

Parks and Wreck

By Ann Blackmon

It's likē the town pool saga starting all over again...but now it's Old Fair Park that may be going away if the citizens of Fredericksburg, including us, don't get involved.

The City Council held a meeting Feb. 16 and began discussing the redevelopment of the Old Fair Park also known as the park by the HEB fields.

Three plans were proposed, all varying in different types of construction, from small developments to full blown renovation that would demolish the park as we know it.

The Old Fair Park should remain unscathed from construction and not be taken from the citizens of Fredericksburg that use it on a daily basis.

The first plan, Plan A, does that. It leaves the park intact with the soccer and baseball fields along with the playground, spectator stands, and concession areas. The only development would be done north of the park and would only move the soccer fields slightly to accommodate for a new shared parking lot.

Plan B removes the current park to outside areas and builds in single story commercial buildings and leaves only a small passive park to hold the name of Old Fair Park.

A passive park has no recreational use and would not include soccer or baseball fields.

Plan C demolishes all park

facilities and add commercial and medium density residential properties.

Taking Old Fair Park away from the youth and adults that regularly use its faculties and fields is something we should not stand for.

Little League baseball, softball, and soccer games are held there and provide a fun family experience for all.

All ages use the fields for pick up soccer games daily and nightly, as well as other uses like the past high school Powder Puff football games.

Not to mention that the brand new Skate Park is being built right next to the fields to add to its recreation.

Old Fair Park promotes good health to the youth and adults of our community and brings beauty to our small town that seems to be growing rapidly, and needs to stay to keep Fredericksburg unique.

The park is centrally located for easy access to all, and provides several uses that affect all different types of citizens in Fredericksburg.

If the town wishes to expand commercially, it can do it elsewhere, there's plenty of room on the outskirts of town that will not negatively affect a large portion of community.

Old Fair Park plays a large part in the citizens of Fredericksburg and should not be taken from our use.

The City Council will be holding a meeting Monday, March 2, at 6 p.m., and the existence of Old Fair Park will be discussed.