

Oakbourne Park Master Plan Community Input Meeting No. 1

September 15, 2020

Questions and Comments Provided

1. I missed the meeting for ideas. Is it too late? How about bocce or Frisbee golf?
2. I am a Westtown resident who is part of a group who is presenting a proposal to Township BOS for approval of an Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). We are hoping that the Township will approve our existence. Part of our interests include promoting native species and reduction of invasive plants. I would like to be included in discussions relating to planting gardens or preserving existing landscapes of the Oakbourne Park. Our EAC proposal will take place at an October BOS, date to be determined.
Thanks for your consideration,
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3. Are the neighborhood entrances public access points?
4. I am a big disc golfer and am hoping to be part of any group looking into this.
5. Hoping the tennis courts get converted to basketball courts too.
6. Will the agricultural area remain intact or could it become an active area?
7. I realize there is a slope and it would take retention walls but it could serve as a place for baseball, rectangular fields, disc golf and more. As a "field renter", we love turf but well maintained grass with good drainage is great too. My wish would be 4 rectangular fields and 4 basketball courts.
8. What about a dog park area? So many people use the park to walk their dogs it would be great to have an area for the dogs to run free in a confined area.
9. I would like to see a dog park area as well.
10. Is there a budget for this?
11. I am excited about the survey. I too like the idea of a dog park and disc golf. I would like to see the tennis courts resurfaced. I also frequently use the trails and like the idea of making the park areas more connected.
12. I hope that the agricultural area will stay. I feel it is an important part of our local history and we are losing so many farms to development. In addition, I think the natural areas of the park enhance the formal beauty of the mansion.
13. The private baseball and soccer fields have essentially been donated and build by the taxpayer with very little opportunity for residents to use outside of the leagues that operate them. If the plan is to include more playing fields, do you see the same subsidized model?

14. In order to access the lower area below S Concord Rd must guests park on the higher side and walk down or is their parking at those trailheads?
15. As a resident, I am not interested in building multiple basketball courts for profit making organizations to rent. This should not become a private focused sports park built with public funds.
16. We do not want overdevelopment - open space is priority one. Keep the natural beauty. Please - Do not convert our green space into paved lots and such.
17. Getting a little nervous about too many ideas for development. Save our open space!!!
18. We do not need more baseball fields, soccer fields. The park should be developed with other interests. Use for disc golf, dog park, more walking trails, improve and clean up the lake.
19. No more baseball or soccer fields please. Retain the natural areas and agricultural areas since we are losing open space in our area.
20. Honestly, we love our park as it is. We are not interested in creating a garden for the larger community presented tonight.
21. I would like to see the unique character of the park retained. Upgrades to trails and increasing the usage of native plantings would be great!
22. Will consideration be given to overall access to park via bike and walking , not just internal to park
23. FYI - we received the card with this information just today. In the future, could we please get more of a notice so that there are additional community members involved?
24. With South Concord Road being a State Road, it is very difficult to get it improved, let alone maintained.
25. As a Westtown resident who walks my dog on lead in the park every day, my only concern with building a dog park would be drawing many more people from further away to use it and then as a result having too many off-lead dogs in the rest of the park.
26. Do not change the basic nature of the park. Improve upon what we have since our park is unique. Do not want our park to be overdeveloped and turned into a "cookie cutter" type park like so many parks in other townships.
27. I did not receive a post card, but did receive email notification from Mila. I assume this is because I subscribe to the listserv
28. Parking has never been an issue - unless there is a sport event happening.
29. I think we should pay more attention to the lake area. I walked all the time in the park and have noticed more and more people coming to the lake area to enjoy fishing, or watching the wildlife. Is there any way we can clean up the area in an environmental-friendly way? And keep it clean up maybe with solar panels for a filter system or fountain?
30. Parking is not a problem for me and my family.
31. Has any consideration been given to restoring the pond to the east of the pond on the map?

32. No one has talked about the mansion itself as a rental venue. It is a great facility that used to bring in substantial revenue that helped improve the facility. It takes a dedicated person to do the selling.
33. Yes, we love Oakbourne Park and the natural landscape and variety of agriculture, wooded areas with unique species of trees and the trails, which wind throughout. Please do not over-develop!
34. There is a common theme of park appreciation. The trails are great to run on and as a competitive runner, it is nice to run off the road. There is a major ton of open & trail space but the farming area across the street could better serve the residents. Look at East Goshen Park - they have a great balance of open space, trails, and parking, sports elements (2 basketball courts, football field, and baseball fields).
35. Down from the outflow of the pond on the map, there was a pond surrounded by stone, with a waterfall.
36. We use the park for trail running and hiking but also organized sports. It can get busy on weekends but I do not see a need for parking expansion.
37. Continue to develop and maintain the arboretum!
38. I use West Goshen's dog park and it does draw many outside the area people and dogs. I do not think that this causes significant problems to West Goshen; possibly contact with their parks/rec would answer concerns. Oakbourne Park is beautiful and love walking the trails. Thank you for your efforts.
39. We already have baseball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts, open sports fields, we have enough!!
40. Does the Westtown website display this map and the access points to the park?
41. Is the walking area across the street still considered Oakbourne Park? If you walk down the stone driveway there are more trails
42. It would be great to create a path and crosswalk along pleasant Grove Rd to the park. I would love for the kids of the neighborhood to have safe access to the park. I'm not sure if that would be an Oakbourne thing or a township responsibility
43. Would there be any interest in purchasing the private residence across the street from Oakbourne to make a more complete area there that could be developed?
 - No the home across the road. Chesko property by the cornfield.
 - i. I think the owners of this house are on the zoom. You might ask them. I think it is presumptuous of you to even suggest taking the property.
 - ii. It was actually sold to the owner's at Auction. It is their home.
44. There is a blind hill approaching Pleasant Grove Road going South on South Concord Road. Dangerous intersection.
45. The Cope tract is beautiful and my favorite local trail. Please keep it natural and undeveloped.

46. Tonight was a very informative presentation and discussion. Thank you for all of your hard work and the opportunity to participate- looking forward to completing the survey and joining future meetings.
47. They only have about 3/4 of an acre in the landlocked parcel across from Oakbourne, and it is hilly
48. Can I give you an email to get more involved?
49. Thank you! Great Presentation!
50. :). Thanks Born and raised on Oakbourne Rd so looking to keep it going in the right direction
51. Thank you for tonight. It was very informative. We appreciate being a part of the process.
52. Thank you! Look forward to hearing more! Good night.
53. Yes this has been great
54. Yes, thank you, all, very much!
55. Thank you!