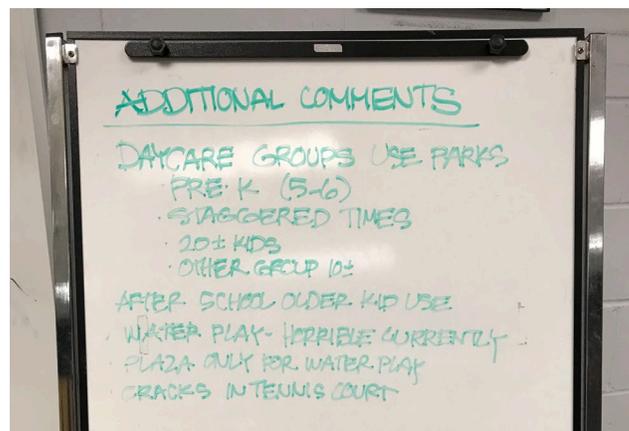


Memorandum

To: Lauren Bryant, Project Manager, Boston Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD)
From: Sean Sanger, Principal, Copley Wolff Design Group (CWDG)
Date: 11/15/2018
Re: Thetford Evans Playground – Community Workshop Summary

This memorandum summarizes the community workshop for the Thetford Evans Playground Renovation Project, which took place on October 27, 2018 at the BCYF Mildred Avenue Community Center in the Mattapan Neighborhood of Boston, MA. The community workshop was set up as an informal open house between 12:30 and 1:30 PM.

Lauren Bryant, Project Manager with the BPRD, initiated the workshop by introducing the design consultants, Sean Sanger and Christine Wilson from CWDG, and then provided a brief overview of the project. Following Lauren’s workshop introduction, community members engaged in a conversation about the history of the park, concerns with existing conditions, and hopes for the renovated playground. One community member in attendance lives across the street from the playground and was able to provide input on what happens daily and seasonally on the site, such as what children groups use the park, how frequently, and their ages.



The conversation then turned toward the presentation boards, where site features and play types was discussed and stickers were added to the boards to denote preference for specific playground elements. At the end of the workshop, Lauren, Sean and Christine were engaged in one-on-one conversations with community members, discussing the existing playground and their vision for the renovation.



C W
D G Copley Wolff Design Group
Landscape Architects & Planners

THETFORD EVANS PLAYGROUND

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 27, 2018

Below is a summary of the preference and comments received from the community members in attendance.

Preference Boards:

- WATER PLAY: spray jets were preferred
- SWINGING / SPINNING: large group spinners and a variety of swings types, including accessible swings, group swings, and traditional swings, were selected
- SLIDING: multiple slides were requested to provide more options and limit lines (e.g. a playground structure with three slides would be best); a variety of slide types were preferred
- SEATING: a variety of seating types were requested and there was interest in long, communal tables for parties
- CLIMBING: larger, unique climbing structures were preferred
- RESILIENT SURFACING: should be attractive, bright, and kid-friendly (blues and greens)



Additional Comments:

- 3-4 daycares in neighborhood (Pre-K)
- Swings currently at playground are great, especially baby bucket swing
- Tables in poor condition and cause splinters
- Mulch in poor condition; change in grade between sidewalk and mulch is dangerous
- A walking path around playground is desired

- People use the swing cross bar for pullups
- Install a push-up / pull-up bar like at Dorchester High School
- People grill in northeast corner of playground, by the tables
- Families use the picnic tables
- Church (Zion Temple Holy Church) uses tennis courts for events
- Tennis court has long crack in pavement
- Improved lighting is needed, especially along west side of playground and tennis courts
- Two basketball courts would be ideal
- It is important to create places of refuge within the playground

