

## **Emerson Park Master Plan Update**

Ideas received through public input that the Parks Commission agrees should be included in the Five-Year Plan

### **ACCESS & PARKING**

Create a more inviting entrance.

Improve existing vehicle entrance and parking on west side of Park.

Improve access to the park via the lake.

Create an area where boats can tie up temporarily for free.

Allow or solicit valet service at the pavilion and theater.

Widen the access roads into the Park and the main exit road toward East Lake Road.

Construct an arched walkway bridge over the channel starting from either side of the gas station; Design it so that boats can pass under.

### **SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING**

Install maps and informational kiosks around the Park.

Create a mobile application providing Park information.

Install entrance signs at the canoe and kayak launches.

Install directional signs in downtown auburn directing tourists/visitors to Park.

### **PASSIVE RECREATION**

Promote bird watching; Construct osprey nest platforms.

Establish a more comprehensive system of paths for pedestrians, bicycles, and rollerblades.

Incorporate a lakeshore “promenade.” Site various landscape plantings, sculptures, opportunities for activity, entertainment, seating/eating and other points of interest along the walkway.

Improve existing and establish new nature trails in the area north of White Bridge Road.

Encourage year round use by providing for ice skating, ice fishing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, etc.

### **SWIMMING**

Explore ways to improve the existing swimming area on Deauville Island.

Expand life guard hours.

Provide better access to the water for swimming.

## **EVENT PLANNING**

Open the gates on White Bridge Road after events for exiting when safe and practical.

Keep security and parking staff on duty until the end of evening events to direct traffic as was done previously.

## **SITE ASSESSMENT & PREP.**

Clean up / grade / drain the area north of White Bridge Road.

## **FOOD & CONCESSIONS**

Arrange and/or allow leases with food truck operators.

Provide more options for year round food and dining from casual to upscale; locate boat-accessible casual options near the lakeshore or on Deauville Island.

## **POLICY GUIDELINES**

Make Environmental Stewardship and Public Education a foundational goal.

Establish a design and development review process which places a high priority on aesthetics and lake views.

## **PARKING POLICY**

Provide local hotel guests with a one-time parking voucher.

Look for alternatives to parking fees to raise revenue.

## **SITE AMENITIES**

Install/upgrade electrical service to shelters on Deauville Island.

Install tables, benches and shade shelter near the swimming area.

Create an enhanced picnic area near the boat launch.

Update the playground and provide areas for adults to sit.

Provide playground areas and equipment for seniors as well as handicapped persons; Consider including spray features.

Permit creation of a dog park, although not necessarily as a permanent feature.

Maintain and upgrade existing bath house/restrooms near the swimming area.

Maintain and upgrade existing bath house/restrooms near Ticket Booth/Entrance.

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

Host concerts within the Park.

Promote and develop facilities for concerts, dances and other fun entertainment; Construct an amphitheater or band shelter.

Allow/encourage/solicit boat rides.

Allow/encourage/solicit dinner boat cruises.

Consider including waterpark or “spray park” features in playground upgrades.

## **ENVIRONMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES**

Construct bio-swales, native plant communities, pervious pavement, and bio-filter systems to catch and filter storm water.

Install stream bank stabilization and natural planting buffers along streams.

## **CAMPING**

Explore options for limited camping

## **PARK HOTEL/LODGING**

Promote the private development of hotel/conference center, scaled to the site and market that does not block lake views or degrade existing view-sheds. Engage in the preliminary work needed to support, inform, prepare and circulate a quality Request for Proposals for hotel/conference center development.