

Public Meeting #2

Ramsay Park / 210801398

Date/Time: November 15, 2016 / 6:00 PM
Place: Mandela Homes Community Room
1855 Washington St.
Boston, MA
Next Meeting: December 6, 2016

Summary of Public Comments:

Tennis Courts

- Some attendees have never seen the tennis courts used for the exception of Tenacity, which will be moved to Carter Playground in the future.
- One attendee regularly uses the tennis courts and knows there is a large demand for them because he sees lines of people waiting for them at Carter Playground. He advocated for at least one tennis court, but not two.
- Some attendees preferred to replace a tennis court with a turf multi-use court for soccer, etc.

Play Elements

- Swings seemed to get support.
- Rope climbers (rotating and stationary) were well received and someone expressed they are good for all ages, including adults. The orange ropes course looked fun
- Landforms are "cool"

Shawmut Improvements

- The park elements along the Shawmut edge of the park was well received.
- Interest was expressed in a perimeter path around the entire park.

Seating

- Specator seating around the courts is desired

- Police officer expressed his concerns about maintaining and adding benches due to misuse of them.

Additional Desired Elements

- Keep all the basketball courts
- Bathrooms
- The desire for the splash pad to include areas for both small children and older children. There is a park in Mattapan that has a small kid pool that is well liked.
- Include park elements not just for children, but maximize the activities by providing space for adults, potentially Tai Chi and/or Yoga
- Picnic Tables that provide enough space for eating
- Additional lighting for safety
- Exercise equipment
- Community Gardens could be good but not much of a desire/need in this area as well as there is a lack of sunlight
- Local activity events for youth
- Remove fence along Shawmut and add a path and signage as part of a continuous circuit

Concerns

- Some interest in maintaining the mural on the ground that once had a fountain
- Crime, drug use and violence is a problem
- YouthBuild Designery might have some solutions for the areas that lack high visibility – design team should reach out to them
- Landforms replacing the hidden corner could be a good solution. Something needs to occupy this area to create a positive/active space.
- Areas along the edge of the baseball fields are not used and often misused

- How can the areas around the existing chess tables be transformed, even if just the surfacing which is currently dirt. This area also often involved with undesired behaviors.

Miscellaneous Items of Discussion

- Option 3 was well liked because it provided the most space for play area. Many summer activities happen in the park for children, so it would be good to have a lot of space for the children to run around.
- Beacon Properties are developing nearby properties, can communication be made with them to discuss opportunities to make connections with these developments and the park
- Hotel is also being developed on an adjacent property, can communication also be made with this developer?

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 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.

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