

## Community Meeting

Improvements to Reservation Road Park

Date/Time: May 8, 2018 / 6:30 PM

Place: BCYF Hyde Park Community Center, 1179 River Street, Hyde Park

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The following meeting notes document the May 8, 2018 meeting held between the Project Team (Lauren Bryant, Project Manager - BPRD; Kevin Beuttell, Project Manager – Stantec; Kanten Russell, Skate Park Designer – Stantec, Chris Long, EIT – Stantec) and the Hyde Park Community. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Project Team's initial impressions of the park and to present the proposed final design for the Improvements to Reservation Road Park.

### **General Welcome and Introductions**

- Brief summary of the project team, funding and schedule.

### **Project Overview**

- Summary of the first two public meetings and the results of the public survey.
- Summary of the proposed final design for the skate park, athletic field, parking lot, urban wild and other areas within the park.
- Summary of the phasing of the improvements in two projects, so the park will not need to be completely closed during construction.

### **Community Comments/Discussion/Feedback**

- Concerns were raised about illicit behavior within the park, particularly the parking lot. A suggestion was made to provide lighting to discourage illicit behavior within the park.
- The Project Team stated that lighting of the parking lot is part of the proposed improvements to the park. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD) will coordinate with the Boston Police Department (BPD) to determine the locations and types of lighting that will be most effective in discouraging illicit behavior in the park.
- BPRD will ask BPD to perform increased patrols of the park after construction to discourage illicit behavior in the park.
- Lighting for the skate park was also discussed. Currently, BPRD only lights athletic fields after 9pm.
- A request was made to extend the lighting in the skate park as long as possible to allow for night use.
- BPRD stated that lighting for the skate park was not included in the original budget, but that the Project Team will evaluate the budget to determine if full lighting can be included in the skate park.

- At least one meeting attendee stated that skate park lighting was a critical priority and that if it would help the project budget the scope of other park improvements (including the skate park) should be reduced to allow for lighting.
- BPRD will inform the public about the final determination of the type and hours of lighting in the skate park via email (meeting attendees were encouraged to provide their email on the meeting sign-in sheet if they had not already done so).
- A request was made for a blue emergency phone to be installed in the park.
- A request was made for additional trash barrels to be installed in the park.
- Skate/Bike advocates indicated that a shallow bowl in the skate park would be preferable, with depths around 4'-5'.
- Skate/Bike advocates were in favor of the "spine" in the skate park, if 1) a portion of it was rolled rather than coping, and 2) some of the characteristics of the bowl shall resemble the bowl from the old park.
- Skate/Bike advocates indicated that there is plenty of space in the park for riders of all ages as shown in the skate park design. A request was made to disconnect a section of the skate park with one or more simple features to accommodate those who are learning.
- There was discussion about adding skate features (such as the existing mini ramp) or extending the skate park under the bridge for protection from bad weather.
- The group discussed forming a new 'friend's group' to clean and maintain the park.

The meeting adjourned around 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 Consulting Services, Inc.**