



BURLINGTON DISC GOLF

active recreation :: environmental stewardship :: healthy community

TO: Steve Allen, Barbara Nolfi, John Ewing, Carolyn Hanson, Dave Hartnett (Burlington Parks & Recreation Commission)

FROM: Brendan Bush, Mary Cosgrove, Steve Taubman, Adam Quinn, Charles Chamberlain, Ben Eisenberg, Richard Witting (BTown Disc Golf Club)

DATE: April 28, 2009

RE: Revised Proposal for Disc Golf in Leddy Park

This document will serve as a detailed description of the revised proposal being made by the BTown Disc Golf Club (BDGC) to install an 18-hole disc golf course in Leddy Park.

After listening to feedback, suggestions and input from Parks and Recreation Commissioners, the County Forester, the Disc Golf Working Group, and many local Burlington residents, the BDGC has revised our proposal based on many of these community driven recommendations. We want the process of bringing disc golf to Burlington to be as inclusive and positive as possible and consider this project and proposal a work in progress. We would be happy to modify aspects of our proposal further if requested by the Parks and Recreation Commission or Department and we look forward to a continued dialogue with community members in the effort to improve Leddy Park.

Leddy Park Course Mission Statement

We will design, install and maintain, at our expense, an 18-hole disc golf course that amplifies the multi-recreational history of Leddy Park. We wish to address the health of the forested areas our course touches, as well as create additional nature paths for recreational use.

Course Cost

We wish to bring this sport to Burlington using NO tax dollars. The course installation and its continued maintenance will be paid for with private funds raised by the non-profit BTown Disc Golf Club. Use of the disc golf course will be open and free to anyone at Leddy Park during park hours.

Course Design

We are not currently suggesting a specific course design. Based on community feedback, we propose a new course be designed in partnership with the Burlington Parks & Recreation Department, the Chittenden County Forester, a Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) approved course designer, and any additional partners such as the City Arborist which may be requested by the commission.

In addition, the community has made it clear that the course should be as "hidden" to the average non-golfing park user as possible. To accomplish this goal, we will follow a few specific guidelines listed below.

- Disc golf play must be no closer than 25 feet from all buildings, roads, and recreational areas.
- Course play must never cross bike paths, walking trails, roads or other designated recreational areas.
- All course edges will remain tree-lined and untouched with limited to no brush clearing. This will provide additional safety and decrease the visibility of the course for non-course park users.



BURLINGTON DISC GOLF

active recreation :: environmental stewardship :: healthy community

- Placement of hole baskets, course play, and tees will be chosen in order to specifically address the timely control and management of any environmental impact the course may have on the existing landscape.

Course Installation

The BDGC does not see a need to cut down any additional trees in the existing woodlands at Leddy Park.

We hear the community's worries about losing more trees from the Leddy Park woodland areas and we believe a new course can be designed without the need for more sapling removal. We ask that the Burlington Parks & Recreation Department, the Chittenden County Forester, and any additional partners which are requested by the commission, oversee the preparation and completion of areas involved in course play. No trees, plants, understory, or brush will be removed from the park without their express approval and supervision.

Course Maintenance

In order to address community concerns about environmental impacts and trash created by course use, the BDGC requests the assistance of the County Forester and any other appropriate authorities determined by the Parks and Recreation Department in identifying ongoing needs for environmental care. If needed, the BDGC will provide and maintain tree screens for tree trunks, wood chips for soil protection, or any other solution that will alleviate, minimize, or restore any negatively impacted areas of course play.

We will provide additional trashcans and coordinate regular park clean-up days to keep the areas around the course clear of trash and well-maintained.

Course Hole Baskets

We intend to use the super tough DISCatcher Pro brand of basket for disc golf holes in Leddy Park. Made from durable materials to withstand years of use and all kinds of weather, the DISCatcher is made from all stainless and galvanized materials for years of corrosion-free use. These long-lasting baskets are used widely on disc golf courses throughout the world. Each basket has a sleeve and locking assembly making for easy removal of baskets to close the course during mud season.

Course Tees

We intend to seek the advice and approval of the Burlington Parks & Recreation Department, the Chittenden County Forester, a PDGA approved course designer, and any additional partners requested by the commission to figure out what kind of tee pad would work best for the environment at Leddy Park. We're confident that the combined expertise in forestry and course design will lead us to the most appropriate solution, whether it is natural tees, paving stones, crushed stone, concrete, or another more creative approach.

Course Signage

We would like course signage to be as minimal, attractive and unobtrusive as possible. We will work with the Burlington Parks & Recreation Department, the Chittenden County Forester, a PDGA approved course designer, and any additional partners requested by the commission to figure out what signage should look like, where it is needed, and what park and course information the signage should contain.



BURLINGTON DISC GOLF

active recreation :: environmental stewardship :: healthy community

Additional Commitments

The BDGC has a commitment from Innova Disc Company to supply one local Burlington school with the Edge After School Program free of charge. The members of BDGC are eager to find other inventive ways to expose kids to this healthy and inexpensive sport whether through after-school programs, mentoring, or youth groups.

The BDGC considers this proposal a work-in-progress. We have found the many public hearings, the Disc Golf Working Group recommendations and much of the public feedback very helpful in revising the specifics of the original proposal from over a year ago. We value the input of Burlington Parks and Recreation Commissioners, Burlington Neighborhood Planning Assemblies, and members of the greater Burlington community and wish to work together if needed to improve this proposal and address any other concerns.

About Us

The BTown Disc Golf Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit all-volunteer community group formed specifically to bring disc golf to Burlington.