

# WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

January 10, 2024

Agenda Item # 9

## Support for Community's Indication of Westwood Gardens Park Expansion and Revitalization

### MOTION

The Westwood Neighborhood Council expresses our strong support for a proposed expansion and revitalization of Westwood Gardens Park. Our commitment is rooted in the recent community survey (attached), which has provided valuable insights directly and indirectly related to park revitalization efforts including:

1. **Community Engagement:** The survey indicates high engagement, with all respondents living within 1-2 miles of the park. All respondents are parents of students at Fairburn Elementary School, and represented >10% coverage of parents with students at the school and thus representing a statistically significant sample size.
2. **Safety Concerns:** A continuing primary concern is the presence of homeless individuals at the Westwood Gardens Park, which raises safety and cleanliness issues.
3. **Improvement Suggestions:** Community members suggest adding swings, repairing the gate, planting trees, and constructing a soccer field.
4. **Addressing Homelessness:** Resolving homelessness issues is seen as a prerequisite for making other improvements effective.

Key survey results include:

1. **Larger play structure:** 80+% of respondents indicated a desire for a larger play structure at the park for older children.
2. **Reconfiguration for utilization:** 85% of respondents indicated that they'd like to see reconfigured seating for picnics, parties and other uses.
3. **Intent to Use Following Revitalization:** 60+% of respondents indicated they'd utilize the park more following changes to the park.

The survey results highlight the community's desire for a safe, clean, and family-friendly park. We believe that the revitalization of Westwood Gardens Park will not only enhance the quality of life for our residents but also serve as a beacon of community pride and engagement.

We urge Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky's office to consider these findings and support the park's expansion and improvement. Together, we can create a space that reflects our community's values and needs.