

APPENDIX

A

La Vergne and Smyrna Preliminary Greenway Master Plan Public Input

- Regarding hunting uses at Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) properties—what will happen? This is a concern
- Pistol Island—same concern
- Nice's Mill area—same concern
- Field trials and dog training—same concern
- Hunting versus trails—will they work together?
- Regarding the Texas Eastern gas easement on TWRA Unit I—use of this area would disturb habitat
- Trails will cause a loss of animal habitat
- Trails will cause a loss of hunting areas
- Approximately 80% of those attending agree—NO GREENWAYS ON HUNTING LANDS
- Stewart's Creek and Rock Springs Creek—ok if the residents want trails
- 100% hands-off TWRA lands
- The floodplain in the Stewart's View area is dangerous, one child drowned
- Other beautification is needed before greenways
- Greenways violate people privacy [backyards] and there are safety concerns
- The Middle Tennessee Retriever Club, duck hunters and other groups support TWRA and the local economy—hotels, restaurants, gasoline
- Our hunting recreation is as important as this recreation
- 98% of the funding for TWRA comes from hunting licenses, 2% comes from the State
- October through May there is extensive use of TWRA lands for field trials—2400 total users and 50 to 100 people per trial
- Would there be a lease law for the greenway—that would kill the field trials
- Trails in residential "front" yards—concern
- Unit I and II unpaved natural areas already have horseback riding, bird watching and hiking
- Object—greenway from Murfreesboro to Clarksville—WHY? 1,000s of acres will be taken, 1,000s of acres have already been taken
- Trails on the West Fork of the Stones River would wipe out wildlife habitat—this is anti-wildlife management and it's wrong
- Concentrate on sidewalks and bike lanes first, then greenways—ABSOLUTELY
- Prioritize internal systems—provide SAFE ways (bike lanes and sidewalks) for kids to get to school
- Resident from the Rock Springs and Waldron Rod area objects
- Hunters, who pay, will be losing their privileges
- Jones Mill Road—not enough room now—what's the right-of-way width?
- \$--what about the long-term operating and maintenance costs?

- Don't let them take away the land
- Illicit behavior will take place at trailheads
- Security is an issue—cars will be broken into at trailheads
- Access for emergency vehicles is critical, but it's more paving
- Greenway users will pollute with trash, etc.
- High priority—pave the last link to Volunteer Park
- If TWRA Wildlife Management Area land is taken away, field trial users will have no other place to go
- Trails shown on hunting lands should not just be a low priority—they should be dropped from the plan entirely
- Sidewalks for schools—NOT greenways that go behind homes
- If the greenways are managed by parks, what will the hours be? Will we have access for fishing, etc. after hours?
- NO, sharing of natural habitat won't work
- What works best for the City and all the community matters
- Rare and endangered species are a concern, they may be impacted by trails
- Bicyclists want to see the connection between cities, plus, it's an economic boost
- Can the greenway follow the CSX tracks and right-of-way all the way to Nashville?
- Should greenway users pay a fee to use TWRA lands? Hunters do; they pay for the privilege
- Regarding Smyrna's recreation user survey—citizens want more greenways
- Another issue is preservation—it's critical to keep what [land] we have

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- Regarding trails through Poole Knob—should not do, high usage there now—police patrols on motorized vehicles will cause a disturbance at the archery range, etc.
- Regarding Hurricane Creek—duck hunting is becoming active on this area of the lake, trails would disturb or prevent that activity
- Resident from south La Vergne, east of Waldron Road—this property is now a cattle farm—safety concerns w/ bulls in his fields, how will fences and gates be controlled?
- Retriever club member and recent resident from Cobb County, GA—dozens and hundreds of people now train at Poole Knob. In Cobb County they built rails-to-trails and that caused land condemnation. People won't use these trails to go to work—they'll cause break-ins
- Don't take away land and don't back up to people's homes
- Resident from the area of Rock Springs Creek and the Park & Ride—this property represents history and is of personal importance (family farm)
- Lake Rd. resident (35 years)—land (cattle farm) was hard won—you won't split it apart
- Land has been taken by condemnation before (US Army Corps of Engineers)—it could happen again and that infringes on rights
- Resident from north La Vergne on the lake—this would infringe on my privacy
- Regarding Hurricane Creek Recreation Area—boaters and fishermen can't park here now, more use will make it worse
- Rock Springs Road resident and Smyrna commissioner—NO!
- Resident near a Wildlife Management Area—you can walk on the WMAs now without trails—shift the focus to access schools and parks with limited access to lake
- Regarding priorities (show of hands):
 - Bike lanes and routes—high priority
 - Sidewalks—high priority
 - Greenways—low priority
- Smyrna resident—Sharp Springs land was given away. Concerned about environmental impacts, long-term operation and maintenance costs and safety
- The government is telling us what we should have—we don't have to accept this money or do this project
- La Vergne and Smyrna have been developer driven, now you want this project to provide green space
- Brentwood resident—our sub-division regulations require developers to set aside open space—consider that

- Regarding field trials at Poole Knob—active from October through April and into early May with a trial every weekend with 50-100 attending. Up to 600 people attend the club meetings. Currently 3,000 to 3,500 people per year participate. According to the TN Department of Tourism the economic impact of field trials at Poole Knob is 2.5 to 3 million dollars per year. Trails on the Texas Eastern easement would be very disruptive. The existing roads now lead to vandalism and dumping not to wildlife watching.
- Trials are held on weekends but training is every day, year round
- Don't encroach upon what open space is left unless it's absolutely necessary
- Smyrna resident—this situation is ripe for compromise. I've lived in communities with greenways in backyards and it's worked—it's also raised property values. This trail would be in my backyard and I'm in favor of it. A priority is to pave and finish the existing trails that are just gravel.
- Priorities—Sam Davis Rd., Enon Springs Rd. and Weakley Road
- Compromise—it's not necessary to cut through farms
- Representative of the Old Hickory Kennel Club—the facilities we've built are open to the public—our members paid for all the facilities on WMA Unit I
- Waldron Road resident—NO, not the backside of my farm. With the new waterline we were not given a choice, we were "forced" to sign an easement agreement
- Resident from Hollondale Road and Mayor of La Vergne—get our sidewalks in. You've got to have a plan in place. We're not going to condemn land—that's not the purpose
- I like the idea of doing things right around here in the city!
- Donated land counts toward the required 20% local match—so, there won't necessarily be any money out of pocket
- Will we have to add police?
- What if the federal guidelines change in the future? What then?
- Smyrna resident—concerned that 80% of those who attended the meeting last week were opposed and that the elected officials aren't listening. We need to back off this project 100%--tell Bart Gordon we don't want the money. Save this TWRA land. Throw the greenway out or they'll take the land piece by piece
- Middle TN Field Trial Club (8 to 10 members)—this is an opportunity to **SAVE** this area, not lose it
- Field trial representative—don't touch the WMAs in any way!
- Reinforce the economic benefit of the trials to these two communities. These grounds are the best in the US and are well-known—other cities have lost their open space
- We've heard this before (the benefits of greenways) and question the truth of it
- Sidewalks, bikeways for alternative transportation are ok. But no, don't give up these lands for recreation
- Longhunter Park already has over 20 miles of trails

- Concerned regarding endangered plants
- YES on sidewalks, we can spend the money in the city to provide access to schools
- Sidewalk standards need to be applied to ALL development
- La Vergne vice-mayor—no, we can't speak for future elected officials or what they might approve
- This plan should be sidewalks and bike lanes within the cities
- Non-resident user of TWRA land—concerned that a focus group meeting with TWRA will show the same trails—the plan should be modified prior to that meeting
- At Percy Warner Park in Nashville there is tremendous conflict between bicyclists and equestrians
- Bicyclists already use the TWRA lands
- Off season (summer months) the WMAs are already open for these activities, a paved path is not necessary
- Regarding Sharp Springs Park—we were told there would be shared use but it's posted NO HUNTING
- Resident who formerly lived adjacent to a greenway—there were problems with security, police calls, etc.
- Lascassas resident—hunts on TWRA lands with his son—don't take that away, build a park instead
- Farmingdale Drive resident—in order to see something done, concentrate on connections between Les Trois Ponts greenway (existing paved trail near Hurricane Creek), the ball fields, the Senior Citizens' Center, the Library, the La Vergne Primary School, Waldron Junior High School, Veterans Memorial Park, Fergus Park, Mankin Park and Driftwood Park. Connect the existing greenway to THESE things, then the area becomes a focus and the money goes to improve parks and recreation