



Meeting Notes

Fairmount Playground South Play Area Renovation – Meeting #1

May 30, 2019

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Fairmount Park Elementary School, Cafeteria, 3800 SW Findlay St, Seattle WA

Attendees: 30-40 participants

Project Team Pamela Alspaugh, PLA, Sr. Landscape Architect
Colin Campbell, Planner
Shannon Glass, PLA, Project Manager

Budget \$400,000 for planning, design and construction

Project Description This project replaces the play equipment in the south play area and improves accessibility in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Renovations are funded by the Seattle Park District.

Schedule Planning: Winter 2019
Design: Spring – Summer 2019
Construction: Summer - Fall 2019

Questions and Comments

- Attendee explained that there is a known drainage issue at the site and offered video of the issue; asked to forward on to Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR)
- Acceptable usage of the park for dog owners and past experiences with aggressive dogs at the site? SPR staff explained that according to Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) dogs are not allowed off-leash on playfields and play areas. Call Seattle Police to enforce leash laws or animal control for unattended animals
- Who owns the land that is uphill, to the west of the park? Seattle Public Schools
- Including an Off-Leash Area (OLA) at the park on the east side? Depends on Council Resolution Guidelines and adjacency play areas & residential zoning
- What is safety surfacing? Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF – “wood chips” designed to reduce chance of injury from falls), PIP (poured-in-place) rubber, or playground grass. EWF has best fall attenuation and is cheapest (\$3/square foot VS. \$22-28/square foot for others. The final design will likely use untreated cedar.

Playground Equipment Options Comments

- Are the trees from options 1 climbable? – Yes, with correct equipment
 - Like the monkey bars
 - Like the spinning toy from Option 2
 - Like the tree from Option 1
 - Features that kids like – climbing rock, monkey bars, orange color scheme, slides, climbing panels.
 - Can another deck slide be added?
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- Escalator, water slide, zip line? No, site is too small
- Prefer Option 2, but add climbing net and fire pole
- Height of structures? Lots of diversity is good for older kids. Answer: 5-6 feet tall
- Could kids drawings be incorporated in play structures? A personal touch for the area?
- Seating area around the play area for parents; currently limited options
- Prefer Option 2; Option 1 is like existing; Option 2 has many options to run around and between
- Roofs? Will look into options if the budget allows
- Benches? Metal to avoid fire? Add to other side of the play area?
- Add bumps or rolls on slides?
- Add a balance beam? The current one is used a lot
- Remove the curb/make the play area more accessible? – EWF will be filled to the top
- Ramps don't work; PIP rubber access points? Or under play equipment? – Will consider, depends on budget.
- How is budget determined? – Based on what is currently there and what is needed
- Does SPR use Universal Design Principles? Landscape Architects have advocated for adoption and there is support from the Superintendent.
- Paint the curb to assist visual for accessibility
- Prefer Option 2 but could it be higher?
- Prefer the color scheme for option 1 because it looks natural, like new Lincoln Park play area
- Kids run into the poles
- Concerned that dark colored play equipment will be too hot to play on in the summer
- Mini Plaza: Shade Possible? Canopy/panel? – Shade trees may be possible
- Are the monkey bars tall enough for adults?
- Could logs be brought in? – No longer available.