



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

400 City Hall Annex
25 West 4th Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
www.stpaul.gov/parks

Telephone: 651-266-6400
Facsimile: 651-292-7311

November 2, 2011

**Burns Play Area
Analysis and Programming
Meeting Notes – October 26, 2011
Progressive Baptist Church**

Meeting Attendees:

Betsy Leach, Eric Thompson, Paul Reyburn, Lawrence Sagstetter, Joan Lipinski, Bill Pesek, and Dave Ronzani

- A. David Ronzani of Parks and Recreation passed out the meeting agenda and then proceeded with introductions.**
- B. Bill Pesek gave an overview of the design process.**
- C. David Ronzani presented existing conditions, site analysis, goals and objectives, Conceptual Bubble diagrams, and play equipment options**
- D. Discussion/Comments/Questions:**

a. Dislikes/Concerns with the current tot lot:

- Outdated play equipment
- Picnic tables and other furnishings need updating
- Picnic tables are awkward
- Lack of electrical outlet
- No existing drinking fountain/water in the park
- Sand collects garbage and other debris
- Overall cleanliness needs to be improved.
- Owners often do not clean up after their dogs
- Trees along Burr Avenue obscures views into the park

b. What is liked about the current play area and should be carried over into the new design if possible:

- The concrete and play curb of the existing area is in good shape. The new play area should utilize these features as much as possible.
- Improve sight lines from the street into the park



- Location of the park serves a large user population
- Like the 2-5 age equipment – Survey results indicate more 2-5 age equipment needed.

c. Additional Improvements:

- Meet ADA accessibility and CPSC safety guidelines for fall zones
- Incorporate equipment that kids can be seen through
- Climbing opportunities
- An electrical outlet if budget allows
- Big slide
- Avoid places where people can hide
- Update picnic tables benches and other furnishings
- Install drinking fountain if budget allows
- Refurbish existing concrete
- Improve the vegetation buffer along the east side fence
- Add Trash receptacle
- Prune/Raise tree branches along Burr Ave. and within the park

d. Other Items

1. Ash Trees – Remove and replace with an alternative species type if required by construction.
2. Single tennis court will remain until condition deteriorates and removal is necessary. (Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department System Plan has designated this tennis court not to be replaced)
3. Basketball court may be eligible for resurfacing through alternative funding.
4. Consider Grand Reopening event to coincide with National Night Out, August 2012.
5. Incorporate an element that describes the park's history.

E. Play Equipment

a. From Structure/Surfacing presentation board, the preference was to combine the traditional style structure with the modern or net style to provide a variety of play opportunities

- i. Individual play equipment preferences
 1. Spring toys
 2. Digger
 3. Net climber
 4. Spinning elements

b. From the Concept Option #1 presentation board, Adjust the shape of the container as necessary while retaining as much of the existing container shape, curb, and concrete as possible.

- i. Focus on play equipment/surfacing rather than other site improvements
- ii. Preference is a combination of synthetic poured-in-place/sand or turf/sand surfacing

F. Next Steps:

- Meeting #2 – Present graphic layout plans for the play area including play equipment selections– Early December. Date - TBD.
- Action Items:
 - Discuss and obtain approval of
 1. Concept Design
 2. Play Equipment Layout
- Construction schedule: Spring 2012

This is my understanding of the meeting's discussion points. Please contact me at (651-266-6410) if any additions or clarification to these minutes are required.

David Ronzani
Project Manager

Bill Pesek
Landscape Architect