

High Point Playground Improvements  
Public Input Meeting  
Wednesday, September 17, 2014, 6:00 pm  
Madison Police-East District Community Room

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Introductions
- City of Madison Playgrounds
  - a. Over 170 playgrounds
  - b. Highest number of playgrounds per capita in the United States
  - c. Guidelines for playground development
    - i. Develop a sustainable system
    - ii. No more than one playground area per park
    - iii. Standardized playground design process
- Playground Design Process
  - a. Public Input Meeting #1 - Discuss project location, timeframe, budget, general equipment selection, surfacing
  - b. Playground Meeting #2 – Two playground concepts for each play area will be presented based on input from previous meeting, select one concept, identify any changes needed
  - c. Playground Design Confirmation – Via email and website posting
- Project Location & Site Constraints
  - a. Adjacent Playgrounds – 2 playgrounds within 1 mile of High Point Park, 2 are designed for the 5-12 age range and 1 has tot and belt swings .
  - b. Consumer Product Safety Commission Standards
    - i. Playgrounds designed for either 0-2 age group, 2-5 age group or 5-12 age group
    - ii. Existing Stevens Street playgrounds are designed for the 5-12 age group
  - c. Site Access and Constraints
    - i. Existing trees
    - ii. Existing underground utilities
    - iii. Sidewalk access
- Project Timetable
  - a. Demolition of existing playground will occur in 2015
  - b. Design needs to be finalized in early January
  - c. Part of playground contract to be bid for construction in spring/summer 2015
- Playground Equipment Standards
  - a. National Standards based on data-driven research to ensure playgrounds are safe
    - i. US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
    - ii. American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
    - iii. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
  - b. Madison's Playground Standards
    - i. Ensure high play value
    - ii. Manage long term maintenance costs

- iii. Provide quality equipment – preselected top manufacturers’ most durable product line
  - c. Colors
    - i. Natural colors
      - 1. Tend to fade less
      - 2. Blend in better with their surroundings
      - 3. Color options include blue and purple for upright posts, and bright green for the handrail.
  - d. Edging
    - i. Plastic timbers
  - e. Equipment
    - i. Play structure
    - ii. Double bay swing structure with two big kid swings and two tot swings
  - f. Surfacing
    - i. Must meet ASTM F1292 – Critical Fall Heights
    - ii. Must meet ASTM F1951 – ADA Accessibility
    - iii. Only engineered wood fiber mulch and recycled shredded rubber meet these requirements.
    - iv. Recycled shredded rubber material is colored and poly coated
- Project Budget
  - a. Approximately \$25,000 for playground equipment per play area
- Equipment and Play Surfacing Selection
  - a. Age Group
    - i. For High Point Park: group reached a consensus for a 5-12 age group play structure with an area designed to accommodate smaller children as well.
  - b. Surfacing
    - i. Discussed pro’s and con’s of each product
    - ii. For High Point Park: a majority of attendees preferred rubber mulch surfacing for the playground
  - c. Playline
    - i. For High Point Park Playground: group preferred a conventional platform based playground. The playline character that had the most number of votes for the 5-12 play structures was the Playworld Systems product line.
  - d. Additional Discussion Topics
    - i. An attendee asked if the existing benches will remain in place. One will remain and the other will be replaced with a new bench.
    - ii. An attendee requested additional trees around the playground. Additional trees will be budget dependent after construction bids are received.
- Next Steps
  - a. Sign up to receive email notification of future playground meetings
  - b. Take information from this meeting and incorporate into conceptual designs to be presented at a follow-up playground meeting.

- c. Follow-up meeting will be noticed via e-mail, City of Madison Parks website, neighborhood association list serve and sent to alder.

If interested in receiving notice of the next playground meeting please contact Mike Sturm at [msturm@cityofmadison.com](mailto:msturm@cityofmadison.com) or at (608) 267-4921.