

Meeting Notes

Lakewood Play Area Renovation – Open House (Meeting #2)

December 10, 2019

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Lakewood Seward Park community Clubhouse – 4916 S. Angeline Street, Seattle

Attendees: Approximately 20 participants

Project Team	David Bader, Landscape Architect and Libby Hudson, Planner.
Project	The Lakewood Playground Play Area Renovation project will update the play area with new play equipment that meets current safety standards and improve access to the play area in conformance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.
Budget & Schedule	Budget: \$320,000 for planning, design and construction Schedule: Planning and Design: Through Early Summer 2020 Construction: Later Summer through end of 2020 (beginning after Labor Day)

Open House

Seattle Parks staff held an open house on the schematic design for Lakewood Playground Park Play Area Renovation at the Lakewood Seward Park Community Clubhouse on December 10, 2019. Approximately 10 adults and 10 kids attended the open house, providing their comments on the proposed design for the play area improvements.

David Bader described the proposed schematic design, noting that it focuses on replacing the aging play equipment and maintaining the good structure of the play area. The design includes retaining the sand pit, rock wall and swings (which are in good condition), protecting the existing Empress trees that is rooting into the wood-chip area of the play area. Improved access will be provided to the play area, sand pit, comfort station and swings to assure that the path meets the Americans' with Disability Act (ADA) by repaving portions, extending the rock wall to extend a concrete ramp up to the sand pit area. In addition, more benches will be added to improve gathering, including double facing benches situated along the western portion of the pathway for viewing either east, into the play area, or west to the ballfield. Bike racks and garbage cans will be included in park amenities.

Proposed new play equipment includes a teeter totter, located under the Empress tree, a climbing structure, merry-go-round and spring toy. The location of the intent here is to limit the impact on the tree's root system by limiting the number of footings to one pedestal footing. The climbing structure is geared toward younger children at one end (toddler- 5 years), and older children at the other (6-10 years), with two slides off the larger (older-child's) deck. A set of monkey bars link the two structures together. Although the drawings provided by the play equipment company show a musical piece of equipment, the intent is not to include this piece.

The participants viewed the presentation boards and provided the following comments:

Climbing structure

- Like the increased access to the play area and structure; include universal access to the slides
- Provide a solid roof to provide more weather protection (from rain in the winter & sun in the summer)
- The structures look like they don't provide enough to do
- Provide more activities/elements under the structure/bridge (look at Georgetown – swing underneath?)
- Add a balance beam
- Make the bridge able to become part of an obstacle course or circuit through the entire play area and beyond
- For the bridge, include a steering wheel; odometer
- Add grips or something like that along the outside of the climbing structure to allow older kids to climb along the outside
- If there is room, consider including a tire swing or something like that for a group of children or for parent and child
- Add more for younger kids
- Add more for older kids
- Make sure one of the slides is a tube
- Include a small slide for the younger crowd
- The monkey bars should be the ladder-style, not moving rings
- Include a net climber connection to the structure or wall- to challenge older kids
- Don't forget the elevator idea (Othello); we love that; ditto x two

"Castle" rock wall

Glad this is being maintained and the extension will be in the same fashion

Make the wall more of a focal point of the play area and allow/promote physical use of the wall

Sand Pit

- Like the improved access to the sand pit; it is very popular
- Keep this the size it is and natural with wood logs around it
- Like the seating additions

Teeter-Totter

- Like the teeter-totter, it's old school
- The current See-Saw is popular (it is a spring toys with room for a number of kids)
- Be sure the element is capable of being used by multiple children at one time

Spring Toy

- Include multiple spring toys; one is not enough

Merry-go-round

Q: Is this a surface level merry-go-round?

SPR Response: No, that requires play surfacing and the small budget for this project will not support that.

- Consider a teacup spinner- those are fun



Site Amenities & overall design

- Like the addition of double-sided benches, include backs for comfort and make sure there is actually a view of the field from the bench location
- Like the addition of bike racks; reconsider the location so they do not take up walking or play space
- Include composting bins
- Thank you for protecting the tree and wall
- No need for musical instruments in this park; too close to neighbors
- Consider re-organizing the play equipment location and putting the merry-go-round south of the climbing structure
- Utilize the wall in some way, linking it to the climbing structure in some way

SPR will now modify the schematic design to reflect comments and concerns and provide the final schematic on the project website early next year. Construction is anticipated for Fall 2020.