

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS FOR OAK PARK
HEIGHTS PARK

6:00 pm Thursday, November 10,
2022 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 10 existing playgrounds within 1 mile of Oak Park Heights Park (6 were replaced in the last 5 years (Orchard Ridge (2021); Segoe (2019); William Slater (2019); Odana Hills (2018); Sunset (2017) and Westmorland (2017); 1 (William Slater) is nature-play focused.

- b. Site Conditions
 - i. The existing playground location can generally be reused –sits in a good location relative to other amenities in the park and will retain basketball, open field/backstop area and shelter – will look to shift slightly away from existing trees to provide protection to crown drip line;
 - ii. A new path spur will be added connecting to the sidewalk along Piper Dr for an accessible route of travel
 - iii. Two new backed benches will be added adjacent to the new playground footprint; one of the benches at the park may be relocated/reused with the project (it was discussed as being in good overall condition).
 - iv. Existing equipment (with the exception of the stand-alone steel climber) and mixed pea gravel/rubber surfacing will be fully removed with project – Parks staff makes every effort to reuse and recycle all components
- Project Timetable
 - a. Construction in 2023 – Parks seeks to minimize “down time” from when existing equipment is removed to the new equipment going in.
- Project Budget
 - a. Approximately \$37,000 for the playground equipment.
- **Oak Park Heights Park Equipment and Play Surfacing Selection**
 - a. Age Group: attendees reached consensus for intended age range choosing a **5-12 play structure.**
 - b. Surfacing: The attendees discussed the pros/cons of both wood fiber and rubber mulch surfacing but landed through **majority vote on wood fiber surfacing.**
 - c. Playline: After much discussion & review – the group selected the playground manufacturer **Burke** and requested the next designs to show playground structures that have a **climbing wall (with holds) or structure (such as the “rock-like” formation shown on the top image; as well as two slides w/ varying heights, a set of overhead or “monkey” bars; a spinner and at least one spring rider. Roofs were discussed and determined to be not required if additional play features could be added instead.**
 - d. Colors: attendees requested to see one playground option with **in the natural color range (dark green / brown)** and the other with **lime green hard railings along with dark green/brown. Note that both designs will have tan slide beds as that is city standard for durability and heat gain minimization.**
 - e. **Fundraising was discussed as a possibility, but the group may also choose to fundraise for other park amenities. Parks staff will provide the fundraising price points and contact information for Madison Parks Foundation so that the neighborhood can explore possibilities.**
- Next Steps
 - a. Email Kate Kane at kkane@cityofmadison.com to share input on surfacing preference and to receive email notification of future playground meetings.
 - b. Take information from this meeting and incorporate into conceptual designs (including two equipment 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, and sent to alder.

If interested in receiving notice of the next playground meeting, please contact Kate Kane at kkane@cityofmadison.com or at (608) 261-9671.

The next meeting will be on January 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm via Zoom