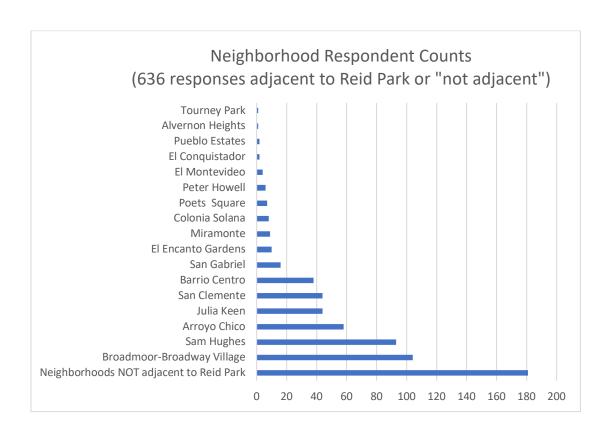
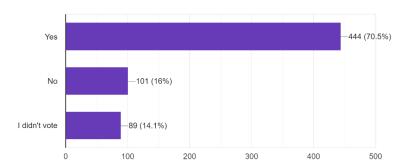
Survey Results

On 1/17/21 there were 636 survey responses. The survey targeted neighborhoods adjacent to Reid Park, and included other residents as the survey was shared more broadly. This midtown population voted more strongly for Proposition 202/203 than some Tucson neighborhoods (70.5%) (the voting results from Prop 202/203 were just over 50% in support). The surveys indicate that public outreach for the expansion was weak: over 80% of respondents said they were not aware when they voted for Proposition 202/203 that the Zoo expansion into Barnum Hill and the southern Duck Pond in Reid Park was part of that vote, and over 85% of respondents were not aware of outreach about the expansion in the past 3 years.

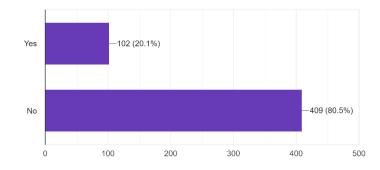
Almost 60% of respondents were in support of a Zoo expansion as long as it didn't impact Barnum Hill and the southern Duck Pond.



I voted in support of the 2017 Proposition 202/203 that provided 0.1% sales tax to the Zoo for 10 years $_{\rm 630\,responses}$

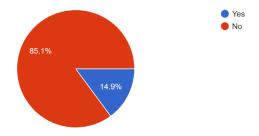


When I voted for Proposition 202/203 in 2017, I understood that funds could be used for Zoo expansion, and that the Zoo's current footprint would expand to include the southern Duck Pond and Barnum Hill (only answer if you voted)

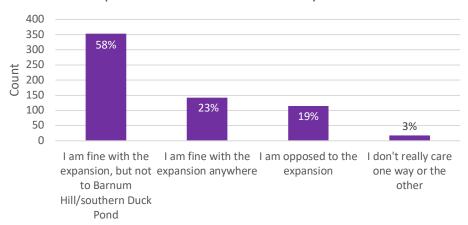


In the past three years, were you ever notified of any meeting explaining that the Zoo expansion would eliminate Barnum Hill and the South Duck Pond from the park?

551 responses



Opinions on Reid Park Zoo Expansion



Public Comments

The public comments provide some detail and color to the survey results around community connection/history, greenspace, public access, and public process. This is a subset of the comments received from the survey, sorted to allow easier review of general topics. The full set of comments can be shared by request (secretary@broadmoorbroadwayvillage.com)

Contents

Legacy around Barnum Hill and southern Duck Pond	4
Need for Greenspace	5
Concerns with loss of public space	7
Use of alternative locations for expansion or for increasing lost public space	10
Public process	11
Comments in favor of using Barnum Hill and southern Duck Pond	13

Legacy around Barnum Hill and southern Duck Pond

I grew up with Reid Park, when I was a kid it was Randolph Park and we would go there to run around and play, have picnics, rent the kick boats in the large pond and climb up and down Barnum Hill. It felt like we were transported out of our desert home. When I had my own children, I took them there regularly to experience the same lovely outdoor fun of walking around the duck pond and the hillside stream. I was shocked when I heard about plans for the zoo to take Barnum hill and the duck pond away from free public access. It feels like a deliberately underhanded plan to take this treasured public land away from families who rely on it for outdoor appreciation and enjoyment. I am adamantly against the zoo taking this land from public use. I firmly believe that if this plan would have been made more transparent, more public feedback would have arisen promptly to defend access to this inner city treasure. I believe more input from the community needs to take place and further exploration of alternatives to taking away chunks of treasured Reid Park areas.

Barnum Hill and the southern duck pond are perhaps the best and most unique features of Reid Park. Taking them away from the general public for zoo expansion would be a great disservice to the community that has cherished and used this area of the park for generations. Moreover, Barnum Hill was named in honor of Willis Barnum, who, in 1925, purchased the parcel of land that is now known as Reid and Randolph parks and deeded it to the city of Tucson as a park land. Therefore, removing any portion of the park from public access, especially the very feature that carries his name, seems to go against the spirit under which the land was given.

I am a long-time supporter of the Reid Park Zoo, and I intend to continue that support. I am also fine with expansion of the zoo, but not at the expense of a unique treasure that is enjoyed by so many Tucsonans. It just doesn't make sense to bite into a lovely serene public space and take away something so wonderful as the duck pond and hill. Please do not take Barnum Hill and the Duck Pond! I cannot bear to think of that space no longer inhabited by picnickers on their blankets in the shade, and children

frolicking around on the grassy hill, and people getting such enjoyment from feeding bread crumbs to the ducks.

Reid Park, and especially the duck pond and Barnum Hill, hold a special place in our hearts and our community. Unlike more affluent neighbors in east Tucson, we can't get in our car after a long day at work and drive a few minutes to Sabino Canyon to enjoy nature. The duck pond and hill are our midtown nature preserve. When our children run along the rocks on of the creek bed, it feels like we're on a camping trip. When they sit on the bank of the pond and watch the ducks, it's easy to forget that we're in the heart of the city.

I've seen family parties, senior pictures, and multiple weddings take place on Barnum Hill. It is a sacred space for many in our community. I urge you to leave this space as it is- open and free to all.

My Grandfather used to bring me there, it's not fair to take it from my grandchildren. Please don't ignore this.

This expansion would effectively leave park visitors with less free and open green space than there is paved parking in the park—totally unacceptable. Barnum Hill & the Duck Pond are local treasures that hold invaluable intergenerational memory; families and individuals are still forging memories today in those spaces. The local youth cycling group that I volunteer for have used that hill regularly for nearly a decade to practice our bike handling skills on. We've tumbled, triumphed, & found our grit on that hill. For Mayor and Council to overlook these and the myriad other ways this hill and duck pond (specifically) have intersected so meaningfully with the lives of Tucsonans is a truly unforgivable act.

When we were younger and did not have the means to visit Tucson attractions we frequently visited the duck pond, and the shaded area west of the zoo. We heard the lions roar during dawn and dusk. We've lived near Reid Park for nearly 40 years. I am a Hughes Aircraft retiree, and was involved in Hughes Aircraft donating the giraffe barn. Let the people who can't afford zoo admission have something free to enjoy at Reid Park. Leave the pond alone. Expand east, not west. You'll find the money if you really want to do what is right.

While I support Reid Park Zoo, I am strongly opposed to taking a much used and well-loved area of the park that is currently available to everyone and making it only available to those who can afford the zoo fees. When my children were young, we went to the duck pond almost every day. My 80-year-old mother-in-law currently walks around the duck pond on a regular basis. Many of my children's birthday parties have been held on Barnum Hill. This proposal discriminates against those who might not be able to afford the price of the zoo entrance. Reducing access to safe, enjoyable outdoor areas where there is wildlife seems to be an especially bad move at the present moment. Please don't do this!

Need for Greenspace

I was born and raised in Tucson and I grew up going to the Reid Park duck ponds. Not only is this area filled with memories I cherish of experiences I want future generations to be able to enjoy, but the ponds have become a crucial migratory stopover and vital habitat for numerous native species. As the Southwest experiences exceptional drought and weathers the overall drying trend we have seen for decades, this type of habitat becomes ever more critical for wildlife. If the Zoo needs to expand, it should expand into the golf course or move to a new location entirely. Open green space for free public enjoyment is the lifeblood of a community.

I would never in a million years would have guessed the City of Tucson and the Zoo would think it was okay to take this beautiful, historic, beloved, natural, shady water feature area with a hill and lovely trees away from the public and wildlife who use it. I have understandable misgivings about the lack of outreach the city and zoo did. Open to the public meetings are not the same as public outreach especially when it is not announced by the City or the news what would be taken away from the public. Reid Park is being eaten up. The public needs more input about what happens in this park from in the future.

If one spends any time observing at the park, it becomes immediately clear that the duck pond and Barnum Hill get a tremendous amount of use. Because of the cooling nature of the water and tremendous sycamore and pine trees, it is a magnet for people and animals alike. It would be a huge loss to the citizens of Tucson if this area was no longer accessible, (and know that some families cannot afford entrance to the zoo to have this access). It's a lovely, natural setting that attracts many species of birds, as well. There is no other place at Reid Park quite like the duck pond/Barnum Hill area. Has the area adjacent to the zoo parking lot west of the zoo entrance and north of the cement pond ever been considered for development? This area, by contrast, gets very little use, comparatively speaking. Please, please consider other options and not destroy the duck pond/Barnum Hill. thank you.

In this time of drought and climate change, birds need pond refuges and birders love to visit this pond. Please do not destroy it unless you can create a comparable pond elsewhere. I live in Pima County and bird at Reid Park.

Many ducks, herons, cormorants and other birds and animals use this area as a water and food supply. This watering hole, including a few others in the Tucson area are the only sources of water for these animals. We live in a desert! What if someone removed your water supply! Please rethink this!

Public green space, the many mature trees used by migratory birds and the pond that hosts aquatic life are ALL important and should stay. The zoo should improve existing habitat for existing animals, not import more animals.

Reid Park is one of the few centrally located natural areas with mature trees, a pond, and lots of room to play. We do not want to see the pond subsumed into the zoo, which you can only access by paying a fee.

Southern duck pond and Barnum Hill are probably the most used area of Reid Park. I go there 3x a week...always see a diverse group of people milling about...very important in our desert to have shade and running water. If the zoo is free it still would not be okay to remove those old shade trees. It is one of the most culturally diverse, relaxing places to be in Tucson-truly a sacred place. I would encourage you to do a Use Study and you will see.

The Duck Pond and Barnum hill are absolute gems within Reid Park. We regularly bike and walk with our children from our homes to Reid Park and ALWAYS end up at these areas, more than any other area. We love the flowing water, the shade, the topography. My 7-year old has become an avid birder during the pandemic and loves visiting the lone wood duck at this pond (we've seen that the birds in each pond are surprisingly distinct - we've never seen a canvasback in this pond, and have never seen the wood duck in the large pond). These areas are true public treasures, and enclosing them in an animal habitat for a feefor-admission zoo seems to be an unjust move. How many family photos have featured this area over the years? How many kids have jumped across the streams? We are zoo members and appreciate the

zoo as a community asset too, but I *deeply* opposed the expansion of the zoo at the expense of the duck pond and Barnum Hill. We need more public natural areas with trees and water here -- not fewer.

The public has to have access to the whole grounds which are always heavily visited by people from Tucson and afar. We need the trees and the shade they provide in summer. We don't need another prison for tigers! The pandemic has stripped many people from having an income. They can not afford an entrance fee. The park is free and restorative. This is where people have met all year round to be able to socialize! In light of the rapidly changing climate we need the trees and we need the fowls and ducks the pond attracts. Please DO NOT destroy what Tucson loves and needs!!!

The southern duck pond and Barnum Hill are a priceless oasis that is open to everyone without a fee. My family and I have enjoyed walking with our dogs for decades sometimes staying for a long time and sometimes just passing by. It has shade, running water, ducks and herons, and there is nothing like that in central Tucson. Please save it!

The southern Duck Pond and Barnum Hill are beloved recreational areas for many Tucson families. There are few "shady" park areas in midtown Tucson and this area is a very critical area, especially during the summer (though it is used year-round). My family and I have spend many hours climbing the hill and meeting others for a walk around the pond. We would definitely miss this area were the expansion to continue.

There has to be another area for expansion. Why take the prettiest part of the park and destroy it? How will the baby ducks climb up the big concrete wall? They need to exit from the rocks on the small pond. There are egrets, kingfishers, and many other types of migrating ducks. Please do not take this away from us. We cannot all afford the zoo.

Tucson native here, the pond, hill, & rose garden are pretty much a big deal. A lot of memories, more than the zoo itself for a lot of ppl. Old growth trees, migratory birds. Gobble up the golf course, build a parking garage and expand into current parking. But don't carve out the heart of the park. I can't even afford to go to the zoo anymore, but I'd like to enjoy the park, wildlife, and water thanks to my tax money.

We visit the duck pond weekly with my 2 young children and would be devastated if the zoo took Barnum hill and the South duck pond. This is the only area we have really felt safe in during the pandemic. And the rocks around the pond create a nice border so I'm not afraid of my kids falling in. We are zoo members, but I'm guessing we won't be able to run up and down Barnum hill, play in the little stream, or feed the ducks when the tigers move in.

Concerns with loss of public space

A significant portion of the Reid Park area is already partitioned for uses that require users to pay fees - the baseball fields, aquatic center and Reid Park Zoo not to mention the city owned golf course. There is ample, underutilized, area in parking lots on the east side of Reid Park that is a more appropriate option for expansion than to remove greenspace that is currently available to the public. If zoos are to exist then I am in favor of habitats being of adequate size for animal well-being, but I don't support zoo expansion into no-fee greenspace area.

Here are some summary data based on a quick GIS analysis:

- 1. Only 13% of the city-owned land holdings comprising Reid Park and the Golf course is no-fee accessible greenspace
- 2. A minority (~40%) of Reid Park is no-fee accessible greenspace (excluding fee-based areas zoo, aquatic, baseball and associated parking areas)
- 3. There is 24,000 sq meters of area composed of parking lots proximal to the zoo In a city composed of residents from a mix of incomes, it should be a priority to retain no-fee greenspace to provide equitable access to public resources. If I had known Proposition 202/203 would result in expansion of the Reid Park Zoo into the duck pond area I would have voted against it.

Barnum Hill and Duck Pond provide free access to areas for children and families to recreate, relax, and let children watch and feed waterfowl. To remove this use is to deny residents of this "free" pleasure.

Barnum hill and the creek is a great community area that would be removed from public use. There is old play areas and land to the south of the hill or of course along the edge of the golf course which is hardly used which used that could be given to the zoo and not ruin a beautiful public area.

Barnum Hill is one of the few areas in this part of the city with free public access to the sound of water, shade trees, and abundant and diverse bird life. If it becomes part of the zoo, the lack of human access to this will be a great loss to our community.

I am an OLD-time Tucsonan. Over the years I have watched Randolph Park, now Reid Park, go from a large expanse of green space open to all residents to a patchwork of zoos, memorials and fenced ball fields. The zoo is a cancer that is slowly growing and eating Reid Park. The beautifully manicured ball fields are open only to SOME residents. The memorials, while lovely, also are taking up space that could be open green space. Reid Park and its amenities should not be open only to people who have to pay to enjoy them. And children, as well as adults, should be free to run and jump and play in large expanses of green grass. I oppose the expansion of the Reid Park zoo.

Reid Park, and especially the duck pond and Barnum Hill, hold a special place in our hearts and our community. Unlike more affluent neighbors in east Tucson, we can't get in our car after a long day at work and drive a few minutes to Sabino Canyon to enjoy nature. The duck pond and hill are our midtown nature preserve. When our children run along the rocks on of the creek bed, it feels like we're on a camping trip. When they sit on the bank of the pond and watch the ducks, it's easy to forget that we're in the heart of the city. These spaces must remain free and open for our community, and especially our neighbors, to enjoy. The neighborhoods to the west and south of the park are made up of lower- to middle- class families. Many of us sought out this location specifically because we knew we'd always have a free, accessible, and safe natural space take our children. We love the zoo, but many in our neighborhood can't afford a membership. In addition, the zoo closes before many parents get out of work. Even if families can afford a membership, the space will be closed off to them during the part of the day when they can finally trek over. I've seen family parties, senior pictures, and multiple weddings take place on Barnum Hill. It is a sacred space for many in our community. I urge you to leave this space as it is- open and free to all. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Reid Park is a safe haven in the city for so many, myself included. People meet up there from different parks of the city.. family use the hill and duck pond and a multitude of others to walk, hang out, watch

the birds. There is not much safe public space left in the city for people to go relax and be free that you don't have to pay. City's need these public spaces for the well-being of the city.

Reid Park is one of the only free activities to do in Tucson. By making it so that you can only see the pond and Barnum hill while being inside the zoo is a spit in the face to low income people. The park has always been a place to walk, read, feed the ducks etc. We are all in support of giving the animals a less cramped space, but don't take it out of the best part of Reid Park.

Reid Park is our "Central Park" and as such is used by many thousands of Tucson residents and visitors every year. It's not fair to reduce the public space and convert it to a fee use space, when the golf course is already a fee use space. Many people in surrounding neighborhoods have no alternative park space.

The duck pond and Barnum hill have been favorite spots to visit since i moved here 15 years ago. It is accessible to anyone at any income level and it should remain that way.

The idea of taking away this rare public park space with natural animal occupations, water ways and hills is an atrocity. It has been a beloved part of Tucson for decades. The sanity of a city depends on its free and open nature areas. Do not ever expand the zoo or anything into that area. Expand north or into the golf course or not at all. Thank you.

The park is a needed place, especially for families living in apartments.

The pond, water feature, and shady hill are featured attractions of Reid Park to Tucson residents. Don't take them away! We don't need a bigger fancier zoo at the expense of the best parts of the park.

The park is free and restorative. DO NOT destroy what Tucson loves and needs!!!

The south pond, Barnum Hill and the surrounding trees is the nicest spot in the best park in Tucson and should belong to the public.

The southern duck pond and Barnum Hill are a priceless oasis that is open to everyone without a fee. My family and I have enjoyed walking with our dogs for decades sometimes staying for a long time and sometimes just passing by. It has shade, running water, ducks and herons, and there is nothing like that in central Tucson. Please save it!

The southern Duck Pond and Barnum Hill are beloved recreational areas for many Tucson families. There are few "shady" park areas in midtown Tucson and this area is a very critical area, especially during the summer (though it is used year-round). My family and I have spent many hours climbing the hill and meeting others for a walk around the pond. We would definitely miss this area were the expansion to continue.

This 2021, not 1981. Zoo expansion at the cost of public green space (especially the very finest of it) is a direct assault on public health and well-being, which has also been managed entirely against the park's own guidelines of outreach to the community.

This area of Reid Park is magical for many and I would hate to lose it, especially for those who cannot afford to be a zoo member.

This is not right!! Many families from all around Tucson come to this park. To take away that much of one of the main attractions of the park is not right! Especially for the locals who come to this park everyday!

I am a Tucson native, 71 years old, and I support the zoo charitably and take my grandchildren there. But I can afford it...some folks can't. For this reason, I think the rest of the park -- like the hill and the duck pond -- should stay affordable for those who can't afford zoo admission every day, year 'round.

Tucson does not have many acres of parkland for its residents. Reid Park is the premier park in the City. It is maintained with our tax dollars. Although the Zoo provides a service to the community, it is limited to those who can afford to pay an admission price. We should be looking at non-park land for expansion of the Zoo. If that is not possible, then a vigorous community discussion needs to be conducted by the City before anymore parkland is turned over to them for expansion.

I think it would be an absolute shame... that Hill is just about THE most popular FREE feature in the park for children.

We moved into this neighborhood BECAUSE of Reid Park. Our young son has spent countless hours at the duck pond, learning about local wildlife and sharing his discoveries with others. Taking over FREE public green spaces for the addition of more zoo expansion is not acceptable. Yes, the zoo offers learning opportunities, yes children can attend free of charge (or reduced charge) during field trips and other school events, however, Barnum Hill and the duck pond offer DAILY learning experiences with our local community members. In a time when building community is more important than ever, taking away these spaces to do so is unacceptable.

While I support Reid Park Zoo, I am strongly opposed to taking a much used and well-loved area of the park that is currently available to everyone and making it only available to those who can afford the zoo fees. When my children were young, we went to the duck pond almost every day. My 80-year old mother-in-law currently walks around the duck pond on a regular basis. Many of my children's birthday parties have been held on Barnum Hill. This proposal discriminates against those who might not be able to afford the price of the zoo entrance. Reducing access to safe, enjoyable outdoor areas where there is wildlife seems to be an especially bad move at the present moment. Please don't do this!

Use of alternative locations for expansion or for increasing lost public space

Close the golf course down - it eats up all of Reid park - there are numerous golf courses available in the city and it's a tax payer money drain. Zoo takes the hill it plans to use while the public access to the rest of the park is expanded. It's a win win.

I am a long-time supporter of the Reid Park Zoo, and I intend to continue that support. I am also fine with expansion of the zoo, but not at the expense of a unique treasure that is enjoyed by so many Tucsonans. It just doesn't make sense to bite into a lovely serene public space and take away something so wonderful as the duck pond and hill. Why not expand to the east, into a not so beautiful huge parking lot which only encourages people to remain reliant on automobiles? If the pond and hill cannot be saved in their current location, then I do not support this expansion of the zoo. At the very least, the pond and hill should be recreated at another site in the park, perhaps north of the larger pond. Or maybe on a section of the golf course, which is an activity that is not really accessible to many people. Please do not take Barnum Hill and the Duck Pond! I cannot bear to think of that space no longer inhabited by

picnickers on their blankets in the shade, and children frolicking around on the grassy hill, and people getting such enjoyment from feeding bread crumbs to the ducks.

I empathize with the challenge of this situation: expanding the footprint of the zoo is needed for both the welfare of the animals and the further development of an amazing small zoo, but further eliminating open access park space makes park usage, especially for lower income families more challenging. I would love for the conversation of the zoo to expand into land that is already restricted use - the golf course. How could the golf course land be reallocated to allow this to happen? I am in favor of the zoo expansion and voted as such, but I understand the arguments that those supporting not wanting to lose already precious park space.

I walk and spend time daily in Reid Park. This is my favorite park over most others in the city because it has such a beautiful large area to roam and rest under the big beautiful trees on Barnum hill. I support the zoo expansion towards the golf course; shrinking or eliminating that area altogether. What should be taken into consideration is the giant golf course serves few residents in the middle of the city. Tucson has plenty of beautiful golf courses for golfers to use in the outer limits of the city.

The two persons in my household are opposed to the expansion overlay as it now exists. We propose that nearby portions of the current golf course be considered or the areas associated with the baseball stadium and practice fields. Both the golf course and baseball facilities are enjoyed by the few. Open space for the public is the greater need. Although we supported zoo expansion, plans were not presented. Could there not be a compromise?

Public process

Appropriating the designated part of the park and the duck pond for the zoo expansion is a devastating plan. Moreover, the plan was not honestly presented. Any proposed expansion/ alteration (zoo or other) *must* be *fully* and *honestly* described, expensed, and discussed with the community.

Barnum Hill and Duck Pond provide free access to areas for children and families to recreate, relax, and let children watch and feed waterfowl. To remove this use is to deny residents of this "free" pleasure. Will the zoo allow residents to use the expansion area for free? I don't think so! The sales tax referendum did not mention this "trade-off" when I voted for it. Otherwise I would have voted NO. I was under the impression the zoo "improvements" were for current maintenance and exhibit areas.

Clearly, if so many people were unaware of the details of the expansion, it's not the fault of those who voted for not reading carefully enough. It's the fault of those whose job it was to communicate it to the public to make sure we knew what we were getting into. This was a communication and leadership failure. I regret that I voted for an expansion that would do this to our precious park, and I urge leadership to abandon and redo this plan. It is certainly not too late. Also, I'm a member of the zoo and I'm deeply disappointed.

Do not take away the south duck pond and those lovely old trees. Humans and wildlife need this free access area for our physical and mental health. I live 1 1/2 blocks from the park. Absolutely no one that I know knew about this expansion.

I am active in my neighborhood (ie. on Nextdoor daily, talk to my neighbors, read the newspaper and online local news sources, complete City of Tucson surveys when requested, stay up to date on changes, etc). I go to Reid Park including the Barnum Hill area several times a week. I did not hear about plans for

the zoo to take Barnum Hill and the South duck pond until I saw an op ed in the Daily Star in November 2020. We need more free access green space in Central Tucson, not less.

I follow the news and read all elections material and had no idea until recently that they were going to take the south pond and Barnum hill. My family regularly visits and enjoys that area.

I found out about the expansion to the South Duck Pond through an editorial letter opposing it that I saw in the paper. I live near the zoo, go to the pond and park often throughout the week, and am a civically active person - yet, this was news to me! I don't think that the outreach was particularly widespread to alert the surrounding neighborhoods. Perhaps it was targeted to other types of stakeholders, but a simple inexpensive mailer to the zip codes near the park or perhaps some posted flyers in the park would have improved the outreach tremendously. I also believe it would have shown active community concern. Instead, here we are...Thank you to those that have taken up this issue on behalf of our only oasis in this area of the city.

I grew up with Reid Park, when I was a kid it was Randolph Park and we would go there to run around and play, have picnics, rent the kick boats in the large pond and climb up and down Barnum Hill. It felt like we were transported out of our desert home. When I had my own children, I took them there regularly to experience the same lovely outdoor fun of walking around the duck pond and the hillside stream. I was shocked when I heard about plans for the zoo to take Barnum hill and the duck pond away from free public access. It feels like a deliberately underhanded plan to take this treasured public land away from families who rely on it for outdoor appreciation and enjoyment. I am adamantly against the zoo taking this land from public use. I firmly believe that if this plan would have been made more transparent, more public feedback would have arisen promptly to defend access to this inner city treasure. I believe more input from the community needs to take place and further exploration of alternatives to taking away chunks of treasured Reid Park areas.

I recently contacted city officials regarding my heartbreak and outrage caused by zoo "improvement" plans that appropriate of 3.5 acres of Reid Park—including Barnum Hill with its streams and waterfalls plus the shady tree-lined south duck pond. One official thanked me for my comments about the "voter approved zoo expansion." Voter approved? This is true. I myself voted for it. Why? Because despite their claims to the contrary, there is abundant evidence that zoo expansion proponents did not clearly and widely spell out to the general public that the actual footprint of their plans required appropriating this most unique and precious acreage of Reid Park. Their disinformation campaign included misleading propositions, obfuscation, and outright omission. My voice is but one of thousands in a swiftly growing outcry against our free public parkland being lost to a fee-based membership corporation. City officials must reconsider their approval of current zoo expansion plans.

I was appalled when I learned the expansion of the zoo would be at the expense of the duck pond which is an incredible refuge for birds as well as an asset and source of joy for many for Tucsonans. The lack of public input makes the project seem like a sleight of hand.

I would never in a million years would have guessed the City of Tucson and the Zoo would think it was okay to take this beautiful, historic, beloved, natural, shady water feature area with a hill and lovely trees away from the public and wildlife who use it. I have understandable misgivings about the lack of outreach the city and zoo did. Open to the public meetings are not the same as public outreach

especially when it is not announced by the City or the news what would be taken away from the public. Reid Park is being eaten up. The public needs more input about what happens in the park in the future.

Respectfully, I think it helps to make sure that all information of changes be included so that the people of Tucson, especially those that live close to this park, do not feel like information was withheld. When that is discovered, it creates a feeling of information withheld purposefully by our local leaders and places like the zoo, whom is well liked in our city, to dupe us

The City of Tucson made an error in failing to do outreach to give the people of Tucson a chance to be part of the decision about possibly changing the land use of Barnum Hill and the area of the south duck pond. If they had done systematic outreach and given the people the chance to speak on this issue they would have found out long ago that the people of Tucson want Barnum Hill and the south duck pond to continue to be public access parkland, exactly as it is now, only perhaps with better care from the Tucson Parks and Recreation Department.

This was clearly done in such a confusing manner that most of us who voted yes had no idea that it would make this long standing popular public part of the park un available for the public. It is wrong to take this part of the park away from the public! This is an outrage and was obviously done to confuse the public and take away a free beautiful natural spot from the public. Please do not allow this confusion and con job to take this precious gem from the public! Leave this gem as it is and do NOT allow the Zoo to take this place that should continue to be public domain away from the public at large!

Those omnibus propositions should be publicized and explained in greater detail right up to the execution of the master plan. Conditions change rapidly. Above all, no public space should become less public without serious discussion. This situation could have been avoided, but change of City staff in various capacities allowed assumptions to be made.

The wording on the initiatives that the zoo claims justify this exact plan are too vague to have given the public any sense of what was really in store. Nor did the zoo engage in appropriate and comprehensive outreach to all adjacent neighborhoods and regular park users. The meetings that were held were largely cheerleading and not extensive enough to gauge true community sentiment on this issue.

Until January 2018, I lived just a block from Reid Park in the Arroyo Chico neighborhood. I never received any notification that Barnum Hill and the South Duck Pond would be eliminated for this project, nor any meeting notice. And I think it would be an absolute shame... that Hill is just about THE most popular FREE feature in the park for children.

When I worked on the Original Expand Reid Park in 2016, we had meetings with the Zoo. At that time they wanted the portion from the Zoo to the fence on the lower part of the rarely used golf course. Also when we went to visit the new baby elephant in 2016 or 17(?) we talked to a Zoo-keep who laid out their expansion plan, still on the original parcel of land. Never hearing otherwise, I voted an expansion plan I believed would benefit everyone. Never would that vote happen if I knew they changed direction. Never would I have taken way the pond from families, the public enjoying its peaceful beauty.

Comments in favor of using Barnum Hill and southern Duck Pond

As a weekly park visitor, I'm more worried about the birds and trees than I am worried about people having pond access. If anything, the local wildlife would benefit from having a pond area away from humans. It's my understanding that this construction won't have an effect on their access to it. It's also

my understanding that there were already public hearings about this and that the zoo has already invested a considerable amount of money after those hearings. I understand why people are upset about the hill, but it can be reconstructed elsewhere. To me this issue had already been through the proper channels and a decision had been made. I don't think we should have a stance on this issue either way.

I actually do not remember if I was notified for a meeting explaining the zoo expansion, but I do know that many meetings were held. I understand people's frustrations with the expansion taking the pond. Zoo staff will ensure that existing turtles, who may not move to other areas as quickly as other residents, will be relocated. Over 100 trees will be planted in the new design providing habitat for birds and other animals. This expansion will proceed, and while I have mixed feelings about zoo animals I hope that the public will support the care of these animals.

I am not just fine with the plans, I am thrilled that the zoo is expanding in this way. I think it is ridiculous that this disagreement is taking place now, after public input sessions took place years ago and the issue was resolved. The duck pond will be much better used as part of the zoo.

I assume that the expanded zoo will incorporate other water spaces and habitats for animals. Furthermore, the zoo fees and membership dues are low enough for broad accessibility. The zoo has done a wonderful job with communicating conservation, Awareness, Animal habits, and wildlife refuge efforts to their members/zoo Latin's. Perhaps more signs in public access areas would be good. Another thought to broaden public access would be a couple of "zoo days" in the park, or some sort of scholarship programs or broadly accessible summer camps or school field trips. I know these all take resources and am not aware of what is available.

I don't care about the area going to the zoo provided that the northern pond be made more of a greenspace with a dirt path and native plants rather than concrete and that the pond and fountain are cleaned up for community use and enjoyment.

I value the zoo use of that area more than the current usage.

If you are able to expand the zoo as planned, I'm happy if you are able to reestablish a duck pond as nice as the current one, elsewhere.

I'm also fine with the current expansion plan except for knocking down the old trees.

Love Reid Park Zoo! Ducks are free to use the other pond, tigers need one too.

Some people will always oppose change. I think the zoo expansion benefits Tucson as a whole.

There were multiple public hearings and the expansion is appropriate. There is plenty of additional space in Reid Park for recreation. The Zoo is an important resource for our community and the expansion will add to its value and our assets as a community. What I oppose is our neighborhood taking a stand.

They are leaving the northern duck pond so we will still have a duck pond amenity while gaining space within the zoo to keep it up to date and a real asset to the community. We get both things by allowing the expansion.