

**Q1 Please provide written feedback on the draft plan in the text box below. The Steering Committee is interested in learning what you like or dislike about the draft plan as well as any additional information you would like to share.**

Answered: 77 Skipped: -1

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	<p>Thank you for handling this project in such a thorough manner and realizing that any development, both good and bad, will have long ranging impacts for Grand Marais. I have a few thoughts based on my read of the draft plan: 1) The silent majority of GM residents appear to be absent in planning this project. Very loud niche groups seem to be steering this planning. This effect is always a concern as niche groups have a tendency to drive projects off-target, over-budget, and against the wishes of the majority of GM residents. For example, do we need a large, fenced-in dog park when we have a dual-use dog park across the road already? Additionally, will a disc golf course serve more than 12-20 Cook County residents—especially since we have one in Lutsen already? How much area will need to be clear cut to provide these redundant services, 2) There needs to be a thorough environmental impact study conducted before any development proceeds. The fen on the northern most portion of the property needs to be protected and off-limits as this is a regionally significant wetland ecosystem. 3) This is not an appropriate location for business development (e.g. condos, mini golf course, strip malls, etc), 4) any residential development should not be visible from the Gunflint Trail and should be kept small. If residential areas are to be considered, this would be a great opportunity to create a “tiny-house” development area governed by sustainable, ecologically sound practices (e.g. solar arrays, community gardens, etc) 5) Consider purchasing the adjacent land that was going to be a zip-line business. This land is perfectly situated to connect Sawtooth Bluff with adjacent trail networks, 6) Minimal/no development is a good option too. Why not place a small network of trails and redesignate the land into a land trust to protect the area for generations to come? 7) I support a state park style primitive campground where each campsite is large, private, and minimally visible to other campsites (i.e. No 40' RV's), 8) building multi-use biking/hiking trails is a good idea and should be accompanied by a small, non-intrusive nature center that can double as a facility to manage the primitive camping facilities and hiking/biking network, 9) Maintenance will be the most challenging (and expensive) component to this development. The City of GM Parks Dept. has a track record of successfully managing facilities such as these and would be the natural choice to help ensure the success of this project. Thanks for providing this forum and taking on this challenging task.</p>	3/31/2018 11:16 PM
2	<p>I like that there is a plan for more camping, as there is a shortage of campsites during the summer. However, it would be nice to keep this special area as pristine as possible and reserve it for more secluded tent style camping vs. modern convenience RV camping that makes a party scene as at the rec park. I feel the dog park and frisbee golf would also be better suited to already cleared areas in the community, rather than clearing large land swaths of this designated special area for these uses. In any case I would request that decisions are not made hastily, but with great consideration for the future generations of park users - and with respect for this special area, itself. Less “improvements” may be better in the long run. Thank you.</p>	3/31/2018 9:59 PM
3	<p>In general, a regional natural resource-based park with reasonable recreational development seems a good fit for the area. I appreciate the time the committee has invested into considering multiple viewpoints and working to put all the ideas together into a tangible concept. Overall, the master plan is well written; however, my concern is that to make the case the park is “regionally significant”, the plan uses exaggerations and misleading statements, decreasing the report’s credibility. I also think the park is being overdeveloped with a wish list of possible projects that may create confusion during future implementation. Overstatements to consider rewording: • Pg 12 states other parks don’t have mountain biking trails (not true). Pincushion, which is mentioned on page 11 has almost 10 miles of fat tire/mountain biking trails. • Pg 19 says there is not winter biking in Cook County; the nearest single-track mountain biking trail is 100 miles in Duluth; these are false statements. There is winter fat tire biking at Pincushion (two years now), Briton Peak, Norpine Trails, Gunflint lodge and Bearskin (just check the SCA website). To imply because they are not designated, they don’t count is misleading and devalues what has been accomplished to date. • on page 19 Describe the recreational gaps the park would fulfill instead of putting down the Forest Service. (on federal land ...must complete extensive environmental review... as a result</p>	3/31/2018 9:51 PM

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nearest trail is near Duluth....) The wording implies that because this park will be on county/city land, development can move faster. That is ironic since the master plan says the county/city has been trying to figure out what to do here for 50 years, particularly in the last 18 years. At the public meeting leaders promised opportunities for more public comment and environmental review before anything was implemented. Probably should have told folks that it will not be an extensive environmental review since that would take too long and local governments don't do that. • Page 15; states that the Park could contribute to recruiting younger residents and families to Cook County. So the 17+ miles of existing fat tire/mountain biking trails and additional 15+ miles being built, don't attract young people, but another 20 miles will? I've heard the problem is lack of affordable housing and jobs with living wages, not a lack of mountain bike trails. Ideas you could accentuate Instead: • Under Trends/Public health: It talks about our aging population. This park, with a reasonably-sized gravel, accessible trail would be a huge boon to our population. So would a dog park since many people of all ages have dogs and need a good place to exercise their dog. • A selling point of this park is it is a hub; it brings multiple uses together and it connects many activities. Reiterate that point. Reduce amount of possible projects Regional Park guidelines do not say there must be lots of development to make it regionally significant. Consider dropping redundancy to make the Park more sustainable. • Drop upper parking lot. While it is true a new parking lot would provide access for emergency vehicles, it is irrelevant because there already is access for emergency vehicles. Emergency vehicles can park at the existing lot, at end of the road or anywhere along the Old Ski Hill road. There already is a parking area ¼ mile away which connects with the proposed hiking trail. I understand there is concern that all hikers may not be able to start at the bottom parking lot and hike to the top. Even if there is a parking lot on top, the trail to the beautiful overlooks still has substantial topography so the less able will likely not get to the overlooks. The county road system is already overburdened and under maintained and an extra parking lot just down the road from an existing parking lot adds more unnecessary county maintenance. Likewise there would be additional road maintenance needed on the Old Ski Hill road. • Drop hiking trails except those related to connecting to/rerouting the Superior Hiking trail. There are hundreds of miles of hiking trail in Cook County. Sweetheart's bluff trail at the park is poorly maintained. Take care of existing before expanding to others. • Do not add ATV or upgrade the snowmobile parking along the Old Ski Hill road. The small parking area is sufficient. Devil's Track area makes a great hub for motorized recreation. I agree that is better to sperate motorized and non-motorized uses. Danger of having a laundry list of possible projects. At the public meeting committee members stated a maintenance plan will be developed and additional opportunity for public comment and environmental review would occur before anything is developed. The implication being that as the park is designed and more information is available, concerns mentioned can be addressed and over development or undesirable effects can be avoided. I am skeptical that would not occur. A maintenance plan is basically the president of a club saying, we'll be responsible. The club will solicit memberships and sponsorships from much of the same residents, recreationist and businesses that all the other clubs and organizations solicit from. This type of a maintenance plan does not assure there will be adequate funds for maintenance in the future. There is no consideration of how many facilities the county is developing and the amount of burden on residents and businesses. As the population continues to age and there is less volunteer time and donations, I hope the county/city has money to maintain the thousand miles of biking, hiking, skiing, snowmobile, etc trails they have promoted. Be careful trying to meet the needs of a society with an insatiable appetite. Consider scaling back the list of projects. While there may be future environmental reviews, they are not likely to change the project. A user group will develop a proposal, write a grant, ask for county to sign, then get grant. Who is paying for the environmental review and when will it occur? Who is leading the public involvement? When will people who disagree with an aspect of the proposal be able to provide meaningful comments? With the recent bike trails, there was a \$400,000 dollar grant in hand before an environmental review was done. At that point the review was a rubber stamp; there was no questioning of whether the trails were in the right place, or right amount or whether the environmental impacts were worth it. There was a master plan saying bike trails are good, so the assumption is it can move forward. I expect the same will be true for any user group that brings forward a proposal from this master plan. That is why I encourage you not to simply include a list of possible projects. Only include feasible, well vetted projects. Cumulatively look at how all the activities add together to impact the environment now; doing it piecemeal later won't work. For example, a road will create an opening in the forest when viewed from the harbor, the campground will further open the area, so will the dog park and then the disc golf and maybe even the rock climbing and gravel trail. When added together, the developments may have a big impact to the view of the hillside from the harbor. Don't wait until it is too late to consider this impact. I strongly encourage you to refine the proposal to increase the likelihood of successful implementation. Becky Bartol

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4	Disc golf is a growing sport that requires very little development and maintenance to operate a course. I believe a course would be a perfect addition to a hiking and biking trail system on this land without disturbing it's natural beauty.	3/31/2018 8:09 PM
5	I love the plan to have a Frisbee Golf Course! It was one thing that I was really into when I lived in the twin cities and was sorely disappointed to find out Lutsen Resort was the only one(which you can barely call a course) that was up here. Since they are easy to maintain and take little upkeep other than just having baskets I think it would be a great addition to Sawtooth Bluff. Additionally it would help your proposal stated on page 15 to bring up a more young demographic to visit the area. Yet still also being a casual enough sport for the older generation to be able to be involved in if they so pleased. My only concern is the size.. I think it should be a minimum 9 basket course if you want the younger generations to even consider it a frisbee golf course worth spreading the word about. Not just a repeat of what's outside of Lutsen (no offence Lutsen Resort). Thanks for reading my input. I'm a 26 year old new resident up here and am excited to see what's to come!	3/31/2018 5:08 PM
6	There are many things in the "Sawtooth Bluffs Regional Park Master Plan" that I support--the residential areas, for example, especially if this is low-income housing. The small campgrounds could also fit in, although adding more campfire smoke to the summer air quality of Grand Marais is not a good idea. Open fires emit a number of toxic pollutants and the town's air quality, due to the current campground, is already a problem during the summers. It would be wise to not allow open campfires. I see no problem with "disk golf", a dog park and trails below the bluffs. A "rock climbing area" would certainly change the look of the bluff where that is done. I'm not sure this type of rock/bluff is the right substrate for climbing and I don't think this activity fits. I like the aspect of connectivity between town and the trails, etc. I do like that anything developed will have a maintenance plan. No matter how this regional park is promoted as being for locals to recreate, it is primarily for tourists and we Cook County taxpayers will have to maintain it after the pools of grant money are gone. I do not believe that the Fen should be promoted as a feature of this Park. It is a special and fragile area and building a trail, easy access, to it would lead to abuse, I'm afraid. People would also question building an expensive trail to what many would simply call a swamp. The Old Ski Hill Road is proposed for a parking area and access to trails. This is a residential road where locals currently recreate by walking, running, bicycling, dog-walking and so on. I see multiple problems in converting it to a tourist destination road where traffic would dramatically increase. First, it is actually dangerous turning on to and off of this road with the Gunflint Trail. The road itself is a problem. Current traffic is light, and residents and locals know how to drive it and don't mind it, and the rough areas effectively slow down vehicles. If signage directed tourists to trails, parking and other facilities, the residents' lives along this quiet road would drastically change. I worry about the security of the antenna farm, the invariable (allowed or not) camping that would take place, the traffic, and the other impacts of directing tourist traffic onto a residential dead-end road. I think some of the grant money should be used to purchase private property that would enhance this park and improve access. This would include buying back the "zip-line" parcel that was a debacle. Perhaps instead of changing the Old Ski Hill Road neighborhood, better access to the upper trails could be achieved from other locations.	3/31/2018 1:54 PM
7	This a great opportunity! I am very excited to see how this land can be enjoyed by tourists and locals alike. I would like to see how a Championship Level disc golf course could be incorporated into the planned activities. Minnesota has a very big population disc golfers and is in the top 5 in the nation for the amount of disc golf courses. If the land featured a destination course, that challenged the disc golfers game, you could have people flocking from all over the region to experience it. Disc Golf is an unobtrusive game that takes very little maintenance. A Disc Golf course also can be well incorporated with other activities. Utilizing the same space, safely. I can't wait to see what the land can offer.	3/31/2018 12:51 PM

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8	<p>As a cook county resident and disc golfer, I'm thrilled that a disc golf course is being considered for this development plan. A disc golf course, unlike a conventional golf course, can easily be integrated into the landscape with minimal disruption to the natural ecosystem. Disc golf courses do not require wide open fairways; they can be worked into heavily wooded areas with a minimal removal of vegetation to create a challenging and technical course. Disc golf courses can be created on variable or even heavily sloped terrain. Disc golf courses require no inputs of supplemental water resources. A well designed disc golf course incorporated native vegetation, provides for diverse wildlife habitat, and is easily integrated with mountain biking and hiking trails. Maintenance of a disc golf course is minimal; just seasonal pruning to keep walkways from becoming overgrown. Cook county has a disc golf club that can provide the necessary volunteers to maintain the course. Properly designed, the disc golf course at Sawtooth Bluffs Park can be an attraction that provides for healthy and environmentally friendly opportunities for people to recreate. I personally have a good friend who is originally from Minnesota and is now a semi professional disc golfer in the pacific northwest. He has a degree in environmental design, has experience in disc golf course design, and has expressed an interest in lending his expertise to the development of the course at Sawtooth Bluffs. I'm hopeful that the people in charge of the final design of the course will take the time to involve experts like my friend and users like me and my fellow cook county disc golfers. Thanks so much for considering disc golf as an opportunity in the park plan. -Josh Capps</p>	3/30/2018 8:00 PM
9	<p>As a cook county resident and disc golfer, I'm thrilled that a disc golf course is being considered for this development plan. A disc golf course, unlike a conventional golf course, can easily be integrated into the landscape with minimal disruption to the natural ecosystem. Disc golf courses do not require wide open fairways; they can be worked into heavily wooded areas with a minimal removal of vegetation to create a challenging and technical course. Disc golf courses can be created on variable or even heavily sloped terrain. Disc golf courses require no inputs of supplemental water resources. A well designed disc golf course incorporated native vegetation, provides for diverse wildlife habitat, and is easily integrated with mountain biking and hiking trails. Maintenance of a disc golf course is minimal; just seasonal pruning to keep walkways from becoming overgrown. Cook county has a disc golf club that can provide the necessary volunteers to maintain the course. Properly designed, the disc golf course at Sawtooth Bluffs Park can be an attraction that provides for healthy and environmentally friendly opportunities for people to recreate. I personally have a good friend who is originally from Minnesota and is now a semi professional disc golfer in the pacific northwest. He has a degree in environmental design, has experience in disc golf course design, and has expressed an interest in lending his expertise to the development of the course at Sawtooth Bluffs. I'm hopeful that the people in charge of the final design of the course will take the time to involve experts like my friend and users like me and my fellow cook county disc golfers. Thanks so much for considering disc golf as an opportunity in the park plan. -Josh Capps</p>	3/30/2018 8:00 PM
10	<p>An outdoor classroom and nature play playground would be great. As plans develop, Cooperation Station would be interested in talking about collaborative ways to utilize the space. Hartley Park in Duluth is a great model.</p>	3/30/2018 3:19 PM

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I appreciate the time and energy put into this plan to enhance outdoor recreation opportunities in Cook County and specifically in Grand Marais, MN. I'm disappointed to not see anything about the ball fields in this plan. Playing ball whether it's our local high school athletes or our men's and women's softball players, is outdoor recreation. The current high school softball field is in the Rec Park and if it were moved it would provide more space for campers and create more income for the city of Grand Marais. If the ball fields were placed next to each other it would provide players and spectators a better experience. More interest is created when there are more games to watch and tournaments could be hosted creating additional income. The current situation for the girl's softball team is not ideal. I encourage you to include ball fields in your plan, now is the time. Back to the plan... Snowmobile access from Grand Marais to the trails is not ideal. The snow melts more quickly in town preventing folks from riding directly into town for lodging, gas, provisions and meals. Currently many people trailer their sleds to a different area to begin their trip which places them farther from the services in Grand Marais and often times out of our county and into adjacent counties for gas and dining. More time and energy needs to be spent thinking about how to enhance trail access as just offering additional parking near the school or saying folks can park up at Devil's Track isn't giving this outdoor recreation opportunity enough thought. The plan about offering camping opportunities as part of the plan doesn't seem like a necessary aspect. While the city campground may be full it is full for a variety of reasons including walking access to all things Grand Marais. I don't think offering camping as part of the bluff project will have the same appeal. While cart-in campsites are nice there are a vast number of places to camp in our county that provide a similar experience and I don't think it needs to be a part of this plan. I do not think any RV camping should even be considered due to the amount of space an RV needs. I don't think Frisbee golf is necessary as I've seen it in other areas similar to this but it just doesn't seem to get used. Creating another dog area seems odd unless the current dog park is being closed. Adding bike trails and a special hiking trail to the Fen area is a great idea. Connecting the trails to Pincushion and other recreational areas is ideal. I think an amphitheater would provide a great concert venue in spite of the noise it might create a few summer weekends out of the year. I could probably write more but I'm out of time. Thanks for allowing us to comment and for carefully considering our suggestions.

Virginia Danfelt comments on Sawtooth Bluff draft plan 3/30/18 I think that the general designation of a multiuse park at Sawtooth Bluff is a great idea. However, the implementation details including site layouts for various uses and management will determine if this will be a successful or unsuccessful project. I understand that this is a draft and the final plan will be complete by the end of April. My concern is that this timeframe is inadequate for good planning and detailed design. I encourage extending the final date or add language in the plan that outlines the steps required for final design. This should be done before any construction work begins on individual components of the plan. The draft plan clearly defines Sawtooth Bluff as a regional park, not as a City and County park. Is this for accessing funds down the road? I would see it more as a local park that locals and visiting public can enjoy and use. It appears from reading the plan that it is trying to accommodate many interests without first ascertaining how everything will fit, flow and how the natural resource (environment) will be protected. The plan clearly states low impact development and protecting views and other environment elements. The plan does not say how this will be done, paid for and supported for the long haul. I understand that the joint powers agreement between the City and County will put in (pay for?) the roads, parking, utilities, etc. and then rely on user (volunteer) groups to do the trail work and maintenance. What do taxpayers think of more new construction in the light of other projects such as a new garage building in Hovland, a new garage in the City, fixing the roof on the new Y facility and repairs to the courthouse and so forth? Are these governing bodies spending within their means? The value and worth of a project is different than the ability to pay for it. The value of this park could be high. Public budgets typically are not. Are existing volunteer groups interested in taking on more miles and projects? What are they willing to do? Is there policy and procedures to use if the follow through isn't as expected or agreed upon? What is in place to find more volunteers when older ones move on? Another concern not addressed in the plan is who will be the oversight of the whole park on the ground: The day-to-day operation? The Grand Marais Parks Department is the logical entity for the camping. What about the proposed new building? The plan talks about nature programs and events at the facility year round. Who runs this and how will it be staffed? Where does the money come from? Where does the expertise come from? How many jobs will this park create? What is the funding for this? I am conflicted about the fen. On one hand it's great to expose the public to natural features: to boost environmental learning. On the other hand the feature needs to be protected from people. Experience has shown time and time again that people can love a place to death and protections must be in place. The plan does not address this. It should state the need to have knowledgeable staff, access, standards and safeguards for not only the fen, but for all areas as well. If these standards cannot be met, access to those areas should not be developed. The standards need to come from professionals in the field. (The DNR Biological Survey comes to mind, as does an environmental review) Then the area needs to be looked after regularly. As for the building, the goal to design a low profile structure that attempts to blend into the site is a good start. On page 8, there should be another dot that the building should be zero energy design. The City is working on reducing its carbon footprint; so any new structures should support that goal, not add to carbon emissions. If affording a zero energy design building constructed for the long haul is not possible, then the building should not be built. Along with this, there should be energy standards as well as aesthetic standards for any campground facility building. On page 19 the federal requirement of extensive environmental reviews for trail building on federal lands is mentioned as the reason there are no winter bike trails in Cook County. It is written as if not having to do an environmental review is a good thing. I think environmental reviews are tools to safeguard the environment and aid site selection and development of uses. This plan clearly states environmental protection as a goal. So wouldn't it be a good thing to employ extensive environmental reviews here, especially with the multi use? Also on page 19, it is misleading if not downright false to say there are no skiing trails in Cook County. (There are at least two others: Bally Creek and George Washington Pines). Winter biking was allowed in some cross-country areas this season. Another item in the plan that I couldn't find and was confused about was where the snowmobile trail would be located between the proposed parking areas and the state trail. The general map indicates a bike skills area. Is this a parking area for snowmobiles? The plan says that the state snowmobile trail won't come into the park and then states building a parking lot for snowmobiles. This parking and route to it should be identified on the map. The Old Ski Hill road is a terrible intersection at the Gunflint Trail. The road is also lined with private homes. To respect the privacy of these homes and to avoid a costly realignment of this intersection, the small parking area at the end of this road should be eliminated, or at least downplayed to help keep additional traffic low. In conclusion, I suggest that the steering committee work through more details before considering the plan "done". Management structure should be thought through. Some rigorous environment review should be employed before the site is designed. Consult with professionals (roads, trails, fauna, flora) and users when the snow is gone. See what fits where and what doesn't. Maybe this park can't have everything. Maybe it can. The devil is in the details. So address those details before completing the plan. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in this process.

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13	<p>We are concerned about the plan. It is devloping without a lot of input from residents of the community. When I went to the county site, I couldn't find minutes to inform me about the minutes. It is difficult to get up-to-date and accurate information about what the plans are. When I saw a plan-I don't know if it's current-I am concerned about the effects to the bluff, and then to what the effects of the change on the hillside will do to the town. We already have existing problems with runoff in town. I don't like the idea of trailers and RVs on the bluff, nor mountain bikes going so close to precious eco-systems. The impact of bringing so many people to an area that doesn't have sufficint infrastucture is very concerning.</p>	3/30/2018 8:05 AM
14	<p>I was very pleased with the level of information shared. Well thought out. I loved the idea of picnic and sliding hill. This seems to open the area to use by local folks that don't bike or play disk golf. Concerns are lights and smoke from campsites, erosion and runoff due to the steep terrain, and the impact on the quality of life to property owners on Old Ski Hill Rd. Could the County abandon that road and the property owners maintain it and find another entry point? I look forward to hearing more about this project.</p>	3/29/2018 3:00 PM
15	<p>Motor sports need to be included in the concept. There is more to this area than dog parks and hiking.</p>	3/28/2018 10:37 AM
16	<p>1) Aspects of current plan that I like: -Love the close proximity to town -a quiet, recreational area, accessible by walking from town -Where is the public parking to encourage walking from town to the site? 2) Aspects of the current plan that I would change: -Concerned about the maintenance of such extensive trails...who will maintain them? -Make sure Pincushion, a neighbor quiet sport recreation area, is connected via a path for walking/biking/snowshoeing/skiing -A safe way to cross?! Over or under the Gunflint trail? Also, a safe way to cross GFT from YMCA/school/CCCC. 3) Other comments: -Camping should remain wild for tents, not campers/motor homes. -Protect the hillside/water runoff -Maybe NOT pave the campground road -Rustic and low impact camping area (non-electric). In regards to the smoke settling towards the hospital and town, set a precedent for small fires - selling kindling wood (not large logs) and provide smaller fire pits -Quiet spots - Single track -maintenance of trails</p>	3/28/2018 10:18 AM
17	<p>Group 3 Small Group Comment Summary: 1) Aspects of the current plan that we like: -Great idea for hiking and biking, beautiful -Biking a good use -Camping needed, direct access -Short on camping -Dog park! -Multi-use preserves site, biking -Multi-use, don't interfere with storm water - Multi-use - Fen overlook, concepts -Public input - multi-use -Limit view shed impacts -Non-motorized -Interesting plan! -No buildings on top -Good use - camping, near town -Addresses needs - dog space, need wheelchair -Preserves view sheds from lake -Like residential aspect 2) Aspects of the current plan we would suggest changing? -Dog park area should be bigger -Include off-leash dog trails -Ski and running trails should connect to Pincushion -Groom in winter for skijoring -Would Old Ski Hill Road be paved? -Enough volunteers? -Old Ski Hill Road - traffic issues -Snowmobile trail crossing on Gunflint -- all crossings for Gunflint trail safe -School has not committed property, not communicated, might not want non-students -Erosion, runoff/storm water - Require storm water plan - protect bluffs -Conflicting interests -Wetlands? -Can we have enough volunteers? -Keep people off of private trails -Residential is low priority -Residential - how will it look? -Plan for an underpass for connections -Creechville underpass -Erosion, run off -Rock climbing -Campground - smoke from fires affecting air quality, hospital -Walkers on Ski Hill Road</p>	3/28/2018 10:04 AM
18	<p>Group 2: Small Group Response 1) Aspects of the current plan that we like: -local control - Destination under local control for local user groups, user-group driven -Emphasis on active living, trail hub (unobtrusive), provision for maintenance -Natural resource-based recreation area, maintaining natural aesthetics -Variety of uses (dog park, disc golf) -Nice amount of mtb bike miles (destination), disc golf, rock climbing, campground -bigger dog park 2) Aspects of the current plan we suggest changing or concerns we have: -add snowmobile trail parking on Ski Hill Road -multi-use for skijoring, dog mushing (destination) -concern about traffic on Old Ski Hill Rd (intersection with GFT), suitability of road noise (ATV, snowmobiles) -competing uses -shower houses are difficult to maintain (prefer rustic camping) -Smoke from campground -Camping (especially large campers-- What about jake-braking?) -Money to develop and maintain -Parking on Old Ski Hill Road (cost, maintenance, sustainability) -Redundant uses (parking) development on top -Scale back to more sustainable (unique uses)? -Viewshed -how do you actually minimize? -Fen-biologically significant (#82 rosebush, avoid) -Boardwalk maintenance (concerns, needs) -Rock climbing (plant sensitivities) -Include ADA designs in a gravel loop -City only control (not joint powers) for decision making -Needs a picnic area -Rock climbing area not controlled by vendor, invasive species -Need shared garage -Need for event/gathering structuring/nature center -renewable energy for all facilities -Land trust (for Fen) or other conservation easement (twilight?) Other comments: What about land acquisition? Development can be done in phases (funding)? Include in plan all aspects? Stormwater implications Safe sledding hill Do NOT draw attention to Fen No fence on cliff Trailhead at the community center?</p>	3/28/2018 9:54 AM

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19	<p>Small Group Summary- Group 1 Aspect of plan we like: -None -No major development -change viewshed -Process too fast, not enough face-to-face - Not like -Disc golf - biking trails - Lutsen is the only place now- user group -Recognizes special place -- topography - opportunity for acquies - Campground - offers affordable lodging and close activities -Rock climbing - right now closest is Carlton Peak -Sliding hill potential? Tow rope from old ski hill? -Conscientious of viewshed - special place - open process -ruled out industrial/residential development 2)Aspects of the current we would suggest changing: -History of Ski Hill kept for education/preservation -Utilities - city taxes be paid by old Ski Hill Rd -Background on what is feasible- limited information -Pattern fen removed completely - multiple issues -Old Ski Hill Road - parking lot at the end, several issues/unsafe -Rock Climbing - change character of viewshed from town (but MN Climbing Association may be able to help, assume own risk) -Campground locations - air quality -Nothing will be developed w/o maintenance plan -Sliding hill potential? 3) Other comments: -Utilities? maintenance -Expand project idea areas outside of plan area -Maybe nothing will happen -Srmg would be a good time to check area for development impacts- Pincushion good example - Pincushion connector - parking issues -Runaway truck ramp - move or keep as is</p>	3/28/2018 9:21 AM
20	<p>1) Aspects of the current plan that I like: Residential areas, especially if low income housing is a part, and the dog park idea 2) Aspects of the current plan I would change include: -Trail to Fen - many would look at this as a waste of money, building a trail to a 'swamp'. Easy access to a fragile natural area would lead to human impacts unfortunately, exotic plants, off-boardwalk use, etc. This is what happens and it would be a shame to negatively impact this unique area. -Changing Old Ski Hill road from a residential road to a destination roadway/parking area/etc. This road is already used for recreation by residents and locals. 3) Other comments: -Campground- has the city considered the air pollution from the numerous open campfires? There are multiple pollutants in wood smoke and this should be studied. The current poor air quality from the existing campground is unhealthy. Non-campfire camping would solve this situation. -"Preserve the diverse natural resources"-- not addressed sufficiently.</p>	3/28/2018 8:59 AM
21	<p>2) Aspects of the current plan I suggest changing: Consider the potential for both vandalism and safety near the towers and satellites.</p>	3/28/2018 8:52 AM
22	<p>1) Aspects of current plan that I like: I appreciate the idea of no change to the view shed. Seeing an undeveloped cliff is a long time view of Grand Marais and is well-remembered by locals and visitors. 2) Aspects of the current plan that I would suggest changing: -Nix any thoughts of a big venue site. There are much better places to do this. -Need a realistic funding cost proposal, because additional taxes will have a big impact on locals. Costs need to be determined as well as any reductions in cost via residential housing land sales, camp fees, etc. -Nix the rock climbing -- rock quality very questionable. 3) Other comments: make housing affordable for our workforce, including small house concepts and sustainable power ideas from CCLEP.</p>	3/28/2018 8:51 AM
23	<p>1) Aspects of current plan that I like: -multiple uses, well suited for current city/county needs -non-motorized -NO residential development on higher bluff area -environmentally sensitive -- could be designed to be easy on the forest and sustainable. 2) Aspects of current plan I suggest changing: - The maintenance of the trails will be high-- the forest is mostly spruce/balsam/aspen, and lots of brush regrowth and blowdown of both live and dead/dying trees -The site is bedrock, shallow soils, serps, wetland. The storm water management issues are crucial. 3)Other comments: visual impact/visual pollution issues should be minimal to none</p>	3/28/2018 8:47 AM
24	<p>Would like the Fen left alone-- it doesn't need additional traffic in it or around it. Fens like this are rare in this county and easily damaged. Do not like parking lot on Old Ski Hill Rd. It would bring in traffic which would make the road less safe for locals who use this road to walk their pets and with neighbors. Do not change viewscape of hill from town. Hiking trails would be good addition to town, good maintenance would help keep down erosion to steep slopes.</p>	3/28/2018 8:43 AM

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25	<p>Thank- you for the presentation. I've known of such for quite awhile now. I have questions, more than like or dislike. 1) LIKE that it is to remain " hidden" from the eyes of the public... with more extensions, is it possible? 2) The water comes from where? 3) The sewer goes where? 4)- The storm water is not a problem?m 5)- The electric is from where? 6)- Who pays for sewer/ garbage/ matinance? 7) who pays for employees! How many are employed! ( it states that most is volunteree. 8) a fee to enter? 9) a fee to park? 10- a fee for sleeping in a tent? Renting a tent? 11) how do people eat? Fires? 12) helicopters to hospital will be of no problem? 13)- how many buildings? 14)- who pays for the employment to maintain the bike routes, the buildings, ? It is Federal- Local land, so is it done by extra taxes? 15) Do locals get discounts? Or free entry? ... If tenting is reserved, it is overtaken by tourists. 16) who maintains the trails? Thru snow, rain, garbage, the bike routes, the buildings?etc? 17- Please keep the trees! 18- whom and for how much teaches or guides persons thru the trails? Who pays for this? All volunteeers? 19)- who is tliable for any emergency Services? And the costs of such? 20)- The Joint Towers Board will not continue long term. And who decides with the Joint Towers Board, they are okay as of now? How replaces them, and how when the beginning of the project is concluded? 21)- I agree with the gentleman from Tofte, paper surveys and questionnaires should always be available. To all. Not everyone likes online information. 22)- Will there be an age regulation, for children alone? I understand the improvements for the county, yet the long term maintence is extremely important, and who pays for such is ideal. We are the highest % of older adults and retirees in all of Minn. so, will action always be needed? Many people come here for peace and tranquility, to leave the city, and the ruckus of such. If much needs to be done, I personally Beleive that a " glass" house, surrounded by a tree/ bird/ flower symposium, would be ideal It holds to nature, peace, to watch the Lake during the day, and to see the stars( that the majority of the world no longer can do) at night, to sit in a glass hut and wonder the woods, or bike, to search for what trees are available, what flowers are available to be seen, and smelled, and to see the entire " sea" ( as I called it as a child)(( because it reminded me of a sea, not a lake)) and to watch, clearly for a shooting star would be wonderful , and peaceful, and much less expensive, maintence and all! Thank- you!</p>	3/27/2018 5:09 PM
26	<p>I would like to see something for locals. Instead of "it'll draw in tourism..." It'd be nice to hear "and locals can use it year round". First, I think it needs to be a non alcoholic (I know, unheard of up here)healthy hang out. I think this county could seriously use a batting cage. What a simple thing to run. Teams could use it year round, people could go and just whack balls. It's healthy. Good for ya. Heck, go all out and do an indoor field with 2 or 3 netted areas for batting only. Then teams could practice and play all year. The summer softball has become a joke, I think this would be amazing!</p>	3/27/2018 5:07 PM
27	<p>I really like it!</p>	3/27/2018 11:14 AM
28	<p>It would be beneficial to the local community and to the tourism aspect of Cook County to add a multi-use trail that would include skjoring and small recreational team dog mushing. There is a large population of dog lovers in Grand Marais. There is also a large population of those that travel to destinations with their one or more dogs that are looking for activities they can participate in with their dogs. This trail would need to be a significant length (3-5 miles minimum) in order to be a destination and to be of interest to local users. I would also like to see the dog park much larger than appears on the plan with a clean water feature. Wooded trails and interesting topography would be much preferred to an open field. The current size will not accommodate the boom in tourist population during the summer months.</p>	3/27/2018 9:35 AM
29	<p>It is very important that any development on the bluff site be done with the least impact on wetlands and erosive slopes. Take time to do any building and construction in a high quality way using as much local and natural materials as possible. Biking and disc golf are an important feature for this site, but walking/hiking may end up being the highest use so build good trails that highlight views, forest traverse, and birding areas. Also, a "trailhead" building should have the flexibility to be used as a small meeting space and a classroom space. Don't skimp on the building.</p>	3/27/2018 8:46 AM
30	<p>Please leave As Is #nodevelopment</p>	3/27/2018 6:20 AM

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31	<p>The Sawtooth Bluff Area is a great place to explore as it is and I would encourage its use. I like that the Plan recognizes this special area and the diversity within the area. I like that the plan considers the acquisition of the adjacent private parcels which may become available. My concerns have to do primarily with environmental impacts with the proposed changes to the landscape. Such as removing tree and vegetation cover and likely increasing runoff and erosion. Has a wetland delineation been done on the hillside? The Sawtooth Bluff acres are in a state/federal designated floodplain and act as a sponge to lessen the flooding down hill. Any diversion of water on the hillside has consequences downstream in the city. This spring would be a good time for decision makers to hike throughout the area and watch how the water flows within the area, not just the runoff into the ditch along the Gunflint Trail. The magnitude of proposed trail development places a greater burden on volunteers to maintain the trails. Putting primitive campsites in the area proposed implies campfires. Smoke hazard in the hospital/care center resulted in the closing of the woody debris area at the runoff road. Old Ski Hill Rd has more the character of a bike/walking route now. Increasing tourist traffic has safety issues and security issues around the towers which are public safety critical infrastructure. Tourist parking is currently available at Pincushion Overlook and would be appropriate at the proposed trailhead. Perhaps the plan should include an erosion control demonstration project by stabilizing the gulley running straight up the slope under the powerline. For over 40 years I have provided opportunities for individuals or groups to experience the outdoors of NE Minnesota and Ontario either by leading or training leaders for wilderness experiences. So I am all for creating opportunities for our local residents to experience this area. JW March 26, 2018</p>	3/26/2018 3:35 PM
32	<p>We thank everyone involved for their hard work on this plan! Our family has done a lot of walking and exploring on the SHT and informal trails along the bluff area for 20 years; its a priceless public space. Thus, we strongly support the proposal, including multiple and varied trails, camping (great idea!), and dog use. We are not horse riders, but wonder if their interests have been considered (e.g., connect a trail to the riding ring?). Of all the plan elements, a facility/building seems lowest priority due to cost and need, but if funds can come from outside the community its ok. Jean &amp; Tim Cochrane, Grand Marais</p>	3/26/2018 10:33 AM
33	<p>The plan needs winter activities. We have plenty of business in the summer months. Our winter months are lean for many businesses. A tubing park, sledding park or snowboarding park would be awesome.</p>	3/26/2018 9:09 AM
34	<p>A central trail hub sounds great I'd like to see it work for snowmobile and atv's. A parking lot large enough for the trailers would be a plus! We could also add spur trails to connect to a few of the main trails for snowmobiling and atv use. I like the way buildings are to be designed into the environment.</p>	3/25/2018 8:28 AM
35	<p>The USDA FOREST SERVICE can access funding sources to assist partners in efforts that connect communities to recreation infrastructure. For example, trailhead locations at the Cook County Community YMCA could lead hikers, bikers, skiers to designated trails starting at the YMCA (and the school) up the hill to intersect with the SHT and beyond to the Pincushion Mountain complex. The federal funds can be used to acquire easements. Better signage is needed along the existing trails and at CC12 crossings. Kiosks should be planned for trailheads at the bottom of the hill (YMCA perhaps) and at Pincushion Overlook. Try to interest the USDA FOREST SERVICE in a collaboration designed to write a comprehensive recreation management plan to encompass Sawtooth Bluff, Pincushion area that examines all recreation uses and opportunities in that geography where they manage lands. The collaboration model will leverage the SB plan.</p>	3/24/2018 11:52 AM
36	<p>Additional camping: two items of concern are about air quality / smoke management and additional camping that is planned by the Wunderbar. Additional and frequent campfires uphill from the care center / hospital complex will impact those facilities. Please do not implement plans for additional camping until the Wunderbar deploys their camping infrastructure. They will provide additional capacity for campers over the next few years. Let's not compete with them.</p>	3/24/2018 11:30 AM
37	<p>We would like to see snowmobile &amp; ATV trail connections included in the plan as well an access trail to the campground.</p>	3/24/2018 10:09 AM
38	<p>It's a big space how about adding a parking area for snowmobiles and atv's and some trails to ride on and join up with other trails. Also please make the campground atv's friendly so we can camp from our atv's Thanks</p>	3/24/2018 9:06 AM
39	<p>Is there anyway the area could include more snowmobile trails and a ATV trail. The Iron range has a few areas that have both ATV trails and mountain bike trails. A great multi-use area. We camp in the Campground and know ALOT of people who would come up use a ATV trail area</p>	3/23/2018 7:39 PM

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40	It's too expensive considering the financial condition our county is in. It shouldn't even be considered until our finances are under control. Most local people I've talked to don't think it's needed or even wanted, even if it was affordable.	3/23/2018 4:32 PM
41	I think it is a good plan, but what will the user fee's be? Right now, people can use it for free to hike around. Local people will not be happy to lose this free resource. I think you need to be a lot more clear on the cost of building and maintaining, who is paying for this, and how much it is including fees.)	3/23/2018 1:00 PM
42	it would be nice if there was parking and access to the trails for snowmobilers and ATV riders. I	3/23/2018 11:22 AM
43	Please include snowmobile and ATV trails in your planning process.	3/23/2018 10:57 AM
44	Snowmobile & ATV trails should be included in the plan.	3/23/2018 10:54 AM
45	snowmobile and atv trails should be included in the plan	3/23/2018 10:43 AM
46	Our family is thrilled that this area is being developed. I grew up here, ran up the power lines with our sports teams, and always wondered if anything would become of the area. We are outdoor enthusiasts and appreciate how conscious the Steering Committee is being about having minimal impact to the landscape and views while developing it into a public use park. We think Grand Marais proper could really use more recreational opportunities and feel that your plans are the highest and best use of the area. We are particularly excited to see plans for disc golf, rock climbing, the dog park, bike skills park, and more biking/hiking trails. We are most excited to see those opportunities which don't exist in town right now, like disc golf and rock climbing. That makes it a true community asset! We hope that the ability to run/climb up the power line will still be made available as this is a fun traditional challenge for local residents and youth sports teams. The connection to Pincushion trails should benefit both Pincushion and this park and we are glad to see that as well. Thank you for your work, and we are in full support of this plan!	3/23/2018 10:10 AM
47	I love the hiking trails, camping, biking, and rock climbing. My favorite is the dog park tho I would like it to be bigger. So many dogs in town and even more during warmer months when tourists could take advantage of all aspects of the park.	3/23/2018 8:41 AM
48	I hope ATVs will be considered before final decision is made. As someone who visits from the metro area, I would love to see more ATV accessible trails. Will I be able to stay at campground and ride to trails?	3/22/2018 8:50 PM
49	Because there were no existing trails for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use in this area before planning started, I didn't think there was an option for ATVs to be included. But now that I see that miles of mountain bike trails and a mountain bike challenge area are being constructed, I would like to see a sport I enjoy included. I understand that ATVs cannot travel through the fen area, but I would really like to see ATVs have the option to stay at the camping area. That could be accessible by the county roads to the site, which allow ATVs. ATVs travel the Gunflint Trail now to reach the Devil Track/Pine Mountain Road areas. To camp there and then travel to the other trails would be an amazing experience. If this is to be a truly community, multiple use area this really needs to include ATVs in some form. Other than that, I love the ideas for the building, for rockclimbing, etc.	3/22/2018 8:43 PM
50	it would be great if the Superior Hiking Trail had its own route, rather than sharing the long straight ( boring for hikers) muddy snowmobile path. If at all possible, there is a need for another remote campsite as well.	3/21/2018 5:24 PM
51	The Park location is too close to existing roads too close to the town proper and just too close! call me a NIMBY but once gone it will never be back. The plan is way to ambitious for this small town. Grand Marais does not need this development to be a viable North Shore town. It's about the money be it tax's or support for this enterprise. Its always about the money! anyone that says it is not is not being truthful. Special small interests with big voices in the city, and county offices are using this for their own special interests. ie a personal playground for their particular interests. Clearly I am an opposed voter and a small voice, but I am here!	3/21/2018 5:19 PM

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52	<p>After reading the draft master plan I am wondering why everything must be developed and turned into a tourist attraction and cash cow for Grand Marais. Isn't Grand Marais being overrun by tourists in the summer with businesses having difficulty finding employees? Why do you need a big trail hub complex, when you have the Pincushion Trail system, featuring everything already in place that you want to build, only a couple of miles away. This seems very redundant and unnecessary. We already have miles of hiking and biking trails just minuets from downtown Grand Marais. These hiking and biking trails are not overcrowded in any way with similar views and experiences. Now you want to spoil the last scenic area where a person can get away from the crowds of tourists and find a little peace and solitude. All that will be lost to the local people who have used this area for decades and don't need all the amenities in the proposal. Soon fences will have to be built along the cliff area so selfy-stick waving tourists don't fall over the edge in the quest for the perfect photo. The residents along the Old Ski Hill road will have increased traffic, noise, dust and pollution from more cars. The quiet road where you can walk and bike without traffic will cease to be. Grand Marais is rapidly losing its natural beauty, the very reason people want to escape the city and development. Now the old ski hill is to be sliced and diced and converted into another tourist mecca. Nature is in fact still healing from the scars of the last attempt at commercializing this area. It is hard to resist the want to monetize and develop every last inch of land, but undeveloped can be far more valuable and useful in its natural state. Grand Marais has done very well without carving up the hillside and will continue to thrive quite nicely. As the Beatles song wisely states, "Let it be".</p>	3/21/2018 9:49 AM
53	<p>Regretfully, I will be on vacation and unfortunately unable to attend the public input session on Monday. I would like to comment in writing. I love all of the ideas for this park. They are carefully thought out and include ideas from many passionate groups of people. Although I am interested in many of the potential possibilities for the park, I am most excited about the disc golf course proposal. For a county our size it is amazing how many people drive to and play the course at Lutsen resort every weekend. A course closer to the center of the county would be much more convenient, and the Cook County Disc Golf Club, with over 50 members, would help in every step of the way to creating a new public course in the Sawtooth Bluffs Regional Park. That includes design, installation, upkeep, promotion, etc. This already popular sport is rapidly growing, and i believe the draw for both locals and visitors alike makes it a deserving addition to the park. I hope to be a part of its realization. Thanks! Matt McIntyre Lutsen</p>	3/20/2018 8:46 PM
54	<p>It looks good to me.</p>	3/20/2018 6:51 PM
55	<p>As a camping/rving visitor to Grand Marais yearly, I would like additional RV sites available for use providing they are not just in the woods with no direct line of site to the bluff or Lake Superior. Also, would like their to be electric/water hookups at a minimum but sewer would be a nice addition. This plan looks very nice to me and I believe it would be a compliment to the area. If you'd like to chat with me, my email is cdhjn@gmail.com</p>	3/20/2018 2:55 PM
56	<p>I like the proposal as it has been presented.</p>	3/20/2018 2:44 PM
57	<p>I like it. I especially like the building style shown in the plan. I have heard complaint about changes in traffic and road construction that would have to happen on Old Ski Hill Road. I would encourage you to engage heavily with that group to make sure that they are heard and that there are necessary accommodations put into place for them. Other than that, I'm really excited. One thing, maybe add a few downhill MTBike runs? Powerline? etc. That's something that there isn't a lot of around here.</p>	3/20/2018 1:40 PM
58	<p>The drawing of the proposed area includes property that is owned by ISD#166. We have not committed to be involved with this plan and by including a map of our property you are misrepresenting our involvement. Please update your map to exclude our property. Thank you, Sissy Lunde Board Chair ISD#166</p>	3/19/2018 7:39 PM
59	<p>Great work! It is exciting to see how far this project has come over the past few years. Kudos to the City and County for coming together on this, to the staff for their dedication, and to ARDC for pulling together this plan. Overall, looks great. The only thing that I noticed was: - Currently, the sidewalk on 5th Ave W, connecting to the CR 7 sidewalk, ends by the recycling center. I think the plan should recommend an extension, to connect to this project. These types of connections have often been neglected in the past in our community, so inclusion in the plan will assist in efforts to make it happen. Even if a tunnel/trail to community center and school is used, a pedestrian should be able to connect to the infrastructure on 5th Ave W to connect to Birchwood Apartments, the Clinic/Hospital, and the rest of Grand Marais. Thanks again and look forward to seeing where this goes!</p>	3/19/2018 3:42 PM

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60	<p>The draft plan overall looks really exciting and has many great features. My only concern is the amount of space and location designated for the disc golf course seems a bit underwhelming and small. I just hope that if the course was allowed a piece of the land, that it's not forced to stack 18 holes directly on top of itself like so many disc golf courses across the state have been designed. We already have a course in Cook County of that caliber, at Lutsen Resort. I think the goal should be to at a minimum make a better course than that one.</p>	3/18/2018 5:03 PM
61	<p>Hello. Here's some things that I like: I love the trail connections to existing facilities such as the community center-YMCA area, Pincushion, the Superior Trail and the North Shore Trail. I think the trail hub idea is great. I like the idea of having some accessible trail facilities. Many of the state parks on the shore are pretty rough for folks that are a little less mobile or agile on rocky uneven paths (aside from Gooseberry). I like the idea of adding snowmobile parking to connect to the North Shore Trail, likely off Old Ski Hill Road. I think the residential development makes sense where you put it, and I'd add it along the south side of Gunflint Trail from 5th Av W going east. Things I do not care for: I'd be strongly against allowing RV's and Camper Trailers. They will drastically take away from the wild/natural feel of the woods, and will require a much more drastic change to the view and well as a larger investment in infrastructure. It'll add noise, garbage, erosion, and likely attract bears. I would much prefer tent only camping facilities, let the RV's stay in town. Continue to modernize the RV park for folks that want that type of experience, and make the new park one of nature and simplicity. A trail use fee could be used to offset the lost revenue of not allowing RV's in the new park. I think the tunnel under 5th Av W is well intentioned but an unnecessary expense both in construction and future maintenance. An enhanced crosswalk facility would be sufficient for the traffic that 5th carries. I'd skip the disc golf course. It'll create too many open areas in the forest, has a tendency to attract some minor crime issues, and seems like a somewhat fad type facility.</p>	3/18/2018 8:35 AM
62	<p>I think it's a great idea. Just another fun thing to do in Grand Marais!</p>	3/16/2018 9:58 PM
63	<p>Thank you for the opportunity, three things: 1. I hope that the RV campsites would NOT be available to long term rental similar to the Grand Marais rec park where people basically keep an RV in a spot, unoccupied, throughout the year. I would hope it would match USFS guidelines allowing up to two weeks at a time, not longer. I feel the long term camping creates more of a residential atmosphere, not a camping experience. 2. Only three miles of hiking trails seems inadequate when there is enough land to accommodate 20 potential miles of cycle trails. Three miles hardly constitutes a "hiking" network. Could these cycling trails also be hiking trails like many vast networks found in other places? 3. The "site area" map on page 7 of the Draft outlining the property boundary has an error. The wooded area north of the school between the ball fields and the gunflint trail is actually School District land, not County Land. The County owns a very slim sliver of property between the south side of the gunflint trail and the wooded school property. This is clear in both the plat book and online parcel finder. This parcel in question is also shown as the site of the proposed "bike skills park" on page 15 of the Draft. This portion of land should be re-drawn with a dotted red line and reconsidered in the plan in the absence of agreement with the School District to include that parcel in the Site. Thanks much! Dan Shirley shirleydan@gmail.com</p>	3/16/2018 8:16 PM
64	<p>While I love the idea of using private lands to promote natural tourism I am concerned about the return on investment as well. I love the bike trail - disc golf - hiking trail - rock climbing. All are good for tourism trends. However I think the campground should be at least 100 sites - not 30. I think the front of the site zoned residential might be better used for some affordable rustic looking apartment townhomes for locals - rentals even. We can't keep young people in town if there is no place to live. And local builders could build and local business people could own and manage it. They already are property managers. They already have the resources in place. I'm just thinking this needs a bit more viability for producing some income. It wouldn't take much to add some elements that would help offset the costs. Real estate taxes are becoming prohibitive. Additional campsites are an obvious income producer. Lower cost nice apartments would also generate income and help the community.</p>	3/16/2018 4:38 PM
65	<p>DISC IT BABY!!!!</p>	3/15/2018 7:29 PM
66	<p>You guys should build a new disc golf course in Grand Marais! We have a high amount of disc golfers in cook county &amp; would love an epic course!</p>	3/15/2018 6:31 PM
67	<p>i think its a great idea to put in a disc golf course! after living up here for 6 years one of the things i missed about the cities is not being able to go disk golfing without going all the way to lutsen. i think more mountain biking trails will bring more people to the city as well.</p>	3/15/2018 6:03 PM

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68	I am so glad to see a disc golf course included in this draft plan! The sport would encourage outdoors recreation to all age groups, especially attractive for younger residents and visitors, while allowing this great resource to be left largely in its beautiful native state. The property and location are in an ideal location and would certainly create a new recreation opportunity for current residents and attract new visitors. I am certain the minimal investment for such a course would be repaid to the community many times over! Thank you for considering a disc golf course as part of the Sawtooth Bluff master plan! Sincerely, Adam Mella	3/15/2018 4:37 PM
69	For some reason I had a dream about this the other night. I don't even live up there yet ( 2020). I thought of a glass fronted warmed building for observing the northern lights displays. Kind of like a large gazebo sort of structure with benches for people to gather in awe. Could also serve as a year round classroom, wedding place etc... Away from lights.... just a thought.	3/14/2018 2:41 PM
70	I think it was very thoughtful and well done. Further thoughts...I hope that when the build happens it will keep the neighbors that live below (in what has been a very quiet area) in mind. I also hope that as the plan moves forward it keep focusing on making the area one that isn't noticeable to those that are driving up the hill or from town looking up. I also get a little concerned about more 3 wheels and bigger campers going up there - and if they do get added that they only can be rented for a week at a time as I think that space is very pitchesque and should be a place more people have the opportunity of staying instead of a specific few that rent for the summer or for a month at a time. I would like it to be more focused on just tent camping. I also hope they plan for traffic changes as that is a challenging part of the road to have turning and increasing traffic as people are coming up or down the gunflint trail. It may want to be looked at decreasing the speed in that part of the road to help slow people down if there will be more traffic turning. I think their should also be some thought into creating an outside wedding location (maybe the ampitheater could be used for this?). I also hope that rental of the ampitheater or spaces is kept in mind. What will the costs be for renting the space? What technology can be used in the space? Who is responsible for handling those usages. Some of this area has been my favorite places to walk my dog (close to town-not a far distance - wooded - with parking) and with very VERY little traffic if any (my current old dog isn't a dog that would use the dog park) and it has also been one of my favorite close to town spots to pick strawberries since I was a kid. These will be sad things to lose in this development...so I hope that if it all happens that I will feel what has developed is a good exchange.	3/14/2018 1:43 PM
71	I see no reason why this should be devolved. Leave it alone. There are also people's homes who border this land. I'm sure they do not want to deal with extra vehicle traffic and pedestrians.	3/12/2018 12:29 PM
72	Leave it like it is!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! How do these things get started? A dog park with one less than a mile away already? The building is hideous. What is the obsession with tourism in the county and catering to them? The information indicates less than 60 respondents on an initial survey, some of which said, "Do nothing"..... How can a small group of selected few conclude much of anything based on a mere 60 respondents in the initial survey, other than advancing their own agenda? Another case of it depends on who you are in this county. And who is going to pay for it? We all know the answer to that one!	3/12/2018 4:23 AM
73	I can think of a million wonderful ideas for our county as long as someone else will pay for them. Our tax base is shrinking (tourists don't pay taxes) and in spite of all the promises to the contrary ( Arts Center, Y.M.C.A., etc., etc.,-----) those of us who are left end up footing the bill. One other heads up, young people are not leaving here because they have no cliff climbing or fat tire biking opportunities. They are leaving because there are only menial low paying jobs available and living expenses are beyond their reach. We have become an elitist community. Monies to attract decent employment opportunities ( no more government please) would be better spent.	3/10/2018 10:53 PM
74	Don't go crazy with the amenities if it is going to create more taxpayer expense and negatively impact the natural aspect of the area, Mke sure that fen is more than adequately protected. Mention is made of the camper fees paying for a lot of this. Are there really going to be that many campsites? I favor it but worry that it will be like the Y and become one more subsidized attraction to get people to come to a place that has mainly low paying service jobs so they can't come anyways.	3/10/2018 9:30 PM
75	I think the area should be left alone. We dont need a city park with buildings and roads and trails. Let it be natural. I have walked and hiked and snowshoed and sat and over looked the town in that area many times over the years. Leave it alone! Development is NOT always better.	3/10/2018 7:13 PM

## Sawtooth Bluff Draft Master Plan Public Comments March 2018

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76	As a tourist, GM is my destination several times a year, year round - hotels in winter and campgrounds in summer. In addition to the economic impact, another campground near GM is great news and sites with that panoramic view would be incredible! I'm happy to read about the "viewshed" and to know the campsites will be more spacious than the Municipal CG, slightly wooded for a bit of privacy and separation from your neighbor and so won't feel crowded. I do wonder about road noise from the Gunflint - I'm thinking of logging trucks downshifting on the hill. This is an exciting project, best wishes all along the way! I look forward to watching the progress. Katie Thorson	3/10/2018 1:01 PM
77	I live on the Old Ski Hill road. I'm concerned about the additional traffic, privacy and road maintenance.	3/9/2018 5:36 PM

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