



Woodside Urban Park Renovation Project - Open Town Hall Feedback

July 20, 2021

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
Daily	Walk	Walking	Concept 2	I walk in the park 2 times per day with my dog. There are always people on the tennis courts and the basketball court. I like that there will be pickleball courts, however, there is going to be more conflict over the existing tennis courts. There are often multiple people waiting for the courts. I think if there is any way to have two tennis courts that would be great. Also, there are always people on the basketball courts - so I can imagine there will be conflict over soccer and basketball. I have a feeling that basketball would win out. I can see the results being half of the court being used for soccer and half for basketball which would bring up safety concerns. The parking lot at the HHS building is never full. It would be great to expand into that lot. Or the entire building should be repurposed. There are very few people who work/enter the building during the day. It is wasted space -- in fact, it is an eyesore for the neighborhood as it is rarely taken care of -- boarded up windows have been there for a while, and the grass often goes weeks without being cut.	Basketball Tennis Walking	I think that an additional tennis court or a soccer field would be more important than adult/teen fitness equipment. I know that there are these amenities on beach drive and they are not used very often. I have two teens and I know that they would be much more likely to use the basketball, soccer, pickleball and tennis courts. In terms of seniors, there is a senior center being built down the road. I don't think the seniors will use the park if there is another place to go - especially with the youth focus of this park. Please put in sustainable picnic tables and furniture. There are still some of the wood tables that have been there for a long time and are dangerous. The lighting absolutely needs to be improved -- it is scary at night to enter the park. I would love for this park to be a place to gather, but right now, it does not feel safe later in the day.
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	Keep the skaters away from the Basketball players. There have been quite a bit of tension over the years. Picnic pavillion could be places that the homeless will turn into their own. There have been issues in the past. Worry about young children running into Georgia Avenue. Name of the street is First Avenue -- not First Street. Better trash receptacles. Better signage showing the park hours. Better control of parking on the street--too many cars parked illegally.	Adult/Teen Fitness Open Space Playground	Adding a splash park would be amazing. Better lighting with timers that actually work.
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	I would like a picnic area or seating area closer to the existing playground in Concept 2. Parents need a place to sit and watch them, and kids need a nearby place to sit and have a snack.	Open Space Picnic Areas Playground	I would really like nice new playground equipment and to make sure that the equipment gets shade, particularly on hot summer days. I would like to see either through one of those large artificial shades or just trees.
A few times a month	Walk	Walking	Concept 2		Playground Tennis Walking	
A few times a week	Walk	Picnicking	Concept 1	No	Picnic Areas Playground Tennis	

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
A few times a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	<p>Please, please convert the water fountain into a splash space for kids. There is no splash park in this area and it seems nearly all DC Gov parks are incorporating a splash park which are heavily used. Please consider this. There are a lot of people in the neighboring apartment complexes with kids that would take advantage of this.</p> <p>From my experience the skate park isn't used that much so I'm not sure if it's worthy of that much more space.</p>	Open Space Picnic Areas Playground	
Daily	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	Both plans seem very exciting but it would be wonderful to add an interactive fountain/splash park.	Open Space Picnic Areas Playground	It would be wonderful to add a splash pad/interactive splash fountain. The downtown Silver Spring fountain has been removed by the developers which leaves local children without a place to play and cool off in the heat. There are 33 splash fountains maintained by DC DPR but sadly none in Montgomery County. I believe that the local community would step up to fundraise, if additional financial support was required.
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	I would love to see an interactive water feature at the part. With the Ellsworth splash pad permanently closed and the summers getting hotter, having a place for kids to splash would be an invaluable asset to the park.	Enjoying Nature Open Space Playground	This prominent park at the heart of Silver Spring needs a water feature.
A few times a month	Walk	Tennis	Concept 1		Adult/Teen Fitness Soccer Court Tennis	
Less than once a month	Walk	Other - Don't really use it right now; nothing happens there that interests me	Concept 1	I like that the adult fitness area isn't visible from the street. It could be intimidating feeling like people could be watching. That said, I'd love to have fitness bootcamp type classes in the park.	Adult/Teen Fitness Open Space Picnic Areas	I think a water play feature would be really nice, especially on hot days. I don't care so much about art work in the park.
Daily	Walk	Free Play	Concept 2		Enjoying Nature Playground Walking	I'm worried about the time that the park will be closed. Could it done in stages, so there will be space for children to play during the renovation period?
A few times a week	Walk	Tennis	Concept 2	<p>The existing skate spot is a bit noisy (boards and lots of foul language), and pretty much always has trash all around it. It do not think a skate spot any closer to the playground and tennis court where young kids are playing. If you are going to expand the skate spot, the county needs to provide more regular maintenance and oversight.</p> <p>Please get rid of the 'adult fitness' area in the plans. I see these on trails around the county and they are consistently underutilized and and are so ugly - it's a waste of resources. Put the funds toward more playground space.</p>	Basketball Playground Tennis	

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
Daily	Walk	Walking	Concept 2	Anyone who visits this park can see that the biggest users are small children in the playground and the next biggest users are the teens who use the basketball court and skate park. Remember that these two groups are unlikely to fill out this survey so please keep their interests in mind when you weigh these survey responses.	Playground Soccer Court Tennis	Good lighting at night is important for safety. Also try to include as many entry/access points as possible because the more ways people have to criss-cross through the park the safer the park will be - it avoids dead spots.
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 1	There should be a picnic area near the playground with either plan for families.	Picnic Areas Playground Walking	
A few times a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 1	It does not look as though this is feasible but two tennis courts would be very popular. I often see people waiting around while others finish up a game on the single available court. On plan 1, I do like the idea of an expanded skate park and place for soccer.	Skate Spot Soccer Court Tennis	This is beyond the scope of the question, but to make the park really stand out it would benefit by having better amenities in the immediate area - small take out restaurants and such things within a block or so that people could buy food and go for a picnic in the park.
Less than once a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 2		Enjoying Nature Playground Walking	
Daily	Walk	Playground	Concept 2		Open Space Picnic Areas Playground	My family uses the park and playground daily. It is a lifeline for those of us in apartments with kids because we have no yard. Please limit the time the park is closed as much as possible. We would love to have the shade preserved as much as possible, especially over picnic areas and playground equipment. We have found that adult exercise equipment in parks is rarely used by adults and often used by children, so having mixed use equipment that is also safe and welcoming for children would be ideal.
A few times a month	Walk	Enjoying nature	Concept 2		Adult/Teen Fitness Open Space Walking	I do not favor a splash park as some have suggested.

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
A few times a week	Bike	Basketball	Concept 2	<p>I am in favor of Concept 2, primarily due to the contiguous skate park. I think this is important so that the sidewalk could actually be adequately used. When skaters are there, they will bounce back and forth between the parks, use the sidewalk as a skate area (e.g., use it as a pad from which to air off of, etc.), and will cut that sidewalk off for use. For context, I have skateboarded for about a decade and a half. You may have already learned much of this from talking with the skate park designer etc but I want to pass off some of my opinions about how skateparks should be designed today. The parks should be designed similar to the experience of skating in the city on spots that exist "naturally" in a cityscape. For example, benches to grind on, stairs to air over, railing to grind or air over, cement pads to do manuals on, etc, rather than halfpipes and ramps like you might see Tony Hawk and skaters of yesteryear skating on. Linked here is a 2018 article by the reputable skateboarding magazine, Transworld: https://skateboarding.transworld.net/videos/the-best-skateparks-in-the-world/. Compare the first three parks, all "vert" style and filled with ramps and pipes, versus the fourth, fifth, and sixth parks, all modern street style and filled with stairs, rails, benches, etc. Woodside's proposed design should mimic the fourth, fifth, and sixth parks much more so than the first three. On this note, I think not only having the skate park designer and other folks speaking with the skaters but also having Park Commission employees going out there during this stage, when all the skaters are out there, and speak with the folks skating there about all of this. When I was younger my town in Florida did a skate park renovation. None of the skaters who I knew (and I knew all of them, because it was always the same people) had</p>	Basketball Enjoying Nature Skate Spot	Thank you for all your thoughtful and hard work on this!
Less than once a month	Walk	Walking	Concept 1	No	Adult/Teen Fitness Picnic Areas Walking	Consider vending machines
Daily	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	I hope that we can keep sections of the playground open during renovations or do it them very quickly while maintaining the beautiful trees.	Playground Soccer Court Tennis	Have you considered putting a fence around the playground areas like they have in a lot of the DC parks? On the playgrounds, have you considered putting something like you have at the Montgomery Knolls elementary school? The Park is such a critical spot for the neighborhood and the community. I love the playground the most but also love the tennis and the consideration for activities for older kids like basketball, soccer, skatepark. I also love the TREES!
Less than once a month	Walk	Walking	Concept 2	The larger skate park is essential in the plan. Keeping skaters separate from BB players is good.	Basketball Playground Skate Spot	
Less than once a month	Drive	Tennis	Concept 1		Adult/Teen Fitness Soccer Court Tennis	

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
A few times a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	Too many trees. Please get rid of them. They can also be unsafe as it can be hard to keep a close eye on kids running around the park. The ground is unlevelled so please flatten the ground. Improve safety entrance/exit to and from the park. It's too close to the road and little kids can easily wonder off from the playground yo unsafe road, especially the road that crosses Georgia Avenue, close to the baby/toddler play area. Maybe add a fencing/safety barrier.	Picnic Areas Playground Soccer Court	Adults come there to smoke and it's not cool seeing cigarettes butts on the ground. Please have clear sign with park rules. Please make the space more open and easy to keep eyes on the kids.
Less than once a month	Bike	Playground	Concept 2		Basketball Picnic Areas Skate Spot	
A few times a week	Drive	Playground	Concept 2	I like concept 2 because it keeps the skate park separate from other areas (particularly the playground).	Enjoying Nature Open Space Picnic Areas	It seems fine the way it is. Please minimize disruption of existing amenities.
A few times a month	Walk	Tennis	Concept 1		Enjoying Nature Tennis Walking	
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2		Adult/Teen Fitness Pickleball Playground	
Less than once a month	Drive	Enjoying nature	Concept 2	I think there's been a need for a year round skate park since the old park was taken away. The concrete at Veteran's Plaza is only there part of the year and they have to compete with other events.	Adult/Teen Fitness Enjoying Nature Playground	Would love more seating in the shade just to sit and read or chill out. There's so little green space in Silver Spring. I am an older woman, and would like some space for gentle exercise and seating around the fountain. Would love it to be a Park for all ages of people. If you could manage any more parking around the Park that would be great, too.
Less than once a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 1	NA	Enjoying Nature Open Space Playground	
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2		Picnic Areas Playground Soccer Court	
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 1	I would love to have some kind of water part, either a splash area or something. My son loves water!	Enjoying Nature Playground Walking	
A few times a week	Walk	Basketball	Concept 2		Basketball Enjoying Nature Tennis	A big lawn area would be great where everyone could sit down, relax, enjoy the park. Would be great to be able to watch tennis, basketball, skating and everything from the lawn area.
A few times a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 2		Open Space Playground Soccer Court	
A few times a month	Bike	Other - Sitting	Concept 2	Consider a hockey court	Open Space Skate Spot Soccer Court	Maybe a hockey court too

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
A few times a month	Walk	Walking	Concept 2	Parkour and Adult Fitness is essential. Glad to see it is being considered.	Adult/Teen Fitness Enjoying Nature Walking	I just want adult fitness and parkour.
A few times a month	Drive	Playground	Concept 1		Open Space Playground Skate Spot	
A few times a week	Drive	Playground	Concept 2		Open Space Picnic Areas Playground	
Less than once a month	Walk	Tennis	Concept 2		Basketball Soccer Court Tennis	Iâ€™d like what youâ€™re doing to the park however you might consider adding some of these amenities to other nearby parks such as the one across Georgia Avenue and the one next to the old Silver Spring library. It seems like youâ€™re trying to pack everything into Woodside. Our young people need all of these things and more.
Less than once a month	Drive	Playground	Concept 1	No	Basketball Soccer Court Tennis	NA
A few times a week	Drive	Enjoying nature	Concept 2	please don't cut down any trees. there is plenty of room to construct/improve "amenities" in the spaces that already don't have trees.	Enjoying Nature Open Space Walking	please don't cut down any trees. it doesn't do me any good if you plant new trees that won't be mature for years, so please don't pretend that new saplings are equivalent to mature trees.
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 1		Picnic Areas Playground Walking	
A few times a month	Bike	Walking	Concept 1	Good your plan does not sacrifice mature trees as the hut like picnic pavilions are awesome as I wish they were kept at Kemp Mill	Enjoying Nature Open Space Picnic Areas	Improvements to bicycle routes across Georgia Avenue north of Spring Street
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	Since the splash pad is being removed from Fountain Plaza on Ellsworth, I would like for one to be considered in the existing fountain area. There are a lot of children in the neighborhood and this would be a great addition to their entertainment during warm weather.	Open Space Picnic Areas Soccer Court	The skate park addition consumes a lot of space and I would prefer that the space is made available for another basketball or soccer court.
A few times a week	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	The zip line is one of my kid's favorites play structure. According to the diagrams above, it seems they'll be removed? Is there a chance of moving them elsewhere? Also, with the splash pad being removed from downtown, is there a chance to install one in Woodside Park? My first thought would be where the existing fountain is, as the plumbing is already in place.	Enjoying Nature Picnic Areas Playground	Is there a way to keep the playground open during the year the construction is wet to take? There aren't many other playgrounds in the area.
A few times a month	Bike	Playground	Concept 2	Would love for the skate park to have a mini ramp feature. Around 3 feet high on each end with maybe a higher drop in on one corner	Adult/Teen Fitness Pickleball Skate Spot	A few frisbee golf goals in the wooded area would be great

How often do you visit the park?	How do you get to the park?	What is your current favorite activity at Woodside? Choose one.	Which park improvement plan do you prefer? Concept 1 or Concept 2?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us about these plans?	Select your top three priorities for new or improved amenities at Woodside Urban Park. (Hold the Ctrl key to select multiple options):	Please share additional ideas about Woodside Urban Park you would like us to hear.
A few times a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	I love the skate park but it draws a lot of teenagers who are often smoking and/or drinking various things, while the playground has lots of young kids running around so I prefer concept 2 which keeps the two areas more separated.	Enjoying Nature Picnic Areas Playground	
A few times a month	Drive	Picnicking	Concept 2	No	Picnic Areas Playground Skate Spot	
Less than once a month	Walk	Walking	Concept 1	No	Enjoying Nature Open Space Walking	A community garden for nearby apartment dwellers
Daily	Walk	Playground	Concept 2	We need more trees! The playground needs shade, it becomes impossible to use the equipment in the middle of a warm day.	Open Space Playground Walking	We love Woodside and actually wish it wouldn't be renovated until another park in the area could be renovated to support the number of people that use Woodside. There is no place that can in DTSS. Fairview desperately needs an expansion. But the fountain at Woodside is a public health risk and should be dug out immediately
Less than once a month	Walk	Playground	Concept 1	no	Basketball Open Space Soccer Court	no