



WARNER LARSON
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Community Meeting #3

Project: Hardiman Playground
Meeting: Community Meeting #3
Prepared by: Amy Allen, Warner Larson (WL)
Date: February 8, 2024
Time: 6:00 pm
Attendees: Lauren Bryant – Project Manager, City of Boston Parks & Recreation Department
Priyanka Vankina – Project Manager, City of Boston Parks & Recreation Department
Thammy Pierre-Louis – Outreach Coordinator, City of Boston Parks & Recreation Department
David Warner – President / Principal-In-Charge, Warner Larson (WL)
Sameer Bhoite – Design Director, WL
Amy Allen – Project Manager, WL
Yuxiao Liao – Landscape Designer, WL
Members of the public (+/- 15 people)

The intent of this meeting was to gather input on the design ideas for the play area, little league field, basketball court, and dog area for the Hardiman Playground renovation project, and to discuss the project's scope, timeline, and overall goals.

Little League and Basketball:

- New gate at little league field – supported
- Have we considered adding pickleball lines on the basketball court?
- One person likes the idea of having colorful painted graphics on the basketball court
- Multi sport and colorful look like nice options, but any updated surface works
- greatly appreciate the idea of involving the YMCA and creating either multi-sport or kids games as well. Especially during the day - the Y typically has many kids utilizing the space but at night the neighborhood plays basketball. Often past park official close
- would have concerns about pickleball - Rogers park has an issue with only two tennis courts and they're often occupied for pickleball these days
- Worry about noise and use issue with pickleball.
- Personally would rather a basketball court doesn't also have the a pickleball court
- love pickleball and the popularity definitely should increase use in the area. But I don't think Oak Square has space for it at Hardiman
 - There are a lot of children in the neighborhood, love the colors with multi use!

Playground:

- Like the concepts with the separated toddler with a picnic area
- preference is A or B. I like the use space of A the most.
- (Concept A) has a great layout, I feel like the toddler space isn't as good as B or C
 - The play structure seeming a lot smaller
- think this type of structure of the play equipment on B being more dynamic. More places to engage with that are a little bit different and imaginative.

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- Also there's "hiding" but not from watchful eyes I think in B.
- Oh that's a great option with mesh. I think more of a play structure would be better for kiddos
- The play structures have no roof correct? Because if so the 2-5 would get a lot of direct sunlight at the hottest part of the summer
- Option C - My nephew would want to climb the poles. I got confused because of the RV esque structure. But I like the small slide for toddlers.
 - I like the circular water feature a lot of this design
- I'm sorry I really don't like C. But none are awful
- I'd rule out urban tops too
- I like the inner space created by the urban tops one
- I worry about space pods having people hanging out on it at night.
- Like The Camp
- think any layout that prevents foot traffic in front of swings
- like space pods if they are see through
 - others agree
- Swings look great!
- My vote would be between Concept A and B, and like the toddler space for option B
- C plan config by far. They are tied for second (LAYOUT)
- Camp and Urban tops configuration (LAYOUT)
- Play equipment the camp
- 1. Camp 2. Space pods. (play equipment)

Site Furniture:

- Definitely like having tables and chairs
- I see people eating in the park frequently already and using the bench. I think they could benefit from the tables and chairs
- Yes picnic tables and benches (with chair backs) would be great
- I think the pop of color is fun as long as it's not something that's going to chip/wear quickly

Splash Pad:

- This is great- anything with more cushioned ground at the splash pad would be great for kids to run through!
- What is happening to the concrete bench around the future? Is it going to go?
 - Lauren – it's being removed but we're providing seating around splash pad to replace it.
 - Sounds good. I was just curious
- Agree with the concrete bench out. Catches leaves in the fall too

Color Scheme:

- The purple seems unique, but anything that makes the park stand out is nice
- All look great, like colors and unique patterns
- I like the brighter colors
- Can be cohesive with BB court. Would be good to match or compliment
- No strong feelings on the color, I do like the natural/nature

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Dog Park:

- I think a feature or two is great. My dog has gotten hurt by random concrete features so often. But I would love seating near the shade
 - Flow of the park – space for 3 dogs to run around together with enough space to that they're not going to run into randomly placed concrete features
 - Also rice stone is incredible so the leaves can be picked up
- Maybe some natural barriers or items along the fence by the sidewalk?
- Agility ramp over the tunnel is something I've seen that goes quite well.

Questions:

- Does this project have anything to do with the path to get from Faneuil to the Y?
 - No
- Any other multi-use, picnic areas, or event space in the project?
 - Not enough space for large events, but can accommodate birthday parties etc.

End of Meeting Notes

These notes are intended to represent the topics discussed accurately. Please notify author of any corrections, clarifications or additions upon receipt. Revised notes will be redistributed; otherwise, these notes will serve as the record for this meeting.