

Suttree Landing Park
November 6, 2013
Public Meeting
Questions and Comments

On Wednesday, Nov. 6, a public meeting was held at South Knoxville Elementary School where City officials presented plans for a new South Knoxville waterfront park, Suttree Landing Park, and a new local street, Waterfront Drive. Cannon and Cannon, Inc. the consultant for the City led the presentation.

Below is a list of questions/comments from the public. The comment period ends November 20, 2013.

1. Was the name of the park changed? I remember it being called River Plain Park.
 - a. On September 14, 2009, the Public Properties and Facilities Naming Committee had completed its process to change the names of the following:
 - i. River Plain Park to Suttree Landing Park
 - ii. River Road to Waterfront Drive
 - iii. E Street to Empire Street
 - iv. Lincoln Street to Foggy Bottom Street
2. The neighborhood group has brought up an idea about a Butterfly Garden in the park. Is this possible?
 - a. The Park and Recreation Department will look into incorporating plant species that will support butterfly habitat into the created wetland feature. As a butterfly garden, it would depend on what kind of plants would be able to tolerate the storm water coming into that area. The landscape architect on the project will work closely with the Park and Recreation Department and the neighborhood in identifying the proper plant species.
3. You mention modifications that were under review by TVA, what are they?
 - a. Wetland Modification-It was determined during the constructability review that the proposed wetland area would not have an adequate water source. Modifications to the wetland area were approved by the ACOE and TVA for the City to purchase 0.28 credits from a wetland bank to compensate for impacts to the wetlands. This had a tremendous cost savings due to the 5 years monitoring plan that would have been performed to maintain the wetlands.
 - b. Park Grading- recalculation of cut/fill volumes changed the elevations along the riverwalk to minimize and avoid impact of an archaeological feature. Also changes in the earthen berms which create the outlooks have been modified.
 - c. Redesign of the Suttree Boathouse and Pavilion- the redesign has the facility no longer perpendicular to the park and on piers; soil and boring studies did not support the original design; the facility is now on land.
 - d. Water Intake Pump is included in the new TVA 26a permit to allow for water intake from the river for park irrigation.
4. The trees are great, but consider placement, pruning and variety; so they don't block water views.
5. Great Job! We have been waiting for this a long time. It was worth the wait!

6. I am super excited about all the work that's been done and I can't wait to use the area! Thank You!
7. Make sure there are sidewalks on streets perpendicular to Waterfront Drive.
8. Very nice design. I look forward to seeing our work with the South Knoxville Waterfront plan come to a realization. My only concern is with the Regal Corp. I hate to see such an eye sore blocking the beautiful park.
9. I was wondering if there might be any opportunities to include a South Knoxville community garden and community center in Suttree Landing Park.
 - a. There are several residents of the Old Sevier neighborhood that have already established a few butterfly gardens and now working with our Parks and Rec department to have additional plantings in the new park. Also the Old Sevier Neighborhood Group has a community garden program in the works. The contact for the Old Sevier Neighborhood Group is Gary Deitsch (garyedeitsch@bellsouth.net) 865-573-7355.
 - b. The planned Suttree Boat House and Pavilion will include a covered patio that could be used as meeting space.
10. The Old Sevier Community Group would like to see an emphasis on native, butterfly attracting and supporting plants in the park. This simple commitment will show a deep awareness of our values and principles in this part of town.
11. These value and principles are tied to a love of our natural world reflected in the urban wilderness of South Knoxville. I am concerned about the massive amount of debris and waste that will be generated by the demolition of Baptist Hospital. At the KCDC Board meeting in October, the representatives from Blanchard Calhoun said they have a lot of experience recycling materials for use in waterfront development.
 - a. Being a reuse of a former brownfield site, the developer is preparing a voluntary brown field agreement of the hospital parcels. The demolition requirements for this site will be outlined in the agreement and an environmental media plan (to address soil and groundwater) for the site as well as other contingencies. These actions will be monitored by TDEC State Remediation Program.
12. The drawings for the boathouse show the use of riprap. This is far less desirable than a riparian zone or area. So, for the record, I would strongly prefer a natural interface between the park and the river. However, I realize that our river isn't really a river anymore and TVA's control of this "lake" may require riprap. In that case, can we use the rubble from the Baptist Hospital demolition for our riprap, keeping it out of the landfill and keeping a little bit of Baptist on the waterfront?
 - a. More detail design may determine the use of riprap or other materials on the slopes of the river. Based on the outcome of the concrete rubble during demolition, it would be favorable to use it in other areas along the waterfront; however TDEC will have to be consulted on the determination for its best use.

13. Captain John Farmer (Tennessee Riverboat Company) -Captain John Farmer is already running water taxi's from Cityview to the north bank for football games and other events and was asking if it would be possible for him to make a stop by our boathouse to pick up or deliver passengers.
 - a. This action will have to be programmed; The Tennessee Riverboat Company will obtain a permit for this taxi service.
14. Jake Hudson- Fort Loudoun Lake Association
 - a. Has offered to shoot the topo to give us a more accurate picture of the topo below the water at the dock.
15. When stabilizing the river bank please do not just use rip rap that will look unnatural. It needs to be balanced with attractive vegetation / grasses as the bank will be visual from across the river, down at the river edge where people will be boating and up close above where people will sit. The bank should not be a trap for floating trash or be able to collect trash that may be thrown down by people. And does not trap dead fish near the area. Remove piping along shore.
16. Please keep the green areas as open and green as possible, no hardscapes, those should be at Gay Street bridge, Henley or Fort Dickerson entrance.
17. Butterfly garden would be great attractor and small plant identifiers that say the name of the plant and main butterfly that is attracted.
 - a. The Parks and Rec department and the projects' landscape architect will be in discussion with the neighborhood on the types of plantings that would tolerate the soils and runoff in those locations.
18. All lighting that will be used for the park should be low lighting and all road lighting should not be angled or so bright that it causes glare to residents homes and put at a height so as not to be a visual distraction from within the homes on Sevier and Phillips Ave which sit higher than the proposed park and road. (Earth friendly)
19. Ex R.O.W. in 50820_12PublicMeeting_easments.pdf along Barber Street has the R.O.W. as being moved further in to property at 611 Phillips Ave parallel to Barber Street than was marked as the Ex R.O.W when the city surveyed with markers and paint near the end of the SWF plan process. The marker showed a different location in yard than this easement file.
 - a. Final Design work is in process for the preparation of construction documents. The ROW process is not complete (in regards to calculation of any land for acquisition). This will be part of the ROW phase of Phase 2 road construction. This section of Barber Street will not be constructed in Phase 1.
20. Claude, Dixie and Barber should not be main thoroughfare to the new river road. From Sevier Avenue to Langford Avenue public parking should be discouraged by not having parking on Dixie, Claude and Barber where homes are located. Decreasing the road width on just these 2 streets would act as traffic calming. Parking on the steep inclines would prevent parking and traffic accidents. Vision to see over the incline is impaired due to the natural hill that is Phillips Ave. Also help in safety with homes that have driveways in pulling in and out of drives and allow easier alley access for city and waste trucks.

- a. Dixie Street is only used during the Phase 1 as a temporary access road to the park until the full street network gets completed with Phase 2 funding. Temporarily Dixie Street will only consist of 2-10ft travel lanes and shoulders. Full build-out of all the north-south extensions of Claude, Dixie, and Empire will occur as construction of private development moves forward. Upon completion of Phase 2 work, Foggy Bottom Street and Barber will be you main access roads to the Park.
 - b. The Regulating Plan for the South Waterfront District indicates the north-south extensions of Davenport Road, Barber Street, Claude, Dixie, Empire and Foggy Bottom Streets and sets the typical section requirement for each road. On December 4, 2008, MPC recommended to City council for approval to amend streetscapes standards for Foggy Bottom Street (formerly River Road), Foggy Bottom Street (formerly Lincoln Street) Barber Street, Claude Street, Dixie Street, Empire Street (formerly "E" Street), and Langford Avenue. Second reading before CC council for approval (January 13, 2009). With the approved amendments, there is no on-street parking on Barber Street and Claude Street between Phillips Ave and Langford Street. There is no on-street parking on Empire Street between Phillips Avenue and Waterfront Drive (formerly River Road).
21. At this time due to ongoing issues with continuous water main breaks; utilities (water, gas, and waste water), school and property owners are vulnerable due to the age of the utilities underground. The utilities under these side streets and cross streets (Phillips) where homes are –utilities have not gone without problems in the past several years that impact homeowners.
 - a. As of 11/20/13, KUB is coordinating with City Engineering on a solution.
22. There should be an enforced No Wake Zone around the park to reduce noise, for bank stabilization, reduce the debris line from wave motion and safety to people in small boats. Some sort of non-intrusive tie downs should be available for people getting in and out of kayaks and canoes with water movement.
 - a. This will be considered during the design and construction of the boathouse and pavilion. The contractor will be in compliance of all regulations and permitting requirements.
23. The Suttree Park plan looks very good and much thought have gone into the plan. I am sure this park will be well used in the future. The river road itself is fine. There needs to be more input and discussion on how to better improve the streets from Sevier Avenue to at least Langford with the residents on Phillips as these are the homes that directly impacted.