

Responses to a Questionnaire
(from the *Save Red Bank Central Park* Citizens' Group)
by the 2022 Candidates for the Red Bank, TN, Commission

September 2022

Jeff Price (for At Large)



1. Compared with other priorities for the City, how important do you think parks and recreation lands, and related amenities are to the Red Bank community, economy, and culture? Why?

There are several published studies that recognize the value of parks and recreational lands and how they contribute significantly by improving property values and promoting healthy lifestyles for residents. They can also help in creating a sense of pride in the community and provide a higher quality of life for residents.

In my opinion, we need parks and recreational lands and they are essential to our community, but finding other income streams to fund these endeavors outside of property taxes would put less financial strain on our citizens. With respect to parks, we have to look into grants and other funding mechanisms to meet this critical need.

2. What do you think the City of Red Bank should do with the publicly owned 12-acre former middle school property at 3715 Dayton Boulevard? Please explain in detail.

After meeting the requirements with NPS, we then need to evaluate all options related to the remaining acreage to determine the best overall use for the citizens of Red Bank. This property is extremely valuable and centrally located to our city. The future state cannot solely be determined by majority of commissioners or a particular citizen group.

Once the top options are determined, we then can push for a referendum to allow all citizens to vote on the preferred approach.

3. What is your opinion about the merits of the City's current "10-minute Walk to a Park Initiative" compared with other Red Bank parks and recreation needs?

The principal idea of the initiative is admirable, but executing this plan will be financially challenging to justify with competing priorities. Many of the citizens I have spoken with would prefer more sidewalks to access our current parks and amenities.



[Price, continued]

4. How do you propose to resolve Red Bank's out-of-compliance status with the National Park Service regarding the 2011 land swap agreement?

Based on the most recent appraisal of the land used for the new middle school it would take approximately 4.5 acres of the appraised land value from the old school property to fulfill the NPS obligation. This would leave us approximately 7.5 acres of property to evaluate for best use as outlined in question 2.

We need to update the appraisals, submit our solution and get it done.

5. Do you think resolution of Red Bank's out-of-compliance status with the National Park Service matters? Why or why not?

Yes ... being in compliance with NPS definitely matters to our city.

If we ever want to be approved for another grant with the NPS, we must take care of this. This is the first step and prime example of ways to obtain outside funding for future park initiatives.