



Bike Skills Area Discussion

Parks & Recreation Commission
June 2, 2022

Background – Key Dates

- Oct 7, 2021 Bike Skills Area in Upper Luther Burbank Park closed
- Nov 15, 2021 Public meeting
- Apr 18, 2022 BSA Assessment Report released
- Apr 26, 2022 PRC Special Video Meeting to discuss short- and long-term options for re-opening the Bike Skills Area



Background – PRC Discussion



Outcomes from April 26th PRC meeting:

- Voted to re-open the current Bike Skills Area in Upper Luther Burbank Park in a limited fashion (e.g., a more simplified design) predicated on the City finding an alternative location that could be brought online within 2-3 years.
- Recommended that the preliminary design be brought back to the Commission to be reviewed and to include reasonable opportunity for meaningful public comment.
- No decisions were made regarding a long-term, alternative location for the BSA.



Commissioner Questions/Comments



Staff received several questions from Commissioners in preparation for tonight's meeting. Questions and responses are in two matrices:

- Matrix #1 – in tonight's meeting packet
- Matrix #2 – posted on website with meeting materials & sent to Commissioners



Discussion

1. Provide feedback on the site analysis matrix.
2. Discuss recommendations for long-term planning for the BSA.
3. May consider whether to continue with recommendation to re-open the BSA in ULBP in short term, or prioritize a long-term solution with an accelerated timeline.

Park	Specific area under consideration	Park type	USER BENEFITS				CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE ACCESS	
			Existing restroom facility	Dedicated parking area	Central location on island	Proximity to other public recreation facilities (eg, playgrounds)	Nearby utilities (water, stormwater, power)	Ease of access for ongoing maintenance
Deane's Childrens Park	West and north sections	Developed park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good
Homestead Park	East section, north of restroom	Developed park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good
Luther Burbank Park	West Hill near the meadow	Developed park	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Fair
Mercerdale Park	Behind Skate Park and near Native Plant Garden	Developed park	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good
South Mercer Playfields	Southeast corner of property	Developed park	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Good
Bicentennial Park	All	Developed park	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good
Aubrey Davis Park	West side of park near SE 24th, WISDOT area near SE 40th & Gallagher Hill.	Developed park	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Good
Groveland Beach Park	Hillside	Open space	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Poor
Rotary Park	Area south of reservoir site	Developed park	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Good
Island Crest Park	Open space area	Open space	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Poor
Clarke Beach Park	Hillside	Open space	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Fair
First Hill Park	North of playground	Developed park	No	No	No	Yes	No	Good
Secret Park	Area south of playground	Open space	No	No	No	Yes	No	Fair
Slater Park	Area west of parking lot	Developed park	No	Limited	No	No	No	Good
Roanoke Park	Area south of playground	Developed park	No	Limited	No	No	No	Fair
Clise Park		Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Good
SE 53rd Open Space	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Poor
Parkwood Ridge Open Space	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Poor
North Mercerdale Hillside	All	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor
Mercerdale Hillside	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Poor
Upper Luther Burbank Park	Bike Skills Area	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor
Ellis Pond	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Fair
Engstrom Open Space	All	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor
Pioneer Park	All	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor





Questions & Discussion

			USER BENEFITS				CONSTRUCTION/ MAINTENANCE ACCESS		BSA SITE CHARACTERISTICS				SAFETY/ SITE SECURITY		SITE IMPACTS			PLANNING		
Park	Specific area under consideration	Park type	Existing restroom facility	Dedicated parking area	Central location on island	Proximity to other public recreation facilities (eg. playgrounds)	Nearby utilities (water, stormwater, power)	Ease of access for ongoing maintenance	Can accommodate trail/course similar site to ULBP BSA	Site character	Site topography	Elevation differential	Visibility from road or sidewalk	Ease of access for first responders	Impact on active recreation use area	Impact on passive recreation use area	Impact on ecological health of area	Existing Master Plan or other document that could affect BSA siting	Property ownership	Primary constraints
Deane's Childrens Park	West and north sections	Developed park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good	Yes	Forested overstory, cleared understory	Varied, flat to gentle slopes	Yes	Fair	Good	Low	Low	Low	No	CMI	Design must coordinate with playground access/use
Homestead Park	East section, north of restroom	Developed park	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good	Yes	Developed site (tennis and basketball courts)	Varied, gentle to steep slopes	Yes	Good	Good	High	Moderate	Low	No	CMI	Would likely impact tennis & basketball courts
Luther Burbank Park	West Hill near the meadow	Developed park	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Fair	Yes	Developed landscape with replanting area established	Medium to steep slope	Yes	Good	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Yes	CMI	Master Plan identifies BSA in Upper LBP, changes may require amendment to existing Master Plan
Mercerdale Park	Behind Skate Park and near Native Plant Garden	Developed park	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good	Yes	Turf with some forested area and wetland	Mostly flat	No	Fair	Good	Low	Moderate	Moderate	No	CMI	Upcoming Master Plan process and evaluation of recreation services/amenities is forthcoming
South Mercer Playfields	Southeast corner of property	Developed park	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Good	Yes	Developed site (playground, athletic fields), turf	Flat	No	Good	Good	High	Moderate	Low	No	MISD	Owned by MI School District
Bicentennial Park	All	Developed park	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good	No	Developed landscape, flagpole	Flat	No	Good	Good	Low	High	Low	No	CMI	VFW connection to site
Aubrey Davis Park	West side of park near SE 24th; WSDOT area near SE 40th & Gallagher Hill.	Developed park	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Good	Yes	Urban forest, combination of active and passive use.	Varies, gentle to steep slopes	Yes	Fair	Fair	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Yes	WSDOT	Possible amendment to existing Master Plan and ownership/property agreement with WSDOT
Groveland Beach Park	Hillside	Open space	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Poor	Yes	Forested	Very steep	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	Moderate	Moderate	No	CMI	Ecological value, proximity to shoreline and erosion control measures.
Rotary Park	Area south of reservoir site	Developed park	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Good	Yes	Developed landscape, turf	Flat with rounded humps	No	Good	Good	Low	High	Low	No	CMI	Rotary Club connection to site
Island Crest Park	Open space area	Open space	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Poor	Yes	Forested, stream/wetlands	Varied, gentle to steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	High	High	No	CMI	High ecological value, watercourse
Clarke Beach Park	Hillside	Open space	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Fair	Yes	Forested	Very steep	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	Low	High	No	CMI	High ecological value
First Hill Park	North of playground	Developed park	No	No	No	Yes	No	Good	Yes	Turf, sparse forest	Flat	No	Good	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Low	No	CMI	Area is very flat
Secret Park	Area south of playground	Open space	No	No	No	Yes	No	Fair	Yes	Forested	Gentle slope	Yes	Fair	Fair	Low	Moderate	Moderate	No	CMI	No dedicated or street parking
Slater Park	Area west of parking lot	Developed park	No	Limited	No	No	No	Good	Yes	Turf, landscaped beds	Gentle slope	Yes	Fair	Fair	Low	High	Low	No	CMI	Small park, close neighbors, shoreline
Roanoke Park	Area south of playground	Developed park	No	Limited	No	No	No	Fair	Yes	Developed site (tennis court), forested	Gentle slope	Yes	Fair	Good	High	Moderate	Moderate	No	CMI	Would likely impact tennis court
Clise Park		Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Good	Yes	Forested	Flat	No	Fair	Good	Low	High	High	No	CMI	High ecological value, very flat
SE 53rd Open Space	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested	Steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	Moderate	High	No	CMI	High ecological value
Parkwood Ridge Open Space	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested	Medium to steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	Moderate	High	No	CMI	High ecological value, watercourse
North Mercerdale Hillside	All	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested	Medium to steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	High	High	No	CMI	High ecological value, watercourse
Mercerdale Hillside	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested	Varied, gentle to steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	High	High	No	CMI	High ecological value
Upper Luther Burbank Park	Bike Skills Area	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested	Varied, gentle to steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Yes	CMI	Opposition from neighborhood residents
Ellis Pond	All	Open space	No	No	Yes	No	No	Fair	Yes	Forested, wetland	Flat	No	Poor	Poor	Low	High	Very high	No	CMI	Stormwater pond serves as wildlife habitat, fragile soils
Engstrom Open Space	All	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested, perched wetlands	Varied, gentle to steep slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	Moderate	Very high	Yes	OSCT	Ecologically fragile, does not align with ordinance that created OSCT
Pioneer Park	All	Open space	No	No	No	No	No	Poor	Yes	Forested	Mostly flat, some varied slopes	Yes	Poor	Poor	Low	High	Very high	Yes	OSCT	Does not align with ordinance that created OSCT