

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL
Held Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Discussion: Buddy Attick Park Draft Master Plan

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:30 pm, held in the Council Chambers and via Zoom.

In attendance were: Councilmembers Amy E. Knesel, Danielle P. McKinney, Jenni A. Pompei, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts (7:32 pm.), Kristen L.K. Weaver and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

City Staff: Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Greg Varda, Director of Recreations; Terri Hruby, Director of Planning and Community Development; Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, Environmental Coordinator; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Deputy City Clerk.

Others present: Anthony Dye and Scott Scarfone, Mahan Rykiel Associates Inc.; Chair Jacob Chesnutt, Matthew Sickie, Lola Skolnik, Carol Malveaux, Park and Recreations Advisory Board Members and others.

Mr. Dye and Mr. Scarfone presented a PowerPoint outlining a vision for the park's future aimed at guiding improvements, protecting natural resources, and enhancing management practices. They thanked the community for valuable feedback from meetings and surveys that helped shape the plan. Mr. Dye proposed enhancements for the lakefront path, including a flexible performance plaza for events, a circular path with accessible grades, and a multiuse entrance featuring a fishing pier and a landscaped promenade.

Mr. Scarfone noted that the stage would be a versatile at grade space, though full accessibility is not always feasible in parks. A new picnic pavilion is also planned along with pathways that work with existing trees. In the South Cove area, a stepped terrace will provide natural stone seating. Mr. Dye recommended meadow plantings for aesthetics and maintenance. He also addressed stormwater management and suggests improvements like lakeside seating and connections to the path. To minimize erosion, he recommended using resin-bound aggregate instead of gravel and porous asphalt for specific paths.

Mr. Scarfone stated that only the trails to the main entrance and around the lake would be paved, aiming to enhance maintenance while preserving the current trail appearance. The Council emphasized balancing accessibility with the park's natural character and discussed retaining amenities like water fountains and restrooms, along with the potential for electric vehicle charging stations.

The Council focused on accessibility, addressing concerns from residents about the durability of resin paths under heavy traffic.

Mayor Jordan suggested piloting a resin material and exploring funding through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). A Greenbelt resident, expressed safety concerns about paving the lake path, particularly for wheelchair users.

Mayor Jordan highlighted the need for safety measures for the proposed pier and the importance of improving signage and access. He also noted challenges for individuals with mobility issues due to the area's elevation.

Mr. Varda and Mr. Roberts discussed improving accessibility and maintenance of a lake area considering a stormwater pond and reducing grassy regions.

Mayor Jordan focused on protecting new trees and enhancing signage around Forebay.

The Council agreed to proceed with pavilions without waiting for the Buddy Attick Master Plan and emphasized the need for clearer signage and better trash placement in public spaces.

Informational Items

Mr. Salmerón announced a pilot program for automated stop sign cameras launching on October 18, 2025. Ms. Weaver and Ms. McKinney shared updates on transportation planning and a tour of DC farms respectively.

The meeting ended at 9:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

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Deputy City Clerk