

WOODRIDGE PARK DISTRICT
Fred C. Hohnke Community Center
Special Board Meeting
March 19, 2024



President Cohen called the Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:05 p.m. Upon a roll of Commissioners being called, the following were Present: Cohen, Mahoney, Venouziou and Perry Absent: Coleman Staff present: Adams, Bordewick, Karesh, Knitter, Ravasio, Ritter, Webber. Absent: Romano

Public: Steve Konters, Senior Principal - Hitchcock Design Group and Doug Fair, Senior Associate - Hitchcock Design Group

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

C.1.a. Executive Director Adams presented the Board with the latest updates on JPP including design updates, a cost estimate comparison, a budget/funding recap, alternate improvement considerations, parking analysis, additional funding options and value-added engineering options to decrease costs.

Board discussion ensued about the JPP parking demand and parking lot options, with Executive Director Adams explaining that based on the preliminary parking review, 94 parking spaces will be needed. He asked the Board which option they preferred having one lot that accommodates 60 cars along with a secondary parking bay that accommodates an additional 28 spots, or to only include the 60-car parking lot in the final plans and use the parking lot located in Town Centre near Village Hall and the Library as overflow parking, that can accommodate 44 cars.

Commissioner Perry asked if people will park along 71st Street when the 60-spot parking lot is full. Executive Director Adams explained that while the District cannot control where patrons park, large rentals requiring overflow parking would be instructed to park at the designated Town Centre overflow parking lot.

Commissioner Perry asked if the option is available to add the secondary 28-spot parking bay at a later time or a future phase if needed. Executive Director Adams confirmed that if the demand is there, the parking bay can be added.

The Board next discussed the two options for the proposed shelter – a semi-custom shelter design or a standard shelter design.

Commissioner Mahoney asked if this new shelter will reduce the usage at Castaldo Park. Executive Director Adams said the JPP would be the main park site for rentals over 100 people, while Castaldo Park, Echo Point Park and 83rd Street Park would continue to be the preferred locations for rentals less than 100 people.

Commissioner Perry asked if the difference between the two shelter options was purely cosmetic. Executive Director Adams confirmed the differences were cosmetic and that the standard shelter would be similar to Duffy's Pavilion at the ARC.

Subsequent to discussion of updated cost estimates, funding, grants, wetland and tree removal reduction impact measures, value engineering deduct options and add improvement options based on the updated design development plans at 95% completion, the consensus of the Board was to finalize the design development plans based on the following directives:

- Include Phase 2 improvements as originally proposed consisting of the picnic grove shelter and support recreational amenities (playground, pickleball courts & multi-use sport court)
- Substitute a typical standard designed District park shelter instead of proposed semi-custom designed shelter and retain park shelter stone knee-high column wraps similar to 83rd Street Park shelter

- Retain the proposed multi-use pathway to Jefferson Jr. High School/Town Centre Civic Plaza
- Retain garden plots excluding the proposed shade shelter
- Include proposed 60-space parking lot combined with proposed use of the existing Town Centre shared-use parking lot for overflow parking demand
- Remove portions of parking lot interior bay curb and gutter to engineer storm water flow to bioswales
- Substitute concrete storm sewer materials with code approved alternate materials
- Add extend multi-use pathway segment to a looped alignment with connection to the intersection of 71st Street and Woodridge Drive.

The Board also concurred to not pursue in the Phase 2 development plans, the installation of the proposed driveway extension from the picnic grove parking lots to the 71st Street and Woodridge Drive intersection, nor pursue additional parking lots subject to final traffic/parking demand study and Village code/permit review (e.g. 28-space parking lot expansion of proposed 60-space picnic grove parking lot, 70-space parking lot near the Jubilee special event grounds.)

C.1.b. Executive Director Adams then discussed his only action item, the Village of Woodridge/Woodridge Park District Co-Op Brush Drop-Off Program, reminding the Board that the program is an informal arrangement between the Village and the District with no formal IGA in place. Located at Hawthorne Hill Woods, the Program is only open to Woodridge residents (proof of residency is required) and available from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month, from May through October. The price is \$5 for the first carload (\$3 for same- day returning car) and \$10 per pickup truck, van or trailer.

Executive Director Adams further elaborated that both the Village and the District provide staffing at the site, with District Staff working one Saturday a month. At season's end, the Village contracts with a local tree service vendor to barrel grind the brush into mulch, which is then made available to the Community for free at Jubilee Point Park near the Fire Station on Woodridge Drive. The barrel grinding typically costs the District \$6,000 - \$7,000/year. He then reviewed the how many residents utilized the brush drop off service in 2023 and how much money the program generated.

Executive Director Adams shared that over the last few years the District informally notified the Village over the District's desire to potentially discontinue the Program at the existing site at the time the JPP development occurred. He said since the JPP Phase 2 program is now scheduled for development starting in FY2025, Staff recommends the Board decide on whether to permit the Program to continue at the Property or not.

Board discussion ensued about the pros and cons of the program, preliminary potential future uses of the site and identifying potential areas that could serve as the District's temporary brush storage needs. Executive Director Adams noted that Staff does not have an opinion as to whether or not the Program should be discontinued or not for the Community, but rather Staff is of the opinion and recommendation the Program should just be terminated at the Property. A decision as to whether or not the Program should continue as a Community service at an alternate location, be revamped or be terminated is a decision to be by or in conjunction with the Village.

President Cohen asked what the next steps would be if the Board chooses to end the program. Executive Director Adams said the next step would be sending the Village a letter of intent communicating that the District desires to end the program including a date of when the operation should terminate at the Property.

MOTION by Mahoney and seconded by Perry to terminate the brush drop-off program at Hawthorne Hill Woods following the conclusion of the 2024 program cycle.

President Cohen requested a roll call. Upon a roll being called:

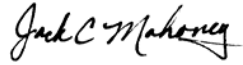
AYES: Mahoney, Perry, Venouziou and Cohen
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: Coleman
 MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was requested. MOTION by Mahoney, seconded by Venouziou to adjourn the regular board meeting at 6:26 p.m.

ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack C. Mahoney".

Jack Mahoney, Secretary