

Milwaukee-Leavitt Park 567

Notes from Public Meeting December 1, 2011, 6:30pm Holstein Park Auditorium

-This location is perhaps THE busiest and most visible node on the trail and should be a showcase spot for the city and neighborhood so that Blue Line riders and visitors see it and want to visit the park and the BT (Bloomingdale Trail). It may be the "heart" if you will, of the BT.

-The space isn't large, so it needs to be dynamic to make an impact. The idea of water features and rocks would be fantastic in the location.

-Tie the trail into the history of Milwaukee Avenue- The park ought to have historic kiosks showing the past of Chicago's "Polish Corridor"

-Stormwater could be captured along nearby portions of trail and channeled to an industrial sculpture (chains, gears, RR track) where the water flows down to the park/street level- only flows when it rains.

-Regarding Stairs south of BT: "Great idea for the south corner/triangle, with views to the south and east (downtown, CTA, lake...)"

-Gathering stairs leverage the full field of view, looking SE, S, SW, surround with nature, trees, landscaping.

- Nice. Would be good area for kids/adults (regarding rocky play area)

-Include Park 529 in the thought process; for example spread out bike, dog, family usage across both. Human nature says dog could overrun things. Create a space that encourages the desired usage.

-Please follow the mantra of KISS (Keep It Simple...)

-Name Plants

-Exclude dogs...as much as possible. At least enforce leash and curb regulations.

-Music program

-No food necessary- encourage local businesses to engage; possibly highlighting local businesses (restaurants) nearby.

-Have recognition of the industrial heritage of Bloomingdale Trail and environment...perhaps a plaque on the site or something along those lines.

-Keep it green and natural- think Lurie Gardens. No vendors, no repair stations (for bicycles). A simple, visual, physical respite in the city.

-Why don't we use one third for kids, dogs, and a ramp.

-No dogs!

-Keep the park the way it is!

-Churchill Park, outside of the dog area, is overrun with dogs to the point where humans seldom use it. Please keep this space human-centric and kid friendly.

-Please, no vendor space- lets use this space for public recreation- there are plenty of vendors already nearby on Milwaukee.

-Whole Site = Access = 10' "path". One for bike, one for wheelchairs, one for climbers, one for exercisers, one for skateboards, etc.

-All of the other parks are flat- slope all of it!

-Trader Joe

-Sled hill for little kids

-Ground level slide

-Local stores support

-Buy for giant dog park (referring to vacant lot on south side of BT)

-Recycling Education

-Air pump (for bicycles)

-Football

-I like the skate ramp idea

-Skate or BMX park. Partner with Uprise.

-Sleds

-Sculpture

-Hide & Seek