

Shared Use Recommendation Implementation

By Chapters

02-10-12

Chapter 2- Norms of Behavior

In the short term, the norms of behavior will be incorporated into the interim signage plan starting this summer. Signage that utilizes the language as outlined in Chapter 2 will be installed at approximately eight (8) locations which include entrances, bulletin boards and the visitor's center. As work progresses, the norms of behavior will be incorporated into the web site, brochures, programs and the long term signage program.

Chapter 3 –Communication, Education, and Outreach

Communications- We are in process of developing and implementing a comprehensive plan that addresses the issues and concerns outlined in Chapter 3 of the Shared Use Recommendations. While components of the plan, such as signage and website improvements, have begun to be addressed as noted below, the comprehensive communication plan continues to be developed and refined.

- **Website Overhaul** –The City is working with a contract website designer to improve the Cambridge Water Department (CWD) website. The website is being redesigned to be more user friendly and interactive for the public. The new site will be easier for CWD staff to maintain. This overhaul is intended to enable Fresh Pond Reservation users to more easily navigate the website to find information about projects, activities and events at Fresh Pond Reservation. The city is reviewing its IT policies with regard to municipal department use of Twitter and Facebook to provide information about city events and services. . The new website will be similar to the Cambridge Department of Public Works' site. We are currently at the 20% stage of the design process. We anticipate that the new site will be on-line in mid-2012. The project is intended to meet CWD, City Council, Water Board, Fresh Pond Advisory Board and the recent Share Use Plan goals.
- **Signage Plan** - An inventory of existing conditions has been completed and we are currently developing an interim signage plan that we anticipate will be completed by July 2012. Installation of interim signage, some permanent signs and the removal of damaged or obsolete signs will occur between July and December 2012.
- **Public Project Meetings** – in order to get more public participation, projects around Fresh Pond Reservation are now introduced to the public via general public meeting. The purpose of the first meeting is to inform the public about the goals of the project, to explain the existing conditions and then to receive input before the design process begins. As the process proceeds, for each project there will be additional general public meetings, as well as meetings with the Water Board, Fresh Pond Advisory Board and Conservation Commission, as necessary.

Chapter 4- Group Permit Guiding Principles

Permitting –The CWD staff has completed a draft group permitting process that is currently under review by the City.

Chapter 5 – An Approach to Areas and Uses at Fresh Pond

Kingsley Park – The recommendations from the shared use process for sharing different parts of Kingsley Park at different times of the year will be implemented as part of the Kingsley Park Site Improvements. The first public meeting, to present the inventory and analysis of existing conditions and the goals of the project, was held on December 7, 2011. The power point presentation for this project, which was presented at that meeting, is available on the Water Department website. The next meeting will be in April and the topics will be universal accessibility and storm water management. Additional public meetings will be held as milestones are achieved. We anticipate construction starting in 2013.

Fencing - Many of the recommendations in this chapter cannot be implemented until we have completed the fencing plan and have funding. The goal of this plan is to protect the natural resources at Fresh Pond Reservation. The plan will include existing conditions, priorities, design alternatives and costs. Plan development will start in the summer of 2012, with completion anticipated in 2013.

Chapter 6- Other Issues and Items

Non- Cambridge Dogs – The current City Ordinance requires that only licensed dogs belonging to Cambridge residents are allowed off leash in designated areas at Fresh Pond Reservation. Changes to the Ordinance would require further public process and City Council approval.

Poison Ivy – Developing a Poison Ivy control plan that we anticipate will be complete by November 2012.

Maher Park Youth Soccer Field – Cambridge Youth soccer teams have priority use of this field.

Enforcement and Rules and Regulations- Still working on this.

Other Paths- The Fresh Pond Reservation Pathways Improvement plan will be completed by September 2012

Data- The CWD has developed a Census Program to collect data on Fresh Pond Reservation usage. The program consists of counting people with two infrared sensors located on the perimeter road and conducting surveys near both the sensors. The program has been operating for a year and the data collected to date shows us estimated hourly, daily and monthly use patterns and counts, and characterizes and quantifies major user groups. This year, the counters will continue to operate and collect more data on weekend usage and more surveys will be conducted to ensure counter accuracy. Locating additional counters at locations such as major entrances to the reservation can help compare usage of major access points.

