

Additional Master Plan Public Feedback Regarding Section 34

From: Wendy BooydeGraaff <wjbd@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2019 8:05 AM
To: Cat A. Brainerd <cabrainerd@rhoadesmckee.com>
Subject: Kentwood parks

Hello Cat,

I thought I'd pass along some of my thoughts about the development along the Paul Henry trail, the section that leads from around 52nd to Wing. Many, many people use that section of trail (as I do--daily this time of year), and I wonder if it's possible to post a sign with a QR code at the ends of that trail, allowing for users to offer input on the proposed development.

Also, a big attraction to that section of trail is the natural environment, the wildness/trees and how they create a tunnel around the trail. In this age of technology, it's increasingly important to have those forested areas to turn to in the midst of the city. If any development surrounding the trail could possibly give an undeveloped buffer surrounding the trail, that might keep the trail as natural as possible. Also, if the proposed park going through the center part of the trail could be left as a preserve, maybe a few unpaved walking trails, but for the most part left untouched, that would be amazing. There are many open areas in the city right now, and few wooded/natural areas. Research shows how calming and beneficial these areas are, to stabilize blood pressure, reduce anxiety, to "unplug" for a time every day.

As far as the development goes, as long as it is done well, and disturbs as few trees and natural features as possible, I think it should be fine. We need housing for all types of residents, but it should be done with an eye to sustainability and longevity--please no more of these developers that just raze all the trees and then build without replanting anything. Economy isn't everything--there needs to be a vision for how we want to look, be as a city in the future, and sustaining as much of the existing trees/forests as possible is important.

Thanks so much for passing this along, Cat.

Best,

Wendy BooydeGraaff
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