

Dear Naperville Resident,

In September of 2008 the Naperville Park District initiated a public process to evaluate the relocation of a portion of garden plots from the current West Street location. During the course of the past year, hundreds of residents have shared their thoughts on this matter through participation in public meetings and open houses, completion of a garden plots survey, and by sending numerous letters and emails. Most recently, the Park District hosted two public open houses to gather resident feedback on the design for garden plots at West Street and DuPage River Park. The input received continues to be considered by the Park District in the development of plans for West Street, and was used extensively in the completion of design plans for garden plots at DuPage River Park.

Resident involvement has been and continues to be an integral part of the garden plots project. Numerous changes and improvements to the designs of each site are the result of ideas generated through resident input. As a result of this process, the Park District has prepared a phased approach for developing the DuPage River Park Garden Plots project. This approach is based on the most recent site evaluations in addition to feedback from community members and City staff. The site plan can be found on the Park District's garden plots webpage at the following: <http://www.napervilleparks.org/docs/def2cc8f-a08c-4a14-b55b-7f562ae7bc14.pdf> It features the updated design concept with two separate implementation phases. Phase 1 of the project will include the following:

- Grading and development of 151 garden plots and 4 raised ADA plots
- Placement of 6 foot wide pathways between plots
- 1 full vehicular access point on Royce Road between Fox River and Apple River Drives
- 1 gated emergency access point on Royce Road at Apple River Drive
- Development of 20 foot wide gravel roadways to allow for adequate parking near garden plot locations
- Preservation of vegetative buffering between Royce Road and the garden plots. Additional landscaping will be added to increase vegetative buffering in this area
- Preservation of several mowed turf trails in the area around the garden plots with connections to the newly developed bicycle and pedestrian path
- Connection to the City water supply and the placement of water spigots in several areas throughout the garden plots
- Development of a shade structure
- Development of a screened portable restroom
- Placement of a compost area

At this time, Phase 1 of the garden plots project does not include the installation of a perimeter fence. However, the Park District intends to further evaluate the need for a fence during the first gardening season.

The second phase of the project will allow for expansion of the garden plots in the future, and consists of approximately 155 additional plots that may be added to the site. The phased approach will allow for the establishment of garden plots at DuPage River Park with the opportunity to grow the program in the future.

The Park District's next steps include soliciting bids for construction of the DuPage River Park garden plots based on the Phase 1 design. We anticipate that the award of a construction contract will be presented to the Park District Board in late September/early October for approval, with construction completion prior to spring 2010.

In addition to beginning construction of garden plots at DuPage River Park, the Park District is forming a discussion group consisting of current Garden Plot participants to generate ideas and suggestions related to registration methods for relocated and new Garden Plots, size/offers for

future plots, and site amenities. Current gardeners interested in participating in the discussion group should e-mail the Park District at [info@napervilleparks.org](mailto:info@napervilleparks.org).

Updates will continue to be provided to garden plots participants and residents by e-mail, and will be posted on the Park District's Garden Plots project webpage.

Sincerely,

Naperville Park District