

Project: Lakeridge Playground Improvements (AKA Lakeridge Playfield)

<u>Location & Existing Park Development</u>: 4.3 ac neighborhood park, located at the very southeast end of Seattle at 10145 Rainier Ave S (98178). Includes:

- a softball field
- tennis court (hasn't been useable in years)
- basketball court
- play area
- comfort station (restroom) and
- associated gravel parking

Budget: \$1.899 - (\$1,799,555 - Seattle Park District + \$100K - King County)

<u>Scope</u>: The project has combined several separate projects and includes:

- Play area renovation new equipment & ADA access
- Ballfield renovation new drainage, irrigation and grass turf
- New and improved pathways to meet accessibility standards
- Retaining wall study geotechnical analysis assessing the significant critical areas slope
- <u>Schedule</u>: Planning & Design through December 2020 Bidding Early 2020 Construction: Summer 2020



Survey of about 10 questions asking for input about the playground, how it's used, what people want to see there, and what types of play them and play equipment is desired. Here's what we've heard so far:

- Activities people like to do there Children's play (1) and walking (2), and playfield/open lawn use (3)
- Understanding project scope, what other park improvements are desired Potential loop pathway(1), incorporating art (2), more seating and gathering areas (3)
- Desirable court sports basketball (half court), tennis, and pickleball



# <u>Play Area</u>

Most popular Play Area Theme - Nature Inspired (Salmon, Lake, Creek)

Desired Play Elements - Slides, Swings, climbing structures

Favorite Play Structure Type – combination of deck and climbing structure

Other comments & concerns regarding playground -

- Restroom improvements
- Better lighting
- Traffic concerns
- BBQs and ballfield improvements



## Site Challenges

- Poor street frontage / Unattractive entrance / Lacks park access from west
- Accessibility Lacks pedestrian accessible routes: Overall circulation does not provide adequate accessible routes to restroom (comfort station), play area, ballfield, and courts; No ADA parking (Cornell Ave S changes will improve traffic safety at the intersection, but may impact parking)
- Circulation poor Lack of looping pedestrian trail (promotes healthy walking/jogging activities)
- **Playfield** deteriorated Poor drainage, uneven ground, no ADA access to dugouts and bleachers, deteriorated fencing, ex. 5-tier bleachers do not meet current safety code.
- Play Area includes 5-12 age play structure, swings, and a whirl, but lacks 2-5 age play area. Existing wall is a barrier for ADA access; needs aging equipment updated
- **Courts** deteriorated: Tennis Court Has not been useable for years, impacted by hillside slumping wet, shady, large overhead tree canopy; Existing full-size basketball court drainage concerns, surface issues
- Steep Slopes landslides, hazardous trees, forest hill
- · Lacks comfortable seating/ Community Gathering Space
- Good overall view towards lake from southeast hill. Ex. hill was used for snow sledding during snow events

Site Opportunities - Next Page



Photos show:

- Parking along Cornell Ave S & access to comfort station & play area
- View opportunities from hillside & bench area located above the play area

## Site Opportunities

- **Open Space & Views** –Spacious open space with forested hill backdrop & views to lake; Social trail connection to Deadhorse Canyon trail
- Gathering Diverse community; Opportunity for community gathering/ fostering community sense
- Art Potential to incorporate art /enhance community identity (diverse community, natural setting, etc.)
- Landscape Long frontage along street (Rainier Ave S); Opportunity to improve front landscape, make park entrance more attractive to draw people into park
- Seating Potential seating/viewing area between play area and basketball courts
- Walking Potential looping trail to promote healthy walking/jogging/kids biking/dog-walking activities
- Connections Opportunity to improve entrance at northwest corner & connect to future sediment pond/ natural area [Adjacent Seattle Public Utility (SPU) Taylor Creek project]
- Courts Opportunity for multi-use courts to maximize hard surfacing use
- Views Good overall view towards lake from southeast hill. Hill used for sledding during snow events
- Hillside Opportunity to partner w/Seattle Green Partnership to remove hazardous trees/ improve tree health



### Concept

ADA Access Circulation – Improve accessible parking & paths to restroom (comfort station), play area, courts, and playfield

**Playfield** – Improve drainage/irrigation; natural grass field surfacing, access, fencing, and dugouts/bleachers (as budget allows)

### Play Area –

- · Remove existing wall; Accessible routes to play area
- Swings at farther side
- Separate play area for ages 5-12 & ages 2-5; Locate 2-5 year-old's area near plaza
- Include variety of play equipment types; Include combination of deck structure and climbing
- Nature inspired theme (Trees, Forest, Canyon, Lake, Creek, Salmon,....)
- Surface -Potential playground grass safety surfacing

Plaza - Centralized seating & gathering space near Playfield, Play Area, Courts, comfort station; New drinking fountain

#### Courts -

- Remove existing deteriorated area & failing timber retaining wall
- Reduce court at SW corner
- Provide Multi-use color surfacing courts (basketball/ Futsal/ Volleyball; pickle ball/badminton)
- Potential paving games (hopscotch, 4-square) & tennis practice board, or other feedback from communities

#### Potential - As budget Allows:

- Loop trail around playfield
- Adult Fitness Equipment Area
- Art incorporation: Art cutouts along Rainier Ave S fence line; plaza; viewing point?
- Enhance landscaping around Entry, Comfort Station, fence line along Rainier Ave S; Replace dead trees
- Add picnic area along main accessible entrance route
- Improve northwest corner with entrance & connect to future SPU sediment pond/natural area
- Add picnic & seating dispersed around site
- Add BBQs



Photos:

Upper & middle right: Existing playfield and court area of Lakeridge Playground

Lower right: Deteriorated existing timber walls impacted by hillside slope at existing tennis court. Evidence of landslide on existing slope.

Upper Left: Renovated playfield example at Crown Hill Park with J-style backstop and paved accessible path

Lower left: Example of multi-use color surfacing court (basketball court/futsal; tennis court / Pickle ball court)



Play Area Themes (on right) & Play Structure Types (on left) – Diagram used in online survey

<u>Themes</u> (Looking at two right columns) Nature theme most desired – salmon, lake creek (online survey)

Play Structures (Looking at left column)

Lower picture most desired - combination of decks and climbing

# Play Area Surfacing Types

- Engineer Wood Fiber at lower left
- Pour-in-place rubber surfacing at lower middle
- Playground grass at upper right



## Play Elements – Equipment

According to online survey: Slides, swings, climbing elements are top 3 desired

Other group of desired elements: Bridges, upper body (monkey bars), musical elements and balancing elements.

The successful play area will enhance children's development in physical, social, and cognitive development.

Keys to a successful play area design: Complexity (circulation and diverse activities), Good circulation with many access points with different challenge levels.



Adult Fitness for ages 13 and up

There is a desire to include adult fitness if possible.

These are examples of stationary outdoor equipment, meant for adult outdoor exercise.

Photo examples of different types of adult exercise equipment that work the legs, upper body, core and balance. Should also consider including pieces for seniors.

Individual pieces or composition equipment. The composite piece offers more activities in a limited space.