

Park Bond Program

Murphey Candler Park Community Center

Virtual Public Input Sessions - September 9 & 10, 2020

Questions & Responses

1. "Not enough green space" identified as a concern in 2014, so why is the plan destroying the peaceful green space on the east side for a road and parking inside the park?
 - a. **Based on the needs and priorities identified in the 2014 Parks Plan, the improvements are being made to create more recreational opportunities.**
 - b. **The horseshoe project is rebuilding the road in its current alignment. No green space is being affected. The additional parking spaces will fit between trees. No trees will be removed as part of the horseshoe project.**
2. Why is there no public input like this for the other park projects?
 - a. **Public input for all capital improvements proposed as part of the Parks Bond Program, including those at Murphey Candler and 9 other City parks, occurred in 2015. The public input process conducted by Greenberg Farrow consisted of conversations with 60 stakeholders, 20 community participation meetings, and 10 public information meetings. A dedicated public input program was developed for the Murphey Candler Park Community Center to understand the community's specific programming priorities. The need for this public input was noted in the program.**
3. What is the purpose of the community center?
 - a. **The purpose of the Community Center is to address the need for additional indoor recreation space identified in the 2014 Parks Plan. Master planning and completing redevelopment of the caretaker's house are identified as recommended priority projects.**
4. Can we add a room to the pool building instead of creating a new structure? The pool building is only used for 3 months and had restrooms and a nice outdoor space.
 - a. **Programming to be considered cannot be accommodated within the pool house.**
5. How much comparison is being completed to match/provide similar activities, architecture and parking with the city's only other Community Center - Ashford Park? Question intended to relate how Ashford Park Community Center is truly stressed as a walkable, supporting structure for that neighborhood.
 - a. **Very early in the public engagement process for the MCP Community Center, the team met with key stakeholders to understand current and anticipated programming needs, functional requirements, and other characteristics important to influencing the design of the building. During those consultations, representatives from the Parks Department indicated Ashford Park should be considered as a model for programming the MCP Community Center. The design and architecture of the new building will be brought up to the current standards of Brookhaven.**

6. Is the community center a “done deal”? Or can we NOT have a community center, unless it is where the caretaker’s building is currently?
 - a. **Prior efforts like the 2016 Murphey Candler Park Master Plan and Parks Bond Referendum identified the MCP Community Center as a future project to support the needs and vision for the City’s parks. While we will consider all comments and solutions presented during this input process, we also do not want to disregard the efforts and commitments made during previous efforts.**
7. Is there any opportunity for the teams to park and ride into the ball fields? (bus in?) Or at least carpool highly encouraged?
 - a. **Additional parking will be designed or reconfigured on-site to accommodate parking demand. Final site design will incorporate safety and operational improvements as well.**