



MEETING NOTES

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2017

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

ATTENDANCE: Emily H., Alyssa L., Kerry A., Andre L., David (Dave) Ronzani, Cheeneng (Chee) Yang

NOTES BY: Dave Ronzani, Chee Yang, November 17, 2017

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

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

- Overview of project & project schedule
 - Project Overview
 - Construction budget is \$1,300,000 which includes play equipment and construction
 - Project objective is to replace and add play equipment meeting CPSC and ADA guidelines and upgrade athletic fields to Artificial Turf.
 - This is the last community engagement
 - An additional meeting about public art to happen in January 2018
 - Will send out date, time, and location of meeting
 - For project updates, please visit project website at www.stpaul.gov/SylvanPlayArea-Field
 - Construction documents to be completed by end of 2017-January 2018 to advertise project after New Year
 - Construction anticipated to start Spring 2018 and end by Fall 2018

Dave recapped community meeting #1 play area concept. Refer to page 4 of Presentation Materials.

- Concept #1
 - Kept existing play container – 2-5 in yellow & 5-12 in purple
 - Provided circulation routes with spaces to sit and gather highlighted in orange
- Concept #2
 - Organic & curvilinear play container form – 2-5 in yellow & 5-12 in purple
 - Forms blended together
 - Kept existing circulation route
- Concept #3
 - Rectilinear play containers to reflect athletic fields

- Aligned north and south entrance
- Trees aligned along the central corridor with distinct spaces to gather

Dave reviewed community meeting #2 site layout, play equipment layout, and key comments. Refer to page 5-7 of Presentation Materials.

- Concept #1
 - 5-12 play container to fit a swing set
 - Because of the big container, all existing trees are removed
 - Central gathering-seating space
 - Alignment of north and south entrance
 - Open sight-line to front of restroom
 - Athletic fields have two U11/U12 medium fields and one large field
 - Retaining walls by steep slope
- Concept #2 (preferred concept)
 - No swing set having the 5-12 play container weave around existing trees
 - Existing trees to remain
 - Alignment of north and south entrance
 - Open sight-line to front of restroom
- Play Equipment Layout #1
 - 5-12 climbing play features
 - Swing Set
 - Spinner
 - 2-5 climbing features
 - Seat spinner
 - Tot swing
- Play Equipment Layout #2 (preferred layout)
 - 5-12 climbing-traditional play features with double slides
 - Oodle Swing
 - Global Spinner
 - 2-5 play equipment same as play equipment layout #1
- Meeting #2 Key Comments
 - Like separation of the 2-5 & 5-12 play container
 - Remove existing chain-link fence on east side & replace with ornamental fence
 - Keep existing trees
 - Maintain open sight-line to front of restroom building
 - Alignment of north and south entrance with corridor lined with trees
 - Central plaza with seating opportunities
 - Minimize play resilient surfacing to add more play value
 - Preference for group swing & group spinner
 - Like the three combination soccer fields

Dave presented the close to final concept. Dave presented overall concept site layout, play area layout, play equipment, and athletic field layout. Refer to pages 8-11 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.

- **Concept Site Layout**

- Entrances to athletic fields from corners of Park St. & Maryland Ave and Park St. & Rose Ave.
- Main entrance to fields is near restroom building
- All existing chain-link to be removed
- Fence around perimeter of athletic fields
- Ornamental fence around play area
- New stairs for south entrance

- **Play Area Layout Concept**

- Separation of 2-5 & 5-12 play area
- Combination of sand and rubber resilient surfacing for 2-5 & 5-12 play area
- Replace service road chain gates with removable bollards for access from Sylvan St.
- Looped path around play area
- Central plaza with seating
- Existing trees to remain
- New trees for future shade
- Open sight-line to front of restroom building
- Pollinating gardens
- Sledding hill to remain
- Play sand in 2-5 play area

- **Play Equipment Layout**

- 2-5 Play Area
 - Climbing pods
 - Slide
 - Tube Tunnel
 - Tot Swings
 - Seat Spinner
 - Sand Play Area
- 5-12 Play Area
 - 2 Sets of double slides
 - Net climber
 - Climbing Platforms
 - Oodle Swing
 - Group Spinner

- **Athletic Field Layout**
 - Remove all existing chain-link fence
 - Fenced-in three U11/U12 fields – 2 medium & 1 large fields
 - Tall fence behind soccer goals
 - Seating opportunities on natural turf along Park Street & Rose Ave
 - Trees planted along Maryland Ave to screen tall fences
 - Will consider netting as an alternative to tall fencing along the field perimeter.
 - Fields to be all artificial turf
 - Retaining walls by step slope
 - 3-4 entry points into athletic fields
 - Plans to update and relocate “Joe Zschokke Athletic Fields” Field sign to main entry field entry.

Dave presented planting and site furnishing options. Refer to pages 12-13 of Presentation Materials.

- **Planting Palette**
 - Pollinating Garden
 - Clean edges
 - **Ornamental Trees – provide seasonal interest**
 - Serviceberry – edible fruits
 - Dogwood trees – flowering shrub
 - Crabapple – flowering shrub
 - **Canopy Trees – shade interest**
 - Accolage Elm – hybrid Elm species
 - Fast growing trees
 - Honeylocust – hardy tree
 - Kentucky Coffeetree – hardy and highly resistant to diseases
- **Site Furnishings**
 - Metal Picnic Tables
 - Square or Rectangular shape
 - Metal Benches
 - Perforated
 - Slats
 - Rails
 - Recycled Plastic Picnic Tables
 - Recycle Plastic Benches
 - Waste Receptacles
 - Metal Receptacle
 - Recycled Plastic Receptacle
 - Bicycle Rack
 - Type of bicycle racks preferred by cyclists
 - Ornamental Fence Style – photo is taken from Wilder Rec Center
 - New park sign design

Dave presented public art - update. Refer to pages 14 of Presentation Materials.

- **Artist have not been selected**
 - Would like an artist from the Karen community
 - Getting in touch with KOM organization
- **Mosaic Artwork**
 - A colorful and interactive art
 - Durable and long lasting material
 - Available infrastructure reducing cost
 - Artwork to reflect community
- **Future public art meeting to happen in January 2018**

Group discussion on play area layout, play equipment, field layout, and public art.

- **Overall Discussion:**
 - Representative from the Saint Paul Music Academy would like the project construction to begin after school is out so students would can use the park when the weather warms up in the spring.
 - We are able to work around it
 - Plan to schedule National Night Out event at an alternative venue to avoid potential construction conflicts at the park
 - Like the layout of play area and the play equipment
 - Would like colors to complement existing restroom building color and new park elements.
 - Community suggestion for the poured-in-place color to be Terracotta & Black (from color sample pack passed around the meeting.)
 - Play equipment to be a darker red tone with grays
 - Would like slides to be a brighter color
 - Red tones should be limited to the powder coated metal elements, to resist fading.
 - Have different colors from Marydale Play Area & Saint Paul Music Public School
- **Site Furnishings**
 - Prefer to have metal & square picnic tables
 - Benches & trash receptacles to match picnic tables
- **Play Area**
 - No play turf
 - A lot of litter accumulates at the park from traffic along Maryland Avenue. There is a sense that a lot of that litter will get stuck in the material.
 - Heats up quick

- Static can be an issue
 - Would like the play area surface to be visually different than the athletic field.
- Preference for poured-in-place rubber and sand

- **Field Layout**
 - Field orientation, entrances, and fencing, were reviewed and discussed.
 - Intended use is for a neighborhood field rather than one used for large athletic events and tournaments.
 - No additional lighting planned at this time.
 - Concerns regarding soccer balls flying into the street. Will look into sports netting, and other options in addition to fencing.
 - Look into options to accommodate volleyball space, posts that are artificial turf friendly.
 - Idea to install removable bollards (removable) rather than gate at the main field entrance was discussed. Will have need the approval of Parks Maintenance and operations and Programming.
 - Space will be occasionally programmed.

- **Public Art**
 - Will send out an invite for public art meeting at Sylvan Park.
 - Would like color pallet to compliment the rest of the elements at the park.

- **Next Meeting**
 - Next meeting will be in January 2018 to discuss about public art
 - Hoping to have an artist selected

Dave concluded meeting. Next meeting will be about Public Art in January 2018. When the date, time, and location of meeting have been decided, it will be sent out and be on the project website.

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.