Andersen Park Focus Groups Comments

ISSUES/ CONSTRAINTS – SESSION 1
Buildings & Grounds, Safety & Security

1. Building – a historical structure (1928) and has been changed the least of are the centers. Last renovated in the 1960's. Can it be restored to it's historic state? It originally has a stucco exterior.

2. Bike parking sub-standard racks (styles vary and poor placement)
   Style, placement, space (carriers)

3. Function of Park – What are uses? – Are they appropriate for the site?

4. North Entrance Needed – Distance to access

5. How does this process fit into overall comprehensive plan? – "Balancing"

6. Concealing or screening alley – Police concerned about visibility "INTO PARK"

7. Division is a major street. Use caution in locating access points. Provide low maintenance fence.

8. Need to improve look of fence. Select one with a more residential character.

9. Sidewalk condition.

10. Too much concrete.

11. Lack of parkway trees.
    Existing vegetation generally OK.

12. Existing elm – residents look favorably on it and value it . . .

13. Placement of trees on southwest corner – may be a constraint.

14. Younger age children play in shade.
    Older; not placed correctly now.

15. Restrooms not 'ADA' accessible

16. East side of building is poorly lighted.
    Access stairs – drinking loc.

17. Signage needs to state hours & age appropriate users.

18. Is the park under-utilized?

ISSUES/ CONSTRAINTS – SESSION 2
Park District Staff

1. Site is very shaded/ compacted.
   Annual color near sign – Need water/ new location
2. Elm is very important to park identity. What measures will need to be taken to preserve it?
3. Boxy look – Soften up
4. Park is small – Can we expand prop lines?
5. From Division the center isn't visible because it is set so far back from the street.
6. Patio area – Not useful
7. Building location – Liability –cuts park in ½. Security concern
8. Lighting is poor – Overgrown plant material around building is a safety issue.
9. Kids hide in the shrubs around the center patio.
10. Patio area is limited in use – Sight lines
11. Provide containment along Hayes for kids.
12. Provide defined circulation without eating up green space.
13. Park is sterile, not organic-"Feels like in a prison"
14. Hodge-podge
15. Make more customer friendly (drop-off)
16. Can only do so much with the space due to layout.
17. Surfacing is a concern with sand.
18. Lack of access points
19. Alley/ fence is poor visual appearance.
20. Restrooms on alley side not used
21. High-traffic safety fencing needed

22. Turf is in poor condition and is a maintenance issue. 'Foot Traffic'

ISSUES/ CONSTRAINTS – SESSION 2 (CON'T)

23. Multi-use (ages) – Challenges. Provide play opportunities for a variety of ages. Older kids currently have little to do.

ISSUES/ CONSTRAINTS – SESSION 3
Passive Space, Creative Play & Sports

1. Chain link fence & access gate are not secure. Need to block access to the alley.
2. Benches with backs preferred.
3. Metal slides need improvement.
4. Lack of colorful plant material.
5. Fence too tall – provide a lower fence with gate to the west.
6. Provide access closer to Division on the west side.
7. Stairwell needs to be secure.
8. Kids run along east side of building from play area to field.
9. Screen air conditioner.
10. Supervision by parents divided between field/ play by the building out at the center of the site.
11. Poor site lighting – creates a hangout place on play equipment.
12. Too many walks for small space –green space divided.
13. Bike racks unused – Most users walk.

Andersen Park Focus Groups Comments

OPPORTUNITIES – SESSION 1 - Buildings & Grounds and Safety & Security

1. Access to Division St. should not be right at intersection.
2. Water play –Spray/ splash park with soft surface
3. Separate building / Pavilion with restrooms that will be open to the public. Make south portion ADA accessible.
4. Upgrade play equipment.
5. Gardens – Opportunity for on-site kids biking.
6. Potential drop off area – Avoid parkway trees
7. Look for other paving options – Like imprints and staining
8. Original plans – Look at and pull from?
9. Like to see patio/ plaza removed – Not currently programmed – What other options exist in this location? . .
10. Picnic area near building.
11. Ways to encourage biking to park.

OPPORTUNITIES – SESSION 2 – Park District Staff

1. Cul-de-sac or one-way on Hayes
2. Move building to North
3. Make Hayes more accessible
4. More soft surface – Not sand
5. Update play apparatus and add appropriate signage.
6. Play area – Provide equipment for learning to develop motor skills and challenge the kids.
7. Need more seating.
8. Open patio area up.
9. Make entry more inviting.
10. Color – Need to brighten up Andersen Center and make it more interesting.
11. Need fencing that is more appealing but that still contains and maintains security.

OPPORTUNITIES – SESSION 2 (CON'T)

12. Celebrate – History, name, tree – "Theme it" – Find the positive
13. Do something with Hayes – Improve look of garages
14. More Colorful play equipment
15. Play equipment – Climbing play
16. Change the topography – Small hills
17. Sound – Running water – White noise
    Decorative fountain – Splash park
18. Park and center named after Hans Christian Andersen – possible theme
    "Little Mermaid", "Maint. is worth it"
19. Make better use of hard surface north of building. – can be multi-use – basketball
    maintenance access
20. "ADA" accessible
21. Better access to restrooms
22. Interpretive signage – Learning/ educational opportunities
23. Improve lighting
24. Look at field programming – Open field – Multiple teams
25. Spectator seating
26. Can athletic use be on south end as well?
27. Move center to south end of site and toward Hayes
28. Create a Gateway – You have arrived at someplace very special.
29. Irrigation system
30. Way-finding signage – Small scale

OPPORTUNITIES – SESSION 3 - Passive Space, Creative Play and Sports

1. Walking trail around site – Combine with plantings and interpretive signage
2. Move patio to North – Open up under the tree
3. Up-light tree
4. Secondary play apparatus are to north of building
5. Splash ground/ water component
6. Native plants / specialized plantings = Learning for kids
7. Non-sand play surfacing
8. Vines/ trellis – Kids program and learn to grow
9. Seniors – Planter boxes
10. Themed apparatus
11. Irrigate field
12. Work with existing trees – Educational
13. Service access becomes “Emergency Only” with gate only and turf - crete pavers
14. Restrooms in remote building near play area
15. Create opportunities for memorial tree – provide planned locations for future trees in visible areas.
16. Cluster memorial features with seating
17. Fountain in site
18. Landscape integral to park plan
19. More colorful plantings
20. Litter receptacles – Unify materials and select a more subtle style.
21. Signage along Division St. to include event notification.

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