

# Lindberg Park Options

**Please state any other Lindberg Park issues not addressed in this questionnaire along with recommendations on how those issues might be dealt with.**

		Response Count
		167
<i>answered question</i>		<b>167</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>234</b>

Response Text		
1	Post signs ilong walkways that limit bike riding to those under 15 years old.	Oct 14, 2010 5:04 AM
2	strongly oppose lights the park is maxed out by sports. do not make changes that would add sports. basketball is a very bad idea. NO BASKETBALL. Maintenance is an issue. spend more money on maintenance and less on capital improvements.	Oct 14, 2010 12:58 PM
3	Please keep (or expand) the Prairie Garden area. Our family (2 adults, 2 kids; Mann district) have loved for many years visiting this area.	Oct 14, 2010 1:12 PM
4	Safety should be a/the primary consideration. No foul balls in tot lot; help prevent accidents with kids running across the street into traffic, etc.	Oct 14, 2010 4:49 PM
5	Adding a path around the eastern portion of the park may be very hazardous due to the possibility of being hit by foul balls during baseball season. Wonderful for non-baseball season? Would the Park District be responsible for the lawsuits? Replacing the existing backstops with higher fencing, enclosed "on-deck" batting cage and fencing to protect ball players from foul balls would be an enhancement, especially with the accidents occurring from aluminum bats and the speed from ball contact. Artificial turf is a poor alternative to the "green grass" playing fields, as the contaminants from the industrial chemicals may provide potential health hazards to the youth playing on the surfaces (especially asthmatics). In addition it takes away from the "green" philosophy of our village. Understanding that games may be canceled due to inclement weather has both negative and positive effects - children thrilled that they have some free time due to cancellations is a bonus in our very "scheduled" hectic lives (experience observed from both my own children and grandchildren). Well-maintained, properly-graded fields and planting grass that can survive the hours of play is very important. We have a tendency to try to "provide" everything, and it's time to reflect a proper balance. Providing a shelter is very important, especially during lightening strikes. The fields where my grandchildren play are cleared immediately upon warning sirens, and teams are directed under the shelters until the all-clear siren is sounded or the games are canceled.	Oct 14, 2010 4:52 PM
6	Please limit the number of extra signs you may consider for the future.	Oct 14, 2010 5:10 PM

Response Text		
7	I believe very strongly that we need to maintain balance of active and passive areas. I think there is room for improvement to be more effective in the use of the athletic fields, even if we don't add lights and/or turf (as most neighbors seem to be strongly against it). Visually I like the way the path that runs along the plateau looks, but I think we should compromise on the placement of the path if it would interfere with regrading or rearranging the athletic fields so that the space is more effectively used.	Oct 14, 2010 11:26 PM
8	Linberg Park is not only for field games, but for people who just want to relax and walk in a quiet area. The layout should stay the same.	Oct 14, 2010 11:29 PM
9	shelter in case of storm during summer camps is a seasonal need. there are several solutions: follow lead of Morton Arboretum that install temporary tents during the summer months; if storm approaches during camp hours walk kids one block to either Field Center or Mann school gym	Oct 14, 2010 11:54 PM
10	Signs for rules should be larger and more prominent.	Oct 15, 2010 5:48 AM
11	Do not remove or re-patriate the Memorial Trees. Leave them where they are. Take a vote from all tax-paying neighbors about decisions that the Park District plans to change.	Oct 15, 2010 2:35 PM
12	Wishes of nearby homeowners who pay HUGE taxes should get more weight than sports extremists who want to spare no expense to improve their sports experience!	Oct 15, 2010 5:00 PM
13	Response to Item 7. Add no new pathways. Response to Item 9. Replace pathways with colored concrete pavers. Response to Item 14. No change. Response to Item 15. Eliminate soccer field at plateau area and replace with gardens similar to west side of park and provide for one large soccer field and one recreational football field. Response to 16. OP should not install synthetic turf on any field in Oak Park. This material is made of petroleum-derived plastic. Chemicals (i.e lead, zinc, arsenic, cadmium, chromium and selenium) from this plastic can seep into ground below and potentially contaminate ground water. This material also is a bacterial breeding ground. Artificial turf kills all living organisms in the sub-soil, making it impossible without years of soil remediation to grow anything on that surface. It also promotes global warming. Response to 19. Provide no new structures.	Oct 15, 2010 6:46 PM
14	The athletic fields are currently natural grass which can support multiuse purpose, including non organized athletic events. If you put in synthetic turf you will lose this flexibility. Ever try to put up a badminton or volleyball net up on astro turf? Keep the fields natural grass.	Oct 16, 2010 2:06 AM
15	I would like to have benches on the west, so called active area, along the eastern boarder facing the field and some along the south and north berms facing the field. These would be similar to exiting benches with back rests.	Oct 16, 2010 8:20 PM
16	Crosswalk markings should be put on Greenview and LeMoyne to let drivers know that pedestrians cross there. Parking should not go right to the alley, as pulling out of the alley is very hazardous when cars are on both sides of it.	Oct 17, 2010 1:32 PM
17	Retain basic park plan- upgrade only	Oct 17, 2010 5:11 PM
18	Convert all Prairie Gardens to lower growing plants, not just some	Oct 17, 2010 5:26 PM

Response Text		
19	<p>1. Equalize the space devoted to organized sports and non-organized activities (i.e. running, walking, exercising dogs, biking, eating lunch, observing nature) by eliminating the third stealth soccer field near LeMoyné. This field was spray-painted in only over roughly the past year, initially by summer day-camps. L. Arch.'s recommended new entrance/loop walk-way is great (along edge of plateau), and would reclaim that space and retain mature trees per its original and best use.</p> <p>2. Artificial turf would be an ecological, quality of life and financial disaster, and replace living space with a dead heart. This petroleum product would vastly increase surface temperatures and water usage (climate change!), and after useful life of 10-12 years would pollute as landfill. Many manufacturers use toxic shredded rubber tires as padding. Installing this abomination would eliminate its current daily use by those humans not in team jerseys, which regular uses in my personal observation include: tai chi, cross-country skiing and sledding in winter; snowball fights; kite-flying; frisbee; informal ball-tossing; games of tag; cloud-watching; croquet). The impact on wildlife would be significant. For example, this past wet summer surely would have resulted in more cases of West Nile Virus, had legions of dragonflies not lived in that field, eating mosquitoes.</p> <p>3. Sports lighting is equally wrong-headed. We are at peak oil, and ComEd is asking us to install solar panels on our roofs. The only asserted reason to trigger this increased electricity usage and light pollution is to increase organized sports activity at this park. As well-articulated at the second-meeting, however, this Park already is over its carrying capacity (including available parking, noise, fumes from cars/vans) for organized sports use.</p>	Oct 17, 2010 8:20 PM
20	Reevaluate use of the concession building for concession. How often is it really used for concessions? Could that space not be better used as a shelter rather than building a new structure thereby taking up more park space?	Oct 17, 2010 9:27 PM
21	backboard at the tennis courts to hit the ball against, while you wait for a tennis partner. Lights at the tennis courts.	Oct 17, 2010 9:30 PM
22	<p>RE: 23--PLANT SIGNAGE COULD BE A SINGLE INFO BOARD, EASILY UPDATED (LIKE IN MILLENIUM PARK)</p> <p>PLEASE KEEP THE GORGEOUS PLANTINGS--THE WILDFLOWERS ARE THE HIGHLIGHT OF MY DAY, AND WANDERING ON THE CURRENT PATH STRUCTURE. BEST PART OF OAK PARK!</p>	Oct 18, 2010 1:52 AM
23	Preserve and retain the wildflower gardens and trees. Do NOT expand soccer or baseball fields. Keep Lindberg as it is and leave it alone with the exception of the possible bike or walking path expansion. I believe the current flagpole visibility is fine and trees do not have to be destroyed for greater visibility..	Oct 18, 2010 2:11 AM
24	Lindberg, in its current state, is beautiful. I'd like to see one Oak Park park not taken over by overzealous sporting parents.	Oct 18, 2010 1:47 PM
25	I love this park.	Oct 18, 2010 4:49 PM
26	There is so little natural green space in Oak Park. Please do not destroy what we have by adding artificial turf, lights or lots of parking restrictions that are only important to sports groups. The sports groups only use the park for 3 or 4 months out of the year. The parents of kids in these groups only use the park for sports for a few years when their kids are school age. We use this lovely park every day 12 months a year and have for over 20 years (we live a few blocks away).	Oct 18, 2010 5:36 PM
27	no basketball courts !!!!	Oct 18, 2010 8:29 PM

Response Text		
28	This community is named Oak Park, not Oak Stadium, Oak Arena or Oak Field. Our parks should serve the needs of all residents, and our Parks Dept should be helping us balance the needs of youth athletics with the larger community's need for green spaces with mature trees. I feel that these proposals for regrading 2/3 of the park so its as flat as a parking lot, and adding shelter structures, two square blocks of Astroturf and lighting for all athletic fields will destroy the aesthetic qualities that make Lindberg Park feel like a green space. Why do we need regulation high school/college ball fields? The high schools and colleges have their own ballfields for their games, and if they choose to schedule practices at Lindberg they can live with a non-regulation practice field.	Oct 18, 2010 10:22 PM
29	Utilize temporary one way east west streets (similar to St. Edmunds on school mornings) during high sport field use - primarily weekends	Oct 18, 2010 11:42 PM
30	About 15 years ago, there was talk about putting the path all the way around the park. This was decided against because Lindberg is the only place where you get an unobstructed green view. I would like to keep it. There are some rock piles at random areas in the park. What are those and are they necessary? Also, 15 years ago, there was a group of us that were against the changes that we are now having trouble with. ie, the prarie trial gardens, the raised walls in the middle of the park. I know the current board is not responsible for these issues, but I just have to say: I told you so!	Oct 19, 2010 4:02 PM
31	Parking will always be a problem. Other than allowing parking on Marion, the other alternatives will not alleviate the problem. Those who drop off must take greater care.	Oct 19, 2010 4:03 PM
32	<p>Drop-off--is there room west of the ALLEY to permit two lanes of one-way drop-off traffic? There would need to be a wall/barrier between these new lanes and the alley to discourage people from dropping off in the alley.</p> <p>Please do not use the term "Passive" use--that side of the park gets more use 24/7 than the "Active" use and by people who live in the community. Passive--sounds like it makes a value statement and comes across very negatively. How about "garden area" (ornamental gardens, aesthetic area or formal gardens.)</p> <p>Lighting at Tennis courts would be ok (increases use &amp; safety without contributing to park congestion or other issues), but not on the sports fields (contributes to traffic-related &amp; other issues at the park).</p> <p>If there is a new shelter--please build near or where the current concession stand is so not to disrupt any of the garden or sports areas of the park.</p> <p>No communal garden--park is former land fill &amp; this raises all kinds of issues/risks (including to the community of stirring up the soil, potential health or perceived health risks, etc.), may not have long-term community interest &amp; support, would not contribute to the look of primarily ornamental/formal gardens. Difficult to maintain, especially if different from the gardens on the other side.</p> <p>Let's not spend money just because its there. Minimal changes or high-impact changes (two lanes near alley for drop-off) are best. Nominal changes that use of existing funds, not so much. Perhaps a fund could be started with the monies for the benefit of Lindberg park.</p> <p>Keep Lindberg Park beautiful! Please keep the gardens formal/beautiful. These are truly the best assets the park has! Without the ornamental gardens, Lindberg park (and the playing fields) just would not be/are not that attractive! Lots of regular parks around, we really have a beautiful park now. Let's really try to preserve it. Thank you sincerely!</p>	Oct 19, 2010 6:26 PM

Response Text		
33	I love Lindberg Park the way it is and prefer to see a nupgrade of what already exists. I like the recommendations of the Park Board with the exception of synthetic turf and athletic lights which I very strongly oppose. To make these additions would drastically affect the wonderful balance of this gem of a park and have an extremely negative impact on the peaceful surrounding neighborhood.	Oct 19, 2010 6:41 PM
34	Parking should be allowed on the east side of Marion. We are totally opposed to a basketball court. We are totally opposed to turf being added, as it is not necessary. It would be unsanitary for the players, as it would not be fenced in and dogs would be walked on it. Turf is also expensive to maintain and we do not need it.	Oct 20, 2010 5:18 PM
35	I attended the second community meeting and stayed until 9pm. I raised my hand repeatedly but was never called upon or acknowledged by Mr. Wolf. As someone who lives essentially across the street from the park, I have very strong opinions about this. I love the natural prairie garden, and I love the passive recreation- I walk my dog here daily. I absolutely do not want artificial turf, lights, or anything that will prevent nights from being quiet and peaceful. I think increasing capacity of sports at the park is a bad idea and will upset the balance of the neighborhood. The last thing we need is more traffic and more parking issues. We need speed bumps on Greenfield, and ADA reflective crosswalks into the park. I have 2 elementary school kids, and I think the equipment (bleachers etc) is fine. Keep the prairie and the natural quiet beauty of the park.	Oct 20, 2010 5:38 PM
36	#12--add another choice. If the proper backstop is on the NW baseball field--then the tot lot should not be moved. # 17--add another choice--do not change tennis courts # 4--equipment drop-off at SE corner alley is NOT a good idea--especially with the alley being closed on the north end. Have the drop-off for equipment on the Greenfield side or LeMoyné side for respective fields.	Oct 20, 2010 5:45 PM
37	Let's retain the neighborhood park atmosphere we have had at Lindbergh.	Oct 20, 2010 6:51 PM
38	The hazards of Artificial tuf are well known Let's not keep repeating these mistakes. <a href="http://www.njwec.org/images/pdf's/fact-artificialterf.pdf">http://www.njwec.org/images/pdf's/fact-artificialterf.pdf</a>	Oct 21, 2010 12:41 AM
39	Must set aside funds for maintenance! This is critical to keeping up the grounds and maintenance including snow removal and field upkeep. Not discussed to date.	Oct 21, 2010 3:51 AM
40	Lindberg Park is over used. These are the same parks that serve a population of over 60,000. The needs of traveling soccer clubs are not the taxpayers job. We are a landlocked community. We must respect each other as well as our parks. I don't know the answer to grading. I do know the correct answer to lights is no thank you. The High School did not unveil the intent to use the stadium lights 5-6 days a week until the last minute. If you light the field- they will come!!!	Oct 21, 2010 8:56 AM
41	dog park should be at lindberg, not taylor park, since most of the dog owners on the north side of the village live closer to lindberg than to taylor.	Oct 21, 2010 11:30 AM
42	We love this park because it is quiet and the prairie garden is so interesting to watch change. My kids love to listen to the rustling of chipmunks and watch the bees/butterflies.	Oct 21, 2010 1:37 PM

Response Text		
43	<p>Lindberg is an excellent park which is the center for organized baseball and soccer programs for high school, Strikers, PONY, AYSO, co-ed adult soccer and catholic school organizations. It is the only space available for 13 and 14 year old boys from Oak Park and River Forest who play baseball in the community and serves as the primary site for Freshman baseball teams from Oak Park and Fenwick. While work has recently been done to improve these fields, they remain subpar- the infields are poorly maintained. The soccer fields are consistently overused from September through November and the grass is destroyed within weeks of the start of the season. Yearly efforts to resod the three fields have never been successful and the grass is consistently of poor quality and littered with weeds. There are many amenities which could be offered, but the options suggested in this questionnaire unfortunately force us into making compromises which restrict one or more of the active recreational components of the park.</p> <p>It is difficult to believe that the Park District has the funds or inclination to provide synthetic turf or lighting for Lindberg. While the implementation of these improvements would address the concerns with field overuse, it would lead to a significant change in the appearance of the park and likely be met with more resistance than the PD would be willing to accept. Placing turf on the upper soccer field on the northern border of the park really doesn't address the overuse problem since that field is used by the younger soccer players- principally AYSO and Strikers. I suspect that the south soccer field receives the heaviest use- the middle field is not full sized and can't be used for the adult or high school leagues. Placing turf on these fields might allow you to rotate the fields to accomodate two full sized fields, but that's a large area to cover and would likely require placing turf on the baseball fields as well. Unfortunately, this is likely too large a task.</p> <p>It would seem that the most reasonable solution would be to find a field in Oak Park that is large enough to accommodate adult and high school age soccer players and consider adding a synthetic turf field there. The installation of lights would be spectacular since this would allow you to shift significant use to that facility. The best candidate for this type of field would be Taylor Park, where there currently is a full sized soccer field. This field is also overused, but it is a dedicated soccer field. The cost is a significant factor, however, it would be reasonable to explore cost sharing with the local soccer clubs, OPRFHS or even corporate sponsorship. You'd likely need to fence in the field, which is an unfortunate reality, although there is a similar field in Berwyn which elected to leave the field open.</p>	Oct 21, 2010 2:42 PM
44	Please see my suggestion emailed to Diane Stanke regarding model vegetable garden for children by tot park.	Oct 21, 2010 9:11 PM
45	I love the prairie garden and would like more native plantings in other parks. Burning should help. Don't start over--prairie plant take years to develop/mature! Try to inoculate and save the existing elms & ashes.	Oct 21, 2010 11:09 PM
46	re question 19 - no new storage structures period re question 22- keep or upgrade the prairie plantings, but more importantly maintain them. The big problem is not lack of herbicides but the gardens have not really been maintained as prairie gardens since they were originally planted.	Oct 22, 2010 1:51 AM
47	I enjoy the prairie garden. I am a runner and look forward to slowing down for a break, checking out the plantings and getting a drink at the fountain on the building. Please leave some quiet open space in Oak Park. We have almost none.	Oct 22, 2010 2:02 AM

Response Text		
48	My strongest concern is the lack of safe entry spots into the park. We live near the intersection of Woodbine and LeMoyne and go to the park almost daily with a stroller, bike or trike and there is no safe paved path to enter unless you walk all the way down the north side of LeMoyne to Marion Street. When there are organized sports activities in the park the cars park in front of the one paved entrance (at Bellefort) so there is no way to get a stroller or trike into the park without squeezing between cars and onto the grass. There have been so many times I have seen children, including mine and my neighbors try to get across LeMoyne between parked cars (and double parked cars) and just miss getting hit by a vehicle.	Oct 22, 2010 2:49 AM
49	I suggest you make the entire perimeter of Lindberg Park to be No Parking. I live on Marion St and it is terrific to be able to see the beautiful park without ugly cars in the way.	Oct 22, 2010 3:25 AM
50	I think Lindberg has the right mix of passive and active. Soccer advocates want more space, but there has been several really nice Sundays this fall and no soccer team was using the fields. Maybe some improvements are needed to the fields to keep them more playable during rainy days, but no additional fields are warranted at the expense of all the others using the park.	Oct 22, 2010 2:07 PM
51	while sports are an imp. part of Oak Park, so to is the need for walking, a garden retreat for the entire age range. I see older and younger enjoy the garden area	Oct 22, 2010 2:21 PM
52	Oak park is severely lacking in adequate well constructed athletic fields. When you travel to other communities their facility and quality of sports fields are significantly better. Better grass, better infield, turf fields. Oak park has such a high density of kids playing sports we need to accomodate. I suggest removing the prairie garden and adding another smaller soccer field.	Oct 22, 2010 8:47 PM
53	Please modernize the sports fields - doing so dramatically improves quality of life issues for all w/ children who use the park.	Oct 22, 2010 8:51 PM
54	I think changes need to be balanced with an eye towards long term maintenance and fiscal responsibility. Areas or equipment that are in poor shape should be replaced with newer material. The park should support a variety of activites and the fields and play areas should be designed for flexibility to maximize use.	Oct 22, 2010 8:56 PM
55	If no synthetic turf, add watering system similar to Barrie Park for the fields.	Oct 22, 2010 9:00 PM
56	Our son is in Strikers and we travel to other communities with far better sports fields than Oak Park's fields. If we want to encourage our children to be active and involved in sports our facilities must be state of the art and in good conditon. The present situation at Lindberg is very dangerous with soccer balls going out in the street and children running out to get the balls.	Oct 22, 2010 9:02 PM
57	Synthetic turf is nasty and expensive. Please don't install it. Also we have enough light pollution. Please don't add lights to that park.	Oct 22, 2010 9:07 PM
58	This fall, over 1,700 children played in AYSO soccer leagues. The fields available to U8 players were substandard. We desperately need facilities that would provide for safe play, allow safe seperation of teams from spectators. Kids treat their team sports very seriously; let's provide them with conditions they deserve.	Oct 22, 2010 9:11 PM
59	Having quality sports field facilities is important for our community. Given the alarming rise in obesity in our country, we need to give our children every opportunity to get outside and exercise. Soccer is an enormously popular program in Oak Park. We should do whatever we can to encourage play, and upgrading/adding fields will simply allow more children to play more often. Team sports are an important part of a child's life and teach life long skills. Oak Park has many beautiful public parks and gardens that are used for passive recreation, yet very little public park space that is dedicated to sports such as soccer. Most soccer in Oak Park is played on school property and not in public parks. We should be able to upgrade the space at Lindberg Park in order to accommodate modern sports facilities on a par with what is offered in neighboring towns and villages. Thank you for your consideration.	Oct 22, 2010 9:12 PM

Response Text		
60	We need more sports fields. Baseball and soccer need to be the focus. All other towns have a park that is a sports facility for all ages. Is there a configuration that puts the home plates in the middle of the park which could allow two large baseball fields and two smaller fields. Allowing the soccer fields to run in the outfields and on the plateau.	Oct 22, 2010 9:23 PM
61	There should be some shelter area for kids who are at soccer camps and other activities to be able to cool off and have water breaks.	Oct 22, 2010 9:23 PM
62	Modern sports field facilities are extremely important and should be top priority for Lindberg Park.	Oct 22, 2010 9:24 PM
63	I feel that access to high quality athletic facilities is important to the future health and well being of the residents of Oak Park, especially our children.	Oct 22, 2010 9:30 PM
64	We are involved with AYSO and strongly feel that having quality modern sports field facilities are important to the life styles of many residents in Oak Park.	Oct 22, 2010 9:34 PM
65	Our community deserves good baseball, soccer and hockey facilities. We have very few. Please fix.	Oct 22, 2010 10:02 PM
66	Oak Park is in need of more soccer fields with good drainage. All plans should take drainage into consideration. Field configurations should also consider using turf fields to make recreation opportunities in our fair town just as good as in many of our neighboring communities.	Oct 22, 2010 10:10 PM
67	No synthetic turf!	Oct 22, 2010 10:24 PM
68	The tot lot equipment should be upgraded within the timeframe of the plan, and, possibly, expanded for the 2-5 year olds it now serves.	Oct 22, 2010 10:40 PM
69	<p>Too many of these questions are asked in a vacuum. If I am or am not from a baseball/tennis/soccer playing family, or reside adjacent to the park, I cannot fully appreciate the pros or cons of some of these choices so left them blank. I don't know if overall usage justifies three, four or some other number of tennis courts. I don't know if enough of a volunteer group exists to maintain the current or proposed changes to the passive recreation area. I would like to see the commission hear from interested parties, but make their decision based on what is good for the community and all its parts, not just what faction(s) answered the most questionnaires or attended the most meetings. None of them is likely to have an overall view that takes ALL constituencies into account, whereas the Park District should. And the size/fervor of any and all constituencies could be quite different five years hence. So gather input but remember to that any decision will require compromise that the factions are unlikely to support - and that many of the responses to these questions will be based on personal needs/wants rather than a reflection of what is good for Oak Park as a cohesive community.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Stick within the Lindberg budget - expenditures shouldn't shortchange other OP parks nor require additional referenda.</p> <p>Perhaps this has been done - study vehicular and pedestrian traffic at various entrances over different seasons to determine parking and entrance responses. If ADA changes are required by law, make them. If not, make at least one entrance ADA compliant with parking commensurate with need.</p> <p>Require sports advocates/foes to provide wish lists that specifically address how these accommodate other park users, not just their particular wants.</p> <p>Consider none of the above for the flagpole area and instead make it an area that is uncomfortable for undesirable activities to occur (e.g., surround with prairie plants!)</p>	Oct 22, 2010 10:46 PM

Response Text		
70	I noticed that Question 19 does not offer the "nothing" option. I vote for nothing. During the meeting a neighbor suggested that the low planitings along the street are the only buffer the neighborhood has from the noise and activities of the park...I agree with this position.Any improvement that increases vehicle activity in the area should be avoided. With the park at Mann school at the other end of wWoodbine, the traffic is already crazy. My mother is a senior citizen who lives on the 1000 block of Woodbine. She benefits greatly from the walking paths. I think the needs and safety of Senior citizens and parents with young children infants should be paramount when upgrades take place. I also think the needs of the neighbors adjacent to the park should be given considerable weight.	Oct 22, 2010 11:02 PM
71	We moved to Oak Park to raise our children and were attracted by the good schools and community. The Park District here doesn't have adequate sport field facilities and needs to make that a top priority.	Oct 22, 2010 11:04 PM
72	sports and fitness are vital for our children	Oct 22, 2010 11:51 PM
73	It is great green space for folks to share. Sports bring famies to the park. Support their use. I support development that allows for lots of people to use the park in lots of different ways.	Oct 23, 2010 12:05 AM
74	Recreation area should be maintained for use by those who have as much right to Lindberg Park as those there for athletic outings.	Oct 23, 2010 12:06 AM
75	We spend A LOT of time at Lindberg. I run through it at least 3 times a week--out and back. My kids play soccer there, ride their bikes and play on the playgrounds. A paved path around the park, with tot lots in view of the fields would really pull everything together. I see parents of children of different ages attending games. Older kids bring bikes to ride around and younger kids want to swing and slide in the tot lot. It would be great to pull that tot lot within view of the fields--out from behind the restroom building.	Oct 23, 2010 12:15 AM
76	It is important that we retain and expand viable access to organized/formal sporting activities for children in Oak Park. Lindberg Park is a treasure for the community, and the mix of passive / active space is desirable. Let's improve the quality of our fields and encourage our children and youth - and adults! - to take advantage of these wonderful community resources.	Oct 23, 2010 12:22 AM
77	A mixed-use park is ideal. Sure we need soccer fields and diamonds, but there are plenty of people who prefer a safe walk and plants too.	Oct 23, 2010 12:28 AM
78	We fully support AYSO in thier effort to improve and increase the youth soccer fields at Linberg Park. We feel the two competing interests can co-exist with additional soccer filelds including lights for night games. Please help keep are kids active and healty.	Oct 23, 2010 12:36 AM
79	Lindberg Park is a beautiful park that my family has enjoyed for years. It is also one of the few places in Oak Park that is peaceful. It is still possible to take a walk in the Park and be a part of nature. Please retain this open space for future generations of Oak Parkers to enjoy.	Oct 23, 2010 1:05 AM
80	Better athletic fields (synthetic turf) and better drainage.	Oct 23, 2010 1:09 AM
81	Please retain and improve activity fields for organized athletics such as baseball and soccer.	Oct 23, 2010 1:25 AM
82	Oak Park needs a few more soccer fields	Oct 23, 2010 2:02 AM
83	We like our park the way it is. There are athletic facilities and restful areas. Don't change it.	Oct 23, 2010 2:04 AM
84	We need a designated dog park or the ability to legally use the open field areas with dogs when fields are not in use.  If improvements to the fields are requested by the sports leagues they should finance those changes rather than the burden being placed on the park district. Under no circumstance should the park district finance lighting of the fields.  Part of the reason that the park is under utilized is that it is dominated by open sports fields	Oct 23, 2010 2:18 AM

Response Text		
85	Parks are an embarassment in Oak Park. Go to any other community and there is substantially more support for active recreation and the fields are actually groomed and cared for. Any attempt to enhance support of active recreation in Oak Park is a long overdue improvement.	Oct 23, 2010 2:25 AM
86	We need a designated dog park or the ability to legally use the open field areas with dogs when fields are not in use.  If improvements to the fields are requested by the sports leagues they should finance those changes rather than the burden being placed on the park district. Under no circumstance should the park district finance lighting of the fields.  Part of the reason that the park is under utilized is that it is dominated by open sports fields	Oct 23, 2010 2:39 AM
87	Lindberg should continue to provide active recreation and sports fields for ur community. Oak Park is a family oriented community of considerable size. HAVING these assets are an asset. To make it a park filled with informal recreation possibilities only is a waste of resources as families gather where there are things going on, not just flowers to look at.	Oct 23, 2010 2:43 AM
88	Lindberg Park is currently one of our least favorite parks because it is the most outdated. As the parent of grade school children, I feel it is important that any upgrades to our parks must appeal to full community participation---whether a community garden for all or ADA standard bleachers so players, community fans, and visiting fans will look forward to participating in athletic and recreational sporting events. We are lucky to have accessibility to this wonderful piece of property. Let's please maximize it's potential.	Oct 23, 2010 2:56 AM
89	It seems the park is big enough, just not adequately laid out to make the most use of the land. It is impressive how many children use the park to play organized sports. It shows an established family friendly community with a park district that enhances the quality of life of its residences, especially its children who deserve space to run, grow and exercise, not to mention the chance to fight the trend of childhood obesity.A better layout would allow for more kids to utilize the park and keep our teams playing in Oak Park instead of having to have to use other town's facilities for our teams.	Oct 23, 2010 2:59 AM
90	A basketball court is a good idea, but the full-court concept as shown on the plan may attract a mischievous crowd. Providing two half-courts in the same area might work better.	Oct 23, 2010 3:07 AM
91	Oak Park has a severe shortage of sports facilities for the children. Sports activities are very important for our children. The Park district should work to alleviate this problem.	Oct 23, 2010 3:11 AM
92	People move to Oak Park because of the schools and the community. Our kids have everything they need here, except enough space for sports. We are landlocked here, and need to use every bit of available space wisely. The passive garden thing is nice, but face it, it's not a good use of the little bit of land we have, and if we lose a little bit of garden so we can gain more soccer and baseball fields, then it's worth it.	Oct 23, 2010 4:04 AM
93	Having adequate sports facilities is a key element in promoting healthy lifestyles, particularly amongst children, and to help combat the epidemic of obesity in this country	Oct 23, 2010 5:15 AM
94	It is embarrassing to host soccer teams from other communities in Oak Park - our soccer facilities are outdated and in generally poor condition. Expanding our ability to serve the needs of our active youth teams is essential for our community!	Oct 23, 2010 12:46 PM
95	I'd also like to see more lights on the walking paths- or brighter lights. When it gets dark early the park is very dark and I do not feel comfortable taking my dog or my son to the park. We usually got to the park 2 times a day. Though, I would not want more lights if it would endanger wildlife.	Oct 23, 2010 1:23 PM
96	It would be nice to have smaller soccer fields marked/lined off in the northeast corner of the park for younger OP soccer players.	Oct 23, 2010 3:39 PM

Response Text		
97	I have an 11-year-old, a four-year-old and a sixteen month old. We don't use Lindberg's Tot Lot at all because the new facility at Field Center is so close. I don't think you need both. Converting Lindberg in to a more sport-friendly environment is the way to go.	Oct 23, 2010 4:35 PM
98	Oak Park desperately needs better soccer and baseball fields. My kids play travel soccer and baseball and it is very obvious Oak Park is way behind the times in terms of upgraded fields and it seriously lacks the quantity of facilities as compared to the demand. Adding the community garden is a wonderful idea and a perfect adjunct to the gardens at Lindberg.	Oct 23, 2010 5:09 PM
99	As I travel to other parks outside Oak Park I realize we need updated quality fields. Our fields when compared to others are dangerous, unkempt, and do not provide the quality that they should.	Oct 23, 2010 7:45 PM
100	A few comments: Even with the active/passive separation, I tend to avoid the park when sporting events are going on. I've been hit by a stray baseball near the kids' play area (no injuries), that barely missed my son in his stroller. I've tried flying a kite with that same son a few years later only to have a group take over the space for warming up / practice. The spillover from families come to cheer on a son or daughter is inevitable, increasing the competition for passive resources on days when active sports are going on. Organized sports are great, but unorganized fun should have a place as well. When I was growing up, that was the neighborhood park.	Oct 23, 2010 8:14 PM
101	We appreciate plowing the walks in winter so one can walk without danger of falling. Please continue this service.	Oct 23, 2010 10:03 PM
102	There are many great things that we have in Oak Park but quality, modern sports facilities are unfortunately not one of them. We have limited space for the thousands of people in our town that are involved in team sports, so we need to make more efficient use of what little space we have. Expanding the plateau and adding lights will give us much more productive use of the area.	Oct 23, 2010 10:10 PM
103	we really need more workable fields for our sports	Oct 23, 2010 10:12 PM
104	Lindberg Park is the only park I visit in Oak Park because It is the only place with a large, low-visitor-density, somewhat naturalized area that allows for a feeling of being immersed in nature and "away" from the urban environment. To reduce or tame the naturalized areas for programmed activities would fail to serve the segment of the population which needs a park for a vacation from the city atmosphere.	Oct 23, 2010 10:37 PM
105	I suggest that the weeding of the park be expanded as an educational program engaging local students/schools and scout programs to weed, similar to programs offered in London at Hampstead Heath.	Oct 23, 2010 10:45 PM
106	We have a large problem with vandalism in our alley following evening games. We are concerned that having lights and later games will exacerbate the issue unless law enforcement is brought in to police the area. Their presence would also fix the parking issue.	Oct 23, 2010 11:54 PM
107	My family and I DON'T want any changes made to Lindberg Park. We have lived here for 13 years, and LOVE it the way it is! Don't waste money on changing something that doesn't need improving.	Oct 24, 2010 12:21 AM
108	I would much rather allocate money to maintenance and upkeep of current grounds and facilities than on new paths, plantings, and parking (which will all require even more upkeep and maintenance) as indicated in questions 4, 5, and 7. The quality of upkeep with our baseball diamonds at Lindberg, for instance, (and Oak Park for that matter) is shameful. It is embarrassing to host an event here where guests are greeted with weeds growing in the base-path, patchy grass in the infield, and an eroding pitchers mound. Attend an event in any other city in the area with a similar socio-economic background and you will find fields maintained with pride.	Oct 24, 2010 3:11 AM
109	I feel quality, modern sports field facilities are important to quality of life in Oak Park.	Oct 24, 2010 2:57 PM

Response Text		
110	Oak Park continually struggles to offer a safe, quality environment for our boys and girls to engage in recreational sports. The community places a high degree of emphasis on our competitive quality against other communities. My involvement with club ball and subsequent travel to other communities underscores how far behind Oak Park is in providing suitable field space. Lindberg is a unique location in that it provides both active and passive space. The upgrade of the active space will provide immediate value to the 4000+ children (and tax paying families) who use the space annually. The upgrades will also add to Oak Park's reputation as a progressive, balanced design minded community.	Oct 24, 2010 3:57 PM
111	what about a dog park???????	Oct 24, 2010 4:56 PM
112	1-more regular visits by OPPoliceDep and OPParkDist-cleaning crews, especially around the flagpole. 2- smaller denser bushes along the north side to stop balls from upper soccer field -slope from soccer field to road is too much. 3-designated flat area for players (especially North Field) 4-no basket ball field 4-	Oct 24, 2010 5:24 PM
113	It would be great to have one publicly accessed lighted soccer field in the Village. Tho not a fan of artificial turf, having seen Freedom Field in Berwyn I can see the advantage of such a field.	Oct 24, 2010 5:52 PM
114	After attending the last community meeting at Mann School, I was appalled by the lack of regard for our town's kids by "neighbors" of the park. The athletic fields at Lindberg are in poor repair and suffer from overuse. I do hope that the Park District Board will consider the young people of our community and take to heart the need to improve the playing surface at Lindberg. Lights at the athletic fields would also give our children more opportunity to use the park's facilities. This park belongs to the community and is not the front yard or back yard of the residents who live in the area. Please do what is possible to improve the park for our kids.	Oct 24, 2010 6:13 PM
115	regrade soccer fields that are bumpy	Oct 24, 2010 6:42 PM
116	it is important to keep children and teens very busy with healthy activities, keeping park accessible, having lights, etc...will be positive	Oct 24, 2010 8:06 PM
117	no artificial turf	Oct 24, 2010 8:49 PM
118	keeping our kids active is important to their overall health and well being so it is important that we improve/modernize the active recreation area at Lindberg.	Oct 25, 2010 12:31 AM
119	Please initiate collaboration with OP Police Dept to improve traffic enforcement-park district staff does not have the authority to do so. If there are changes in the parking to add more spots, additional enforcement will be needed. Currently it is not safe, there are near misses with young athletes and all drivers almost every day. This issue cannot be ignored, as previously police have been essentially non-responsive to traffic issues. We do not want to have any more accidents/injuries, as happened on Division by Mann School.	Oct 25, 2010 12:56 AM
120	fields should be up-to-date, modernized, so that the community has a place to place recreation and to enjoy passively the beauty of the park in a safe manner. We should we have to play sports out of our own neighborhood!!!!	Oct 25, 2010 1:38 AM
121	Eliminate the tennis courts (have fewer tennis locations with more courts)	Oct 25, 2010 3:04 AM
122	I am in favor having the Park District make the investment annually to inoculate the ash trees in Lindberg Park against the emerald ash borer. Those trees have been in the park for decades and are valued by many people. They are a park asset and their premature loss would degrade the quality of the park. I have neighbors who pay \$400 a year to have one ash tree inoculated. At \$400/year, the annual cost to the PDOP would be around \$6000 to inoculate the ash trees in Lindberg Park, and I would expect that the PDOP would be able to negotiate a better price because of the business volume that it would bring. \$6000 would be a marginal expense for the PDOP to preserve these trees.	Oct 25, 2010 6:37 AM

Response Text		
123	This park gets a lot of play and has a lot of potential to maximize usage for all park users. Maintain the Passive area, but upgrade the active areas to provide quality facilities. We all "travel" our kids to facilities outside of Oak Park and ours often do not measure up. What we lack in square footage can be made up in efficient use of our great space.	Oct 25, 2010 1:52 PM
124	It is important for Oak Park to have quality, modern sports field facilities for the kids of Oak Park to grow up in.	Oct 25, 2010 2:08 PM
125	i am the father of a 9 year old boy and a 6 year old girl. since we have lived in oak park my children and family have participated in many sports programs from baseball to soccer. Thing we like most about the sporting experience is the balance between the physical and social growth my children have experienced. It is time oak park invest in a project of this nature as the demand and support is their.	Oct 25, 2010 2:12 PM
126	We primarily use Lindberg Park for our children's soccer games. These are important fields with many games going on them. Active sports for our kids are an important reason we moved to Oak Park.	Oct 25, 2010 2:48 PM
127	Having moved to Oak Park after my first child was born, one thing that brought us here are the parks. As my children are getting older we in more and more sports teams and need parks that will accommodate that. I was shock to hear that the lindberg park committee is considering not improving the quality of the sports field.	Oct 25, 2010 3:09 PM
128	The designers face quite a challenge in meeting everybody's needs! I hope they will take into account the needs and preferences of the full range of people who use the park, including those who are not involved enough to fill out questionnaires or attend meetings. That includes dog and exercise walkers and families looking for ways to occupy their preschool children, as well as nature lovers and families whose kids are currently involved in sports.	Oct 25, 2010 3:23 PM
129	I don't think the value of organized sports for the youth of Oak Park can be overstated. Even those who do not directly have children involved benefit by living in a community where the kids can be involved with sports and not out loitering or causing trouble. We need to maximize what little green space we have in OP to keep sports as a viable option for our youth. The kids are going to be in the park...it just depends what you want them doing there. Sports or "undesirable" activities.	Oct 25, 2010 3:30 PM
130	Please see letter from the Lindberg Family delivered to Mark Gartland on October 13, 2010. Thank you, Roger and Susan Lindberg	Oct 25, 2010 4:06 PM
131	Currently, Oak Park lags behind River Forest, Forest Park and yes, Berwyn, in the availability of artificial turf for middle school-aged soccer players of both sexes. Lindbergh is an ideal space for this addition to our active sports facilities. Soccer is a sport played by a huge percentage of OP children of both sexes and provides much better exercise than baseball. Soccer suffers perennially from scheduling problems due to lack of field availability. What other sport has to drive to its local games every week because of lack of field availability in OP? You've got better fields for dogs than you do for soccer-playing children of older ages.	Oct 25, 2010 4:26 PM
132	Park space is limited in OP. We need to leverage every square inch of usable space. With the ever increasing number of kids participating in sports OP Parks are in desperate need of upgrades.	Oct 25, 2010 4:45 PM
133	LeMoye is dangerous -- kids chase balls into the street. Elim N/S access between Marion and Forest.	Oct 25, 2010 4:49 PM
134	The condition of the fields is hazardous for the kids playing soccer. If turf is not installed, they should be better maintained.	Oct 25, 2010 4:55 PM
135	Clean bathrooms and add a new one. Use pavers for walks not concrete	Oct 25, 2010 5:02 PM
136	Would love whatever layout that includes more soccer fields or better conditions for soccer.	Oct 25, 2010 5:05 PM
137	Please, if you're going to do such an extensive overhaul, consider adding drainage tile in the ground	Oct 25, 2010 5:09 PM

Response Text		
138	We use Lindberg 4 times a week.	Oct 25, 2010 5:12 PM
139	Oak Park has a very active athletic community. We need to expand and improve out fields so that kids can enjoy a healthy, active childhood. I have coached soccer in OP for 4 years and know that field-space is limited. Any plan to reduce fields is ill conceived.	Oct 25, 2010 5:52 PM
140	The majoriy of the people who use the park, use it for Active recreation.*I would estimate about 90% use is active recreation. This should be kept in mind and maximize the space for active recreation purposes should be given priority. It should not be a 50-50 balance.	Oct 25, 2010 6:03 PM
141	We need more all weather soccer fields in Oak Park. Soccer is a huge sport on Oak Park but does not get its' fari share of facilities. This is a chance to improve our soccer field.	Oct 25, 2010 6:33 PM
142	Oak Park needs more athletic facilities for our youth. Anything that can be done to add to the capacity and capability of our village athletic venues is important for our children.	Oct 25, 2010 7:00 PM
143	It is important to our community and children's growth and health to add modern sports facilities and have open space for play fields.	Oct 25, 2010 8:00 PM
144	My kid's in two socceer leagues, yet we oppose new fields. buildings, lights and hardscape. And for God's sake don't low limb the trees!	Oct 25, 2010 8:36 PM
145	Lindberg Park design integrity and historical significance should be preserved. There are few enough recreational areas that accommodate adults, companion animal owners, and senior citizens. If not sufficient, children's and young adult's sports activities should be accommodated elsewhere. Just recently park areas at Mann School were destroyed to provide for additional sports spaces. I use the park frequently as do my neighbors for walking, enjoying nature. After major surgery, the park was a life-saver for me since it allows for stress-free walking. The wild flower segments are an asset. Question: where is the money to reimburse citizens for material expense and emotional loss in case sports-friendly remodeling impacts on current landscaping?	Oct 25, 2010 8:49 PM
146	Unlike schools, which have established recreational areas, Lindberg is surrounded by residential homes and currently combines a nice mix of active and passive recreation. Making it a sports destination with artificial turf, lights, and more people, while cutting down trees and putting in more concrete and buildings, would definitely detract from the neighborhood.	Oct 25, 2010 9:14 PM
147	Modern sports facilities are imperative to remain competitive	Oct 25, 2010 9:47 PM
148	Please keep it as open to children's sports as possible.	Oct 25, 2010 10:57 PM
149	Install signs that prohibit bicycle riding by those over the age of 15 (is 15 the age that limits bikes on sidewalks in the Village?)	Oct 26, 2010 1:21 AM
150	The park is fine the way it is. Stop looking for ways to spend no money. Don't put in parking lot. It will change character of park.	Oct 26, 2010 2:35 AM
151	We need more open fields to allow our children to participate in organized sports. Athletic team involvement has more weight on their college applications than "communing with nature".	Oct 26, 2010 2:35 AM
152	astro turf is disgusting, late at night plenty of dogs congregate. have you ever tried to pick poop off astro turf? its not fun. ive lived here for years and like how this park is, and want nothing to change	Oct 26, 2010 2:37 AM
153	Biggest problem from my perspective is that the soccer fields close when it is wet. Some lighting would be really helpful in providing more field space in OP; it would make more sense to make usage of lighting at OPRF soccer field available for club sports.	Oct 26, 2010 3:56 PM
154	There needs to be tamper resistant waste receptacles distributed more generously through the park and/or at access points.	Oct 26, 2010 4:56 PM

Response Text		
155	Quality, modern sports field facilities are important to quality of life in OP. Making OP a more desirable place to live is important to all of us.	Oct 26, 2010 6:50 PM
156	The sports fields in Oak Park are an embarrassment. As a parent of 3 children who participate in multiple sports, it would be a serious improvement to our quality of life to have better sports fields.	Oct 26, 2010 10:40 PM
157	<p>Parking and Traffic - As many folks mentioned, why did the last presentation start with Parking Issues, and then present options that were not likely to approved by the Village. As discussed previously the Transportation Commission has started a process to evaluate traffic safety issues around all of the Parks, and I think that is a better forum for discussions about Parking and Traffic issues than the Lindberg planning meetings. In addition, this forum can produce results much faster. If you would like, I can provide the dates for the meetings and we can announce them at the next meeting.</p> <p>Turf vs Grass – After thinking back through the comments and presentation, I think that we need to take this opportunity to educate the community as to why Turf is even being considered. It is not just because it increases capacity but for a host of other reasons including safety, all weather play, reliability, low maintenance cost/ hr of play, ability to support heavier use etc. During other presentations by Ted Wolfe he walked through a number of very compelling reasons, likely the most important being that fields are used heaviest during periods (e.g. Spring and Fall) when grass is not actively growing. For the next presentation do you think that we can get a fact based comparison of the issues and costs associated with the construction and maintenance of a high quality Natural Grass and a Synthetic Turf surface. This should include a description of current Synthetic Turf technology (its not the astro turf of old), feedback from surrounding communities that have completed similar evaluations. Stormwater management, annual costs for maintaining “Grass” mowing, water, fertilizer, herbicides, etc, construction costs and associated downtime (Note: RF’s Keystone field reconstruction is probably in its 18 month and its still not playable. That would be an excellent comparison as the field is the same size as the upper field proposed in Option 4a, another good example is Field Park where we’ve spent lots of time and money and still have a marginal facility).</p> <p>Finally, I think that the final decision is really more of an Park District "Operational" issue than a community decision, and the Park District should retain it as an option in the event that it is unable to provide the quality facilities for the current level of programming. At these meetings we should get the spaces and requirements defined, but the final decision on the playing surface should be based on \$\$ and availability to support Park District programming using some metric such as \$\$/ hr of availability for play. This final number is important because even though you spend all the money to construct and maintain a grass field, as soon as it rains that field will be unavailable, and depending on the weather could potentially be unavailable for many days throughout the playing season.</p>	Oct 27, 2010 1:35 AM
158	Oak Park is sorely lacking in adequate field space for the volume of youth sports that our community supports. In particular, fields with adequate drainage to permit play following rain are in terribly short supply. It is important that we support and accomodate our youth sports programs for the benefits they give our children in learning sportsmanship, teamwork, and leadership and creating a lifetime appreciation for the importance of exercise and enjoyment of the outdoors. The above enhancements to the active recreation space are sorely needed and will be richly rewarded in the additional use that can be made of our public spaces.	Oct 27, 2010 1:43 AM

Response Text		
159	It seems the Active portion of the park is often empty - but in the meeting there were complaints there is not enough room or the fields are at capacity. Better scheduling of soccer events would help, as often the Active portion of the park is inactive. The passive portion of the park always has activity - all times of the day. Although there is a balance of space in the park, the amount of time usage definitely is more geared towards the passive portion and consideration of use by all age groups and all segments of the community. Secondly, the renting of tennis courts and fields to sports teams (college and high school) eliminates the public's ability to utilize the space. I have been "kicked" off the tennis courts by Dominican saying they had the courts reserved, or by the HS soccer team when playing with my kids - There should be a listing of when the courts are reserved, and a communication of how much these teams/organizations pay to the park district. And if needed a "public" time - to my knowledge the taxes we pay allows us to use the courts and fields at all times	Oct 27, 2010 1:45 PM
160	Although we all care about children and pay taxes to support the schools, they are not the ONLY citizens who's needs should be considered. The park should be for Everyone to enjoy	Oct 27, 2010 1:51 PM
161	My son plays soccer at Lindberg Park on a weekly basis. I think it is important to have quality, modern sports field facilities since such facilities are important to maintaining a high quality of life in Oak Park.	Oct 27, 2010 3:40 PM
162	The PD has really not spent a lot of money improving recreational field space at any park - it's time to do so. Extra paths will upset the balance between active and passive uses. There are enough paths but not enough grass. Don't eliminate grass that is used for all kinds of play, structured and unstructured - for instance, regular pick up football and frisbee games under the trees in the northeast and next to the alley - in order to install more concrete. If you can't expand the plateau then eliminate some of the hills in the northeast and southeast parts of the lower bowl in order to make more flat land for flexibility in setting up soccer fields. Get rid of the light pole near the southwest corner of the far north soccer field no matter what - it is in the way of flexibility of that field. Spend money on better grass and better maintenance and weed control and training for the PD in how to use the sprinklers.	Oct 27, 2010 8:22 PM
163	the overall condition of the baseball fields is dismal considering the number of kids who play baseball in Oak Park. The uneven fields are a hazard to kids running, keeping their eyes on the ball, not watching to make sure they don't step into a hole or large dip in the grass or infield. The pitching mounds are also not well-maintained and often have a dangerous pit in front, right where pitchers put their foot when they finish their motion.	Oct 28, 2010 1:37 AM
164	Modern sports facilities are a key requirement for young families in Oak park to compete with other communities for young families and maintain sports programs for the community.	Oct 28, 2010 2:39 AM
165	Our children need space for active recreation, such as the AYSO soccer that two of my children have played for the past seven years. It becomes a family recreation as all the parents come to watch their children's games. But we have had to travel to Galewood, Forest Park and Elmwood Park fields because of inadequate soccer fields in Oak Park. Considering the high popularity of this sport, Oak Park should look at expanding and upgrading its community soccer fields.	Oct 28, 2010 4:46 AM
166	My 8-year-old daughter plays soccer, and her brother, now in college, played for four years. Because there are not nearly enough soccer fields to accommodate the popularity of this sport among Oak Park families, our kids' teams have had to play numerous games in other towns, including Elmwood Park and Galewood.	Oct 28, 2010 4:50 AM

**Response Text**

167	<p>Lighting should be added to tennis courts, and they need to be surrounded with fencing on all 4 sides. Signage needs to be added regarding appropriate use.</p> <p>No herbicide for Prairie Trial Garden, but hand weeding/renovation and a wider range of plants is needed. Last year's burn left many invasive plants, and all of the plants seem to be about 5 feet tall or taller. Can prairie plants be moved to a more natural setting? The current arrangement of natural prairie plants in formal beds seems incongruous.</p>	Oct 28, 2010 5:06 AM
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