



RATIO

MEETING SUMMARY

Architecture
Preservation
Interior Design
Landscape Architecture
Urban Planning & Design
Graphic Design

Project: RIVERSIDE REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN
RATIO Project No.: 17003.000
Date/Time: April 7, 2017 11:30 am, Riverside Park Family Center
Purpose: Citizens' Steering Committee Meeting 3
Participants:

Indy Parks:

Julee Jacob, Sr Project Manager
Andre Denman, Principal Planner
Ellery Manuel, Regional Manager
Don Colvin, Deputy Director

Consultant Team:

Mary Jane Glaspy - Engaging Solutions
LaShawnda Crowe Storm - Artist in Residence
Phyllis Boyd - Groundwork Indy
Brian McKenna - Christopher Burke Engineering
Keri Van Vlymen - RATIO
John Jackson - RATIO

Citizens' Steering Committee:

John Hall, Field Office Director, HUD
Kevin Hardie, Friends of White River
LaMarr Davis, Lillian Davis Foundation
Deborah A. Lawrence, J.D., Marian University
Rev. Eugene Potter, New Life Development Ministries
Pat Gamble Moore, PNC Bank

David Hillman, Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
Keith Paschal, Performing Artist / Graphic Design / Video
Ron Rice, Resident / Northwest Civic Association
Phyllis Forney, Riverside Civic League
Michael Saahir, Riverside Reunion Committee
Katie Dorsey, Riverside High School
Brandon Cosby, Flanner House

Additional Attendees:

Anthony Wright, Sr., Brewster Place
Phyllis Hackett, Riverside Civic League
Derrick Jenkins, Resident
Peggy Gamlin, Resident
Wendy Cooper, Insight Development
Yolanda Reeves, Resident

Lakia Johnson, Resident
Veronica Durr, Resident
Vada Durr, Resident
Sharon Clark, Resident
Damon Lane, City of Indianapolis
Danica Malone, Flanner House

I. Welcome & Introductions

RATIO addressed those neighborhood residents who are not CSC members, who received word of the meeting and attended. CSC members were selected to represent a wide variety of community groups and public interests. The CSC is intended to function as one of many channels of communication between the planning team and the community.

The Riverside Regional Park Master Planning project includes a public engagement component that is greatly expanded from a typical park master planning project, and includes a project website, neighborhood signage & banners, canvassing, surveys, Master Planning Studio, Stakeholder Interviews, Citizens' & Technical Steering Committees.

The role of the Citizens' Steering Committee members is to:

- Help to guide and advise the Planning and Engagement Team
- Shine a light on issues we need to be aware of
- Represent the interests of the neighborhood and stakeholders
- Provide feedback on proposed ideas/concepts
- Be advocates for the process

II. Design Process

A. Recent Activities

1. Neighborhood Canvassing (Groundwork Indy) has been visiting all homes within a 2-block distance from the park boundaries on all sides. They are talking to residents about the project, leaving surveys to complete and mail, and pointing people toward further information about the project online and in the Master Planning studio. They have had a good reception from residents and it has helped the youth GWI team members gain a better sense of the neighborhood. To date, 84 surveys have been completed (online as well as paper copies returned by mail.)
2. Master Planning Studio – continues to be staffed on Saturdays and Tuesdays by GWI staff & youth team members. Some materials have been moved from the Education Room down to the main first floor entrance, to engage more people in the planning process.

B. Project Schedule Review

III. Stakeholder Interviews (since last meeting) – Key Takeaways (see presentation slides.)

- A. Discussion of project boundaries: Michael Saahir asked for clarification for the group of the actual boundaries of Riverside Regional Park, which encompasses South Grove, Coffin, and Riverside Golf Courses, Riverside Golf Academy, the Skate Park & Cycloplex area, Lake Sullivan, Kuntz Stadium, and Municipal Gardens.
- B. Discussion of Regional Park designation: Don Colvin shared that regional parks are the largest in the Indy Parks system, and are intended to provide an open and natural setting, while also containing other facilities such as cultural or nature centers. Smaller Community parks generally place more emphasis on facilities such as recreation centers than on natural landscapes. Located within a Regional Park, the Riverside Family Center serves all who may choose to travel to Riverside and participate in programs. The Regional Park designation is generally based upon the park's size and number of available amenities. The intention is that a regional park would be a place where one might choose to spend an entire day.

IV. Guiding Principles

RATIO reviewed a proposed set of words and supporting statements that will help guide the planning process. The words & supporting statements were developed by the planning team, guided by public engagement, stakeholder feedback, and survey results. These principles have been crafted to describe how the park will provide benefit to the community. The guiding principles have also been crafted to

- Align with Indy Parks Mission and Vision: Creating spaces that inspire...
- Relate to Indy Parks Organizational Values: Fun, Inclusion, Collaboration, Sustainability, Innovation.

Riverside Regional Park Will Benefit The:

A. Mind

1. ...by creating opportunities to learn
2. ...by providing opportunities to engage

B. Body

1. ...by building opportunities for play
2. ...by cultivating foods that nourish

C. Spirit

1. ...by integrating the arts in ways that inspire
2. ...by supporting a culture where all feel welcome

D. Community

1. ...by motivating people to connect
2. ...by celebrating diversity as a core value
3. ...by investing in ways that allow the neighborhood to grow

E. Environment

1. ...by using natural systems to make water clean
2. ...by designing landscapes that protect
3. ...by incorporating practices that sustain

V. Program Development Review (see presentation slides)

A. Discussion & Feedback

1. Additional program suggestions: Movies in the Park, Futsol, expansion of basketball courts to accommodate tournaments, dance hall/gathering space similar to the historic “Casino” that was demolished, Cross Country Meet facilities.
2. Some previous attempts at locating a restaurant concession at the Marina have failed. Julee Jacob explained that operators have had difficulties with year-round use due to flooding issues in outdoor seating areas.
3. Improving connectivity and placing expanded emphasis on bike/ped facilities has been a running thread of priority throughout the public engagement process so far.

VI. Presentation of 8 Initial Concepts – Discussion & Feedback

A. RATIO presented 8 concepts and explained that the intent was to explore the ramifications of broad land use changes. Because of the existing land uses, the concepts were portrayed as bubble diagrams with just two land uses – either golf or park. Three of the concepts included consideration of leaving each golf course as-is, but every concept presumed some amount of change to land currently devoted to golf. In all cases, the Golf Academy was assumed to remain as-is because it is understood to be a regional attraction, a source of positive revenue generation, and has not been susceptible to the flooding that challenges Riverside and Coffin.

B. The Steering Committee offered the following feedback/commentary:

1. Please explain who generated these ideas and how? Who determines which ideas & concepts will ultimately be included in the Master Plan? The concepts were developed by the planning team, guided by public engagement, stakeholder feedback, and survey results. The role of the Steering Committees is to communicate the details of the process to their respective community groups and bring feedback to the planning team to help craft the final Master Plan.
2. Please define “stakeholder.” Anyone who might have a more significant interest in the future of the park than the average user. Someone who represents a large group of voices.
3. Phyllis Forney shared that a common concern of members of the Riverside Civic League is that areas of the park may be made exclusive to private interest groups.
4. David Hillman suggested that it may be beneficial to share some of the precedent projects that have been studied by the planning team.
5. Discussion of the golf courses: Brandon Cosby shared that many in this community learned to play golf on these courses. There is a level of comfort and familiarity with these courses related to a history of discriminatory practices at other courses that have priced people out or made them to feel fundamentally unwelcome. Because of this, there may be a psychological/historical impact from removing one or more of the golf courses – even if this is phased over a period of 20 years. Don Colvin shared that the City is in the process of engaging a major

study to evaluate all of Indy's golf courses. Golf is not currently an income generator for the city. Keith Paschal offered an alternate view: his hope is that the Master Plan will focus on the future of the park and its users, while also honoring its history. Riverside Park should reflect the needs of the generation that will be using the park 20 years from now.

6. In developing a set of evaluation criteria, demographic information should be a determining factor.
- C. In a "straw poll" of preferences, the Committee chose Concepts 3, 5 and 7 as their preferred versions with an emphasis on 5 and 7.


VII. Next Steps

- A. Next Public Open House will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2017, 5:00-8:00 pm in the Riverside Park Family Center Auditorium.
- B. Citizens' Steering Committee Meeting 4 will be held on Friday, April 21, 2017, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm in the Riverside Park Family Center Education Room.

VIII. Adjourn

Any additions or corrections to these Minutes should be submitted in writing to RATIO Architects, Inc., within ten (10) days of receipt. Otherwise, these Minutes stand as correct.

Respectfully submitted,


John D. Jackson, PLA, LEED AP
Principal

cc: Participants
Consultant team leaders
RATIO internal team
Lori Hazlett – President, Indianapolis Parks Foundation

Today's Agenda

- Welcome & (Re) Introductions
- Where Are We in The Process?
- Review Stakeholder Interviews Takeaways
- Review Initial Program Development
- Review Guiding Principles
- Review and Discuss Initial Concepts
- Questions/Discussion
- Adjourn

Guiding Principles

Key Takeaways

Indy Parks Vision/Mission:

Creating spaces that inspire

Riverside Regional Park will benefit the:

MIND

BODY

SPIRIT

COMMUNITY

ENVIRONMENT

Riverside Regional Park will benefit the:

MIND

... by creating opportunities to learn

... by providing opportunities to engage

Riverside Regional Park will benefit the:

BODY

... by building opportunities to play

... by cultivating foods that nourish

Riverside Regional Park will benefit the:

SPIRIT

- ... by integrating the arts in ways that inspire
- ... by supporting a culture where all feel welcome

Riverside Regional Park will benefit the:

COMMUNITY

- ... by motivating people to connect
- ... by celebrating diversity as a core value
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Riverside Regional Park will benefit the:

ENVIRONMENT

- ... by using natural systems to make water clean
- ... by designing landscapes that protect
- ... by incorporating practices that sustain

Program Development

Review

Fundamental Improvements:

INFRASTRUCTURE

- New curbs and walks along Riverside Drive
- Solve parking and circulation issues
- Solve drainage problems at Riverside GC
- Replace fence along South Grove GC
- Restore 30th Street Bridge

Fundamental Improvements:

CONNECTIVITY

- Create trail along Cold Spring Road, connect to Municipal Gardens
- Create trail along Riverside Drive south of Burdsal
- Create trail along 18th to connect to White River Trail

Fundamental Improvements:

IDENTITY

- Create design standards

Fundamental Improvements:

HISTORY

- Restore Taggart Memorial
- Dedicate tennis courts to Marian Rice
- Create neighborhood luminary acknowledgement (may occur as part of other ideas)
- Renovate Municipal Gardens

Fundamental Improvements:

ENVIRONMENT

- Conduct tree inventory
- Develop tree replacement master plan

Fundamental Improvements:

PROGRAMS

- Implement 1% for Art program
- Create senior activities

Fundamental Improvements:

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- Improve/Replace/Renovate Aquatic Center with new competition and leisure pool
- Enhance baseball fields
- Enhance horseshoe pits
- Add restrooms to park proper
- Replace/expand playground
- Create amphitheatre

Fundamental Improvements:

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- Create sprayground
- Build shelters
- Create food opportunities
- Activate Marina (IPF offices?)
- Expand skate park
- Create boat rental facility/enhance launch

Fundamental Improvements:

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- Create events plaza
- Enhance Kuntz Stadium
(security, irrigation, lighting,
stands, field enhancements)
- Support LaRue Carter as mixed
use facility
- Pickleball courts
- WiFi network in Family Center

Aspirational Improvements:

FACILITIES & AMENITIES

- MLB Urban Youth Academy
- Nature Center
- XGames Venue Development
- NCAA Division II Sports Festivals Venue
- Urban farm
- Restaurant
- Climbing wall
- Zip line
- Competitive boating venue

Initial Concepts

Review and Discussion



Existing



Concept 1



Concept 2



Concept 3



Concept 5



Concept 6



Concept 7



Concept 8