



Summary Report of Community Meeting #1

February 29, 2020

Austin Parks Foundation is partnering with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department and the Springdale Community to replace the playground equipment at Springdale Neighborhood Park. The first step in the design process is to gather community input so APF can better understand the needs of the park and its users. The information will then be used to align priorities with available funding.

The first public meeting was held from 10:00 am - 12:00 am on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at Springdale Neighborhood Park. Approximately 15 people were in attendance. Throughout the meeting time, staff members from Austin Parks Foundation were set up at the park with an informational board and online surveys to capture feedback from those in attendance. Attendees were given an opportunity to look and discuss the existing conditions of the park and existing equipment with each other and APF staff.

The informational board displayed the park's existing conditions, proposed play equipment styles, swing options, color scheme options, as well as spinners and shade structure options that could potentially be included, if budget allows. The community was also asked to identify other needs and desires of the park.

Existing conditions include containment curbing in good condition, play equipment that is aging and needs replacement, two of three children's tables in good condition, and fitness equipment that is damaged and in need of repair or replacement. Reference the existing conditions diagram below.

EXISTING CONDITIONS





Springdale Neighborhood Park

Playground Renovation Project

Proposed play equipment styles were shown ranging from net climbers to platform and slide combinations. Feedback was solicited on preference of separation of 5-12 age play and 2-5 age play. Reference the play equipment style options shown below.

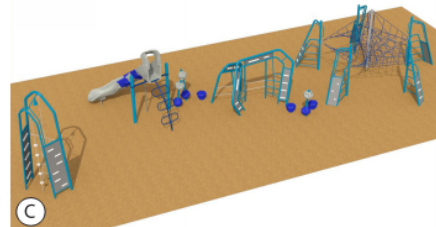
PLAY EQUIPMENT STYLES (MANUFACTURERS SEPARATE PLAY BY AGE GROUPS, TYPICALLY 2-5 AND 5-12 YEARS OF AGE)



AGE 5-12 NET CLIMBER



AGE 5-12 PLATFORMS, SLIDES AND CLIMBERS



AGE 5-12 OBSTACLE COURSE AND FITNESS



AGE 2-12 PLATFORMS, SLIDES AND CLIMBERS



AGE 2-5 SLIDES AND CLIMBERS

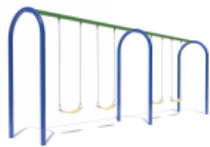


AGE 2-5 SLIDES AND PANELS

Proposed swing options were presented to gauge the community's preference. It was discussed that if budget allows, there is potential for additional spinners and shade structures. Color options for the overall playground were also presented. Reference swings, spinners, shade and color options shown below.

SWINGS

SPINNERS AND SHADE (MAY BE AVAILABLE IF BUDGET ALLOWS)



2-12 SWINGS



GROUP BASKET SWING



GROUP SPINNER



SINGLE SPINNER



LARGE SHADE STRUCTURE

COLOR SCHEMES



MOTHER EARTH



NAUTICAL



SAHARA



Activity: Online Survey

The attendees at the meeting had the opportunity to participate in an online survey asking for their feedback and opinions about the presented information. The online survey also asked for additional feedback regarding other park needs and concerns. The survey remained open for two weeks following the community meeting allowing community members who were not able to attend the meeting in person to provide feedback and 45 responses were collected in total.

Online Survey Results - Community Meeting #1

Existing Playground Conditions: Top concerns for the existing playground include outdated play equipment and the need for shade. Other desired improvements for the park include trail improvements, more seating areas, and replacing missing fitness equipment components. There is a large homeless population that takes shelter in the covered amphitheater at the east side of the park. Many residents mentioned the homelessness issue at the park, which raises safety concerns when trying to use the park.

Playground Standards: The community prefers the separation of 5-12 age play from 2-5 play. The preferred 5-12 age play structure style is a platform, slide, and climber type structure (reference image B below). The preferred 2-5 play structure style is the slides and climbers type structure (reference image E below).

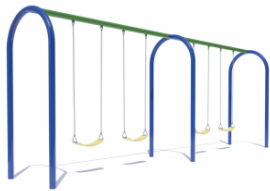




Springdale Neighborhood Park

Playground Renovation Project

The community prefers the 2-bay swing set compared to the basket swing and would like a group spinner as opposed to a single person spinner. They welcome any additional shade (trees or structures) if budget allows. Reference preferences below.



2-12 SWINGS



GROUP SPINNER



LARGE SHADE STRUCTURE

Of the color options provided, the community prefers the Mother Earth color scheme.



MOTHER EARTH

When asked for additional thoughts about the playground the following ideas were suggested:

- Interactive equipment such as music
- Sports areas such as basketball and soccer fields
- Nature play components

Based on community responses, 50% of responders use Springdale Park for its playground and 37.5% of responders use the park for walking or jogging on the trail. Many people also mentioned walking their dogs on the trail.

The top amenities the community would like to have include picnic tables, benches, community garden, lighting, public art and a basketball court.

The top two landscape improvements the community would like to see are tree plantings and a pollinator garden.



Springdale Neighborhood Park

Playground Renovation Project

When asked for additional thoughts about the park as a whole, the following ideas were suggested:

- No enclosed dog area
- Off leash enclosure for dogs
- Homelessness and safety concerns
- Shade, Shade, Shade
- Trail improvements including mile markers
- Splash Pad
- Improvements to fitness equipment
- Permanent Restroom
- Connectivity to Hog Pen Neighborhood
- Need for Playground Ambassadors to reach underserved, homeless, low income populations. Boots on the ground efforts.
- Better sidewalks along Springdale for neighborhood access
- Public art opportunities
- Skate park, pickleball, basketball courts
- Needs programming (farmers market, neighborhood events, music events, little library box)
- BBQ pits