

BIKE SKILLS AREA: COMMISSIONER QUESTION MATRIX #2 JUNE 2, 2022		
COMMISSIONER	QUESTION/COMMENT	STAFF RESPONSE
Don Cohen	Importance of a permanent separator between the BSA and the children's play area. A fence was mentioned as contemplated.	Permanent fencing will be included in the project design.
Don Cohen	Importance of a separate entry/exit to the BSA. Coming in from the tennis court area was mentioned so as to avoid negative interaction with children/caregivers in Deane's and with school children, faculty/staff, and vehicles to the north.	Consideration of entry/exit and flow into the BSA and surrounding recreational areas is an important element of the project design and will be included.
Don Cohen	Importance of safe access/egress from BSA area along that paved street out to ICW. It's not good now, because there is no place to walk/ride other than on that street or thru the small parking area.	Consideration of safe access and egress is an important element of the project design and will be included.
Don Cohen	Importance of impacts on various user groups: MI Preschool Assoc.; Island Park School/MISD, ball field users, Island Crest Park trail users.	City staff have reached out to members of MIPA and MISD to discuss the potential for siting the BSA at Deane's Childrens Park. Neither has significant concerns about this site, and both will be invited to participate in the design process.
	a. How do we publicize well this option being considered to all these groups and get input. For example, trail users might react negatively to the risk of increased noise and commotion right across the fence of a deeply ravined and forested area that is pretty quiet now.	As part of the design process, staff would solicit public input for a conceptual design to ensure opportunities for feedback from a range of user groups. Notice of public input avenues would be posted at several locations within the park and included in the City's media platform.
	b. How do we mitigate the risk of BSA users improperly using the trail area west of the fence as some apparently do now. See my email re slope erosion, impromptu trails, etc. in that area. I'm not keen on signage, as you know, but might it be appropriate to consider if issues develop?	Staff will continue to monitor trail use/damage in Island Crest Park as part of its regular trail maintenance program. Any improper use or damage will be addressed immediately, and signage installed to alert trail users to the issue.
Peter Struck	One other criteria I thought of that may be a differentiator or factor in site selection is "seasonality" or the ability of a site to be open all year around (as opposed to only part of the year -- e.g., dry season vs. rainy season).	Any new BSA facility that is constructed will include a drainage system that collects/diverts water away from the bike area. The course will be designed for four season use, regardless of location, though there will certainly be times the area will be too wet to use (similar to other active recreation amenities).
Peter Struck	It would be extremely helpful to the PRC and the community for staff to provide what a "perfect", "optimal" or "preferred" site would look like. a. Perhaps a picture of an existing one that would closely match what is being contemplated for the community would be helpful ("picture is worth 1,000 words"). b. As part of that exercise would be site dimensions, topography, etc.	Staff considered the various site conditions, benefits and impacts when evaluating potential BSA locations (see Site Analysis Matrix exhibit). A preferred site would include the indicated user benefits, an area that is well suited for a BSA, minimal site impacts, and good access and site security.
Peter Struck	It would be helpful for the PRC's review to provide what is the target demographic in terms of age and skill level. a. Obviously, this will help inform the topographical needs of a site.	The 95 responses received in the first online survey indicated that BSA users cover a wide range of ages. In the public input phase of the conceptual design development, staff will evaluate which skill levels users are most interested in seeing at a new facility. An optimal course would contain elements that appeal to riders of varying skill levels.
Peter Struck	In addition, what "bike skills" are being contemplated at the site. For example, biking websites list five different bike skills – Dirt Jump Zone, Pump & Bump Skills Loop, Pump Track, Gravity Jump Trails, and Progressive Drop Zone.	The primary focus for a BSA is to suit mountain biking interests. The jump line and features would resemble those outlined in the consultant's report. Additional consideration may be given to a small pump track/loop as part of the project design.
Peter Struck	Is the footprint of the BSA site specific or is there a required size configuration? a. One of Site Characteristics speaks to the site being "similar" to the existing BSA area in Upper Luther Burbank Park b. The Upper Luther Burbank site, according to the consultant's report was 8,000-9,000 sq. ft. (if I recall correctly)	Configuration and size would be considered as part of the project design and would need to be tailored to the specific location selected. Each site provides slightly different characteristics that would need to be considered. The BSA would not exceed the size of the current BSA in ULBP.

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Peter Struck	<p>Are any of the 17 criteria listed considered as a “must have” requirement that could eliminate certain areas?</p> <p>a. For example, are existing bathroom facilities required?</p> <p>b. Is (dedicated) parking required?</p> <p>c. Is an elevation differential required? (See comment about developing the parameters of an optimal site)</p> <p>d. Should the two safety/site security criteria need to be considered “good” for consideration?</p> <p>e. Is a “Central Location” required?</p>	<p>Staff would not define any particular criteria as "must haves" but all aid in evaluating the overall potential success of a site. Site safety and ease of access are both important criteria.</p>
Peter Struck	<p>While the PRC has been advised by staff that they do not appropriate funds (that’s a job for the Council), to the extent there would be large variations in cost between proposed sites – either capital or ongoing maintenance – the PRC should, at least, be made aware of those. Otherwise, the PRC must implicitly assume there are no material cost differences!</p>	<p>The largest cost differences between sites for both construction and ongoing maintenance will be tied to ease of access (accessibility for vehicles, tools, materials) and nearby utilities (ready access to water, electricity, etc). More remote sites will require additional resources and labor.</p>
Peter Struck	<p>It would also be helpful, if photos – using Google maps – shows the specific area (where applicable).</p> <p>a. For example, I’m uncertain as to the exact locations noted within Aubrey Davis Park;</p> <p>b. Homestead Park – not sure how a site would be situated? – north to south across the hill face?</p>	<p>If the PRC chooses to evaluate a short list of potential sites, staff can provide maps and/or photos of particular sites, as needed.</p>
Peter Struck	<p>To improve decision-making, the various criteria should be weighted as to importance (see, for example, how the PRC handled the Luther Burbank docks project or the 20-yr list of capital projects).</p>	<p>Staff welcomes the PRC discussion on how criteria should be weighted.</p>
Peter Struck	<p>Are any of these sites better suited for alternative uses? The current approach assumes that the decision is either keep the site “as is” OR install a BSA.</p> <p>i. For example, at Deane’s Children’s Park, the proposed site would replace an existing “imaginary play” area for young children. What other potential uses could be put there? The PROS plan community surveys provide robust data on other activities the community wants in its’ parks.</p>	<p>Alternative uses could be considered for these sites, but they haven’t been identified. For this specific project, staff have focused efforts on the BSA.</p>