

Council 9 first became interested in Kranz Park in 2016 when then Park and Rec Director Joe Petrella had a plan created to develop the park. Unfortunately at that time there was no money to implement the plan.

In 2017 the Great Falls School District proposed using a portion of the park for a parking lot. This was considered an opportunity to get at least part of the plan implemented.

The council held a meeting in 2018 at which the School District presented it's vision of the expansion of Great Falls High School. Kranz Park was part of that presentation. Several people from the neighborhood attended that meeting. Although it was not specifically spelled out, the development of the park would be included in giving up the land. One of the people attending made the remark "Two thirds of a developed park was better than a whole park with nothing." This was the consensus of the council and the proposal was endorsed.

While the new proposal does not include the development, we have been assured by Director Herrig that the park development will be applied for in the next round of block grants. The current proposal also is beneficial in that it actually means an expansion of the park for part of the year. It also helps resolve a major parking issue for the neighborhood.