



Waterfall & Brown Parks

merriam, kansas

January 19, 2006 Steering Committee Meeting Notes

General

- Art show held annually
- Lack of use noticed in Brown Park
- Waterfall and Brown not lit-graffiti tagging
- Skate park-NO's but, there are demands from kids, not parents. Parent supervision=better, but needs analysis says low need. Perhaps enough of these in close enough proximity that putting one here is unnecessary.
- Economic development (raised property values) is a goal with park design
- Maintain appeal with regular maintenance
- View from I-35 and Merriam Drive important to use of park.
- Sidewalks and connections into the park, fill gaps.
- Turkey creek Park-wildlife habitat, natural vegetation
- Time with children/activity/themed destination from out of town. Family oriented
- What makes a great park:
 - Surprises-things you stumble upon
 - Sculpture Park
 - Turkey Creek 75th and north is wooded. Owl raising young near path. Wildlife as a draw
 - Pocket park-wildflower field,
 - time with children playing, seeing
 - Deanna Rose, splash park.
 - train theme park,
 - destination park,
 - family oriented,
 - Should represent the place
- Special user group adoption opportunities are out there to provide maint./partnerships
- Make Waterfall Park's waterfall area a place to get close to a train
- Interactive water feature could be nice
- Possibly route an access trail through the water
- Security issues at Brown Park
- Appeal from I-35 and Merriam Drive Provide user groups ability to do something others can use. (Earth riders mountain bike organization; garden club devoted plots)
- Son watches trains while daughter and family picnics on rocks at water.
- Minor park-Little Blue River-mountain bikers cross at Rock Ford



Waterfall and Brown Parks Steering Committee Meeting #1 Meeting Notes January 21, 2006

- Brown Park-hidden; parking lot locked (reports); police department locks and unlocks. Problems with drugs at park/users at play ground and parking lot. When there was parking on the street, people from other areas came and parked at all hours, noise, alcohol.
- Smart start soccer program in Brown Park. Parents and kids both surprised by a planned activity in the park.
- It's a far distance to practice fields and farther for games. School fields are taken and not well maintained.
- Sidewalk connections to parks.

Brown

- Maintain neighborhood focus
- Music events?
- Movie party (outdoor)
- Practice fields
- Basketball in wrong place and not full court
- Tennis rarely used-stays wet/algae slippery
- Bocci ball and horse shoes- near a picnic shelter
- Maintain neighborhood focus
- Music
- Outdoor movies
- North area-practice fields

Waterfall

- Selective corporate use Merriam & Antioch
- Enterprise would like access
- Physical fitness-trail longer the better
- Consider grade for rollerblades
- Bikes with kid buggy-wide turns
- Multi-use field-church groups
- Music events
- Pond-great idea.
- Treatment wetland
- Dog park-maybe not
- Disc golf-good idea Enterprise concerned
- Railroad is redoing banks this winter
- Hub of activity=waterfall.
- Corporate owned green space at Merriam Drive
- Fitness/trail. The longer the trail the better. Roller blading/grades, turning radius, creation of loops
- Multi-use play fields
- Music
- Outdoor movies
- The creek is changing



Waterfall and Brown Parks Steering Committee Meeting #1 Meeting Notes January 21, 2006

- Importance of Waterfall hub Corporate owned green space at Merriam Drive
- Fitness/trail. The longer the trail the better. Roller blading/grades, turning radius, creation of loops
- Multi-use play fields
- Music
- Outdoor movies
- The creek is changing
- Importance of Waterfall as hub

Programming Possibilities

- Picnic shelters (with horse shoes and bocci ball)
- Nature areas
- Wetland/wet meadow (need to hold water? Like the idea.)
- Rain gardens/ bio-swales
- Pond/water feature
- Education/interpretive elements (doing at 75th-don't duplicate)
- Multi-use open play areas
- Playgrounds
- Basketball court (Is it in the right place?)
- Sand volleyball
- Horseshoe pits
- High-end sports fields
- Enhanced entry feature
- Spray ground
- Off leash dog park (look at)
- Trails
- Mountain bike track
- Disc golf course (good idea if we can work in)
- Skate park, permanent or movable (enough around them already)
- Events space

