MEETING MINUTES

GLEN CANYON: Community Workshop #3

Time/Date: Location:
Thursday, February 24, 2011
6:30-8:30 PM
Glen Canyon Recreation Center
San Francisco, CA

Minutes prepared February 25, 2011. If you have comments or corrections, please contact Alejandra Chiesa or Trudy Garber

1. Welcome and Introduction: Alejandra Chiesa (TPL) welcomed community members and stakeholders to the meeting. She gave a brief introduction about the park improvement plan process, explaining that there is $5.8M available from the 2008 Bond and that the goal of this process is to come up with a plan that the City can use to make capital improvements. She introduced the design team, reviewed the timeline, and explained that TPL is an independent non-profit.

2. Presentation of Issues and Options: Steve Hammond (WRT) gave a short PowerPoint presentation about the community’s design direction to date, and how WRT developed the three design options.
   a. He reviewed the goals for the recreation areas, which were generated during the first two community meetings and focus groups.
   b. He discussed “identified issues” and “options explored” for the following elements: Recreation Center, Silver Tree, tennis courts, ball fields, playground and tot lot, and park entry and access.
   c. In assessing the three options, Steve encouraged the community to think about the ultimate vision for the park, and not yet get caught up in costs and phasing. He also iterated that elements from each option could be mixed and matched, making it important to discuss the schemes as a combination of different elements and adjacencies.

3. Presentation of 3 Options: John Gibbs (WRT) explained the three options using a series of plans, perspectives, and images.
   a. Key Elements of Option 1:
      i. New pullout entry to accommodate 2-3 cars at Elk Street
      ii. Gracious/open entry sequence that includes stepped seating overlooking ball fields, garden, and play area
      iii. Tennis courts north of building
      iv. Recreation Center Building: basic code upgrades and minor expansion to accommodate restrooms and outdoor access
      v. Ball fields: oriented to have full outfield line. Bleachers and backstops are moved to the more active areas of the park.
      vi. Stormwater: grassy swale adjacent to ball fields to detain water in major storm events
      vii. Playground: expanded with opportunity for different age play and nature play
viii. Silver Tree: renovated to accommodate RecPark and Silver Tree and Glenridge activities.

b. Key Elements of Option 2:
   i. New drop off loop configuration to accommodate 8-9 cars
   ii. Tennis courts: pushed into the hill and stepped with about a 10-foot grade difference
   iii. Stadium seating/outdoor benches for watching ball games
   iv. Playground: expanded and connected visually and in close proximity to entry
   v. Recreation Center building: hybrid of keeping auditorium and gymnasium of old building and adding a modern addition (could be glass) to accommodate desired RecPark programs, indoor—outdoor connection, and a new/deliberate entrance.
   vi. Stormwater elements: constructed wetlands north of the Recreation Center could act as a transition to the natural areas. Possibility for underground rainwater cistern to store water during major rain events and decrease neighborhood flooding
   vii. Silver Tree: rebuilt in a way that takes advantage of the Canyon surrounding

c. Key Elements of Option 3:
   i. Stormwater elements: small constructed stormwater elements that can potentially interact with play structures
   ii. Recreation Center building: new building with a gymnasium that has a slightly larger layout than existing gym (developed to current code). Building is pushed slightly into the hillside and can be accessed on 2nd level from the hillside. Opportunity for interesting entrance from Sussex Street.
   iii. Dropoff: simple curb cut
   iv. Silver Tree: programming relocated to new building, but there would be an outpost/pavilion that would serve as a launching spot for Canyon/environmental activities

4. Small Group Break Out: Community members broke out into 7 smaller groups to discuss the elements of each of the options and give written feedback about their preferences.

5. Report backs: One representative from each small group reported back to the main group about consensus items or key issues:
   a. Group 1’s key feedback:
      i. Like how key amenities are clustered in #1 (bleachers to watch ballgames, playground, garden, etc)
      ii. Prefer tennis courts pushed into the hillside in order to avoid visual impact to entry (#2). Tennis courts should be buffered from bleachers with plantings
      iii. Like stormwater feature/detention in #2 and #3
      iv. Want playground to be as big and interesting as possible. #3 seems to be the largest.
      v. Prefer to demolish Silver Tree building and build a new one in its place
b. Group 2’s key feedback:
   i. Like meandering entrance procession in #1
   ii. Prefer tennis courts behind the building in #1 and #3 because they are not squeezed into the hill and have good access to Bosworth
   iii. Like idea of Recreation Center in #2 – honoring history of building and weaving it with modern programs and design.
   iv. Like modest stormwater management ideas, especially if PUC will help with funding

c. Group 3’s key feedback:
   i. Safe drop-off area is important
   ii. Outdoor water features are a great idea, as long as they do not attract mosquitoes
   iii. A brand new building would be wonderful (#3), but this group is also interested in the Recreation Center in #2
   iv. Playground should be as big and as awesome as possible. Love idea of nature play.

d. Group 4’s key feedback:
   i. Like the layout of ball fields in #1, so as to accommodate families gathering
   ii. Like tennis court layout of #2
   iii. Like flow of playground layout in #1 – good site lines and opportunity for nature play
   iv. Like concept of amphitheater in #3, but it feels too confined. Is there a way to make it larger?
   v. Silver Tree should stay where it is! Just a pavilion (#3) would not work because of vandalism
   vi. Like #2 and #3 for Recreation center – no consensus
   vii. Interested in learning more about the benefits of the underground stormwater cistern. Find constructed wetlands too ambitious.

e. Group 5’s key feedback
   i. Wetlands are redundant with landscape that already exists up in the Canyon
   ii. Lots of nostalgia for Silver Tree building. Would be open to the idea of a pavilion or moving the programming to the new Recreation Center, but are wary of having too many children in the “front” of Glen Canyon
   iii. Sidewalk along Elk is very dangerous. Suggestion to widen it.

f. Group 6’s key feedback
   i. Favorite scheme is #2.
   ii. Want to keep Silver Tree where it is; such a wonderful experience to have that kind of programming in the Canyon
   iii. Safe entrance to get into the park is important
   iv. Like wetland idea because it combines water with play/education
   v. Tennis courts: questions if north of the current Recreation Center will be too shady to have courts

g. Group 7’s key feedback
   i. Entry: like #1 because ball field activity is concentrated in main areas of park
   ii. Like pullout in #2 because it is the largest
iii. Like secondary path in #2 that goes directly to trails in the Canyon
iv. Like idea of outdoor rock climbing wall that could happen with tennis courts in #2
v. Silver Tree should be replaced but in a similar location. This program should not be brought to the front of the park
vi. Like stormwater management ideas, such as the swale between the ball fields and Bosworth
vii. Transition area between active recreation and Canyon is important. For this reason, tennis courts north of the building are less desirable. The constructed wetland has the potential to act as a transition.
viii. More naturally planted areas to soften the entries

6. Wrap up and Conclusion: Alejandra concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and for providing feedback. She encouraged people to continue to give feedback to TPL and RPD. Steve Hammond encouraged people to reach out for feedback to neighbors and friends who were unable to come to the meeting.
How did we come up with these options?
These options are based on what we heard in previous workshops and focus groups.

How will the options be used?
They are meant to generate discussion and your feedback will be incorporated into a preferred option that will be presented in the next workshop.

Focus on the components in each option!
Rather than selecting one option over another, the purpose of this exercise is to evaluate the pros and cons of each option by looking at the following components:

1. ENTRY
   Review the entry sequence in each option, imagining the experience from the Elk Street entrance to the interior of the park.
   - Which of the options do you prefer, and why?
   - How could your preferred entry sequence be further improved?

2. OUTDOOR RECREATION AMENITIES
   Review the location, orientation and size of the outdoor recreation fields, tennis courts, play area, and other amenities in each option.
   - Which option seems to provide the best combination and configuration of facilities, and why?
   - Are there ways in which you would change the location, orientation and size of the outdoor amenities to improve this option? Are there any other amenities you would add?

3. RECREATION CENTER AND SILVER TREE BUILDING
   Review the improvements/changes to the Rec Center and Silver Tree in each option in terms of how well they accommodate desired programs and relate to their surroundings.
   - Which Rec Center option do you prefer, and why?
   - Are there ways in which this option can be improved?
   - Which Silver Tree option do you prefer, and why?
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4. ISLAIS CREEK AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT
   Review the stormwater management strategies in each option in terms of how they fit with your vision for the park.
   - Which stormwater management strategy do you prefer, and why?
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5. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS
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# Design Option Discussion

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Please add an outdoor multi-purpose pound area (incl. basketball court & in Non Valley Rec).

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**ADQ:**
- Improved access to area.
- Such a beautiful area.

**LC:**
- Improve any Comments.
- Great comments.

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**GCP:**
- Like the sewage improvement.
- The existing road would fit the driveway.

**Morgan Hill Hill:**
- Like the sewage improvement.
- The existing road would fit the driveway.

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**Non Valley Rec:**
- Like the sewage improvement.
- The existing road would fit the driveway.

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**NEAT:**
- Like the sewage improvement.
- The existing road would fit the driveway.
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- Entry at court is good
- Backstop inline entrance?
- Mass entries draw into canyon in the Comedy
- Jump off in Forewards?
- Better for sunshine/play off
- Drop off for sports zone

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- Jeter field too small for users - baseball?
- Good views to playground/ballfield?
- Tennis courts more sun? more accessible
- Nature play area/fields/playground
- How large an area do you use for full-sized ballfields?

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- Silver tree stays in canyon & integrated to canyon - what this is important
- Building that blends in
- Building that fits in
- Building that could make better - Silver tree
- More appropriate Silver tree landscape, better image
- New center not that close to street
- Silver tree inside park
- Rec center not that close to street
- Silver tree inside park

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- Creek underground the fields
- Wetland area
- Intersecting wetland area
- Wetland in the center

- Creek in wetland if play area?
- How make it natural - berm, channels?

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