



City of Evanston

Grey Park Community Meeting #2 Feedback Summary

Overview:

The second community meeting was held on Wednesday, May 7, 2025 from 6:00 - 7:30pm at Nichols Middle School. This meeting focused on soliciting input from the community on the updated concept plan that incorporated the input and preferences from the first meeting. The agenda included:

- Meeting Introduction
- Presentation on Project Process, Results from Meeting #1 & the Updated Concept
- Q&A

This meeting included a review of the updated concept plan and how the input and preferences from the first meeting were incorporated into the updated design.

Over 15 residents attended Meeting #2.

Overall Key Insights:

1. Many of the community members in attendance were supportive of the project the final design to allow for an accessible neighborhood dog park approximately ½ acre fenced in area while preserving a portion of the park for other neighbors to enjoy outside of the fenced area as well.
2. Drinking Fountain, though currently an alternate feature due to budget, is highly desired. The drinking fountain is proposed to be on the exterior of the fenced enclosure.
3. There are 2 double gate entrances into the park with keypad access – this code will only be shared with residents who apply and show proof of having proper dog paperwork. Only residents with dogs were noted as supposed to be inside dog parks per current ordinance.
4. Current design only has one open dog space, with the ability to add two separate dog areas (small and large dog) later when more funds become available.

Refined Concept Plan:

The refined concept which took elements from both previous concepts was presented at the meeting. Community members were able to ask questions and share their thoughts during an open discussion. Comment cards were also available for public participation. Below is the refined concept plan that was presented.



Comment Cards

Additional input was shared during discussion or comment cards. The following feedback was gathered:

1. Some like the balance of dog park size to open space for non dog park users in the park. Others would like more space for non dog park users.
2. Some voiced concern over dog park hours as this is a residential area.
3. Discussion of smoking in parks, which is currently banned per city ordinance.
4. The fence along the north side of the park will remain as is in the current plan, and there was some concern over privacy voiced during the meeting.
5. Residents voiced a desire for a hose bib for the dog park. Hose bibs are standard on the drinking fountains and with its current location a hose could be used in the dog park.
6. "Chess board tables in the park"
7. "Consider the overall footprint in South Evanston. There are many parks for families to play. There are no dog parks in the area. Let's consider the area and amenities holistically."
8. "Thank you. A dog park will be a huge improvement to a park that is currently not accessible to the community!"