

PRELIMINARY DESIGN - PUBLIC FEEDBACK SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Public comments on the preliminary Meals Hill concept design were collected from February 8th through February 19th. During that time 126 individuals provided feedback. This summary presents an overview of the public comments received.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT

Responses to Question 1 and 2 were graphed to see the frequency that individuals selected certain options (see graphs below).

Trail Concepts

Most respondents selected Trail Concept 2 (the design with additional mountain biking trails) as their preferred option. Comment trends and changes people want to see related to Trail Concept 2 include:

- Positive comment regarding the mountain bike trails, i.e., happy that single track trails are included (23)
- Add more mountain bike trails (10)
- General concern about long-term costs and maintenance (8)
- Add a pump track (6)



Access Concepts

While 49 respondents selected Access Concept A (the option with a small lower parking lot), five of those respondents commented that they would prefer no parking on the hill along with 32 other individuals who made a similar comment, for a total of 37 commenting they would prefer no parking. Comment trends and changes people want to see related to access include:

- No parking (37)
- Parking only for ADA / Drop-off (9)



March PRC & MHPC Meetings

The design team met with the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC), on March 9th, and the Meal Hill Planning Committee (MHPC), on March 10th, to present the summary of the public feedback and to explore which design solutions the planning team should advance.

At both meetings, the design team presented the comment trends, as well as revised entry designs that addressed the public comments received: Access Concept A and Access Options Without Parking. Themes from both of those meetings:

- PRC & MHPC members were happy to see new no-parking options.
- About half the PRC and half MHPC members preferred the no-parking options while the other half still preferred Access Concept A.
- Some attendees commented that the no-parking options provided a better solution to potential vehicle and pedestrian conflicts.
- Some commented that they preferred Access Concept A because it would likely be less costly and less impact on the terrain while still providing a universally accessible trail.
- Some attendees commented that providing an accessible trail would be expensive and impact the terrain significantly. The design team explained the importance of equitable access at a major downtown park and how the decision to provide equitable access came from both the initial survey results and best practices.

<u>Next Steps</u>

The design team is developing the draft Master Plan which will be presented to the public in May.

