

Park Users

Local use, local community, some Berwyn users at Park

Convenient location in neighborhood

family use

Lincoln students use play equipment

Well subdivided by age groups

Private party use of building is a concern that the park can't be used (only 3 times last yr)

Policed by sub station in Carroll Center

usually police car in neighborhood

park district polices park well

in the past graffiti at Euclid and Maple Parks but not Carroll

Old Catch Basin for street is existing utility

utilities still under old street can't be moved

Drive pattern and drop off developed for safety

see school safety plan

drop off on Harvard is reason for so many concrete courtesies walk at parkways

buses drop off at east end of Harvard

cars drop off at west end of Harvard

drop off at Fillmore

years ago problems with skateboarders local and less tough drug users from Berwyn

skateboarders have used BB area and were from Forest Park and mooning principal

park district and school have to work together to plan for signage which is inconsistent

regarding usage, hours and access to restrooms

signage inconsistencies are issues for policing

expand gym as shared use

historically significant building -- get report

socially historically significant

bldg. could be moved/demolished

building is part of group set

cull de sac could be moved further away from center of park--improves field of vision

issue for parents to view both play areas of different age groups

Stevenson of age group proximity layout

kindergarten kids exit the cafeteria on south center and go west to playground

safety concern, no view into area and kids could easily go out on the street

parents of k kids pick up at SE seating area

police can't see south end of park while patrolling--mounds, shrubbery, vines, but

neighbors have buffer but can be safety issue

south field positive to be separate, no overlapping users

no place to park for Carroll center drop off of preschool kids

could share existing lot for parents dropping off

Fillmore is open for parking?

check available parking around school

building--moving or replace--collection of buildings

collection of buildings move valuable le as set.

do we need a new building?

expand ex. School building--i.e..... new shared gym

south end of building for K and cafeteria

removing residences??-4 isolated houses

removing residences would need to come from residents themselves

parking used to max capacity  
playground--federal grant money--will we have to pay back?  
if playground moved there will be unobstructed views  
good to have unobstructed views from school and major streets  
keep parking numbers, but lot could be reconfigured.  
use of church as center and close of street--traffic patterns too difficult.  
church building non HC accessible too many levels  
nice rooms in church  
congregation small and fading.  
school--too much asphalt  
school--want to keep staff parking  
needs to be a contract between park and school re signage, traffic, rules/regulations to be consistent  
village secured agreement from school district to be able to use their property--should be added to inter-governmental agreement  
wish list--gym, multi use space (Basket ball program, floor hockey, jogging, etc.)

### **Meeting #2 Park District and Oak Park Staff**

Carroll Center built 1922-24 approx 800 sq ft, Stucco and Lumber  
1965 brick veneer, difficult to repair enlarged to 1600sq. Ft.  
1977 Timber form Play equipment on sand  
1994 EQ. play equipment approx 15 year life span almost expired  
2003 new 6 in gauge 6 ft v. coated fence on North side  
Alley fence gal.. CLF 6ft high  
Guardrail full length of alley, has been very useful at protecting fence  
Light towers, need bolt changes  
Subsurface road material still in place  
Remnants of cement structure on west side of infield  
South Filed shad asphalt parking structure, subsurface may still be in place  
New play structure in tot lot (Kompan/landscape structures  
Village owns west, school district east of Kenilworth  
Main playground 1. Structure 2.Rubber surface. 3 Floor boards of apparatus  
Poor condition 2-3 years left  
Paid for by CDBG (Community block grant), School District, Park District, PTO and in-kind services  
Replacement parts hard to find for playground eqt.  
Play ground. Could be removed and reused  
District likes hard surfaces in fall and winter  
They plow it and pile snow mostly at N and S ends  
Deliveries to school come from the Cul-de-sac to back door of school.  
Trucks bump curb, drive through the parking lot, and then leave by gap in fence by north entry to school  
Parkway disturbed by it  
Alley, by houses on south end not used much,  
Fire trucks do not use it, nor can they turn around in the turn around of the cul de sac.  
Garbage trucks back up many alleys in Oak Pk.  
There are no marking on the hard top to direct trucks  
Kids use all sides of school and play tennis and other games against the wall  
School bus on Grove and Kindergarten pick up at K porch.  
K hrs. 8-11 am, 12-3 pm  
Possible programming:

couple of centers neighborhood based; preschool & after school care  
physical structure does not lend to the above  
not conducive to adult evening activities

Demand for organized recreation

does the park district want rental use

with a shared structure you have shared safety and supervision

exterior access for after school and evening programs in a shared program,  
cut school off

district 97 and park district could combine funds

at Dole staffing issues-- staff arrive at different times

need to coordinate operations

entry point and prime user on ground floor

Possible entry point to school at south end if new addition on North

north is most logical side for expansion; could be phased in

need flexible space for recreation

what will we need 10 years from now who knows

few places for passive recreation in community in general

school needs more gym space

potential for drop off at north end of site

existing gym has locker rooms to west

Carroll and Mann are the only centers where there is potential for expansion of indoor  
recreation

neighborhood service program more important than center itself

pool of users has shrunk to kids 5th grade and below

mothers with young children do not want to travel to parks outside the immediate  
neighborhood

teenagers use outside neighborhood facilities

if center comes down-tell the community that the programs won't be abandoned in the  
park

need flexibility; requirements may change

keep multi purpose space

some garden areas if there is maintenance and irrigation

some people picnic in south field area

renovated church issues would be how to link to park

potential of closing/repaving area of street with drop off and emergency vehicle use

possible removal of houses

removal of 4 west houses only

concern about taking them off tax roll

concern about politics

acquire properties through attrition or rights of first refusal

cannot get rid of parking on site but could reconfigure

could phase project to eventually incorporate area of existing houses

resources need to be multi task; staff to cover more roles

liked view corridors opening up

Fox Center disastrous example of trying to acquire houses

move drop off to the north

Carroll center has mi escuela program

Vision of expanded gym and multipurpose room = 4000 sf

1500 sf + storage + office (500 sf)

1.5 times the size of existing gym

2-3 meeting rooms

multi storied (2)

can't take out diamond  
competition for all open space  
soccer; lacrosse; fall ball;  
only 2 full size fields (Lindbergh, Taylor; Barrie)  
23 softball fields left out of 28 previously  
irrigation as base bid --entire site; alternate 1--flower beds only; alternate 2--hose bibs

### **Meeting #3 Lincoln School and PTO**

This group examined 5 different locations for a new building  
Current site, south and attached to the school at NW and SW  
each site had positive and negative effects  
The group consensus was to attach it to the building at the north  
Baseball field has a conflict behind the cage at the entry,  
No protection from kids hitting balls  
Move dug outs further down the line  
Lots of erosion and muck  
Youth Baseball huge in Oak Park  
School keeps kids off the grass and field because of mud  
if to expand school would need:  
    individual rooms--running out of rooms  
school houses all after school programs--scouts; drama; park district sports; Hephzibah  
chess club, etc.  
park district assigns someone i.e. high school student to man doors in evening, but not  
always show up  
when Carroll is in use no other users can use the center  
overflow goes to....  
blacktop outside of school has four square; circle to organize groups; used for assembly  
and lunch time access  
fields used for baseball, football, multi-purpose during school hours  
tot lot used by kindergarten, first grade and second grade.  
first and second grade kids have option of using larger play equipment  
black top has track lanes--50 yards, 100 yards--3 or 4 lanes  
hoop thing (HT) which would be better relocated to the north side of the building  
seating area to the SE of the school is called Lincoln Lane where Kindergarten parents  
gather to pick up their kids  
Issue of uneven sidewalk at Grove st.  
No access/egress for kids at Grove st. entrance  
Deliveries in back at blacktop for Market Day, summer deliveries, furniture/equipment  
usually in summer  
blacktop used as parking area during summer  
south side used for class picnic/Olympic day  
new building would like to see: classrooms used for after school, community meetings,  
basketball, gym, movies etc.  
existing gym--sharing difficult, no storage space for equipment  
park district schedule takes precedence after 4 pm  
school district fills out requests for space, goes to district warehouse, space is assigned  
School usually too late to reserve space  
park district has stable programming, while schools programming is variable  
Hephzibah user mini gym; 3-6 pm everyday of the year / summer  
need classroom space which is attached to school  
locker rooms, band room, offices for staff and storage

skateboarders are trashing the steps and porches--use bungy material so they can't use.  
dead space at east of gym  
playground closed to public during school hours  
tot lot--local users asked to leave while k+1st+2nd use it (but more neighborhood use in general)  
principal would like living space close or attached to school  
nice buffer between school and neighborhood center area  
scouts, etc. cannot usually use the center--because it is booked.  
meeting rooms could double as classrooms at new gym  
Wednesdays after 2 pm is very difficult; cant share spaces and housing kids is very difficult a lot of conflict over space  
*if separate parks and school space then more welcoming to public (!Q!)*  
Carroll users are Lincoln users though  
*public outcry (will have) demolish center and expand school.*  
public thinks as Carroll/Lincoln are one.  
*if addition provides new spaces--with clear user*  
expand center at current location  
*if new gym goes in could access be changed--yes*  
parents still use Harvard for drop off  
move building to SW end of school.  
visibility on 3 sides and 2nd floor for gym, 3rd floor for conference rooms, scouts, etc.  
split field use can have advantages  
center play equipment gets 12-14 hour use/day  
first house at parking lot apt. bldg.  
permit perking--not full at night, daytime use full by teachers.  
parking must be replaced if taken out of that location  
Kindergarteners don't use playground or if they do it is with teacher present  
50/50 survey response regarding wanting all day kindergarten  
Separate area for kindergarten play, fenced and secure but not high fence, it should not look like a prison  
Potentially take 4 houses by attrition, corner house a Lincoln family  
Closest house is apartments, may be easier to acquire  
Make new park and building bike friendly  
protect the memorial trees move if necessary  
Number 1 sport is baseball make sure to speak with John R. when we design new fields  
Concession stands would bring in income for park and leagues  
Could be open from 5 to 7 pm at parks  
Ice cream cones would be great and are a success elsewhere  
New building and park should have clear user designation  
Splitting field could have advantages  
One person thought we should expand the Center at the current location  
Harvard is still the major drop off, most will not use the turn around  
Building should have gym, conference rooms, rooms fro scouts and chess club  
Play ground gets used all day  
Parking not full at night used by teachers during day  
If changed replace spaces elsewhere  
Final consensus plan has baseball in south and a large multipurpose field

#### **Meeting # 4 Creative/Structured Play, Passive and Active Recreation, Gardens**

FOPC Initially wanted gardens but at the end of the meeting stated that the park was

too intensely used

Carroll Center

Not open enough, could be used constantly if coordinated

The Center use for evening social programs and all day weekend

WSSF Needs more space it could be 3 times bigger

How about two stories over a basement

Looking for secured early childhood play space

New building

next to building a great idea,

looked at 5 locations

prioritizing use of spaces is critical

Need building at south end anyway

A building at the south end would prohibit another building att. to school

Existing outdoor restrooms are not known and are unsafe for small kids

Need to be able to get to restrooms from outside at all times park open

Bathrooms at Ridgeland and Taylor

Make sure new delivery route to school and new building

Trucks bump curb and drive across park

Creative Play

How about an adventure play

Discussion of Adventure Play suggests that it would need a lot of maintenance

need storage space as well

Could make an unusual playground that is more educational

Lincoln Lane could be a good site as it is beside Kindergarten

Could be an outdoor classroom for plays, reading see Franklin Park next to North School

Altamanu has some experience with this concept

What would be in an Adventure Playground?

Children create their own play, cycles of growth, learning about environment,

wood, sand, water, building materials, etc.

Must be accessible

Potential grants/funding sources

KABOOM

OPRF Community Foundation

Oak Park /River Forest Foundation got

ADM grant from Grand Victoria, also interest free loans for

Early childhood Development

Land use for creative rec

Contact Carolyn Saxton, Executive Director but

Work force development

leaving in November

Illinois Facilities Fund

Soccer

6-7 year olds need 100 x 150 ft.

could get two fields in if we changed hard top and drop off

Park District has indoor soccer at Ridgeland

Some Catholic schools have indoor soccer

Indoor Baseball at High School

Need 30-50-60 ft whatever they can get

Grounds flood, puddle, mucky and in summer are parched

Must remove sub base from field

Create flexibility, if we can get bigger fields we could move soccer from park to park

All public field space is gold

Baseball is sacred in Oak Park

Concessions

Don has a mailing list for volunteers

Landscape

Keep existing trees, move if necessary

Improve drainage

Deliveries from drop off