WASHINGTON SQUARE PLAYGROUND

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION #3
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2016

Supervisor
Aaron Peskin
District 3

Project Manager
Levi Conover
Recreation and Parks Department

Design Team
Lizzy Hirsch, Landscape Architect
Lauren McClure, Design Assistant
San Francisco Public Works
GROUND RULES

• Please sign-in
• Turn off cell phones
• Direct comments to the facilitator
• Raise your hand to speak
• Keep to the agenda
• Please hold all questions for the end
AGENDA

Welcome, Introductions, and Objectives

Part I: Let’sPlay SF/2012 Bond Program

Part II: Project Overview

Part III: Results from Meeting 2

Part IV: Site Design

Part V: Feedback
MEETING OBJECTIVES

• Present overview of previous public feedback.
• Present concept plans.
• Obtain community buy in so that we can proceed to Recreation and Parks Department Commission for their approval.
PART I

Let'sPlaySF & 2012 Bond Program
• **Let’sPlaySF!** is a partnership between the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department and the San Francisco Parks Alliance that seeks to inspire creativity and play throughout the City through great playgrounds.

• In the coming years, 13 playgrounds prioritized for improvement by a citizen task force will be re-imagined and redesigned to nurture growing bodies and brains for this and future generations of San Francisco’s children.

• The project began with voter approval of the **2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond** that included $15.5 million to renovate the city’s worst playgrounds.

• A citizen task force met for six months, held six public meetings including a field trip and prioritized 13 playgrounds as the most in need of renovation based on three primary criteria:
  - Presence of Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) wood
  - Neighborhood Demographics: high youth density
  - Neighborhood Demographics: low median income
Priority Playgrounds per the Failing Playgrounds Task Force
Adopted December 2014

2012 Bond Program Background
Washington Square Playground | Community Meeting #3 | 11.09.16
• These playgrounds are spread all across San Francisco and serve nearly 20,000 children

• $15.5 million is not enough to fund all the playgrounds, so the Department is partnering with the Parks Alliance to raise at least $10.75 million in private funding to ensure there are safe imaginative places to play across San Francisco

• If you love playgrounds and play and if you are interested in getting involved in the city-wide campaign please be in touch!

• Questions? Contact:

  Lisa Bransten  OR  Meagan Demitz  
  Director of Partnerships  Interim Director of Philanthropy  
  SF Recreation and Parks Department  SF Parks Alliance  
  lisa.bransten@sfgov.org  meagan@sfparksalliance.org
PROJECT TEAM

Project Manager
Levi Conover
Recreation and Parks Department

Design Team
Lizzy Hirsch, Landscape Architect
Lauren McClure, Landscape Designer
San Francisco Public Works

Rec and Park Management
Lisa Bransten, RPD Director of Partnerships
Toks Ajike, RPD Capital Oversight Manager
Zack Taylor, RPD Park Service Manager
PART II

Project Overview
### PROJECT SCHEDULE

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<td>Planning</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<td><strong>Fall 2016</strong></td>
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<td>Design</td>
<td>Winter 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bidding + Start Construction</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Complete</td>
<td>Late 2018 - Early 2019</td>
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### PROJECT BUDGET

$1.493 million = $990,000 Construction Cost + $503,000 Soft Cost

- Soft costs include: project management, design, planning and engineering services, construction management, permits, surveys, & miscellaneous fees.
PROJECT CONTEXT + PARAMETERS

- Playground included in the Washington Square Landmark designation, 1999.
- 1/13th of park area.
- Tucked in shade zone of park.
- Playground footprint to follow current.
- Current playground standards require more space than existing equipment.
- Funds targeted only to playground improvement.
- Benches part of historic fabric.

A. Corner of Filbert St. & Powell St.

B. Looking Across Central Lawn
SITE ANALYSIS DIAGRAM

- Eliminate Stair Access
- Retain Circulation Path
- Reinforce Buffer
- Park Connectivity
- Drinking Fountain
PART III

Results from Meeting #2
SURVEY RESULTS

- Washington Square Park playground renovation project had its second community Meeting on June 22, 2016.
- Two design options were presented and no clear preference was determined.
- Therefore additional feedback was solicited via an online survey conducted by SF Rec Park.
- 113 people participated in the survey.

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**Option A: Playful Hills**

**Option B: Through the Forest**

**Survey Results**

- Option A vs. Option B:
  - 51% Option A
  - 49% Option B

- Target Age Range:
  - 30% Ages 6-12
  - 70% Ages 2-5
PLAY ELEMENTS POLL RESULTS (CHOOSE 3)

SURVEY + COMMUNITY FEEDBACK - COMMON THEMES

“The hills are interesting and seem to be fun. I also like the chimes.”

“A climbing structure should be in the playful hills.”

“I would like to see real swings! There are so few swings & monkey bars/hoops.”

“Sculptural and artful elements appeals to the more mature set, while still being fun and functional for the kids.”

- Questions about environmental safety of playground material.
SAFETY SURFACE

• Existing play structure contains arsenic preservatives and is being removed.
• Existing sand in the play area is being removed. The sand can contain trace levels of arsenic near posts, and it is difficult to keep clean of other external contaminants.
• Play Surface
  i. The current standards for new Rec & Park playgrounds are Pour In Place Synthetic Rubber or Turf.
     1. These standards are driven by safety and site accessibility regulations.
  ii. Pour In Place Synthetic Rubber is recommended for this design due to the created topography.
     1. The Wearcourse for Pour in Place is a Synthetic Rubber. It is not a recycled product.
     2. The Cushion Layer IS a recycled rubber. It is Encapsulated in a polyurethane binder which renders it inert in the environment, even if exposed through holes or cracks in the top Wearcourse layer.
     3. It is not the crumb rubber that is being re-circulated in the media. That is ‘raw’ ground recycled rubber.
PART IV

Site Design
Design Inspiration

Site Constraints

Concept Development

Process Diagram
Washington Square Playground | Community Meeting #3 | 11.09.16

Perspective Sketch

Playful Hills_Tunnel
Material Palette
WSQ Perimeter Plan
PART V

Feedback
COMMUNITY PRIORITIES & FEEDBACK

• What do you like about the design proposals?
• Which playground features do you prefer?
• General questions and comments?
NEXT STEPS...

- Please send comments to the Project Manager by December 1st, 2016.
  Email: Levi.Conover@sfgov.org
  Phone: 415-581-2572

THANK YOU!!!