Interested Parties Meeting

Meeting Date: January 25, 2017

Columbia Parks and Recreation Sign In Sheet

NAME	<u>ADDRESS</u>	E-MAIL	wskiegmai
Dan + Jo S	ADDRESS Jawski 1302 Mor	ning Dove Driv	<u>e</u> 65201
GARY FENNEL	IALD 1316 WILLOWCZ	DEX LANE gfennewa	ld@socket.net
Bennito Ke	lty 302 S. Garth Al	Ve. bllc Mb3@ Meil. Mi	ssouri.edu
Parker Tin	isly 2409 Watersid	led parastinsley	Egra'l. com
Kelsie Coe	3601 W.Broadway 1-3	Rol kelsiec@gmai	1.com
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Han Mooly	16 Chindon DS- 109 Watertown PL	amoodrikalogned	
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JOHN F			

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Swan Flader 917 Edgeword fladers@missouri.ede Dennis Murphy 2085. Garth murphydj@missouri.ed Jane Carrel 4121/2 w. Walnut carrelinyy@gma	NAME	ADDRESS	E-MAIL
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Jane Carrel 412/2 W. Walnut carrelroy+egma	Dennis Murpha	2085, Garty	murphy dje missourisedu
	Jane Carrel	4121/2 w. Wal	nut carrelloy/ogmai
			

Columbia Parks and Recreation MKT Trail Restoration Public Input Meeting January 25, 2017

Q: Please comment on what you like about the proposed potential improvements?

- I really like the side, mowed trail. I think it is valuable to provide different experiences on the trail. It is also valuable to create access to the creek for families and children to explore the area.
- I like that all my questions about the proposed potential improvement were answered by the representatives at hand. Basically, the transparency behind the proposed improvements and an understanding of why these improvements were chosen was displayed.
- I would be interested to know if you have heard of or studied: Claudia West, *Planting in a Post-Wild World*. Great design theory!
- Like the pollinator friendly plantings. Looks like a good overall approach. I intend to adopt a trail section and have worked with CHIRP on invasives removal. If you get volunteers who what to adopt but need help with all the honeysuckle, I'm willing to help them, Gary Fennewald.
- The replanting plans see great. I am so happy the sewer construction was able to save the best trees close to the trail and at the Providence Road trailhead. This has been a great project for the City. I like the mowed grass paths.
- I really like the idea of introducing native Missouri plant life back to the trail. Letting it go to prairie would be neat, but the open feeling along the trail is amazing. It allows sunlight in to highlight the wonderful plant life we have. Having edible plants would be great, especially for viewing local deer. Keeping the green areas accessible for walking is also a great benefit.
- Looks good! I like the idea of leaving it somewhat open like it is now. It feels more like a park and like I've arrived somewhere.
- Looks good, hoping the lateral views into the woods would be deeper than they are now. Will the grassed areas be mowed regularly or as needed? I am glad to see the catalpa trees included.
- Pleased with the choice of natives that seem best suited for the area- and carefully selected placement of plantings. I do like the proposed mowed pathway for easier access. I am especially excited about native wildflower pollinator plants and native edibles. My family also plans to be active in the Adopt-a-Trail volunteer program Thank you for your work and dedication to re-beautifying, re-wilding our trail! I really believe it's one of the best investments our city can make safe trail access to beautiful green space near the center of town.
- Good job. Thanks for working with volunteer groups to engage maximum people in keeping some exotics and encouraging natives.
- Use of native plants throughout. Mini trails through grassy areas.

Q: What would you change about the proposed potential improvements?

- Consult/coordinate with the sewer maintenance team to establish "keep out" zones around manholes so plantings are not damage d by being too close to interfere with routine sewer maintenance access.
- I like the idea of screening the manholes but please be sure to leave enough room for the sewer maintenance crews to access the manholes. Maybe some type of mowable grass would be better than bushes by the manholes on the south end.
- With bees becoming threatened, introducing bee-attracting plants to low-foot traffic areas would be a neat thing to see. If a local school is interested, it could be a neat science laboratory.

- Just try to leave as much of the open grass patches as possible. Possibly even put some benches that could be used to enjoy those areas.
- Will there be benches along the pedway or will some set back from the paths edge (my preference)?
- I hope that we will see more funding as needed for failed plantings, etc.
- Very good. Maybe you could use more \$.
- Nothing.

December 2016 - February 2017, Social Media Comments related to MKT Restoration Plans

- The MKT trail section which is being restored after the Flatbranch Sewer project should be lined with native plants, trees, and shrubs. Specifically, I would like to see more use of edible and fruit-bearing plants. A map could be created with displays the location of these various edible plants along with the likely dates that they will be in season. This could be part of a "walking picnic" or other educational/experiential activity for school groups and other citizens. There are many potential community partners for this project, including Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, Community Gardening Coalition, Columbia Public Schools, Conservation Department, and Public Health organizations.
- Thank you for working with native species and edibles! Please also check the allergen ranking of the plants! It is nice for people on the trail to not get attacked by pollens in the middle of a walk!
- Love the trail. My only suggestion is there any way we could get an ice cream, snow cone, or water ice vendor near the Scott Blvd trail head? There are destination points to ride to in either direction from that trail head but none if you are coming from town or from Rocheport. I think that area would be a perfect spot for a Rita's Water Ice business!
- Use some of the open space created from the sewer project to create easy singletrack trails for mountain bikes. Keep them close to the main trail so parents can supervise kids from the MKT.
 Keep planting native species and eradicating invasives and perhaps placing a few more interpretive signs to inform users of the problems caused by invasive plants.
- Easy singletrack Mountain Bike trails that parallel the MKT trail would enable kids to have some variety of riding surface while parents could still keep an eye on them from the trail. Less invasives (ie Bush Honeysuckle) and more native plants along with more interpretive signage can make for an informative experience.
- Plant milkweed
- I wanted to add on to Lukin's idea. Is there a way to leave some of the areas that the plan shows as native grasses, etc. that will eventually become prairie more open than just a mowed small trail to access the creek? There are beautiful spots open now because of the shrub removal that could be used for picnics, events, camping, etc. (for instance, Pedaler's Jamboree could use it for staging for a band, many running events could use it similarly, it could be used for wedding photos, etc.). Certainly, not all of it needs to be left open, but the area on the Quarry side, just north of the quarry (MKTPlanPage 2 and 3) is really beautiful as an open area with minimal cover right now. We love stopping there; I could imagine kids and dogs would love the wide open space to run / sit / play / eat. It's a delightful surprise seeing the wide open space like a hidden park. If that's too much maintenance, I understand, but it's something we don't have on the trail and is a unique feature that we could make use of.