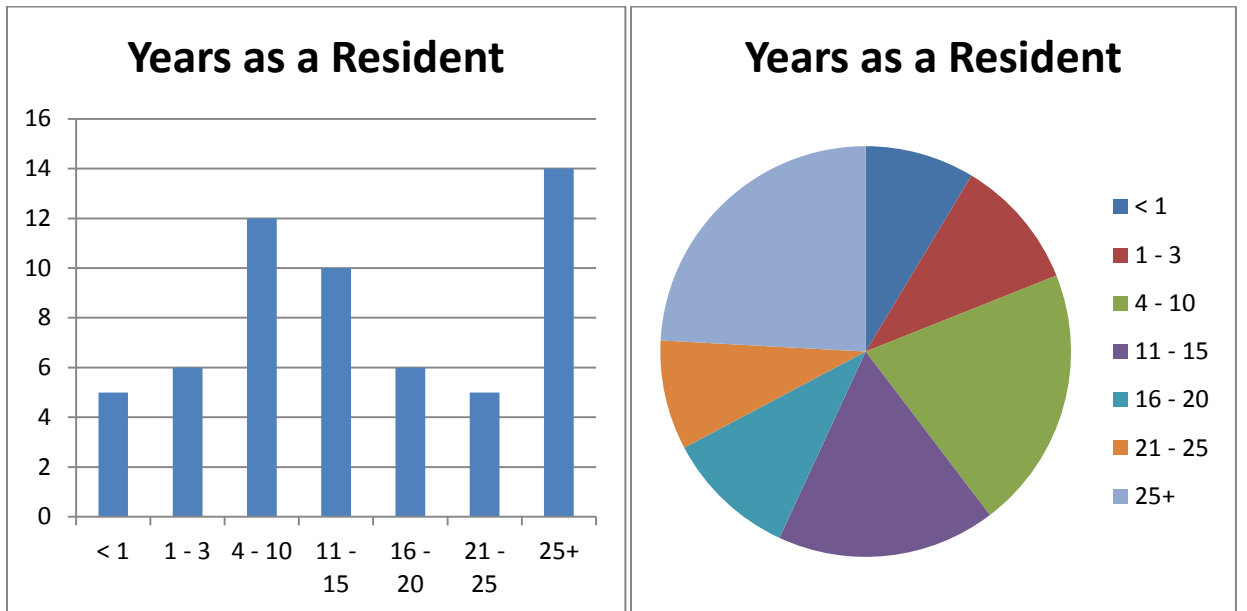
Map of Respondents to Survey



Age of Respondents to Survey

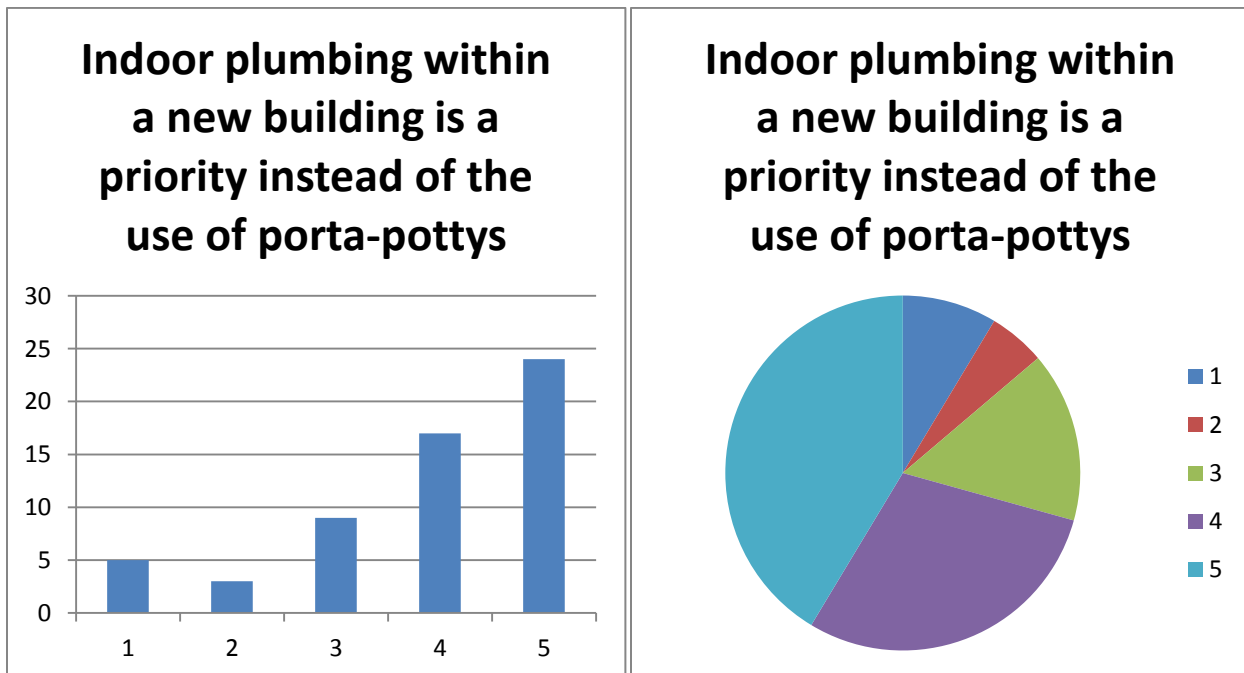
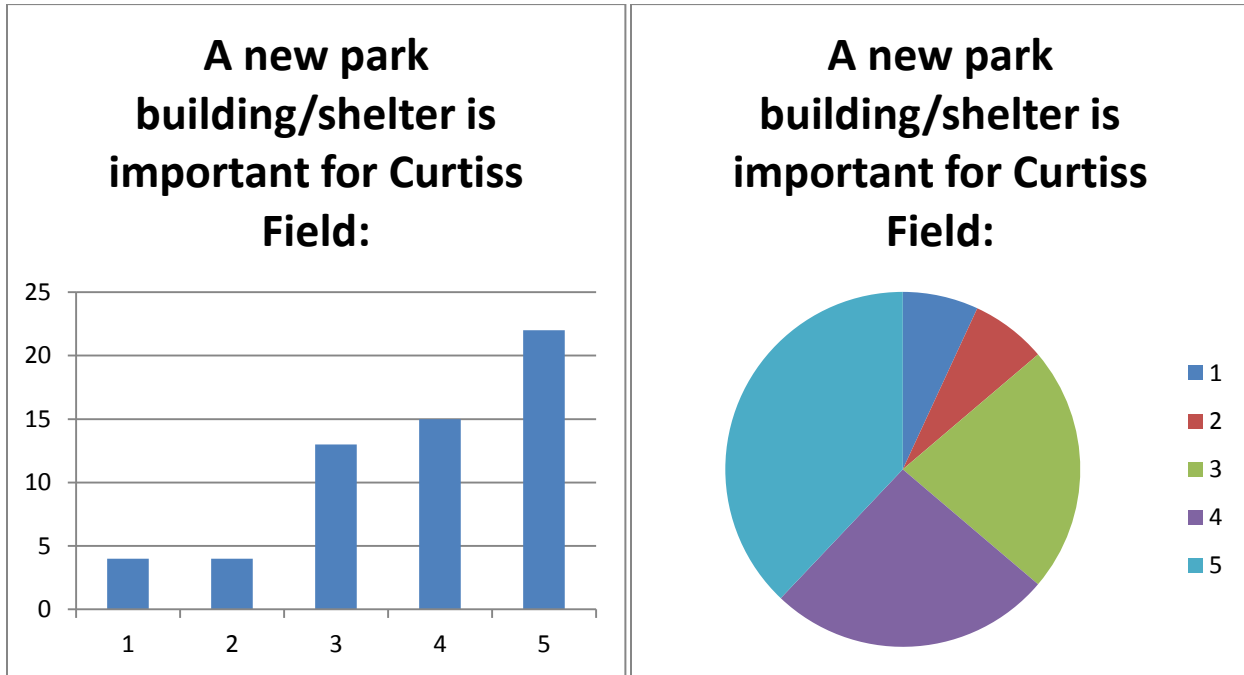


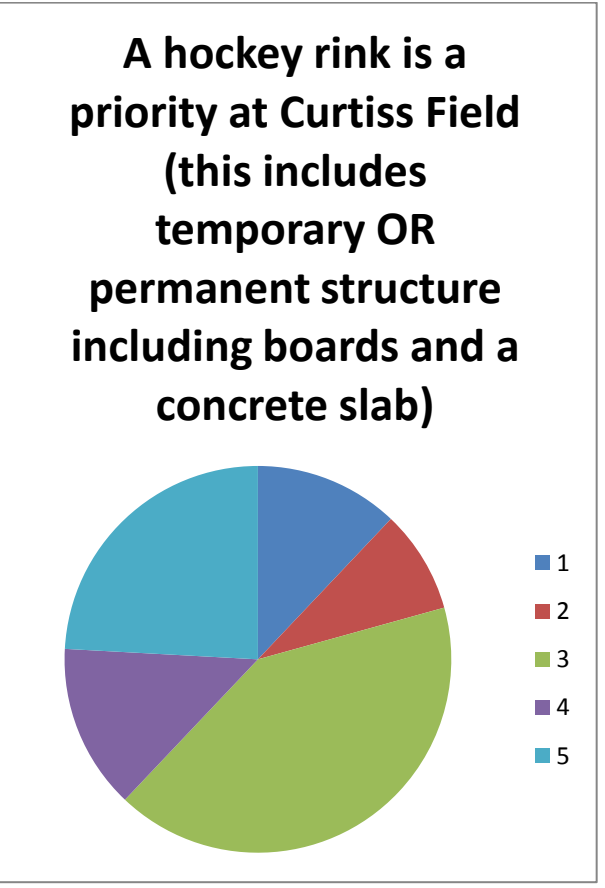
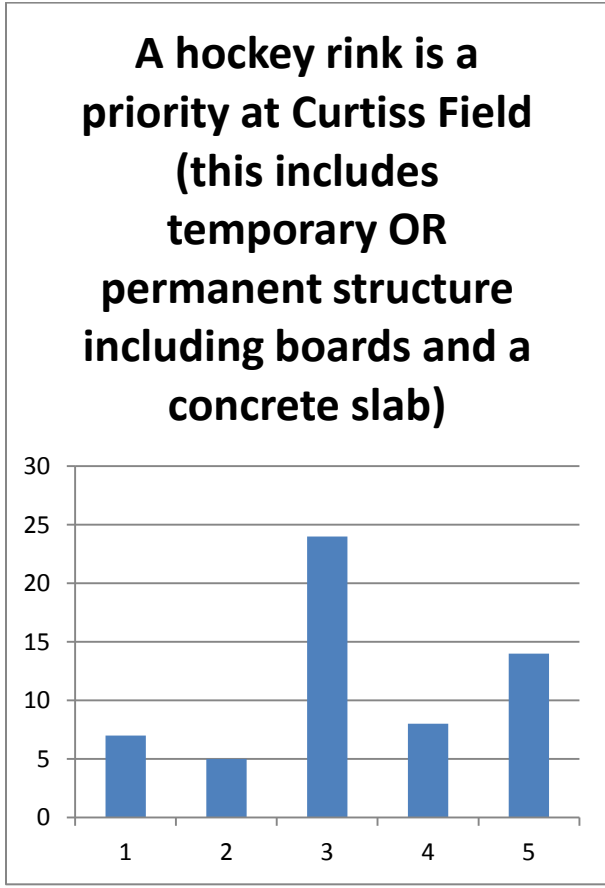
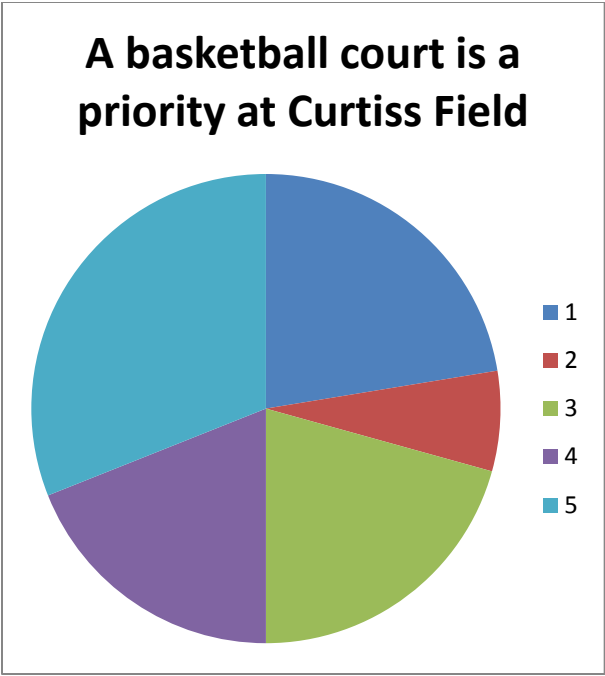
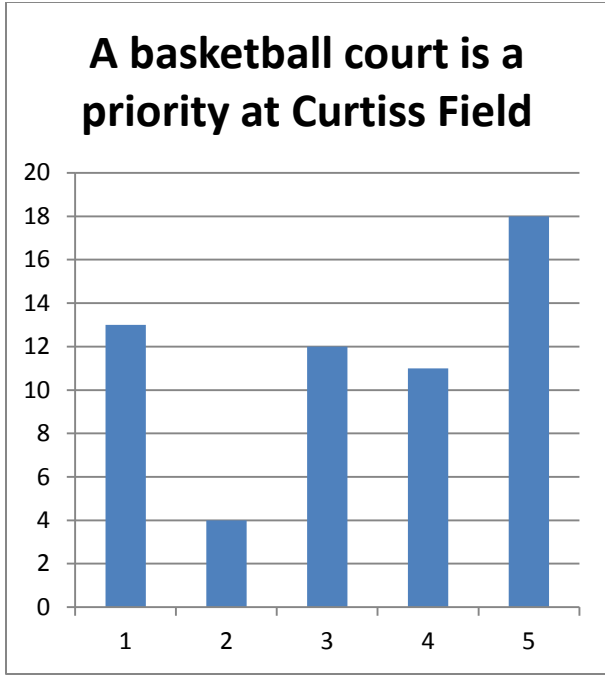
Years as a resident of Falcon Heights via Surveys



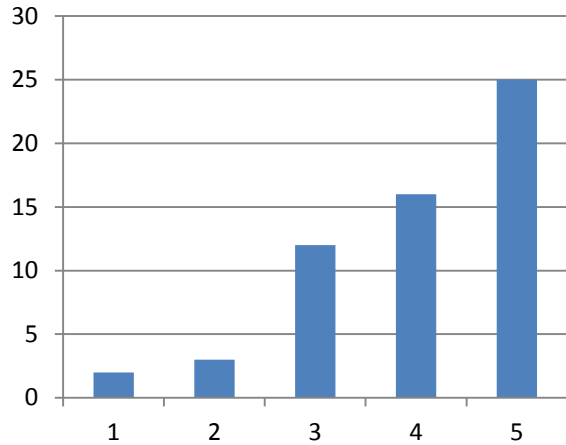
Survey Responses

Please rate the following statements on a scale of 1-5
(1-Strongly Disagree, 2-Disagree, 3-Indifferent, 4-Agree, 5-Strongly Agree)

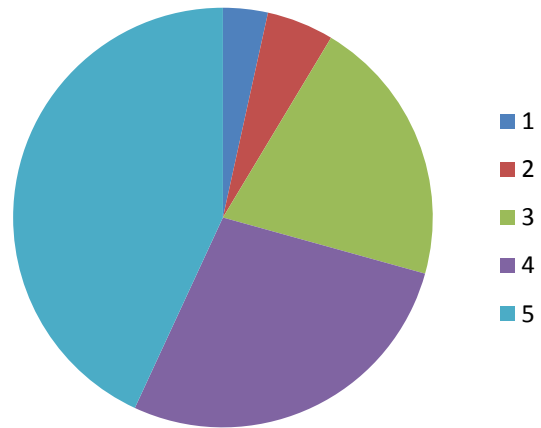




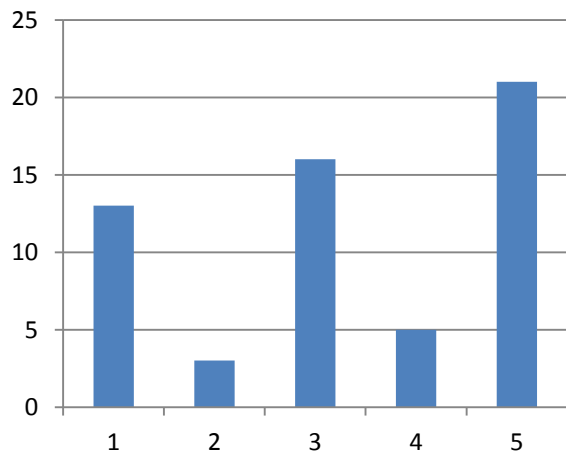
A pleasure rink is a priority for Curtiss Field (an open skating area with no boards)



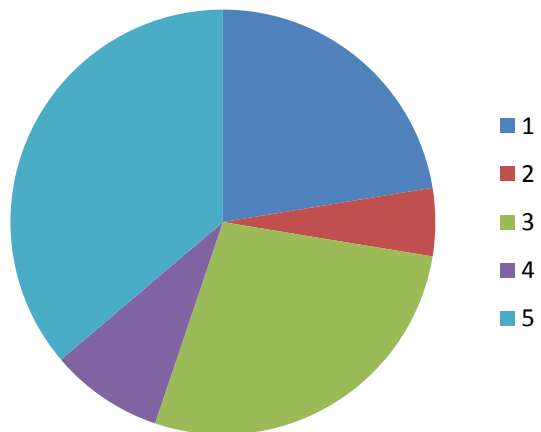
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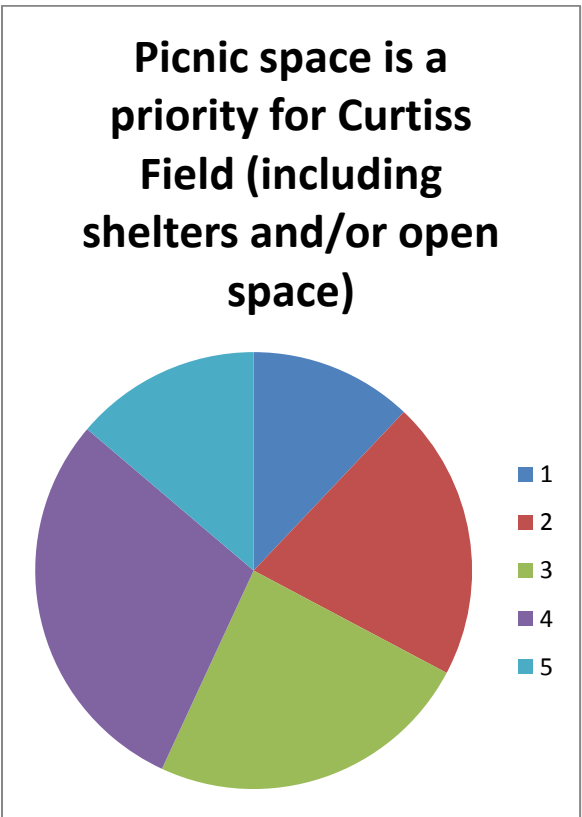
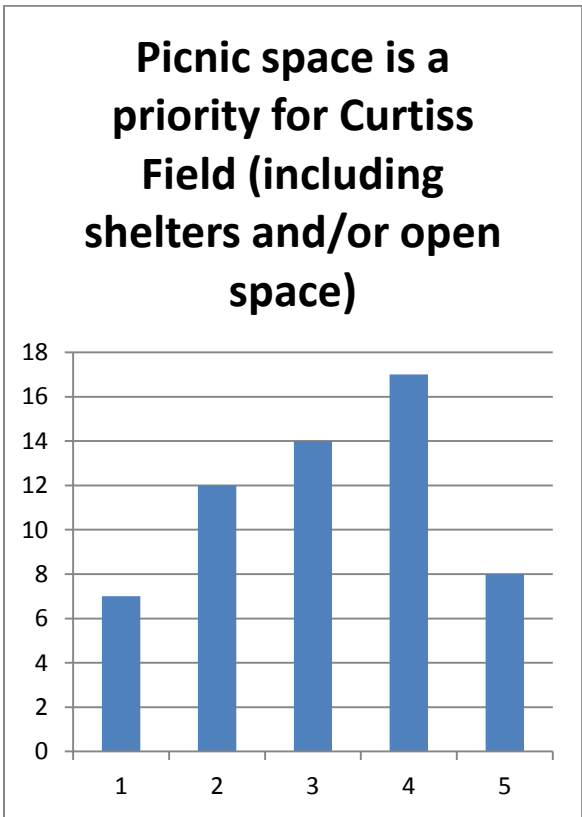
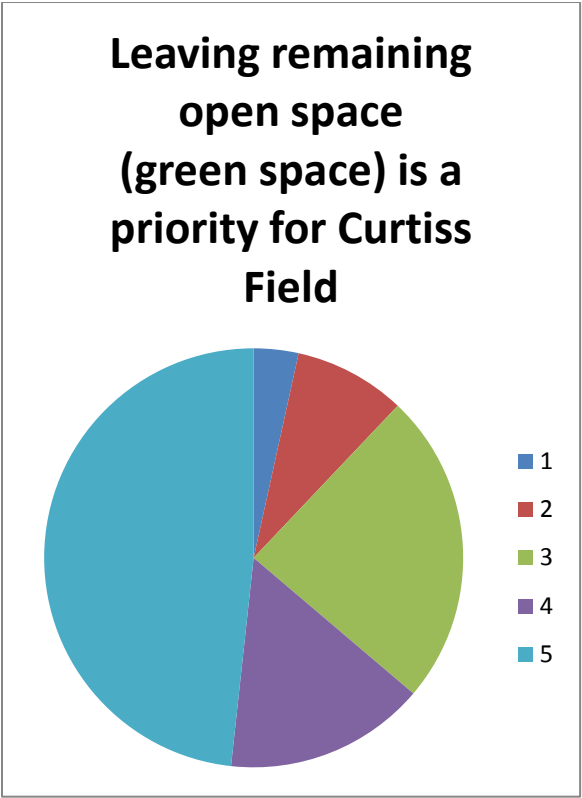
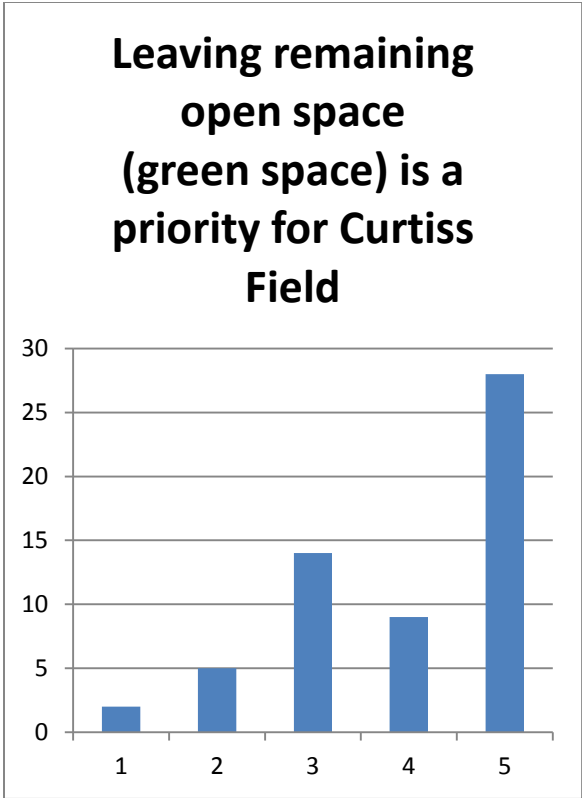


Creating a permanent base that could accommodate skating and hockey in the winter as well as basketball, tennis, pickleball and other sports in the summer is a priority at Curtiss Field



Creating a permanent base that could accommodate skating and hockey in the winter as well as basketball, tennis, pickleball and other sports in the summer is a priority at Curtiss Field





Q9 - Are there amenities not listed in the survey you would like to see at Curtiss Field?
sandbox water feature in summer Is there any other information or opinions you have about Curtiss Field
?: I'd like to see a soccer/football field as well here.
I liked when we used the building at Curtiss for Park and Rec kids' activities. I'd like to see (for others' kids) a way to store supplies and a sink for between activities and snacks. Big enough for tables and chairs to be moved around for games and teaching activities.
Definitely some sort of bathroom needs to go in!
An official path from sidewalk's end on the east - at Iowa Avenue -connecting with the west sidewalk (just past the brick utility building) would show the city is aware of pedestrian needs. A gravel path along the north wall of that brick structure and trimming low-hanging branches would help a lot. The "two holers" posing as trash receptacles are REALLY an embarrassingly dumb idea.
Aesthetically pleasing landscaping, i.e. Japanese garden, or rock,tree, with pond oasis.
I would like whatever is selected to accommodate all activities (skating, basketball, football, baseball, etc.) to the extent possible.
I think it would be nice to have a water feature such as a spout or 2 like those is a splash deck or one that is connected to a climbing rock and/or sandbox. There are a variety of these type features from large to small such as at Bruce Russell Park or Tamarack Nature Center to name 2. Maybe some soccer goals and a water fountain again.
The only concrete Id like to see is the sidewalk to the left/east of the retention pond/chain link fence replaced. It is hard for strollers to get to the playground from Idaho ave - through the muddy walk way
Native plant/pollinator demonstration gardens with structured planting style - similar to Silverwood Park. Kid Friendly Art
A Community Garden? Green space that had handicapped accessible paths and walkways. More trees and better landscaping that serves as a filter and barrier to sound from Snelling Ave. A way to connect this to our city in a more engaging way.
More lights More signs More visibility Bring back the back stop Cameras

More Lighting security cameras better signage earlier park time like 9pm.
Possible garden plots or maintained wildflower garden sections close to the gazebo & walking paths.
Backstop for baseball/softball (sand lot type field) Soccer nets available during non-snow season - even if it means checking them out of city hall or daily drop-off/pick-up by city staff. A berm/buffer with trees and foliage to block Snelling Ave and provide a park feel. Landscape throughout the park. Plants to attract birds, butterflies, etc, Improve green space grading and turf to prevent low areas for water to pool after rain. Re-pour sidewalk so it again circles the pond. Add street lamps along the sidewalk for improved visibility and safety. (I like the street lamps St. Paul uses in their neighborhoods.)
Beauty! The pond needs to look attractive, signage should be attractive, and the park should look clean and welcoming. I strongly suggest more flowers and color.
We'd love to have the backstop back for pick up t-ball/baseball games... don't know why that was ever removed and our son misses it. I am not in favor of more impermeable spaces, please use the field as it is for general purpose skating rink (over grass vs. concrete)
At least two basketball hoops one at 10ft one at 8ft for kids Would like a drinking fountain. Other idea, bmx/ mountain bike pump/ dirt track/ skills area....small section like there is outside the Lebanon hills mtn bike trail. Have a few piles of dirt available and let the neighborhood kids build jumps and stuff for their bikes
YES! 1) a fence around the playground so kids do not wander off, 2) return of the native plants that were around the fence that is around the lake, 3) a few flower gardens in or around the park (volunteers could agree to maintain these gardens), 4) the Shelter Building be put where the "shade area" is and not near any neighbors' house, 5) either replace the mulch under the toys with sand - or some other materials that the kids can dig in, and/or build that big sandbox that was mentioned, 6) give attention to the winter skating rink (you can attend the hockey rink too, but not to the neglect of the other rink), 7) if the decision is made to put that "permanent base" in for a basketball court, etc. I do NOT want it to take up all the green space, 8) a shorter basketball court would be preferable to a full sized court, in my opinion, 9) I would like to see a backstop returned to the corner of the field so kids - and other - can play a little softball, or Tball, or catch, etc. 10) I would like the park to be able to offer summer activities for the neighborhood kids, so the families can just walk to their local park, and 11) I love the idea of a "splash park/pad" at the park. They are so much fun and cooling in the summer. I think that about covers it. Thank you

<p>A fence around the playground. This is a dangerous situation for toddlers or any child that doesn't realize the height the playground is perched on. They could fall off the "platform" that the playground is built on. I have been amazed that this playground was left like this.</p> <p>Also, we have been there when the water is oozing out from the playground area after a rain. It is absolutely gross! We have been there when the walkway is flooded.</p>
<p>Playground equipment should be appropriate for older children as well as very young children.</p>
<p>More trees added Pathway around pond</p>
<p>more barrier with Snelling Ave, visual & sound</p>
<p>Drinking fountain Fence around playground More privacy/barriers to Snelling Paved sidewalk from Idaho</p>
<p>Splash pad, filed goal posts, bigger playground, rockwall/bordering wall/little bit bigger</p>

Q10 - Is there any other information or opinions you have about Curtiss Field you would like to share with the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Staff?

I think a permanent base is a very poor idea. You can look down our street and see the dip in each yard where septic tanks once were. There was just a lot of digging and disruption to Curtiss with the addition of the culverts. There will be a lot of settling which will ruin any permanent base that is put in. After all the money we have repeatedly paid to "fix" problems at Curtiss-- please do not create a new one. In addition, I was not impressed with the way planned changes to Curtiss have been communicated recently. And I strongly feel that there needs to be a half basketball court at the very least to meet the needs of ALL our neighborhood residents. That was heavily used.

I liked that the green space went from rink to field. The kids skated in winter and learned ball skills during the summer from P & R staff. Don't want to just be nostalgic, but do think that's what kids seem to like. Also would ideally see some nice native landscaping in the park.

Complete the area around the play structure with grass, sidewalks. It presents as a poorly managed project. Creates mistrust of those supervising the work.

It's a very small playground and did not engage my 3 year old long, plus without a bathroom we were forced to leave. Adding a sandbox or some diggers or something of that nature would be fun for little ones.

The city must find a way for staff doing park maintenance to feel ownership in the park. As a teen in high school I had a summer park job on the mowing crew. We had pride in our job and in keeping parks looking GOOD. That conscientiousness seems lacking here. Adding street names to the map below would help survey respondents identify their neighborhood.

I would like to see an expedited, transparent timeline of completion with whatever is decided upon.

It has been perfect as a green space. I would love for it to stay that way.

The park built tends to accommodate younger children so it would be nice the new space to accommodate school-age and older children, which is a large demographic in the Northhome neighborhood that abuts the park.

It is really nice to be able to fly kites, play ball, and just run around in the green space. I look forward to the return of sidewalks and for the grass to fill in. I also hope there will be more trees put in around the peripheral for shade areas. Thank you for planting those along Snelling Ave.

This is a small park and I would like to see the green space remain. Less concrete slab. It is a park.
Because it's right on Snelling I don't feel like tons of green sapce is s important, same with picnic space. I don't really want to picnic while Snelling traffic cruises by at clse to 50 MPH. I'd rahter go to Community park for open space where it is a little quieter. I think having Curtiss be more about amenities makes sense.
Is it true the city only owns one of the parks and the UofM can take back one with 30 days notice?
This park is a great space for park and rec programming. Having a building, plumbing, picnic area, and a hard surface will make it more usable. It can also be a great space for community gatherings. It is in a sad state right now.
It would be great to see the city put up the hockey rink each year, but I'm not sure a permanent base is needed (unless it is for structural reasons not outlined here). I'd also love to have a half-court, at least, for basketball - but without eating too much into the green space.
Respect for the neighbors, who live close to the park.
Older children need parks too.
There should be a 9pm closing on the park. Nothing good happens there after dark. Signs posting this would be great, also a neighborhood watch sign would be nice too. along with more lights around the path. A permanent base would take up half the field in which kids practice tee ball and soccer. leaving not a lot of room. Curtice Field is a great family toddler park lets keep it that way.
I like that its a family park along with the residents. Great toddler and younger kid park. Keep open green space for tee ball and soccer.
It would be nice to have in the near future some adult enrichment classes in the building on weekends or family oriented exercise program on the weekends @ the park. For example, Yoga in the park. Family-weekend- work-out.
We believe Curtiss Field should remain a well-maintained neighborhood park. Without a dedicated P&R fund there should be careful consideration in expanding. As the city continues to grow, having green space is a valuable refugee.
There is inadequate shade from adjacent trees in summer months. Need to plant more around East, South, West side of small child area.

would reiterate a basketball court is priority for me. However, instead of one full court, do two half courts facing each other, maximizing space, and allowing different levels of talent to play.
This park is a visual representation of our city, it is so visible to so many people. This park needs to look attractive. Since this is such a small park, it might be useful to use funds for a high quality building at Community Park.
It would be nice to have more trees planted to create a barrier between the park and Snelling Avenue. We don't need the Gazebo... it is a hangout for bad behavior and is never used. It looks cute, but without proper lighting it attracts the wrong type of people. I think the city should either support proper lighting or get rid of it.
If you do porta potties it would be nice to have some sort of wood enclosure around them or on the sides to make them look nicer. I think permanent bathrooms would be nice but I think they would get used for some not so good things and or get vandalized
I would appreciate good communication between the Council, Park and Rec Committee, and the rest of us in the neighborhood. If we express a desire for certain things - or not certain things - and are wishes cannot be honored or accommodated, I would like to hear why, who is making the decisions, if there is some compromise possible, etc. We need on-going reports, please
We are really disappointed that whoever is responsible for the original project has left the area in such an unusable mess. The ball field seems several feet lower than it was before. It has been a mess every time it rains. The sidewalk was removed so we have to walk across the parking area. Plus the entry was not finished. The coordination, planing and implementation of this project was very poorly done.
Small park - in terms of amenities, less is more.
scale should be small, neighborhood type park
It would be neat if there was info there about the history of the location, how it was once an airfield. I believe it is the birthplace of Northwest Airlines...
Overall better appearance; looks like kind of a mess these days. Maybe more trees to help with adding shade & providing more sound/visible barrier to Snelling. I find myself driving my young kids to other parks in the area rather than just walking down the block to CF. The quick playground overhaul with the Vikings left a lot to be desired.

away from houses

While efforts to solicit community input regarding Curtiss Field are appreciated, I am disappointed in the survey and don't feel it can be answered in a way that provides valid and useful information. Unfortunately that makes the survey and the process feel somewhat disingenuous- I'm sure not the intention. The wording of the questions could be misleading. Residents who intend to offer thoughtful input may be instead be answering without benefit of complete information.

For example: Replacing the shelter could be nice- ONLY IF it was located on/near the original footprint (5), NOT in any other location (1). Hockey would be desirable ONLY IF the rink was flooded and attended as it has been for more than 50 years (5), NOT if there is a permanent hard surface structure (1). Basketball could potentially be appropriate in the park again ONLY IF It is in a small space with one hoop, comfortable for parent/child or a couple of players, NOT if it is in a large permanent structure that encourages full-court games and large groups of young adults. Porta-Potties are an unappealing eyesore for the immediate neighbors and those using the park, as well as providing a hidden space to practice undesirable behavior (and I personally have rarely seen families who are using the park use the porta-potties). Of course plumbing in a building would be nice, but NOT if that requires a building that abuts a neighborhood home. In the past, the park building was rarely open and indoor toilets/plumbing rarely available to park patrons (outside of skating season).

This is a small neighborhood park that cannot and should not be expected to be all things. It has served the community well in its past incarnations, with the focus being on green space, playground for toddlers-elementary aged kids, seasonal skating, and a walking path for strollers and seniors. There are plenty of nearby recreational resources for a "bigger" park experience with adult activities (eg: tennis, basketball, Frisbee, pickleball, workout stations, etc). Curtiss Field is a neighborhood/community treasure. Keep it simple.

Responses provided during Open Houses

Curtiss Field Open House

Feedback

Monday, Nov 9, 2015

7 p.m.

City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

City of Falcon Heights

Parks & Recreation Commission

1. No concrete slab, want more green space!
2. They want their backstop back!
3. The park should be geared towards smaller kids (since local schools aren't open to public during school days)
4. Possibly a water feature for summer (Big like Splash Pad or Small like Bruce Russel park feature)
5. Sandbox would be great
6. Building where it was before, not by the houses
7. Plumbing would be nice
8. Sidewalks around the pond
9. Get rid of basketball courts (keep them gone.) Those w/young kids are glad they don't have the bigger kids causing safety concerns for little ones running around
10. Enclose the playground in a fence again to keep the kids contained and away from pond
11. Soccer nets would be nice
12. More trees along houses
13. Sidewalk by the utility building (right now just mud and rocks)
14. Gazebo can come down

**Curtiss Field Open House
Feedback
Wednesday, Nov 18, 2015
5:30 p.m.
City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.**

**City of Falcon Heights
Parks & Recreation Commission**

1. Would like a fence back up around the playground, to keep toddlers/young children from leaving the area (easier for parents/grandparents to keep watch)
2. Would like a building/shelter, though not near resident homes
3. Would like a sandbox
4. Would like more effort put into the general skating rink – flat surface, more grooming, more uniform shape, etc. Seems like most effort is put into hockey rink but pleasure skaters need smooth/flat surface as well... and larger
5. Prefer a half-sized basketball court instead of full size
6. Would like to see the backstop returned and/or soccer goals
7. Would like the sidewalk finished (preferably ASAP!) to loop around pond and connect with rest of sidewalks. Needed for residents with mobility issues.
8. Would like native plants/grasses around the pond to hide the ugly chain link fence (which is needed for safety)
9. Would like to see more landscaping in the park – that is easy to maintain, salt tolerant, etc.
10. Possibly create a volunteer gardening team/committee? to maintain park plantings
11. Create a salt barrier of some type (bushes, mound, etc.)? from Snelling Ave
12. Do NOT put up a sound barrier privacy fence. Neighbors like to be able to see inside the park for safety
13. “Less is More”: people can bring their own portable soccer nets and things like that; prefer open green space
14. 12 year old child asked for more swings and other stuff for bigger kids
15. For the tables and benches that are not bolted down, label them “Property of Falcon Heights” in case they disappear. Bolt the down? Not sure as people like to move the around.
16. Would like to see more Park and Rec programming at this park, so whatever is needed for that (a shelter?) they’d like to see that in the Park plan