



Townley Park Master Plan - Survey Results

Kenilworth Park District

Project #901

Question #1: Please mark all age groups that live in your household.

Survey overview: The largest age group is 6-17-year-olds, followed by 40-49 year-olds, then 50-59 year-old.

188	6-17
123	40-49
114	50-59
80	18-29
77	0-5
50	60-69
24	70-79
10	80 or over

Question #2: What activities do you and/or your family participate in at Townley Field and/or Train Park? Choose all that apply.

Survey overview: Personal recreation, sports, playground visits make up over 50% of the activities done at Townley/Train Park.

192	Personal Recreation
186	Sports
151	Playground
122	Summer Camp
110	Sit and Relax
5	Walking
4	Dog walking

Question #3: How often do you use Townley Field and/or the Train Park throughout the seasons?

Survey overview: Spring, summer and fall have similar results in the “few days a week/few days a month” categories. Winter results are less with “none” votes not far apart from some type of use.

	None	Few times per month	Few times per week	Most days	Every day
Spring	38	95	99	57	11
Summer	30	85	100	65	13
Fall	35	97	100	56	10
Winter	101	119	36	21	2

Question #4: How important is the Green Bay Trail to you?

Survey overview: 74% of the respondents considers Green Bay Trail to be “very important” or “important” showing the need for clear connections.

141	Very important
87	Important
61	Slightly important
20	Not important

Question #5a: What activities or amenities would you like to see at Townley Field or the Train Park?

265	Multi-use field
218	Ice Rink Refrigerated
203	Seating
177	Playground
157	Baseball
113	Pickle ball
28	Skate Park
<5	Other items

Question #5b: What amenity or activity is your highest priority?

100	Multi Use Field
30	Playground
24	Ice rink
17	Baseball
16	Bike path (including Green Bay Trail)
13	Soccer /Lacrosse
12	Open Space
12	Pickle Ball
11	Seating/benches
7	Turf fields
<5	Other items

Question #5c: What amenity or activity is your second priority?

55	Ice Rink
33	Multi-use Field
33	Playground
24	Baseball
21	Pickle ball
20	Seating/benches
10	Soccer/ Lacrosse
7	Bike path (including Green Bay Trail)
7	Winter ice rink
<5	Other items

Question #5d: What amenity or activity is your third priority?

42	Seating/benches
39	Playground
38	Ice Rink
22	Pickle ball
19	Baseball
16	Multi-use
7	No change
6	Soccer /Lacrosse
5	Open
5	Bike path (including Green Bay Trail)
<5	Other items

Question #6: The Park District is seeking public opinion about installing artificial turf for the multipurpose field areas. Would you be in favor of this possibility?

Survey overview: Respondents almost evenly divided on this subject with a number of remarks in the comments section.

151	Yes
144	No

Question #7a: Do you think a field house would be an attractive option for the community?

Survey overview: Large support for this choice but there are a number of remarks in the comments section.

245	Yes
58	No

Question #7b: What amenities would you like the Park District to consider as part of a fieldhouse? Check all that apply.

Survey overview: Combined washrooms are first choice

233	Combined indoor-outdoor restrooms
197	Recreational classroom space: fitness, dance, yoga, etc.
178	Indoor basketball court
125	Indoor turf for athletics
111	Fitness equipment
85	Concessions
70	Ice skate rental

Question #8: Is there anything else you would like to see or do at Townley Field or the Train

Activities

- Paddle tennis
- Paddle, Dog Parks, and Community Gardens seem to be most talked about. Can't have everything in Townley so maybe we can work with the Village to see if we can in some of the other Parks.
- Pickle Ball
- Area to do "movies in the park" at dusk, or "concerts in the park", permanent grills to use for cookouts, a large oversized floor chessboard w/ pieces, small water feature/ water play area turned on in summer for kids. Playground has covered/shaded areas from the sun. Preference for no sand pit (they are gross and full of germs!)

- Community activities
- Community improvements that will positively affect my property value.
- Fixed games in park or fitness equipment. See Gilson Park
- Ice rink, artificial turf, usable field for our kids
- If you are considering pickle ball courts, consider a combination tennis/pickle ball court.
- Indoor track or exercise facility

Artificial Turf

- Artificial turf and restrooms
- Artificial turf discussed several years ago. Keep green spaces.
- Artificial turf (2)
- Maximize the open field space available with artificial turf so, it can be enjoyed and utilized by the community for the most amount of time possible.
- See Northfield building which is profitable. Indoor turf would be amazing
- Concerns about the artificial turf for many reasons including drainage, toxicity, & cost for upkeep. These concerns stand even if all funding is secured from private sources. I do not think the trail needs to be moved.
- Grass fields/area to be left untouched and fully preserved - no artificial turf and we would generally not advocate for any project that compromises this.
- Grass fields/area to be left untouched and fully preserved - no artificial turf and we would generally not advocate for any project that compromises this.
- No artificial turf
- Residents already voted overwhelmingly against artificial turf even when a few residents were willing to donate the total cost of the initial installation. The on-going maintenance, replacement and all risk from these products will be borne solely by the Kenilworth Park District and the taxpayers, not the donors. Simply from a cost perspective, the voters' decision in 2009 was correct as KPD would already have had to pay to dispose of the old turf and to install new turf. It is my understanding that many landfills do not accept the old materials and the product the donors planned to use had serious problems resulting in litigation.
- The heat island effect of artificial turf would make Townley Field unpleasant for use by Sears students on warm days and especially unpleasant for summer camp activities.
- Most importantly, artificial turf has serious ecological and human health risks. Our town's youngsters play on Townley during the school day, after school and on weekends. Being careful stewards of our local environment and our children's health is the most important responsibility for each Park Commissioner.

Baseball

- No more ball fields
- Baseball field renovation. Creating a space for Green Bay Trail that does not go through Townley or the Sears Blacktop would be safer.
- Baseball field return
- Baseball on Townley Field needs to be considered with Peewee Field. It is a major advantage to the village to have a field in town to host games for KWBA. I am not convinced we need 2 baseball fields though and we are in greater need of 1 field that is better taken care of.

Basketball

- Basketball (Indoor)
- Indoor basketball court AND nice landscaping
- Indoor basketball is most important

Dogs

- Allow dog recreation
- Allow dogs with separate waste cans. Trees included.
- Dog park area (3)
- Need a dog park somewhere in Kenilworth- the village seems very anti-dog with all the signs forbidding dogs at Peewee Park.
- Possible area for dogs.
- Separate dog park area
- Small fenced area for an off leash dog park. Or covert another park district space for a dog park such as Maggie Park, Mahoney Park West or Centennial Park.
- No dog rule
- No dogs off leash

Field House

- The Field House Project will require community education to garner the necessary support. People will ask how it is similar to (or different from) the previous Village House Project.
- Field House designed to utilize all space efficiently. Large unusable vaulted space for pure architectural aesthetics should be avoided. Think multi-purpose/multi-functional space. Be pragmatic with your choices.
- A field house with indoor artificial turf also seems financially imprudent. Paying for it through rentals to outside groups brings cars driven by nonresidents unfamiliar with our many community activities when children are in this area after dark such as Monday Boy Scouting, basketball practices and school events.
- Unsure about field house and I think all amenities actual or potential should be listed for each park space/ brick and mortar facility
- Field House to stay in the same location as the Village House, continue to be open to the entire Village for a variety of uses
- No field house (3)

Funding

- Funding for the Village house has already been raised through the fundraiser 2 years ago. That money should still be available for the project!?
- Funding question regarding new field house. Wasn't that done before?
- Fundraising clarification
- Kenilworth Club was the space for yoga, classes and meeting space for scouts. Duplication is not necessary. Donated monies for a turf field that the Park Board turned down. Where did that money go? Keep things simple. Do not OVER build for a community that doesn't need or want big development. This has been in discussions for the 25 years I have been here. Check with locals before you build and then increase taxes which then reduce the draw to live here.
- What cost, who pays, will it increase our taxes
- Sears' plans to build a new Village House? Wasn't the funding for that previously secured?

Green Bay Trail

- GB Trail regularly used, so it's important to keep/enhance it.
- In my opinion, the relocation of the green bay trail is of the highest importance for the security and safety of our children.
- Keep GB Trail open from Kenilworth UPN to IH UPN station and cleared of snow and ice in winter.
- Green Bay trail straight path along RR tracks is long overdue. . A surface for bikes and a surface for runners. We can pave with crushed limestone now and asphalt later if budget is an issue. Work with RR to secure access.
- Make sure trail is relocated
- Move Green Bay Trail.
- Move the bike path
- Move the Green Bay Trail away from the school
- Moving the bike path should be a high priority, not go through the Sears playground.
- Relocating the GBR bike trail is absolutely my first priority for safety reasons. Screened from rocks & wind thrown up by trains on its west side/ east side w/ new shrubs and trees.
- Relocation of Green Trail
- Reroute Green Bay trail and a new village house to be shared with the school. Space for workout classes and after school activities. Community personal fitness is a second priority.
- Complete the Green Bay trail and don't rebuild the community house
- Love the bike path to the west of Townley with better landscaping.

Ice rink

- Ice Rink temporary and usable for all types of skating interests. Continue to have an indoor warming space. Concession/skate sharpening is a bonus. Explore temporary refrigerated floor system for extended season, or asphalt area at school could also be converted into a refrigerated surface, used as it is now for 3 seasons and set up as a rink for the winter.
- Coils are interesting, charge out of towners. Artificial turf benefit.
- I only use the park for my grandchildren right now, but these are great ideas for the community!

Improvements/Maintenance

- Happy with anything. Don't want higher property taxes or more traffic.
- All upgrades are welcome
- None other than to enjoy the quiet and beauty of the open space. This is one of the very few large open spaces in the village. It should be cherished and preserved, not developed.
- Maintain existing structures, no parking deck. Partner with neighboring communities for a field house. Kite Festival and pickup softball game.

Landscape

- More landscaping/ add trees
- Additional landscaping
- Additional landscaping, upgrade play areas
- Butterfly garden

- Circle garden needs to be updated and Union Pacific needs to use less salt it is damaging the landscaping. the train park is nice as is
- Nice landscape

Move garage

- Relocate the garage behind the fieldhouse. (2)

No comment

- No additional comments
- No (9)

Open spaces

- Keep it open and "green" Keep or enhance our natural green space. With limited space we must think of smart designs for switchable/multi-use. Village, park district, school and RR need to work together and share the plan. Keep Train Park for young families. Keep Townley real grass, it- come home cleaner, but you lose a lot when you replace real grass with a layer of rubber pellets and plastic faux grass. No natural drainage, no worms, no insects, no incentive for birds and other wildlife. It becomes a dead zone for anything natural.
- Safe, natural space
- Leave this open space alone.
- Preserve open greenspace (natural grass!!), keep/enhance surrounding trees and shrubs, and minimize development and pavement areas. Modest rehab of Village house.

Other

- Add to Charles Ware park
- Consideration for Cubs Care usage as well
- Basement for the field house
- Food trucks were a good idea at the time of the pandemic but not continued. No skate park
- Help turn conversation into action. It is sad how neglected the field and house has been. Thanks for your help.
- Insure the work is well coordinated with the School District and Village in both planning and execution
- Make it to scale. Find a way to keep it open to public while allowing school to use it during the day.
- Outdoor field lights
- Please keep the scale of any projects and associated costs in line with Kenilworth's size and finances
- Putting green
- Scoreboard
- Scoreboard not necessary on Townley. Train park really needs landscaping and upgraded kiddy playground equipment. Naturally sheltered picnic grotto would be nice in a corner of the playground park and also in Mahoney Park. Mahoney Park and beach are an under-utilized asset.
- Swimming pool
- Time for a change!!!
- Consider relocating train park and using space for pickle ball

- Question 7a is poorly worded for resident feedback

Outdoor Seating/Tables/Misc.

- Amphitheater like Gilson Bowl
- Designated/permanent fire pit area, used by girl scouts, boy scouts, families, parties, etc. Similar to the fire pit at Crow Island Woods--built in pit with stone wall seating around.
- More benches, tables for community picnics and informal gatherings
- Outdoor shelter in one of the parks, plus outdoor restrooms. A shelter with bench tables would be so useful. Thanks for all you do!
- Seating for individuals and groups, picnic tables

Park Improvements

- Proper drainage at the train park (perhaps replaced ground cover with bouncy rubber ground). Splash fountain / water at train park for summertime. Chalkboard wall against one of the fences (similar to how Goudy Park has - in Gold Coast on Astor St).
- Proper drainage should be a top priority due to flooding

Playground

- Our playground and fields are subpar. The village house needs to be rebuilt to accommodate cubs care, scouting, all the great KPD programming, etc. Please make this a priority! Thanks
- Major improvement on the playground facilities. Current ones are not befitting of our town.
- Renovation of playground to include items adults can use for outdoor workouts
- Address terrible flooding at playground

Restroom Facilities

- Restrooms, sanitation pods , dog walking facility
- Public bathrooms (2)

Tennis

- Tennis but I am guessing space is an issue
- Tennis courts (2)
- Tennis Courts & a Dog Park! Thank you for asking for community input.

Thank You

- My heartfelt thanks to each of the Park Commissioners for thinking through the results of the survey and working toward the best improvements.
- Thank you for your service.
- Thank you for your commitment to improving our parks!

Traffic/Parking

- Crosswalk directly behind the large fountain is very dangerous. No visibility for pedestrians. Also, the runners/bikers coming north and south fly around the roundabout (fountain) and there is confusion who has the right of way.
- Field House should be located at the South End of Townley closer to the Train Station
- Fix the parking situation if expanding services

- No parking south of the field house.
- No public parking lot in place of the blacktop and turnabout. I just bought a house on Ivy and do not want my very narrow, quiet street turned into a busy street and public parking lot full of strangers. The children love playing at the blacktop and field and currently feel safe doing so. In addition to that, Ivy Ct is already a messy bottleneck for drop off and pick up. This is not what we expected when we went under contract on our new home, right next to the school.
- Parking and traffic increased need with new areas
- Parking?

Water Play Area

- Water feature for kids to play in.
- Water Playground
- Splash pad (2)