



MEETING NOTES

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

MEETING DATE: September 07, 2017

LOCATION: Rice Recreation Center, 1021 Marion St, Saint Paul MN 55117

ATTENDANCE: Kerry A., Emily H., Hannah R., Denise C., David (Dave) Ronzani, Cheeneng (Chee) Yang

NOTES BY: Chee Yang, September 08, 2017

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Dave Ronzani welcomed audience, provided introduction, and presented. Refer to page 2-4 of Presentation Materials.

- Overview of project & project schedule
 - Project Overview
 - Construction budget is \$280,000 which includes play equipment and construction
 - Project objective is to replace and add play equipment meeting CPSC and ADA guidelines
 - Community engagement process to finish in November 2017
 - Construction documents to be completed by end of 2017 to advertise project after New Year
 - Construction anticipated to start Spring 2018 and end by Fall 2018
 - Review of meeting #1 goals and community engagement process

Dave presented site context, existing site conditions, and site analysis. Refer to pages 5-7 of Presentation Materials.

- Overview of site context.
 - Marydale Park is in District 6 Ward 5.
 - Metro Transit lines run down Dale St and Maryland Ave with easy access to public transportation
 - Marydale Park is located in close proximity to other play areas located at Como Park Elementary and Crossroads Elementary
 - 7 park facilities located within one mile of Marydale Park
 - Dale Street, Maryland, Front and Como Avenues present a barrier to pedestrian due to high volume of traffic
 - Marydale Park serves residential neighborhood – mostly single family and multifamily residences
- Existing Conditions

- Existing parking lot
- Play area
- Loeb Lake
- Restroom building
- Future Kato Courts Development
- Review site analysis with present conditions
 - Different spaces highlighted in different color
 - Mature vegetation surround the lake
 - A physical and visual barrier from the play area
 - Trail system are used to walk throughout the park around the lake
 - Play area highlighted in yellow
 - Existing restroom building in brown
 - Future Kato Courts will begin Fall 2017 highlighted in green near play area
 - Access point to the restroom and play area from Dale Street and parking lot
 - Access point from Jessamine Ave serves as a service route. Jessamine Ave has on-street parking with no sidewalk.
 - Play area is near restroom sitting at the bottom of the hill providing an opportunity to use slope in play area
 - Play area has no defined 2-5 year old and 5-12 year old children.
 - Play area is in poor condition and will be completely be removed and replaced with new play equipment to meet current CPSC and ADA guidelines
 - No shade for play area and no nearby trees for natural shade
 - Part of the ADA access route is at a 8% and will need to be reconfigured to meet ADA guidelines

Dave provided an overview of community responses based on community outreach. Refer to page 8 of Presentation Materials.

Initial input from community outreach

- National Night Out
 - Free wifi will not be an option at this time
 - BBQ grills will not be added near play area for ease of maintenance – 6 other BBQ in the park
- A preference for modern play structure – more climbing equipment

Dave presented the three concepts. Refer to pages 9-13 of Presentation Materials.

Plan Overview: Black outlined trees indicate existing trees, brown is existing restroom building, green are proposed trees, and purple and yellow are play spaces. The orange cream color highlights are areas for benches and picnic tables. Concepts are ideas only and sketched very loose. Concepts will change and be refined based on meeting #1 feedback.

- **Concept 1**
 - Play area in the same location

- Expanded play area with 2-5 and 5-12 play spaces in same play container
 - Additional walk around play area
 - Trees for shade
 - Play area near restroom building for comfort
 - Space for picnic table and benches under trees for shade and to create a barrier to future Kato courts
 - New park sign
- **Concept B**
 - Centralized play area
 - Separate play containers for 2-5 and 5-12 play spaces
 - Circulation wraps play area on one edge with walkway separating the two play containers
 - Gathering space separates the play area and Kato courts
 - Trees for shade
 - New park sign
- **Play Equipment**
 - The various types of play equipment with various movements and actions
 - The play equipment does not have to be exactly as seen. The shape and form will be different to fit the ideal play area theme
- **Play Equipment Structures**
 - The advantages and disadvantages of each different play types
 - Play Surfacing
 - Poured-in-place is really expensive. If this is what the community would like, the play area will be smaller to offset cost.
 - Artificial play turf is another option. Less expensive.
 - Combination of play surfacing is typically ideal with sand and either turf or the rubber surfacing.
- **Public Art**
 - Per City ordinance, 1% of the entire project budget is required to go towards public art
 - The public art budget is \$3,500. More funding may be allocated towards the public art budget but will have to come out of the play equipment.
 - Public Art shown:
 - Mural Wall
 - Small metal bees
 - Bench with mosaic tiles
 - Concrete poetry

Dave asked for questions and comments regarding the concepts.

- **Overall Discussion:**

- Question if sand attracts animals.
 - In other parks, we experienced issues with cats.
 - No shade which makes it too hot during summer
 - Since there are other BBQ in the park, there are no concern without any near play area
 - Sight lines are important for safety in the park
 - Concern of getting sand stuck in children's hair especially braided hair
 - If play area cannot be entirely rubber surfacing a combination of sand will work
 - One commented about feeling safe because of familiarity to the park
 - Another commented that they never had a problem and always felt comfortable at the park
 - One took notice of people arriving at the park at times and stay in the bathroom building for a long time
 - With the new play area and the future Kato courts, there will be more eyes in the area hoping that will deter unwanted activities
 - Children in the apartment don't use the play area during the day because it's hot and no shade. They will use the play area during the evening.
 - An idea for public art can be a community Kiosk. This would impact the construction budget.
 - One commented about liking the traditional play style and another liked the modern
 - Can have a combination of both – modern style with more climbing features to challenge older children and have a traditional style for younger kids to play
 - Can relate the play area to wildlife
 - Would like to see double slides
 - Preference over a group swing than traditional swing
- **Concept A:**
 - Like the visible sight line to the entrance of the restroom building
 - Would like more room between the play area and the future Kato courts
 - **Concept B:**
 - Like the separation of the 2-5 and 5-12 year old play spaces.

Dave concluded meeting. Next meeting is Thursday, October 12, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Refined concepts to be presented based on meeting #1 comments.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 12, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Rice Recreation Center, 1021 Marion St, Saint Paul MN 55117.

Please contact Dave Ronzani at (651) 266-6410 if any items are missing from the meeting notes

or items were listed incorrectly.