

Emerson Park Master Plan Update

Ideas received through public input that the Parks Commission has, after initial review, elected *not* to include in the Five-Year Plan

ACCESS & PARKING

Open White Bridge Road gates more often. (*Already do when practical and safe*)

Create a major “entry statement” structure at the main entrance.

Bring back the access and free parking lot on White Bridge Road between gas station and bridge.

Install signage prohibiting dropping off of children for little league at the roadside. (*Other actions to discourage pulling over may be more appropriate*)

Add parking spaces near major event centers. (*Believe current parking layout adequate*)

Create a drop-off area (not a parking area) close to the shoreline.

Provide access for pedestrians and vehicles to area north of White Bridge Rd. (As an alternative to the existing pedestrian access under White Bridge Road)

Organize a scheduled trolley service to/from downtown. (*This was unsuccessful in the past*)

Construct a pedestrian bridge over White Bridge Road west of the Outlet.

Construct a pedestrian bridge over the channel where the seawall begins.

SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING

Offer paper maps of the Park at the gate.

PARKING POLICY

Eliminate parking fee for County residents; Include parking fees in event prices and little league registration fees. (*Although willing to explore options for alternative revenue streams to offset parking charges*)

SWIMMING

Dredge a portion of the swimming area to make it deeper and more attractive for use by adults. (*There is a concern/belief that dredging is problematic for improving swim areas without creating muck issues or the need to re-dredge every season*)

Fix the muck problem in the swimming area. (*Not aware of a muck problem*)

SITE AMENITIES

Establish a Vietnam veterans' memorial w/parking south of White Bridge Rd.

Provide restrooms in the northwest, across White Bridge Rd.

ENTERTAINMENT

Construct a swimming pool for adults and children.

Develop a penny arcade.

Build a major attraction like a Ferris wheel or roller coaster.

Develop a boardwalk accompanied by casual dining establishments, gift shops, and other family-friendly amusements.

ENVIRONMENT/NATURAL RESOURCES

Prohibit bird hunting

POLICY GUIDELINES

Sell the property to private developers of recreational uses; develop a road and subdivide if necessary.

CAMPING

Establish a camping area including an RV park.

Work with the private sector to establish a unique “bed & breakfast” type camping venue with furnished tee-pees or Yurts or treehouses and including upscale amenities such as organic food, yoga, kayaking, etc. (“Glamping”).