

◆ McEuen Park ◆

PUBLIC

★ VOTE ★

Paid for by the Friends of McEuen Field ◆ www.SAVECDA.org

CLIP & DISPLAY

MOUNT ON CARDBOARD

TAKE TO MEETINGS



Let us introduce ourselves...we are the founders of the Friends of McEuen Field.... Julie Clark and Rita Sims-Snyder. We have lived, worked, married, raised kids and own businesses in Coeur d'Alene for most of our lives. We both grew up in the downtown area and both still live a stones throw away from McEuen Field. We care deeply about McEuen Field and oppose the scope of the changes now being proposed by the City.

Our perspective is different than that of the the City, the McEuen steering committee and the design team. We don't see McEuen as a "blank slate" ready for full scale demolition, redesign & reinvention. We see it as area to preserve and protect.

Soo many of us grew up enjoying the park in many ways and still do today; softball, baseball, sledding, tennis, basketball, flag football, kite flying, frisbee, sun bathing, soccer, 4th of July fireworks, running, jumping, strolling, napping, rolling down the grassy hillsthe list goes on. Our children enjoy the same things and we hope our grandchildren will as well. The memories are wonderful. The city believes McEuen Field is under-used. We do not agree.

They tout the high number of positive

survey respondents as proof of the McEuen Plan's desirability. The survey and public forums are designed to collect specific and desired responses that fit the "plan". Important missing components.... budget figures - cost - prioritization of the listed features - questions about what is good about the existing park - questions about what is important to retain in the park. Among the numerous plan features, the plan recommends the removal of the 3rd Street boat launch, both ball fields & closes Front Street from Sherman to 3rd Street. We do not agree.

The City, McEuen steering committee and design team have not looked at McEuen with any eye towards simple solutions, preservation or fiscal responsibility. They believe that the expenses already incurred on consultants, public forums, surveys, design fees and architects fees for a project with no disclosed budget or costs, is responsible representative government. We do not agree.

Could the park use some revitalization? Of course. But any upgrades should be realistic, economical and workable under the existing parks budget. We have a list of very supportable alternatives that could be made

to the existing park to enhance it - without investing significant tax dollars to do it. We don't see the need to pour (no amounts have been divulged) ten of millions of dollars into a park that at this time fits our needs. These are tough economic times. Most of us have had to make significant budget cuts personally and in our businesses. This is not a time for excessive spending - it is a time for making cuts.....where is the city cutting? We are asking the city to take off the blinders and get off this runaway train.

Urban Renewal is a tool designed for the development of underused or blighted areas; areas in need of revitalization that would not otherwise be developed. The city and LCDC seem to think that McEuen field fits this description. We do not agree.

The relentless pursuit of progress will build this project into something the property tax payers cannot afford to build or maintain and do not want. No project of this scope and magnitude - that makes such drastic changes to an existing and functional park - should be undertaken without a public vote.

McEuen is a Legacy - it is small town America - It is Unique. It is ball fields and baseball - It is boating and hiking - It is children playing - It is open space - It is green space. It is what most cities are now trying to re-create...and we don't have to ...because we already have it.

Please join us in supporting the preservation of McEuen Field as the hometown park it is. Please support us in asking for a Public Vote on the McEuen Field project.

Please attend the McEuen meetings. Send the city council and the McEuen design team your thoughts. Go to www.SAVECDA.org for more information from the Friends of McEuen Field.

★ Please come to the presentation tonight at 6pm at Woodland Middle School. ★