

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK FIVE- PARKS MASTER PLAN

Public Open House No. 1
September 27, 2006, 6:30pm
Location: Queen Creek Town Hall

OPEN HOUSE SUMMARY

This public open house was held in conjunction with the Mayor and Council's Talk to the Town program, which is an opportunity for residents to learn about current community issues. Each session includes a brief informational presentation on a specified topic of local interest. This session focused on the Parks & Recreation Department wherein the Five-Park Master Plan was discussed. The town mayor and a couple of councilpersons participated in the presentation session which briefly addressed this project. Attendees were encouraged to review the materials specific to this project after the presentation session. Approximately 15-20 people attended this event. This event was advertised by the Town through a mailing to all town residents as well as on the town's website. In addition, copies of the mailer were placed on counters at the Town's offices.

Representatives from EPG and J2 were present to discuss the planning process and issues, concerns, preferences, special conditions, etc. for the park sites, before and after the Town's presentation. In addition, a comment form was available for people to either fill out and leave at the open house or return at a later date to the Town Parks & Recreation Department. A copy of this form is attached.

Exhibit boards were displayed for each of the park sites. Each display graphic included an aerial photo of the park and its surrounding areas. Photos of site features, site conditions, on and off site views and existing amenities were included on the display. Other graphic displays presented included an overall Town map with the location of each park highlighted and a large display board indicating the project process and schedule (which was presented at the Steering Committee meeting held on September 12, 2006).

EPG/J2 received information and input from community members regarding each of the five park sites. This information was obtained by direct conversations with the residents as they reviewed the displays and input included on a comment sheet which each participant was asked to complete. Following is a summary of the input received:

- Several residents would like to see a dog park incorporated into at least one of the sites.
- Residents noted some amenities that could be included, such as:
 - Ø water features (play/drinking)
 - Ø open fields
 - Ø agility course
- Residents living on Twin Acres near the north end of the West Park Site panhandle area inquired about the location of the parking for that park. They expressed concern that park users will park along Twin Acres Road.
- Several attendees mentioned the desire to have a park that is unique from any other park in Queen Creek and the surrounding area. This could include amenities not found

in any other local park. One of these attendees developed a sketch of the amenities she desired for a portion of the Chandler Heights Park Site (this sketch was previously provided to the consulting team by the park staff). Examples of the suggestions she included were a small town theme with shops, cafés, barn, railway station; flat maze; game center; rose garden; splash area with multiple water features, etc. When mentioned that one of the PTOSMP recommendations for the Chandler Heights site is to include equestrian facilities, this person felt the town is planning enough equestrian facilities at other sites.

- An attendee suggested an aquatic center/more water parks with water slides, pools, etc.
- Would like to see a track just for running/jogging, possibly with a physical fitness route incorporated. A resident mentioned that they can use the existing paved trail within the wash at the West Park site, but because the trail is multi-use, there is the possibility of small children being run off the trail by bikers, equestrians, etc. and hurting themselves on cactus and other vegetation.
- Another would like to see water troughs for horses (Comment for West Park Site).
- Tennis courts, including backboards to allow individual use, was suggested.
- Other activities that residents would like to see at the parks include: soccer, flag football, jogging track
- An attendee is considering developing a sports complex for indoor soccer and roller hockey on a parcel west of East Park but not adjacent to the park site.
- A resident mentioned a concern about the glare of ballfield lights at the Sossaman/Cloud site. The concern was that the lights would change the existing, and in his opinion, desired dark nighttime conditions.
- Other residents mentioned they believed the Sossaman/Cloud site has a separate long and narrow parcel along the west side of the site that would have to be included with an interior parcel to allow park frontage along Sossaman Road.
- A resident wanted to be sure the parks included trails and connections to the other trails that occur throughout the town.