

From: [Troy Euton](#)
To: [Kim Banning](#); [Kayla Holbrook](#)
Subject: FW: Big Walnut Trail Section 5, an Idea
Date: Friday, August 07, 2015 1:38:21 PM

FYI

From: Mark Leder [mailto:mark@markleder.com]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 1:37 PM
To: Troy Euton <Troy.Euton@gahanna.gov>
Cc: Carol D Oswald <carolo@columbus.rr.com>
Subject: RE: Big Walnut Trail Section 5, an Idea

Thanks Troy. Great points. Looks like a good plan, especially with landscaping.

From: Troy Euton [mailto:Troy.Euton@gahanna.gov]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 1:31 PM
To: 'Mark Leder'
Cc: Mike Musser
Subject: RE: Big Walnut Trail Section 5, an Idea

Mark,

Thanks for your comments and suggestions. I really appreciate the research and thought you have put into your suggestion. I also appreciate you taking the time to reach out to me with your suggestion.

We have considered netting and alternative framing options. We moved away from both of these mediums due life span and life cycle costs. The best UV stabilized netting we could find is estimated to last 5-7 years. Most of it is warranted for one year. The timber frame options more closely compete with the pipe rail frames over their life, but I do have concerns about the maintenance of staining, replacing rotted or failing pieces of lumber, etc.

It is our goal to minimize future maintenance costs when we build public projects through material selection and design specifications. In my 23 years building parks and park improvements, I've always tried to guide improvements to maximize the life span, improving the economics of the investment.

20 years ago I built a 1,200 feet long, 36 feet tall golf protective fence to keep park users safe from a neighboring golf course. We built a new 50 acre park next to an existing course. While it is effective and optically different from chain link, the labor and material to replace the netting every few years drives up the life cycle cost significantly. Something I learned during in that process was the structural requirements of the cable system to hold the net in Ohio due to snow and ice load design requirements results in a very different looking fence from the websites and brochures for these products, which usually represent minimal supports and cabling.

The products we have specified are the most economical over the long haul with minimal maintenance requirements. These products will also not fail, rot or be torn loose from its structure, thus it will function as designed at all times.

All that being said, I still believe we are on the right course. Building a quality project and hide it with landscaping and trees as needed. However, there are some who believe more exploration into suggestions such as yours is warranted and should be studied again. I will certainly proceed in the direction city leadership concludes is in the best interest of the citizens of Gahanna. So who knows, maybe your suggestion will be the final design you see erected for the project?

Again, thank you for your effort on this subject. Please feel free to contact me anytime you want to share a thought or suggestion to improve our service to the community.

All the Best,

TROY EUTON CPRP
Director
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From: Mark Leder [<mailto:mark@markleder.com>]
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 12:02 PM
To: Troy Euton <Troy.Euton@gahanna.gov>
Cc: Carol D Oswald <carolo@columbus.rr.com>; Dennis Oswald <tigrr8@mac.com>
Subject: Big Walnut Trail Section 5, an Idea

Hi Troy,

I have followed with some interest the proposal for the trail section 5 of Big Walnut. I'm friends with Denny and Carol Oswald, who alerted me to the additional discussion and

pending revote.

I did attend the July 13 committee meeting where you outlined the proposed path and alternatives (great job, BTW). I was okay with everything except for the DESIGN of the fence. Being both a golfer and a cyclist, I agree with the need for a fence, and was pleased that you scaled back the length. From what I know, it seems to me that the present opposition to the fence may be centered around its appearance.

Frankly, when I see the fence that was proposed (chain link, with a curved top), I think of either "a prison" or the curved units that are placed on highway overpasses to keep people from jumping off and killing themselves (I witnessed this kind of event 35 years ago). Chain link has to have support about every 4' or so, which contributes to the visual "clutter". Using metal as a fencing is in conflict with the naturalized surroundings that I would think the golfers and the neighbors (and everyone else) would want. True, when you look straight at a fence of this type, it can visually disappear. However, at an angle, the fence becomes increasingly opaque.

From what I remember of the golf course, golfers are teeing up downhill from the proposed path, so I wonder why the curved piece is needed at all.

May I offer a suggestion? Forgive me if you've already considered/worked through this.

Take a look at golf course netting, I've included a link to a site, there are several more out there:

<http://www.texnetusa.com/poly-2000/>

The pictures make it pretty obvious that his style of fence can be seen through easily, even at an angle. Pretend it's a giant window screen.

In putting together this type of fencing, consider the following:

- make it only 10-12' high (pictures show 100-150' height)
- do NOT use utility poles, rather square rough cut fir wood posts 8 x 8 sunk in the ground about every 20 feet. Stain them to look like the surrounding tree bark or other natural color found in the area. Cut a nice mitered top (see second picture I've attached)
- Build in a winch tensioning system in each section (between 20' posts), that would allow periodic tensioning by maintenance personnel.

Hopefully this may be helpful. I'm looking forward to riding the new trail.

THANKS!

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Mark Leder

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