

# Evansville West Side Park and Leonard-Leota Park Improvements

Project Process Report | December 13, 2021

## What's New?

A Public Comment period was held through November 14<sup>th</sup>. Responses identified a number of proposed ideas and changes to the initial concepts to fit the needs of project stakeholders better. A total of 182 comments were received – via the Survey Form or direct emails. Primary takeaways from community feedback:

- West Side Park - Concepts did not include the proper mix of athletic fields – the field layout shown is not sustainable for soccer in Evansville.
- Aquatic Center - Option 3 was preferred, emphasizing open water play and the lap pool.
- Leonard-Leota Park - Option C was preferred. The splash pad is closer to the rest of the park (elevation) & integrates it into the park better. The tiered design of the splash pad in C takes advantage of the sloped site, could look more "natural" to blend with the beauty of the rest of the park.
- Future project communication should discuss accessibility, the general character of the park(s), landscaping.

The Design Team (MSA, WTI, and Rettler) developed updated concepts to address the feedback received from the community as well as the City's project team.

West Side Park - The revised concept shows two full-sized soccer fields, a 300-ft ballfield and a 200-ft softball field. An additional backstop is provided for practice and recreation play. A second 200-ft field was omitted from the concept to maintain additional unprogrammed open space and equity in the dispersion of resources between baseball/softball and soccer. A different concept was developed that shows an updated view of the referendum plan, note due to spatial constraints, sizes of the fields were reduced in this concept.

Aquatic Center – Option 3 was updated to show alternate arrangements of the diving well and lap pool to develop flexibility in lap swim and pool availability. Overall site modifications included a revision to the landscape areas and site amenities.

Work is ongoing for design at Leonard-Leota Park. An updated plan will be provided in the January update. The next stages of design will begin to refine the current proposed construction estimates and identify possible phasing of the overall master plan designs.

Common words from Survey Responses:



General Comments

“What do like the most”

“What do you like the least?”

Capital Campaign – The City of Evansville Common Council will be engaging Baker Street Consulting Group to manage a capital campaign for park improvements.

Questions? Contact:

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