

Druid Park Lake Drive Complete Streets Feasibility Study

Community Stakeholder Visioning Session

Date: February 25, 2021

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

I. Overview

The Druid Park Lake Drive Community Stakeholder visioning session was held on February 25, 2021 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM using Microsoft Teams. The Project Team used Mural.com, a collaborative online platform, to provide information about the Druid Park Lake Drive project and generate real-time input from the group of community leaders, elected officials and representatives of organizations around the project area. The session was designed to provide project information to stakeholders and to generate their input on the themes to guide concept design, preferred street typology and elements to incorporate into the project’s vision statement. The Project Team documented the group’s input, which was generated through the Mural collaborative platform, verbal conversations and comments in the chat box. This memo includes a summary of the outcomes of the visioning exercise.

II. Participants

Participants	Role
Will Ethridge	BCDOT Project Manager
Eric James	BCDOT Community Liaison
Wes Mitchell	WSP Project Team
Kathryn Hendley	WSP Project Team
Heather Martin	WSP Project Team
Tammy Leigh DeMent	Druid Park Lake Drive Public Outreach
Graham Coreil-Allen	Auchentoroly Neighborhood Association
Liz Cornish	Bikemore
Mereida Goodman	Garwyn Oaks Northwest Housing Center
Jennifer Goold	Neighborhood Design Center
Dean Harrison	Developer of property on Druid Park Lake Drive
Daniel Hindman	Auchentoroly Terr. Resident
Adeline Hutchins	Greater Mondawmin Coordinating Council
Patrick McMahon	MDOT MTA
Leon Pinkett	Former Baltimore City Councilman
Steve Preston	Parks and People
Suzanne Rackl	Reservoir Hill Improvement Council (RHIC)
Javas Raghavan	Councilman Torrence's Office
Councilman Torrence	Baltimore City Council
Jed Weeks	Bikemore, Greater Remington Improvement Association
Rev. Donald Wright, Jr.	Gethsemane Baptist Church
Odessa Philip	Druid Lake Public Outreach
Elsa Arias	Druid Lake Public Outreach
Laurence Campbell	Ashburton Association
Keith Pennick	Hanlon Improvement Association
Kelly Baccala	Baltimore City Dept of Housing and Community Development

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III. Additional plans and studies

In addition to the plans and studies reviewed by the Project Team, participants recommended reviewing five additional plans and studies.

- Rawlings Conservatory Master Plan
- RHIC's traffic and safety study
- North Ave. Rising
- Parks and People Foundation campus study
- Penn and North LINC'S

IV. Additional Themes

Participants added 25 themes to the list of themes generated from existing plans and studies. These themes were included in the voting session, which is summarized in section VII.

- **Safety**
 - Remove the highway sized roads entirely and make it a normal local street
 - Aging in place
 - One lane each way with turn lanes or circles
 - Connecting Parks & People to park to connect students to park
 - Use of traffic circles
 - Under 25 mph
 - Disagree with reducing the number of lanes going west to east
 - Restore two lanes going west to east for safety reasons. Currently nowhere for cars to pull off if malfunctioning.
- **Accessibility**
 - Add new crosswalks at ALL side streets to restore historic connections to the park
 - Improve pedestrian connections to Mondawmin Transit Center/Mall
 - Possibility of over or under access from RH rather than just crosswalks
 - Explore pedestrian bridge to park
 - Stronger connection between metro and entrance to the zoo
- **Multi-Modal Access**
 - Add new Druid Hill/Mondawmin Circulator line
 - Design for pedestrian and bike pleasure
 - Kid and elder friendly access to the park on foot
 - Transit service particularly for kids during school
 - Transit connection/Mobility service between communities and the park
 - Design Druid Park Lake Drive with consideration for vehicles as well as bikes. Improve the street surface
 - Remove Big Jump
- **Aesthetics**
 - Litter/street sweeping
 - Make the infrastructure art – not just a layer adjacent
 - Lighting-safety and aesthetics
 - Covered and seated transit stops

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- Make the neighborhoods and park feel contiguous again

V. Vision Statement

The Project Team developed a draft vision statement to serve as a starting point and asked for revisions by the community stakeholder group. Stakeholders provided ideas for the vision statement on sticky notes in the Mural and through verbal comments and the Teams chat.

Draft Vision Statement: We envision a reimagined Druid Park Lake Drive that is safe and accessible for all ages, abilities, and modes. This future corridor will closely align with the City's Complete Streets principles, while creating a functional and aesthetically pleasing roadway that re-establishes safe multimodal connections between the community and the park, and embraces the area's natural beauty and historic significance.

Stakeholder input on vision statement:

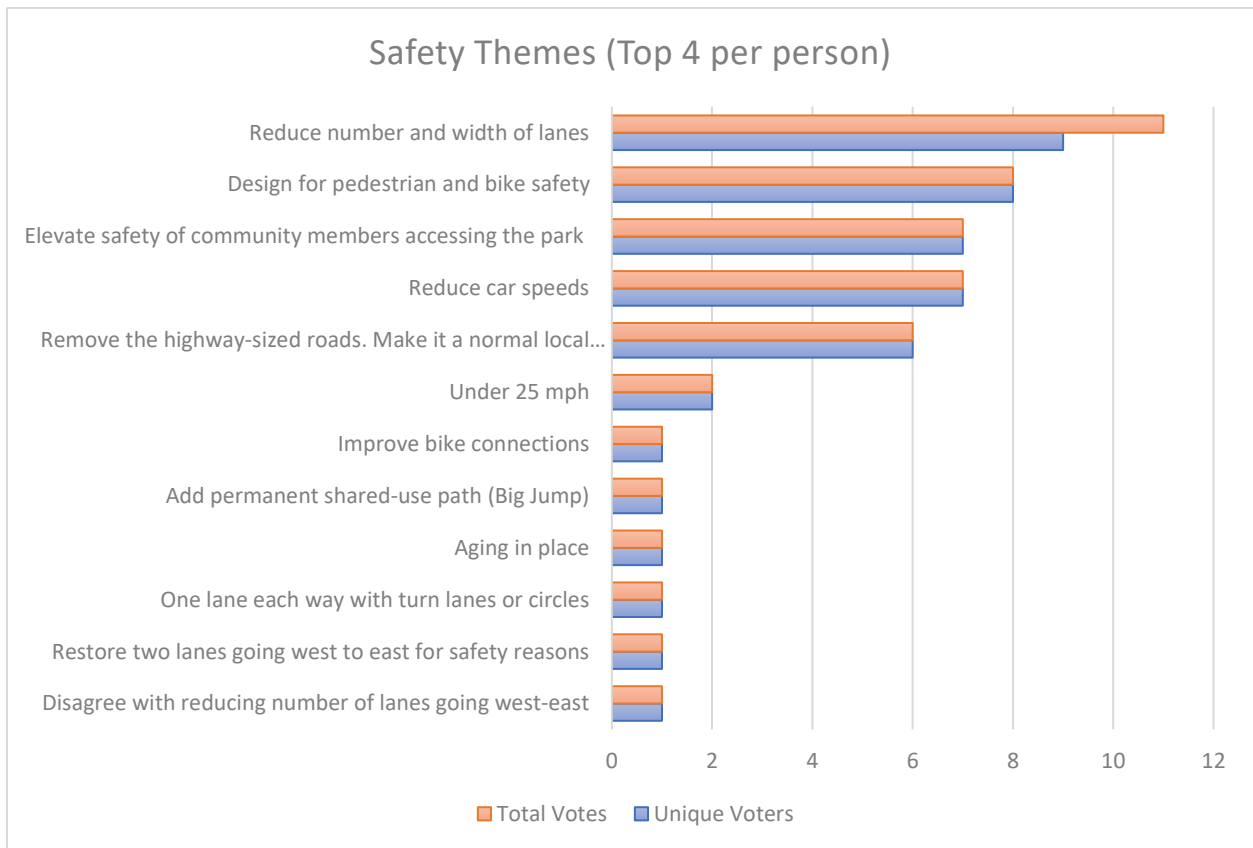
- Encourage alternative methods of transportation
- Druid Park Lake Drive's construction divided communities and destroyed their park access. Neighborhoods separated from the park deserve justice through reconnection to the park, even if it means people driving cars have to take another route or drive slower.
- Reestablish all 24 historic connections to the park (currently only 8 left)
- Vibrant
- Artistic and historic
- As a major roadway, the Drive should be not only attractive, but safe. Design should look to encourage free flow, but slower flow of traffic as a West -East roadway
- Reduce traffic and air pollution
- Reclaim!
- Focus on local communities adjacent to the park
- Built to support the next 100 years
- Focus on health equity
- Built for the human scale
- Surrounding communities
- Improve public health indicators by reducing outside commuter cars driving through and polluting our neighborhoods
- A corridor that allows all modes to travel safely is important to community members. This includes building safer sidewalks, adding separated bike infrastructure and more equitably allocating roadway space to walkers, bikers and wheelchair users.
- Intersections on the corridor are currently very dangerous for walkers and cyclists. Intersections need to be much safer for community members walking, cycling and riding wheelchairs to Druid Hill Park.
- A balanced Druid Park Lake Drive / Auchentoroly will mean people who walk, use transit, ride bikes / wheelchairs / scooters will have the same convenience and safety as people who can afford to drive a car.

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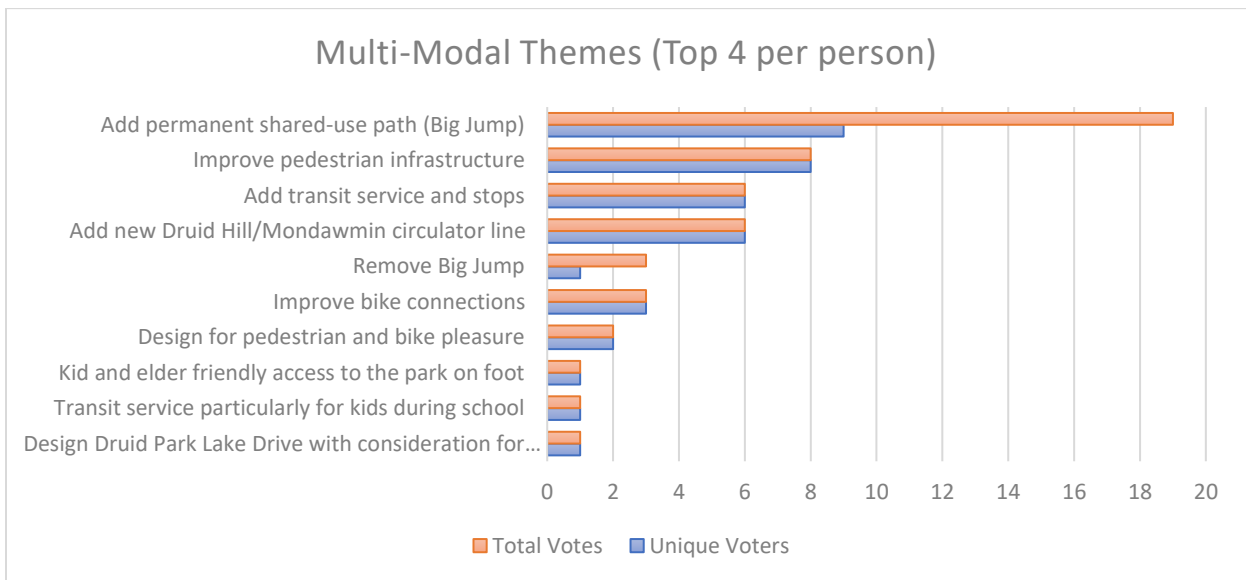
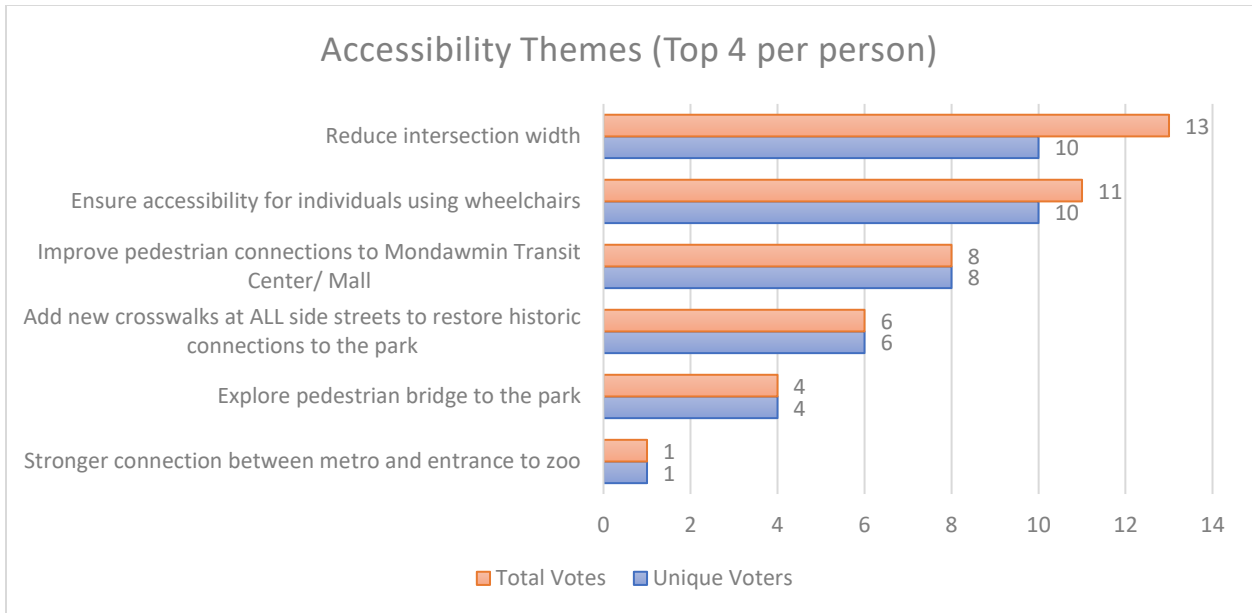
- For those who live next to the park, the goal is to make the community one that allows aging in place, where an 8-year-old is as safe crossing the road as an 18-year-old or an 80-year-old, where a child can ride a bike safely to the park as can an adult.
- A permanent bicycle and pedestrian connection between Reservoir Hill and Remington is important.
- Transit service on the corridor is important to allow transit riders to easily access the park.
- Car commuters see Druid Park Lake Drive as an important east-west corridor for vehicles.

VI. Voting Results

Participants voted on their top four themes for the project under the topics of safety, accessibility, multi-modal access, and aesthetics. The charts below summarize the results of voting, representing both the total number of votes per topic and the number of unique voters per topic. Please note that the votes generated in the visioning will not be used to represent the opinions of all residents surrounding Druid Park Lake Drive.



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