

Pulaski Park – April 24, 2014 – Public Meeting #1

Resident Group #1 – Summary

Like:

- Park is a destination
- Stairs from Round House parking are used by many
- Mature trees
- Proximity to Academy of Music
- Iconic tree (but move)
- Trash cans (not too many)
- Connection to City offices
- Green space downtown

Needs Improvement:

- Parking behind Academy of Music
- Dogwoods block view from Main Street - move
- No drugs/hiding places
- Dog poop
- Echo chamber/sound amplifies to neighborhood
- Too much concrete

New:

- Welcome entrance on Main st/grand
- Natural play space/small children/new location?
- Public art
- Clear pathways
- Place to sit in the sun
- Movies on Academy
- Quiet relaxation

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Resident Group #2 – Summary

Like:

- View of Academy Marquee
- Dawn redwood tree
- Play space (new location?)

Needs Improvement:

- Iconic tree – move or remove
- Drainage
- Opposed to “grand plaza” for public meeting
- Clean-up Academy loading area
- Noise abatement/conflicting with Academy events
- Design paths not to crack or degrade with use and maintenance vehicles
- Move bus stop?
- Fence/gate in the rear
- Flowers/screen in the rear

New:

- Play space/natural elements/Cambridge esplanade
- Water feature/random water jet
- Attractive lighting
- Connect Academy to Memorial Hall
- Bike ramp to Manhan trail

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Resident Group #3 – Summary

Like:

Needs Improvement:

- Better link to public buildings/rear
- Benches facing play area
- More comfortable bus waiting benches
- More recycling containers
- Less concrete/use brick or pavers

New:

- Information center/refreshment cart
- Bathroom
- Rainbarrels/water recycling
- CSA distribution
- Water fountain/stream
- Community garden
- Larger playground
- Landscaped seating/tiered wood chairs
- Natural walkways – not straight
- Way-finding sign on to/from bike path

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Resident Group #4 – Summary

Like:

- Existing trees

Needs improvement:

- Main street/circulation to Academy
- Path/connection to public buildings in the rear
- Prune lower branches of spruce tree/sight lines
- Bus stop is a physical barrier/open up to Park
- Improve South St crossing

New:

- Natural play area
- Site furniture
- View to mountain range/seating?
- Ice rink over lawn
- Performance deck by Academy
- Ramp to bike trail
- Water feature

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Resident Group #5 – Summary

Like:

- Trees – evaluate health
- Playground – safe location away from street

Needs Improvement:

- Academy – define rear
- More benches/pathways
- Park/affordable/non-toxic/who maintains
- Movies on the Academy is not a priority/trees are an obstruction
- Better lighting
- Trees in the rear are ugly/shade the back of the park

New:

- Stage by east side of Academy
- Front plaza/like Stimson plan
- Open area in the middle
- Mitigate winds from route 9

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Resident Group #6 – Summary

Like:

- Iconic tree (move?)

Needs improvement:

- South Street crosswalk
- Public forum space
- Safety concern at hillside
- Sense of entry at Main Street
- Less concrete/pavement
- More lawn
- Move bike racks/bus stop
- Move HC ramp to Academy
- Quietude/noise mitigation
- Improve stairs to Round House parking lot
- Academy loading area safety
- Drainage/icing

New:

- Natural playground
- Add focal points
- Movable chairs/café tables
- Uplight trees
- Switchback for bike access
- Drinking fountain
- Water feature

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Resident Group #7 – Summary

Like:

- Keep donated trees (list maintained at Forbes Library since 1976)

Needs Improvement:

- Less hardscape
- Move bus stop/bike racks
- Connect landscape/Academy to Memorial Hall
- Connect rear path to municipal buildings
- Visibility from Main Str/Move dogwoods
- Pulaski Monument/move away from Main Street
- Spruce tree – impedes use of space

New:

- Woodland garden/native species
- 1900's style bandstand/by Academy
- Large creative playground
- Water feature/restful/focal point to rear
- Ice skating/civic activities
- Terracing to Round House lot
- Lighting is a key