Submitted on Monday, July 17, 2023 - 5:30pm

Submitted by anonymous user: 72.175.65.252

Submitted values are:

First Name Andrew Last Name Mitchell Email Question/Comment Thank you for another opportunity to comment.

The metaphor of a special place as a tapestry is probably overused, but that's the best I can do. This is a remarkable community in a remarkable setting, filled with remarkable people. Sacajawea Park is a world class community asset as is. Adding the swim center to the Miles Park area is like grabbing a fistful of threads from a rare tapestry and tearing them out. The traffic increase alone will ruin the park. I don't see how it's conscionable to do that when other options are better. The growth of the city is to the north. Families are generally concentrated there. It's a good fit. I recognize that some may feel that they save trips by locating the new facility near the schools, but the soccer fields are on the northwest corner of the city, and I have not heard of undue logistical hardship associated with them.

Also, I found it interesting that engineering studies indicate that flooding won't be a problem, or that the issue can be engineered away. Whether we want to call it climate change or something else, as a career wildland firefighter I can assure you that something with our climate is different than it used to be and that it seems to be becoming more unstable. Given these circumstances, who can say that flooding will not get more profound or more frequent? Where will these engineers be when there's six inches of mud on the floor of this facility? I've dealt with fire modeling for several decades and I know exactly how accurate they are. I can't imagine that flood modeling is any more precise.

In summary, we have four excellent for-profit gyms in town that offer weightlifting and other fitness equipment. I think it's wrong for tax dollars to fund competition for them. Please scale this down to a modest swim facility that can be funded operationally with less tax involvement and locate it on the north side to spread out city amenities to all citizens. The Washington School location is my preferred choice.

Thank you. Phone Number

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

https://www.livingstonmontana.org/node/7/submission/1646