

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS FOR ONTARIO PARK
6:00 pm Thursday, December 5,
2024 via Zoom

- Introductions – Mike Sturm
- Playground Design Process
 - a. Playground Workshop – Discuss project location, timeframe, budget, general equipment selection, surfacing
 - b. Playground Meeting – Two playground concepts for playground will be presented based on input from previous meeting, select one concept, identify any changes needed
- City of Madison Playgrounds
 - a. Over 180 playgrounds!
 - b. Highest number of playground 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 Equipment Standards
 - a. City of Madison
 - i. Promotion of wide variety of skill sets
 - ii. Manage long term maintenance costs
 - iii. Provide quality equipment
 - b. National Standards
 - i. US Consumer Product Safety Commission
 - ii. American National Standards Institute
 - iii. American Society for Testing and Materials
 - c. Colors
 - i. Natural colors will be shown as default for manufacturer selection
 - ii. Other color options are available for posts and handrails are available
 - d. Equipment
 - i. Play Structure
 - ii. Double bay swings structure with two belt and two tot swings
 - e. Surfacing
 - i. Must meet ASTM F1292 – Critical Fall Heights
 - ii. Must meet ASTM F1951 – ADA Accessibility
 - iii. Only wood fiber mulch and shredded rubber mulch meet those requirements
- Project Location & Site Constraints
 - a. Adjacent Playgrounds
 - i. There are 4 existing playgrounds with proximity to Ontario Park .

- b. Site Conditions
 - i. The existing playground location can generally be reused –sits in a good location relative to other amenities in the park such as the picnic shelter and will retain existing asphalt path connection to the park’s main walking path access
 - ii. 2-3 new backed benches will be added adjacent to and/or within the new playground footprint.
 - iii. A paved path connection will be added to connect the playground to the existing path.
 - iv. Existing equipment and pea gravel surface will be fully removed with project, except for the new swings installed in 2024 – Parks staff makes every effort to reuse and recycle as many components as possible.
- Project Timetable
 - a. Construction in 2025 – Parks seeks to minimize “down time” from when existing equipment is removed to the new equipment going in.
- Project Budget
 - a. Approximately \$40,000 for the playground equipment.
- **Kennedy Park Equipment and Play Surfacing Selection**
 - a. **Age Group:** attendees reached consensus for intended age range choosing a **5-12 structure.**
 - b. **Surfacing:** The attendees reached a quick consensus to use **wood surfacing.** Attendees also noted that children like to dig in the existing pea gravel and included a separate area of pea gravel would be desired.
 - c. **Playlines:** After discussion & review – attendees selected the playground manufacturer **Gametime.** Attendees noted the following desires for the next designs:
 - Include Monkey Bars with a flat top
 - 2 Slides – one lower and one higher
 - Multi-level structure
 - Like the idea of being able to run an “obstacle course”
 - Would like to see faux boulder climbers incorporated
 - Do not want the flat plastic pieces with climbing holes
 - No shade structure elements needed. The playground area receives natural shade.
 - Include lower level play elements, such as an ordering window
 - d. **Colors:** Attendees noted that area residents refer to the park as “blue” park. The existing newer swings that will remain are blue, so colors should center around blue. Options to complement **blue are sky blue, purple, and orange.**
 - e. **Fundraising:** Attendees discussed fundraising possibilities. Staff noted that example structures shown are at the maximum budget. Possibilities for fundraising include standalone play elements such as spinners or nature play elements. Staff indicated they will share example fundraising options for equipment with costs. The deadline for indicating a fundraising goal to Parks staff is 1/3/2025.
- Next Steps
 - a. Please share this information with all those who would like to receive it – attendance at the next meeting does not require attendance at the workshop!
 - b. Email Adam Kaniewski at akaniewski@cityofmadison.com to share input.

- c. Adam will take information from this meeting and incorporate into conceptual designs (including two equipment designs) to be presented at a follow-up playground meeting.
- d. Follow-up meeting will additionally be noticed via e-mail, City of Madison Parks website, and sent to alder.

If interested in receiving notice of the next playground meeting, please contact Adam Kaniewski at akaniewski@cityofmadison.com or at (608) 261-4281.

The next meeting will be on January 27, 2025 at 6:00 pm via Zoom