

June 19, 2017

Baton Rouge Recreation and Park Commission Members:

We have reviewed, with Superintendent Carol McKnight, Phil Frost and other key staff personnel, the plan to repurpose Greenwood Park. We had the opportunity to ask a myriad of questions regarding this new plan.

We wanted to know what economic impact the new plan would have on the North Baton Rouge Community. For example how many jobs would be created in the construction stage and how many permanent jobs would be created; will minority businesses be included in receiving contracts to perform some of the work?

We wanted to know if the new plan would meet the recreational, social and culture needs of the community. That is, would it likely increase the use of the park by the community?

We wanted to know if the residents in the immediate area had been consulted, have they seen what is being purposed and what feedback had been received from them?

We wanted to know what would happen to the current employees at the zoo. Will they be displaced?

We wanted to know the cost of implementing the new plan and how it would be funded?

All of our questions were answered to our satisfaction. After the meeting with the staff, we held a discussion among ourselves to consider the new plan.

We believe the plan is well conceived, it meets the needs of the community, it will have a positive economic impact on North Baton Rouge, and it will encourage additional development in the area.