

City Loop
Stakeholder Focus Group 01
February 26, 2014

Scale and Size

Lots of green space

Crowds

Too Big? (12) Scaled for Kids? (2)

Look Capacity Redundancy in design

No new development (3) in a nice area, why?

Natural features incorporated in play features

Limited parks areas left for open space

“Scaled down” design supported (4)

Fencing meadow / sectioned off (2)

Activate this area

Playground center for family gathering

Scale

Need to be more clear about congestion and traffic studies

*Size and scale of existing playground “community scale”

Maybe a couple clusters w/ connection

Scale of development needs to honor open space between

Simple and traditional character in play features, walks, climbing rocks

*Don't lose the open space

Doesn't need to be multi generational

19th St & Central Park examples ->

Size and Scale

*space needs to be iconic and reference history and historic features

Material of stone and earth and wood (feel) are most familiar and appropriate

*age groups can adapt to flexible

Highlight the program and research that supports design

Scale

Need to communicate concept more effectively... how does it work?

*playground in same area, of a similar size and scale

*surrounding features not respected, design needs to give them space

Running trail doesn't attract all adults, spaces need to focus on kids (specific areas)

Connection with natural open spaces

Parents and adults might not need "play space"

Gathering areas key for older park users

Scale

Passive activities part of play

Active areas & "quiet" areas

Need for parents to see and supervise

Support facilities designed for all abilities

Look at relationship between both playgrounds

*1acre more w/ keeping w/ neighborhood

Disperse smaller play areas around a linked route area

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History & Context "Location"

Too big? (6) Doesn't fit w/ neighborhood

"Fit well" enhance park

How does City Loop fit into Historic Plan- 2001 Plan?

Loss of space for other uses

Historic Restoration? Continuity in relationship, in materials & forms

Long term impacts

Need neighborhood support & a special place

MLK monument respected

Bright colors too much contrast

History

-Premise was- Dustin Redd- Commemorative

+ all elements would be less if all elements separated

+ popular kids

+more smaller play areas

*density of children- shows there

+rest of park is not underutilized- in/ and out

NOAP- asking to modify Olmsted under Park association

-History is there- no alter- repair to make it
Have a playground

-Open to replacement of play area

-Missing elements- relatively same elements

200x200 → w/ in ex development

+Same open

+Extent possible beautiful design

- should be contact
- restore features- @ same time of renovating
- +context- not
- could echo from history of park

Climb, run, tunnel

Look @ Olmsted Linear Park

- more imaginative play
- too deferential- attempts
- teen

+Need something- Foothills & City

DeBoer

- rocks get up high
- +materials
- Chase -
- Hide

16,13
yrs old

+Features blend in- neon colors- doesn't work

- wish she had more
- adults
- run/ hide/ swings

-Another smaller play- designed to have

Look Forward

- Multi-generational- doesn't have a meaning
- Historical
 - o All in Coloradoan own
 - o Recreational space vs open space
 - o Place for reflection
- Regional Attraction= doesn't need to accommodate region, shouldn't encourage

Process: what would you
go to early childhood expert

Need the thoughtful
Should have known history, ect.

SEEP Meeting

Park- not an outdoor recreation

- Horse shoe tournaments
Chess
- Conceptualization - Communicate

Census

- +Organizing ideas & Principles- should drive the design
- +small scale
- +Park vs rec center -reflective aspect
- +small spaces vs large -non commercial
- Emphasis on design we have- and why this is being done
- idea to scrape & do entirely different
- Throwing this away ----- smaller than 2
- Transparent → public meeting
- Brakes- lack of transparency
- -quantity → Rec center: → thinks they are Dec 6th
- Continue to

Parks has Roots in Olmsted design

- Place to get out of hustle / bustle
- turned into regional attraction
- *blue tubes- artificial- not in context
- scale should be much less
- natural looking
- Question on which children are these for-
- Walk ability- should be

Design – too wildly out of context
more context of park
park place with little moments

-like tree of life & different specs
-likes people- engage things

-Don't like everything
-update for the 21st century- OK
takes away from other uses
hasn't seen the design
-safe/ healthy:

-Approach- successful w/ demographics

-has been tried

-Where is study → what backs this up

Data is important

Why → more successful

Why – regional facility needed

Stop City loop → Genesis

-So glaring- doesn't fit

Should respect- historically appropriate

Fit w/ context w/ Parks

-all agree Dustin Redd replaced

more in harmony w/ natural

- Protested- movies- why protested

Do better Job

Why does Play engage → adults

- Has this been done before:

o Concerned about Dustin Redd

o Parts go high

o Repair railing

- History- We are building for future

-design is dated

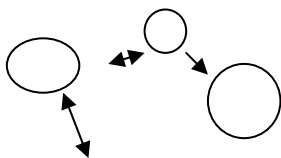
+ part history

- How Does Play Change=

-older play areas are more

-less scripted

- Dustin Redd- integrated play- creates conflict



Sight lines, separation of spaces

- Multi-generational = can't tell if of one thing to do for adult

= running paths

Walks

Concerts

- Wall in

Like the meadow opn

View between MLK & meadow open

-Were in sync- in

Children and families

Trees from 50 States

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Parking & Access Comment Summary

Parking impacts on City Park West neighborhood

All Stakeholders agreed that on event/peak days parking is a big problem

1/3 Stakeholders thought that parking is always a problem

1/3 Stakeholders thought that parking is not a problem on non-peak days

1000 people on a 'big attraction' playground at once will totally swamp parking

Overwhelm available parking

Traffic issues

- 26th St
- Colorado

Bike Traffic

Walk ability

Mon-Tues

No Parking Signs

Regional

Same size as Dustin Redd

PW-23rd York & Colorado

Restrict Area Parking

Adequate Parking during normal business hours/ Parking is not adequate during events

Events

Walk to events

Pay parking Garage concept on Colfax (did not go anywhere)

Better ways to get to park

Improve bike access and connectivity (safety)

B-cycle by Pavilion

Shuttle –paid for by event

- from light rail
- National Jewish
- East High, Manual High

Iconic playground suitable to City Park

Stately

Stone sculptures

Too contemporary

Scale is too large

ADA issues

Volume of people coming to playground

23rd York- 23rd Colorado pedestrian crossings are very dangerous

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Maintenance

How long will the new playground last? 20-30years? (4)

“Water Features” are difficult to maintain

Garbage in Park is problem

Durability of materials in future playground? How durable is wood?

Deboer Canyon- Lily Pond

YOU COULD NOT MAINTAIN THE PLAYGROUND
YOU CAN'T MAINTAIN THE PARK
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU WILL MAINTAIN THIS
TAKE YOUR \$5M & FIX THE PARKS

Current “small playground” is difficult to maintain- why build one so much larger?

How often is current maint. program for playgrounds?

Does city have enough resources? Now or in Future?

Use Olmsted playground design in other cities

Adding budget for maint. & personnel?

Concern about interior meadow impact

How would we address increased trash?

Would new concept cost more to maintain? How Much?

Maintain lots of child oriented play

Private vs. Public maintenance

Concern about “custom’ items

Existing level of maintenance not enough

Work in your current footprint

Imagine “a slightly smaller footprint to achieve consensus”

Maintaining adequate amenities

Restrooms & Fountains

Env./ Sust. Restroom design

Lack of operational \$ could lead to privatization(?)

Lack of capital repair. –statues, lily pond

Sports fields trash left from teams

Fewer programmed events (Commerce) (Noise)

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Play Health & Wellness

Observations and reactions from two separate table discussions have been condensed and formatted into a single statement below.

1: Defining Play / Health / Wellness

- Where did “Reimagine Play” come from?
- What does “Reimagine Play” mean?
- Why does City Park need Innovation?
- Why can’t City Park have Innovation?
- How does “Nature Play” fit into this current position on progressive play in City Park?

2: What activities do you currently undertake in City Park?

- Parents

Sledding by the Museum

Tennis

Biking

Walking the dog

Playing on the playground

Playing games in the fields

Climbing trees and rocks

Learn about and experience nature

Gain access to nature that is otherwise inaccessible

Develop creativity through play

Boat

Look at fountain

- Elderly

Walking with friends

Sitting and looking at statuary and gardens

Taking Grandchildren to play

- Working Adults

Running 5280 Trail

Running Golf Course Loop (Intervals)

Running track at adjacent school

Sitting to relax

Walking to relieve stress

Listen and look at birds

Read

Throw Frisbee

Play croquet

Play soccer

Play volleyball

Escape distractions

Exercise

Socialize with disabled outdoors

Commute through the park

Cross-country ski

Walk to farmer's market

Listen to jazz

3. How does City Loop interrupt or accentuate these activities?

- Concerns were voiced about the following:
 - The Loop is too closed and will keep people from accessing the meadows
 - The activities around the Loop will cause conflict for people trying to run around it
 - Bright colors cause distraction from natural environment
 - The scale and size of the play features and Loop disrupt the scale of the natural park
 - Too much mixing of activities for different age groups could cause danger or overstimulation for children
 - Play elements are too stylized and will not be conducive to a connection to “Real Nature”
 - The Loop disrupts open areas and bike connectivity for older kids.
 - Play elements are hard to monitor and may be dangerous (Climbing tubes)
 - There is a need to demonstrate that both elderly and active adults can monitor play

- Benefits were voiced about the following:
 - The existing Dustin Redd is too dense and difficult to monitor from designated areas
 - The existing Dustin Redd is limited to play for ages 3-12
 - Steel and plastic will be more durable for older and larger play participants

4. Flexibility and adaptability

- How are formalized structures adaptable and flexible for creative play by children?
- Is there a conflict between the creativity of children and the abstract forms of the play structures?
- How can “Nature Play” be better adopted in the play elements?
- How can color and plasticity be reduced while keeping an abstract and adaptable play environment
- “Nature Play” allows for some scalar risk to be taken by children. How does this occur with City Loop?

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Public Comments

John Brink- Concerns

Transparency
Respect the historical aspects
Respect the natural aspects

City Loop not appropriate

City Park Pavilion

Respect its green space
14 acres
Re-do Dustin Redd
Historic Nature

Animals in the zoo
Noise affecting the animals
Monitor events