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Community Input Being Sought For New Park

Community organizations that share a goal of healthier lifestyles for youth and families are joining forces to turn a lot of downtown Lawton into a small park.

Community Services Director Richard Rogalski said the intent is to create an “oasis,” a small bright spot in the downtown area that might offer benches and a small water feature to act as a lure for people needing a brief respite or those who need information about outdoor activities.

If the details seem a little sketchy, that’s because community entities have just launched the process of gathering ideas for the lot on the northeast corner of Southwest C Avenue and 2nd Street, the one-time site of a gas station until demolition earlier this year left a clear tract. Those entities now include the Fit Kids Coalition of Southwest Oklahoma and the Fitness in Action Series Committee, entities coordinating activities that promote healthier lifestyles. But potential uses for that tract also have drawn the attention of Lawton Enhancement Trust Authority, whose members have pushed for aesthetics-related improvement for the community, including ones that link to downtown revitalization efforts.

Rogalski said public input was invited last week via a community meeting at which participants were asked to toss out ideas about what they would like to see. Kyle Rogers, Fit Kids’ community program coordinator, said in her report that the meeting was an opportunity “to talk about wants” and community input will continue to be solicited as city leaders determine the best use for the space. Proposals made at last week’s meeting will be put into a survey that will be released to the entire community for comment, Rogers said.



Input from the community will be sought on uses for a proposed city part at Southwest 2nd Street and C Avenue.