

Greater Kingston Community Conversation ~ October 21, 2023

Discussion Report Outline

Report on **specific actionable items** to implement.

1. **Topic Area: Parks and Rec**
2. **Session 2**

Facilitator Michele Laboda

Scribe Stan Mack

3. **List of Participants:** Doug Hallock, Catherine Farrell, Carol Price, Chris Gilbreath, Sally Christy

Discussion Questions

4. **Descriptions of the issues, problems, or challenges facing our community. (Briefly describe the issues shared by each individual.)**

Trails alongside roads and highways need to be safe to use. Make sure there are trails which connect us with other people. There are not a lot of facilities for organized youth sports, and those existing require travel to access.

We are encroaching on the wildlife and native plants. Overarching problem: human encroachment. Loss of open space. (Not the focus of this group?)

Need recreational space for sports teams to practice and play. School district facilities limited by funding for development and especially maintenance. Rotary is working to provide more assets. The plans include environmental assessment. Much of the land is commercial logging property. Some of that has been turned over to environmental groups. It is difficult to know when logging is going to be conducted. There is an environmental impact of logging. The regulation of logging is state and local government and not much affected by citizens. Pope is divesting its interests in Kitsap.

What is within our capability to impact?

We would like to know more about the plans for the sports complex. (Sally asked and Chris will update her later.)

Recreation dominates the parks (mountain biking, sports in general, picnic areas). There is a lack of bathrooms. One big reason: Bathrooms get destroyed. Less human footprint? Less trails to leave more space for animals and native plants. Kids need places to play.

County Parks Department is not very good at notifying the public about things.

5. What is the group's identified main issue or a prioritized list of the group's three top issues

6. What are some possible short-term solutions (1-3 years) to the problem(s)?

Ask county parks department through KCAC to more clearly delineate use of trails to separate walkers, bikes, and motorized vehicles. Enforcement?

Clarify the criteria for park bathroom facilities.

7. What are some possible long term solutions (4-10 years) to the problem(s)?

8. How will the people and organizations represented here be involved in working on these solutions in 2023-2024?

Chris will communicate with Raydiant to clarify their harvesting plans, culverts, planting, new roads, erosion prevention.

Jane will speak with Mark about park bathrooms, policy.

Carol is already working on the issue of trail use separation. Chris will take it up with Mark and Jet.

Park communication on policies, schedules, events. Catherine.