

August 17, 2005

**ITALIAN VILLAGE SOCIETY
PARK REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

PUBLIC COMMENTARY/SURVEY RESULTS

**Results from public surveys received 8.9.05 at Italian Village Park
Cookout (67 surveys returned)**

How often do you use Italian Village Park?

Daily:	3 (4%)
1-3 times/week:	10 (15%)
2-3 times/month:	14 (21%)
Once/month:	3 (4%)
Once/quarter:	13 (19%)
Never:	24 (36%)

**How would you rate Italian Village Park in the following categories?
(3=excellent; 2=okay; 1=poor)**

Natural beauty (plants, quality of grass/trees): 1.49

n=59; 8 (12% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Safety: 1.89

n=55; 12 (22% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Location: 2.77

n=60; 7 (10% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Playground equipment/children's activities: 2.27

n=56; 11 (16% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Provides varied spaces for different uses: 1.84

n=57; 10 (15% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Sitting areas: 1.69

n=58; 9 (13% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Concerts/entertainment/festivals: 1.15

n=52; 15 (22% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Community meetings: 1.53

n=53; 14 (21% of total respondents did not answer this question)

Other (please list and rate):

5 respondents answered this question:

- No water feature
- It isn't the centerpiece of the IV area that it should be
- Better safety at night (more lighting, but not too much)
- Gazebo needed-seating/tables
- Maintenance

How would you spend your time in the Italian Village Park if these opportunities were available?

Reading/relaxing:	48 (71.6%)
Visiting with friends/social:	49 (73.1%)
Active sports (tennis, etc.):	19 (28.4%)
Supervising playtime for children:	17 (25.4%)
Sunbathing:	10 (14.9%)
Cookouts or picnicking:	40 (59.7%)
Pet walking/playing, etc.:	32 (47.8%)
Other (please list activities):	art feature (1 response); shortcut to neighborhood (1 response); bocce ball (3 responses); bird watching (1 response); walking (1 response); lunch/work breaks (1 response)

Please check all improvements you would like to see in Italian Village Park:

More parking:	9 (13.4%)
Bike racks:	25 (37.3%)
Game areas:	19 (28.4%)
Public art:	36 (53.7%)
Pet conveniences:	23 (34.3%)
Dog Area:	21 (31.3%)
Seating:	41 (61.2%)
Water fountain:	47 (70.1%)
Meeting space:	25 (37.3%)

Other comments/suggested improvements

- More landscaping and other visual improvements
- Dog poop bag dispenser toward the grassy area; couple more trashcans; safety; better lighting; cigarette trash cans; I have seen at least four people (bums) passed out in the park in the last 12 months
- Tennis courts; water features
- I would hate to see the current trees removed; Who wants a park with no shade for the next ten years?

August 17, 2005

- Bocce
- Chess tables/backgammon
- Gazebo
- More plantings
- No walls; they block the view
- Lights
- More gardens
- Fence for pets
- History of Italian Village
- More garden spaces; infant/toddler play area
- Keep basketball courts
- Contoured area with a focus on smaller children; they will most likely be your visitors
- Water availability; sprinkler system at planted areas; edges define; electricity availability

August 17, 2005

Public Comments from Italian Village Park Concept Plan Meeting 8.9.05 (courtesy of MSI Design)

Overall the reaction to the concept plan for the park was positive and those at the meeting were in favor of all of the elements, especially the great lawn, the new pavilion and the Bocce courts. Below are comments from individual residents:

- Get rid of the locust trees altogether on the great lawn
- Include public art to carry the Short North Arts District theme into the park
- The playground is too small and located too far away from the homes along Kerr
- Needs to be more playground equipment because kids get bored
- Existing park has too much emphasis on playground equipment
- The park should include some sort of water feature, perhaps like the fountain at North Bank Park (several people)
- Shift the main entrance of park in the concept plan to the Kerr/Hubbard corner just like the current park layout
- Include some sort of Italian Village history element
- Include brick in the design to echo the character of Italian Village
- Include a dog run
- Instead of a fireplace a grill was suggested
- Orient the Bocce courts along back west edge of park
- Bocce courts could be too noisy
- Bocce courts are a positive element (several people)
- Keep the half court basketball court
- Fireplace could require too much maintenance
- Low seat walls could be attractive place for vagrants to hang out