



Lawton Park Play Area Renovation Second Public Meeting MEETING NOTES

2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy
Lawton Elementary School
January 21, 2010 – 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Welcome and Project Overview: Emily Fuller recapped the scope, budget and schedule of this project. Construction is scheduled to start after school and will be completed in the fall 2010. The project will renovate existing play area and improve ADA accessibility. Shwu-jen Hwang recapped the existing site conditions and presented a schematic site plan based on input gathered from first meeting.

- The lower play area will be for 2-5 year old kids;
- The upper play area will be for 5-12 year old kids.
- Swings will be located at west side of upper play area with belt swing, ADA swing and tot swing;
- Seating area will be adjacent to 2-5 year old play area with tables and protection guardrail;
- East trail will be improved through joint effort of this project and Park's maintenance division. West trail will be considered if budget allows.

Shwu-jen presented five playground design proposals and discussed the pros and cons of each playground design. The participants have overwhelmingly voted for the "Tree House" design proposed by Landscape Structure Inc. for its unique nature theme/details and its wide varieties of activities. They also expressed strong concerns about the need for lighting; suggest improving drinking fountain and landscaping. Some participants may pursue a Neighborhood Matching Fund to re-vegetate the slope adjacent to lower play area.

Comments for the Play Area:

- **Swings:**
 - Suggests that there be two belts next to older aged play feature;
 - Suggests that one tot swing and one ADA swing be separate from belt swings;
- **Slide:**
 - Suggest to have a long slide;
 - Suggests a slide between levels;
- Suggests to have the whirl that can accommodate many children;
- Suggests to add Kompan's Spica (standing whirl);
- Likes the Net Climber for big children and the tree house for the younger children;
- Suggest sand play area;

Comments for Seating/Gathering Area:

- **Retaining Wall:**
 - Suggests painting a mural on Retaining Wall;
 - Suggested integrating boulders into concrete retaining wall for a more natural looking retaining wall design;
- Suggest to remove or relocate the existing bench to the north of the play area since it is in the way of sledding activities in winter;
- Suggest to add a berm between upper play area and existing path to divert sledding to safer landing at existing play field;
- Many participants suggest considering lighting improvement for this project or for future project. Suggest having pedestrian low lighting for safety reasons, deterrent or attractant?

General Comments:

- Suggests providing a comfort station;
- Suggest improving the existing path condition for safety reasons. (Root bumps has caused trip hazard on existing asphalt path);
- Possible to reconnect the drinking fountain;
- Suggests to incorporate planting into this project or leave grass to grow tall in some part of the park;

General Consensus:

- Likes the Tree house plan. +++ Would like to enhance upper play area with mini whirl or net climbing features.
- Colors: Natural/neutral

For more information contact:

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Meeting Information will be posted on line after the meeting.

<http://www.seattle.gov/parks/projects/lawton/playground.htm>

Thank you for your insight and participation tonight. It is your ideas that will guide the design and transformation of our new play area!

