Takoma Park, Maryland Public Space Management Plan Community Meeting

June 27, 2022 7 PM



Agenda

- Introduction/ Project Background
- Presentation
- Breakout Map Exercise
- Group Discussion
- Next Steps/ Wrap Up



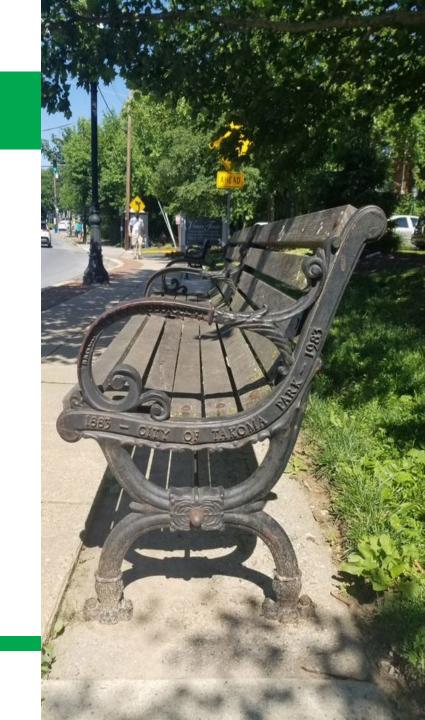


Introduction/ Project Overview

- The Public Space Management Plan will provide guidance on how public space will be developed, used, and maintained in Takoma Park.
- Components:
 - Existing Conditions
 - Policy Analysis
 - Process Recommendations
 - Evaluation Criteria
 - Final Report







Schedule

EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT JUNE - JULY

- CHPLANNING WILL CONDUCT A THROUGH INVEN-
- TORY AND ANALYSIS OF THE EXISTING PUBLIC
- SPACES AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS IN TAKOMA
- PARK AND THE PUBLIC SPACE MANAGEMENT
- 2 POLICIES OF THE CITY.

JUNE

JULY

DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS JULY - AUGUST

- POLICY ANALYSIS WILL BE CONDUCTED TO CREATE PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS AND ESTABLISH
- EVALUATION CRITERIA TO GUIDE DECISION MAKING
- FOR PUBLIC SPACE INVESTMENTS IN THE FUTURE.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 2022

- CHPLANNING WILL PRESENT THE
- DRAFT OF THE PUBLIC SPACE
- MANAGEMENT PLAN TO CITY
- COUNCIL.

AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER

PUBLIC MEETING JUNE 2022

CHPLANNING WILL PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE PROJECT AND NEXT STEPS FOR THE PROJECT. THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK.

DRAFT FINAL REPORT AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

THE DRAFT FINAL REPORT WILL TIE TOGETHER ALL THE PAST AND PRESENTING PLANNING EFFORTS AND DISTILL THE CRITICAL AND RELEVANT INFORMATION AS THEY ALIGN WITH THE CITY'S CURRENT PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC SPACE MANAGEMENT.



Stakeholders

- City Agencies (Recreation, Public Works, Planning/Community Development, Public Safety, Communications, Public Library, etc.)
- State Agencies (Department of Natural Resources, State Highway Administration)
- Regional Planning Agencies (National Capital Planning Commission, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission)
- Non-Profit Organizations (Main Street Takoma, Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority)





Existing Studies

- City-created Reports
 - Park Quality and Proximity Analysis
 - Sustainability and Climate Action Plan
 - Public Space Management Plan Survey
 - Park Inventory
 - Equity Walk
- External Reports
 - Montgomery County (Pedestrian Master Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, Racial Equity and Social Justice Toolkit)
 - State/Federal/Non-Profit Agencies (CDC Social Vulnerability Map, DEP Park Equity Map, University of Maryland Paper Street Map)





Survey Results

- Survey Responses:
 - 225 unique responses between September 2020 – March 2021
 - Over 3/4^{ths} lived in Wards 1,2, or 3
 - Mostly White respondents (83%)
 - Mostly aged 45+ (63%)

• Findings:

- Residents want: natural areas, gathering spaces like plazas, repurposed streets, and playgrounds
- Residents prioritize maintaining and improving existing public space; equal access to public space



Youth Outreach

- Youth workshop, helped us gain critical insights into how young people in the community perceive and use public space.
- Targeted engagement allows for special needs to be addressed through planning.





Equity

• What we have:

- Park Quality and Proximity Analysis records park condition and residents' walking distance from park
- CDC Social Vulnerability Maps show location of most vulnerable residents
- MD DEP Park Equity Maps
- Maps illustrating unequal distribution of sidewalks and bus shelters
- What we need: a cohesive decision-making tool that can determine how to prioritize public space investments





Sidewalks

• What we have:

- Gaps in sidewalk network, especially around schools
- Dangerous street crossings, especially along SHA roads
- What we need: an approach that closes the gaps in the sidewalk network and promotes overall pedestrian safety and mobility





Paper Streets/Cowpaths

- What we have: Full inventory of known "paper streets" (streets that were planned but never built)
- Opportunity: to transform paper streets into safe, accessible, and useful open spaces



