



# West Park Playground Improvements VIRTUAL MEETING SUMMARY

**Date:** October 8, 2017; 6:00-7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

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**Attendees:** Public: 10

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 West 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](http://a2gov.org/parkplanning) for additional details.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g43qTO1HLpA>

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## 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=g43qTO1HLpA>

We received a comment that younger Kids appreciate the separation to the Toddler Play Equipment or log crawl because they sometimes have a hard time playing on the larger equipment geared more towards older children.

Another comment is that there is excitement for the project. The merry-go-round is well liked by the community. It is currently placed in the sandbox, which is not accessible. This plan is to leave the merry-go-



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round in the same location, but change the surface to an engineered wood chip surface so that it is more accessible.

We received feedback that there is a desire to keep some of the existing equipment such as the dolphin and the sand diggers. If the dolphin is to remain, there is a chip taken out of the nose, and it would be nice to have that fixed.

It was asked what the process would be for the community to engage the city to significantly modify the playground? Parks and Recreation's standard practice is to update a few playgrounds each year based on condition. They are inspected regularly for wear and safety compliance and the city maintains records that are used to evaluate replacement priority. Once a playground needs larger maintenance and improvements, the community would be engaged. These changes can include larger equipment changes, moving the playground in the park, or other big elements like restrooms/shelters. In 2021, Park Planners are going to begin working on the 5-year Parks Master Plan. At this time, community feedback will be requested to make sure needs and requests are considered.

Another question that was asked is if there a way to create more separation between the playground and parking lot? If there is a need, sometimes fencing can be added. The project team will explore this issue to see if there is more interest.

### **POLLING**

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

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#### **Question #1:**

Do you want to keep any of the existing play equipment planned for removal? (select all that apply)

#### **Answers:**

Dolphin Statue: 4

Sand Diggers: 3

Neither: 2

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#### **Question #2:**

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

#### **Answers:**

Natural Playground: 2

Traditional Playground: 0

Other (Hybrid): 4

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#### **Question #3:**

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

#### **Answers:**

Log Crawl Tunnel: 6

Natural Clamber Logs with Steppers: 4

Natural Sandbox with Boulders and Logs: 4



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Harry the Hippo: 2  
Toddler Fun Center: 2

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