

Meeting Notes



Project Name: MCLEAN PLAYGROUND
Client: BOSTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT (BPRD)
Project Number: 2227
Meeting Date: March 1, 2023
Issue Date: March 7, 2023
Attendees: Crowley Cottrell, BPRD, Community Members, Rep. from Excel Academy

PRESENTATION - THIRD COMMUNITY MEETING

Crowley Cottrell presented slides of: recap of prior meetings, two variations on composite plan based on community feedback details regarding north/south entrances, benches and play equipment.

The limiting constraints of budget, maintaining as many viable trees as possible, and overall small footprint of the park were discussed.

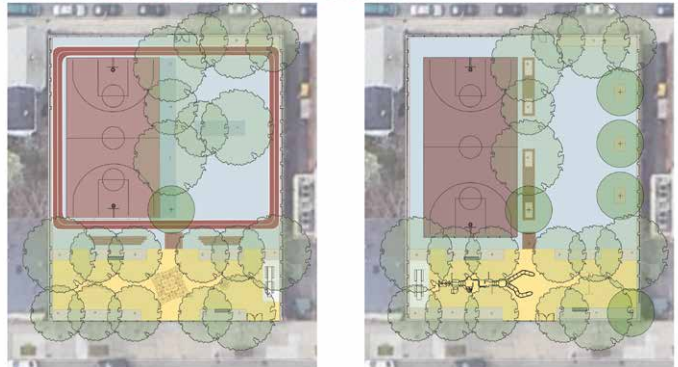
COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:

Overall the community was receptive about the design choices made, especially since they understand that the trees and budget constrain what is possible.

General feedback on the proposed plans:

- Shrinking of the basketball court is fine.
- A lot of fear expressed over lack of maintenance especially in terms of trees and keeping the materials in top shape.
- Majority of people favored removing Bennington st side wall in favor of fence to maximize sight lines. However, community members expressed concern over chain link fence and favored a wrought-iron style.
- There was a discussion about locked the gates at night. BPRD responded that their policy is not to lock the gates, but in some locations the community takes it upon themselves to monitor and lock park gates.
- The community was in agreement to keep the tall walls on the property lines that run north-south. Work being proposed in this phase of renovations include re-painting the posts and attaching a new mesh. Applying for a CPA grant funding to restore these walls was discussed by a community member.
- People were invested in keeping the park as accessible as possible.

VARIATIONS ON COMPOSITE PLAN



McLean Park
Community Feedback
March, 2023

Playground equipment feedback:

- It was discussed that there are disabled children living in the neighborhood and attending Excell academy, so there was advocacy of accesible play equipment
- The community had various responses to the play equipment: understanding that the fewer post the better, some concerns with swings, but overall there wasn't a strong opinion on the exact equipment.
- Preference for play equipment that has the short lead time, if they end up being substantially different.
- The one child who was there expressed a strong interest in the pendulum swing.