

132nd Square Park Open House 02-12-2020

Compilation of Questions:

Budget

1. What is your budget for the redesign of the entire park? **\$5.6M for the park improvements, \$4.6M for Surface water improvements.**
2. What is your budget for the redesign of the upper portion? **The budget did not separate out the upper portion. The park and stormwater design and budget is integrated and includes design, engineering, permitting and construction.**

Park Amenities

3. What is all of the space between the shelters and the play equipment, is it going to be natural grass? **We are retaining several of the existing trees throughout the site, including (3) in the space between the picnic shelters and the play equipment. The planted island surrounding the trees in this location will have a seat wall. The other space is for circulation, including a path that connects to the path system throughout the site**
4. Is the current structure going to be used, relocated? **The current picnic shelter will be relocated.**
5. New labyrinth or moving current? BBQ at 1 shelter. Doggie poop bag dispenser!! **We are relocating the reflexology space and creating a new labyrinth. We'll consider including a BBQ and pet waste station.**
6. How many toilets in the bathrooms? **3 stalls open year round**
7. Larry – concern over restroom being large enough **The restroom is appropriately sized for the capacity of the site.**
8. Why are there three shelters when there is not enough parking for them all to be used? **Currently onsite there is (1) shelter with (2) picnic tables and (4) picnic tables that are uncovered. The proposed plan maintains the current capacity but is providing all sheltered picnic tables. Rentals will be managed and programmed with capacity in mind.**
9. Wanted to add an off-leash dog area. **That isn't in the program for this particular park, but is being explored in an overall proposal for the community.**
10. Laurie – dog poop sign – pick up. **Pet waste station and signage will be considered.**
11. Does Agis give you money for the reflexology area when you relocate something they purchased? **Not to our knowledge.**
12. Do not put 3 shelters next to each other! I don't want to be next to someone else's party. Separate them out. Too noisy. People want privacy. **The current picnic tables onsite are clustered quite close together. The proposed shelters are a bit more spread out and each has an adjacent lawn area that can be used for spillover. Also, rentals will be managed and programmed with capacity in mind.**
13. Picnic rentals can currently accommodate 15 people. I'm concerned about the flow of the current layout for equivalent larger parties. N. Osborn **The design has the shelters positioned in a way that each space has some spillover lawn area adjacent to the shelter. In addition, there is ample space for circulation around the shelters.**

Planting

14. Spend the money to put in larger higher quality trees than more younger trees. Small trees get damaged. Please provide detail on which trees are being removed. **Tree removal information is provided in our drawing package. We will consider larger trees at planting.**
15. How many trees will we lose? **We currently have 81 trees proposed for removal.**
16. Save the Black locust [sic] trees **The Black Locust trees at the entry to the site along NE 132nd Street are being retained.**
17. Replant mature trees so park doesn't look "scorched earth" and kids don't destroy sapplings [sic]. **We will consider larger trees at planting.**
18. What kind of trees on north side of "snow hill"? Will the [sic] block the sun to those houses on the other side of the fence? Want sun not shade!! **There is a mix of trees of similar heights to what is currently onsite.**
19. Planting trees close to fence line will eliminate all south sun from my current home. Of course, it will take years for trees to grow – so large hill now is equally undesirable **We will take this concern into account when locating trees along the perimeter of the site.**
20. "Border" tree planting: What kind? How fast to grow? 5-10 years does not protect my property value from intrusive tall hill. **Our project webpage will be kept current including a planting plan as it gets developed.**
21. Include access walkways in path improvements. Keep line of sight vistas in upper area. Forest understory make children less visible. **All of the pathways are ADA accessible. The majority of understory plantings are towards the perimeter of the site and all of the proposed shrubs and groundcover for the understory plantings are less than 3' HT at maturity.**

Play Equipment

22. Keep the current swing set. Consult immediate neighbors about trees planted on fence line. Will new fencing be included? Don't restrict current gates in fences. **We are not currently planning to keep the swing set, but swings are included in the new plan. New fencing at the property line is not included nor is there a plan to restrict the current gates. We will consider the adjacent neighbors when finalizing the planting plan.**
23. Keep our swings. Very popular. Requested by kids when put in 10 years ago. **Swings are being included in the design.**
24. Will you retain the beloved swings? **Swings will be incorporated into the new design.**
25. If not why are you buying new equipment when this is only 13 years old? **Playground equipment typically has a useful life of 15 -17 years and are replaced on this schedule.**
26. Keep spinner toys in playground. Everybody loves that! **Thanks for the input!**
27. Play equipment: No gas pump – really? No springer toys – big kids use then they break **Thanks for the input!**
28. I think that kids would like a treehouse. **Great idea, but unfortunately we aren't able to include that in this design.**
29. If you are planning the amount of cement pictured, please paint hopscotch and 4-square or similar. Include activities for older youth and adults (cement ping-pong) **There is not currently space to include those items as the majority of the surfacing is already dedicated for use for the playground, picnic shelters and walking paths.**

30. If you put in cement ping pong tables where will they go? **We are not including cement ping pong tables in the design at this time.**
31. I want durable cement or steel ping pong tables. More than one preferably. For kids, adults & family play. **Great idea, but there is currently no plan to include ping pong tables.**

Berm

32. Mike – concern over CPTED / Police viewing **We have taken CPTED issues into account throughout the design process. Our proposed design maintains sightlines for safety throughout the site.**
33. How high is the hill you are planning? **The majority of the hill is approximately 5' above the current grade. The very top of the hill is 9' above the current grade and this is to accommodate the hill slide.**
34. Have you consulted the neighbors that would be impacted by people with visual access to their backyard or homes from the hill? **We have held several public meetings where we have welcomed any feedback and comments from the community including the adjacent neighbors.**
35. "Snow hill" is too high! Allows too much visibility into homes around the park. **The majority of the hill is approximately 5' above the current grade. The very top of the hill is 9' above the current grade and this is to accommodate the hill slide. The trees around the perimeter of the site will help screen the adjacent neighbor's properties.**
36. No play berm. No snow berm. No 8-12 foot hill constructed. It will look right into my home and many others.
37. Why? Do not need hill for sledding and playing. Kids can play on flat, on equipment, between trees. Neighbors of 132nd Sq Park DO NOT WANT HILL
38. Restroom - ok. New playground – why? ADA parking – ok. New labyrinth – why? Storage – ok. Playfield – if we must extend playground ok. Play hill – NO.
39. Who and how many people requested the "big hill" plan? Where do they live? How many immediate neighbors are not happy with this? And do you care? **Yes, we want neighbors to be happy with the park plan. The park is not only serving the adjacent neighbors but is an asset to the broader neighborhood community as well. We have solicited feedback from all stakeholders throughout this process and have used that feedback to land on a final design.**
40. Ok with most. Play "snow" hill is too high. Looks into homes next to the park and the decks. WE only get snow once a year. We do not have a snow hill. The play hill needs to be lower. Concerned about the devaluation of our properties. **The majority of the hill is approximately 5' above the current grade. The very top of the hill is 9' above the current grade and this is to accommodate the hill slide. The trees around the perimeter of the site will help screen the adjacent neighbor's properties.**
41. Feel like neighbors "gave in" to accept lighted soccer field. But not willing to "give in" to tall hill. Feels like our park neighbors' concerns are not valued.

Park Fencing

42. Larry – fencing around entire park; original plan had fencing. Where did it go? **We are keeping the existing fencing at the perimeter of the park.**
43. Mike – fencing around parts of park to funnel access **We are keeping the existing fencing around the perimeter of the park and the playfield will be fully fenced.**

44. Rich – concern over get out of park? **There will be no changes to the way the park is accessed.**
45. Beverly – keep people out of yards **There will be no changes to the way the park is accessed.**
46. Please remove the fence from the west side of the soccer field to allow for safe sledding in the winter. **The hill has been designed with a flat run out area for people sledding to stop safely. The fence is needed around the field for safety at all other times of the year in order to keep balls contained and animals out.**
47. Large fence on west side of field may seem like field is not for general play. Can it be moveable to be more “open” when not in use? **The fencing around the field is necessary for player safety to contain balls, keep balls in play and to keep animals off of the field..**
48. Have you thought of an automated gate? With turf field, program hours will go up. Installing an automated gate will make it so no parks maintenance staff needs to be there to lock up. **We have not considered this but thank you for the input.**
49. Include fencing to guide access/entrance to allow for information/signage. Waste receptacles [sic]. Keep lights on all night at restrooms for security. Place signs at multiple locations re no off-leash dogs & to pick up waste. **Great ideas!**

Athletic Field

50. NO DUGOUT ON SOUTH SIDE. I’m concerned about the additional foot traffic drawn to the south (esp. SE) side of the park with the new dugout. Please keep baseball/softball off the south side to reduce noise and maintain privacy for the adjoining houses. **Dugouts on the south side of the playfield are necessary in order to accommodate (2) baseball fields.**
51. Mike – like cushy synthetic field **Thanks for the input!**
52. Laurie – Not a fan of crumb rubber field; cork or other style preferred. **We are exploring all fill options at this time. Field drainage will be captured and treated.**
53. Ultimate frisbee is one of the fastest growing sports in the region. To help meet demand, please add ultimate lines to the multi-use playfield. Sizes can range please contact advocacy@discnw.org for more info. Thanks! **We will consider this.**
54. Sarah – 2 ultimate frisbee fields, can we add lines for this? **We will consider it.**

Parking

55. Consider developing MOA with Latter Day Saints Church and King Co for use of their parking lots (or portions of) to accommodate overflow parking. Possibly pay the Church a fee for such use. Could limit parking there to certain hours/days during week. **Great ideas! Staff has preliminarily reached out and are following up and developing a proposal for shared use of the parking. We have also made contact with King County to develop a temporary field on their property. This may also include a basketball court.**
56. Brad – concern over overflow parking; shared parking with church parking; lighting spill over **(See above)**
57. Probably too late for this feedback but I don’t think the additional parking is enough. We need even more. Hill unnecessary. Waste of space. Parking instead. Much more parking!!! **We had included a plan with more parking as an option in the first phase of design, but landed on the current design through the public process.**

58. How many parking places added? Total capacity? **20 new parking stalls are being added which brings the total parking stall county to 80.**
59. What about people parking in the cul-de-sac at the easement entrances to the park? **We recommend contacting the police if they are in violation of any posted parking restrictions.**
60. Concrete sidewalk bumps out after the drop off zone, why? Seems unnecessary. Maybe take it back a few feet so it lines up better with drop off zone. **Thank you for the design input we will consider this.**

Grading

61. What is the plan to address storm water run-off from the western side of park (and sledding hill) impacting the homes near the park? Way to funnel run-off back around to the "vault"? We already have seasonal stream into our street. **Our strategy is to match the existing condition and provide sheet flow.**

Lighting

62. Larry – want bleachers at park, light off at night **The field lights will only be on when the field is being used at night. We are continuing to use our mobile bleachers that are currently on the site.**
63. Kate – ADA accessibility get in/out; lighting in back of park; like native species **The only lights included in the plan are those for the field and parking lot. All proposed paths are ADA accessible.**
64. Mike – lights on timer in case no one is here can turn on after 8 for like an hour **We will consider this.**
65. Mike – restroom lights stay on at night **We will consider this.**

Misc.

66. Have you walked the site recently? **Yes**
67. Brad – Dogs off-leash an issue **The City of Kirkland's Municipal Code Title 8, which requires that dogs be on a leash at all times unless in a designated off-leash area, will apply to this park.**
68. ART Please consider art at this stage in the design. By doing so, art can be integrated into the design rather than an afterthought. (An example would inland mosaics on concrete) A successful example of this working is Totem Lake Park with the Berger Group. There is also the possibility of representing the various cultures with art. Happy to talk more. Dana Nunnally, vice chair cultural arts commission; Vice President – Kirkland Parks & Community Foundation **We will be seeking out an artist for the labyrinth.**
69. How will this park improvement affect home values of properties around perimeter? Not happy neighbors. I've been to 4 meetings about this. **We can not determine how your home value will change over time, but the park will be an asset to the community.**
70. Who owns the easement path to park? **That is being researched. We believe it is part of the subdivision plat.**
71. How long will this project take? How long will the park be closed? During construction what will the hours be? No start before 8:30 am. **Once a contractor is hired, they will follow all instructions set forth by the city. Construction phase is expected to be from winter 2020 to winter 2021. Specifics of park closures will come at a later date.**

72. Vegetation around the park will provide shelter for homeless! Homelessness is an issue that the city deals with at all parks, and we rely on our park rangers and other resources to monitor.
73. I expect a lights out time and a police presence to insure this does not become a homeless camp. Larry Kilbride City policy is that field lights go out at 11:00pm and are patrolled by police. Parking lot lighting stays on throughout the night.
74. Who is going to monitor the park for homeless people squatting in the park? The trees going in on the north fence will take away the south sun we get in our home. See #72 and #19.
75. Mike – signage for rules Signage will be included.
76. Close park at 10. Too noisy! Parks in the City of Kirkland are open from dawn to dusk. Field lighting has the potential to remain on until 11pm.

Comments

77. Where and when will you post answers to our concerns? Need more info! Questions and answers will be posted on the website.
78. Beverly – outreach has been great (like SW) Thanks!
79. Wanted to see the planning plan so they can comment. See #19.
80. Laurie – Coho mortality concern and stream spawning. Stormwater plans include treatment of runoff and infiltration.
81. Kate Baron, Laurie Devereaux – Like sledding hill, like larger field and lighting, sledding hill slope