



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 27, 2018

**Location:** DNR Office – Govt Center

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Bob Bronson

**Interviewee Contact Information:**

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**What do you do? DNR** - Enabler of trails, parks, and land conservation. Works with SCORP. Surveys, public input. Oversees grant staff working with funding sources. Focused on making the outdoor recreational work accessible to everybody. Over 20 years of experience. Personal – biker, hiker, trails, boats. Has used the ramp, gone to concerts, attended meeting of trying to connect BRV to park

**What would make BR a better park?** – park has nice green space, may be underutilized, has some concentrated areas and green space. The # 1 activity in IN that is promoted is bike and walking trails. Has worked with parks that have done loop trails along the outside or along the water.

**Boat ramp used how?** – Went on a paddle boat, floats, but not often. Usually enters at Art museum and head towards Rocky Ripple. People like being on water, seeing water. That’s an advantage.

**Shifting of boat ramp, possibly upstream – not connected to the park– your thoughts?**

- Advantage – people floating that section, would lengthen the float a little
- Easy access to get in, but need access to get out
- Maybe put down further so folks can do a mile or two float (7miles is average day float)
- Must have accessible parking and access to the top of the ramp
- Anything that will promote being on the water will be a positive
- Make it not too steep so the handicap can access (make it friendly)

**Communities that have done well with creating good access to water?**

- Canoe launch on Eel river in Logansport
- Ramps on the Ohio River – extensive dock systems
- Grandview IN – dock system (been a while ago)
- Small canoe launch in Zionsville

- Suggest a universal design with a courtesy dock that will allow someone to carry their boat down. Create a ramp for canoeist as well as motorized.

***Is there someone with floodway expertise that we should talk to?***

- Division of Water - Floodway
- Jamie Smyth in Fish/Wildlife (ramps)

***Are there any trends that are creative that we should be thinking about?***

- People like water, but afraid to get in natural water. Spray pads/splash pads are becoming more popular.
- Trails are wanted by small and large communities, very popular.
- Pickleball courts (#1 growing recreational game)

***What makes a great park?***

- Difference between a passive and active park or combination of the two.
- Something everybody can use in the sense of accessibility.
- A trail would be great to have.
- Sense of community
- Access to water (natural or built environment)
- Encourages people to be outdoors and active
- No entrance fees
- Minimal equipment needed
- Diverse – melting pots

***What do you think sustains a great park?***

- Public support – people take for granted that parks operate themselves
- Community/Neighborhood ownership



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 27, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Bruce Buchanan

**Interviewee Contact Information:**

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**Tell us about yourself and your connection to the park** - Funeral home built in 1955. Family goes back to the 1820s. Attended BRHS, grew up in the area. Never used the park that much. Park hasn't changed that much over the years. Thinks of BRP as a park for dogs and kids.

### **What have you heard the neighborhood saying about the park?**

- Involved in Riverwalk project. People are ecstatic about that.
- Park activity but no interconnectivity
  - Nice to connect the park and enjoy the beauty
  - Connect more families back into BR and the city
  - Make a tourist destination – a lot of natural splendor
- Park needs to be family/dog oriented
- Don't need a hiking park because we have 2 other hiking parks near by
- Suggested moving park form the front – it gives the illusion that that is the only thing there
- Thought road went through, tried to drive through, but couldn't see a lot of the park by car
- Gateway – scaled down

### **Other communities that have done a good job?**

- Couldn't give local examples of but recommended Columbus OH
- Milwaukee WI (Lake Park)

### **What makes a great park?**

- Urban parks – diversity
- Thinks what we have is pretty good
- Café or restaurant (maybe not inside park but close)
- Bike rentals
- Paddle boats

**Thoughts on Broad Ripple Arts community?**

- River Walk project will have a large art component to it
- Bring the park, River Walk and The Village together through the arts
- River Walk Project - Asking for 10M from Lilly Fund. Looking to install a dramatic center piece (dramatic signature type of piece on Broad Ripple Ave)

No relationship really with the park from a business perspective, just wants to see the best thing happen. Recommended we speak to Neil Bennett (BFS).



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 27, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/David Hillman

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-231-9203

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***What prompted you to agree to our interview?*** Was involved in the Riverside Park Master Plan Citizens Steering Committee.

***What do you think of when you think of Broad Ripple Park?***

- White River
- Dog Park
- Thriving area

*BRP is a lot like Riverside was, a lot of wear and tear and gone downhill. No longer meeting the needs of the community.*

***What makes a great park?***

- Accessible to all people (ages, interests, abilities)
- Broad amenities
- Trails, walking trail, enjoy nature, fun playground, aquatic center
- Out of the box type of playground equipment (kids want more than the traditional)
- Family oriented (picnics, concerts)
- Safe environment
- Environmental education (programming) for kids

*Haven't really used the park. Lives in Zionsville. Partners for White River is investing \$5.5M over the next 3 years to clean the river, make it more accessible, etc. White River Master Plan will be prepared.*

***Importance of River?***

- Environmental side – it's a hidden gem, piece of nature in the middle of a city
- Underutilized natural resource

- Could be more of a recreational place

***Ideas on how they connect with the river...***

- Plans on getting people down to the river, bike trails
- Place to get on river with canoes
- Some opportunity to put trails in for those who don't want to be directly on the river

***What do you think can be added to the park?***

- The idea of a River Walk – plan should be to connect to Broad Ripple
- Pedestrian bridge to connect those on the other side of the river to the park

***Partnerships you can see as great opportunity for BRP that we should be talking to?***

- Master Plan for White River
- Reconnecting to our Waterways
- Friends of White River
- Indianapolis Arts Center

***What should be done (opportunities/issues) to sustain a great park system?***

- Funding (Friends group/Parks Foundation)
- Maintaining improvements (endowment)
- Businesses wanting to have a connection to the park

***Any suggestions on other groups or individuals we should speak to?***

- White River Alliance – Jill Hoffman



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 27, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/John Pantzer

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-437-3997

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### ***What prompted you to agree to our interview?***

Was involved with Riverside Park Master Plan. Indianapolis is losing out on adult sports. His company uses IUPUI, Park Tudor, and other sports fields but would utilize BRP much more if enhancements were made.

### ***What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?***

- Most underutilized in whole Indy Parks system
- Ball diamond should be lit
  - Can repurpose the 4 BRHS football lights
- Baseball field would be a phenomenal turf surface
- Walking trails
- Grant money can be applied for if save a historic bridge
- Lease old DPW work station (permanent bathrooms)
- Recycling is important element but it could be positioned where you can drive in, loop around and drive out.
- Would love to add fenced sand volleyball (possibly behind tennis courts) – currently not safe due to debris in sand
- Drainage is not great on the diamond
- Would rent more often if diamond was turfed and lit

### **Facilities needed in support of athletic programming (Old DPW bldg.)?**

- Have a small office to do programming (approx. 2000 sf)
- Better bathrooms
- Potentially not-for profit organizations would rent office space
- Could use storage space

***Recreational sport opportunities on the river?***

- Rowing & kayaking
- Paddle boarding

***What is hindering you to use BRP more?***

- Not lit (uses Park Tudor at night)
- Currently runs flag football, would run soccer and kickball if better surfaces
- Could program it 8 to 10 hours a day - 7 days a week

***The field users are from what areas?***

- 20-25% on bike, 20-25% driving from close by

***Other sports or recreational opportunities that are underserved in Indianapolis?***

- 18K participants per year
- Only limitation so far is space
- Diamond is popular because of location
- Flag football is still in demand
- Would put kids in flag football if field was turf (current field has dips, not safe)

***Partnership?***

- Would be interested in partnership. Give X amount of dollars for little or no rent.
- Would like to sit down to discuss how to make the partnership work.
- Could generate more income if could use later into the fall
- Open to looking at partnerships on the field and sand volleyball courts also
  - Minimum of 2, but would like 4
- Would look at doing some events (large theme parties)

***What would it take to make Broad Ripple Park a great park an even greater park?***

- Opportunity for band and/or music events
- Festivals
- Pool is dated
- Wooded area can be made into a really neat nature area
- Auxiliary or different surface for dog park (longer/narrow)
- Another big shelter
- Parking in back is tight, not a lot of it
- Enhancements/Additional features would make it more attractive
- Beep Ball





## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date: March 27, 2018**

**Location: Project Studio**

**Interviewer/Interviewee: Joe Mayes/Mark Dougherty**

**Interviewee Contact Information: 317-409-5041**

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### **How do you use the park?**

- Use for 80% business, 20% recreational (waterski)
  - River has gotten cleaner over last 20 years
- Ramp is wonderful
- Slab and ramp extension is nice
- Uses boat ramp, on an average, 3 – 4 times per week
- Other users that use it as much
- Recommends parking spots for boats
- Ramp is a hidden gem

### **How far up do you go up the river?**

- Up to power line (about a mile to 1.5 miles)

### **Relocating Ramp thoughts?**

- Hard to replace – it is in a “self-cleaning” space now
- Angle of ramp is a plus
- Ravenswood area is very shallow, shifts sandbar big left and right, challenging section
- He only uses this ramp, best ramp in central IN because of angle and easy access

\*\* Would be interested in doing fairs, boat fest, etc. Have gone out on boat to listen to concerts in the past.

### **Other users we should talk to?**

- Fishing club

### **Things that would make boat ramp nicer?**

- Fix erosion along the shoreline

### **Communities that have done a great job w/ boat ramps and drawing in community?**

- Louisville (larger body of water)

## Broad Ripple Park Discussion Notes

### EXISTING ITEMS

- Paths- hopefully it's obvious
- Recycling - hopefully it's obvious
- Maintenance buildings
- Lift Station – back of park concern - lighting
- Parking separated and confused
- Building facilities
- Condition of Fields -
- Tennis courts – great. Well used.
- Playground – hopefully it's obvious
- Fencing
- Dog park

### NEW ITEMS

- **River** – engage and preserve
- **Connectivity** – park is split in two. Type of paths. Evanston edge
- **Underused shaded areas** – park does not have much park space
- **Event Space** -
- **Connection to village**
- **Topography**
  
- Cycling supporter, seems like a good hub location

WILLIAMS



## **BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT**

**Date:** March 29, 2018  
**Location:** Project Studio  
**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Ashley Parker  
**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-643-7149

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### ***What is your connection to the park?***

Resident of Broad Ripple (57<sup>th</sup> & Keystone). Frequents area a lot. Like to ride bikes. Has 2 dogs. Not members of dog park because of the condition. Have been a member of the dog park in the past.

### ***How do you currently use the park?***

Doesn't use a lot. Excited about the changes and would use a lot more. Looking to be able to use it more. Use to live downtown and visited White River State Park often. Walked along the canal, rent the boats.

### ***What would you like to see or hearing from other people?***

She would like to stay in this area when they start their family. Likes how Fishers (Nickle Plate area) is set up with amphitheater, love the idea of moving farmer's market to the park. Would like for one area to hit more than one spot. For instance, go to farmer's market then sit in park to enjoy items just purchased. Park is currently very compartmentalized. Feel people could come to park for multiple reasons.

### ***What creates a great park?***

The feeling of community. Doesn't think of parks as spending time alone. Would like to have opportunity to meet new people. For instance, Washington park in Denver has tons of volleyball, pick up soccer games, bike trails. Has a neighborhood feel.

### ***Any amenities missing?***

An outdoor amphitheater. The park seems like a wide-open space, doesn't feel very warming. Dog park needs a huge overhaul/renovation. She has dog with long hair, would always be covered in dirt after leaving the dog park. Sporting courts that are easy to maintain. Hope changes are sustainable. Botanical gardens, garden area where people could bring their lunch and sit and relax, something bright and colorful (flowers and art work).

Loves the murals and art, pretty place to enjoy. Concessions (local brewery on the weekend), opportunity to bring in local businesses.

Food trucks are great, not sure if best in the park. Possibly highlight a certain business each weekend.

***Anything sacred currently about the park?***

No, not really. Adding a signature park will be a great addition to BR. It will increase values of homes in the area.

***How do you connect to BR?*** From street, go to Monon then go up and down the Monon. Would like to see designated bike paths throughout the park, walking trails.

**Community development – Any social programs or partnerships that we should think about or pursue?**

If there is a park pass, we could partner with local businesses or communities to give their residents a free park pass. The pass could give them access to the dog park, exclusive events for park pass holders. People like perks.

**Any specific amenities residents ask for?**

People today are very pet focused so dog parks are in high demand. Green space is well used.

***Programming?***

Allow pets to use pool on pool closing day, pet happy hours, bring in mobile groomers.

***Most important thing to focus on for BRP?***

Doesn't think there is just one, but as a park overall it needs to be a more vibrant and welcoming place to be. One of the reasons she doesn't frequent the park is because it isn't a fun place to be. There isn't a lot to do. It seems very run down. The overhaul idea is great and will be better than what is going on right now. Make the entrance more grand. Making it easy for people walking or biking.

***Connecting to the river?***

Likes to kayak and paddleboard. Possibly create an area to float on the river. Would rent kayaks if available.

***Would you consider being a member of a fitness center/aquatic pool?***

Yes, if there was a fitness center, we would definitely consider being a member.



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 29, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Keeanna Warren

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-605-8092

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### **What prompted you to agree to our interview?**

When came to open house really excited about the concepts and new ideas. Just put in application to be chartered by the Mayor's office. Target area is the north side of Indianapolis. (Purdue Polytechnic High School) Stem based high school focused on design challenges. Currently in The Union Building. Would be interested in partnering with Indy Parks to use the facilities.

### ***What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?***

- Overall really impressed with park, been able to utilize herself.
- Can bring her kids and have a good time.
- Feels it is very safe
- Loves the commitment that Indy Parks has to the city and overall providing great parks

### ***What do you see as a long-term vision for Broad Ripple Park including uses, improvements, support, etc.***

- Upgrades to playground area
- More modern amenities
- Likes the play surface in Monon Center, kids don't get hurt if they fall down

### ***What makes a great park?***

- Cleanliness
- Safety
- Usable
- Welcoming
- Wow factor

Would love to see the pool improved to compete more with the Monon Center. A lot of Indpls folks go to Carmel to swim.

**Admissions to the park?**

- Can be appropriate but should be equitable so that lower income homes won't be excluded.
- Believe in subsidizing. If you live in neighborhood, should get some type of discount.

**What should be done to sustain a great park system?**

- Community investment, people being proud of the park
- Strong oversight
- Great maintenance

***Other comments/thoughts?***

*Integrated learning* into the park.

Other Parks: Hamilton County, Monon Center



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 29, 2018

**Location:** KrM

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Kevin Montgomery

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-777-6494

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### ***What prompted you to agree to our interview?***

Has lived close to the park for a couple of years (new construction), on Friends Group. Chose location of home due to the park. Figuring they would improve it eventually.

### **What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

- Gained a lot of knowledge from Tom, a lot of positive info
- Attended a lot of meetings and started compiling list of complaints.

### **What do you see as a long-term vision for Broad Ripple Park including uses, improvements, support, etc.**

- Paths/trails. Biggest shock, can't push a stroller through the park. Can't cut diagonally through the park.
- No sidewalk or safe route to get into park from Dawnbury
- Recycling – park doesn't need extra traffic, need to find a better location (not in park setting)
- Lift station is up against a neighborhood (smells) – sees truck every couple of months
- Lights on all night
- Condition of the fields. Feels the assets in the park are pretty accurate. They all get used a fair amount.
- Sees a lot of use in baseball and flag football fields. Not really available for the community as the Indy leagues use them all day on the weekends.
- Tennis courts get good use
- Better parking and connection to the rest of the park
- Playground (obvious) – equipment is dated. Too much shade, keeps dirt on it more
- Fencing location is poor

- Dog park – good size, location makes sense
- Pool – use to utilize, but now goes to YMCA for pool and Ravenswood for splash pad
- Good transition to the river (BR should be top place in Indy for river access)
- Have more a boardwalk feel
- Should have a cycling focus to have a connection point to Monon
- Too many big trees, bad grass

***How do you feel about a thru connection for cars?***

- Thinks it is a terrible idea. But it would be okay if slow and controlled enough.

***What makes a great park?***

- Always water and topography
- Open rolling lawn areas
- Maintenance
- Invitingness (melting pot)
- Nice hardscaping

***Do you use the family center?***

- Has done soccer at the park
- Nature program
- Music in the park

***Any amenities or programs that we need to make sure we include/keep?***

- Recycling should not remain

*Art in the park identifies with the neighborhood and will blend in. Should be removable and be changed every 5 to 10 years.*

***From an architectural perspective, is there a local vernacular that we should follow?***

- Could be very new and very modern
- More open architecture
- Would set bar really high

***Other parks you recommend we look at?***

- Denver Park (Wash Park?)
- Cincinnati Park





## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** March 29, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Tom Healy

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-531-0946

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***Talk about your involvement and/or interest in community development and how parks fit into this.***

Tom shared the notes on Envision Broad Ripple.

Community is the experts. River Walk has been in conversation for 30 years. Park is important and deserves its own Master Planning effort. Sees this as an augmentation of Envision Broad Ripple.

**What are some existing features or uses that the community would consider sacred?**

- Acreage of woodland the community would not want to see anything happen to
  - Management plan to make sure this stays healthy and maintained
- People really like the boat ramp. Great access to the river. Centrally located for several neighborhoods.
- Connection to park for surrounding neighborhoods (enter park, go through to BR Ave)
- Bike/walk path along the river
- Thinks we should keep the recycling – enhance it so it doesn't appear like a junk yard.
- People like the picnic shelters
- Kid's playground
- Propose having larger neighborhood functions (block parties, festivals) in the park
- Events should be family friendly and appeal to the locals
- Has heard people wanting to bring the library back to park
- Community center is a challenge with functionality, needs a maintenance presence
  - A 3 or 4 story facility in current space will be reasonable, would need to be a high performance, green elements (i.e. Eskenazi), aesthetically pleasing, well planned landscaping that create a calm, welcoming atmosphere
- Multi-modal accessibility
- Having a healthcare partner would be perfect, very compatible with a parks facility

*There is a real sense of ownership that the adjacent neighbors and neighborhoods have. Came through really strong in Envision Broad Ripple.*

**Things we would be remised to leave out (amenity or program)?**

- Connectivity of River Walk
- Accessibility for everyone (walking, bike, stroller pushers, wheelchairs)
- Multipurpose space that could accommodate a home base for BR Farmer's Market
- Do not pave over current green space
- Use of permeable paving instead of asphalt/concrete
- Dog park is super popular, but hard to maintain, turf can't recover
- Seeing Evanston as a complete street will be fantastic

*Thinks Culbertson Ditch opens a lot of possibilities for infrastructure. Needs some work, some engineering. Could be a more landscaped experience. Needs beautification.*

*Every park has its own unique investment that shows pride in our place.*

**Other groups or businesses we could talk to about partnerships?**

- Friends of BRP
- BRVA
- Any business up and down BR corridor

**What makes a great park?**

- More trees
- Bank erosion

**Other parks we should visit?**

Charleston SC River Walk



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** April 2, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Todd Morris

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-255-7275

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*Joe gave Todd an overview of the master plan process.*

**What prompted you to agree to our interview?** Lives in Oxbow and office is in Broad Ripple as well.

**Talk about your involvement and/or interest in community development and how parks fit into this.** Professionally in commercial real estate since 1995. Has current redevelopment project in Broad Ripple. Manages 12,000 parking spaces in Indy including BR structure.

**How has the parking garage been used?**

Usage has gone up and up every month. Daytime parking is okay, but at capacity during the weekend. There is a "free" parking in Broad Ripple. Vogue is now managed by Live Nation. Events have increased so has the use of the garage.

**What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

Currently uses dog park. Has 2 kids (17, 14), but used the playground a lot when they were small. Has not done a lot of swimming at the pool. Belongs to Meridian Hills.

**What kind of things would kids want to do in the park?**

One child is a soccer player. They use Grand Park a lot. Doesn't feel BR is up to scale. They practice at Incredi-Plex.

**What is your perspective on the park?**

Current project is putting in a trail from Monon to the river (along Riviera Drive). Will have a look out point. Would like a connectivity to the park. Trail will drop in on Broad Ripple Ave. Feels like there needs to be more of a draw to the park. Doesn't want to build a connector that won't have a draw for traffic. Feels that Monon center has unique things (wave pool). There are amenities in the suburbs that would be nice to be pulled into this area.

**Would a partnership with a membership to tenants be attractive?**

Yes, absolutely. Looking to work a deal with LA Fitness or the YMCA, but if there was something closer, that would be a no brainer.

Another thing would be getting people on the river. Nobody sees the river. People are impressed and can't believe it is there.

**What makes a great park?**

More paths, more look outs

Water Taxis

Docks (marina)

Paddle Wheel Boat – simple rides up and down the river

Outdoor movies

**Take on WARMfest and that size of an event?**

Started too big. Could've been a one-day event and then grown to 2 or 3-day event. Drew a ton of people to the park. Event was spectacular. Music went to about 10pm.

- Farmer's market would be great in the park. Public visits the market but then get in car and go home. They don't engage with the village or the park.
- Park needs a significant upgrading
- Figure out what does work and then what actually can be done

**Other comments/thoughts?**

A lot of history at BRHS, would hate to see that be torn down.

Greatest thing about dog park is people can see it. Entrance needs to be engaging.

**Anything in BRP that is considered sacred?**

No, doesn't think so. Doesn't think anything is untouchable.

**Partnerships?**

- Would recommend speaking to larger developers
- Browning Investment
- John Hart (Park 66)
- The better the park is the more people will be drawn to their developments. Could push BRP as an amenity.



## **BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT**

**Date:** April 4, 2018

**Location:** Broad Ripple High School

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Phil Shults

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-693-5700

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**What prompted you to agree to our interview?** Principal of BRHS, lives 1 mile from park.

### **What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

The dog park is strong focus from an adult perspective. When daughter was younger, split time evenly between Holliday and Broad Ripple Park. As a runner, loves the loop in the park. Will do laps round the park. Uses the baseball field for school's baseball team. Daughter took classes when younger (ballet, dance).

**What do you see as a long-term vision for Broad Ripple Park including uses, improvements, support, etc.**

- Skate Park
- Access of White River (trail by the river)
- Updated playground
- Connection to the Monon
- Keep element of antiquity (history)

**What makes a great park?**

- Greenery
- Landscaping (flowers, colorful)
- Slides accessible both children and adults
- Family atmosphere
- Pavilions (covered)
- Toddler area
- Dog friendly, pet friendly
- Annual community events, that become part of the tradition of the community
- Affordable programs for kids
- Place to sit, read, relax, enjoy scenery

- Café, beer garden
- Splash pool

**What amenities would a teenager like to see in the park?**

- Setting up focus group for April 10<sup>th</sup> – Details TBD

**What issues are associated with Broad Ripple Park?**

- Restroom facilities (old/outdated)
- Maintenance

**Any partnership/advocates for the park?**

- Bill Foley – very active in BR (Photographer)
- Any of the running companies
- Advertising on the River Walk (income generator)



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** April 10, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Barbara Wilder/Tom McCain

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-259-4193

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**What prompted you to request this interview?** After attending the last open house, realized how the Farmer's Market could benefit from the new design. Wanted to meet to share what the market includes and what it takes to run the market.

85 spaces at the peak of the season.

Tents are 10 x 10

Vendors are turned away (mostly due to commodity)

Entertainment (elevated platform would be great)

Space for cooking demonstrations

Vendor parking – currently park behind the tent, some work out of their vehicles.

In climate weather – if fast approaching storm, vendors need a place of safety.

Some type of covering (i.e. Bloomington Farmer's Market)

PA system for announcements

Power – most vendors bring small generators.

Current set up has no running water – vendors have to bring own handwashing stations

Bicycle racks – Need lots

Having splash park near Farmer's Market is appealing

Fee structure – FM is not for profit

Fees are low intentionally because business is low margin. There is some room to increase the fee.

**What size will allow for growth but not too big?** Room for 100 spaces.

BRHS will be the home for this year.

Currently no issues with security



## **BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT**

**Date:** April 10, 2018

**Location:** BRHS Conference Room

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Teen Focus Group

- Michael (12<sup>th</sup>)
- Gabriela (9<sup>th</sup>)
- Jalisa (9<sup>th</sup>)
- Alexis Adams (9<sup>th</sup>)
- Elijah (12<sup>th</sup>)

**Interviewee Contact Information:** Phil Shults/BRHS Principal

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### **What parks do you go to?**

- Michael Coke: Garfield, Rhodius, Broad Ripple (lives by Indy Go), Monon Center
- Gabriela: park by the IMA
- Jalisa: Holiday park
- Elijah: Dewberry & German Church

### **What's your viewpoint on Broad Ripple Park?**

- BRP has a lot of "dog stuff"

### **Would do pick up sports?**

- Would do pick up baseball and football, basketball

### **Pool?**

Pool doesn't have an area for kids.

Lazy river

Slides

Diving board

As of now, we don't use the whole park, but the baseball team practices at the diamond and uses it as their home field. The tennis team uses the tennis courts to practice.



### **Vision**

Picnic area, shelters

Enclosed area to rent for party

Area by the river for sitting

Paddle boat rental

Gun range

Food places in the park - food trucks, concession stand.

Larger playground area

Paintball

Floating for river

Art classes

Music

Free concerts

Lighted trails

Rec room (ping pong, pool table, video games)

Free movies in the park

Doggy bag posts throughout park

*Transportation to parks is mostly driving or walking*

### **Nature trails?**

Broad Ripple is a busy area so you don't get the quietness as other parks, but nature is appealing.

Would go to nature center if indoors

### **Free time spent?**

Netflix, sleep, video games



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** April 12, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Brian Payne

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-634-2423

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**How do you use Broad Ripple Park?** Haven't used the park. Uses the Christmas tree drop off. Of any asset in Indy, certainly in the top 5, there is a big gap in the potential of this park and the reality of this park. Child is 19 now, but when he was smaller, use to play on the playground. At that time didn't know the river was there. There was nothing there to draw him in. The park is a silo with no connections.

### **What makes a great park?**

First of all, how can we really engage the river with this park. There is no dynamic engagement with the river. New York City, Europe, one feature in these parks is food and beverage. Sit, have a glass of wine, enjoy the view of the park and the river (Rick's Boatyard).

Paddleboats and Kayak rentals will be a huge enhancement.

**Could the Farmer's Market come into the park?** The current place (BRHS) is a horrible place for it, but it would be wonderful to have it in the park. Possible indoor/outdoor infrastructure for winter and summer farmer's market.

**Kid's Market:** Every Saturday or once a month, kids can come in, set up a booth and sell their old toys or toys they've outgrown. This could be a diverse experience. Would be interested in supporting something like this.

**Pathways in the park:** There are a lot of informal pathways, can the "people's pathways" be enhanced.

What draws you into the park to see all of the amenities? Enhance the WOW factor.

Last 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, came to use the pool and the pool was closed! Felt that was appalling and an insult. It's an important asset. The furniture is old. Enhance the environment of the pool. Would never go to just read a book because the furniture is crappy, cement, chain link fence, and decking looks bad. Environment must be inviting. Should remain open later, not all users of the pool go to school.

**Would new aquatic center concept resonate with community?** Yes, he thinks it will. He'll be all for the indoor pool, but what other indoor pool is available nearby? Is there a "need" for an indoor pool here. Rather take the money spent on a brand new aquatic center and put it towards renovating the current pool including enhancing the environment around it, it would make a huge difference.

Engaged 35 neighborhood Ambassadors in struggling neighborhoods. An overriding theme of what neighbors wanted was beauty. They want to see flowers, nice scenery.

**Any other foundations or businesses that would make a good partnership?**

Broad Ripple River Walk

Farmer's Market

CICF is very interested in partnerships with this space.

**What are your thoughts on the music events, size, etc.?**

A bigger scale experience is at White River State Park, it doesn't have to be at BRP. Maybe a more community scaled.

**Other parks that will be a great case study?**

What assets around the river that can be part of the bigger vision, BRP is one of them.

White River Caucus – Senators and State Reps

Columbus OH - huge river project

Cincinnati OH – huge river project

Detroit MI

**Other comments/thoughts?**

What if we had in the park overlooking the White River, series of canopies and swings (for adults).

Another experience, communal picnic area (Cummins Park, downtown Indy)

Need to build a community experience where strangers could end up in conversation

Cool furniture, well designed, wooden, comfortable chaise lounges – allow for relaxation, people watching, enjoying park scenery.

Need a better baseball field, would hang out at a beautifully manicured baseball field.

Create an elevated view (Vertical Canopy Engagement), Tree Houses

Thoughts are focusing more on equity, white privilege ideas, park should have elements that everyone would want to use. Should get perspectives from Latinos and African Americans.

Connectivity to Monon and the Village will be a game changer.

**If this is to be a destination park it should still service people of color and their interest.** Cultural Districts such as Fletcher and Fountain Square, will people get in their car or ride their bike to come here.

**What do you think is the biggest threat to the park?**

Doing all this great work, getting everyone excited then doing nothing with it (action)

Park is redesigned but no funds to be maintained, needs to be a dedicated maintenance fund



## **BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT**

**Date:** April 12, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Greg Harger

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-289-4018

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**What prompted you to agree to our interview?** He is a nature guy, passion for outdoors, wildlife

**What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

Great family park

Nice wetland, could create amazing viewing areas

Could clean Culbertson Ditch (practical)

Park has a great bluff

Any activity on the water is worth looking at

Recommended Easy Dock for ADA access to the dock.

Positive signage about using the river when its safe and being safe

Great space to add a nature center

**What makes a great trail?**

Natural

Easy access

Single track type of trail (not paved)

Native plants/wildlife

Markers to follow (entrance and exit) Kids could make the markers in the arts & craft classes

**Have you seen good ways of educating the public on safety?**

Material available is great, have to make it easily accessible for people.

**Other comments/thoughts?**

Have more diversity in wildlife and habitat with the creek

Red squirrels in the park. Red instead of Fox because of cats.

Facebook posting so others can see what all the park has

Plant wild flowers to have blooms all year long (not those that bloom at the same time)



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** April 12, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Lisa Ripley

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-371-9678

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**What is your involvement with the park?** She and husband put together WARMfest in 2013 and 2014. Tried to do a smaller fest in 2016. Challenge has been sponsorship. Changed name to Roc & Row Fest. Lives directly behind Kohls near Fashion Mall. Will run around the trail on the outside of the park, but not a whole lot that takes her in the park.

**What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

BRP is the most underutilized park in the city. Can envision having concerts and festivals in the park in the future. Have tried to bring the community into the events. Can have events during the day for families and children with evening events for adults.

Having some type of docking. Had a lot of friends that wanted to come to event by boat, but it was dangerous. Steep. Making the park more accessible by boat will be a great idea. Most people that live on the river have a dock at their home. They just keep their boats at their house.

**What is your perception of the park today?**

Like the dog park and the improvements. Would be nice to have more events there. Bringing Farmer's Market to the park.

**What do you think makes a great park?**

Easy access

Accessible by water

Shelters – have attended Fri, Sat night music event

Additional Restrooms (maintained)

A lot of red tape to rent the park – three different committees

**Fees?**

Fees are fair. When renting the whole park, find a way to consolidate the fees.

**Anything logistically that can be changed for event set up?**

Electricity in other smaller spaces (currently in large pavilion). Used large shelter for Roc & Row because it had power.

**Parking?**

Come in back entrance, take trail back around to unload then moved car. A lot of people just parked "in" the park.

**What is the biggest challenge?**

Getting buy-in from residents on the river and current users of the river. There are a lot of people on this river that don't want to see anything change.

**Big ideas/wish list?**

Amphitheater (Garfield Park) – doesn't have to be a huge structure  
Nicer trails

**Pool?**

Would use the pool if the pool was nicer. She is a big pool person

**Additional event ideas that would resonate with the community?**

There could be something happening there every weekend.

**Any community groups that would be worthwhile for us to collaborate with?**

ROW

CICF

BRVA

Howell Heating & Air



## **BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT**

**Date:** April 12, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Joe Mayes/Kent Springer

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-946-1561

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### **What prompted you to agree to our interview?**

Excited to see what he saw. Didn't think it would be this comprehensive. Glad to see they are not limiting themselves.

### **What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

Surprised at how many residents don't use the park or recognize what amenities are in the park. Have had several events and tried to draw people into it. People didn't realize it went so far back or went along the river.

Liked the idea of moving dog park to have a more visually welcoming entrance would help with drawing people in.

Maintenance is poor, front looks bad, not attractive.

### **What do you see as a long-term vision for Broad Ripple Park including uses, improvements, support, etc.**

Think multi-use is the right direction. A little surprised with getting rid of pool. Replacing with splash park is a good idea.

### **What makes a great park?**

A mix of activity – everyone has their own reason for coming to the park

Maintaining diversity of activity

Important for the Village to have a lot of green space

### **What challenges do the park face?**

Maintenance

Pool hours, he has to explain the lifeguard situation

Would like to see pool outside so that it could be open to the river

**Any partnership idea?**

River Walk is making good strides. They just applied for a large Lilly grant.

**Paddleboat Rental?**

Love the idea. Park in Atlanta has paddleboats that look like Swans. He would like to have paddleboats that look like rubber duckies.

**Large events in the park**

Thought the event well, but not well attended. Possibly due to partnerships. Thinks if there was an amphitheater it would get used frequently.

**Talk about your involvement and/or interest in community development and how parks fit into this.**

BRVA

Carnival – (August 9 - 12) has beer garden and food truck (shelter #2 is the beer garden). Could cause a problem if it competes with the restaurants.

**What are the issues/opportunities associated with sustaining great parks?**

Likes the idea of moving Farmer's Market to the park

It will introduce more people to park

Kids can play on the playground

Outdoor Yoga Classes

**Other comments/thoughts?**

Nice seating along the river

Walk the trails and along the river

Used playground before

Bloomington's park is one we should look at. They are building a new structure for their Farmer's Market.

**Revenue Generator**

Amphitheater could be used for wedding receptions.





## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** April 26, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Dan Ripley/Kevin Montgomery

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-490-4704

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**What prompted you to agree to our interview?** Very familiar with the history of the park. Has held several large events over the last few years. Familiar with managing people access over the entire park. Came to this park because he was invited to do the event here. Interest and purpose is the river. The most important thing that BRP has is access to this part of the river.

**Relocating boat ramp about 1 ¼ mi. north to Ravenswood Beach, thoughts?**

First impulse is to say that portion is shallow. Recommended speaking with Neil Bennett who is involved in Promenade Planning Committee. Second thought is even now the boating access is considered to be a no-wake zone. Ravenswood area is the shallowest, that will be the biggest challenge. FYI – he owns 2/3 of the current dock (2 extensions).

**Event (lack of infrastructure):**

Access to power, water, issue with bringing equipment across the field and creating ruts in field, allowing for backstage tents/shelter for acts.

**View of current concept?**

Very pleasantly surprised at the plan. If bank restoration is done correctly, we may end up with a nice shore walk. Feels that the base of the shoreline is sandy.

- Most important to do for entire park is to remove the invasives.
- Opportunity for biofilter
- Can envision a canoe/kayak pond in the North Woodland area. The parcel that is currently on the market would be an ideal place for a canoe launch.

Proposed canoe/kayak launch could be a challenge due to Boat traffic, the current, water conditions, algae growth that obscures vision. A lot are inexperienced with boating on a current.

***In order to tell people it's safe to go on the river, we have to make it safe.***



## BROAD RIPPLE PARK MASTER PLAN STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEW FORMAT

**Date:** June 1, 2018

**Location:** Project Studio

**Interviewer/Interviewee:** Gwen Simmons/Suze Stamm

**Interviewee Contact Information:** 317-777-6494

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**What prompted you to agree to our interview?** Grew up in Rocky Ripple. Have live in Ravenswood for 41 years. Very involved and concerned about the people and their needs. Big tree hugger and nature person.

**What's your viewpoint on Indy's Parks and particularly Broad Ripple Park?**

Back in the old days, the old pool was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in the US. They've improved it. The Dog Park is a neat thing. It has been a while since there have been improvements. The proposed changes are favorable.

**What should be done to sustain a great park system?**

Proper upkeep and programs. What they can offer.

**Other comments/thoughts?**

Greatest memory is the old swimming pool. It was huge, clean and clear. Very well kept. Walking through the nature of the park. Does cross country skiing in the winter (several folks).

**Boat traffic to Ravenswood Beach Area**

Traffic is bad. There is no parking space in the Ravenswood area.

Lots of water traffic w/ boats coming out of the Yacht Club.

Will have to tear out part of the park to accommodate the ramp and/or parking lot.

*Suggested engaging some property owners, condo builders, businesses, bars, restaurants, art shops. Give them the new idea of what can be great here in Broad Ripple. Donate money to upgrade the boat ramps.*

Parking lot near soccer/multipurpose field - Will the new plan allow enough additional parking?

**Code enforcement and zoning** – when you try to change what the river (dropping). We need to be very critical when adjusting the flood plain. It's been said that it would be hard to get the permit to move the ramp to Ravenswood. Consider paving it and putting a ramp for smaller and kayaks, canoes (Ravenswood).

The lift station puts off a horrible odor, if you're going to be putting in all the new amenities near that, the smell needs to be put under control. Get with Citizens. Can Lift station accommodate the storm and sanitary sewers that will be going into it.

### **Concerts**

Parking is a concern; will there be enough.

Alcohol is a violation in city park. Will you have someone checking bags for alcohol? Concerned about folks drinking on the river.

Noise does travel up the river – Ravenswood hears noise from Broad Ripple. Think about the noise and police coverage. Will have to hire off duty police officers to come into the concerts.

Suze recommended we speak with Adam Barnes w/ Holliday Park. They just redid their park.

Indy Parks lacks the employees and staff to maintain parks. For instance, Eagle Creek park has gone down tremendously due to lack of maintenance.

Improvement will be the ability to have more and better programming for children.

Need more funding to have more ranger staff. Currently 6 rangers to oversee all of the parks. Never replaced Mattingly. With drugs and alcohol coming into the parks, we need to have enforcement. If they're going to do all this, the park needs a full time Ranger.

Beware of changing of Mayor administrations. New admin may not "get it".

### **Suze Stamm:**

Previous Coordinator for Ravenswood/White River Neighborhood Association

Coordinator for Howland Creek Historic Nature Preservice (Nature Group)

Crime Watch Captain for Ravenswood.

## Impromptu Boat Ramp Conversation – Key Points

1. The proposed location won't be able to serve the large boats on the river (paddleboat and large pontoons) because of the depth of water. They mentioned these boats stay year-round but need to be removed every 2-5 years for maintenance. I have a call into the Paddleboat company to learn more.
2. The proposed location won't be able to serve the people on the river that have their docks seasonally installed because the company needs a long ramp like the existing. Dock companies use the ramp heavily in the spring and fall and the water will be low in the fall.
3. They are concerned that at flood stage the proposed ramp won't be able to be used for emergency situations. The Yacht club closes at 11' flood stage. The group claims IFD won't want to use the ramp because of the speed of current and orientation. They say the existing ramp could be used regardless the flood levels. I have a call into the IFD to get their input. I think might reach out to DNR to get their thoughts as well.
4. The channel is shallow and narrow at the proposed location and backing a boat into it to launch can be hazardous to other boat traffic.
5. Typically, there is a "no wake" zone by boat ramps. The bigger wakes are caused by boats taking off and slowing down which would be by the "no wake zones" and ramps. This new pattern of start/stopping in the proposed part of the river will cause adjacent residential docks to be beat up and damaged from the wakes. Right now, boats aren't speeding up and slowing down. They are keeping a steady speed.
6. Because the channel is shallow, it's good to have a good speed to keep the propeller up and if boats had to go slow, there could be frequent damage.
7. The existing ramp is the last point to take a boat out before the lowhead dam. If there is a failure, people can maneuver over to the ramp.