



Administrative Report

J.2., File # RP22-4628

Meeting Date: 8/10/2022

TO: RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
FROM: CAMERON HARDING, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

TITLE

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF THE DOMINGUEZ PARK PLAYGROUND CONCEPTUAL PLAN

BACKGROUND

Dominguez Park is a 24-acre park located at 200 Flagler Lane between 190th and Beryl Streets. The park includes play and picnic areas; a dog park; Heritage Court that includes the Historical Museum and the living history Morrell House; and two little league baseball fields. There are two primary projects listed in the Capital Improvement Program for this location including improvements to the dog park and northern edge of the park; and replacement of the playground equipment and enhancements to the play area including pathways and landscaping. The existing playground, located at the south west corner of the park, has reached the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced to ensure the community's safe use of this popular recreation amenity. Efforts to renovate the playground area are being spearheaded by the Community Services Department.

In May 2018, the Recreation and Park Commission ("Commission") approved an outreach plan to discuss replacement of the play equipment. Outreach began in August 2018 with the results presented to the Commission in December 2018. That discussion raised concerns about the area surrounding the play equipment, which resulted in the adoption of a broader scope of work to include landscaping and the adjoining pathways.

In December of 2019, a landscape architect was engaged through an on-call contract with the City to develop a conceptual design for the reimagining of the 1.25-acre area around the play equipment. A copy of this conceptual plan is included as Attachment 1.

The following priorities were provided to the landscape architect to inform the conceptual design:

- New playground equipment
- Rubberized surfacing
- New pathways and trail layout
- An adjoined playground incorporating the lower level in a way that is "fully inclusive/full spectrum, focusing on both the physical and social aspects of inclusion and development through play."
- Increase of natural elements
- Less structure

- More connectivity
- Improved ADA accessibility
- New shade elements
- More durable surfaces
- Review of the maintenance access road location.

In October 2020, the Commission reviewed and discussed the conceptual plan prepared by the consultant. Included as Attachment 2 are the minutes from that discussion. Noted below are highlights of the input provided by the Commission:

- Connecting the perimeter road straight to Flagler Lane instead of winding around the park.
- Consider whether the City can connect walking trails or bike paths with proposed pathways in the Beach Cities Health District's renovation.
- Consider adding a walking path along Flagler Lane and along the opposite side of the park.
- Reuse of existing rocks and boulders to create flow between the upper and lower areas of the park.
- Inclusion of a native plant garden.
- Inclusion of shade structures.
- Inclusion of natural play elements, noting South Park, located in Hermosa Beach, as an example.

Staff are currently working on developing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for a vendor to provide a final design of the playground and construction of the improvements. Considering the amount of time that has lapsed since the City completed the public outreach for the playground area as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Staff requests the Commission review the conceptual plan and input provided by the Commission at its October 2020 meeting to affirm the elements that should be included in the final design. The final design will be brought back to the Commission prior to presentation to the City Council.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Conceptual Plan
2. Minutes of the October 2020 Commission Meeting