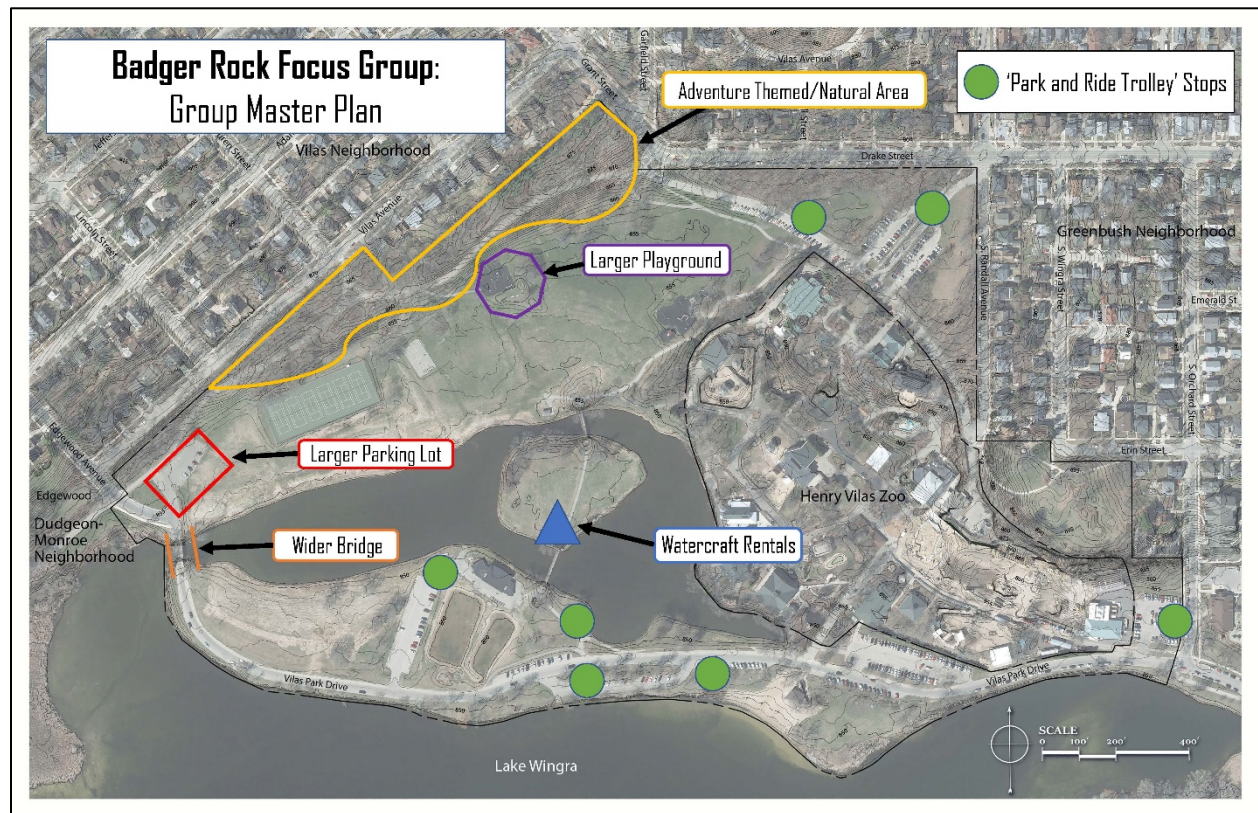


# Vilas Park Master Plan

Focus Groups Notes – Badger Rock

## Group Master Plan

Meeting participants were given the opportunity to draw/write input directly onto a map of Vilas Park. Below is a Master Plan, collectively produced by meeting participants.



## Group Discussion

Below are combined responses/input from group discussion.

1. How do you use Vilas Park today?
  - Fishing, picnics, zoo access
  - Zoo, swimming at beach, ice skating, playgrounds
  - Playground and beach for birthday parties
  - Kayak, biking, and zoo
  - It's cool
  - Swimming, park for children

**2. What would make using Vilas Park more enjoyable overall?**

- Easier parking, way to get around like a little train/trolley, better signage to get around, make bridge bigger
- Public transportation options because parking gets congested, some walking paths that are accessible to wheelchairs and strollers within the park and not just around the park
- Accessible mobility, splash pad, more edible landscaping, a trolley, a skate park
- Live music performances
- More parking, more accessible, grills, water park, splash park, more shelters
- Install pickle ball court, more special needs, swings, tables, etc.
- More parking

**3. What are the greatest strengths of the park today? What do you love most? What should stay the same?**

- The water/Beach, access to zoo, great fishing spots and handicapped accessible
- It is free, Lake Wingra is unique, things to do year-round, keep enough parking
- The shoe? More nursery rhyme themes
- It is bike accessible, zoo is the best, all should stay the same but open to growth
- Water, birds, diversity
- Ability to reserve a shelter for parties
- I don't feel that you have in place (no strengths)

**4. What are the biggest challenges of the park today? What could be expanded or improved? Added or changed?**

- One-way strip, it's so big – hard to walk if you have mobility issues, adult workout equipment would be nice like Lake View Park
- Public transport, accessibility, bike rentals with a few drop off points, boat, paddleboard, kayak rentals but not too expensive
- Beach is closed often
- No challenges experienced
- Accessibility parking, more playgrounds, kid friendly activities
- Adding fishing pier or two so kids and handicap can fish without snagging trees
- Attract more young people with activities for them

**5. What would help Vilas Park best serve our whole community as Madison grows and changes?**

- More ways to get around, adaptive play areas, music venue/market space
- Keep it free, do regular community outreach, have playground be a learning area for adventure, more shade in playground areas with trees like fruitless mulberry
- Edible landscape, more paths for wheelchair and stroller accessibility
- More focus groups like these to reach people
- More kid friendly activities
- Food carts on the weekends that offer alternatives to zoo food
- More things for people to do

**6. Is there anything else that the City should consider as it moves forward?**

- Cultural events, access to kayaks and paddle boats
- Keep accessible, get ideas from across Madison and across cultures, keep it free, more festivals, movie night, wild rumpus, book mobile, community garden space
- More frequent and expanded public transit
- It should be maintained by folks with disabilities (RIW, INC)
- Ask more people who live here