

II.b.1 - Cater's Lake Park

COMMUNITY INPUT MEETING and SITE VISIT:

April 10, 2008

RECREATION SUB-DISTRICT PRESENTATION:

May 15, 2008 - Anderson Recreation Center

OVERVIEW:

Cater's Lake park is located between E. Greenville St. (Hwy. 81), Hiawatha Dr. and College Ave. It serves the City of Anderson as a community park providing picnic tables, some paved walking trails and a paved parking area. Cater's Lake is approximately 7 acres in size.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

One of the community's strongest desires was to see Cater's Lake become an entryway into the City of Anderson. In order to do this, suggestions were made to enhance the lake's edge near Highway 81 to create a promenade of trees entering the city. This promenade would serve as a buffer between the park and the highway to help protect people from passing traffic and reduce noise pollution in the park.

The community discussed the small "wetland" between the lake and College Avenue. There is a concern about the mosquito problem in the summer and they want to limit mosquito activity. Also, the re-naturalization of the lake edge gathers a large amount of trash and is a high maintenance area.

The citizens are open to selective removal of trees throughout the park to create more open spaces but would like to replace the removed trees with new trees or under story plants. At the same time the need for shade in the summer is a must and improved drainage of the open space needs addressing.

Picnic tables need to be distributed more evenly throughout the park and the addition of a shelter may be needed. Improved lighting conditions were discussed. Additionally, the completion of the walking trail around the park and the importance of maintaining handicap accessibility to the walking trail was also discussed.

Safety is a big concern in all parks. Lighting, as well as police and emergency vehicle access were discussed as possible solutions to these concerns.

DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS:

Cater's Lake signifies the entrance into Anderson from Highway 81 and our suggestion would be to enhance this sense of arrival. Primarily, this park needs beautification. We recommend beginning by filling the edge of the lake parallel to East Greenville Street. By doing this, space will be available for a walkway and street trees lining the road, which would form a promenade entrance into the City. This walkway would be a part of the walking loop encompassing the park. A large picnic shelter with a potential pier extending in the water would also be recommended since Cater's Lake has been voted the #1 place in Anderson to enjoy a picnic. We believe this can be enhanced even more with beautification of the entire park through selective tree removal and new plantings, as well as the restructuring of the retaining wall around the lake. We suggest enhancing the parking area along College Ave. by extending the area slightly and resurfacing the pavement. We would also suggest enhancing the walkway and entrance at the corner of University and Hiawatha Drives with a paved plaza.