

Greater Maple Valley Area Council
P.O. Box 101
Maple Valley, WA 98038

December 4, 2007

T. J. Davis (tj.davis@kingcounty.gov)
ADOPs Program Coordinator
Parks and Recreation Division
201 S. Jackson Street, Suite 700
Seattle, WA 98104

Mr. Davis,

I wish to clarify something that GMVAC members have heard stated at some of your Design Committee meetings related to the proposed expansion of Ravensdale Park. Yes, it is correct that the Rock Creek Valley Conservation Plan (Plan) was endorsed by the GMVAC (after changes were made to satisfy member concerns). **The Plan does not state that all additional ball fields should be placed at Ravensdale Park.**

As you are probably aware the Plan covers a vast expanse of lands and conservation priorities and recommendations, which was put together by the FRCV. There is some mention of Ravensdale Park in the Plan. There is also some mention of ball field needs. Specifically, the Plan states in *section 4.5 Recreation / Trails; subsection 4.5.3--Key Assumptions; No. 5:*

"We will need an additional 8 - 12 ball fields in the vicinity of the Valley to accommodate future growth."

The GMVAC believes this was not intended to mean that all those ball fields be hosted at Ravensdale Park. Rather, we believe that it implies that the City of Maple Valley, or other taxpayer supported public facilities near the Rock Creek Valley, could host more ball fields (e.g., at their Summit Pit site or the "Donut Hole," or schools, etc.) to meet much of the need that was estimated by the Friends of Rock Creek Valley. We do not see how this disagrees in any way with the Plan that we reviewed, approved, and endorsed.

As our Land-Use and Transportation Committees mentioned at our July 30 meeting with you and Kevin Brown, the **GMVAC and our Rural Area constituents have a lot of concerns about siting facilities that serve primarily urban residents in the rural area--much like our opposition to big Churches, big Schools, and School District Bus Maintenance facilities in the Rural Area. By definition (KC Comprehensive Plan) the Rural Area does not typically have in place, nor is it planned to have, the infrastructure (roads, sewers, water, EMS, etc.) to service these types of big facilities.**

I request that you please convey to your Design Committee the following:

Yes the GMVAC endorsed, and still endorses, the Rock Creek Valley Conservation Plan and that the Plan states a need for additional ball fields in the "vicinity of the Valley," but not specifically at Ravensdale Park.

Thank you.

Original signed by and mailed 12/23/07
Richard Bonewits (gmvac_chair@hotmail.com)
Chairman, Greater Maple Valley Area Council
<http://greatermaplevalleyareacouncil.org>

cc: Councilman Phillips, King County Council GM&UA Committee Chair (larry.phillips@metrokc.gov)
Councilman Dunn, King County Council District 9 (reagan.dunn@metrokc.gov)