MEETING NOTES
CITY OF SAINT PAUL

MEETING DATE: October 13, 2017
LOCATION: Rice Recreation Center, 1021 Marion St, Saint Paul MN 55117
ATTENDANCE: Betty C., Emily H., Hannah R., Alyssa L., Yer C., Kathleen A., Joe B., Dave Ronzani, Chee Yang

NOTES BY: Dave Ronzani, Chee Yang, October 13, 2017

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Dave Ronzani welcomed audience and introduced presentation. 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

Dave recapped community meeting #1 and reviewed key comments. Refer to pages 5-8 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
o Play area  
o Loeb Lake  
o Restroom building  
o Future Kato Courts Development  

- Review site analysis with present conditions  
  o Mature vegetation surround the lake  
    - A physical and visual barrier from the play area  
  o Trail system are used to walk throughout the park around the lake  
  o Play area highlighted in yellow  
  o Existing restroom building in brown  
  o *Kato Courts anticipated to break-ground week of October 16th.*  
  o Access point to the restroom and play area from Dale Street and parking lot  
  o Access point from Jessamine Ave serves as a service route. Jessamine Ave has on-street parking with no sidewalk.  
  o Play area has no defined 2-5 year old and 5-12 year old children.  
  o 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  
  o No shade for play area and no nearby trees for natural shade  
  o Part of the ADA access route is at a 8% and will need to be reconfigured to meet ADA guidelines  

- Meeting 1 Key Comments:  
  o Keep an open sight line to bathroom  
  o Provide more shade  
  o Have buffer zone between play area & Kato courts  
  o Preference to have modern and traditional play equipment style  
  o Like to have double slides  
  o Prefer group swing than traditional swing set  
  o Favor the idea of separated play containers for 2-5 year old & 5-12 year old  
  o Relate the play area to wildlife & Willow Reserve per Parks & Recreation System Plan  

*Chee provided an overview of community outreach at Marydale Festival. Refer to page 9 of Presentation Materials.*

Community feedback  
- Trend in favor of modern & traditional play features  
- Comments to keep in mind:  
  o Add basketball courts for older children  
  o Provide locked electrical outlet and open only for events  

*Dave and Chee presented the refined concepts, play equipment layout, and public art. Refer to pages 10-13 of Presentation Materials.*
Plan Overview: Keep in mind concept is still at a conceptual stage and will change and be more refined based on meeting #2 feedback.

- **Refined Concept**
  - 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 #1**
  - 2-5 Play Features
    - Tot Swing
    - Ground level merry-go-round
    - 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 #2**
  - 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

- **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 asked for questions and comments regarding the concepts.

- Overall Discussion:
  - If possible, like to have a springing rider play feature
  - Have a visual impact from above to attract visitors
    - Dave commented on playing with the forms of the rubber surfacing to create a playful ground element
  - Play area is currently under-utilized
  - A community member mentioned parking is allowed on Dale Street
    - Heading North, no parking for 2 hours (unsure of when)
    - Heading South, no parking for 1 hour (unsure of when)
    - Also corrected speed limit to be 30 MPH not 35 MPH as stated in analysis
  - Dale St. a barrier for community members to cross to access Marydale Park
    - Dave will inform the county know of the play area improvement project
  - Specific tree and plant species have not been determined
    - Will look into a long living and fast growing tree
    - Would like to have trees that don’t attract Japanese beetles

- Concept:
  - Add a small play sand in 2-5 play area
  - Like the overall layout

- Overall Play Equipment Layout
  - Prefer layout #1 – more play value
    - Layout #1 has more platforms making it easier to get up to slide
  - Would like to replace the net bridge element from layout #2 to layout #1
  - Like the color palette from layout #2
    - Layout #1 is too brown
    - Like to have brighter color scheme
    - Like to have the slide color green as in layout #2
  - Like to include the tube tunnel from layout #2 in layout #1
  - ADA swing in tot swing
    - Need to re-confirm if it is required

- Public Art
  - All agree on having an interactive artful bench
  - Community member suggested a duck sculpture on bench
    - Other wildlife seen in Marydale Park is a turtle
Dave concluded meeting. Last community meeting will be Thursday, November 9, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Final concept to be presented.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 9, 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.