

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS FOR EKEN PARK  
6:00 pm Monday, November 9, 2020  
Zoom virtual meeting

- Introductions
- 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 170 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
    - ii. Other options include blue and purple for upright posts, bright green for handrail
  - 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 8 existing playgrounds within 1 mile of Eken Park.

- b. Site Conditions
    - i. The existing sandbox and shelter will remain
    - ii. **The playground may require safety fence along the sidewalk due to the proximity of Dahle Street. Examples of the 4 ft. high decorative fence are included in the presentation materials.**
- Project Timetable
  - a. Construction in 2021.
- Project Budget
  - a. Approximately \$34,000 for the playground equipment.
- Eken Park Equipment and Play Surfacing Selection
  - a. Age Group: group reached consensus for intended age **5-12 play structure.**
  - b. Surfacing: The group preferred **wood mulch surfacing** as opposed to rubber mulch surfacing.
  - c. Playline: The neighborhood group selected the playground manufacturer **Game Time with Burke a strong second** and requested the playground structure have **a tall, spiral slide.**
  - d. **Meeting attendees expressed concern with the removal of Eken Park's unique equipment, notably the caterpillar, space ship and merry-go-round features. Unfortunately, due to the age and condition of the existing equipment, the Eken Park playground is scheduled for a full replacement in 2021. The Parks Division's playground technician reviewed the existing features and determined replacement is necessary to ensure the playground is safe and meets established playground safety standards. Our technician also noted the lack of replacement parts for the caterpillar, space climber, and merry go round, and stated even the original manufacturer would admit the features are well beyond their intended life expectancy (potentially over 30 years old). Per the request of meeting attendees, Parks staff will investigate if donating the older equipment to a private entity for use as sculpture material or another non-playground feature is a possibility.**
  - e. Colors: group requested to see playground options with **brown posts and lime green railings and blue posts and sky blue railings.**
- Next Steps
  - a. Take information from this meeting and incorporate into conceptual designs to be presented at a follow-up playground meeting.
  - b. Follow-up meeting will be noticed via e-mail, postcards, City of Madison Parks website, and sent to alder.

If interested in receiving notice of the next playground meeting, please contact Mike Sturm at [msturm@cityofmadison.com](mailto:msturm@cityofmadison.com) or at (608) 267-4921

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 @ 6 pm. The meeting will be virtual and registration is available on the project website, located here: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/projects/eken-park-playground-improvements>