

Appendix C

PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL/INPUT MEETINGS COMMENT SUMMARY

October 22, 2002 – Village of Kewaskum

- How was the information obtained in regards to historic sites? Petre replied that these items are found on the National level. Comments were made that it would be helpful to include state historic sites and that this may help improve tourism. Sielski stated that local historic sites will be included as part of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Link trails to other county parks or communities; example: Ice Age Trail
- Link bike and pedestrian trails to other county parks, communities and existing trails.
- Concerns for preserving farmland.
- Concerns for “troubles or vandalism” that may come along with park development.
- More areas within parks for biking and rollerblading.
- More physical recreation activities in the parks.
- Possible creation of dog parks.
- Have the park and open space plan be more proactive to protect natural areas; example: watershed areas, preserve smaller natural areas and possibly linking these areas together.
- Reclamation plans for abandoned gravel pits and incorporate parks into these areas.
- Make sure the plan fills the void and identifies what is not being protected; example: headwater, spring areas, and woodlands. State what the County is doing to identify and protect these.
- Partnering with townships or have shared services with municipalities regarding cost and maintenance of parks.
- Encourage private foundations and nonprofit involvement and partnership.

October 23, 2002 – Public Agency Center

- Concerns regarding park use and statements were made at how Ackerman’s Grove is not used that often. Sielski replied that Ackerman’s Grove has been very popular since it has opened and the boat launch is used frequently.
- Lake access should no longer be important when other lake access sites are not be used. Sielski stated that the need for public access to lakes was one of the most frequent comments during the planning of the current park and open space plan. Due to these public comments, lake access became a priority recommendation in the plan. Washington County acquired lake property or partnered with other agencies to provide lake access on five lakes in Washington County since the plan was adopted in 1997. There are still many lakes in Washington County that need public access.
- County Board Supervisor Strupp stated that the lake access sites are used very frequently.
- Comments were made on the benefits of the extra lake access sites and they are very nice to have in the County.
- Representative from the West Bend Little League suggested creating more adult sized baseball diamonds, and possibly splitting cost with baseball organizations etc.
- Have mechanisms in place to help promote partnering with other organizations and agreements to help maintain the parks for various recreations.
- Create endowments for funding.
- Comments were made that the surveys were not significant. Sielski explained the statistical significance of the surveys.
- The County has done a great job with the lake access developments and stated that we need a park on Big Cedar Lake for beach swimming.
- Concerns regarding where ponds are being built, and may be increasing the geese problems in the area.

- Concerns regarding the Silver Lake access and how it will not have a park.
- Concerns regarding West Nile virus and who will be monitoring the mosquitoes.

October 24, 2002 – Glacier Hills County Park

- Were any of the surveys completed by youth? Sielski replied that all surveys were responded by someone 18 years or older.
- Comments were made that it is good to see that the County is making progress, great to see more public opinions included and large increase of interest for preserving land.
- Ideas were given to create more nature centers and the possibilities of partnering with other organizations.
- Many of the parks are located in the West Bend area, is the County looking outside of West Bend? Mueller stated that the County is very aware that many of the parks are located in West Bend. Mueller added that many acquisitions have become available that were not expected that just happen to be in the West Bend area.
- Establish more parks outside of the West Bend area.
- Connect bike trails to other parks.
- Create trails for inline skating uses.
- Suggestions were made to purchase land just for preservation, before there is no land left in the area to purchase when we plan to build a park.
- More advertising for the parks, and what types of recreation are available. Mueller added that press releases are done frequently. Sielski stated that information is being updated on the website.
- Ice skating on ponds. Make more opportunities in current parks.
- Creation of horse trails. Mueller stated that the County does not provide any horse trails, but horses are allowed on any paved areas. He added that there are not long enough trails within any of the County parks currently for that type of recreation.
- Start charging user fees for non-County residents.
- Make park areas closer to neighborhoods.
- Create a recreation guide for the County parks.

Written comments obtained after the meetings through one-half sheet comment cards or e-mails

- County should provide a dog park and horse trails.
- Hiking trails connecting environmental corridors.
- Want to see County parks and trails remain quiet place without noisy activities such as skateboarding, snowmobiling.
- Swimming pools should be indoors in Wisconsin.