Residents’Preferred Outcome for Cedar Lake:

- Food/Entertainment: 9%
- Trail Enhancements: 8%
- Attractive Landmark: 11%
- Improved Fishing: 18%
- Environmental Quality: 30%
- Water Recreation: 24%

Total responses: 66

Improved Fishing

Water Recreation

Environmental Quality
Residents’ Top Amenities

Total respondents: 68, each indicating 3 preferred amenities
Cedar Lake Open House Comment Cards

In addition to the board activities, in which participants were asked to vote for their preferred amenities with dots, each participant was given the opportunity to fill out a comment card and respond to the questions:

- What did you like about this topic?
- What is missing from this topic?

The following are the aggregated responses from the 41 comment cards received during the open house.

**What do you like about this topic?**
- Community improvement across to alternate forms of recreation.
- The environmental/greenspace focus.
- Passive forms of recreation bring citizens from all walks to this central area.
- Everything – city Needs it!
- The environmental and recreation phase; I really really like the bike and skate parks
- Thanks for addressing this issue
- I would like to see this fishery improved. All three cells; deepen all cells and use IDNR for professional results.
- It offers many opportunities for all recreation. Cedar Lake is unique with trails both walking and bicycle. I feel that cleaning Cedar Lake should be a priority. I think you will find that this area will be heavily used.
- Fishing Environment improved; improvements for Kayak accessibility and providing more access to shoreline for fishing.
- Excited about improvements! Canoe & Kayak are important to me. Also bike friendly!
- All the excitement and enthusiasm.
- Trail improvements; Board walk over water and wetland wildlife
- I like that Cedar Lake is being recognized as an under-utilized asset that Cedar Rapids can enhance to improve the quality of life for residents and a feature to attract visitors.
- Access for more usage, including fishing. A little “wilderness” in town.
- A beach area would be nice and I like the grassy area in the pictures. The jest of the things I am interested in seems to be covered.
- Cedar Lake! I love to walk around it, ride my bike around it and I’m excited for the future of it. The potential for recreational activities and proposed uses are huge.
- I'd like to see fishing improvements on both the north and south lakes. My son caught his first large catfish on the south lake with his grandpa when he was about 7 years old. He’s an avid fisherman now at 33 years old. My father-in-law made national news with his 19” piranha from the south lake.
- Cedar Lake is a great amenity to the community and is used by many. I think with input from the Community it will become bigger and better.
What do you like about this topic (continued comments)

- Love that this prominent feature will become one to be proud of, a City landmark, an invitation to hang out!
- Kayaking, canoeing, biking, shoreline fishing and beach areas would so enhance the City for all and my grandchildren’s future. Thank you for all your hard work!
- The potential for Cedar Lake to serve the Community as a recreational location would be a big plus to have this within our City.
- In town fishing opportunities; well-maintained walking and bike trail; make it look more attractive from I380.
- Fun amenity for our Community.
- Our city needs to clean up the area and use it for better use for citizens and visitors too. I’m very impressed with all the planning that has gone into it.
- The opportunity to create a recreational area out of a blighted space – one that is intentional and truly welcoming of the Cedar Rapids area community. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that the City of Cedar Rapids must not miss!
- Prominent feature from I-380; opportunity for stormwater enhancements; opportunity for iconic landmark/art; increased awareness of McLoud’s Run/the Cedar Lake watershed and stormwater management in general and Opportunity for Cedar Rapids to produce a visible effort as environmental stewards.
- A brighter, cleaner, more enjoyable area is hard to argue against.
- Multiuse; parking but appears more is needed and the more varied recreational opportunities for families that are not cost prohibitive, the better.
- I would like to see the water level of Cedar Lake to be raised to support the fish in the winter. More area for family to enjoy the lake view and nature.
- The hope of a lovely lake to enhance the beauty of Cedar Rapids as well as provide nearby recreational opportunities.
- I like the fish because I can walk to the lake.
- Cedar Lake’s potential to grow to be a vibrant attraction or the local people as well as visitors to Cedar Rapids.
- Lots of ideas relevant to making good use of Cedar Lake.
- We do need to enhance Cedar Lake. On many a summer night, you can find more people on the Cedar Lake trail than in Bever Park. We need to invest in the lake as a reflection of its use – and to increase its usefulness.
- Depth – time to dredge!
- Would be a huge asset to the area as well as a tourist destination if planned well.
What do you like about this topic (continued comments)

- I feel like nearly all potential opportunities/activities were looked at. I like the Prairie Park poster. I did not realize Cedar Rapids already had a water body to go kayaking!
- Cedar Lake has potential for enhancement, especially terrestrial amenities however it will be difficult, expensive and temporary to enhance water quality and reduce sedimentation. In order to ensure good water and fishing it is first essential to reduce stormwater flow and sediment into the earth. These items will help.

What is missing from this topic?

- It would be much easier to create an access from the Lake under 5the interstate at “G” Avenue instead of at “E” Avenue. The railroad does not leave strings of rail cars parked on the tracks across the path at “G” Avenue. There should be a solar heated year-round restroom (plumbed-running water).
- More alternate forms of recreation for underserved populations.
- Not that it fits here, but it could, we really really really like the skate and bike parks in Time Check.
- Handicap fishing piers; Bait shop close by; Roped off place for radio controlled boats
- Educational aspects; I want to be sure that this project includes all _______ cells! And Have trails connect to the college and hospitals
- Boat rental; outfitter; concessions
- Safety should be one priority; removing brush both on the lake shore and trails; making the view from 380 more pleasing for visitors
- How fishing environment would be improved....dredging, underwater structures.
- Beaches
- Beach
- I think that there needs to be clarity of the roles that the City of Cedar Rapids and Friends of Cedar Lake are playing with regard to planning, funding, construction, maintenance etc.
- Dredging to enhance depth; structures for fish.
- I think it’s moving in a good direction. We just need to be sure that we work on depending the lake and maintaining that depth.
- I think you’ve covered anything/everything I’d like to see.
- With the railroad sharing space around Cedar Lake, maybe partner with them to encourage more train watching.
- What is happening with the railroad area?
- We need a beach for swimming, wading and sunbathing.
- Can’t think of any right now...but maybe a green house?
What is missing from this topic? (continued comments)

- A focus on what could be – for Cedar Lake, rather than just accepting what currently exists.
- Improved safety/lighting/visibility along the trail; flood impact on proposed improvements; potential for ecological improvements such as habitat, didactic improvements about natural history, ecology and watershed and analysis of existing infrastructure (bizioges, dams and culverts).
- My concern as one-responsible for a Shaver Road business is that the more developed Cedar Lake becomes and the more people utilize the area, public sentiment will shift from this being an industrial area, to a recreational area only. Businesses in-place are here because its’ an industrial area. I worry that can eventually negatively impact industry.
- Detail planning: ex: water level stabilization, motors-electric only. Who/what organization coordinates educational programs, wildlife planting, and priorities on a time line for development (this activity should help). Getting other organizations involved to help – IKES, Scouts (Eagle projects). First priority for this and City as a whole is completion of Flood protection.
- I would like to see the lake dredged out, all the different sections of the lake. More bank stabilization.
- A shallow sand put-in spot for boats – maybe on the south end.
- A lot the DNR.
- $
- Kayak vendor so rental is an option for many of us who do not own a kayak, but enjoy the activity.
- Dale Todd is correct in being concerned about silt in the lake. While it makes little sense to dredge the Cedar River, as some want to do, we may need to do something to protect the water level in the lake. I bike around the lake two or three times a week in summer. We can do more to make this an attractive, natural area. Perhaps we can expand the parkland around the lake as well. The trailhead off 4th Street NE needs enhancement – make it look more welcoming, rather than look like an afterthought. By the way, a big thanks to Brandon Whyte for emailing abot his meeting. Bottom line, this area has needed attention or years and years. Now is the time to invest in Cedar Lake.
- Could the dredge spoil from the lake be used in flood wall construction?
- Place to teach young people how to sail (small boats like snark and sunfish).
- Nothing – I’m excited to see what happens!
- 1. Require developers to restore topsoil. 2. All properties in drainage install rain gardens. 3. All new construction have permeable pavers. 4. All landowners encouraged to reduce mowing to allow vegetation to grow taller. This will absorb more water.
- The lake has great potential but the barriers are political and it will take courage to overcome them.