



City of Evanston

Grey Park Community Meeting #1 Feedback Summary

Overview:

The first community meeting was held on Tuesday, April 2, 2025 from 6:00 - 7:30pm at the Robert Crown Community Center. This meeting focused on soliciting input from the community on two different conceptual design plans and what amenities they prioritized for Grey Park. The agenda included:

- Meeting Introduction
- Presentation on Project Process, Site Analysis, Concept Design Options
- Q&A
- Breakouts

This meeting included review of 3 exhibits, two showing the design concepts discussed in the presentation and the third highlighting key amenities with room for community members to prioritize their favorite.

Over 18 residents attended Meeting #1.

Overall Key Insights:

1. Many residents commented and voted Concept 1 as their favorite but noted to move the fence location east towards Maple Avenue to allow more open space for non-dog users.
2. The community likes elements from both concepts and asked for the final design to be refined to allow for an accessible, safe neighborhood dog park while preserving a portion of the park for other neighbors to enjoy outside of the fenced area as well.
3. Drinking Fountain, though currently an alternate feature due to budget, was their number one amenity to be added to the park with agility features for the dog being their least important amenity.
4. The removal of the hedge row along the north property line was positively received.

Concept Feedback:

Community members were able to review two separate design concepts and vote with stickers and add additional comments with post-it notes. Concept 1: Unleashed Fields, Concept 2: Wag & Dash Park.

Concept 1: Unleashed Fields

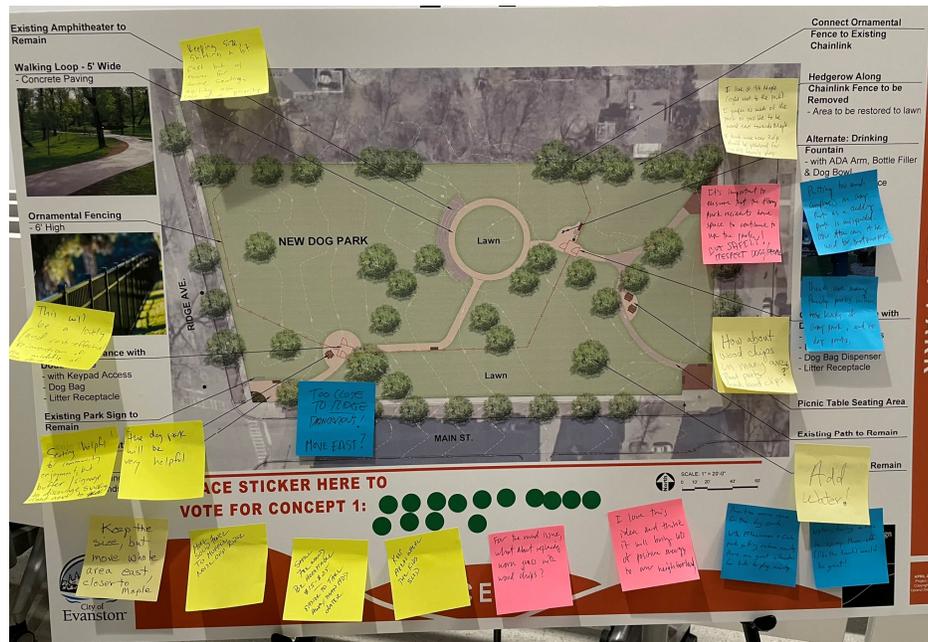


14 Votes

Community Feedback:

“Keep size, shift a bit east with room for some seating. Agility less of a priority”

“This will be a lovely and cost-effective reinvention of the middle of the park”



“Seating helpful for community enjoyment, but buffer/signage to discourage smoking right next to dog park will be very helpful”

“How about wood chips in many areas past parks have wood chips donated from tree trimmers”

“I love this idea and think it will bring lots of positive energy to our neighborhood!”

Concept 2: Wag & Dash Park



9 Votes

Community Feedback:

“Add Fountain”

“Ideally the concept 2 without agility to leave room for other park activities”

“Could we expand it south for more area on Ridge”

“Sledding area in winter”

“Family area to play between sidewalks”



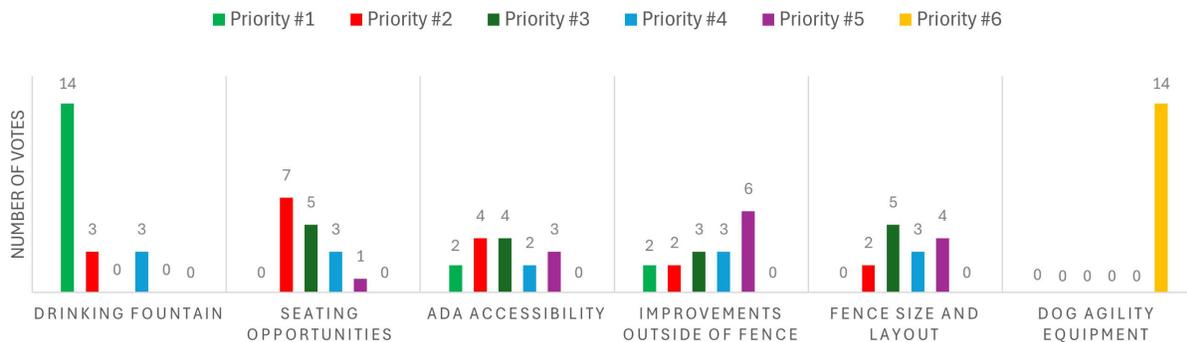
Program Elements

Community members also provided feedback on several program elements included in the dog park concepts. Attendees were able to rank these amenities from highest to lowest importance for inclusion in the dog park. These amenities included: Dog agility equipment, fencing layout, accessibility, drinking fountain, seating opportunities, improvements outside of dog area.

Rankings were calculated to determine the Average Rankings. A table showing these rankings is shown below



Ranking Vote Summary Table



Amenities in order of Rank with average ranking Score:

1. Drinking Fountain Rank 1.6
2. Seating Opportunities Rank 2.875
3. ADA Accessibility Rank 3.0
4. Improvements Outside of Fence Rank 3.56
5. Fence Size & Layout Rank 3.64
6. Dog Agility Equipment Rank 6

Comment Cards

In addition to the feedback above some additional input was shared via idea and comment cards. The following feedback was gathered:

“Families need to be very aware and careful with small children – as short people = dogs think they are there to play and they (children) can be hurt.”

“Have a separate area for small dog & puppies. 3 to 4’ fences would work for small dog area. “

“Water vs Agility – agility isn’t used much at Pooch Park”.

“Add rules signs”

“What type of surfacing is planned?”

“Two entry points preferred.”

“Move design away from Ridge – dogs will chase cars.”

“Space for dogs to run is important – in general a larger space is needed.”