

Boyd, John

From: Stein, Eileen
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 5:41 PM
To: #Board - Planning Commission
Cc: City Council; Williams, John; Worcester, Ken; Boyd, John; #Board - Parks and Recreation
Subject: Park Master Plan Update

Dear Planning Commission Members –

Tonight you will likely receive, and already have, public testimony about the proposed Park Master Plan. I don't know what will be said to you, but I hope that you keep in mind that this plan represents the work of various parties and that it is *developing public policy* for the City of West Linn. It is not the work of any one individual, but collective visions and ideas for moving our park system forward. This proposed update has been guided by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. It does not simply reflect the work of staff, and certainly not any one individual on staff.

My hope is that as you listen to testimony, you will refrain from accepting any assertion that this is staff-driven work or allow any criticism to be personalized. That's not productive. What is productive is to focus on the plan and how it needs to achieve the visions and expectations for park and open space that our citizens expect and deserve.

Thanks for your brief attention and for what you do for the City of West Linn.

Respectfully,

Eileen

Eileen Stein
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Planning Commission testimony for May 16, 2018. Presented to the Planning Commission by Alan Smith

I think if this Master Plan truly engaged the neighborhood associations (pg 2, pa 1), and purports to “respect” them (pg. 11, pa 2), then a couple of changes appear to be needed so that future city servants, council and taxpayers can believe those statements were written with conviction.

Map 1: Consider adding the Target symbol to Bolton FS and Robinwood FS as they are Park and Community Facilities.

Map 2: Unintelligible lower right corner. Consider giving Robinwood the House symbol.

Map C-2: Consider adding Bolton Fire Station to be created as a Social Hub.

Page E-1: Maddox is misspelled.

Page E-5: Remove “Avoid investing in smaller neighborhood facilities,” until a land use planning documentation feasibility study has been completed with the \$30-40 thousand dollar budget item that was given to the Parks a few years ago.

Page E-5: Remove the Second Bullet: Whether it is a study for an old, small fire station or a gleaming new billion dollar rec center/aquatic center, the basis for all studies need to go through a singular process of proof. This process includes going through neighborhood associations in the spirit of State Goal 1 and effects of such projects on resident livability and property values studies are included.

Appendix F: Paragraph 4: First sentence appears to be a statement of bias not based in fact. Cross reference the Tidings article about the Parks Master Plan published May 10, 2018. It needs to be resolved so future city servants and taxpayers can be assured that they do not have ask themselves what the statement is based upon.

Appendix F: Last bullet point: Contains a contradiction that needs to be resolved. Either the facility can “be renovated,” or it is “not financially sustainable.” These statements most likely are statements based in hearsay or bias. That “small, old fire station” is younger than MacLean House. It is also the scene of many important events, but until the Parks Department utilizes the money given to them to proceed on a study, those statements need to be removed, because they are not based in fact.

Finally, I ask the Planning Commission to draft a recommendation to the City Council to incorporate the appropriate elements of all Neighborhood Association Master Plans (NAMPs). Gather all the NA Plans that are part of the West Linn Comprehensive Plan, and dig out those elements that have to do with each section under the chapter on page 13, “Public Involvement and Key Themes.” Until such work is done please do not pass this Parks Master Plan. It is only fair to the city’s time and money spent on the NAMPs, and to our future city planners.

There are a whole lot of great things in this draft. Let’s make it better.

Thank you,

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