

EXHIBITION LAP

Meeting Debrief – Riverfront Park Uses

Thank you to those who attended the Exhibition Local Area Plan (LAP) meeting on May 15, 2019. The Local Area Planning team values the time that attendees took to learn about and share your feedback on the **Riverfront Park Uses: Diefenbaker Park, Optimist Hill, and Meewasin Trail!**

If you were unable to make it to the in-person meeting on May 15th, the information below provides an overview of the topic discussed, and general feedback received from participants during the presentations and panel discussion.

Overview of Meeting Topic – Riverfront Park Uses: Diefenbaker Park, Optimist Hill, and Meewasin Trail

This meeting discussed the roles different groups play in the management of the riverfront portion of the Exhibition LAP Study Area. As such, the meeting included guest speakers from Meewasin, City of Saskatoon, and OSP Development Corporation/Optimist Club.

Prior to the presentations from guest speakers, Keith Folkersen, Senior Planner with Neighbourhood Planning provided a brief overview on the history of the Pioneer (Nutana) Cemetery located on the riverbank at Ruth Street and St. Henry Avenue.

The following is an overview of the guest speaker presentations:

- Alan Otterbein, Design and Development Manager from Meewasin explained the existing Meewasin Trail network in proximity to the Exhibition neighbourhood, gave an overview of the most recent trail counts, and outlined the planned future work in the area.
- Brad Babyak, Recreation Services Manager from the City of Saskatoon provided history on Diefenbaker Park, an overview of the special events that occur annually within the area and discussed the various amenities that Diefenbaker Park currently offers to the community.
- Brad Sylvester, President of OSP Development Corporation and Joe Van't Hof from Optimist Club presented their promotional videos, summarized the partnership between the City and Optimist Club and shared immediate and future plans for Optimist Hill.

After presentations from guest speakers, Neighbourhood Planning facilitated a question and answer session with attendees. This discussion is summarized in the meeting notes posted online at saskatoon.ca/lap. Presentations from guest speakers can also be found online.

Next Steps

- Investigate ideas for possible improvements with our partners that were proposed by attendees at the meeting, including:
 - additional access from the neighbourhood to Meewasin Trail;
 - upgrades to St. Henry Avenue south of Ruth Street;
 - upgrades to trail surfacing along sections of the Meewasin Trail, and
 - traffic calming measures before/during/after large events that occur in Diefenbaker Park or at Optimist Hill.
- Determine if further action needs to be taken to understand identified issues.

If you have any additional comments or feedback on the Riverfront Park Uses in your neighbourhood, please email keith.folkersen@saskatoon.ca or call 306-986-1690.

Join us at the Exhibition LAP Come-and-Go Open House on Thursday, June 20th from 6-8pm!

The purpose of the Open House is to present the community with 'this is what we heard' information on all the topics that have been discussed during the process so far. We will also present the ideas being investigated for potential local improvements and ask for additional feedback on the topics and issues. Content experts from previous meetings will be at this Open House to answer specific questions and hear your ideas.

The hope is that by offering another means or opportunity for community members to provide feedback, that we see a few new faces and get everyone critically thinking about the potential ideas for improvements. We want to make sure we are on the right track in identifying effective strategies to address these issues and concerns.

The come-and-go Open House will be held:

Thursday, June 20, 2019 – 6-8pm
Seventh Day Adventist Christian School – Gym (2228 Herman Avenue)

Invite your neighbours! Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!
Treats and refreshments provided!

Neighbourhood
PLANNING

 *City of*
Saskatoon