

# **Bittersweet Park Landscape Management Strategies**

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# City Council Direction

- Additional community input and feedback
- Develop a landscape management solution between Option 2 and Option 3
- Fiscally responsible alternative
- Special attention for Veteran's and Fallen Officer's Memorials



# Community Input and Feedback Process

**In partnership with Communication and Engagement Department the CPRD actively invited the public feedback on the Bittersweet Park landscape**

- 2 pop-up events were held at Bittersweet Park
- 1358 survey respondents  
(Over 4,000 write-in comments)
- 29 paper surveys completed
- Over 270 social media comments captured
- 20+ emails received with feedback and suggestions



# Community Input and Feedback Results

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1 - Absolutely keep Bittersweet the same	55.78%	758
2 - Somewhat keep Bittersweet the same	10.96%	149
3 - I don't have a preference	1.77%	24
4 - Somewhat change Bittersweet to something else	8.61%	117
5 - Change Bittersweet to something else	22.88%	311
TOTAL		1,359

**Nearly 67% of respondents selected "Absolutely keep Bittersweet the same" or "Somewhat keep it the same".**

**56% of these responses suggested landscape maintenance around memorials, park/picnic areas and celebrations areas, dog stations, and weed control.**

**\* 'Keep the same' refers to current condition of park landscape.**



# Community Input and Feedback Areas of Interest

## What Residents Care About

- **Aesthetics / Access**
- **Water conservation**
- **Responsible use of public dollars**
- **Native grasses need time to mature**
- **Maintain areas around memorials, public art, and picnic tables**



# Sample Comments from Respondents

"I like the natural look, but it looks best when done in contrast with manicured. Like one side of sidewalk is natural, and the other is tidy. The look is then intentional, and less "messy"."

"I think we need to give it the appropriate time to fully mature as planned before making any choices due to the extreme expense involved. Evans has tons of parks with natural grass areas and they look great. Just takes time."

"It's a beautiful, special park but we need to continue evolving to make visits more safe and desirable."

"Bittersweet Park is a signature Greeley property. The unsightly New grass scheme is unsightly and an insult to the honor of Veterans and the memory of fallen Police officers. The grass near the memorials and between the street and the path need to be manicured lawns. The wild grass idea might look OK in areas adjacent to the lake - keeping in mind that the appearance this park will affect the image of Greeley in the minds of visitors."

"This park should be a typical park, not try to be a natural area."

"Keep the bluegrass where it is as well as the wild grass. Also, thank you for creating the interior gravel path!"





Option 2

## Solution between Option 2 and Option 3

Option 3



Bittersweet Park



Bluegrass Turf



Native Grass Blend



Salt Tolerant Blend

# Staff Recommendation

- **Option 2 and 3 Hybrid (as presented in Worksession 1-11-22) and aligns with irrigation system (confirmed as preferred option)**
- **Aligns with installed irrigation system**
- **Bluegrass is returned to high visibility and special use areas near memorial sites and W 16<sup>th</sup> Street and 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection**
- **Salt tolerant grasses remain on street edges that are impacted by snow removal**

## **Costs:**

**Renovation: \$60,000/acre x 5.6 acres = \$336,000**

**Maintenance: \$8,100/yr**







**Questions?**