

## Tidings voices Sept 6, 2017

### Revisit park study

The City Council should re-vote with a full council as to whether to spend up to \$230,000 on a vision for Lithia Park for the next 100 years.

The Parks Department and commission seem to have done well over the last 100 years without such an approach. Lithia Park has evolved beautifully. Parts need repairs, but with its various sections it is still a gem.

Yes, McLaren, who designed Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, was brought in to formulate the original design, but since then Ashland citizens seem to have figured out what to do on their own. Bringing our citizens together for community visioning sessions about sections of the park can be done without consultants.

The \$230,000 would be better spent to repair the Butler Perozzi Fountain, the steps up behind the Butler Band Shell, and other things. The council too often lets department heads out of one of their main jobs, which is to involve the public themselves to formulate long-range plans.

Council, please spend the \$230,000 on needed repairs involving concrete, not on soon-to-be-recycled paper. Thank you.

**Brent Thompson**  
Ashland