

On-Site Meeting with Public at Oxbow

May 1, 2014

Oxbow Park and Preserve

Neighbors and river users gathered at Oxbow to review three options presented by DHM Design.

There was group discussion and then smaller groups walked the site and looked at locations of proposed improvements. The developable area designated in the conservation easement is 6 AC. 38 AC are designated as preserve. Of the 6 AC, the options showed improvements on about 2 AC or less. The area between the railroad tracks and the road was acquired after the conservation easement parcel so this area is not included in these totals.

Physical Improvement Comments from the Public

- One main concern expressed by the neighbors that live close to Oxbow is that there was not an option for a walk-in only access between the railroad tracks and river.
- Can we include more trailer parking spaces?
- Can we have a gate to close the park at night? Still need police to be able to get in to patrol.
- Can we move the access across the railroad tracks to be more central. The train is coming around a curve from the south and that might give more time for the train to see people crossing.
- Consider swing set to emphasize family atmosphere vs. party scene
- Add picnic area
- Clean up the debris
- Create high emphasis on restoration with interpretive signs, boardwalks, overlooks

Option 1

- Add fencing at private property, not scalable. Don't want people parking on private property and carrying boat in.
- Ok with having a couple trailer spots.
- Would like to see more trailer spots.
- Like this option because it is fairly low impact.
- Some favor more parking so it won't spill over into private property.
- Look at shuttle or off-site parking.
- Would like to see restroom at parking lot and port-o-potty at lower area. This would discourage people from going in the willows.
- Would like to see more picnicking space.
- Reclaim area with concrete chunks, good place for picnic tables.
- More picnicking upstream of boat ramp.

Option 3

- Like Option 3, it is better to do more now so we don't have to come back later.
- Concerned about the view of the drive from the condos.
- Some concern with the drive being too close to the existing wetlands.
- Make sure stormwater is caught before it would run into the river.

Management Suggestions

- Limit park hours. Dawn to Dusk.
- Can we limit the length of time commercial boaters can be at Put-In?
- Can commercial companies stagger when they come to site?
- Need more enforcement.