



MEETING REPORT

MEETING DATE: January 14, 2015

STAFF ATTENDING:

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| Aaron Feldman | Project Manager/Landscape Architect, Park Development Division |
| Christy Turnbull | Chief, Enterprise Division |
| Mitra Pedoeem | Acting Deputy Director, Department of Parks |
| Michael Ma | Acting Chief, Park Development Division |
| Patricia McManus | Design Section Supervisor, Park Development Division |
| Ching-Fang Chen | Landscape Architect, Park Development Division |
| Nancy Cadigan | Regional Operations Manager, Enterprise Division |

PROJECT: Rockwood Manor Special Park

SUBJECT: Public Meeting to Present Feasibility Study Recommendations

A public meeting was held to present the final results of the Feasibility Study as well as changes made to the facility's operating policy as the result of prior public comment. The study and PowerPoint presentation were posted on the project website after the meeting to allow public review and a comment period. Public comments from the meeting are outlined below:

- A question was asked whether the County Council approves the funding for this work and what the next steps would be to oppose the project. Staff responded that this project would not be presented to the County Council. It would be presented to the Montgomery County Planning Board for approval before any work moves forward, and citizens would have the opportunity to testify at this meeting.
- There was a suggestion that staff contact the Falls Road fire station to find out the largest truck size from that station, so that the road is designed only to accommodate the largest vehicle from that station, not the largest fire truck from any other county fire station. An individual stated that a hook and ladder truck is not needed for this property.
- Concerns were expressed about the proposed exit drive from the facility onto Belfast Road. Some neighbors expressed concern that traffic from events would adversely affect waiting times for residential traffic and that there would be too many cars stacked up at the same time on Belfast Road at the intersection with MacArthur Boulevard.
- A resident expressed concerns that the intersection at Belfast and MacArthur Boulevard has safety problems. The traffic consultant should review the configuration of this intersection.
- There was a suggestion that there should be two parallel one-way driveways from MacArthur Boulevard to accommodate the one way traffic from the site.
- There was a question whether a traffic light at Belfast and MacArthur would be warranted.
- Concerns were expressed that there is an imbalance of safety and security for homeowners. Belfast Road is dangerous now and will become more dangerous with the park proposal. Particular concerns were expressed that the exit driveway would be located at the back of the park, and park traffic would cut through the neighborhood on Whiterim Terrace.

- The proposal to improve accessibility and parking is fine, and ADA should be met. Extra satellite parking is not needed.
- The other improvements proposed are okay, but the road is not.
- A circular driveway would be better.
- One resident cited a 1984 agreement stating the original owner's intent that the land was not to be used for commercial purposes and that park staff should review this document. The park should not be used for catered events.