

Common Concerns

How will MSD address the short- and long-term maintenance needs of proposed urban waterway and civic spaces?

Through Project Groundwork, MSD has begun planning and designing sustainable solutions to CSO reduction. Some of these projects use innovative techniques to remove stormwater and natural drainage from the combined system by creating conveyance systems that could also serve as community amenities. MSD understands the community's concern for maintenance of the conveyance systems and public spaces that may result from the Lick Run alternative. MSD is working closely with Cincinnati Parks and the Cincinnati Recreation Commission to plan for and provide maintenance needs through these public agencies.

How are the needs of local businesses being addressed in the planning process?

Local businesses have been an active part of the dialogue in the South Fairmount community for more than a year. MSD regularly meets with the South Fairmount Business Association, and has facilitated bringing representatives from the Small Business Administration and SCORE (a non-profit that offers small businesses confidential business counseling services at no charge) to the SFBA meetings as well. In addition, the City of Cincinnati Community Development Department has committed two development officers to assist businesses in South Fairmount with their needs.

What does the Lick Run Alternative have to do with transportation? How will transportation improvements be decided?

The concepts presented at Community Design Workshop #2 highlighted the central importance of transportation planning to the long-term outcomes of the Lick Run Alternative project. The transportation network opportunities presented at Community Design Workshop #2 were concepts only, and were developed to help the community more clearly understand the potential short- and long-term opportunities in the Lick Run Watershed that may be achieved through public partnerships and private investments. The concepts will continue to go through additional analysis, review, and refinement by MSD and partner agencies.



Lick Run Community Design Workshop #2

On Wednesday, October 26, 2011, the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) hosted its second of three "Community Design Workshops" at Gilbert A. Dater Montessori to gather public input on the proposed Lick Run Alternative project.

What's the Lick Run Alternative?

The Lick Run project is a series of underground storm sewers and natural, above ground waterways to transport stormwater and natural drainage to the Mill Creek. This storm sewer separation project would eliminate about 800 million gallons of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) annually. It is an "alternative" to a deep, underground storage tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility.

The central element of this alternative project would be an urban waterway in South Fairmount between Queen City and Westwood avenues east of White Street.

Focus of Community Design Workshop #2

The workshop featured an overview presentation and small group work sessions to review and discuss design concepts for the proposed urban waterway in South Fairmount. The workshop also covered transportation network opportunities, green planning principles and trail network opportunities. All were developed with input from Community Design Workshop #1. The results of Community Design Workshop #2 are summarized inside.

What's Next?

The information from the first and second workshops will be used to prepare a preliminary Lick Run Master Plan, to be unveiled at the Lick Run Community Design Workshop #3, anticipated in February 2012. The Master Plan will contain the refined design concept for the proposed urban waterway, as well as future guidelines and principles for the entire Lick Run watershed.

What if I missed the first two meetings?

We encourage your participation and input at any stage in the process.

Additional Information

For more information about the Lick Run Project, visit: www.projectgroundwork.org/lickrun. You can also contact MaryLynn Lodor at (513) 244-5335 or send an e-mail to MSD.Communications@cincinnati-oh.gov.

Major Findings from the Workshop:

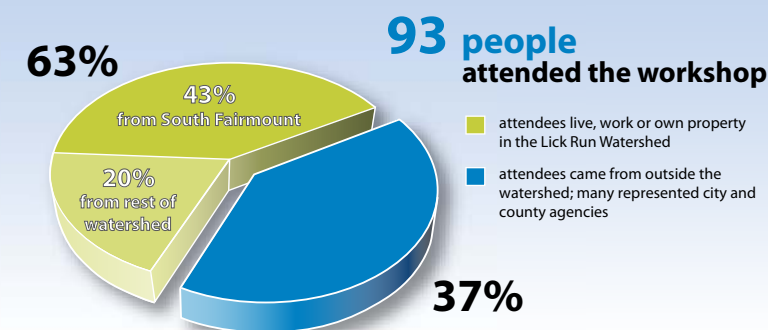
Small Groups Work Session Feedback:

- The urban waterway should provide **ecological benefits, wildlife habitat**, and opportunities for **environmental education**.
- The **Neighborhood/Business Zone** should **promote a walkable, mixed-use business district** by improving pedestrian safety and addressing concerns about high-speed traffic through the corridor.
- Future plans for civic spaces and the urban waterway should place **public safety** and **long-term maintenance** as high priorities.
- Near and long-term **transportation improvements** should focus on improving **pedestrian safety** and addressing **traffic and parking issues**.

LICK RUN WATERSHED

RESULTS OF COMMUNITY INPUT
COMMUNITY DESIGN WORKSHOP #2

OCTOBER 26, 2011



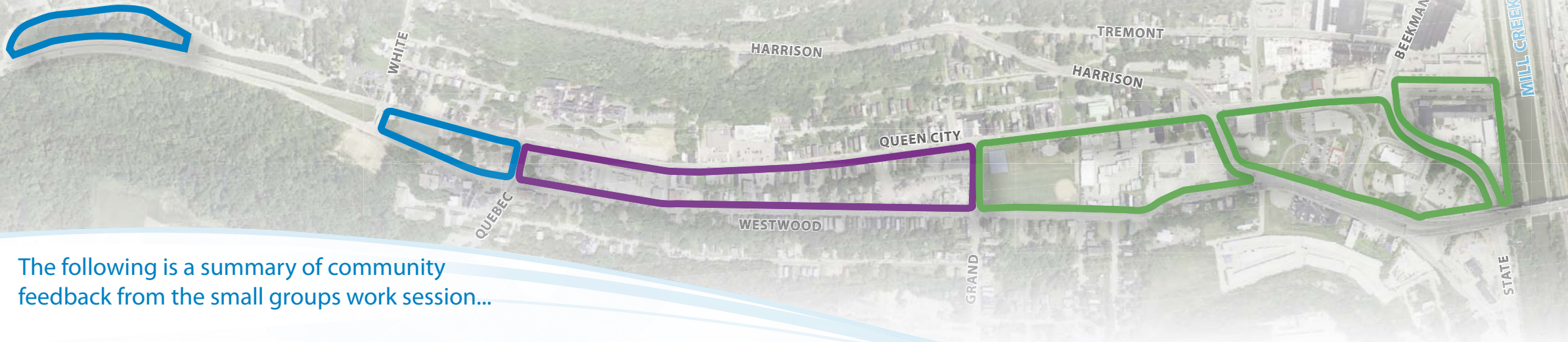
Exit Survey Results:

78% of respondents support the proposed Lick Run Alternative, compared to 16% who support the deep tunnel and 6% who are unsure. (54% of attendees responded to this question)

54% of respondents attended the first workshop. (58% of attendees responded)

89% of respondents felt better informed after attending the second workshop. (60% of attendees responded)

98% of respondents said they will attend the third workshop. (54% of attendees responded)



The following is a summary of community feedback from the small groups work session...

Western Gateway Zone

- The beginning of the urban waterway should provide ecological benefits (e.g., water quality features) and wildlife habitat, while incorporating opportunities for environmental education.
- Public uses (e.g., parking areas, trail networks, gateways) should be safe and well-maintained.
- Civic amenities could include greenspaces, gathering areas, biking facilities, trailhead parking, and Metro access.

Narrow Channel Zone

- The urban waterway should be narrow with green spaces and retaining walls on both sides and should complement the surrounding urban environment.
- The urban waterway should contain natural stone, vegetation, and in-stream features (e.g., pools and riffles) to improve water quality.
- The Neighborhood/Business Zone should promote a walkable, mixed-use business district by improving pedestrian safety and addressing concerns about high-speed traffic through the corridor.
- Civic amenities could include a pedestrian walkway north of the urban waterway, complementary on-street/off-street parking areas, and a multipurpose trail south of the urban waterway. These amenities should connect people with the urban waterway, where possible, and enhance the pedestrian experience of the open space network.

Eastern Gateway Zone

- The urban waterway should vary in width and meander through a well-vegetated floodplain.
- The location of a large-scale water quality feature (e.g., a lake and/or wetland) should make a dramatic statement by strengthening neighborhood identity and pride, and serving as a visual anchor for visitors entering the corridor.
- A more celebrated, concentrated recreation area should build upon existing facilities and allow for a variety of activity zones.
- Civic amenities could include additional amenities like multi-purpose trails, trailheads, access to the future Mill Creek Greenway Trail, sports fields, and civic gathering spaces.
- The Neighborhood/Business Zone should strive to balance the business district in the Narrow Channel Zone with well-integrated recreation areas, business areas, and community spaces.

Transportation Network

Near-term Opportunities

Near-term transportation improvements should focus on improving pedestrian safety and addressing concerns about high-speed traffic through the corridor.



Queen City Avenue
"Reduced Roadway Width" Concept

Long-term Opportunities

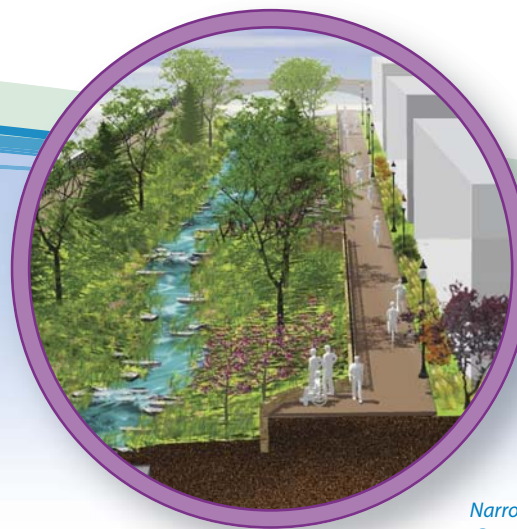
Long-term transportation opportunities could convert Westwood Avenue to an "Ecological Parkway" and Queen City Avenue to a two-way, community-oriented roadway conducive to a pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use urban neighborhood.



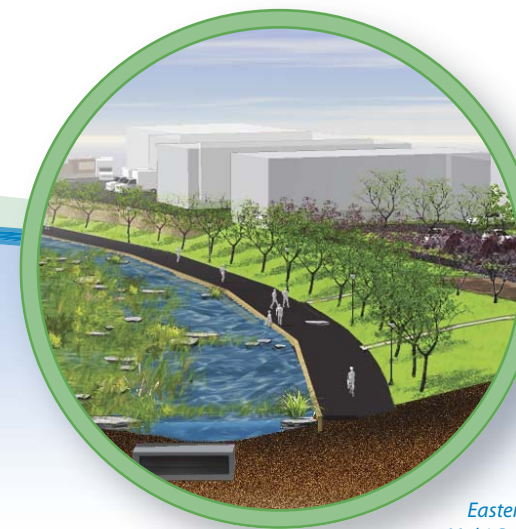
Westwood Avenue
"Ecological Parkway" Concept



Western Gateway Zone
Daylighting Feature Concept



Narrow Channel Zone
Promenade Concept



Eastern Gateway Zone
Multi-Purpose Trail Concept

These draft design concepts were developed by MSD with input from the community and public/private partners to show potential design alternatives for the proposed urban waterway in South Fairmount. The draft concepts were presented for public review at the Lick Run Community Design Workshop #2 on October 26, 2011 and will continue to go through additional analysis, review and refinement by MSD with input from public/private partners and the community prior to integration into a Lick Run Master Plan. MSD plans to submit the Master Plan to the Board of County Commissioners as part of a potential recommended Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy for CSO reduction in the Lower Mill Creek.