

City of Evanston, IL

# Larimer Park Improvements

## Community Open House #3

Larimer Park Pavilion

Thursday July 27, 2023 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Feedback  
Summary





# Community Open House #3

Larimer Park Pavilion  
Thursday July 27, 2023 6:00pm - 8:00pm

## Larimer Park | Final Concept Plan Review

The planning team hosted an open house style meeting with the Evanston community at Larimer Park on Thursday July 27, 2023. During the event, which ran from 6p-8p, the design team provided an overview presentation, took questions from attendees and then asked the community to participate in a series of interactive exercises, designed to explore their thoughts and ideas for improvements to the Final Concept Plan. This input will inform the final updates to the Larimer Park plan.

The following pages document the input received during the event. This is the third and final community engagement touch point that will be held during the design process.









# Final Concept Plan

Larimer Park

Do you want a Dog Run in Larimer Park?



## Key Takeaways

While not a part of the project scope, a dog run emerged as a topic of discussion at previous community workshops. A majority of participants ultimately preferred a larger flexible open space or recreation facilities over a dog run.

"No dog park. It takes up precious green space and there are other options in Evanston."

"Dog run [as drawn] is too small. With all the dogs in that area it will just turn into a mud pit. I think the baseball diamond is much better! No dog run!"

"Dog park won't get used - larger open space preferred!"

"It's important to retain the backstop. The dog run seems incompatible with that, and the run seems too small to be fun and useful."

Participants provided feedback on the features within the park and their desires for specific features to be integrated.

"I like a single path, not a double."

"More shade trees."  
"More canopy trees."

"Don't lose the backstop. Heavily used by kids!"

"Love nature play."

"More lighting - seems like it will be dark."

"Play area expansion is great."

"Plant native perennials as much as possible."

"Private sitting spots for reading, away from playground & activity."

Above: Representative Quotes from the Workshop

Opposite Page: Final Concept Plan for Larimer Park

Following Spreads: Photos of comments received during the 07/27 Workshop



**LEGEND**

-  Deciduous Tree (Existing)
-  Deciduous Tree (Proposed)
-  Ornamental Tree (Proposed)
-  Groundcover Planting (Proposed)
-  Flexible Lawn (Proposed)
-  Garden (Proposed)
-  Concrete Plaza (Proposed)
-  Concrete Walks (Proposed)
-  Basketball Court (Proposed)
-  Rubberized Surface (Proposed)
-  Engineered Wood Fiber (Proposed)
-  Pavilion (Proposed)



0ft 20ft 40ft 60ft 100ft





# Larimer Park

## Final Concept Plan



What do you love most?

Write your answer on a post it note and post it below!

I lived in 5 hoods in Chicago before moving here. Now we have I live in a hood w/ more dogs. We need to make for them!

The plaza is great & integrates all the elements of the park. Openness in the area is a great idea.

Perimeter path

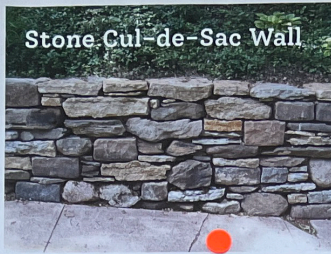

On the fence...  
More seems well



# Inspiration



Pavilion Renovation



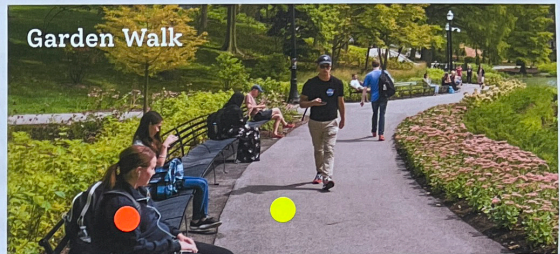
Stone Cul-de-Sac Wall



Dog Run



Flexible Lawn



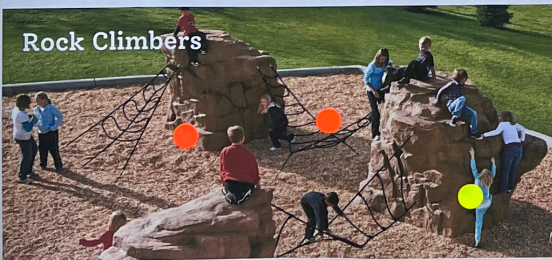
Garden Walk



Swings



Perimeter Fence



Rock Climbers



Spinner



Mud Kitchen



Nature-Inspired Play Equipment

## What could be better?

Write your answer on a post it note and post it below!

CONSIDER BETTER INTEGRATION OF THE CITY'S BIKE PLAY AT APPROPRIATE SPOTS THROUGHOUT THE PARK.

DOGS NEED A SPACIOUS DOG RUN. DOES ANYONE HAVE AN IDEAS FOR THE PRESENT OR AT IT. PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU.

I want more fountains and a big water line at playgrounds please

a want more swings or slides please

add a zip line for the kids to climb and run on. it would be a great idea.

Integrate the swings with the playground spaces better. Kids at the play equipment mess up the dog chains. It's not safe.

We would love a zip line

More benches

More lighting seems like it will be dark!

Consider water like waterfalls

older kid play! slider ramps, climbing walls

I want a zipline and I want a big climbing wall

I want a hammock and something like Herbert Park

Zip line + Monkey Bars

Lots of seating along walkways





CREATE BACKSTOP TO PREVENT BALL FROM GOING INTO HERBAGE/SHRUBS ON N. END

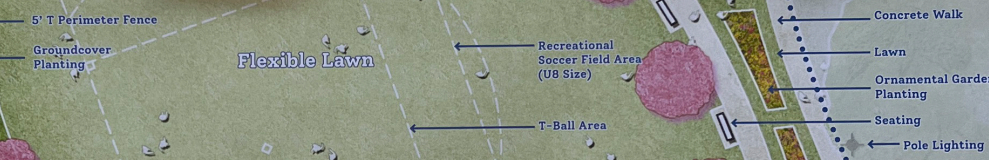


Don't Span d & on Stone wall

EBSA Softball teams play here

Butterfly Garden

PROVIDE LIGHT SCREENING TO ADDRESS SPILL TO ADJ. HOMES



Dog run is too small. Also, with all the dogs in that area, it will just turn to a mud pit. I think the baseball diamond is much better. No dog run!

I think removing the walls will discourage unsavory activities (ie. paint, etc.)

WHILE IN A FAVOR OF A DOG RUN THE ONE IN THE RAW SEEM UNUSUALLY SMALL

BASEBALL BACKSTOP IS HEAVILY USED MISTAKE NOT TO HAVE ONE

Don't have dog run in this area

take away of the dog run

Don't lose the backstop

Please figure out a way to prevent baseballs from falling into bushes on western end of core lawn

Dog Park won't get used - larger open space preferred?

More canopy

larger dog park is close to this park. Dog park here is unnecessary.

Need Jack Stop No Dog Walk

I like a single path, not a double

No dog run

It's important to retain the backstop. The dog run seems incompatible with that, and the run seems too small to be fun and useful.

As a former player of 2 young children, we use this park 2-4 times per week. We would strongly prefer to dog use and keeping the backstop for baseball and softball practices with the EBSA (Evolution Baseball Softball Area)

The dog run will contain the dog and prevent it from leaving the park area.

No dog park. If it takes up precious green space + other activities in this area, it's a waste. The job asks for a dog park.

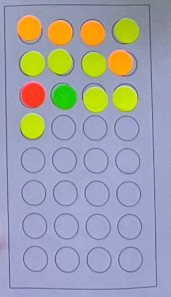
More open space for kids to play run & play SPORTS

Yes to dog run!

LARGE TREES EAST/WEST of LARGE FIELD SINGLE PATH THRU PARK NORTH/SOUTH

DOG RUN DOUBLE PAVED WALK @ CORNER WALK NOT NECESSARY

in Large Dog Park?



Log run

Dog run is necessary Dogs come and are off-leash now.

new backstop? in the new field area

People let their dogs off-leash throughout the park now. I would like dog run in order to keep off-leash dogs (and their poop) away from the playground and field.

The green and backstop are very little and the backstop should go.

Pickle ball court



# East

Final Concept Plan

Key Map



Porta Potty

Skater area is day area = no line

## What do you love most?

Write your answer on a post it note and post it below!

## What would be better?

Write your answer on a post it note and post it below!

Accessibility!

PLAY AREA EXPANSION IS GREAT.

Love Nature Play Make this BIG and for all age groups. For example my kids use 11, 9 + 3

love nature play

REPLACE LARGE BAM ON CANON ST.

NO NO To Dog Box

More Shade Trees

we ♥ Rabbits.

This park needs a bathroom

More canopy trees

What would be better?

No Subox - Ants

Need an entrance to the playground from the southeast corner. Now people climb the fence.

PRIVATE SITTING SPOTS FOR READING, AWAY FROM PLAYGROUNDS & NOISY

Swings should path a way to get away from the playground. Do not have dog run to stretch along green space. Plant native perennials as much as possible. Plant oak trees where possible - they are the best types to support native insects. Follow the birds' route and have less oak.

Replace concrete perennials with native plants. Safety, Love Nature Plan!

There should be a sandbox

Double N-5 sidewalk is needed. Bring sidewalk to the end of the road. Cut out west side of Clubhouse. Separate sidewalk from main sidewalk and make it single. Add wheelchair ramp to the corner.

Leave in a backstop, and incorporate a ramp/bike path ground use park.

Basketball Court is a priority

No more concrete. Saw about zipline Swings for teenagers. Keep Clean Space

Sand Box! with fun toys like trucks

Shade for the playground area. Keep the large canopy trees.

Ridge Ave

Lan Final C

Ridge Ave



**MKSK**