

# Brook Run Park Dunwoody, GA

January 23, 2007

Lack of Benches in the Playground &  
Lack of Security to the Buildings.

# Missing Bench to the Right of the entrance off the parking lot.



# Missing Bench to the Left of the entrance off the parking lot.



# Another missing bench near the parking lot.



No benches near the sandbox.



No benches near the swings.



No benches near the big slides.



No benches near the little slides.





# One of Brook Runs many “benches”.



# Another Brook Run “Bench”



The open field at the front of the park has a walkway around it without any benches even though there are three slots for benches. There is a pavilion without any seating – why is that?



# Why are there no benches near the restrooms?



# Don't all parks, deserve benches?



# Brook Run Security.

Theater power plant was unlocked & open, 8 am this morning.



Office building behind theater.  
Wide open to vandalism & mischief.  
Notice the high dollar lights available to be stolen?



# Various windows in same building.

Notice the Lights are on?





This same building (shown from the back) is the closest structure to Peachtree Middle School, there are numerous holes in the fence & it attracts vandalism. How often is this building checked for mischief?



Security in the closed section? The back section of the park is “closed” to the public but with numerous holes in the fence it is really only closed to Security vehicles. The back of Brook Run property backs up to Peachford Hospital & Residential town homes and is easily accessible by foot.

Prior to demolition which I believe is scheduled for the near future, do guards ever patrol this area at night?



Thank you for looking into these items!

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Dear Members of the Citizen Advisory Board,

My name is John Heneghan and I am President of the Dunwoody North Civic Association representing just over 1,000 households and whose boundaries are immediately adjacent to the Brook Run.

My children & I were at Brook Run over the weekend enjoying a beautiful sunny day, we played catch in the wide open field, they played on the playground and then we took a hike to the pavilion area & though the trees. All in all, we had a great time.

When we parked our car, we noticed the bulldozers were going strong on the stake park area forever changing the landscape of the park. The old growth trees in the skate park area are gone and the layout of the land is forever changed; neither of which will return because of tonight's meeting. Being the father of three boys in a neighborhood bursting at the seams with children, I welcome and am thankful for the development of the Skate Park. I just question the amount of trees that needed to be cleared. It seemed excessive and am hopeful that the landscape plan will reforest where possible.

After playing catch in the open field at the front of the park, my boys wanted to play at the playground for awhile and they ran off to play with some of their friends. It was a busy day at the playground, children were everywhere & parents were trying to watch over them. It was at that point that I noticed a grandma who was forced to sit on the ground in order to be near her grandchild because there are no benches available. She physically needed to be helped off the ground and I saw this as a travesty. Millions of dollars have been spent on the development of Brook Run's playground yet not one dollar was spent on proper benches so parents could properly look after their children. At the moment, parents are forced to sit on the makeshift benches made from flagstone set into concrete and these walls are much too low for elderly people to get up & down. These decorative walls were not made for this type of abuse; they are receiving excessive wear and have already needed repairs. If I may at this point, read a paragraph from the final Master Plan for Brook Run which is easily accessible on our neighborhood website, <http://www.dunwoodynorth.org>

“Children's Adventure Garden: In keeping with the theme of nature and education, the master plan envisions something more than just a typical playground. The proposed five acre Children's' Adventure Garden is a prototypical, signature design that provides activities for all ages and can be duplicated throughout DeKalb County. This unique prototype combines structured play zones with discovery, nature and education. It also offers numerous trails, shelters, **benches** and a community gathering area and amphitheater for outdoor performances.”

Brook Run: Conceptual Master Plan Narrative March 18, 2003

I would like to point out that there is not one bench away from the several small shelters, whereby parents & grandparents could comfortably watch over their children. In the gathering area near the front of the park there is a shelter but no seating, three concrete slabs intended for benches were installed on the circular walkway but no benches were ever installed. It would be appreciated by many citizens, especially senior citizens if this board looked into this oversight of proper seating at Brook Run.

After the playground the boys & I went for a walk towards the back of the park, towards the pavilion. We cut through the woods a little bit and went behind the theater and behind a single story office building. The boarded up windows of the building had the plywood taken down, many (about 5) windows were completely broken out, the lights were on and front door side glass panel was wide open. I stuck my head

in the back window and noticed signs that people had used the space in the not so distant past. I see this as a major safety factor for our neighborhood children and a lack of due diligence as to the management of this property. After our walk, we drove around Brook Run on Barclay and noticed that the fence between Brook Run & Peachtree Middle School was almost non-existent.

This lack of stewardship towards the buildings and established fence line make me wonder what the security firm is doing besides sitting at the front gate. Do they make rounds of the property where they actually get out of the car? Do they verify the security of buildings which they are there to protect? Do they file reports on incidents of security lapses and acts of vandalism and to whom? If these types of reports are filed, they would be public information & I would be interested in seeing them, and so should you.

I would like to ask this board to immediately verify the security of the buildings in the open area & to board up any windows & doors that are currently damaged. I would also like the perimeter fence especially on Barclay between Peachtree Middle School & Brook Run to be evaluated and repaired.

In order to assist you in seeing what I saw just this weekend, I returned to Brook Run just this morning to photograph some of the things I saw and have included them here in my formal written statement. Unfortunately the image of the grandma who had to sit on the ground near her grandchild is still burned into my memory and I was unable to duplicate it for you. But unless something is done to rectify the lack of seating at Brook Run, this scenario will be replayed on the next sunny day.

I would like to thank you for your time this evening, but more importantly I would like to personally thank each and every one of you for the service you provide the Citizens of DeKalb County; it is truly appreciated. Thank you.

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