



MEETING NOTES

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

MEETING DATE: November 09, 2017

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

ATTENDANCE: Emily H., Darcy R., Kerry A., Chantelle K., Denise C., Dave Ronzani, Chee Yang

NOTES BY: Dave Ronzani, Chee Yang, November 09, 2017

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Dave Ronzani welcomed audience and introduced presentation. Refer to page 2-3 of Presentation Materials.

- Overview of project & project schedule
 - Project Timeline 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 completed; future comments and questions can be forward to project manager, Dave Ronzani
 - Please visit project website, www.stpaul.gov/MarydalePlayArea for updates
 - 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

Dave reviewed community meeting #1 and recapped community meeting #2 and key comments. Refer to pages 4-7 of Presentation Materials.

- Overview of Community Meeting #1 concepts.
 - Between concept A and concept B, concept B was preferred because of the separation of the 2-5 & 5-12 play area and the buffer zone between the play area and Kato courts
 - Like the open sight-line from concept A
 - Refined concept from meeting 2
 - Separation of 2-5 & 5-12 play area
 - Play surfacing: 2-5 rubber resilient surfacing & 5-12 combination of sand and rubber resilient surfacing
 - Circulation reconfigured to meet ADA standards

- Pathway loops in front of play area
 - Seating opportunity between play area
 - Additional seating opportunities around play area & Kato courts
 - Trees for shade
 - Open sight line to front of restroom building
 - Buffer zone from the Kato courts
- Play Equipment Layout (Left Side)
 - 2-5 Play Features
 - Tot Swing
 - 2 rocker play element in place of the ground level spinner
 - To be wildlife rockers
 - Play house with double slide
 - 5-12 Play Features
 - Monkey bars
 - Wavy climbing bridge
 - Platforms leading up to the spiral slide
 - Spiral climbing
 - Tire Swing
 - Keep in mind the required fall zones
- Play Equipment Layout (Right Side)
 - 2-5 Play Features
 - Tot Swing
 - Ground level merry-go-round
 - Play house with double slide
 - 5-12 Play Features
 - Oodle Swing (larger fall zone)
 - Monkey Bars
 - Hanging spinner
 - Net Climbing bridge
 - Double Slides
 - Sunbeam Climber
 - Underdeck Tunnel
- Meeting 2 Key Comments:
 - Separation of the 2-5 and 5-12 play area containers
 - Keep open sight-line to front of restroom building
 - Addition of trees for shade
 - Minimize play surfacing for access only for more play value
 - Play surfacing to be “playful”
 - Replace climbing-bridge to the net bridge-climber play feature
 - Addition of tube tunnel from play equipment layout 1 to layout 2
 - Prefer to have more bright lime green than more brown color on play equipment
 - Add a rocker play feature

- Interactive Artful Bench – Duck Sculpture on Bench

Dave and Chee presented the final concept and play equipment layout. Refer to pages 8-9 of Presentation Materials.

Plan Overview: Keep in mind the overall site features like the play containers and play equipment will not change in final concept. Other design elements such as pathways, planting beds, site furnishings, and other fine details may change when drawing construction documents.

- **Final Concept**
 - Separation of 2-5 & 5-12 play area
 - Combination of sand and rubber resilient surfacing for 2-5 & 5-12 play area
 - Will re-design poured-in-place access location in 5-12 play area to meet a destination point
 - Reconfigure ADA route leading to play area
 - Additional seating opportunities around play area & Kato courts
 - Open sight-line to front of restroom building
 - Open plaza
 - Renovation of existing stairs
 - New play area will have a 3,636 SQ. FT.
- **Play Equipment Layout**
 - 2-5 Play Features
 - Tot Swing
 - 2 rocker play element in place of the ground level spinner
 - To be wildlife rockers
 - Play house with double slide
 - 5-12 Play Features
 - Tire Swing
 - Monkey bars
 - Net climbing bridge
 - Platforms leading up to the spiral slide
 - Spiral climber
 - Hanging bars
 - Tree Trunk Climber
 - Underdeck Tunnel
- **Public Art**
 - The public art budget is \$3,500.
 - Opportunity to relate public art to wildlife & Willow Reserve.
 - Public Art shown:
 - Artful bench
 - Creative Awareness
 - Interactive Sculpture

Dave presented planting and site furnishing options. Refer to pages 10-11 of Presentation Materials.

- **Planting Options**
 - Ornamental Trees – Provide Seasonal Interest
 - Serviceberry – has edible fruits for wildlife and human
 - Crabapple
 - Canopy Tree
 - Prairie Bold Aspen – fast growing tree for shade
 - Short lived about 40 years but will outlive play area
 - Plan to plant slower growing canopy trees for succession growth
 - Low Shurbs
 - Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle – a native hardy shrub
 - Little Blue Stem
 - Perennial grass which can withstand being trampled
- **Furnishing Options**
 - Metal Picnic Tables
 - Square or Rectangular shape
 - Metal Benches
 - Perforated
 - Slats
 - Rails
 - Recycled Plastic Picnic Tables
 - Aesthetically resembles wood – fits what is already existing picnic tables in Marydale Park and overall “natural” theme
 - Recycle Plastic Benches
 - Aesthetically resembles wood – fits the overall “natural” theme
 - Waste Receptacles
 - Metal Receptacle
 - Recycled Plastic Receptacle
 - Bicycle Rack
 - Type of bicycle racks preferred by cyclists

Dave presented the public art. Refer to pages 12 of Presentation Materials.

- **Artist: Ann Klefstad – a sculptor**
 - Shown are her previous work
 - For more examples of artist’s work please visit her work at annklefstad.com
- For Marydale Park Play Area – Artful Bench with a Nesting Duck
 - Opportunity to educate about wildlife habitat along lake shoreline
 - Nesting duck will provide more durability for art installation
 - Connecting park to nearby Willow Reserve
 - Playful element for children

Dave asked the community to discuss about the concept, play equipment, planting and site furnishing options, and public art.

- **Overall Discussion:**
 - A community member asked how water was going to drain
 - Currently water drains pretty well around the existing play area
 - Planning to have the water to continue the existing draining pattern and can direct the water to opposite side of play area draining to Loeb Lake
 - No artificial turf – traps litter and hard to remove
 - Planning to re-design play surfacing for logical access
 - Will there be any interpretive signage about Loeb Lake?
 - Habitat? Programming? History?
 - Can look into applying for Star Grant to get interpretive signage?
 - Crossing safety and concern on Dale
 - Community member met with some students from the University of Minnesota conducting a study on Dale for the Human First research
 - More information can be found at humanfirst.umn.edu

- **Concept:**
 - Like the overall layout

- **Overall Play Equipment Layout**
 - Like the layout and the play elements presented
 - Would like to keep the roofs, it will provide some shade until trees grow
 - Like the net bridge-climber
 - The color scheme is good
 - Brighter colors to attract park visitors
 - Like the green & black poured-in-place color sample
 - Matches the play equipment color palette
 - Make sure to have spiral slide for 5-12 play equipment instead of double slide
 - Like the 2 rockers and the ground-spinner from meeting 2
 - The space will only fit 2 rocker play elements or the single ground-spinner
 - One person likes the ground-spinner
 - One person likes both play elements
 - Conclusion – we can bid for the less expensive item and have the other as an add alternate if budget allows

- **Planting Options**
 - Fond of the idea of having fast growing trees with slow growing trees
 - Creating a tree succession for the next play area replacement keeping some shade
 - Prefer Serviceberry over Crabapple
 - If possible, plant more edible fruits
 - Will look into it and see what we can do for ease of maintenance

- **Furnishing Options**
 - Like the recycled plastic which can aesthetically resemble wood to fit “natural” theme
 - Concern that people will pick at the slats on benches
 - Would like to have a mix-match of benches with backs and no backs
 - Benches with backs and no backs will be dependent of location. For example, bench between the play containers would make sense for it to be backless for comfort looking at both sides.

- **Public Art**
 - Like the artist’s idea of a nesting duck
 - One person mentioned having a duck as the bench
 - Others mentioned it would be a large duck
 - Agreed to locate the bench in front of 2-5 play area by trail
 - Good location for the bench to be visible for all park users

- Will email out artist’s concept to everyone involved in the design process for comments

Dave concluded the meeting. This is the last community engagement process we will have for the Marydale Park Play Area Improvement Project.

Thank you to all community members and city staff who participated in our community engagement guiding our design process!

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