

## Public Meeting #3

Ramsay Park / 210801398

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### Meeting

Date/Time: December 6, 2016 / 6:30 PM

Place: Mandela Homes Community Room  
1855 Washington St.  
Boston, MA

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### Tennis Courts

- It was expressed that upgraded lighting for the tennis court is desired.
- No one expressed opposition to the removal of one tennis court.

### Play Elements

- Metal slides are a bad idea in relation to heat.
- There is concern for the children getting hurt on the rope climber structures but others understood that play equipment should present a feeling of risk, while still being safe.
- The play equipment at the Frieda Garcia Park was mentioned to be a successful play element not only for children, but adults too.
- There should be separate fenced in play areas for various age groups, from toddlers to adults.
- It was brought up that the splash pad could be placed in the original fountain location.

### Seating

- Café tables and seating is desired.

### Additional Desired Elements

- Additional shade elements in the park besides trees, such as canopies over benches, or tables with umbrellas.
- Tables along Shawmut Avenue that can accommodate the existing card players.
- Hubway bike stations.
- Wrought iron fence around the perimeter of the park.

- Electricity that is accessible for people running events in the park.
- Garbage cans that regularly are emptied.
- If perimeter fencing is removed, bollards or some other element to stop cars should replace it.
- There is a strong desire for the front of the park to be opened up with clearer visibility and some kind of gateway element to represent a sense of arrival.

### **Basketball Courts**

- Some opposed the basketball courts being in the park at all, wanting the park to be devoted to young children.
- The location of the basketball courts were also opposed, because there was a desire for the children's play elements to be near the entry and Washington Street, allowing people to walk by to see a lot of positive activity.
- The discussion also led to the desire for there to be clear visibility across the basketball courts into the center of the park.
- Some described never seeing people use the basketball courts while others described seeing many people using them, especially during summer evenings.
- Others are aware of the loss of basketball courts in the area, and were in favor of keeping them.
- There was a comment of making the basketball courts work better for multi-use activities.

### **Safety Concerns**

- A request was made for the park to be secured with a perimeter fence.
- Positive activities and programming needs to be encouraged and brought into the park.
- The landform area needs to encourage enough activity to discourage problem activities within the park.
- The Cooper Community Center would like to use the park more, but can't in the summer because of the amount of negative activities.

- The Cooper Community Center would appreciate meeting about the design in regards to the safety issues at a later date.
- There is a current problem with people climbing over the fence between the park and the Cooper Community Center. This safety concern needs to be considered and addressed if a wall and higher elevation is proposed in the corner near the fence.
- Needles are being pushed through the fence and pose a safety problem for the children at the Cooper Community Center.
- Smoking in the park is causing problems for the Cooper Community Center and limiting their ability to open their windows.

#### **Miscellaneous Items of Discussion**

- An attendee asked about the trees and tree replacement. Tree removals will be minimized as much as possible, and new tree plantings are proposed.
- There were several parks that attendees mentioned that they liked and would like Ramsay to be similar to. These parks included a park near Jackson Square, the Lawn on D, Sparrow Park, and an entry arch at a Mattapan park.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of all items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.

#### **Stantec Planning and Landscape Architecture P.C.**

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