

# Beaverdale Park

Master Plan Concept Presentation

February 2022

Project Manager:  
Aaron Graves



CITY OF DES MOINES

BEAVERDALE

PARK

3333 ADAMS STREET



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## BEAVERDALE PARK MASTER PLAN



The development of the Beaverdale Park Master Plan has been a community and focus group-driven effort to renovate the existing 25-acre park in the heart of Beaverdale. To develop a master plan concept, the City of DSM Parks and Recreation Planning Division developed an online questionnaire for public input, thoroughly analyzed the existing conditions of Beaverdale Park, and inventoried the surrounding community park amenities.

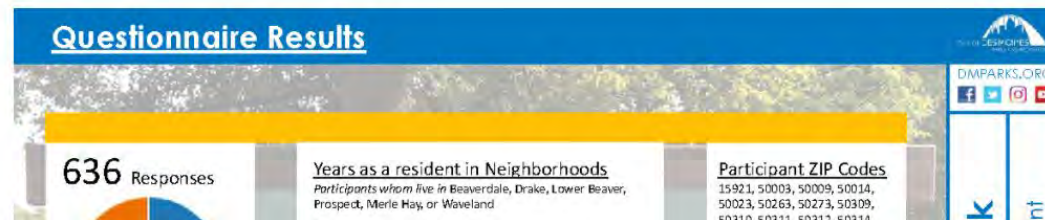
### Phase 1: Online Questionnaire

In order to gain as much public input as possible the planning division developed an online questionnaire in the Fall of 2020. The online questionnaire garnered a total of 636 responses, which is one of the most significant totals the Parks and Recreation Department has received for an online questionnaire. The Beaverdale community and residents provided input on existing uses, benefits of current conditions and areas of improvement, amenities to include and omit, preferences on design styles and materials, circulation within the park and connection to community, and parking needs.

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### Project Page

The website captures and documents all the work that went into developing the current concept.

The bulleted list below are the documents that can be viewed on the project page for quick reference.

- *Questionnaire Results*
- *Existing Conditions Analysis*
- *Concept Development*
- *Woodland Restoration*



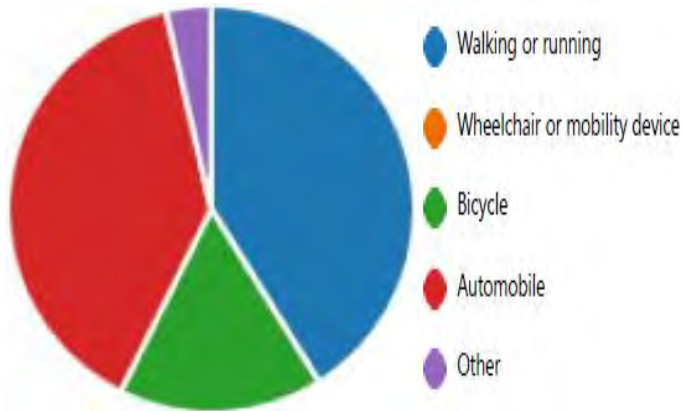
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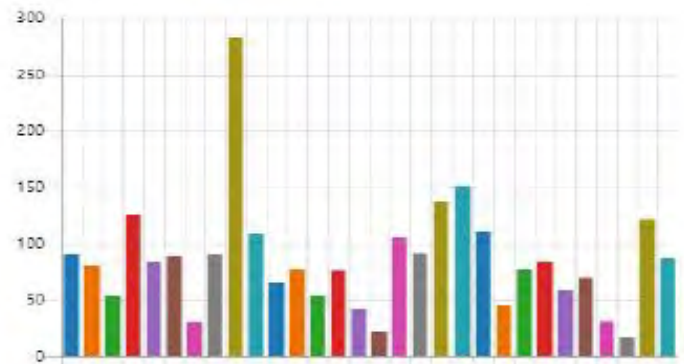
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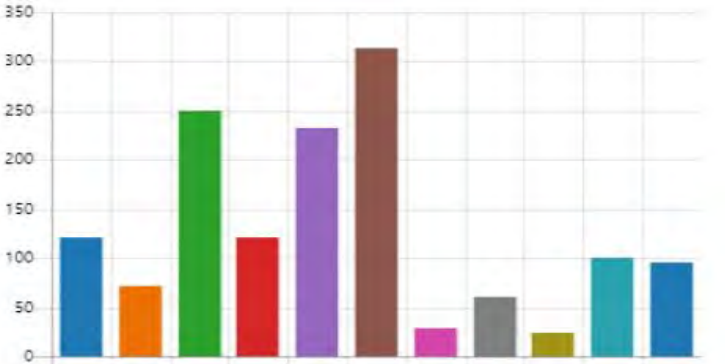
## How do you travel to Beaverdale Park?



## If you could choose certain amenities to INCLUDE in the new master plan design, what would they be?



## Which of the options below should be the focus for the new park design?

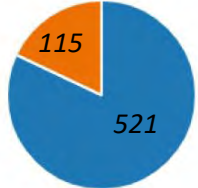


## Phase 1:

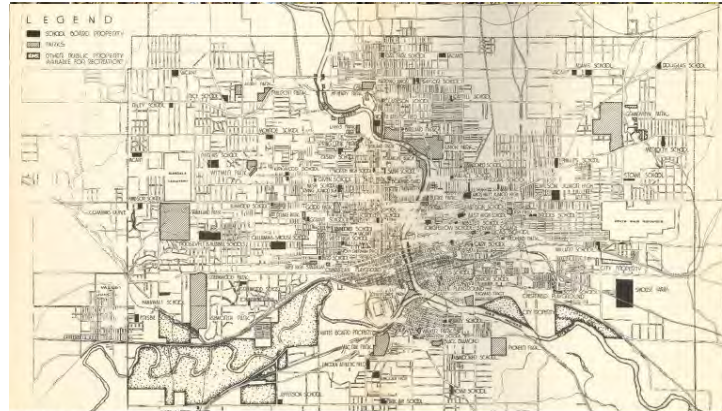
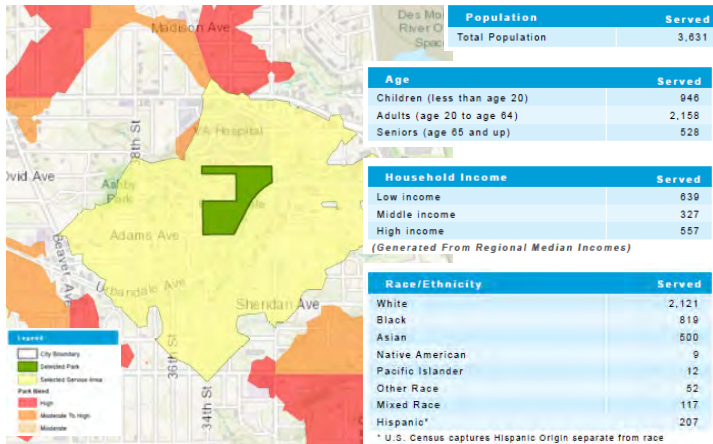
Online questionnaire was developed in the Fall of 2020. Residents provided input on existing uses, benefits of current conditions and areas of improvement, amenities to include and omit, priorities, preferences on design styles and materials, circulation within the park and connection to community, and parking needs

## Participants

82% : Resident  
18% : Non-resident



636 Responses



1940 Comprehensive Plan



## Phase 2:

The planning division analyzed all existing conditions within and around Beaverdale Park.

This process included: evaluating the surrounding parks and amenities, connection to the neighborhood and other communities, ParkServe information, history, site inventory, traffic analysis, and GIS (Geographic Information System) inventory.

The GIS work inventoried the park's soil conditions, slope, contours, plant community, visibility within and around the park.



## **Restoration Process:**

The master plan will begin implementation by restoring 20 acres of oak-hickory dominant woodlands and improving stormwater management.

The City plans to remove invasive species within the woodlands, opening the canopy coverage for improved light penetration by clearing invasive and overgrown weedy tree species, performing prescribed burns, native seeding for herbaceous vegetation, implementing stormwater management practices, and addressing stream bank erosion.

## Proposed Concept



### Concept Plan Legend

- Park Entrance Nodes
- Destination Area
- Slack Line and Hammock Areas
- Playground Area
- Picnic and Barbeque Area
- Fitness Area
- Outdoor Classroom Area
- Existing Signature Tree
- Woodland Wildflowers
- Open Lawn Area
- Woodland Restoration Area
- Waterway Restoration
- Shortgrass Prairie
- Park Boundary
- Inter-Urban Trail
- Woodland Trail
- Paved Walkway
- Shelter Location
- Sand Volleyball
- Access Over Waterway

## Proposed Concept



### Concept Plan Legend

- ★ - Park Entrance Nodes
- ⬠ - Destination Area
- ⬭ - Slack Line and Hammock Areas
- ⬭ - Playground Area
- ⬭ - Picnic and Barbeque Area
- ⬭ - Fitness Area
- ⬭ - Outdoor Classroom Area
- ⬭ - Existing Signature Tree
- ⬭ - Woodland Wildflowers
- ⬭ - Open Lawn Area
- ⬭ - Woodland Restoration Area
- ⬭ - Waterway Restoration
- ⬭ - Shortgrass Prairie
- ⬭ - Park Boundary
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## Proposed Concept



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# Beaverdale Park

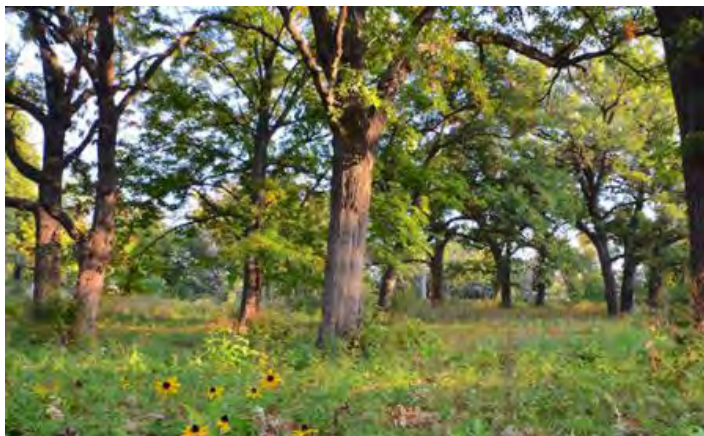
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## Precedent Images: Woodland Restoration



### Notes

- Oak-Hickory Woodland
  - Estimated 20 acres
  - Removal of invasive species
  - Open the canopy cover to increase amount of sun on ground plain
  - Prescribed burn
  - Native seeding to increase habitat quality
  - Improves sight lines within and around park
  - Creates low impact recreational/nature base opportunities

 - Woodland Restoration



## Precedent Images: Waterway Restoration



### Notes

- Stormwater Management
  - Estimated 3,500 linear feet of waterways and drainage channels
  - Bank armoring with natural stone rip rap to reduce further erosion damage
  - Construct natural stone weir walls and check dams to reduce speed of storm water runoff
  - Native seeding to improve water quality, habitat, and soil stabilization

■ - Waterway Restoration



## Precedent Images: Park Walkways and Woodland Trails



### Notes

- Paved Walkway
  - Accessible walking loop
  - Opportunity to experience most areas within the park and see into the woodlands
  - Defines the recreational areas and borders the natural sections for management purposes (prescribed fire breaks)
- Woodland Trail
  - To be aligned after woodland restoration project
  - Create a low impact path through the woodland

- ▭ - Paved Walkway
- ▭ - Woodland Trail




## Precedent Images: Shelters



### Notes

- Enclosed Shelter
  - Located where existing playground is to avoid any damage to park trees
  - Integrated restrooms
  - Area for large outdoor patio
  - Close to road for safety, and loading/unloading
- Open Air Shelter
  - Located near playground for safety and accessibility.
  - Additional rental opportunity
- Style to reflect community materials and area

 - Shelter




## Precedent Images: Picnic and Barbeque Areas



### Notes

- Large Group Areas
  - Multiple picnic tables and seating opportunities
  - Grilling amenities
  - Paved accessible areas
  - Close to parking areas for loading/unloading and visibility
- Smaller Group Areas
  - Single tables located within interior of park off the paved walkway
  - Grilling amenities
  - Informal flat areas

 - Picnic and BBQ Area



## Precedent Images: Outdoor Classroom



### Notes

- Area will create a variety of nature-based education opportunities
  - Include educational interpretive signage throughout the area for the flora and fauna, as well as the history of area
  - Natural materials
  - Interactive space
  - Rentable for small events
  - Programmed and unprogrammed use
- - Outdoor Classroom



## Precedent Images: Outdoor Fitness Area/Equipment



### Notes

- Large area for equipment or single items placed along paved walkway
- Area selected for a sense of privacy within the northern section of park's open lawn space
- Natural and fabricated materials to work with design concept and feel of park setting
- Paved walkway to serve as a walking loop

 - Fitness Areas




## Precedent Images: Slack Line and Hammock Areas



### Notes

- Avoid issues with damaging trees and other elements within park.
- Create safe designated spaces for activity and mounting.
- Active and passive recreation opportunity works inline with the design concept and natural feel of park setting
- First of its kind park improvement in the City of DSM

 - Slack Line and Hammock Areas





## Precedent Images: Park Entrance Nodes



### Notes

- Create physical and visual connections into the park from neighborhood and Inter-Urban Trail
- Signage and visual cues to direct people into park or inform visitors of near by amenities within or around community.
- Develop inviting and accessible connection to the Inter-Urban Trail off Adams Street

★ - Park Entrance Nodes




## Precedent Images: Playground Areas



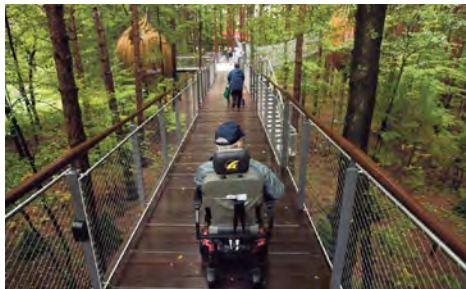
### Notes

- Natural play elements
- Work into existing topography and around vegetation
- Educational opportunities
- High visibility from a variety of spaces within and around park
- Create sense of adventure and exploration
- Unique experience for park and community
- Fun for all ages and accessible

 - Playground Area



## Precedent Images: Destination Areas



### Notes

- Overlook opportunities
- Swings and Seating
- Art, history, education, and interpretation
- Photography and nature viewing
- Increase visibility throughout park area
- Create sense of adventure and exploration
- Unique experience for park and community
- Fun for all ages and accessible

🔴 - Destination Area





## Beaverdale Park Master Plan Concept Questionnaire

Des Moines Parks and Recreation is taking steps towards finalizing the new master plan concept for Beaverdale Park, and we'd love your input! The questionnaire will be post online starting February 8th and will remain open until February 21, 2022. This will be the last opportunity for you to provide feedback to the planning division regarding the master plan concept for the park.

The questionnaire below covers some basic information, the concept layout, proposed amenities, design elements and vision, and the opportunity for feedback and preferences.

The estimated completion time for the questionnaire is 5 minutes.

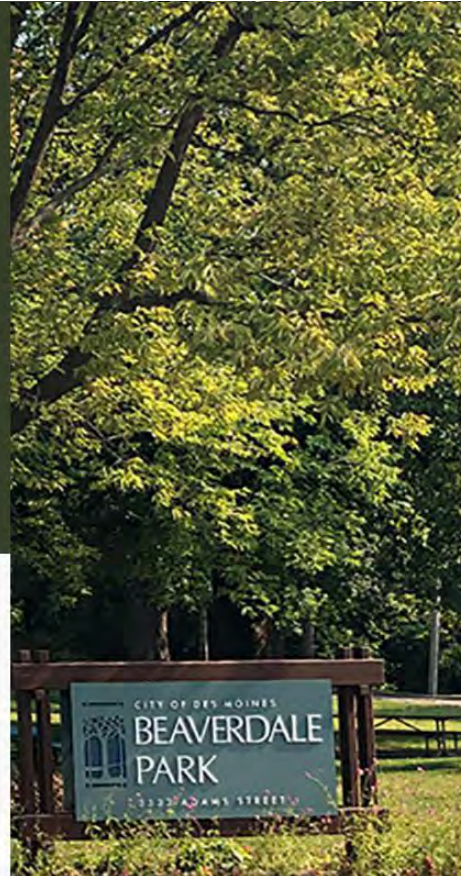
Project website: [https://www.dsm.city/business\\_detail\\_T6\\_R288.php](https://www.dsm.city/business_detail_T6_R288.php)

\* Required

1. Are you a resident of any of the following neighborhoods? \*

*Beaverdale, Drake, Lower Beaver, Prospect Park*

- Yes  
 No



<https://forms.office.com/g/7nUbeJEUcJ>

## Public Input

The questionnaire will be posted online from:  
**2/8/22 – 2/21/22**

Use the QR code below to access the questionnaire, visit the project page, or follow this link :

<https://forms.office.com/g/7nUbeJEUcJ>



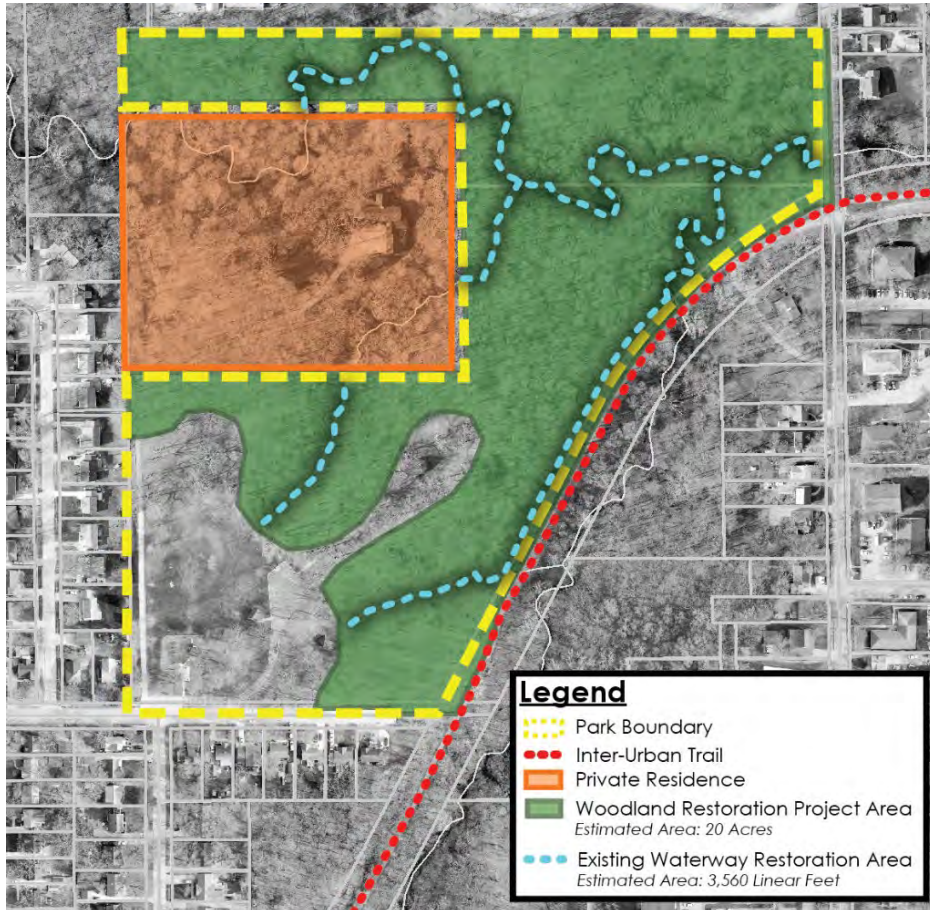
## Project Update: Woodland Restoration

The Parks and Recreation's division of planning and development applied for the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to assist with the woodland restoration project.

This project would be the start of the master plan implementation with restoration and site preparations for future enhancements and low-impact recreation use, such as outdoor educational spaces and granular soft surface pathways. This will accommodate environmental education programs, natural resource management, and providing access for the public to the natural woodland and creeks of Beaverdale Park. In addition, low-impact recreation use helps promote the protection of the woodland area and provides opportunities for stewardship of this natural resource.

The Parks and Recreation Department was notified that they were awarded the full funding of **\$300,000** towards the project.

- The City Council approved the grant agreement on 2/7/22
- Project will start late Summer/Fall of 2022



## Beaverdale Park Master Plan Project Links

### Master Plan Project Page

[https://www.dsm.city/business\\_detail\\_T6\\_R288.php](https://www.dsm.city/business_detail_T6_R288.php)



### Online Questionnaire

Posted online from: **2/8/22** – **2/21/22**

<https://forms.office.com/g/7nUbeJEUCJ>



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If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

*Project Manager contact information: [afgraves@dmgov.org](mailto:afgraves@dmgov.org)*

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