



# Hing Hay Park

## Design Meeting for the Community (3 of 3)

### NOTES

Tuesday, February 25, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM

#### FINAL MEETING

1. Kim Baldwin – Introduction and context
2. Jeff Hou (Friend of Hing Hay Park) – not over, still need to fundraise
3. Nate Cormier – History of the process, site examination
4. Kongjian Yu – Presentation of schematic concept

#### Question and Answer/Comment Section

- Comment (Ching representing Cantonese table)
  - Exercise was a primary concern for the elders at the table
    - Extra Ping Pong Table
    - Exercise equipment
    - Handrails especially for stairs
    - Pebble path for massaging feet
- Comment: Visibility and security of the park is imperative
- Question: What happened to shelter for inclement weather, like a covered walkway (asked 2x's)?
  - Response: Beyond the pavilion there is no sheltered area
  - Potential for additional shelter with the Tea House
  - Budgetary decision
- Question: Are there any bathrooms?
  - Response: No stand alone bathroom, however there is the possibility of working with the Bush Hotel of utilizing bathrooms in there.
  - Concerns regarding security and maintenance of having a stand-alone bathroom.
- Comment from Mandarin group
  - Cat's Cradle doesn't relate to anyone's culture
  - Have more trees and less structure; want a more natural feel to the area.
- Comment: Park must have the resources available to deal with maintenance, upkeep, deal with vandalism
  - Response: Noted by the Park's Department
  - SVR is meeting with the Park's maintenance people on a regular basis as they progress with the design
- Question: What are the lines in the old park?

- Response: They represent illumination that will be on the surface
    - Implementation will be dependent on the budget
- Question: What is the red 'string' of the Cat's Cradle made of?
  - It'll be made out of metal and it will be wide enough so pigeons cannot get a hold of it, but it will not be so wide that it will block views.
- Question: Can the structure of the Cat's Cradle hold lights?
  - Response: Structural Engineers will make sure that the structure will be tight enough to hold the weight.
- Question: What improvements will you make in the current HH Park?
  - Response
    - Pavers will be improved to facilitate better water runoff.
    - Improving the ingress/egress of the IDEA space and Bush Hotel
    - Kiosk will be installed and will be multi-cultural in nature
    - Improvement, if needed, of the Memorial for veterans
- Comment: Need to make sure we have furnishing that are movable, creating flexibility in the space
- Question: What is the project budget?
  - \$3 million
  - Follow up – a comment: You should create the same excitement you see in China.
    - In their public parks, you see lots of different activities
    - Should have covered areas, even if it's temporary
  - Follow up question: What image do you want to leave with people when they visit the park
    - Response: We want to have lots of activities with kids, the elderly, and diversity of different groups. The Cat's Cradle will be an iconic feature. The theater space will be active. The structure of the Cat's Cradle will have the flexibility to change over time.
- Question: What are the materials holding up the Cat's Cradle?
  - Response: Light Poles
  - Follow up comment: They look industrial. Could there be an opportunity to etch designs in them – something floral and/or reflective of the cultures in the area.
    - Response: the benches are perforated and provide texture to the furniture of the park
- Question: Is the main structure safe? Can people climb on them?
  - Response: This is a main concern. They will be engineered and designed to keep that in mind. The Park's department, who is liable, is very concerned about safety.
- Comment (by CIDBIA): Can you create space that can be rented by private vendors? We have a lot of businesses that may be interested in utilizing this space.
  - Space should be designed where 10x10 tents can fit in
- Question: Will there be any change in the current artwork?
  - Response: no change in location will happen for the artwork, memorial, and pavilion.

- Question: Will there be lights at the end of the Cat's Cradle poles?
  - Response: The lights will potentially hang as lanterns.
- Comment: Concern of birds hanging off of the main structure.
  - Response: We are not going to use cables, but a band that will be thick and potentially act as a blade and/or will wobble.
- Comment: Want bigger trees along the walkway to make it feel more natural.
  - Response: Will integrate new trees. We already have trees along the sidewalk. It's always, also, a balancing act between creating a plaza, theater space and creating natural elements.
- Comment: Like to see:
  - Ferns, more evergreens
  - More azaleas and flowers
  - Shorter grasses
  - Shelter, even umbrellas over the bleachers
- Comment: The lower area plaza seems small and has only one way in and one way out, consequently it's not easy to move people to move in and out. Should instead upgrade the upper plaza.
- Comment: Bryant Park is a great example of a private public partnership. Should look at that as an example to help keep this park safe.

Tuck Eng closed: Not the end. We will be working on a multi-cultural, multi-panel kiosk and will be forming a group to help implement this project.

**The following are additional comments from Agendas:**

Comments left on agendas:

- Goal: 1) Large open space for performances  
2) Light, open and modern
- Cat's Cradle Problem:
  - 1) Angled poles (industrial poles) take away from performance areas width and height.
  - 2) Cat's cradle may be Asian by origin but visually it is not Asian inspired. If you saw a photo of it you would not see a connection to Asian or Chinatown.
  - 3) Birds will perch on it and...
  - 4) If the idea is to replicate a tree, a sculpted or real tree would be better.

- Native-American recognition as original inhabitants of the land on which the park is located. Perhaps on the information kiosk or incorporate native designs on the cat's cradle poles or plaques on the kiosk.
- Lighting through the old and new park needs to be even so the old park isn't a scary dark spot.
- Do the pipes need to be white? What about jade green (celadon green)? The pipes feel industrial to me. Can there be subtle etched or painted designs on the pipes – flowers, design patterns from a wide range of Asian heritage? Doesn't have to be all pipes – random, only one or a few at eye level would really make a warmer regard in viewing them. Here is another aspect – Native American presence can be included in the pipe design – mixed in at random with Asian designs, geometrics, flowers, etc.
- Here is an insurance issue – with the angles of some pipes. I can see kids climbing on them. If I were a kid, I sure would try!
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Comment letter hand delivered at meeting:

- **Performance Space / Flexible Seating**
  - A flexible performance area that can be multi-purpose, and can be viewable from most areas in the park
  - Ample, flexible seating – the park needs to have the ability to allow up to 250/300 people to watch a performance (both flexible and permanent)
  - 100 Amps of power for performances
- **Incorporate CPTED Principles**
  - Clear sightlines must be maintained throughout the park, clearance from roughly 2' – 8' throughout the park
  - No obvious areas to hide
  - Ample ambient light in the park at nighttime with no disparities between lumen levels
- **Concessions/Park Activation**
  - A usable, active concessions structure on the northwest corner of the park
  - Opportunities for additional mobile vending (carts in the park, trucks on the street)
  - Accessible plumbing and electricity capability for future concession operator

- **Hing Hay Park Historic/Cultural Kiosk**

- A well designed octagonal kiosk that incorporates the diverse cultural history of the neighborhood, considering CPTED principles
- Incorporate way-finding

Replace current way-finding on the southeastern corner

