

## Imagine LaSalle March Online Feedback

Survey Open March 15<sup>th</sup> – March 24<sup>th</sup>

The online survey presented the draft design vision for the park through the images that were shown at in the presentation at the public workshop on March 13<sup>th</sup>, including the precedent images for each section of the park. Only the first image for each section of the park has been included in this document as a reference.



- I like the idea of keeping the space developed enough that there is something there but also that it can be multi purpose for it
- Boring.
- The pedestrian bridge looks like a good connector, I like that there are not a lot of roads but walkways and paths to promote a healthy lifestyle and safer area without the fear of speeding or unsafe drivers in a crowded & condensed area.
- I like the feel of the activities and the layout.
- Pedestrian bridge should be constructed to prevent access but ATVs. Sounds silly but it happens frequently now.
- This looks like a great idea for the 4th street area. This area of Buffalo in particular needs more attention and development. Safe and fun things for families to do are a great idea.
- I like the pedestrian access to the main park. This area doesn't seem like there is enough parking. And, there is too much open space. Since this area does not have direct lake views, put more ball fields and less open space here. Save the open spaces for the main park by the water. The pedestrian bridge should have ballards on both ends to prevent ATV's from utilizing. Should be only accessible by pedestrians and bicyclists.

- Make bridge crossing something iconic and world class. This becomes a gateway landmark to the park and downtown Buffalo. Can bridge be expanded with viewing area? Can a community center be introduced in this area to be a draw on this side of the park. Also is there anyway to visually or physically link to the Front Park?
- I like the space for activities and parking away from the water.
- This area is near the existing water park- currently there is not enough parking when we attend events at the Pumping station- there is a true need for parking in this corner of the park. Having attended events that use this area for overflow parking - Dyouville College - West Side Rowing- Buffalo Yacht Club....parking is needed!
- It looks really nice, but would need to be maintained, especially for mosquitos and ticks, etc, as we know this is an issue with standing water. NO ROAD from Lakefront Blvd. Also, closing the park from dusk to dawn would be helpful to keep the ATV's/Dirtbikes/off roading vehicles from tearing up the park.
- It is great to see this space improved and expanded. As immediately adjacent to the closest residences, this section needs to prioritize the needs of the Lakeview neighborhood and be extremely accessible to residents. There also needs to be emphasis on mitigating any pollution impacts in being close to Thruway.
- The strategy of using the 4th Street Park as a gateway and connection to LaSalle is very promising. The pedestrian bridge should make a statement in its form, similar to, but unique from, the effect of the bridge in Chicago's Millennium Park. Perhaps creating more of a wider land bridge would help to reinforce the connection and create a cohesive experience?
- Perfect. The pedestrian bridge is something that this area as needed for a while.
- Don't need basketball courts. There are plenty in the city and they are probably only 25% utilized. It's very important to have a fair and useful transition from the park to the neighborhood to the south. The best buffer would be open gardens and maintaining the berm presently there. A rose garden, with spring-blooming trees, would be nice. We are also concerned about whether the bike bath that starts/ends at the park's south end will become an open roadway. That will make Lakefront Blvd. a mess after events at Key Bank Arena and Canalside. Not saying there shouldn't be such a connection, but it should be done thoughtfully.
- Parking on 4th street makes sense. Pedestrian bridge is exciting concept!
- This new area, with the dynamic connection to the park, expands the opportunity for parking and access. Recreation and relaxation adjacent to residential area is a plus.
- Removing the current pedestrian bridge and making it dead simple to get between the two sections of LaSalle is very important.. How can we prevent people from throwing crap onto the 190?
- Public transit and share bikes would be a great addition.



- I like this part changing the splash pad is good idea. we could use a big fountain like Buckingham in Chicago to draw in tourists.
- I'd like to see many diverse tree species. In the style of Olmsted, buffer the park from the outside world, traffic, etc with trees, shrubs, no mow zones
- Splash pad/ water activity is amazing!
- Boring.
- The pool looks nice, but the additional slides and "water park" atmosphere along with a rock climbing wall sounds dangerous and a like a liability unless it's run by a private owner with a cost to use. My concern is without this company, it'll become abused and rundown without proper money to correct.
- Excellent but please make the activities and slides and equipment blend in, try not to crowd the area.
- great for active families
- I like it, how about adding a repelling wall.
- I think this section of the park is nice. It would be nice to see more activities for families and small events to take place there.
- I like most aspects of this section. The only thing I don't like is the pool, there are several other pools in the City, don't feel we need another. Leave this area more open for picnicking. Parking area may not be large enough. Is there a possibility of creating a parking lot on the end of Porter Ave and around the pumping station?
- This is the front door to the park, is a splash pad the best thing to greet visitors? How about a more grand space, a public porch with visitor center like governors island for food trucks and festivals. This is the only street edge to the park, make it count!
- Nice ideas

- I like the idea of a splash park, and skating area. Seeing there already is a pool there, would make sense to continue with that theme as an area for kids to play.
- Again- parking needed in this area please
- Love the looks of everything and appreciate that it is away from lakefront commons since we are constantly calling 911 to keep people from ruining the park.
- Good use of space
- This section should focus on activities that will be most attractive to those coming by car as it can handle the most amount of parking.
- I think we need a very large adventure playground. The first of its kind in Western New York.
- Building on existing investments and facilities to create an active play entryway along Porter is smart. It looks like this is already the case, but the conversion of the existing wall and ramps next the splash pad into sloped terrain would help to integrate Porter into the park more effectively. There should also be a prominent transition into the next section of the Shoreline Trail here. This is one of many transition points at which it is really easy to lose the trail.
- These activity spaces seem ideal. I would like more garden areas throughout.
- Any or all of these are wonderful. The park should focus on activities for children. The surrounding neighborhoods, being urban, lack recreational outlets for kids. Climbing, swimming, sledding, skate-boarding, are all good.
- Increased activities in this section with minimal parking looks good!
- Looks similar to the way it is now, with improvement through vegetation, addition of climbing, and placement of parking. The bus stop is a good idea. I wish that the Virginia- Carolina interchange somehow could be incorporated into the park as well.
- Really great start we have already. Would love to see a partnership with the pump house for tours/education. Maybe a small disc golf course could be set up somewhere? Would encourage play at other parks in the area.
- A partnership with the Pumping station would be great for education



- I don't really see that much area there for all this activity. I do like inclusion of the Pumping station. There is a group trying to open this for tours and heritage tours and could be used for indoor bathrooms.
- Dreadful.
- Very much like this area which includes a lot of sports areas free for the public to use.
- Excellent but please maintain a walking path through the area
- I love the utilization of lake side space that is otherwise empty and unattractive.
- I like it
- These images also something that might be needed in this area of the park. Making it more lively and more eventful for people to enjoy. More security and maintenance/clean up crews will be needed due to the attraction for more people.
- Overall observation - Trying to put too many fields/courts in this park which will create a parking nightmare. Why would you put courts directly on the water area when people are playing they are not enjoying the view. This should be a more passive picnic area. Also, is there any way to combine fields? Utilizing the same space for baseball/football or soccer (is this possible? do their seasons overlap?)
- I like treating this area more like a boardwalk. Are we sure that more access to the pumping station grounds isnt possible? This seems like a real missed opportunity to celebrate and reveal with interpretive elements the idea of gathering and dispersing water in the city.
- Hoping to see more access to boating on this side of the park- small sailboat docks etc. The canal is protected from the waves generated by Lake Erie....it is a great spot for small boat sailing
- reminds me of Brooklyn, Chicago, etc. would like to see a tennis wall....somewhere to hit the ball against a wall and exercise.

- Will picnic area so close to water create any issues with bird infestation, especially if people try to feed the birds? Concern of garbage blowing into water when windy, or purposely thrown into the water.
- There should be consideration of no vehicular traffic west of Pumping Station and have all vehicular traffic enter thru Centennial Pool roadway. Maximize space here for more boardwalk like activities and events.
- Looks great
- The smaller active recreation courts and picnic areas along the seawall are perfect. Do there need to be so many baseball fields? The strong active recreational makeup in the park currently is great, but it would be nice to find more of a balance spaces that aren't single use.
- Not sure about the perimeter, but looks like a good utilization of space.
- The key here is public access to sit, eat and relax beside the water. Look at Canalside. Even Erie Basin Marina offers some access. People want to be close to the water. To fish, to sunbathe. Handball, volleyball, great. But back from the water's edge. I'm less interested in "fields." Football, soccer, softball. How often, out of 365 days a year, will those fields be used? And who will maintain them? They'll become open space with little use. I'd also like to see a path that wanders around and through the park. We X-C ski in the park and also snowshoe. A path would be helpful.
- Love seeing the active spaces here. But what about the pedestrian and biking paths along the water? Hope that still is available.
- Tight but good increase of usage of the area west of the pumping station. Leaves a question of where bikeways are through this and other areas- should not they be designated more prominently? I mention this because I like the designations placed here, which goes a long way from the old standard of just plopping some picnic accessories in various places.
- Handball is great! How about paddle ball as well? Would be amazing with the breeze. Need to be able to keep traffic under control here! Sepak Takraw looks amazing
- Pickelball please! Need to control traffic



- Keep some of the old trees !! reuse the current pavilion it gives a focal point and looks good when you are out on a boat ride. it already has electric and bathrooms!!!
- Good space for concerts or festivals
- Unimaginative.
- Please do not take away the dog park to put more fields in. Unless you can guarantee additional leagues getting created to use these spaces - I don't see them nearly being used enough now by clubs to suggest more are needed.
- Perfect
- A definite improvement. I own 434 Lakefront which is on the cul de sac and shown in the upper right corner of this diagram. My home also borders the soccer field. For years myself and my neighbors have dealt with damage to our property(fencing) due to soccer balls, along with the unsightliness of garbage left behind my soccer players and park users, alike. Moving the soccer field back is a plus in my book. I also like the buffer of the proposed berm. I only question how high the berm will be and wonder if it will obstruct views? Ideally, I am hoping for a discontinuation of a roadway this far into the park. Speeding at all hours of the day and night has been a safety issue and a nuisance. A separation of roadway traffic from our neighborhood is a positive, as is a minimization of traffic affecting pedestrians utilizing green space in the park. Vehicles and pedestrians are not a healthy mix. Environmentally, the exhaust and sound pollution detracts from the beauty of a green space.
- I like the bowl and sledding area. Screening and better fences needed along residential properties.
- I think keeping this area more "natural" is the way to go. I'm thinking kind of like Central Park in NYC, adding too much to the whole area will make the waterfront less pleasurable and peaceful. It might even take away from the beautiful aesthetics of Buffalo's waterfront. Some people go

the park to relax and enjoy nature. If there are cars everywhere and constant noise of events, it will feel more like being right in the middle of the city rather than a park.

- I love the event bowl concept, sledding and the barkyard. Again too many fields which create parking nightmares. Possibly move the event bowl further to the right and the fields over to the left. There is not enough parking for all these fields and they should be condensed together more. Currently when there are games, even with diagonal parking people double park and you cannot get through easily. With this many field, the event bowl, etc. deep within the park, parking will be crazy and pedestrians and bicyclist will not want to contend with the vehicles.
- The event bowl and valley is a cool idea! Reminds me of prospect park in Brooklyn. I do think this area of the park is heavy with playin fields, can the amount be limited? Also could a pier element be introduced at the lake view area to create something unique to park and Buffalo. Some sort of light or beacon could mark the park from the lake. I would also like to see more architecture in this area. Pavilions, follies and boathouses
- I like the idea of keeping this area mainly green. An area to cross country ski, or kayak would be nice, with biking and walking trails but keep it natural where people can enjoy the water
- Again-small boat docks. We have many Kayak launches within the city limits but no small boat docks anywhere unless you are wealthy enough to afford a large dock.
- make a berm high enough to dampen the noise from the soccer fields and also to keep the park people from destroying the lakefront commons properties. They use my back porch as a goal...and kick the balls onto my back porch and against my windows. Also, destroyed our fence which we are responsible to replace at our own cost. Please remember though, too high a berm and we have no water view. Close the park dusk to dawn or it will be destroyed. Feel free to contact owners and spend a Saturday in June at their properties, especially at the cul-de-sac where soccer people destroy our property.
- Like that the barkyard has trees as current space does not, and offers no shade. Kayak area should offer plenty of room to allow for people to pull in and leave their kayaks on land if they want to explore park. Consider multiple entrance/exit launch platforms to avoid bottlenecks.
- Keeping vehicular traffic as far as possible from waterfront should be maintained as shown in this concept.
- Why not keep the existing pavilion?
- I love the bowl and valley. I think the experience of crossing the pedestrian bridge and looking down into that space will be one of the most powerful of the park. How can we make sure that the solution for a temporary/movable stage is elegant and functional? Additionally, what happens to the existing band shell? Can it be reused in some way for facilities?
- Nice. I would like to see more event space
- Whatever is done, the park should be an all-seasons, all-hours place. Sledding AND swimming. But it also borders a neighborhood and lighting should focus inward. A place for concerts would be good, but it should double as something else useful for the other seven months of the year.
- An event bowl instead of clamshell - yes! Winter sledding here is delightful ideas. Will it be possible to drop off kayaks for water access here so that they don't have to be transported too far?
- This area seems to appropriately be the heart of the park, with the drastic transition of elevations, the sledding hill, the event bowl and valley all leading us to identify with the water in a good, sequential way. The greater variation in contouring the better- the current park is simply



and dully a flat plot. The sound berm here and in the other areas are helpful also to set the "tone" for the new park. I place great importance to water access, and the lake views, so will trust that these features are executed in the best way.

- Wide sidewalks please! I would ride my bike over the bridge all the time, a dedicated lane would be ideal I think. Water access at this location of the park would be a game changer. It's pretty deep in most places, how about a small diving pier maybe? Agree with removing the aud. It's just too big for most use cases. Great pictures in this section!
- Rentals for paddle board or kayaks, maybe pedal boats even?



- We need to keep some of the old trees!! How can you have a centennial park and not have some mature trees. We don't want it to look so new and it takes a long time for trees to provide shade.
- Least favorite
- Boring.
- I do not like the idea of the wetland. It looks messy, overgrown, and like it's asking for bugs to collect there. The picnic and meadow areas look like nice ideas to make this area more peaceful and serene than the other areas of the park that are activity driven and louder based on concerts, games, etc.
- Very nice
- I would like to point out the park access at the upper right corner. There is a major blind spot when existing and entering Lakefront Commons. Better signage is necessary to avoid a car/pedestrian collision.
- I like it

- Again I feel similar about this area too as I did with the last section. If you over build it will just cause the park to lose its natural beauty. Canal side already has many of these features and it is very built up over there, and ongoing. I think LaSalle Park should be in the "less is more" category, keeping the majority of the park more on the natural side is the key. Too many people and too much traffic isn't necessarily always a good thing.
- I like the nature skating, picnic area and overlook. Please do not have road access from Lakefront Blvd. This road is already a hazard right at the curve where this diagram shows park access and the neighborhood is getting more development, so will be even busier. A road in this area would be a huge mistake. Currently people play pick up kick ball games and picnic on the grass in this area and ride bikes. This should be more passive activities, such as you have, but no roads. A road here needs to be reconsidered. Just look at the fight that is currently ongoing to get rid of the road that was put in the middle of Delaware Park years ago. This is 2019, we need pedestrian and bike access, not vehicle access.
- The wetland and skating area is nice, but wondering if this should be located more central to the park and paired with a warming lodge next to the sledding area. This area is the most disappointing for the project because of lack of road connection to Lakeshore Boulevard. I know residents don't like the idea but it may be critical to the usage and vibrancy of the park. Both the residential area and park are dead ends/ cul-de-sacs without strong connections to each other and the city as a whole. I worry without changing this, the park will lack proper access and people to add vibrancy. Also, no connection to canal side and Erie Canal harbor seems really shortsighted for such a lofty park project. Please reconsider this!!!
- I am opposed to ANY vehicle access from Lakefront Blvd. Another concern is maintenance of the meadows. 18 years ago we had a beautiful garden planted at the entrance to the park. Maintenance by volunteers was fruitless. The area became a mess of weeds and all that was left are the huge junipers that exist now. Who will be responsible for maintenance???
- I like the idea of skating and the green of the area, I disapprove of ANY road that would allow cars to access this area of the park. A road through this area of the park would be very dangerous to users of the park that like to bike, run, walk and picnic. I believe that cars and parking should be kept to one area of the park, and the rest of the park free to use without watching for traffic.
- Guessing this is near the Sea plane ramp. Please keep in mind we have a great deal of drift wood piles pushed up there every winter. The city has to employ heavy equipment not only at this area but also the beach at the Erie Basin Marine.
- Again, remember the Lakefront Commons people near the soccer fields are vigilant in trying to keep the park safe and calling 911 constantly in fears that the ATV's/Dirtbikes will run a person over. I fear this park will be destroyed. Close the park dusk to dawn
- Will planes actually be landing/taking off from the seaplane ramp? Concerned about noise pollution. The Lakefront Blvd access should be primarily for foot and bike traffic; car egress only when there are large concert type events.
- This section needs to remain car-free and as open as possible for natural space
- I love the outdoor skating
- I love the move of turning restoring a natural ecosystem here. I think it would be great to extend the softer lake edge even further down the sea wall. I would be concerned about the exposure

of emergency access ramp to the elements. It would likely need to have a bit more of a bulkhead to shield it a bit.

- Great
- Yes, this section should be gardens, paths, a butterfly and bird attraction area. It should also be the neighborhood to the south and east from the major activities in the park, whether that's concerts, football games, soccer, etc. We want to see an attractive transition from park to neighborhood at the south end. And, please be very thoughtful and deliberative about opening the south end of the park to cars. This will really jam up traffic leaving downtown events and crush the park itself with traffic. Cars/pollution/noise also conflict with the bucolic nature of what you are proposing for the south end. Water for birds and animal life, open areas for native plants, those that attract pollinators would be welcome. Also, this part should have great water access. Perhaps this is where you put the kayak launch. We use the old seaplane launch now. But you could create a lagoon at this end to feed the plants and animals and allow that, through a protective break wall, to be an entry/exit into the canal.
- Skating option in winter is a nice idea. Will the city maintain it, tho? Need that commitment. Garden images are beautiful. Need city commitment on that for maintenance, too.
- It looks like a great change to allow utilization, as well as a very aesthetic and nature oriented result for this area, which is a problem spot because of it butting up against the waterfront residence areas. Not clear whether the picnic- overlook- seaplane ramp area is soft access to the water or what? Also not clear what the emergency access means.
- My main concern is with keeping this section of water clean and free of debris. Nice touch reappropriating the plane ramp! Agree with no vehicle access through this section to Waterfront. I would like to see the Southeast entrance opened up more to encourage pedestrian traffic.
- Reach out to MAP Project for urban gardening opportunities??