

Dudgeon School Park Playground Improvements
Playground Workshop
October 26, 2017, 6:30 pm

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Introductions
- City of Madison Playgrounds
 - a. Over 170 playgrounds
 - b. Highest number of playgrounds 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 Design Process
 - a. Playground Workshop Meeting #1 - Discuss project location, timeframe, budget, general equipment selection, surfacing
 - b. Playground Meeting #2 – Two playground concepts for each play area will be presented based on input from previous meeting, select one concept, identify any changes needed
 - c. Playground Design Confirmation – Via email and website posting
- Project Location & Site Constraints
 - a. Adjacent Playgrounds – 5 playgrounds within 1 mile of Dudgeon School Park, 5 are designed for the 5-12 age range (1 of the playgrounds – at Nakoma Park – also has 2-5 age range equipment) and 3 of the 5 playgrounds are new within the last 5 years.
 - b. Consumer Product Safety Commission Standards
 - i. Playgrounds designed for either 0-2 age group, 2-5 age group or 5-12 age group
 - ii. Existing Dudgeon School Park playground is designed for the 5-12 age group
 - c. Site Access and Constraints
 - i. Existing trees- no existing trees causing conflicts or needing removal at Dudgeon School Park. Note adopted ash is marked on our survey and will be protected during construction
 - ii. Existing underground utilities – There are no significant underground utility conflicts at Dudgeon School Park. Existing storm inlet (to east) will be utilized to connect draitile underdrain for new playground
 - iii. Playground access – existing asphalt path to park from Gilmore is in good shape and will be utilized as the accessible route to the new playground; asphalt to the east side of the basketball court will generally be removed with project and replaced with new playground footprint and turfgrass
 - iv. Attendees elected 5-12 age range equipment to replace the existing (also 5-12 age range) equipment; recommendation from attendees to have 2-belt / 2-belt swing with possibility for nest-type swing (if available)
 - v. 1-2 new benches are proposed with the project; currently the park has no benches at the north side

- Project Timetable
 - a. **If the neighborhood is interested in fund-raising, its goals need to be provided to the Parks project manager within two weeks of the workshop meeting (11/9 or before)**
 - b. Any additional funding needs to be deposited with the Parks Foundation 3 weeks prior to the construction contract being released for bids. **For Dudgeon School Park, the funding deadline is February 15, 2018.**
 - c. Demolition of existing playground will occur in 2018. Parks tries to minimize the amount of time between the removal of the existing equipment and the replacement with new
 - d. **The proposed second public meeting date for Dudgeon School Park is scheduled for December 12, 2017 at Sequoya Library at 6:30PM.** The playground design needs to be finalized by the beginning of January to be included in the group 1 contract.

- Playground Equipment Standards
 - a. National Standards based on data-driven research to ensure playgrounds are safe
 - i. US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)
 - ii. American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
 - iii. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
 - b. Madison's Playground Standards
 - i. Ensure high play value
 - ii. Manage long term maintenance costs
 - iii. Provide quality equipment – preselected top manufacturers' most durable product line
 - c. Colors
 - i. Natural colors
 1. Tend to fade less
 2. Blend in better with their surroundings
 3. Color options include blue and purple for upright posts, and bright green for the handrail.
 - d. Edging
 - i. Plastic timbers will be added to assist in retaining new surfacing
 - e. Equipment
 - i. Play structure
 - ii. Double bay swing structure with two big kid swings and two tot swings
 - f. Surfacing
 - i. Must meet ASTM F1292 – Critical Fall Heights
 - ii. Must meet ASTM F1951 – ADA Accessibility
 - iii. Only engineered wood fiber mulch and recycled shredded rubber meet these requirements.
 - iv. Recycled shredded rubber material is colored and poly coated

- Project Budget
 - a. All of the parks included in workshop 1 are neighborhood size parks. The equipment budget for neighborhood sized parks is \$30,000; this does not include the contract value to excavate the existing site and install new equipment (typically \$45,000), which will be increased at Dudgeon School Park with the removal of asphalt and subbase to replace with topsoil and turfgrass.

- Equipment and Play Surfacing Selection
 - a. Age Group
 - i. **Attendees for Dudgeon School Park opted to install 5-12 age range equipment**
 - b. Surfacing
 - i. Discussed pro's and con's of each product
 - ii. **For Dudgeon School Park: a majority of attendees preferred wood mulch surfacing for the playground**
 - c. Playline
 - i. **For Dudgeon School Park: The playground equipment manufacturer that had the most number of votes for 5-12 play structures was PlayWorld Systems with the preference to see: roped element, retain cozy cocoon, add a long slide, add single or multiple bars for gymnastics-type activities. Color preference was for brown posts and green railings – the “natural” color scheme**
- Next Steps
 - a. Parks will notice the second meeting at the park and via email (postcards will not be sent).
 - b. At the second meeting attendees will be asked to vote on two concepts for the final design.

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