



Bromley Park Playground Improvements VIRTUAL MEETING SUMMARY

Date: October 7, 2017; 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Public: 7

City officials: Parks Advisory Commissioner Praveena Ramaswami

City staff: Hillary Hanzel, Adam Fercho, Kayla Coleman

Consultants: Dan Perreault (Michigan Recreational Construction, Inc.)

Meeting Purpose: Public input is being sought on improvements to the playground at Bromley Park. These projects are not full playground renovations, but rather improvements to a few areas and pieces of equipment. Options presented include traditional playground equipment as well as natural play equipment. Visit a2gov.org/parkplanning for additional details.

Presentation: The virtual engagement meeting was recorded and can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QY1g9i8fYDA>

OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

The Project Management Team (PMT) covered the following information in the overview presentation:

- Introductions
- Project Overview and Schedule
- Review Playground Options
- Questions and Discussion
- Project Polling
- Adopt – a – Park
- Next Steps and Final Questions

DISCUSSION

The following questions and comments were raised by meeting participants during the meeting discussion. This is not a direct transcription of the meeting discussion. This summary has been prepared from notes taken during the meeting.

To watch the presentation and hear the discussion and questions asked of City Staff, please follow this link to CTN's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QY1g9i8fYDA>

One comment received was that a natural play structure would provide new play elements for kids. The playground is close to Thurston Nature Area and would be a good relationship. The natural playgrounds are less prescriptive than the traditional play equipment, and can be used for more open play.

City staff was asked about the durability of the natural log elements, such as the clamber logs. The clamber logs / natural play equipment is made of Black Locust which has a great natural rot resistance. This type of material is



Bromley Park Playground Improvements

used worldwide for playgrounds and other elements that require rot resistant wood. Structures are held together with stainless steel fasteners and will withstand the wear and tear of play.

Some of the discussion that was brought up was about the popularity and desire for more swings. The one drawback to swings is that they are a higher element, and require a large safety footprint. The required safety zones around play equipment limits the amount and type of equipment that can be added to the playground. We have received requests from some of the public to add in Toddler/Parent combination swings. These are swings where children and parents can face each other as they swing. The downside is that these swings take up an entire bay from the swing set, so to accommodate them, the existing swingset would lose one individual swing.

A few community members brought up the fact that the pony spring rider is very popular with the community. The park is often called Pony Park because of it. There is a request for more spring riders or to update the one that is existing. An interesting note is that the new spring riders are of the same mold and parts as the existing, so upgrading it is unnecessary, however staff will look into the idea of possible adding more.

Park Planners will take the feedback from the community engagement to determine a path forward. What typically happens is that both options are discussed with the community and then some sort of hybrid plan comes out of it. Space constraints, community desires, and budget will all be taken into consideration for a path forward. Improvements to the playground are expected in Spring 2021.

POLLING

The following questions were asked of meeting participants during the meeting discussion.

Question 1:

What type of seating would you prefer?

Answers:

Log Seat: 3

Bench: 2

Picnic Table: 1

Question 2:

Do you prefer the option of adding natural playground equipment or using traditional playground equipment?

Answers:

Natural Playground: 5

Traditional Playground: 0

Other (Hybrid): 1



Bromley Park Playground Improvements

Question 3:

What proposed play elements do you like the most? (choose 3)

Answers:

Natural Timber Hut: 5

Natural Clamber Logs: 4

Sandbox: 3

Harry the Hippo: 2

Toddler Fun Center: 1

Relocated Swings: 1
