JUNE 15, 2021 COMMUNITY CONVERSATION FEEDBACK

Summary of Questions and Comments

Parks & Recreation live more, play more

The information below is a summary of comments received during the June 15, 2021 community conversation. Feedback was collected via comment forms, staff notes, flip charts, and post-it notes.

- General Use and Play
 - No 3-hole course, need to keep 9-hole course as-is with certain improvements
 - o Maintain walkability and affordability
 - Consider the senior population
 - It is the primary teaching course in the area
 - Golf should remain focal point of site
 - Course has value to young golfers (First Tee)
 - Would like multi-use opportunities
 - Support revisioning of Paint Branch Golf Course for variety of uses
 - o Area desperately needs a wider range of family friendly physical activities
 - Will support increased owner-occupied residences and the growing diversity of economic development
 - o Some creative marketing and revamping could go a long way
 - Reimagine Paint Branch as a premier golf and training facility, better use of performance center, more use of simulator

• Amenities

- Will there be additional lighting?
- Will parking increase to accommodate new demand?
- Would new driving range be smaller?
- Driving range must be moved prior to 2022
- How will people using the path be kept safe from the cars entering and leaving?
- Miniature golf is for the beach
- o Walking trail already provided via Paint Branch Trail
- There was already a mini golf course, they closed it
- Zip lining? On a flat area outdoors, never will work
- Are you trying to build a Top Golf?
- Batting cages lose money
- Pitch and putt, where?
- Soccer fields only use on weekends and from April to October, otherwise it sits idle
- Who will pay for security costs? City or county should not have this additional expense

• Partnership with UMD

- o University of Maryland gets a track, what do they give to the county in return?
- Why can't the university use their own golf course? You can flatten the hills, etc.
- o Put the UMD track across the street at Acredale Park, plenty of room
- Will UMD golf course offer affordable rates to county residents?
- How many residents will use a NCAA Track?
- UMD not a good partner
- Decline proposal
- UMD has enough property to build on
- Time for UMD to consider satellite locations

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- Community Involvement/Impact
 - How will the change serve the residents of the county?
 - Desire to be involved in the process by forming an advisory committee of local stakeholder leadership
 - o Golfers in the community were not surveyed
 - We need a community meeting where can speak and make counter arguments
 - Feel blindsided by this proposal
 - o Staff needs to engage with those who understand the game of golf, lacking so far
 - Golf is growing exponentially because of the pandemic, need to revisit old data on golf participation
 - Alignment w/ College Park as an AARP Livable Community
 - What will be the sound/traffic/noise impacts?
 - No late-night hours
 - Golfers are frustrated
 - o All the money invested in Paint Branch Golf Course is going down the drain
 - Has an environmental impact study been undertaken?

