



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR VIDEO MEETING

Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 5:30 PM

BOARD MEMBERS:

Chair Rory Westberg
Vice Chair Jodi McCarthy
Board Members: Don Cohen, Amy Richter,
Lyn Gualtieri, Sara Berkenwald, Peter Struck

LOCATION & CONTACT

Zoom Meeting
Phone: 206.275.7626 | www.mercerisland.gov

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the Staff Liaison at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 206.275.7706.

Virtual Meeting Notice

The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Zoom and recorded and saved on the City Council's [YouTube Channel](#)

Registering to Speak: Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances will need to register their request with the staff liaison at **206.275.7871** or [email](#) and leave a message before 4 PM on the day of the Commission meeting. Please reference "Appearances" on your correspondence. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

Join by Telephone at 5:30 PM: To listen to the meeting via telephone, please call **253.215.8782** and enter Webinar ID **896 5507 6791** and Password **694967** when prompted.

Join by Internet at 5:30 PM: To watch the meeting over the internet via your computer, follow these steps:

- 1) Click [this link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **896 5507 6791** Enter Password **694967**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL - 5:30 PM

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approve the minutes of the April 1, 2021 Regular Meeting
Recommended Action: Approve minutes.
2. Recreation Reset Plan (Update)
Recommended Action: Receive verbal update.
3. PROS Plan Virtual Open House update and initial discussion of Parks Conditions Assessment and ADA Compliance
Recommended Action: Receive presentation and provide input.
4. Mercerdale Park Playground Renovation Design
Recommended Action: Receive presentation, provide input, and make recommendation to City Council for preferred option for Mercerdale Park playground.

OTHER BUSINESS

5. Planning & Meeting Schedule Update
6. Department Report & Update (5 min)
7. Commissioner Reports/Work Plan Updates

ADJOURNMENT



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES April 1, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Westberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm via Zoom Online meeting.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Rory Westberg, Don Cohen, Jodi McCarthy, Lyn Gualtieri, Amy Richter, Sara Berkenwald and Peter Struck were present.

City Council Liaison Jake Jacobson and Emily Moon, Consultant was present.

Staff present Ryan Daly, Operations Transition Team Manager, Jason Kintner, Public Works Director, Paul West, CIP Projects Manager, Katie Herzog, Recreation & Operations Coordinator and Merrill Thomas-Schadt, Recreation & Operations Coordinator.

APPEARANCES

No appearances

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approve Meeting Minutes of the March 4 and March 18, 2021

Recommended Action: Approve minutes.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Recreation Reset Plan (Cont.)

Recommended Action:

1) Endorse the Strategy for Mercer Island Community Center & Recreation Programs and Services (with scrivener's edits described to the commission) and recommend City Council's endorsement of the same.

Cohen motioned; McCarthy seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

2) Recommend City Council ~~consider allocating~~ **allocate** all resources necessary to successfully implement the Phase 1 'accelerated' proposal.

McCarthy motioned; Berkenwald seconded

Motion passed unanimously.

3) Approve the recommendation memo and authorize the chair to transmit it to the Mercer Island City Council.

Richter motioned; Berkenwald seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Cohen requested clarification about the wording of the second motion: "Recommend City Council consider allocating..." or "Recommend City Council allocate...". Moon stated that the word choice was not intentional, and that the language motion could be amended when the motion is made. Jacobson offered that that Council is thus far supportive of the direction of the motions; and urged

clarity in Council materials for an efficient process. Discussion was held about the upcoming presentation to City Council and how to effectively present the material to Council and the community.

3. Luther Burbank Dock Repair/Reconfigure (LBDR) Project

Recommended Action:

1) Approve the concept design;

Richter motioned; Berkenwald seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

2) Approve the recommendation memo to City Council with proposed addition by Cohen and forward to City Council.

Struck motioned; Richter seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

West presented background and responses from Subcommittee raised during discussion at the previous Commission meeting. Commissioners discussed context to decisions about design.

BREAK 6:25-6:30PM

4. Mercedale Playground Update

Kintner presented background and project updates thus far. Richter encouraged ways to increase public input and volunteered to notify PTA groups on the Island. Richter asked about the concrete "walls" in current playground. Kintner clarified that the outer wall would remain, the design would attempt to remove or mitigate the inside wall to improve access. Westberg asked about the current status of the design. Kintner stated that public input has increased recently and the design process will slow down accordingly to ensure feedback is received. Kintner referenced an April 14 meeting for community input. Richter asked if the meeting would require registration to take part; West replied no.

5. Commission Planning and Meeting Schedule Update

No updates from Daly.

6. Department Report and Updates

Daly presented updates.

7. Commissioner Report and Workplan Updates

None.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:10PM



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Item 3
May 6, 2021
Regular Business

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| TITLE: | PROS Plan: Virtual Open House update and initial discussion of Parks Conditions Assessment and ADA Compliance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: |
| RECOMMENDED ACTION: | Review report on the March 23, 2021 Virtual Open House and conduct initial discussion of the parks conditions assessment and ADA compliance. | <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| STAFF: | Jessi Bon, City Manager Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations |
| COUNCIL LIAISON: | Jake Jacobson |
| EXHIBITS: | A. PRC PowerPoint Presentation, dated May 6, 2021 B. Virtual Open House Summary, dated March 23, 2021 C. Parks Conditions Assessment Memo D. Parks Conditions Assessment Matrix E. Open Spaces Conditions Assessment Matrix F. Park Playground Replacement Schedule Matrix G. ADA Conditions Overview Memo H. Consultant Field Notes & Observations |

SUMMARY

At the May 6, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission will resume work on the update to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan. The discussion topics will include:

- Brief report out on the March 23, 2021 Virtual Open House.
- Introduction to the parks condition assessment materials and review of initial consultant findings.
- Introduction to ADA compliance and review of initial consultant findings.
- General discussion and Q&A on parks infrastructure.

A copy of the presentation is attached as Exhibit A.

The parks conditions assessment and development of policy guidelines related to parks infrastructure is a significant body of work and perhaps the most robust component of the PROS Plan. The staff and consulting team recognize the Commission is seeing this material for the first time and want to assure you that this is the initial introduction to this topic and there will be additional opportunities to review and discuss this material as work progresses on the PROS Plan.

BACKGROUND

As directed by the City Council in September 2019, the Parks & Recreation Department, in collaboration with the Parks & Recreation Commission, began the process of updating the PROS Plan. The previous PROS plan expired at the end of 2019.

The PROS Plan is a six-year plan that anticipates the programming and capital infrastructure investments necessary to meet the community's need for parks, recreation, open space, trails, arts, and cultural events. Conservation Technix was selected as the consultant to manage the process, including providing a baseline analysis of existing conditions and community needs, facilitating a community engagement process, and developing a draft framework for the final PROS Plan.

Work was suspended on the PROS Plan update in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

At the end of 2020, the staff and consulting team resumed the planning process for the PROS Plan, with an initial focus on assessing the work that was already completed, adjusting the project timeline, and modifying the scope of work to reflect the need for virtual engagement strategies. To date, work that has been completed on the PROS Plan includes a review of existing conditions, two presentations to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the completion of a community survey, and a Virtual Open House.

On January 19, 2021, the City Council hosted a joint study session with the Parks & Recreation Commission (see [AB 5797](#)) to kick-off the re-start of the planning process for the PROS Plan update.

A subsequent meeting was held with the Parks and Recreation Commission on February 4, 2021 to gather input to help inform the first Virtual Open House held on March 23, 2021.

MARCH 23, 2021 VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

The first Virtual Open House was held on March 23, 2021 using the Zoom platform. The virtual public meeting provided an opportunity to share information about the PROS Plan update and gather feedback from community members to help inform further development the Plan. A summary of the Virtual Open House is attached as Exhibit B.

PARKS CONDITIONS ASSESSMENTS

In October 2019, the consultant conducted parks, trails, and open space facilities site visits across the City of Mercer Island park system to visually assess current physical conditions. The consultants walked each site to determine the general condition rating (good, fair, or poor) for park facilities, exterior structures, site amenities, playgrounds, sports fields and courts, pavement, signage, landscape, and universal/ADA access. The following documents related to the parks conditions assessments are included for review and initial discussion with the Commission:

- Parks Conditions Assessment Memo (Exhibit C)
- Parks Conditions Assessment Matrix (Exhibit D)
- Open Spaces Conditions Assessment Matrix (Exhibit E)
- Park Playground Replacement Schedule Matrix (Exhibit F)
- ADA Conditions Overview Memo (Exhibit G)
- Consultant Field Notes and Observations (Exhibit H)

The parks conditions assessment information provides an important foundation for developing the *Capital Facilities Program* of the PROS Plan, which includes a project prioritization strategy, development of a six-year Capital Improvement Program, and identification of funding strategies.

DISCUSSION

The project team will facilitate an initial discussion with the Commission related to parks infrastructure and the parks conditions assessment.

- What questions do you have about the parks conditions assessment? ADA compliance?
- Related to parks infrastructure, what additional information might help frame development of the PROS Plan infrastructure goals and policies?
- Other initial reactions or thoughts on parks infrastructure?

This information gathered at this meeting will be used to prepare materials for subsequent discussions on parks infrastructure and related work items.

NEXT STEPS

The following agenda items are anticipated for the June 3 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting:

- A continuation of the parks infrastructure discussion.
- Beginning discussions of the parks capital improvement project prioritization strategy.
- Review of the preliminary/draft questions for Community Survey #2.

Work will continue on the PROS Plan at the July 8 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and the PROS Plan will likely be a standing agenda item through the end of 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive presentation and discuss initial parks conditions assessment and ADA compliance findings.

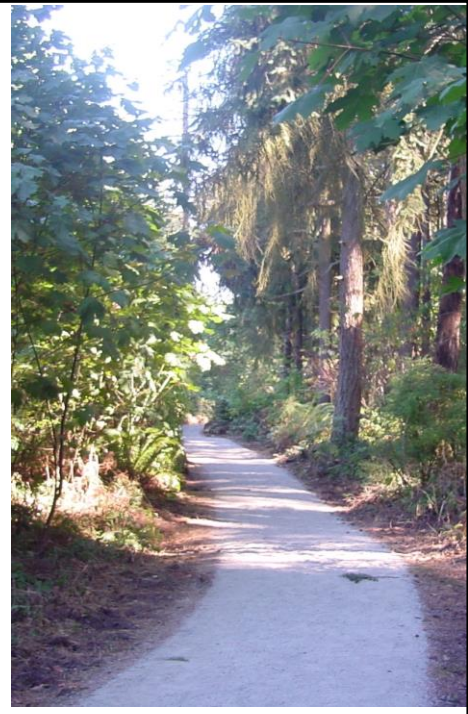


PROS Plan – Project Update, Park Conditions & ADA Issues
 Parks & Recreation Commission: May 6, 2021

1

2 Meeting Agenda

- Brief Recap of March 23 Virtual Open House
- Parks Conditions Assessment
- ADA Compliance
- Discussion
- Next Steps



2

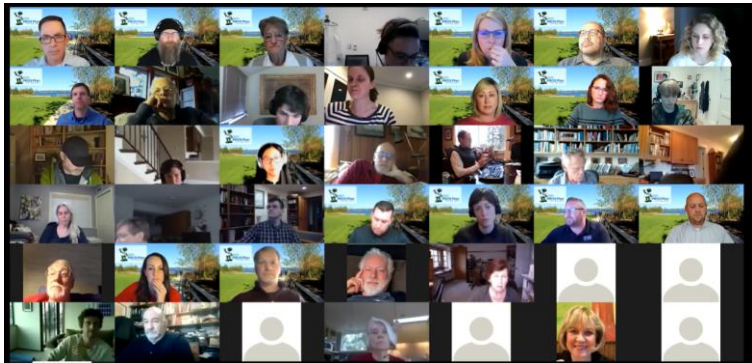


Recap of March 23 Virtual Open House

3

4 Overview of Virtual Open House

- First Virtual Open House: March 23 from 5:30-8:00 pm
- Promoted via social media, Let’s Talk, email blasts, newsletter & flyers
- 73 participants



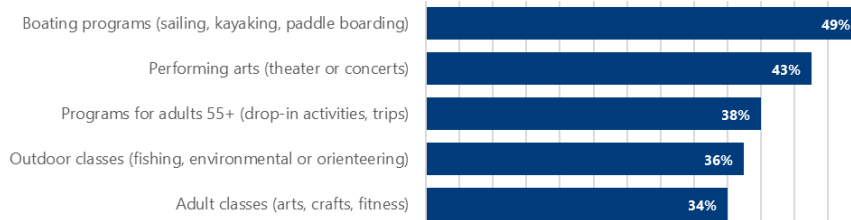
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5 Overview of Virtual Open House

Recreation Options Missed Most



Interest in Recreation Programs



Responses consistent with survey conducted in early 2020

5

6 Overview of Virtual Open House

Breakout Room Discussions

- **Trails**
 - Clear signage: trail etiquette, user info, connections
 - Mountain biking opportunities
 - Trail maintenance & safety
- **Water-Oriented Opportunities**
 - Repairing docks & water-oriented infrastructure
 - Water safety & lifeguards
 - Improved, safe access for hand-carry watercraft
- **Balancing Uses (Passive / Active)**
 - Good balance between passive and active uses
 - Site management (e.g., Snake Hill)
 - New uses (e.g., pickleball)

70%

Noted top priority as repairing or upgrading aging park amenities

6



Parks Conditions Assessment

7

8 2019 Parks Conditions Assessment

- In 2019 the existing conditions of the Mercer Island parks system was assessed to identify maintenance issues and opportunities for future capital improvements.
- Infrastructure and amenities were ranked according to the following rating system:
 - 1 – Good Condition
 - 2 – Fair Condition
 - 3 – Poor Condition
- Maintenance conditions observed in 2021, two years after the assessment was performed, reflect a reduced level of service due to budget reductions that occurred in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Efforts to "catch-up" on general parks maintenance are currently underway.



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9 Park Conditions

Park Conditions Assessment

ADA Issues & Planning



Overall, parks and open spaces are in good condition where publicly accessible (though not ADA-compliant).

Mercer Island Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan Update



9

10 Parks Conditions Assessment Process



10

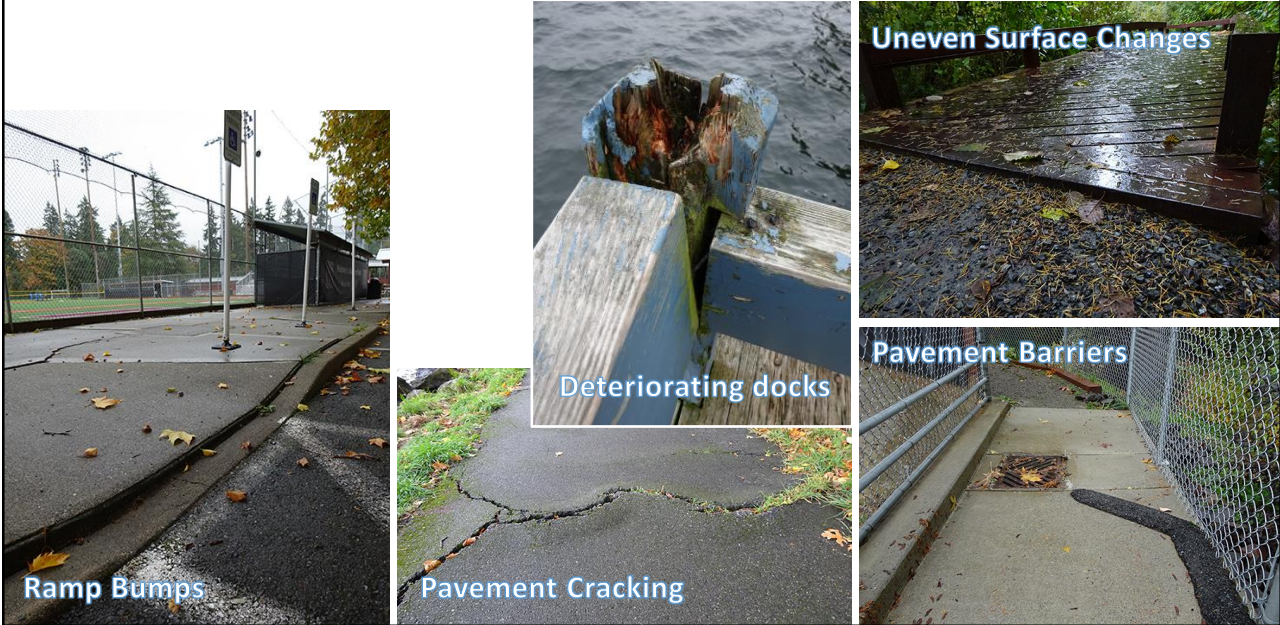
11 Parks Conditions Assessments

■ Good
 ■ Fair
 ■ Poor

| Site Name | Acreage* | Park Type | Park Site Average | Recreation Amenities | | | | | | | | | | Site Amenities | | | | Park Structures | | | Vegetation | | | ADA Compliance | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|------|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | | | Playgrounds | Paved Courts: Basketball | Paved Courts: Tennis | Volleyball | Soccer Fields | Baseball / Softball Fields | Pathways/Trails | Skate Park / Spray Park | Off-Leash Area | Waterfront / Beach | Site Furnishings | Lighting (Y/N) | Signage | Parking Areas | Public Art | Restrooms | Picnic Shelters | Amphitheater/Stage | Boat Dock / Ramp | Concession Building | | Turf | Park Trees | Landscaped Beds | Natural Areas |
| PARKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aubrey Davis Park | 91.81 | Regional | 1.72 | 3 | 2 | 2 | - | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | Y | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Bicentennial Park | 0.16 | Mini | 1.33 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | Y | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Clarke Beach Park | 9.05 | Community | 1.91 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 3 | 2 | Y | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| Deane's Children's Park | 3.04 | Neighborhood | 1.36 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| First Hill Park | 0.83 | Neighborhood | 1.89 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | N | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Groveland Beach Park | 3.07 | Community | 1.54 | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | 2 | N | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 3 | |
| Homestead Park | 11.09 | Community | 1.19 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Island Crest Park | 38.91 | Community | 1.23 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | Y | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Luther Burbank Park | 54.52 | Regional | 1.47 | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | Y | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Mercerdale Park | 12.17 | Community | 1.38 | 3 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | Y | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Roanoke Park | 1.46 | Neighborhood | 1.91 | 3 | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | N | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 | |
| Rotary Park | 4.83 | Neighborhood | 1.17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| SE 28th Street Mini Park | 0.06 | Mini | 2.20 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | N | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | - | 3 | |
| Secret Park | 0.86 | Mini | 1.88 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 | |
| Slater Park | 0.68 | Mini | 1.70 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | 2 | N | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 3 | |
| South Mercer Playfields | 17.31 | School/Park/OS | 1.23 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | Y | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Wildwood Park | 2.84 | Park/OS | 1.14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 2 |

11

12 Parks Conditions Assessments



12

13 Playground Age/Replacement

| PARKS | | | Installation | Age | |
|-------------------------|--|-------|----------------|------|----|
| Aubrey Davis Park | Area A | 20.00 | Community | 2011 | 10 |
| | Area B | | | 2007 | 14 |
| Deane's Children's Park | Castle/Swings/Climbing Rock | 3.04 | Neighborhood | 2005 | 16 |
| | Main Play Area/Swings | | | 2012 | 9 |
| | Dragon | | | 2018 | 3 |
| First Hill Park | Tree House Structure | 0.83 | Neighborhood | 2007 | 14 |
| Groveland Beach Park | Composite Structure | 3.07 | Community | 2012 | 9 |
| Homestead Park | Upper Structure/Main Structure | 11.09 | Community | 2012 | 9 |
| Luther Burbank Park | Small Composite Structure, Spring Toys | 54.52 | Regional | 2013 | 8 |
| | Large Composite Structure, Zip Line | | | 2013 | 8 |
| | Small Composite Structure, Spring Toys | | | 2014 | 7 |
| | Community Center Composite Structure | | | 2010 | 11 |
| Mercerdale Park | Train Composite Structure, Spring Toys | 12.17 | Community | 2001 | 20 |
| | Main Composite Structure, Swings | | | 2001 | 20 |
| Roanoke Park | Boat Composite Structure | 1.46 | Neighborhood | 2004 | 17 |
| | Spinami, Swings | | | 2012 | 9 |
| Secret Park | Composite Structure/Swings/Spinners | 0.86 | Mini | 2007 | 14 |
| South Mercer Playfields | Composite Structure, Swings | 17.31 | School/Park/OS | 2018 | 3 |



13

14 2019 Parks Conditions Assessment

- Information from the parks condition assessment will be used to inform the PROS Plan update, including:
 - Development of a capital project prioritization strategy
 - Updating the six-year Capital Improvement Program
 - Identification of capital funding strategies

- Additional planning recommendations:
 - Several parks are notably aging and will benefit from a comprehensive master planning process to address multiple needs (e.g. Clarke Beach Park).
 - Development of a unified park and wayfinding signage plan is needed to address system gaps and provide signage consistency across the parks system.



14

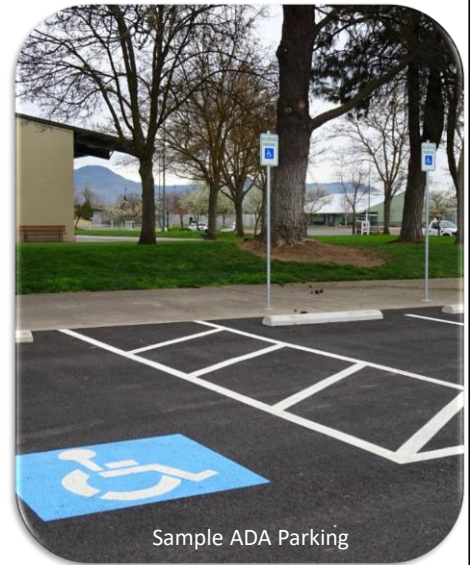


ADA Compliance

15

16 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design

- Title II applies to local governments for newly designed and constructed or altered public accommodations.
- Architectural barriers
- Entrance access – designated parking & connections into facility
- Access to most amenities



Sample ADA Parking

16

17 ADA Compliance Highlights for Parks

Parks & Public Spaces

- ADA parking
- Pathways
- Fully accessible restrooms
- Playgrounds
- Picnic shelters
- Picnic tables & benches
- Drinking fountains
- Trash receptacles, dog waste dispensers, etc.



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18 ADA & "Outdoor Recreation"

Reasonable Level of Access

- Trailheads
- Trails
- Proportional site furnishings

Recreational Access

- Boating programs
- Performing arts
- Outdoor classes
- Swimming & water safety
- Educational classes



18

19 Conditions Assessment – ADA gaps

- Access & entrance transitions
- Playgrounds
- Pathways
- Benches & Picnic Tables

Site Conditions Assessment - ADA Shortfalls

| | H/P parking | pkg signs | travel aisles | warning strips | ramps | curb cuts | restrm signs | play access | rec access | trail grade | paved paths | benches | picnic tables | drnkg founts |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|-------|-----------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|---------------|--------------|
| Aubrey Davis Park | | | | | | | | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Bicentennial Park | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | |
| Clarke Beach Park | | X | X | | | | | | X | X | X | | | X |
| Deane's Children's Park | | | | | | | | X | X | | X | | | |
| First Hill Park | | | | | | | | X | | | | | X | |
| Groveland Beach Park | | | | | | | | | X | X | X | | | |
| Homestead Park | | | X | X | | X | | | | X | X | X | | |
| Island Crest Park | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | |
| Luther Burbank Park | | | X | | | | X | X | X | | X | X | X | |
| Mercedale Park | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | |
| Roanoke Park | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | |
| Rotary Park | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | |
| SE 28th Street Mini Park | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | |
| Secret Park | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slater Park | | | | | | X | | | X | | X | | | |
| South Mercer Playfields | | | | | | | | X | X | | | | | |
| Wildwood Park | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | |

X - denotes a visible non-compliant ADA feature was noted

Captured ADA non-compliant issues highlighted above should not be considered as an ADA audit of site conditions.

19

20 Parks Conditions Assessments

Barriers to Amenities



Playground Edging



Non-ADA Drinking Fountains



Isolated Picnic Groves



Isolated Picnic Tables

20

21 Parks Conditions – Barriers to Access

Older infrastructure - needs renovation



21

22 ADA-Compliant Sample Accommodations



22

23 ADA Transition Planning

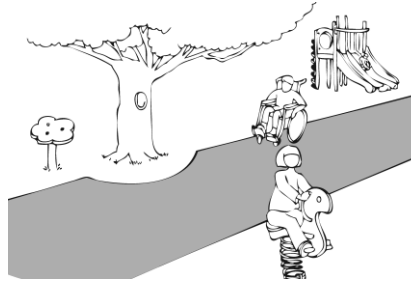
Inspections & Checklists

- Parking & Entryways
- Restrooms
- Shelters
- Play Features
- Site Furnishings
- Pathways

City is engaging consultant to conduct ADA Transition Plan

ADA Checklist for Existing Facilities

Play Areas



Project _____

Building _____


Location _____


Date _____

Surveyors _____

Contact Information _____

Play areas should be accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities.

 Institute for Human Centered Design
www.HumanCenteredDesign.org
2014

 ADA National Network
Questions on the ADA 800-949-4232 voice/tty
www.ADAchecklist.org

23



Parks Infrastructure Discussion

24

25 Parks Infrastructure Overview

- To adequately sustain a parks system and ensure public safety, the City must plan for infrastructure to be continually maintained, renovated, and replaced as amenities age and wear out.
- The six-year Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is the vehicle to prioritize and fund parks infrastructure needs. The CIP is informed by the goals and policies in the PROS Plan.
- ADA-compliant design and features should be incorporated into any major capital project.



25

26 Discussion Questions

- What questions do you have about the Parks Conditions Assessment? ADA Compliance?
- Related to parks infrastructure, what additional information might help frame development of the PROS Plan infrastructure goals and policies?
- Other initial reactions or thoughts on parks infrastructure?



26

27 Next Steps

June 3 Parks & Rec Commission Meeting:

- Continue parks infrastructure discussion
- Discuss capital improvement project prioritization
- Review preliminary/draft Survey #2 questions

July 8 Parks & Rec Commission Meeting:

- Continue work on capital improvement project prioritization
- Finalize Survey #2 questions
- Introduce PROS Plan draft goals and policies



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Mercer Island PROS Plan Virtual Open House Meeting Summary

March 23, 2021 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. | Zoom Meeting

Presenters

- Steve Duh, Conservation Technix
- Chris Hoffman, PRR

Breakout Room Facilitators

- Jessi Bon, City of Mercer Island
- Ryan Daly, City of Mercer Island
- Brian Hartvigson, City of Mercer Island
- Katie Herzog, City of Mercer Island
- Zachary Houvener, City of Mercer Island
- Allen Hunter, City of Mercer Island
- Jason Kinter, City of Mercer Island
- Alaine Sommargren, City of Mercer Island
- Merrill Thomas-Schadt, City of Mercer Island
- Jean Akers, Conservation Technix
- Nancy Thai, PRR
- Lauren Wheeler, PR

Introduction and Background

The City of Mercer Island began the process to update the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan in September 2019, but paused the planning work in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The PROS Plan update process was restarted in December 2020.

Since restarting the planning process, several meetings have occurred including a joint meeting with the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission on January 19, 2021 to formally re-start the planning process. This was followed by a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on February 4, 2021 to gather input to help inform the first Virtual Open House.

The first Virtual Open House was held on March 23, 2021 using the Zoom platform. The virtual public meeting provided an opportunity to share information about the PROS Plan update and gather feedback from community members to help inform further development the Plan.

Notifications

The project team used a variety of methods to spread the word about the Virtual Open House . These included:

- An article in the [MI Weekly newsletter](#)
- [Social media posts](#)
- Posting flyers at park kiosks, the P-Patch, and the Boat Launch
- Email notification sent to a variety of Parks and Recreation distribution lists.
- Inclusion in the City Manager’s Report at City Council meetings
- Posting information about the public meeting on the City website and [Let’s Talk page](#)



City of Mercer Island Facebook post reminding people to attend the Mercer Island PROS Plan Virtual Open House on March 23.

Meeting overview

PROS Plan consultant Steve Duh described the Mercer Island PROS plan process and provided an overview of the survey results. The survey was conducted in in early 2020 and prior to pausing the project in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The presentation also included an overview of the important role the community plays in the planning process including helping to shape the community’s vision for Mercer Island parks, recreation, trails, and open spaces.

Seventy-three participants attended the meeting. The meeting was recorded, and the video is available on the Let’s Talk Page.

What we heard

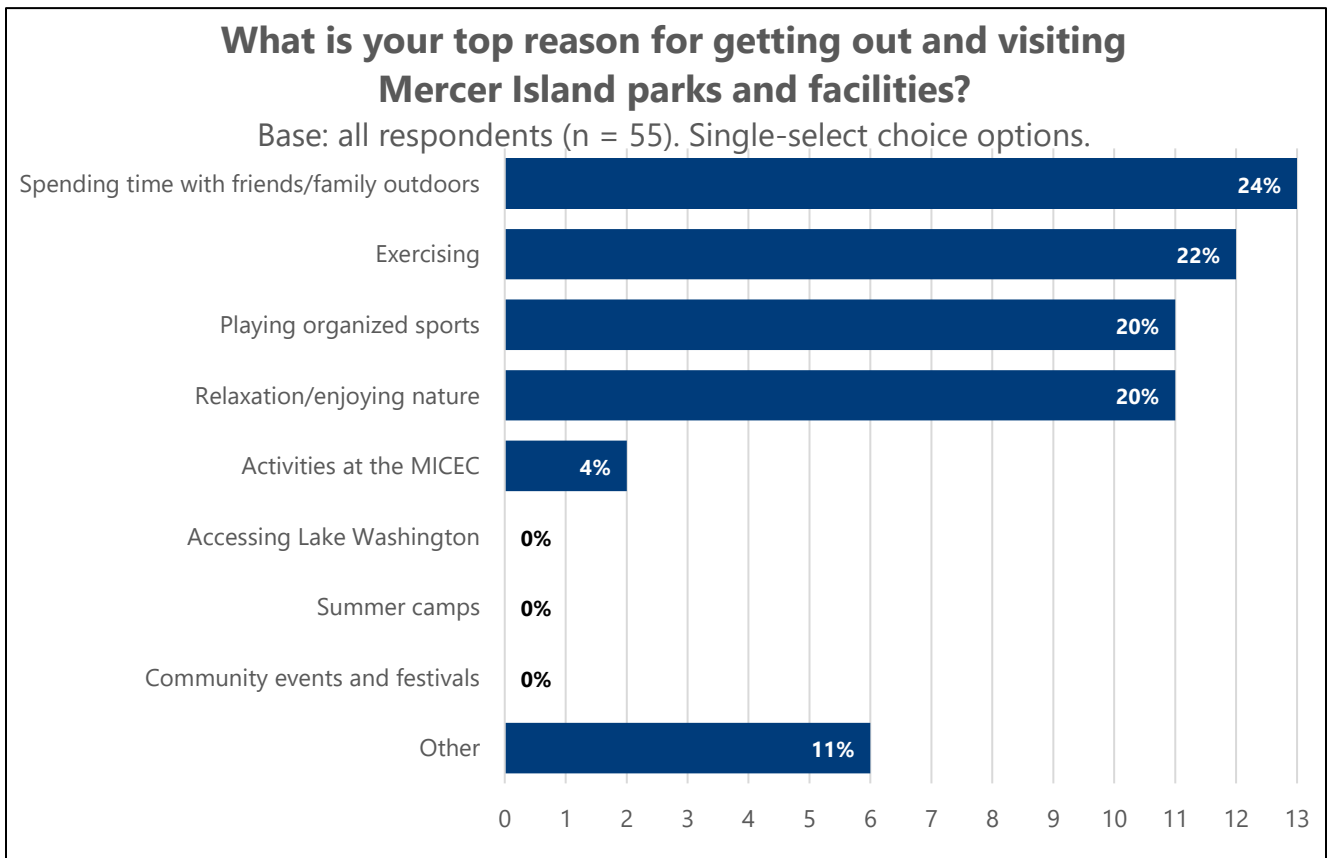
The project team used polling questions and facilitated breakout room discussions to gather input from meeting participants.

Polling

The project team asked the following questions using the polling function in Zoom. Attendees could share answers in the chat box if they selected “Other” as an answer.

1. **What is your top reason for getting out and visiting Mercer Island parks and facilities? (Single choice)**
 - a. Exercising
 - b. Spending time with friends/family outdoors
 - c. Accessing Lake Washington
 - d. Playing organized sports
 - e. Activities at the MICEC
 - f. Relaxation/enjoying nature
 - g. Summer camps
 - h. Community events and festivals
 - i. Other

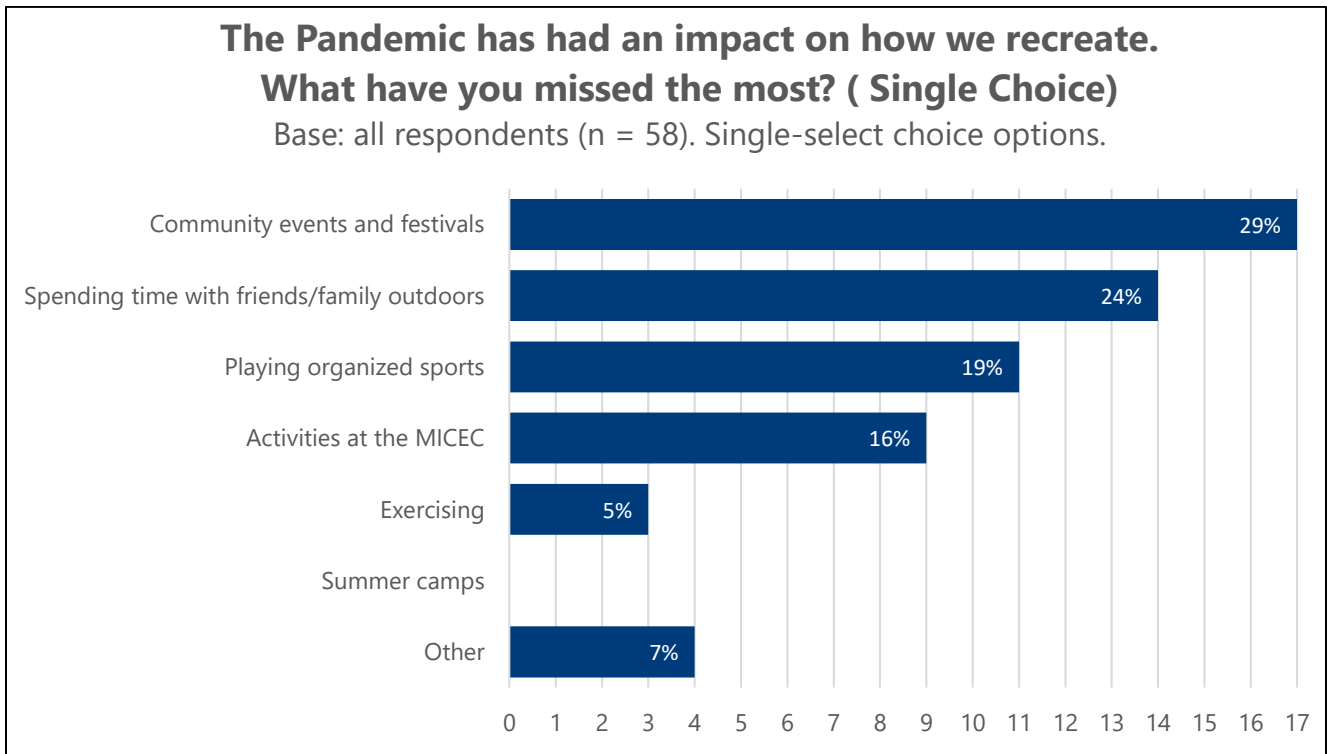
The top two reasons for getting out and visiting Mercer Island parks and facilities were to spend time with friends/family outdoors and exercising. Playing organized sports and relaxation were tied for the number three spot. People who selected “Other” shared their top reason as walking their dog(s), mountain biking, and forest stewardship.



2. The Pandemic has had an impact on how we recreate. What have you missed the most? (Single choice)

- a. Exercising
- b. Spending time with friends/family outdoors
- c. Playing organized sports
- d. Activities at the MICEC
- e. Summer camps
- f. Community events and festivals
- g. Other

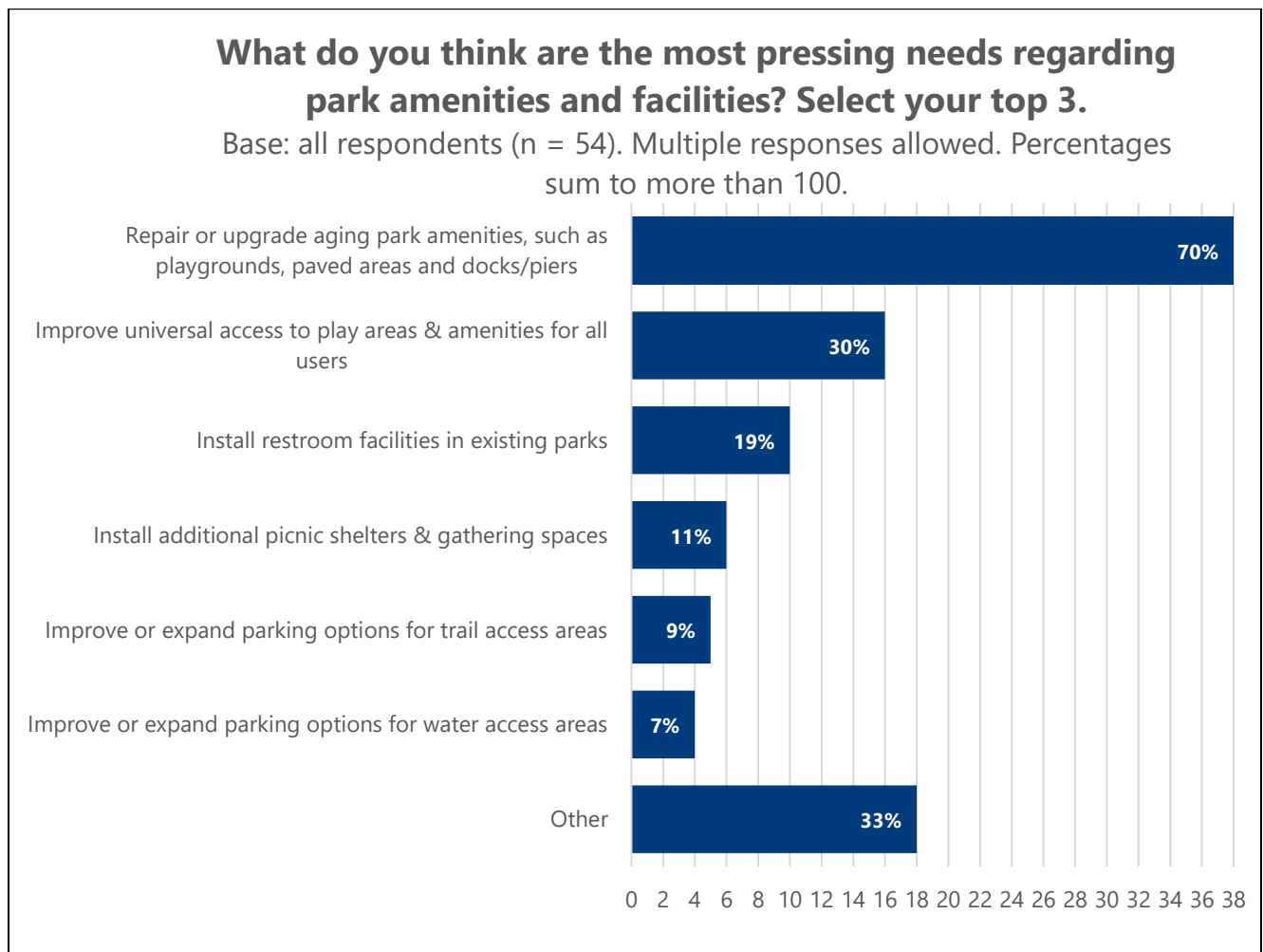
The majority of respondents selected they missed community events and festivals the most during the Pandemic. Spending time with friends/family outdoors was second. People who selected “Other” shared they most missed mountain biking and going to the beach.



3. What do you think are the most pressing needs regarding park amenities and facilities? Select your top 3.

- a. Improve universal access to play areas & amenities for all users
- b. Install additional picnic shelters & gathering spaces
- c. Improve or expand parking options for water access areas
- d. Improve or expand parking options for trail access areas
- e. Repair or upgrade aging park amenities, such as playgrounds, paved areas and docks/piers
- f. Install restroom facilities in existing parks
- g. Other

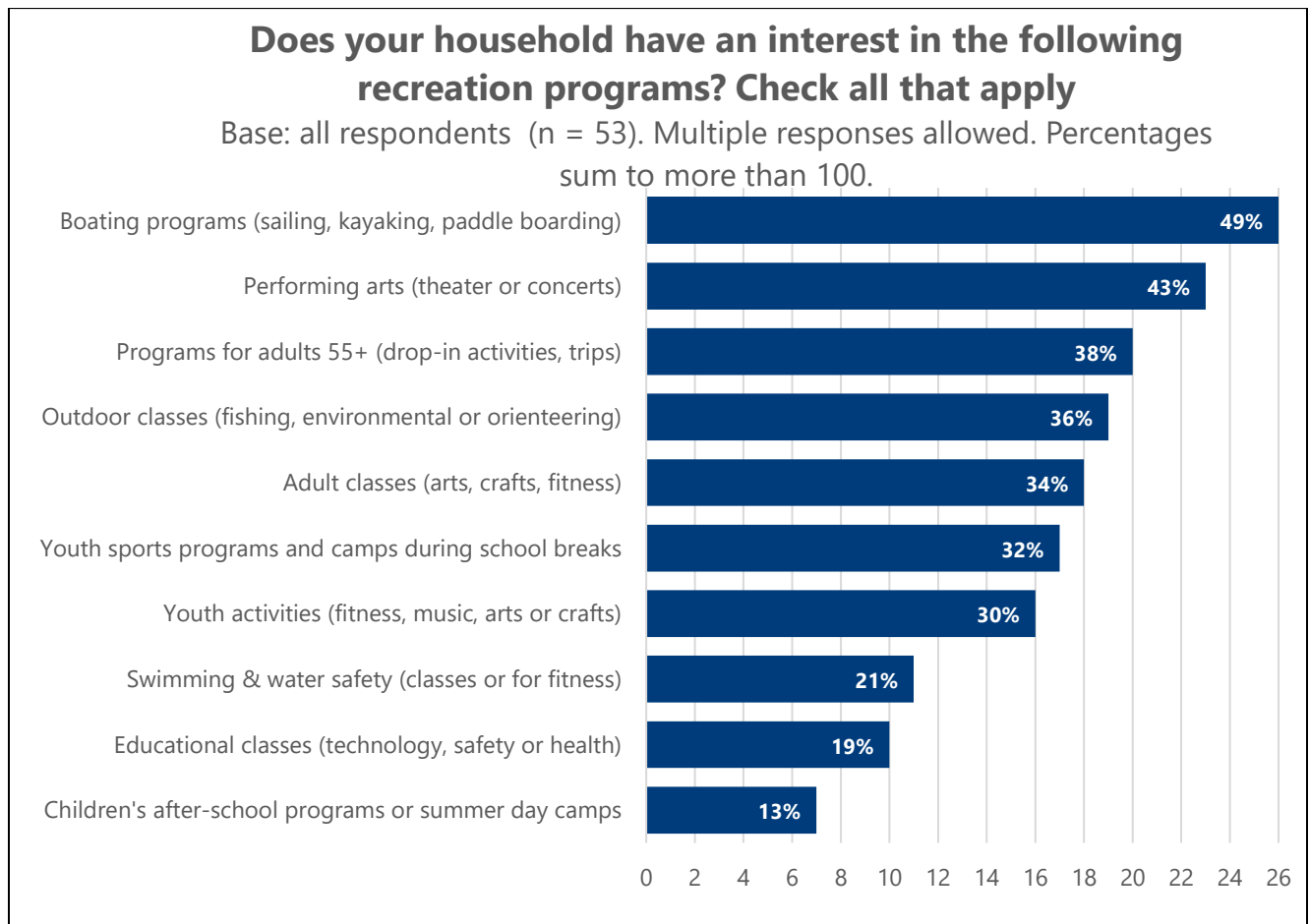
Over two-thirds of the 54 respondents thought repairing or upgrading aging park amenities is one of the most pressing needs regarding park amenities and facilities. People who selected “Other” shared they thought the most pressing needs were more mountain bike specific trails and bike parks, indoor and outdoor pickleball courts, allocating more funds for trail maintenance and forest restoration efforts, improving and expanding trails, and synthetic turf fields at schools or public parks.



4. Does your household have an interest in the following recreation programs? Check all that apply.

- a. Swimming & water safety (classes or for fitness)
- b. Boating programs (sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding)
- c. Outdoor classes (fishing, environmental or orienteering)
- d. Educational classes (technology, safety or health)
- e. Performing arts (theater or concerts)
- f. Programs for adults 55+ (drop-in activities, trips)
- g. Adult classes (arts, crafts, fitness)
- h. Children's after-school programs or summer day camps
- i. Youth activities (fitness, music, arts or crafts)
- j. Youth sports programs and camps during school breaks

Nearly half of the 53 respondents had an interest in boating programs followed by 43 percent of respondents having an interest in performing arts. Four of the top five responses (boating programs, performing arts, outdoor classes, and adult classes) were also in the top five responses to the same question that was part of the first community survey conducted in early 2020. People who selected "Other" share they have an interest in bicycle safety and maintenance programs, inclusive activities for adults and children with disabilities, and first aid and CPR classes.



Breakout Room Discussions and Key Themes

The project team hosted three breakout room sessions to provide attendees an opportunity to share feedback and ideas in small group settings. All breakout room sessions and questions are listed below and organized by key themes as summarized by the project team.

#1 Beaches, Waterfront & Water-oriented experiences

- What’s working well at our waterfronts?
 - Appreciation for the street end parks
 - Appreciation for waterfront beaches (especially Groveland and Proctor Landing), parks, and access
- What could we do better?
 - Improve water safety by having lifeguards on duty
 - Improve infrastructure such as repairing docks and cement that is aging and providing seating and more trash cans
 - Increased and safer access to the water for hand-carry watercraft, such as kayaks, and for people with accessibility needs
- If you had to pick one area to focus on for water-oriented recreation experiences, what would it be?
 - Improve accessibility of street end parks and provide clearer signage to find them
 - Provide boating classes, facilities, and rentals

#2 Trails:

- What’s working well with the Mercer Island trail system?
 - Appreciation for the variety of rustic and paved trails that connect around the Island that can be used in a variety of ways
 - Appreciation for well-maintained trails
 - Appreciation for space to ride bicycles and for mountain biking
- What could we be doing better?
 - Clearer signage and education about the trails available on Mercer Island
 - Provide clearer signage about dogs on trails or in off-leash parks
 - Expand trails available for bicycles
 - Improve infrastructure and accessibility on the trails
 - Repair paved trails that need it
 - Consider designating parts of trails for certain use to promote walking and bicycle safety
 - Improve safety at street crossings
 - Balance trails for active and passive uses
 - Expand BMX trails
 - Protect and repair walking and hiking trails
- What’s one new idea for the trail system?
 - A centralized location to learn about the trail system, whether that is a website or smartphone application
 - Expand mountain biking opportunities
 - Provide opportunities for community members to participate in maintenance

#3 Balancing access to nature with active park uses

- What are your thoughts on our current mix of active and passive uses of open space and parks?
 - Mix of community members who feel there is a good balance between passive and active uses of space and those who would like more passive use space and more active use space. Wide range of responses.
- What would you do differently?
 - Make Mercer Island spaces more accessible
 - Make spaces usable all year round, for example adding lighting and turf grass to some spaces
 - Update some spaces to have multiple uses
 - Provide independent oversight at Snake Hill
 - Would like to see more opportunities to play pickleball, for example updating the old tennis courts at Luther Burbank Park to pickleball courts
- Should the City invest in acquisition of new park land and/or open space?
 - Interest in strategic land acquisition, but acknowledgement that cost and availability may be prohibitive
 - Interest in improving what Mercer Island already has and using those spaces effectively
- What's one new idea?
 - A lot of interest to update some tennis courts to provide space to play pickleball
 - Add new opportunities such as bouldering or a museum
 - Provide more signage and wayfinding to help people find the space for the activity they are seeking

Next Steps

The project team will use the feedback from this public meeting to inform the next community survey, future community engagement opportunities, and the PROS plan itself. Please send any questions or comments related to the Mercer Island PROS plan to PROS@mercerisland.gov.

Mercer Island 2021 PROS Plan

Parks Conditions Assessment

The overall condition of park infrastructure and amenities is one measure of park adequacy and a required assurance of public safety. Proper stewardship of parks infrastructure requires the development of a long-term maintenance and capital plan to ensure the safety of park users, to align with community need, and to properly allocate limited funding resources.

In 2019 the existing conditions of the Mercer Island parks system was assessed to identify current site maintenance issues and opportunities for future capital improvements. The parks infrastructure assessment included walkways, parking lots, park furniture, drainage and irrigation, lighting systems, vegetation, and other amenities. The conditions assessment matrices (see attached) summarize the results of these assessments and will be used to inform the PROS Plan update including developing the project prioritization strategy for park improvements, identifying funding strategies, and updating the recommended parks six-year Capital Improvement Program.

Ratings

Park infrastructure and amenities were ranked based on the following scale:

- 1 – Good Condition:** In general, amenities in good condition offer full functionality and do not need repairs. Good facilities have playable sports surfaces and equipment, working fixtures, and fully intact safety features (railings, fences, etc.). Good facilities may have minor cosmetic defects. Good facilities encourage area residents to use the park.
- 2 – Fair:** In general, amenities in fair condition are largely functional, but need minor or moderate repairs. Fair facilities have play surfaces, equipment, fixtures, and safety features that are operational and allow play, but have deficiencies or time periods where they are unusable. Fair facilities remain important amenities for the community but may slightly discourage use of the park by residents given the current condition.
- 3 – Poor:** In general, amenities in poor condition are largely or completely unusable. They need major repairs to be functional. Some examples include athletic fields that are too uneven for ball games, features are irreparably broken, buildings that need structural retrofitting, etc. Poor facilities discourage residents from using the park and may present safety issues if left open or operational.

In general, good conditions should be the goal for management and stewardship of park facilities. Where infrastructure or amenities are rated as “fair” strategies should be developed to repair or restore the amenity. Park features, structures, amenities, or landscapes that are rated as “poor” should receive immediate attention and be prioritized for near-term maintenance, capital repairs, or as a new capital project. Facilities in “poor” condition should also be evaluated and taken out of operation if they are deemed unsafe.

Overall Considerations

Developed Parks

Overall, the condition rating for the Mercer Island parks system is 1.34, with most amenities receiving a “good” rating.

General grounds maintenance, restoration areas, arboricultural care and trail maintenance look good throughout the park system, which is a clear indication of good stewardship.*

Aging infrastructure, particularly storage buildings, play equipment, restroom buildings, piers and docks, pathway pavement and sport court surfaces are ready for significant repairs and/or replacement and largely rated at “fair” or below.

The natural grass at most of the parks with open mown grass areas is in great condition, with only a few parks having patchy or worn areas in high traffic locations or in partially or fully shaded areas.

Many of the play structures in playgrounds are older and have traditional features supporting prescribed activities. More abstract and open-ended play structures and designs, that also comply with ADA requirements, should be considered when replacing existing play structures.

Many parks do not have bike racks. Bike racks should be a standard amenity at every park.

**Maintenance conditions observed in 2021, two years after the original park conditions assessment was performed, reflect a reduced level of service. This is the result of temporary service reductions that occurred in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but plans are underway to “catch-up” on planter bed maintenance, general weeding, pruning, etc.*



Figure 1: Overall Condition of Regional, Community & Neighborhood Parks

Other Parklands & Open Space

The rating for Mercer Island open space areas and trails is 1.5, halfway between “good” and “fair” and reflects a good condition where publicly accessible, though many are not ADA-compliant.

Ongoing restoration activities and trail maintenance convey a sense of safety for public natural areas and provide an opportunity to “get away” from the more active uses in other parks. Community members clearly enjoy the open space areas and trails networks in Mercer Island and care should be taken to preserve maintenance of these assets.



Figure 2: Overall Open Space Conditions

Most of the trails within open spaces areas are well-maintained, have good surfacing and appear to be structurally sound. While some open spaces have trails with timber steps that are in excellent condition, others have timber steps that are degraded and extremely slippery when wet. Many of the handrails associated with these steps are also degraded and may not meet code.

The thoroughness of the 2018 Trail Structure & Maintenance Inventory Report illustrates the City’s comprehensive grasp of the needs for upkeep and safety on the extensive (30+ mile) trail network. The report prioritizes trail repair and replacement needs and remains a valid tool to guide trail system enhancements. This report, along with the information in the conditions assessment, will be used to inform project prioritization and future capital planning decisions.

Wayfinding & Signage

The overall rating for park signage is 1.4 to 1.5, halfway between “good” and “fair.” Park signage gaps, particularly at open space areas, landings, and street ends, resulted in a “fair” rating. The trail networks will also benefit from improved signage.

With a few exceptions, every park and open space area has at least one primary park name sign that is in good condition. Many of the sites will also benefit from having additional park signs at secondary entries. Currently, most of the secondary park entry points only have "Trail" signs on timber posts, or no signs at all. Identifying parks by name at each entrance will improve the identity of each park and also provide critical information to public safety personnel that may be responding to an emergency.

Most trails and trail intersections within parks are identified with the generic "Trail" signs or not identified at all. Parks with complex trail networks will benefit from signage that identifies the different trails or loops within the park. All trail junctions should provide navigation aids that identify trails and destination options.

Numerous water-oriented parks, street-end parks, and landings are designated as water trailheads. The City should consider park signage that is oriented to the water at these locations for water-based wayfinding. Additional signage should be considered for water trail users to assist them in identifying the route from the water to desired amenities such as park restrooms or parking lots.



Figure 3: Average Signage Evaluation



Figure 4: Specific Gaps in Park Signage

Pavement & Amenities Conditions

Generally, the pavement in most parks is in good condition; however, some parks have older asphalt paths that are cracking, or succumbing to root heave. Slumping of outside edges at cross slopes is also occurring. The average pavement rating is 1.7 for parking areas, trails, and paved sport courts. Cracked or buckled pavement, particularly where paved paths go through natural areas, needs to be repaired to eliminate tripping hazards and address ADA accessibility barriers. A pavement maintenance program should be considered to seal pavement (similar to public roadway management) when cracks appear to extend the useful life of the pavement.

Aging docks and swim piers, with an overall rating of 2.25, need significant repair and/or replacement. Some over-water structures should be redesigned and replaced. In some locations over-water structures should be evaluated for removal if they are part of a natural shoreline restoration effort. The redesign and planning for the pier system for Luther Burbank Park is already underway.



Figure 5: Docks, Piers and Boat Ramp Conditions

Sports court surfacing at tennis courts and basketball courts show cracks and aging that affects play conditions. Repairs, resurfacing or complete replacement may be called for. As part of this planning process, an evaluation about current use and future trends may warrant converting some court sites into another type of recreational amenity (such as converting tennis to pickleball) to provide broader public recreational value and use.



Figure 6: Evaluation of Surface Conditions for Sports Courts

Many of the free-standing bleachers at sport fields do not have safety railings on the backs or sides. According to the International Building Code, any seating with two or more tiers should have safety rails. Existing bleachers should have railings retrofitted or be replaced with compliant (railed) bleachers.

Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance

ADA compliance is further described in the attached memo.

The overall rating for ADA compliance is 2.3, partway between “fair” and “poor.” Numerous minor barriers are present in the parks system where different surfaces meet unevenly. ADA barriers also exist at play areas, exercise stations, and park entries. ADA parking stalls should be adequately signed, travel aisles marked, and tactile warning strips installed.



Figure 7: Universal Access and Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

Most parks are deficient to some degree in compliance with the ADA guidelines. Commonly observed barriers include lack of an accessible route between the parking area and park amenities due to lips, lack of curb ramps, and lack of detectable warnings.

As older parks and amenities are upgraded, renovated, or redeveloped, a focused effort to improve universal access and remove architectural barriers to achieve ADA compliance in park sites is needed.

Planning Needs

Several parks are notably aging and require a comprehensive planning approach to address multiple needs. An example of this is Clarke Beach Park where numerous systems and amenities are due for major repairs or replacements. It is often most efficient, both in terms of planning time and the public engagement process, to approach major system upgrades using the master planning tool. Park master plans incorporate public comment, community-wide needs, parks goals and policies (identified in the PROS Plan and other documents), funding considerations, safety standards, and a variety of other inputs to inform a 15 to 20-year plan for phased improvements at the park facility.

In addition to the planning needs for park sites, the City should engage in a planning effort to develop unified wayfinding signage, park entry signage, and trail signage and maps.

**Mercer Island Parks Master Plan
Park & Facility Conditions Assessment Matrix**

| Site Name | Address | Acreage* | Park Type | Park Site Average | Recreation Amenities | | | | | | | | | | Site Amenities | | | | | Park Structures | | | | | Vegetation | | | | ADA |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | | | | Playgrounds | Paved Courts: Basketball | Paved Courts: Tennis | Volleyball | Soccer Fields | Baseball / Softball Fields | Pathways/Trails | Skate Park / Spray Park | Off-Leash Area | Waterfront / Beach | Site Furnishings | Lighting (Y/N) | Signage | Parking Areas | Public Art | Restrooms | Picnic Shelters | Amphitheater/Stage | Boat Dock / Ramp | Concession Building | Turf | Park Trees | Landscaped Beds | Natural Areas | |
| REVISED DRAFT- Jan. 27, 2021 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PARKS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aubrey Davis Park | 72nd SE & SE 22nd | 91.81 | Regional | 1.72 | 3 | 2 | 2 | - | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | Y | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Bicentennial Park | 77th SE & SE 22nd | 0.16 | Mini | 1.33 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | Y | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Clarke Beach Park | 7700 Mercer Way | 9.05 | Community | 1.91 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 3 | 2 | Y | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 3 | - | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| Deane's Children's Park | 5500 Island Crest Way | 3.04 | Neighborhood | 1.36 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | 2 |
| First Hill Park | SE 32nd & 72nd SE | 0.83 | Neighborhood | 1.89 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | N | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | 2 |
| Groveland Beach Park | SE 58th & 80th Ave SE | 3.07 | Community | 1.54 | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | 2 | N | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| Homestead Park | SE 40th & 82nd | 11.09 | Community | 1.19 | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Island Crest Park | 5500 Island Crest Way | 38.91 | Community | 1.23 | - | - | 2 | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | Y | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Luther Burbank Park | 2040 84th Ave SE | 54.52 | Regional | 1.47 | 1 | - | 3 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | Y | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 1 | 3 | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Mercerdale Park | 77th SE & SE 32nd | 12.17 | Community | 1.38 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | 1 | Y | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Roanoke Park | 70th Ave SE & W Mercer Way | 1.46 | Neighborhood | 1.91 | 3 | - | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | N | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| Rotary Park | 88th SE & SE 44th | 4.83 | Neighborhood | 1.17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 2 |
| SE 28th Street Mini Park | SE 28th Street | 0.06 | Mini | 2.20 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | N | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 3 | - | - | 3 |
| Secret Park | SE 27th & W Mercer Way | 0.86 | Mini | 1.88 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 |
| Slater Park | 2835 60th Place SE | 0.68 | Mini | 1.70 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | 2 | N | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | 3 |
| South Mercer Playfields | SE 78th & 84th SE | 17.31 | School/Park/OS | 1.23 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | Y | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Wildwood Park | 7400 86th Ave SE | 2.84 | Park/OS | 1.14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 |
| | | 252.69 | | Average: | 1.70 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 1.67 | 1.00 | 1.64 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 2.25 | 1.44 | | 1.50 | 1.09 | 1.38 | 1.11 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 2.25 | 1.00 | 1.13 | 1.29 | 1.56 | 1.50 | 2.29 |
| STREET ENDS - DEVELOPED | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 77th Ave SE Landing | 7670 SE 22nd St | 0.29 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | 1 | N | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 |
| Calkins Landing | SE 28th St & 60th Ave SE | 0.31 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | N | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Forest Landing | SE 43rd St & Forest Ave SE | 0.03 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | |
| Franklin Landing | 78th Ave SE & SE 42nd St | 0.03 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | N | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 2 |
| Fruitland Landing | 97th Ave SE & SE 34th St | 0.15 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | Y | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | 2 |
| Garfield Landing | SE 30th St & 60th Ave SE | 0.34 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 2 | 2 | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| Lincoln Landing | 76th Ave SE & SE 22nd St | 0.23 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | Y | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | 3 | 2 |
| Miller Landing | Forest Ave SE & SE 48th St | 0.30 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | - | 2 | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | - | 3 | 3 |
| Proctor Landing | SE 32nd St & 60th Ave SE | 0.30 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | Y | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | - | 2 |
| Roanoke Landing | WMW & Roanoke Way | 0.18 | Mini | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 1 | N | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| | | 1.87 | | Average: | | | | | | | 2.00 | | | 1.80 | 1.25 | | 1.43 | 1.50 | | | | | 1.00 | | 1.57 | 1.29 | 1.00 | 1.86 | 2.20 |

Mercer Island Parks Master Plan

Open Spaces, Trails & Undeveloped Street Ends Conditions Assessment Matrix

| Site Name | Address | Ac. | Park Type | Site Amenities | | | | | | | | | | Vegetation | | | | ADA |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | | | Pathways / Trails | Off-Leash Area | Waterfront / Beach | Other Rec Element | Site Furnishings | Lighting (Y/N) | Signage | Parking Areas | Restrooms | Boat Dock/Ramp | Turf | Park Trees | Landscaped Beds | Natural Areas | |
| REVISED DRAFT - Jan. 27,2021 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OS/NATURAL AREA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cayhill Open Space | 5400 Mercer Way | 1.08 | Open Space | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| Clise Park | SE 40th & Island Crest Way | 1.47 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | - | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | 2 |
| Ellis Pond | SE 47th & 90th SE | 4.04 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 |
| Engstrom Open Space | E. Mercer Way | 8.51 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Gallagher Hill | 3701 SE Gallagher Hill Rd | 11.29 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | - | N | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 |
| Hollerbach Open Space | SE 45th St & 91st Ave SE | 5.23 | Open Space | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mercerdale Hillside | 77th Ave SE & SE 32nd St | 18.14 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 3 |
| N Mercerdale Hillside | 7415 SE 27th St | 5.11 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 2 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| Parkwood Ridge Open Space | 9165 Parkwood Ridge Rd | 3.79 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | - | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| Pioneer Park | SE 68th & Island Crest Way | 118.85 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | N | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Salem Woods | 6300 90th Ave SE | 0.32 | Open Space | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| SE 47th Street Open Space | 4701 E Mercer Way | 1.27 | Open Space | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SE 50th Street Open Space | SE 50th Street and Island Crest Way | 1.78 | Open Space | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| SE 53rd Place Open Space | 9100 SE 53rd Pl | 24.01 | Open Space | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | N | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| Upper Luther Burbank Park | 84th Ave SE & SE 33rd St | 18.07 | Open Space | 2 | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| | | 222.96 | Average: | 1.1 | - | - | - | 1.17 | - | 1.44 | 2 | - | - | - | 1.11 | - | 1 | 2.5 |
| STREET ENDS - UNDEVELOPED | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Seashore Landing | | 0.04 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SE 20th St | Faben Point | 0.14 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SE 36th St Landing | | 0.1 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SE 40th St Landing | | 0.03 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SE 45th St Landing | Off Forest Ave | 0.09 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| SE 56th St Landing | 5495 W Mercer Way | 0.21 | Public ROW | 2 | - | 2 | - | 2 | N | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 | 2 |
| SE 72nd St Landing | 9603 SE 72nd Pl | 0.12 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| South Point | 8790 85th Ave SE | 0.03 | Public ROW | - | - | - | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - | 2 | 3 |
| 72nd Ave SE Landing | 1605 72nd Ave SE | 0.17 | Public ROW | - | - | 1 | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 | 3 |
| 74th Ave SE | | 0.05 | Public ROW | - | - | 1 | - | - | N | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | 2 | 3 |
| | | 0.98 | Average: | 2 | - | 1.33 | - | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1.33 | 1.5 | - | 1.75 | 2.75 |

Mercer Island, WA

Park Playground Replacement Schedule

| Site Name | Feature | Ac.* | Park Type | Install Year | Age |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------|----------------|--------------|-----|
| PARKS | | | | | |
| Aubrey Davis Park | Area A | 20.00 | Community | 2011 | 10 |
| | Area B | | | 2007 | 14 |
| Deane's Children's Park | Castle/Swings/Climbing Rock | 3.04 | Neighborhood | 2005 | 16 |
| | Main Play Area/Swings | | | 2012 | 9 |
| | Dragon | | | 2018 | 3 |
| First Hill Park | Tree House Structure | 0.83 | Neighborhood | 2007 | 14 |
| Groveland Beach Park | Composite Structure | 3.07 | Community | 2012 | 9 |
| Homestead Park | Upper Structure/Main Structure | 11.09 | Community | 2012 | 9 |
| Luther Burbank Park | Small Composite Structure, Spring Toys | 54.52 | Regional | 2013 | 8 |
| | Large Composite Structure, Zip Line | | | 2013 | 8 |
| | Small Composite Structure, Spring Toys | | | 2014 | 7 |
| | Community Center Composite Structure | | | 2010 | 11 |
| Mercerdale Park | Train Composite Structure, Spring Toys | 12.17 | Community | 2001 | 20 |
| | Main Composite Structure, Swings | | | 2001 | 20 |
| Roanoke Park | Boat Composite Structure | 1.46 | Neighborhood | 2004 | 17 |
| | Spinami, Swings | | | 2012 | 9 |
| Secret Park | Composite Structure/Swings/Spinners | 0.86 | Mini | 2007 | 14 |
| South Mercer Playfields | Composite Structure, Swings | 17.31 | School/Park/OS | 2018 | 3 |
| | | 124.35 | Average: | | |

Mercer Island 2020 PROS Plan

ADA Conditions Overview

Introduction

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 provides comprehensive civil rights protections to persons with disabilities in the areas of employment, state and local government services, and access to public accommodations, transportation, and telecommunications. The City of Mercer Island is required to comply with ADA Title II and Title III requirements, which are specific to local governments.

The PROS Plan process includes identification of obvious ADA compliance issues, but it does not record or evaluate every item or detail that should be remediated to provide reasonable universal access and meet ADA standards. This general parks conditions assessment will be used, however, to support development of the comprehensive Citywide ADA Transition Plan, which is in early stages of development in 2021.

The information contained in this report should also be used to inform development of PROS Plan goals and policies, including recommendations related to capital projects.

ADA Transition Plan

The City is required to complete a Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (ADA Transition Plan) that will address the requirements of ADA Title II. This plan will be used to identify obstacles limiting accessibility, describe and identify methods to make these obstacles accessible, and plan a schedule to bring City facilities and operations into compliance. Funding for ADA Transition planning work was included in the 2021-2022 biennial budget and will incorporate findings and recommendations from the PROS Plan.

Parks & Recreation and Universal Access

Under federal regulations, when parks and recreation facilities are built or altered, they must comply with the ADA Standards for Accessible Design (ADA Standards), which require inclusion of features such as accessible parking spaces, routes, toilet facilities, public telephones, and spectator seating areas. For parks and facilities that were built or altered before the ADA Standards took effect, local governments must devise ways to make the programs and activities in those parks and facilities accessible to people with disabilities. If a local government decides to modify facilities to provide access to a recreation program or activity and has more than one facility available (such as when several ball fields are provided), only some of the facilities may need to be accessible. (From the ADA website: [Equal Access to Parks and Recreation](#))

Outdoor Developed Areas Accessibility Guidelines (Architectural Barriers Act – ABA) have been established for many of the common elements in public parks. Picnic areas, outdoor access routes, outdoor constructed features and trails are described to ensure accessibility standards are met in parks, viewing areas, and at trailheads. These standards allow for a bit more flexibility compared to the ADA Standards for public buildings and public spaces.

Eliminating barriers is a fundamental premise of the ADA to ensure that individuals with disabilities are provided an equal opportunity to access and use a public facility. Barriers include any obstacles that

prevent or restrict the entrance to or use of a facility. Alterations to older buildings and infrastructure may be needed to ensure accessibility, however, there is a greater obligation to first remedy “readily achievable barrier removal” at public facilities.

A local government is not required to take any actions that will result in a fundamental alteration to the nature of the facility, will create a hazardous condition resulting in a direct threat to the participant or others, or will create an undue financial and administrative burden. If a certain course of action is deemed unduly burdensome, other options should be explored to provide reasonable access to similar benefits.

The Department of Justice ADA Title III regulations for places of public accommodation identify the highest priority as accessibility to the approach and entrance of the public facility. This priority is typically the primary focus for providing barrier-free parks and trails. Access to public restrooms is identified as a Priority 3. Accessible design of the amenities within parks (play equipment, benches, picnic tables, shelters, drinking fountains, etc.) are considered Priority 4.

Existing Conditions

All City of Mercer Island parks, trails, and open space areas assessed during the fall of 2019 had some aspect of non-compliance with the ADA guidelines. This is not a surprise as many of the facilities and amenities were constructed prior to passage of the ADA in 1990 and the development of the ADA Standards in 2010. Based on this assessment, the overall score for ADA compliance for the Mercer Island parks system is rated as fair to poor. Additional details and recommendations regarding ADA compliance issues are described below.



Park System Evaluation Rating of Universal Access & Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act

A summary of the Conditions Assessment and ADA shortfalls is provided in the table below.

Site Conditions Assessment - ADA Shortfalls

| | H/P parking | pkg signs | travel aisles | warning strips | ramps | curb cuts | restrm signs | play access | rec access | trail grade | paved paths | benches | picnic tables | drnkg founts |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|-------|-----------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------|---------------|--------------|
| Aubrey Davis Park | | | | | | | | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Bicentennial Park | | | | | | X | | | | | | | | |
| Clarke Beach Park | | X | X | | | | | | X | X | X | | | X |
| Deane's Children's Park | | | | | | | | X | X | | X | | | |
| First Hill Park | | | | | | | | X | | | | | X | |
| Groveland Beach Park | | | | | | | | | X | X | X | | | |
| Homestead Park | | | X | X | | X | | | | X | X | X | | |
| Island Crest Park | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | |
| Luther Burbank Park | | | X | | | | X | X | X | | X | X | X | |
| Mercerdale Park | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | |
| Roanoke Park | | | | | | | | X | | | | | | |
| Rotary Park | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | |
| SE 28th Street Mini Park | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | |
| Secret Park | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slater Park | | | | | | X | | | X | | X | | | |
| South Mercer Playfields | | | | | | | | X | X | | | | | |
| Wildwood Park | | | | | | | | | X | | | | | |

X - denotes a visible non-compliant ADA feature was noted

Captured ADA non-compliant issues highlighted above should not be considered as an ADA audit of site conditions.

Parking & Entrances

The parks conditions assessment evaluated park entrances including the availability and accessibility of ADA parking, marked travel aisles, curb cuts or ramps, tactile warning strips, and designated signage. Issues were noted at many parks related to these requirements including improper installation or the absence of these features altogether. In several developed street end public spaces, ADA access and parking is feasible, but no designated parking space was provided. The total number of ADA parking spaces at each facility was not evaluated but should be reviewed as part of the Citywide ADA Transition Plan.

Accessible Routes

Within each park, paved and unpaved pathways connect different park features and amenities. Pathways provide perimeter routes for walking and links to shelters, tables, benches, sports courts, playgrounds, and other park resources. A significant quantity of pavement cracks, mostly caused by tree root upheavals, were noted in many parks. Gaps between pavement surface changes, such as asphalt pathway to decking, occurred in parks where boardwalks or docks were aging. The need for detectible warning strips was observed where paved pathways enter traffic or parking areas was noted at some park and trail facilities.

Site Furnishings

Site furnishings such as picnic tables, benches, trash receptacles, dog waste dispensers, and drinking fountains need to have accessible routes. The ADA guidelines recommend that at least 50% of each amenity type should be located on an accessible path and designed as ADA-compliant. Many picnic tables and benches in Mercer Island parks were not accessible. The degree of compliance varied from park to park, but most parks will benefit from providing consistent picnic tables with paved access and wheelchair seating and benches with full backs and armrests. Older drinking fountains often lack universal access and should be phased out with ADA-compliant fixtures as they are replaced.

Playgrounds

Mercer Island playgrounds do not meet ADA or universal accessibility requirements. Containment methods, such as timber edging, or safety surfacing like engineered wood fiber, present a barrier to persons with mobility challenges and/or wheelchair use. The timbers used to retain the wood chips blocked smooth transition from pathways or the curbs containing wood chips created drop-off heights that were barriers. Most of the playground equipment itself is not accessible.

CONSULTANT FIELD NOTES & OBSERVATIONS OF MERCER ISLAND PARKS SYSTEM

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Consultant field visits to all Mercer Island parks, trails and open space areas were completed in 2019 prior to the PROS Plan project being suspended in early 2020. Review of this document is still underway to ensure changes that have occurred since 2019 are accounted for and reflected in the final PROS Plan.



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AUBREY DAVIS PARK

91.81 acres

72nd SE & SE 22nd

Regional Park

Amenities

- Baseball fields (2)
- Basketball courts (2 full court)
- BBQs
- Benches
- Bike racks
- Bleachers
- Boat launch
- Bocce/petanque courts (2)
- Drinking fountains
- Formal landscaping
- Formal plaza
- Local trails
- Mountains to Sound Regional Trail
- Open grass areas
- Paved pathways
- Picnic shelter
- Picnic tables
- Picnic tables with chess-checkers boards
- Play structures (2)
- Public art
- Restrooms (1)
- Soccer/lacrosse field (1)
- Tennis courts (4)
- Water Trail trailhead



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- ADP Master Plan was adopted in 2019. Recommendations from the adopted Master Plan should be assimilated into capital planning.
- Owned primarily by WSDOT. Decision-making is a joint effort for operational considerations.
- Three primary vegetation management strategies from the Master Plan include 1.) Intensive soil amendments and replanting for high visibility areas; 2.) Infill plantings in lower visibility areas; and 3.) Modification of non-active recreation lawn areas to capture reduced maintenance and lower water use needs.
- Trail improvements through Aubrey Davis Park focus on re-establishing sight lines and clear zones along the existing Mountains to Sound Trail, renovating the trail in conjunction with the sewer upgrade project, improving trail safety for all trail users and integrating wayfinding along the corridor. New trail connections for ADA access to existing amenities is also recommended.
- Two new amenities are proposed in the Master Plan: an off-leash area (in the open space around the stacks) and a second restroom (near the soccer fields &

(cont.)

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playground along West Mercer Way). An improved shoreline access area on the east end of the Park is also recommended.

- In addition to the Master Plan recommendations, consider working with WSDOT to paint the exhaust stacks and massive concrete wall at the basketball courts.
- The boat launch at the east end of Aubrey Davis Park is a water trailhead, so consider park signage that is oriented to the water in conjunction with Master Plan recommendations for shoreline access development at this location.
- A rowing facility opportunity could be included at the boat launch.
- Implement trail safety projects per the Master Plan.



Maintenance Considerations

- All natural grass areas look excellent.
- Tennis courts have minor cracks that likely do not affect play yet, but should be monitored.
- A few of the benches at the western most playfield are degraded and should be replaced.
- All of the bike racks are “wheel benders” and should be replaced according to the Master Plan’s recommendations.
- Drainage issues exist where catch basins need to be reset or regraded.
- Irrigation is showing wear and tear. Valve clusters and supply lines fail periodically. Irrigation is not as effective as it could be. Consider a better system for heads that don’t break.
- The Master Plan revealed long-term needs for managing tree cover and the urban forest canopy. These needs should be addressed.
- Bollards should be removed.
- Pavement heaving and roots are a concern on the trails.
- Pay to park (phone app) at the boat launch is being instituted this year, remove ticket machine.



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BICENTENNIAL PARK

0.10 acres

Mini Park

Corner of 77th Ave SE and SE 32nd Street

Amenities

- Drinking fountain
- Flagpole
- Landscape beds
- Open grass area
- Park identification sign
- Plaza
- Trail connection to stairway to Mercerdale Park & Open Space



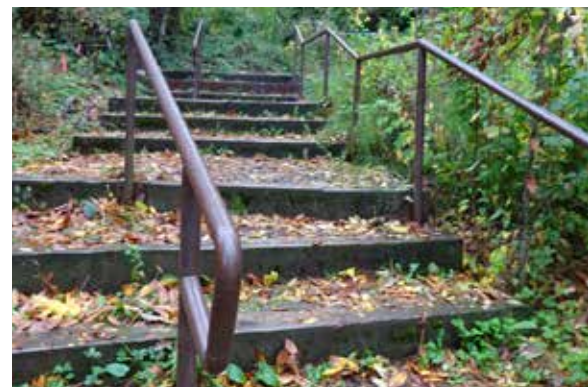
Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- An updated Master Plan for Bicentennial Park and Mercerdale Park should be done jointly.
- Irrigation for grass areas would improve natural turf management.



Maintenance Considerations

- Install wayfinding sign at base of stairway leading into Mercerdale Open Space to provide directional information.
- Ornamental shrub plantings at base of flagpole are outgrowing their planting bed. Replacement of planting area with new planting design could enhance the sense of place.



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CLARKE BEACH PARK

9.05 acres

Community Park

E. Mercer Way at SE 77th Pl

Amenities

- Benches
- Certified wildlife habitat (and restoration area)
- Dog waste bag dispensers
- Drinking fountain
- Fishing pier
- Lighting
- Natural forested slopes
- Open grass area
- Parking
- Paved pathways
- Picnic tables
- Public swimming area
- Public waterfront access
- Restrooms
- Sand play area
- Swimming pier
- Trash receptacles
- Water trailhead



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Armored waterfront swim area could be redesigned (as swim pier soon needs to be removed or replaced) to become a more naturalized waterfront with a restored shoreline.
- Restrooms (1974) are showing their age and should be evaluated for eventual replacement. If shoreline of park is reconfigured for more natural waterfront, lower impact restroom facilities may be more appropriate.
- Provide a bike rack at the parking lot.
- Additional BBQs could be installed if warranted by demand.
- Opportunity to repurpose the round sand pit at the north end of the site into additional picnic tables and grass.
- Consider replacing the concrete steps along the swimming area with beach material.
- Provide ADA accessibility at both picnic areas and docks by eliminating lips and paving the path to the fishing dock.
- Install directional signs at trail intersections.

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- An additional soft surface trail is possible at the south end of the site connecting the fishing dock and the parking lot.
- Clarke Beach Park is a water trailhead, so consider wayfinding signage that is oriented to the water.
- Swimming pier rail is patched and disintegrating. Likely the entire pier structure is compromised and should be replaced. Swim enclosure is falling apart, does not qualify for permits to repair because of salmon habitat issues.

Maintenance Considerations

- Second ADA parking stall does not have marked travel lane to access pathway entry. One ADA parking sign missing.
- Numerous pavement cracks along pathway from swim pier to fishing pier need repair.
- The parking lot has two older globe lights that may not provide adequate illumination and need cleaning. Consider replacing the globe lights with cut-off type lighting fixtures to reduce light pollution and provide additional fixtures at the paths to the beach.
- Sandy alluvium that appears to have come from the bank below E Mercer Way was present on the west side of parking lot.
- The drinking fountain at the upper picnic area does not work, so should be replaced or removed.
- The drinking fountain at the restroom is damaged and needs to be replaced.
- Much of the site is still covered in English ivy and blackberry. Restoration efforts should continue.
- Native plant management was observed at the south and north ends of the site. Entire site has received vegetation management.
- Both asphalt trails from the parking lot have excessive cross slopes due to slumping of the downhill edge subgrade.
- One of the three timber picnic tables in the upper picnic area has excessive longitudinal pitch and should be replaced.
- If restrooms stay, they should be renovated and fitted with automatic locks on timers.
- Install raw water irrigation in the lake.





DEANE'S CHILDREN'S PARK

3.04 acres

Neighborhood Park

5500 Island Crest Way

Amenities

- Adventure playground
- Bathroom
- Benches
- Bike rack
- Climbing rock
- Dragon play structure
- Excavator
- Paved pathways
- Peace pole
- Picnic shelter
- Picnic tables (5, plus 1 ADA)
- Play structures (3)
- Swings (toddler and child)
- Trails
- Xylophones (2)



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Children access Island Park Elementary School by foot and bike through the site, so consider extending the asphalt trail from the parking lot to the gate in the fence on the south side of the school. This is consistent with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plan, which calls for upgrading the existing soft surface path from the southwest corner of the park to Island Park Elementary School into a shared use path (Project S3).
- The excavator should be moved to a more visible location and set in soil that is conducive to digging. Its current location is somewhat obscured by vegetation and the soil appears to be too compacted for kids to excavate.
- Many of the thresholds into the play structures have lips that preclude ADA access.
- The storage building next to the picnic shelter is unsightly and should be replaced.

Maintenance Considerations

- There is a short concrete path around the trees south of the main play structure that is partially obscured by vegetation, which could be cleared.
- The play structures are in good condition, but many of the wood borders surrounding them are leaning outward or in disrepair.
- The roof and skylights of the picnic shelter should be cleaned.
- Swings should be replaced (2020).

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FIRST HILL PARK

0.83 acres

Neighborhood Park

SE 32nd & 72nd SE

Amenities

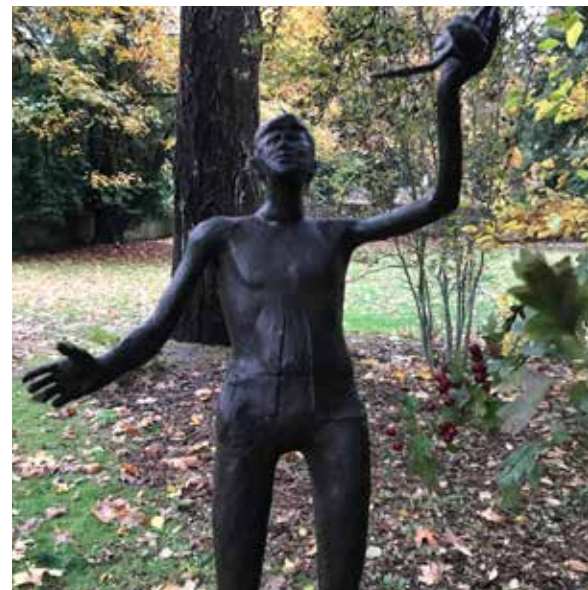
- Backstop
- Half-court basketball court
- Picnic table
- Play structure
- Public art (sculpture)
- Slide
- Small grass field
- Swings (2)

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- This is a flat site, so ADA access could be improved relatively easily.
- The asphalt surface of the half-court basketball court is mildly wavy and should be replaced.

Maintenance Considerations

- The top bar on the backstop needs adjusting and the chain link fence is curling at the base.
- The wood headers around the play structure are broken in places.
- The picnic table is not ADA compliant, is rotting and should be replaced.
- The planting around the edges of the park could be thinned and cleaned up.
- Grass is worn under trees and around play structures.
- Douglas fir trees need periodic assessment. Some evidence of latent root disease.
- Big slide needs a stairway and better fall protection, prevent access under slide.
- The rim on the basketball hoop is slightly askew and needs a new net.



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GROVELAND BEACH PARK

3.07 acres

Community Park

SE 58th & 80th Ave SE

Amenities

- BBQ (1)
- Benches (3)
- Bulkhead
- Dock
- Drinking fountains (2)
- Grass area
- Paved parking
- Picnic tables (4)
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Shower
- Staircase to shoreline
- Swimming beach
- Volleyball court with two backless benches
- Water trailhead



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to replace play structure with something interesting and inspiring, such as a pyramidal rope structure affording better water views and/or a zip line.
- Consider adding additional BBQs.
- Consider installing a bike rack at the parking lot.
- Groveland Beach Park is a water trailhead, so consider park signage that is oriented to the water.
- The trail to the north upper picnic area is steep and moderately eroded; consider improvement opportunities.
- The main asphalt path to the beach is steep (28% slope). The downhill edge of the path is beginning to slump in places. Repair as needed.
- The concrete slabs comprising the dock surface are uneven in places resulting in lips between panels that may exceed ADA thresholds. Long-term dock replacement strategy is needed.
- Install raw water irrigation intake in lake.

Maintenance Considerations

- The two upper picnic tables are in poor condition and should be replaced.
- The chain gate at the top of the asphalt path is closed, forcing foot traffic over a curb and grass area and prohibiting wheeled access. Replace with bollard.
- The sand from the volleyball court has migrated beyond the frame of the court down the bank toward the water, which is not a problem per se but may require more frequent replacement of sand.
- A clay subsurface drainpipe is exposed by the concrete wall at the beach and should be repaired.

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HOMESTEAD PARK

11.09 acres

SE 40th & 82nd

Community Park

Amenities

- Baseball fields (2)/Soccer field, seasonal (1)
- Basketball courts (1 half courts)
- Bathrooms
- Benches
- Bike rack
- Drinking fountain (ADA)
- Paved Parking
- Play structure
- Public art (sculpture)
- Tennis courts (4)
- Trails



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- The asphalt basketball court pad seems excessively large so could be broken into a separate basketball court and other smaller surfaces (e.g. for foursquare).
- With reduction of the asphalt pad at the basketball courts, picnic tables and BBQs could be provided between the restroom and the basketball courts.
- Opportunity to develop a loop trail through the wooded area on the south side of the park. This area could offer environmental education for West Mercer Elementary School.
- The top of the hill at the parking lot offers great prospect, but only has one bench. Consider providing additional seating overlooking the park.
- Provide additional bike racks at the baseball fields.
- Install park signage at south, west and northwest entries.
- 2002 Master Plan (by Bruce Dees) recommendations included additional circulation through ADA-compliant paved pathways and a picnic area along the edge of the paved pathway at the woodland edge.

Maintenance Considerations

- The brick pad at the two half benches near the northeast corner of the park needs repair. This seating arrangement works nice for ADA accommodation, with a space between the two benches for a wheelchair, but the adjacent shrubs limit access around the benches.
- The parking lot has ADA spaces; however, the access aisles lead to a gravel path that has moderate lips at asphalt path edges. The curb ramp is abrupt and does not have a detectable warning. Consider paving the path along the west edge of the parking lot.
- Both asphalt paths leading down the bank from the parking lot have some cracks and root heave.
- The play structure edging has lips that preclude ADA access.
- Ponding was observed on the southwest baseball field (foul territory, third base side).

Some cracking and root heave observed on the asphalt path on the west side of the park.



ISLAND CREST PARK

38.91 acres

Community Park

5500 Island Crest Way

Amenities

- Baseball fields (seasonal soccer & football)
- Batting cage (structure)
- BBQ(1)
- Benches (2 at tennis)
- Bike rack
- Bleachers
- Concession stand
- Dog waste bag dispensers (2)
- Drinking fountains
- Parking
- Paved pathways
- Picnic tables (5)
- Restroom
- Synthetic turf field
- Tennis courts (2)
- Trails



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to convert the south baseball field infield and outfield to synthetic turf.
- Some of the passages between and behind the ball field bleachers may not meet ADA minimum clearances. Consider new seating / ADA approach.
- The network of walking trails could be branded and signed to improve wayfinding, particularly at park entry points.
- The walking trails access several higher quality forest environments that could benefit from benches and branding (e.g. “The Fern Garden” or “Ravine Vista”).
- The picnic tables at the baseball fields would benefit from a couple of BBQs and ADA access from the concrete walkway.
- Grades are relatively mild on the walking trails, so an ADA accessible trail or loop should be considered.
- No dedicated pedestrian or bicycle access exists between the Island Crest Way trail and the sidewalk within the park. Consider creating shoulders along the entrance drive for bicycles and pedestrians.
- Note that the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Plan calls for upgrading the existing soft surface path from the southwest corner of the park to Island Park Elementary School into a shared use path (Project S3).
- Resurface tennis courts to repair cracking.

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- Add safety railings to existing open bleachers or replace with newer bleachers that comply with International Building Code for safety.

Maintenance Considerations

- The low bridge in the walking trail area is in good condition, but one of the railings is leaning moderately. The bridge is also not ADA accessible due to excessive gap width between the planks.
- Vegetation management occurring in the natural areas. Over 30 acres of parkland is managed as open space.



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LUTHER BURBANK PARK

54.52 acres

72nd SE & SE 22nd

Regional Park

Amenities

- Waterfront access & beach
- Park and Rec administration bldg.
- Parking (2 lots)
- Restrooms
- Amphitheater
- Tennis courts
- Playgrounds
- Paved pathways
- Picnic tables some with umbrellas
- BBQ grills
- Benches
- Trash & recycling receptacles
- Dog waste bag dispensers
- Flagpole
- Lighting
- Drinking fountains
- Off-leash dog areas (large & small)
- Dairy barn ruins
- Open grass lawns
- Shade trees
- Natural areas
- Boardwalk
- Observation platform
- Interpretive signs
- Wayfinding maps
- Kiosk
- Public art
- Peace pole
- Wall mural (@ tennis courts)
- Mosaic at playground
- Main entry pergola walkway
- Water trailhead



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Restrooms appear like concrete bomb shelters – not very inviting. As restroom facility ages and dictates replacement, consider building designs with more natural light.
- Pier replacements could provide opportunity to design for better ADA compliance. Dock re-design project underway.
- The bulk of picnic tables and picnic groves are not universally accessible. Provide some additional pathways to ADA-compliant tables (cited as need in 2006 Master Plan).
- 2006 Master Plan recommendations yet to be completed:
 - South entry improvements - kayak/canoe boat launch with path & dock
 - Source Area - pathway, irrigation & drainage improvements
 - Expanded Swim Beach - with new restroom/lifeguard building, added sand play area and volleyball court

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- Main Entry improvements – pavement treatment and overlook addition
 - Campus Area – new recreational amenities, covered group picnic shelter, maintenance yard upgrades, entry road enhancements
 - Dock/Boiler Building Area – pier restoration, improved access, rowing/boating facility ‘shell’ house, improved shoreline beach access, security & utilities upgrades
 - Shoreline – improved vegetation management, environmental learning & wayfinding components
 - Amphitheater – replacement of aging infrastructure & terracing
 - Off-Leash Areas – addition of covered shelter & benches
 - Calkins Point – addition of covered shelter & art installations
- Proposed 2006 Master Plan spatial layout of the West Hill P-patch gardens should be modified to accommodate the current (working) garden plot alignments. Buffer planting enhancements and loop pathways could remain as future improvements but with modified alignments.
 - Fishing pier is not universally accessible. Planned trail/pathway improvements will improve better ADA access. Piers have been evaluated by marine engineer for safety and timing of needed replacement (reported in 2014 overwater structures assessment).
 - Moorage was built in 1974. Over 40 years old, the piers and entire structures should be scheduled for replacement. Re-design project is underway.
 - Tennis court is wavy. DA Hogan report indicates need for full repaving. Consider whether other recreational amenities could share or replace the tennis courts which currently have chronic drainage problems due to elevation.
 - Boiler Building study 2017 calls for seismic retrofits, new roof as Phase 1. Phase 2 is conversion to office and classroom for small boat facility.



Maintenance Considerations

- ADA parking at south parking lot lacks striped travel aisle for 2nd stall.
- Pavement cracks along pathway to south parking lot.
- ADA access barrier into fire engine play area at entry.
- Erosion at south beach area where waves hit edges of armored walls, paths and steps.
- Edge of paved plaza at Boiler Building is failing and roped off. Repairs underway.
- Restroom signs are not ADA-compliant. Add uniform gender designations with ADA signs.
- Beavers have gnawed at Lombardy poplar trunks, weakening tree structure. Plan for removal and replacement with native Pacific NW tree species.
- Playground needs two new pieces.
- Source landform sculpture needs some restoration.
- Add raw water irrigation intake to water Calkins Point and south beach.

Continue restoration of 84th slope and wetlands and Hawthorn Hill forest.



MERCERDALE PARK

12.17 acres

Community Park

SE 32nd St & 78th Ave SE

Amenities

- Benches
- Bike rack
- Drinking fountain
- Exercise stations
- Memorials (Trees, pavers, etc.)
- Native garden
- Natural area
- Open grass lawn
- Ornamental landscapes
- Park signs
- Paved loop pathway
- Peace pole
- Pergola
- Picnic tables with umbrellas
- Playground
- Plaza
- Public art
- Recycling center
- Restrooms
- Shade trees
- Sizzling Water garden
- Skate park
- Trash receptacles



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Side entrance pathways into park would benefit from park identification signage (smaller signs).
- Playground equipment should be replaced. Project is underway.
- Plan for replacement of Callery pear trees in 'Bosque' arrangement in plaza. When tree species is selected for replacement, native tree species should be chosen. If opportunity arises, soil-root zone for planting pit should be expanded to support longer life for trees.
- Opportunity for stormwater enhancement planting in drainage swale near Thrift Shop parking.
- Recycling Center and Native Plant Garden need integrated plan. Native plant garden is planted on Groco biosolids over native glacially-compacted fine textured strata. Plant performance is inadequate for a representative native plant garden as a result. Adjacent hillside shows similar low performance in native vegetation.
- Storage building showing signs of age. Downspouts need repair. Fixtures in restrooms replaced in 2010. Bathroom roof being replaced 2020.

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- Original Master Plan done in 2001 and should be updated. Integrate planning with Bicentennial Park.

Maintenance Considerations

- Plantings should consider heavily impacted soils from excavation and grading. Dense glacially-compacted fine textured soils without organic matter or profile development.
- Sweetgum tree stump that is suckering could be trained to a multi-stemmed tree if suckers are thinned.
- Hedge of strawberry trees should be pruned away from backs of benches in plaza area – or benches should be shifted away from hedge encroachment. Hedge is also beginning to encroach into side entrance walkway.
- Callery (Bradford) pears are beginning to outgrow iron grates. Plan for grate replacement to allow tree trunk growth (or eventual replacement with preferred tree species). Uneven grate edges present tripping hazard.
- Exercise stations are not ADA compliant due to uneven paved surfaces and edging.
- Park and skate park signage needs updating.



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ROANOKE PARK

1.46 acres

Neighborhood Park

70th Ave SE & W Mercer Way

Amenities

- Art piece totem
- Benches
- Drinking fountain
- Gravel parking (2 spaces)
- Native trees
- Open grass area
- Play structures (Climbing, rope, swing)
- Tennis court (1)



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Install a park sign (none exists) and a bike rack
- Installation of a timber rail along the top of the slope along W Mercer Way would help define the west edge of the lower portion of the park and help prevent young children from venturing too close to the road.
- The shrubs along the east side of the tennis court could be removed and replaced with grass to create a more open feel and forgiving edge for errant tennis balls and provide a place for people to watch or wait. New backed benches could be located near the tennis court.
- Install new stairs leading to the tennis court.
- In the lower part of the park, a maple and a fir tree are conjoined at the base, which is an interesting natural feature that could be celebrated with signage or ground plane design.
- The wood frames around the play structures are coming apart and leaning outward in places. The playground should be reevaluated for replacement.
- There is no ADA access.



Maintenance Considerations

- The tennis court has a lot of cracks, but all are narrow.
- The top tape on the tennis net is frayed needs to be replaced.
- The steps leading to the tennis court are degraded and should be replaced.
- The grass has a few bald spots but is generally fine.

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ROTARY PARK

4.83 acres

88th SE & SE 44th

Neighborhood Park

Amenities

- Benches
- Emergency well
- Open grass areas
- Park ID sign
- Paved pathways
- Peace pole
- Perimeter loop trail
- Picnic table
- Rock garden
- Shade trees
- Trails
- Trash receptacles



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- The park has a central 'plaza' area with 2 benches facing the 'rock garden'. The picnic table is outside the central area and open to the street. Some picnic tables or small picnic shelter could be added to the central open area in the park to create a place that's more comfortable to gather.
- The isolated picnic table is not connected to the paved pathway and does not meet ADA guidelines. A paved path could be added to the table or another picnic table (within a small shelter) could be added to the central open area to meet the 50% minimum for ADA site furnishings.
- Replace benches with the same style bench so that they match.

Maintenance Considerations

- None noted.

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SE 28TH STREET MINI PARK

0.06 acres

SE 28th Street

Mini Park

Amenities

- Bench
- Open grass area



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Consider the future opportunity to provide ADA access to bench with a paved trail.
- This site might benefit from a design for a more functional park.
- Opportunity to reestablish the view that may have existed from this park.
- The Aubrey Davis Park master plan calls for a staircase to connect from the lid to somewhere near this location.



Maintenance Considerations

- Slab stairs are uneven and likely do not meet code. Remove stairs and develop a paved path that connects to the sidewalk at the far southeast corner of the site.
- This site may have afforded a nice view of the water and mountains at one point, but the trees have grown and blocked the view. Consider selectively thinning to open up the view.



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SECRET PARK

0.86 acres

SE 27th &W Mercer Way

Mini Park

Amenities

- Play structure
- Swings
- Picnic table (not ADA)
- Small grass area



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Install a park sign at the north, open end of the site.
- Trails need some design. Entire park should undergo site design (mini-master plan) to determine what recreational amenities could be added and how trails or pathways should be configured.
- There is no parking for this park. Add ADA parking.
- Consider installing a zip line.

Maintenance Considerations

- The one trail is primitive and overgrown.
- The site is thick with underbrush.
- Big fir trees need monitoring.

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SLATER PARK

0.68 acres

2835 60th Place SE

Mini Park

Amenities

- Benches
- Bike rack
- Dog waste bag dispenser
- Interpretive signs
- Open grass area
- Paved Parking (2 regular, 2 ADA)
- Public art (moss sculpture)



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Remove hedge between the upper and lower grass terraces for CPTED and to improve views of the water from the upper terrace.
- Opportunity to improve access to the water by sectioning the existing log breakwater to create openings along the beach and repositioning the log sections the closer to the bank to increase the beach area and create pocket beaches.
- Needs a landscape plan and renovation planting.



Maintenance Considerations

- The bench closest to the water is missing a slat.
- The bike rack is bent slightly.
- The parking lot has two ADA spaces but there is not a curb cut at the end of the aisle and the adjacent walkway pavement has a lip that precludes ADA access.
- Stamped asphalt walkway surface is rough in places and not ADA friendly. Consider replacing with a smooth walkway material, such as concrete.
- ADA picnic table, but inadequate path access.
- Cut back hedge at concrete stairway.



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SOUTH MERCER PLAYFIELDS

17.31 acres

School / Park

SE 78th & 84th SE

Amenities

- Baseball/softball fields: (three 60' fields with synthetic turf infield, one 90'(?) field with dirt infield)
- BBQ (1)
- Benches (2)
- Bike rack (1)
- Bleachers
- Concession stand
- Indoor batting cage (structure)
- Parking
- Paved pathways
- Picnic tables (2)
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Seasonal soccer and lacrosse fields



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- If the school district is willing to increase the recreational amenities on the site, the open area in the southeast corner of the site can accommodate additional program elements, such as: a half or full court basketball court, skate spot, P-patch, expansion of the playground, or expanded picnic area with BBQs and a shelter.
- Opportunity to upgrade the northwest baseball field by constructing covered dugouts and installing synthetic turf in the infield.
- Currently the only pedestrian access from the sidewalk/path along SE 78th Street to the site is through the parking lot. Consider installing a sidewalk connection around southwest corner of the parking lot.
- Small park signs could be installed at each entrance.
- Islander Middle School could use more bike parking, as bikes are spilling out onto the track.
- Cottonwoods are not an appropriate tree for this site. Replacement should be plated via a landscape plan.

Maintenance Considerations

- The playground is not ADA accessible due to a lip at the entry gate and unsuitable surfacing.
- The northwest baseball field spectator area is not ADA accessible.
- The foul poles on field #1 should be integrated with the outfield fence, not behind it.
- One of the two aluminum bleachers at the synthetic field south of Islander Middle School is badly dented.

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WILDWOOD PARK

2.84 acres

Neighborhood Park

7400 86th Ave SE

Amenities

- Bench (1)
- Book exchange box
- Dog waste bag dispenser
- Natural areas
- Open grass area
- Peace Pole
- Picnic table (1)
- Trails
- Trash receptacles (2)

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Amenity area could be more defined, with crushed rock surface in lieu of spotty grass.
- Opportunity for an ADA accessible soft surface perimeter path along 86th Ave SE and around the grass area connecting to the amenities.
- Consider an ADA trail connection from Island Crest Way to 86th Ave SE.
- No ADA access to picnic table or other parts of the park.
- Consider park sign on Island Crest Way frontage.

Maintenance Considerations

- Grass is spotty by picnic area.
- Evidence of moles digging holes in the grass near the picnic table.
- Short, 30" wide boardwalk is in good condition.
- Lots off-leash dog walking/play/fetching observed (weekday morning).
- All amenities in good condition.
- Soft surface trails are relatively smooth except for a few locations with roots.
- Two trash receptacles, but no recycling.



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CAYHILL OPEN SPACE

1.08 acres

5400 Mercer Way

Open Space

Amenities

- None

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- None.

Maintenance Considerations

- The site is steep and overgrown. Trash has been dumped into the ravine along the south edge of the site.
- Vegetation management for canopy retention.



CLISE PARK

1.47 acres

SE 40th & Island Crest Way

Open Space

Amenities

- Trail

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- The site is centrally located and has high visibility from Island Crest Way and SE 40th Street, as an open space more amenities may not be warranted. If the demand for more developed park spaces should grow, this site could be developed into more high profile park.
- Potential for an art installation or earthwork.

Maintenance Considerations

- The park sign is at the intersection of Island Crest Way and SE 40th Street has lots of clutter around it. Consider moving the sign away from the intersection toward the SE 40th Street path junction.



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ELLIS POND PARK

4.04 acres

90th Avenue SE

Open Space

Amenities

- Benches
- Boardwalk
- 'Don't feed ducks' signs
- Natural area/ certified wildlife habitat
- Park Sign
- Pond
- Trails
- Trash receptacles

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity for environmental interpretation signs about habitat and water treatment.
- Wayfinding trail signs could help identify location and directional information.

Maintenance Considerations

- Connection to boardwalk from path has barrier to ADA access. Trail needs more crushed rock surfacing to remove grade difference.
- Root intrusions occurring along trail.
- Boundary definition with adjacent residences may be an issue. Encroachment should be evaluated.



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ENGSTROM OPEN SPACE

8.5 acres

E. Mercer Way

Open Space

Amenities

- Benches
- Bridge
- Map sign
- Restoration areas
- Trail network
- Trail signs

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Trail network could benefit from wayfinding signage system by providing locational and directional information to trail users.
- Interpretive signage about restoration efforts and the value of management of healthy forests could be added in key locations.

Maintenance Considerations

- Timber stairs, retaining walls, bridge, turnpike, and other trail structures require regular monitoring to repair settling, shifting, rotting wood, etc.



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GALLAGHER HILL OPEN SPACE

11.29 acres

3701 SE Gallagher Hill Rd

Open Space

Amenities

- Bridges
- Pea Patch (unofficial)
- Park sign
- Trail

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Explore the feasibility of developing a trail connection up the ravine to the top of SE Gallagher Hill Road or through the SE 36th Street ROW on the west side of the site.

Maintenance Considerations

- The trail crosses two small drainages. One crossing has a small culvert, the capacity of which has recently been exceeded, as the trail at this location has been slightly washed out.
- The two bridges are in good condition but have a slight lip where they meet grade.



HOLLERBACH OPEN SPACE

5.23 acres

Open Space

SE 45th St & 91st Ave SE

Amenities

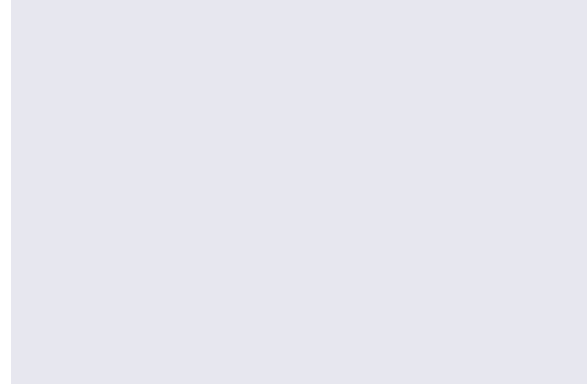
- None

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Potential trail system has had scoping and geotechnical evaluation.

Maintenance Considerations

- Managed as open space.



MERCERDALE HILLSIDE OPEN SPACE

18.59 acres

Open Space

Amenities

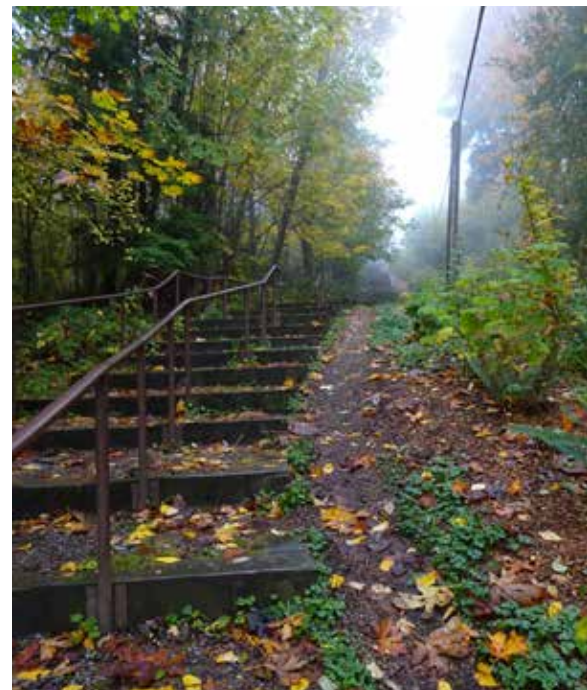
- Trail system
- Natural area
- Timber stairways
- Handrails
- Restoration areas
- Bike rack
- Benches
- Bollards
- Signs
- Certified wildlife habitat

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Trail network could benefit from wayfinding signage system by providing locational and directional information to trail users.

Maintenance Considerations

- Extensive sets of timber stairways require regular inspection and monitoring to ensure adequate tread stability. Some stair sections could be evaluated to be unnecessary where trail gradient does not require built steps. Removal of unnecessary stairways could help reduce burden of constant monitoring, repair and replacement. Some timber stairways should have crushed stone tread areas filled to compensate for settling.
- Managed as open space.



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NORTH MERCERDALE HILLSIDE OPEN SPACE

5.11 acres

Open Space

7415 SE 27th St

Amenities

- Benches
- Bridge
- Handrails
- Timber stairways
- Trails



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to develop additional trails at the north end of the site.
- Consider installing additional benches.
- Only one of the four entrances to this site has a park sign. Park signs should be added to each entrance.
- Internal wayfinding signs would be beneficial.

Maintenance Considerations

- Many of the stairways need replacing due to extremely slippery treads, settling of interior tread fill.
- Many of the posts for stair handrails are split and/or rotting; handrails may not meet code.
- Vegetation is thick and has invasive plants in many locations.
- No dedicated parking apparent at this site.
- Trails are in good condition, but in some locations have excessive cross slope (e.g. 75th Ave SE trail intersection with SE 29th Street stairs).

PARKWOOD RIDGE OPEN SPACE

3.79 acres

Open Space

9165 Parkwood Ridge Rd

Amenities

- Trail
- Park signs at top and bottom

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- This open space could be part of a loop with SE 53rd Street Open Space through the use of on-street wayfinding system.
- The trail could use a bench or two for resting and enjoying the natural setting.

Maintenance Considerations

- The lower park sign is split horizontally and separated from the bottom two lag screws.
- The trail is well built and in excellent condition.
- Managed as open space.



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PIONEER PARK

188.85 acres

Open Space

Island Crest Way & SE 68th St

Amenities

- Benches
- Dog waste bag dispensers
- Interpretive signs
- Kiosk
- Limited on-street parking
- Park signage with maps
- Picnic tables
- Port-a-potty
- Public art (totem)
- Restoration areas
- Trail network consists of paved pathways, crushed stone trails & natural trails
- Trash receptacles
- Wayfinding signs



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Trail network could benefit from wayfinding signage system by providing locational and directional information to trail users.
- Consider trail lighting on the paved trail (access for all).
- Signs with Pioneer Park and Engstrom Open Space maps provide some directional information, but numerous trail intersections are unmarked. Small metal map signs at some intersections are not intuitive since the “you are here” marker is the same screw top as the corner screws.
- Master Plan 2001 recommendations also included trail improvements, viewpoints, street crossings, interpretive signage, boundary marking and landscape enhancements.
- Laminated root rot (*Armillaria*) management plan needed.

Maintenance Considerations

- Aging interpretive signs should be scheduled for replacement.
- Some timber stairways require regular inspection and monitoring to ensure adequate tread stability. Some stair sections could be evaluated to be unnecessary where trail gradient does not require built steps. Removal of unnecessary stairways could help reduce burden of constant monitoring, repair and replacement.
- Address erosion around ravine bridge.
- Restoration work continues per extensive history of planning and reinvestment.
- Conflicts between roots and trails create ongoing maintenance.
- Periodic replacement of log furniture in kiosk area.
- Donation benches plan/policy. 2001 Master Plan recommended a standard bench type.
- Trail decommission/reroutes based on ongoing trail assessments.

Remove parking above (east of) curb on 84th.

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SALEM WOODS OPEN SPACE

0.32 acres

6300 90th Ave SE

Open Space



Amenities

- None

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Potential trailhead to Pioneer Park/Engstrom with easements on adjacent property.

Maintenance Considerations

- Steep slope covered in ivy.

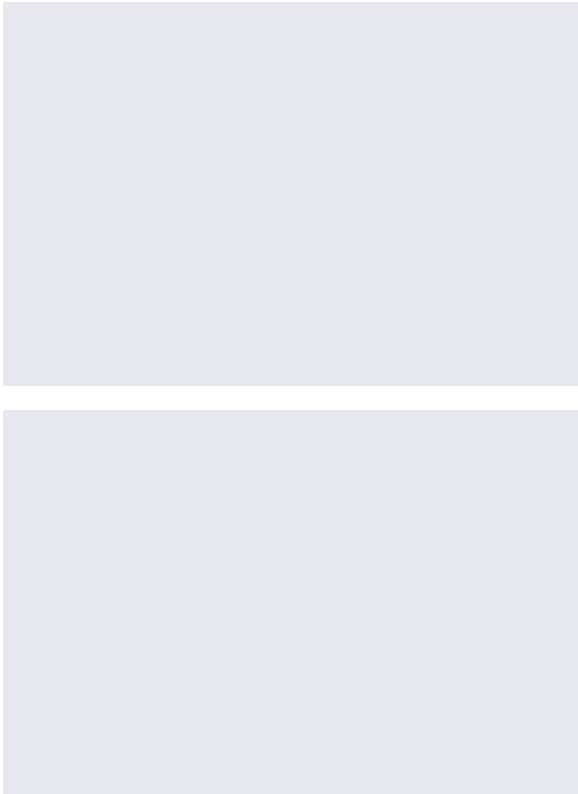
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SE 47TH STREET OPEN SPACE

1.27 acres

4701 E Mercer Way

Open Space



Amenities

- None

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Potential trail connecting to 91st Ave SE identified in 2010 ped bike plan project C12.

Maintenance Considerations

- Managed as open space.

SE 50TH STREET OPEN SPACE

1.78 acres

Open Space

SE 50th Street and Island Crest Way

Amenities

- None

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- A trail connection from 88th Avenue SE at the north end of the side to Island Crest Way may be possible, but this ravine is steep and overgrown.

Maintenance Considerations

- A rogue trail appears to access the south end of this open space below the residence at 5030 88th Ave SE.
- Managed as open space.



SE 53RD STREET OPEN SPACE

24.01 acres

Open Space

9100 SE 53rd Pl

Amenities

- Trails
- Benches
- Gravel parking (on road shoulder)

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to install additional benches at scenic locations.
- Trail intersections would benefit from wayfinding signs.
- Create a protected walkway from the parking area at the bottom of SE 53rd Street to the trailhead on E Mercer Way.
- The trail could be part of a loop with Parkwood Ridge Open Space through the use of on-street wayfinding system.

Maintenance Considerations

- Existing stairs are in good condition.
- Existing bench is worn and spartan. Consider replacing with a more rustic timber bench.
- Managed as open space.



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UPPER LUTHER BURBANK PARK

18.07 acres

Open Space

84th Ave SE & SE 33rd St

Amenities

- BMX Track
- Dog waste bag dispensers
- Staircase and timber steps
- Trash receptacle

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to create a loop trail by connecting the two dead-end trails above the creek and stormwater pond.
- Opportunity to reconnect the Upper Luther Ravine Trail in Upper Luther Burbank Park to Gallagher Hill Open Space through the Shorewood Apartments.
- Install a few benches at the BMX course and along the trail that parallels 84th Ave SE.
- Could use another park sign at the southern entrance and wayfinding signage with branded loops on the interior trails.
- The BMX course would benefit from edge definition and drainage improvements.

Maintenance Considerations

- The northern most dead-end trail is narrow and becomes overgrown near its terminus, making it ambiguous.
- The two dead-end trails present safety concerns.
- Most stairs are in good condition. A few stairs on the south dead-end trail are comprised of round timbers and have excessive riser heights. Transition these stairs to dimensional timbers consistent with the adjacent stairs.
- The 84th Avenue SE trail width and surface are excellent, but the other trail surfaces comprise compacted soil and could use gravel for traction.
- Managed as open space.



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CALKINS LANDING

0.31 acres

Street End

SE 28th St & 60th Ave SE

Amenities

- Benches
- Picnic table (ADA)
- Paved parking (3, but no ADA spaces)
- Open grass area

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Install a bike rack near the west end of the parking lot.
- This is one of the few parks with excellent ADA accommodation, however it lacks ADA parking spaces. Consider converting one parking space in the parking lot into an ADA space. Nearby on-street parking appears adequate.

Maintenance Considerations

- Park looks great.



FOREST LANDING

0.03 acres

Street End

SE 43rd St & Forest Ave SE

Amenities

- Bench

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Fixed concrete pump station vaults and poor water access preclude additional design opportunities.

Maintenance Considerations

- The site could be signed.



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FRANKLIN LANDING

0.03 acres

78th Ave SE & SE 42nd St

Street End

Amenities

- Bench
- Gravel beach
- Informal parking at street end (2 spaces)
- Moveable armchairs
- Open grass area
- Park sign
- Trash receptacle
- Water Trail trailhead

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- ADA access is possible here, though no ADA parking space.

Maintenance Considerations

- Nice street end with great stone steps to small gravel beach.
- Gravel bench pad is becoming overgrown with grass.



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FRUITLAND LANDING

0.15 acres

97th Ave SE & SE 34th St

Street End

Amenities

- Bench
- Picnic table (not ADA)
- Park sign
- Small grass area
- Water trailhead

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- This site has a gentle grade down to the water's edge, so can easily be made ADA accessible, although there is no dedicated parking, only on-street parking nearby.
- This site is getting totally reconstructed with a new pump station LS11. Any considered future improvements should be deferred until pump station is completed.

Maintenance Considerations

- Nice landing with relatively open view north.
- The park sign is slightly weathered.



GARFIELD LANDING

0.34 acres

Street End

SE 30th St & 60th Ave SE

Amenities

- Bench
- Water Trail trailhead
- Open grass area



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Consider installing a bike rack near the edge of the asphalt drive aisle.
- Opportunity to install one or two new benches that provide better views of the water.
- Vegetation along the bank could be cleared to provide better access to the water.
- Garfield Landing is a water trailhead, so consider park signage that is oriented to the water.

Maintenance Considerations

- The bench is weathered, worn and outdated.
- The bank is overgrown with shrubs and constrains access to the beach and water. These shrubs could be removed to some extent to provide better access.
- A “doggydock” (portable mat to create easy dog access to the water) has been placed on the beach and may be a user-placed amenity.
- This site has no parking.
- White poplars are weak wooded, need to be managed for replacement with more reliably sturdy native canopy trees species.

LINCOLN LANDING

0.23 acres

Street End

76th Ave SE & SE 22nd St

Amenities

- Picnic tables (2, none ADA)
- Overhead shoebox light (1)
- Concrete steps leading to gravel beach
- Small grass area



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- This site has a gentle grade down to the water’s edge, so can easily be made ADA accessible, although there is no dedicated parking, only on-street parking nearby.
- Improvements to the drainage that flows along the west side of this site (like Calkins Landing) are planned through King County Flood Control funding

Maintenance Considerations

- No park sign.
- The drainage that flows along the west side of this site is overgrown and contains trash that will be totally redone.
- Giant sinkhole under paving.

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MILLER LANDING

0.30 acres

Forest Ave SE & SE 48th St

Street End



Amenities

- Wooden steps and trail to shore

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to install a sign, improve the path at the bottom of the staircase, and install a bench at the concrete utility vault.
- Design the access across the driveway to feel more inviting.

Maintenance Considerations

- Lower portion of site at water is overgrown with ivy. The “cable crossing” sign adds character to the site but is faded and overgrown with ivy.

PROCTOR LANDING

0.30 acres

SE 32nd St & 60th Ave SE

Street End



Amenities

- Paved parking (12, no ADA)
- Small grass area
- Water trailhead

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- One or two benches could be added near the beach.
- If this site is mainly used for “cartop boat launching,” consider replacing the elevated dock with a low floating dock to accommodate watercraft with low freeboards.
- Proctor Landing is a water trail trailhead, so consider park signage that is oriented to the water.
- Consider installing an outdoor shower to support boating activities, if public demand and use of water trail indicates the need.
- Install a bike rack at the west end of the parking lot.

Maintenance Considerations

- The south end of the parking area is illuminated by a single Cobra head light.
- The grass near the beach is well worn, likely due to watercraft launching activity.
- Relocate the trash receptacle at the west edge of the parking lot.

ROANOKE LANDING

0.18 acres

Street End

West Mercer Way & Roanoke Way

Amenities

- Bench
- Interpretive sign



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- The old concrete roadway extending all the way to the concrete breakwater could be removed to create a landscaped park/street end containing additional amenities, such as picnic tables. It may also be possible to provide a couple of parking spaces within the street end. A natural drainage feature running the length of site could be integrated in the design and possibly qualify for stormwater LID funding.
- This site has a gentle grade down to the breakwater so can easily be made ADA accessible, although there is no dedicated parking, only on-street parking nearby.
- The water's edge comprises a 3-4' high concrete wall (former ferry landing) with no water access or formal parking. The site offers expansive water views, has historic significance, and could accommodate additional amenities.

Maintenance Considerations

- Although an interpretive sign exists, there is no park sign.

72ND AVE SE LANDING

0.17 acres

Street End

1605 72nd Ave SE

Amenities

- None



Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Minimal parking.
- Opportunity to install a bench or two.
- Install a sign to identify public access (feels private).

Maintenance Considerations

- No amenities, but very nice grass open space to gravel beach.
- Great trees and nice landscaping!
- Good view to the north.
- ADA accessibility is prohibitive.

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74TH AVE SE

0.05 acres

Street End

Amenities

- No amenities but intimate grass area at small gravel beach.

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to install a bench.
- Sign to identify public access (feels very private).
- No parking.
- No true path.
- Not ADA accessible.

Maintenance Considerations

- None noted.



SE 56TH STREET LANDING

0.21 acres

Street End

5495 W Mercer Way

Amenities

- Bench
- Nice trees!

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Relatively generous site.
- Install sign at the end of Brook Bay Road to identify public access (feels private).
- Could easily be made ADA accessible.
- Develop and sign the steep, primitive trail connection up to 80th Avenue SE.
- This is a relatively generous site with a concrete sewer vault at the water and a small fenced enclosure.
- Limited parking along Brook Bay Road.

Maintenance Considerations

- Replace existing bench.



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SE 72ND STREET LANDING

0.12 acres

9603 SE 72nd Place

Street End

Amenities

- None

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- No design opportunities. The site is comprised entirely of the Metro pump station.

Maintenance Considerations

- None.



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SOUTH POINT LANDING

0.03 acres

8790 85th Ave SE

Street End

Amenities

- Tether Ball (rogue)

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- Opportunity to install a bench or two.
- No signs.
- No parking.
- Not ADA accessible.
- The short trail from the street down to the vault could be improved by adding steps.

Maintenance Considerations

- Sewer vault comprises the lower portion of the site.
- The site has great south aspect and expansive views of Lake Washington to the south, but beach access is rocky.
- Existing bench is worn and spartan. Consider replacing with a more rustic timber bench.
- Adjacent property is using part of the public right of way at the site for parking.
- Existing plants could be supplemented with low-maintenance native plants.



77TH AVE SE LANDING

0.29 acres

7670 SE 22nd St

Street End



Amenities

- Arbor with wisteria
- Bench
- Open grass area
- Park sign
- Trash receptacle
- Water trailhead

Capital Improvement & Planning Opportunities

- This site has a moderate grade down to the concrete breakwater so could possibly be made ADA accessible, although there is no dedicated parking, only on-street parking nearby.
- No water access due to low concrete breakwater.

Maintenance Considerations

- The primitive timber steps are worn and rotting in places. The grade to the water is moderate and could be turned into a gravel path.

DRAFT



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Item 4
May 6, 2021
Regular Business

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| TITLE: | Mercerdale Park Playground Renovation Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only |
| RECOMMENDED ACTION: | Develop a preferred design from the options presented; make a recommendation to City Council. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| STAFF: | Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations/Public Works Director Paul West, CIP Project Manager | |
| COUNCIL LIAISON: | Jake Jacobson | |
| EXHIBITS: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Public Meeting #2 Poll Results, dated April 14, 2021 B. Equipment and Layout Options 1 and 2 C. Accessible Whirl modification for Option 2 D. Inclusive Playground Rating (not current) E. Surfacing Options F. Color Palette Options | |

SUMMARY

The Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) will consider design options for the Mercerdale Park playground about equipment selection, colors, and surfacing materials and recommend a preferred design to City Council. The specific choices are:

- Playground configuration – Option 1 (72” platform height) or Option 2 (60” platform height) with associated ground level play equipment
- Addition of Accessible Whirl to Option 2, if selected
- Playground surfacing – mixed surfacing with simple or more elaborate embedded design, or synthetic play grass
- Playground color palette – palettes of neutral and cool colors with or without complementary accent colors

BACKGROUND AND BUDGET

The Mercerdale Playground was built in 2002. Parks Maintenance staff, comprised of Certified Playground Safety Inspectors, have conducted routine inspections of the playground equipment over the course of its life. The inspectors have documented increasing deterioration in the condition of the equipment over the past five years. This is consistent with the common expectation that playground equipment lasts 15-20 years on average. Ultraviolet light and environmental impacts cause the materials to degrade in this time span.

In the winter of 2019, the playground flooded after heavy rain, causing the playground to be intermittently closed. City staff determined the cause was decomposed wood chip material clogging the drain intake.

Flooding and subsequent playground closures occurred repeatedly in the winters of 2020 and 2021. This drainage malfunction has increased the urgency to renovate the playground. City staff proposed a renovation project for the playground in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget in the fall of 2020. The project included replacing the equipment, fixing the drainage, and installing a resilient rubber play surface to make the playground more accessible and easier to maintain. City Council passed the 2021-2022 biennial budget with this project budgeted at \$490,000.

The playground designs presented in this report are responsive to the input staff has received from the community. However, addressing the issues through design has increased the cost for the playground beyond what was budgeted. The Project Team anticipates making an appropriation request to the City Council to increase the budget for this project and solicit private contributions to the project to help offset the additional cost.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Project Team, consisting of various City staff and representatives from Northwest Playground, conducted two public meetings on the playground renovation using Zoom teleconferencing technology. The [first meeting was held on February 8, 2021](#) to discuss the scope of the project and seek general input on project direction. Twelve citizens attended the meeting. The City heard from a number of people advocating for a playground that would be more accessible to range of physical abilities in both children and their caregivers. Participants also asked that the City consider the play styles of children with sensory processing and cognitive differences.

The first meeting and a subsequent draft design spurred additional community conversation. City staff received many emails expressing concerns and desires about the proposed playground design. The Project Team set up a [Let's Talk project page](#) to provide project information and collect comments and questions. The initial input can be summarized as follows:

Design the playground to be:

- Accessible to a range of users
- Inclusive of different play styles
- Provide several levels of challenge
- Fun and inviting
- Keep the train theme

Construct the playground in a way that is:

- Expedient: get it done this summer
- Cost effective: provide value to Mercer Island taxpayers
- Environmentally-friendly: use non-toxic materials, preserve open space, use sustainable methods

A second meeting was held April 14, 2021 ([Meeting #2](#)). At this meeting, the City asked for more specific input on design choices using the polling feature available on the Zoom platform. Options for colors, surfacing, platform heights, climbing equipment and spinning equipment were presented. A robust question and answer session followed. More than 20 citizens, including future playground users, attended the meeting. See Exhibit A for meeting polling and questions and answers.

The Mercer Island Preschool Association (MIPA) has been a partner in supporting funding and design of several of the City playground projects, including the original Mercerdale Playground and more recently in the

Luther Burbank and South Mercer playgrounds. At the beginning of 2021, City staff contacted MIPA to advise its leadership that the City would be replacing the playground and to ask for its involvement in the project. Three members of the board participated in an initial meeting and have continued to be involved in the project as it has progressed. MIPA has supported the project by advertising the public meetings to its membership. It has also conducted polling and facilitated discussion among its membership to help the Project Team understand the range of needs and interests in the project.

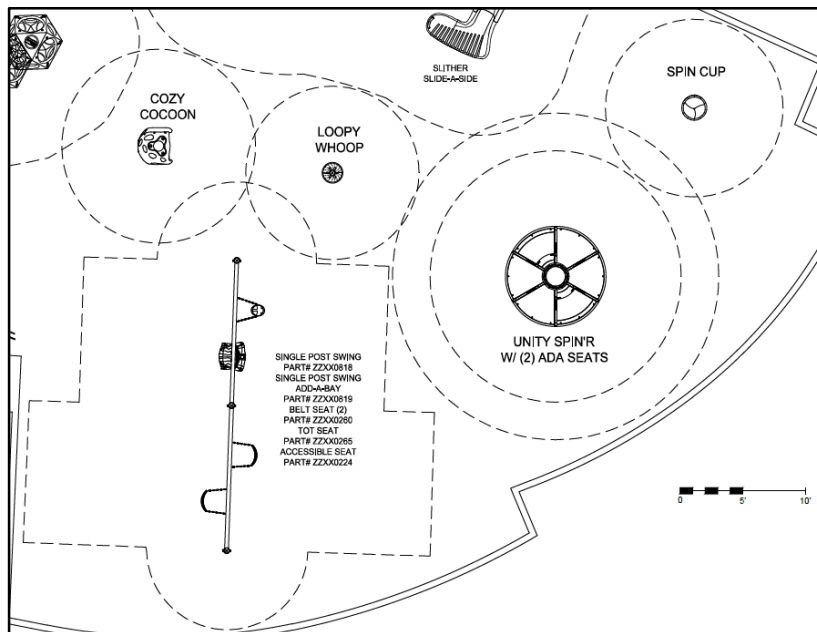
PROJECT APPROACH

Playground renovations are public works projects that require competitive bidding. For projects that have a large commodity component such as play equipment, competitive bidding may take place through purchasing contracts. King County Directors Association (KCDA) is a purchasing cooperative for government and school district agencies that solicits competitive purchasing bids and awards purchasing contracts with vendors according to the laws of the State of Washington. The City uses KCDA to purchase commodities and allied services on a wide range of products from garbage cans to the Island Crest Park synthetic turf field. It is an efficient means of procurement when much of the project is the purchase of commodities with predictable installation needs. It is also a faster process than the phased design/bid/construct process that is typical in more complex or site-specific public works projects.

The City of Mercer Island began working with Northwest Playground, an approved KCDA vendor, as a potential supplier for this project in April of 2020. They had been the supplier for the Luther Burbank and South Mercer playgrounds. City staff has had experience with the company as an efficient, capable and responsive vendor.

DESIGN ISSUES SUMMARY

Playground Design in General – playgrounds are designed to engage children from toddlers through pre-teens in play activities. A good playground offers multiple levels of challenge and includes both ground play and elevated play. The playground equipment is designed with buffers or “use zones” that must be considered in their placement. Dependent on the types of equipment, use zones may overlap in some situations, while they must remain separated in others, as illustrated in the following plan excerpt:



Accessibility – Play opportunities should be available to children and caregivers with a range of physical abilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines minimum standards for access routes and proportions of equipment that must be accessible. A more holistic approach designs the main activities to be fully accessible and supplements with other features to diversify challenge levels.

Climbing and height are key aspects of most playground designs. Getting up high is compelling for children of all abilities. Perhaps for this reason, most (61%) participants in Meeting #2 favored the playground option with the tallest (72 inch) accessible platform structure. See Option 1 in Exhibit B. This design would enable all users the ability to access the tallest platform. It also offers thrilling sliding experiences for those who are able to transfer to the slides.

The City also received input from families that the playground was not providing older children enough engaging options. Option 2 provides for a Cone Spinner feature that is responsive to this feedback. It was the most popular (40%) stand-alone climbing option at Meeting #2. The trade-off is a reduction in the main climbing structure to a 60-inch platform height with a proportional reduction in accessible activities. Another result of Option 2 is that the Cone Spinner does draw some of the play focus away from the main climber, reducing social interactions among users of differing abilities. However, the cone spinner can be enjoyed by users that can transfer to the main platform, so it has some inclusive potential. Options 1 and 2 are two of the best choices possible in the available space.

| | Option 1 | Option 2 |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Key features | Ramps provide access to six platforms with a max. height of 72 inches; the new train is relocated to the east side, one cup spinner, swings, sensory panels, musical instrument ensemble | Ramps provide access to five platforms with a max. height of 60 inches; the train is replaced in its current location, climbable cone spinner, two single spinners, swings, sensory panels, musical instrument ensemble |
| Number of Platforms | 6 | 5 |
| Height of Highest Platform | 72" | 60" |
| Height of Tallest Slide | 96" | 72" |
| Number of Slides | 5 | 3 |
| Number of Swings | 4 | 4 |
| Number of Spinners | 1 | 3 |
| Number of Under-platform Features | 14 | 10 |
| Number of Shades | 4 | 4 |
| Cost (as shown) | \$774k (does not include contingency, permits, project management) | \$755k (does not include contingency, permits, project management) |
| Pros: | Allows wheelchair access to a significant height with lots of climbing and sliding activities; | Provides much of the accessible and inclusive play as Option 1; provides a challenging freestanding |

| | | |
|-------|---|---|
| | imaginative play features underneath structure also provide social/sensory regulation options | climber; provides spinning activity choices (inclusivity) |
| Cons: | Limited spinning; train less visible; | Wheelchair users do not gain as much height, have fewer interactions with other users |

Accessible Whirl – The top-ranked (58%) spinning option for the playground at Meeting #2 was the Accessible Whirl. This equipment provides wheelchair users self-supported access to a social spinning activity. It currently does not fit in either layout option. However, with a minor modification of the perimeter curbing, it could be added to Option #2. See Exhibit C. This would be a significant enhancement of accessibility.

Inclusivity – Children have different styles of play and find enjoyment in different ways. Those with sensory processing or cognitive differences may need a situation with less stimulation to be able to engage. Solitary activity options can be offered with opportunities for social play. Sound, color and texture stimulation should be considered in the design. At the same time, children with needs for high stimulation should be considered also. No playground can meet all play needs, but attention to these details can provide a play environment that welcomes many different play styles.

Both Options 1 and 2 offer solitary as well as social play options. Two sensory panels would provide engaging mirrors, puzzles, and other manipulative activities. Musical instruments are located at a distance from the main play area. These provide a valuable sensory experience, but are located to provide some acoustic separation. Play features located underneath the main platform structure also offer sensory and social refuges and maximize the use of space. Option 2 also offers both solitary and social spinning activities. Color choices have been considered to avoid bright and stimulating colors except as accent features. Neutral and cool colors are prevalent.

City staff are knowledgeable, but are not experts on accessibility and inclusion. The preliminary design (not the current one presented here) developed by Northwest Playground was rated for inclusivity by [Let Kids Play](#), a consulting firm that specializes in developing inclusive play opportunities. See Exhibit D. We expect to have the same analysis completed for the options that PRC is considering at this meeting. The final design may be modified to improve inclusivity based on the results.

Surfacing – Playground surfacing must meet certain standards to protect users from fall injury. It also must be compatible with wheelchairs and other mobility devices. Engineered wood chips are technically accessible, but in practice are very difficult for people in wheelchair to traverse. Resilient rubber (“poured-in-place”) or synthetic play grass are the two surfaces that are considered fully accessible and provide the required fall protection. Combining the two surface types can help inspire imaginative play with patterns or designs embedded in the surface. The play grass also invites ground-seated play. The polling in Meeting #2 showed a distinct preference (58%) for the mixed surfacing.

The cost of mixing surfaces and creating designs in the surfacing can be significant. For comparison, consider the mixed surfacing in the Option 1 and 2 as the base product. Switching to all play grass would save \$38k. This product would show wear in high use areas and require periodic renovation. Staff does not recommend this option. Switching to a plain, solid color resilient surface without patterning or designs would save only about \$6k. On the other hand, installing a more elaborate design in the rubber surfacing such as shown in

Exhibit E would add about \$20k to the project. For this meeting, staff is asking PRC to consider the added value of this design work in the mixed surface and recommend either the simpler or more elaborate design.

Color Palette – In addition to the sensory considerations around color mentioned previously, we have received comment asking that the playground colors compliment the natural character of Mercedale Park. At Meeting #2, we presented four color palettes that were responsive to these considerations. The polling on the four options showed that participants were split on the preferred color choice. No option gained more than 30% support. Most participants wanted at least some color accents in a more neutral color scheme (56%). For this meeting, we are presenting updated options based on this input (see Exhibit F). A recommendation from the PRC on color will not by itself determine the final color scheme. Staff will complete further work to ensure a harmonious color palette, for example by obtaining material samples of the selected colors and verify compatibility before finalizing the selections.

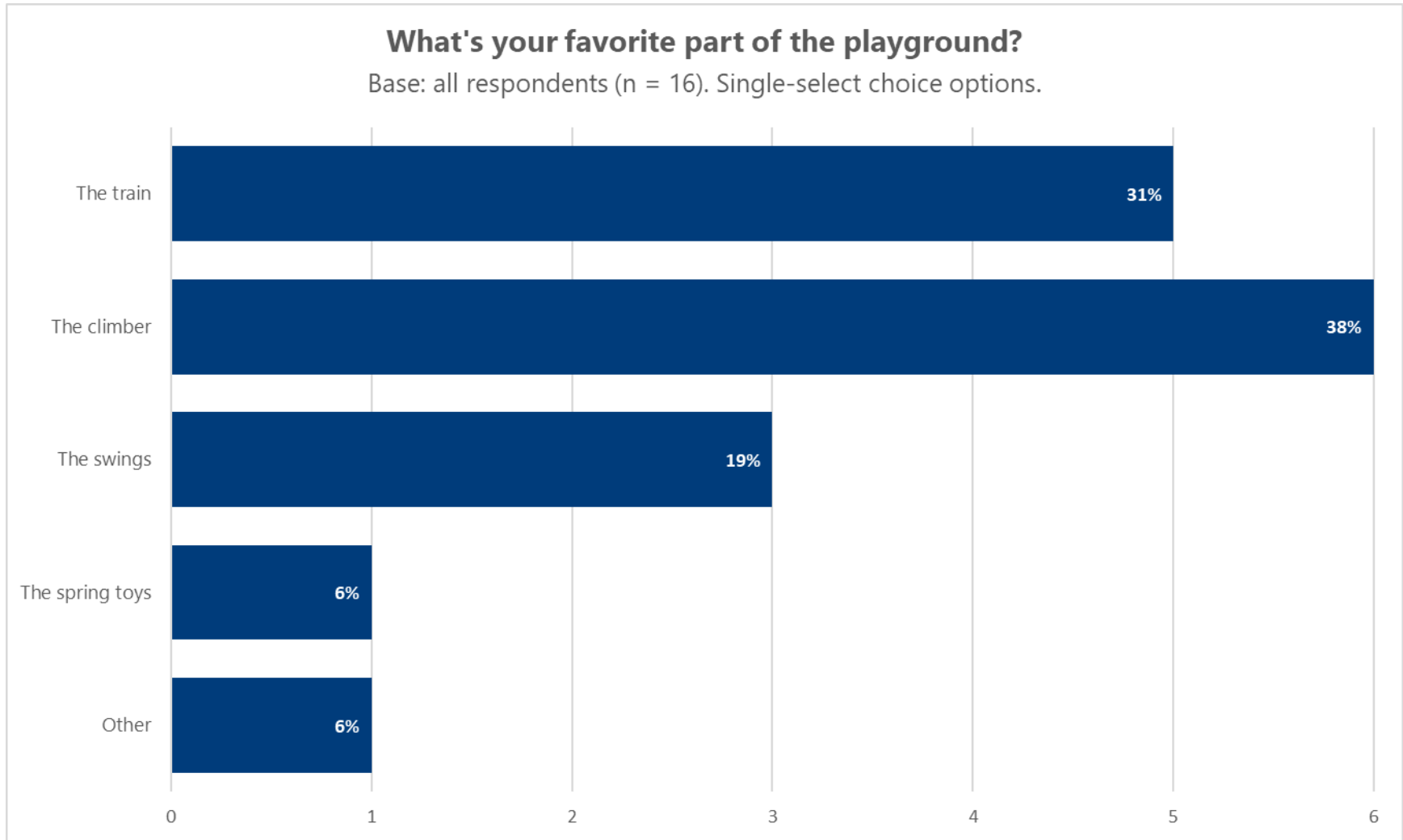
Additional Issues – We received suggestions that the playground incorporate natural materials and avoid synthetic materials. Suggestions for sensory play with water or sand were brought up. Concerns about the health risks of the rubber surfacing were also raised.

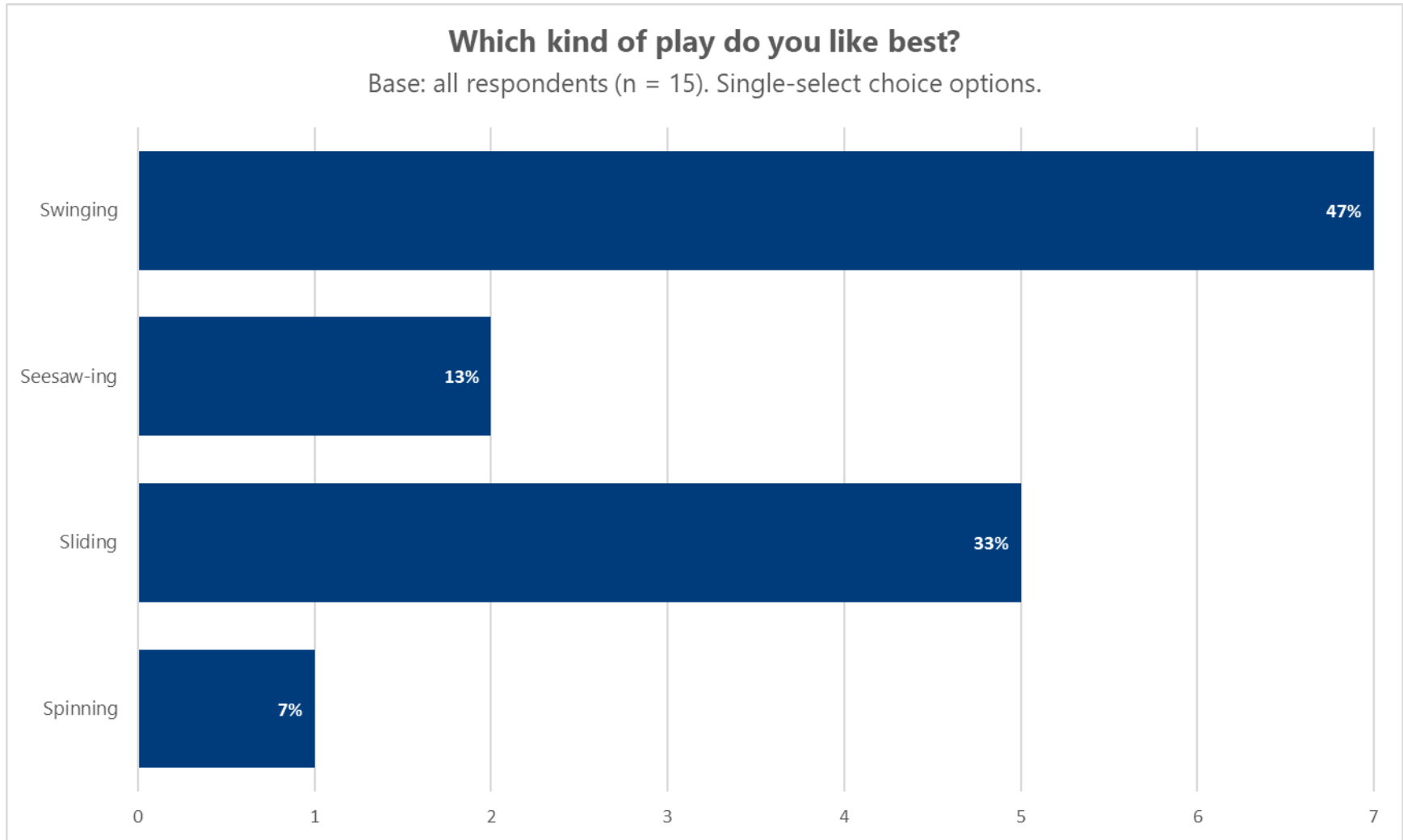
Staff supports natural play opportunities. The Adventure Playground and South Mercer playground have been two staff initiatives to incorporate more natural materials and activities into children’s play. However, it is more complicated to design such a playground, and even more so in concert with other objectives such as accessibility and inclusivity. This is worthy of pursuing at the right site with adequate design support. Given the objectives for this project, staff concluded that natural materials were not a good choice for this project.

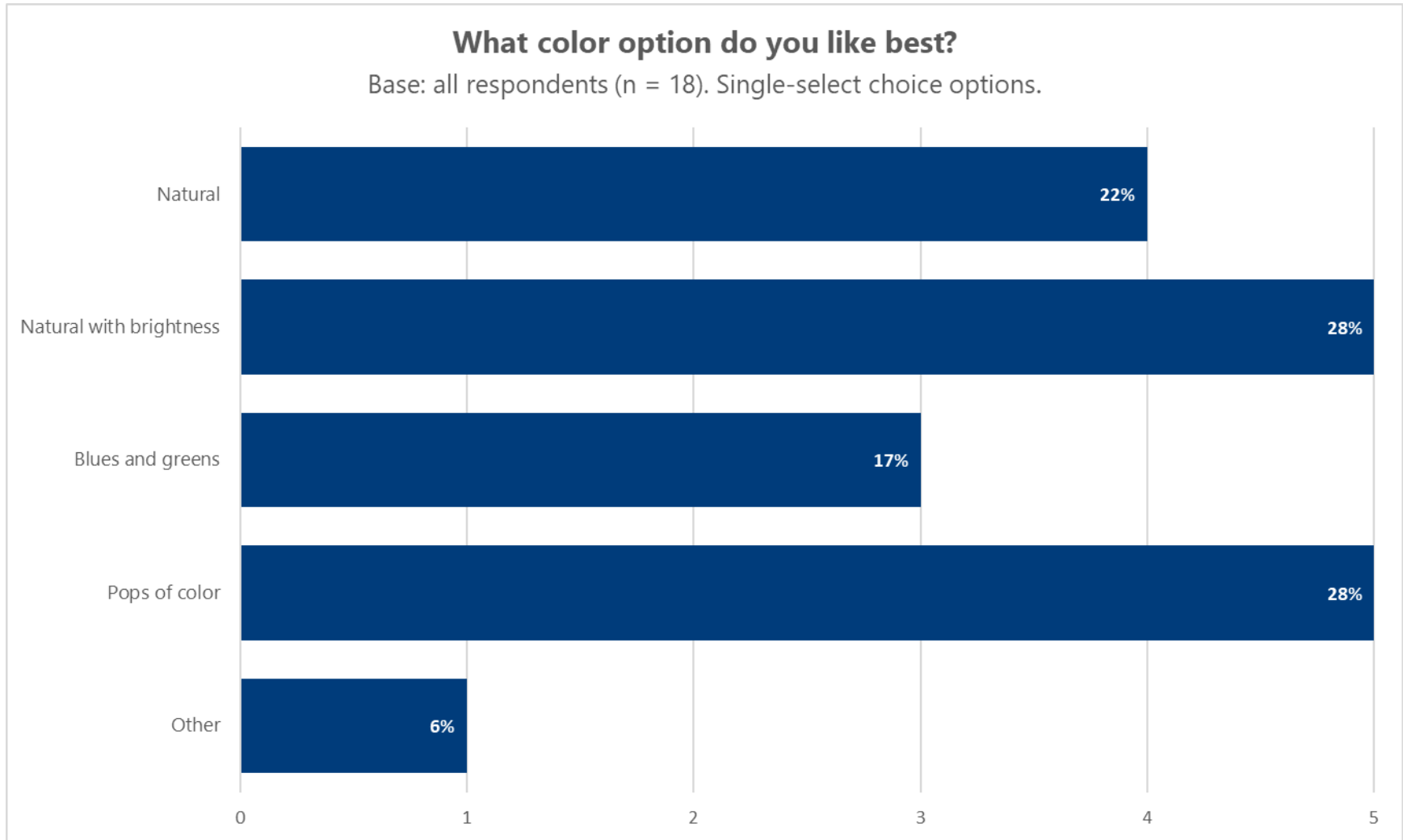
Concerns about rubber surfacing may have been the result of widely publicized reports about the use of shredded tire “crumb” rubber that has been used in athletic fields. There has been much debate in the sports and health fields about this product. The resilient rubber surfacing has no exposed crumb rubber. It consists of virgin rubber granules that are mixed with a binder. The solvents in the binder have health risks for the workers that install them. However, once the binder is cured, the remaining resin is stable, and off-gassing is minimal. This product was used at Luther Burbank Park almost ten years ago. It has been a popular and successful surface material for that playground. Given the objective for accessibility on this project, the natural materials such as the engineered wood chips that have been typical at playgrounds are not a good choice here.

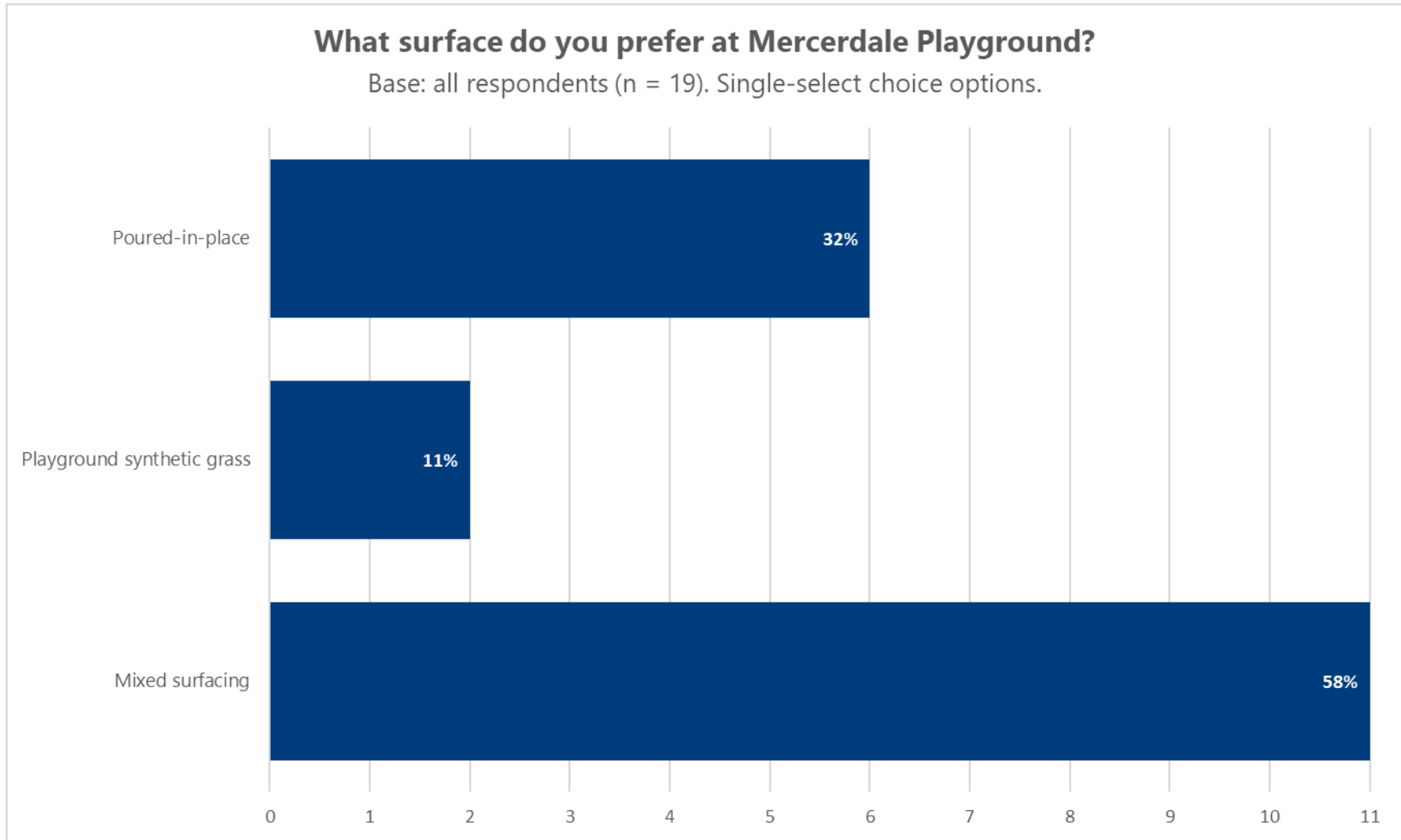
RECOMMENDATION

1. Provide input on the following choices:
 - Playground configuration – Option 1 (72” platform height) or Option 2 (60” platform height) with associated ground level play equipment.
 - Inclusion of Accessible Whirl in Option 2, if selected
 - Playground surfacing – mixed surfacing with simple or more elaborate embedded design, or synthetic play grass
 - Playground color palette – select a preferred palette from the options offered
2. Make a recommendation to City Council for Parks and Recreation Commission’s preferred option for Mercedale Park playground.



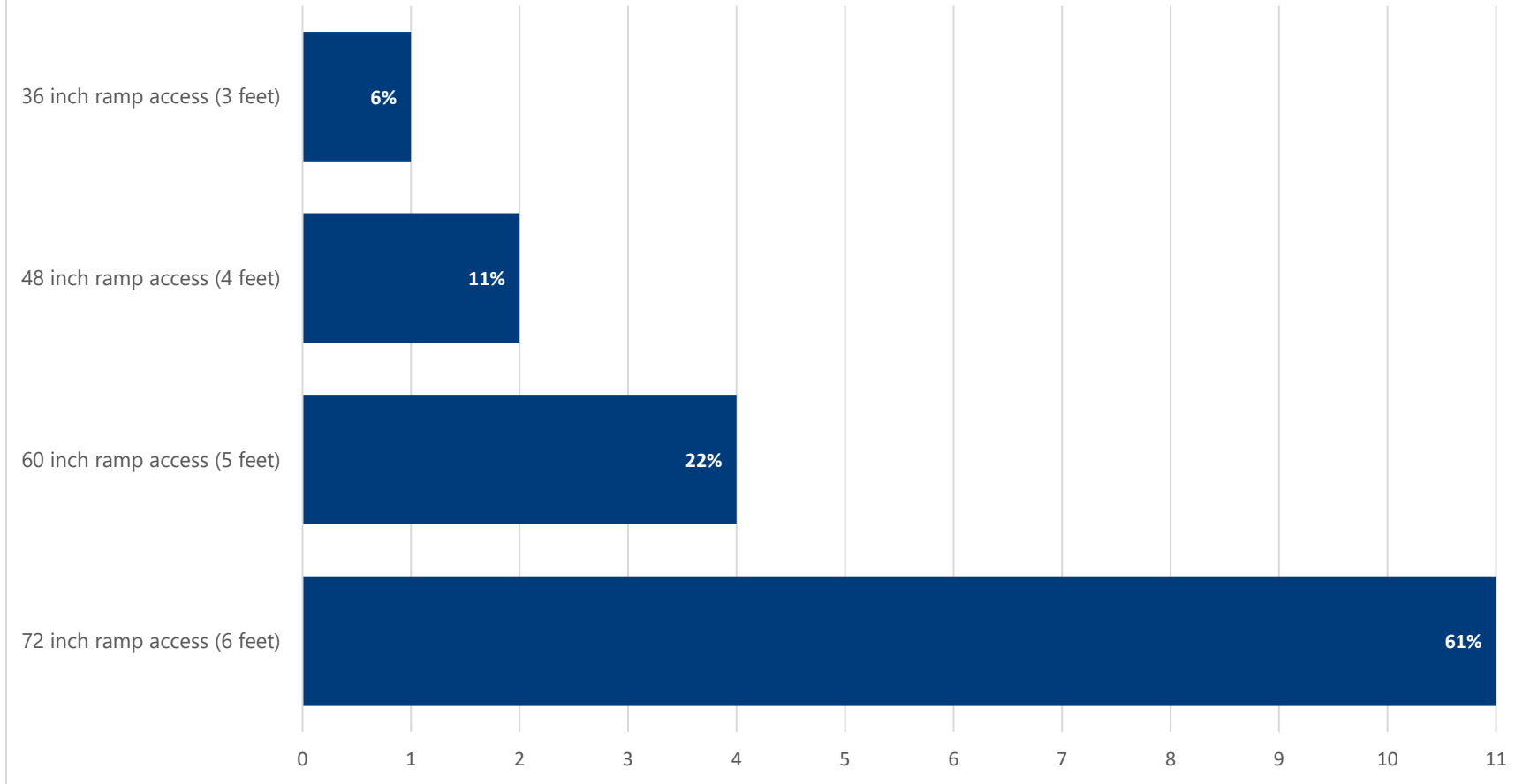






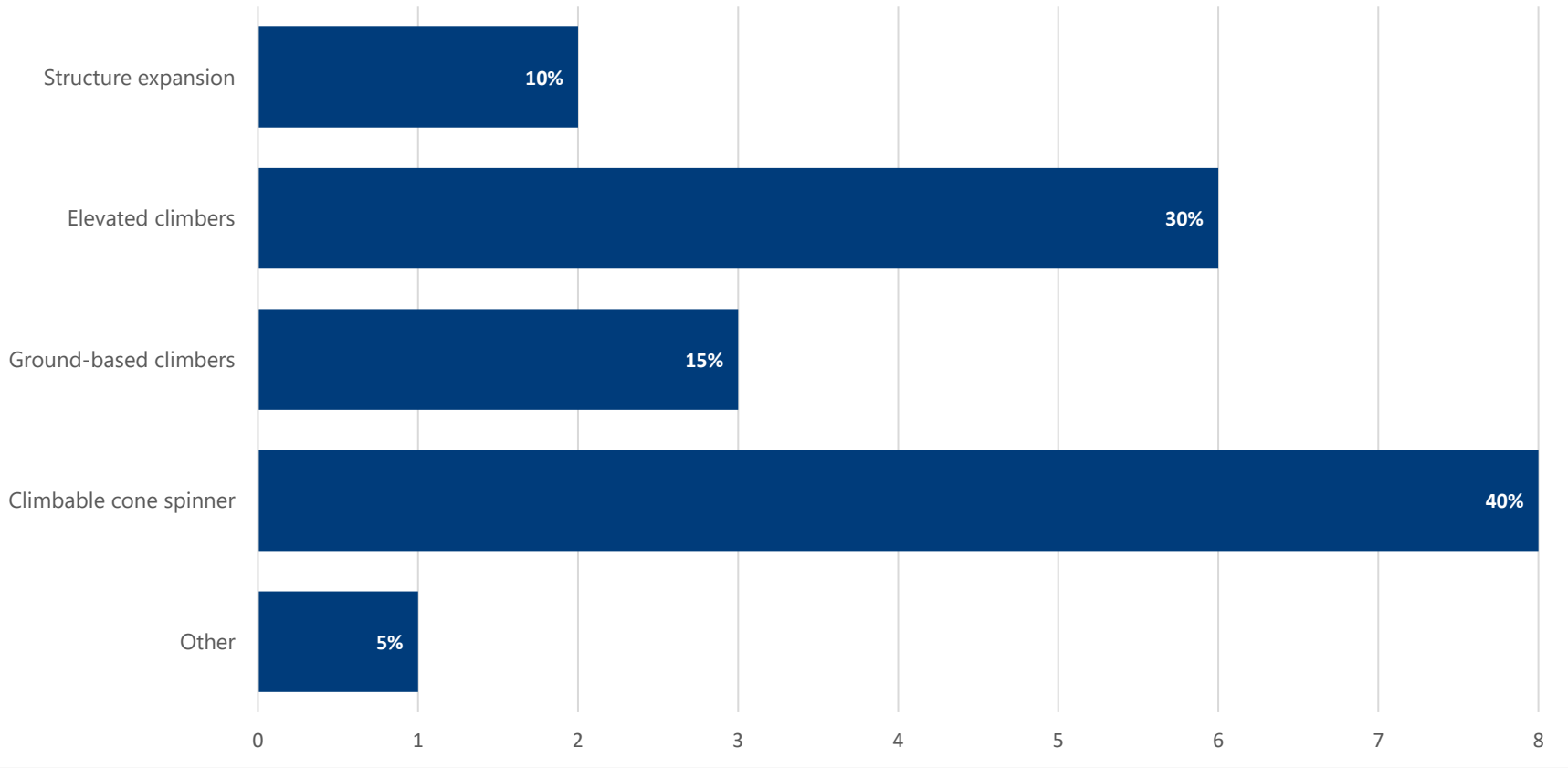
What elevation do you prefer for the accessible ramp structure?

Base: all respondents (n = 18). Single-select choice options.



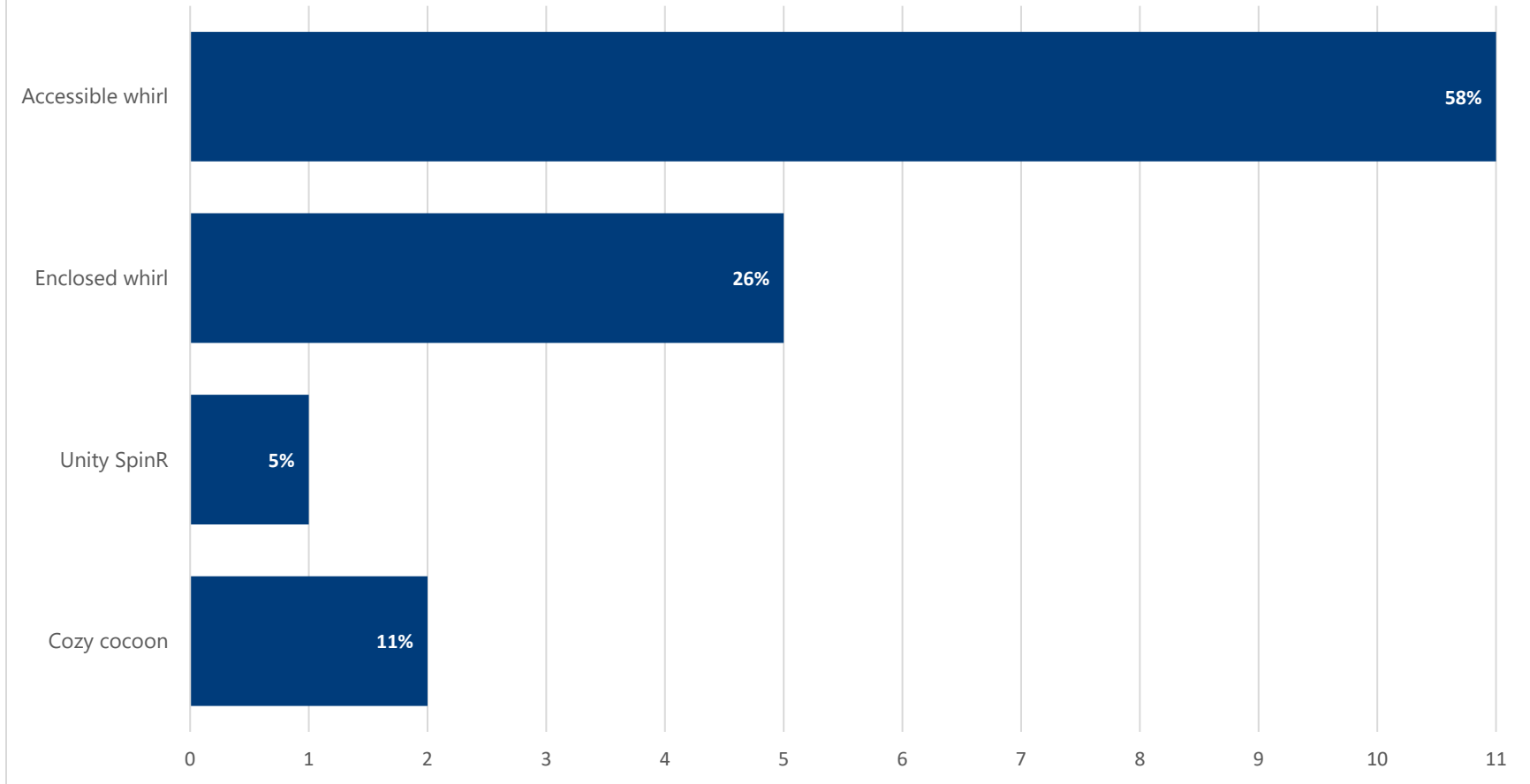
What is your preference for building additional climbing features into the Mercerdale Playground?

Base: all respondents (n = 20). Single-select choice options.



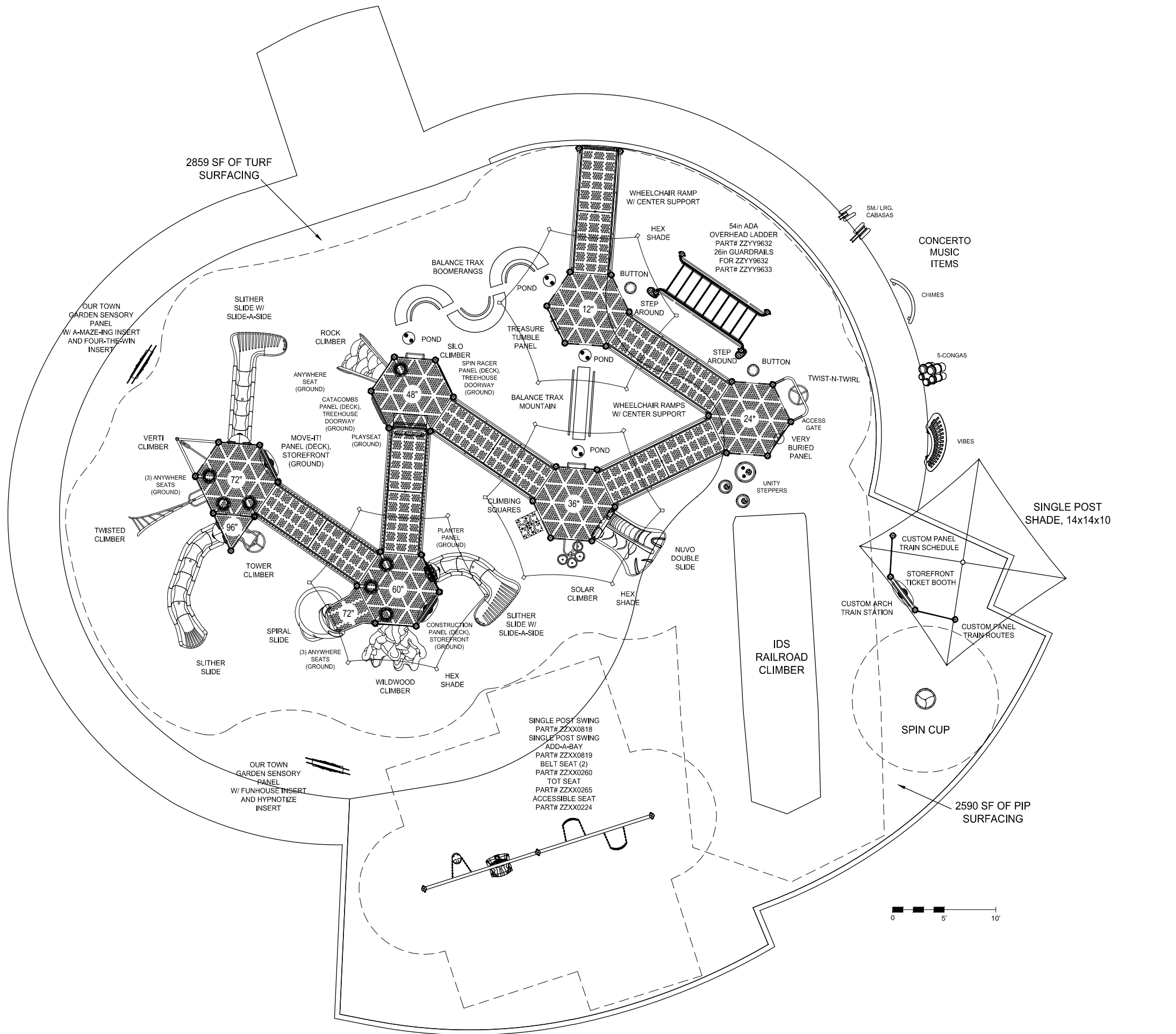
What is your preferred spinning feature for the new Mercerdale Playground?

Base: all respondents (n = 19). Single-select choice options.



| Question Report | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Report Gene | 4/15/2021 7:58 | |
| Topic | Webinar ID | # Question |
| Mercerdale # | 867 5154 3344 | 37 |
| Question Details | | |
| # | Question | Answer(s) |
| 1 | in the proposed design, how many "play toys" are age appropriate for the 2-5 yo group vs. the 6-12 yo group? | live answered |
| 2 | Swinging and sliding were my two choices but I had to choose one! | Thanks Meg for picking one. |
| 3 | I suggest you not announce the choices before the poll is over so as not to influence anyone's vote! | Thanks againg Meg for the feedback. |
| 4 | How do wheelchairs and walkers do with synthetic grass? | The grass is very firm. It is over a pad which provides the fall protection. It is fully accessible for wheelchairs. |
| 5 | Kudos on the polls --very clear and the photos are FANTASTIC. | Thanks for the feedback Meg. |
| 6 | What is the cost difference between the options for the surfacing. Thanks! | The rubber and grass are not that much different. what drives up the cost is the labor to create designs with them. So the mixed media surface would be more expensive, and the cost goes up with the amount of detail that is incorporated. |
| 7 | My kids are wondering if that picture of the mixed use surface is from a park nearby,... we want to visit :) | It's cool isn't it? Sorry, it's from a catalog. I don't know where it is. |
| 8 | What is the height of the current playground? | I haven't measured, but I think it is 5' at its tallest from my memory. |
| 9 | Next to the curly Q slide, what is that? | That is the Flexthead climber, a conveyer belt like material that moves as you climb |
| 10 | Side by side in option 4? | Yes we included in all options |
| 11 | The height looks great but I'm concerned that with the 60" or 72" so much space is taken up that there isn't enough room for other activities. Also I'm wondering what the difference is cost is. | live answered |
| 12 | what are ADA stairs? | live answered |
| 13 | are we able to do a poll of the attendees as to how many people who are attending have children with disabilities , people attending who are disabled (as parents grandparents) and people who have fully "capable" children? | If panelists would like to self-identify or share more about their personal experiences they are welcome to do so here or on the Let's Talk Page. The City cannot ask that type of qesiton in a public meeting. Thank you for the thought. |
| 14 | We have one vote for elevated climbers and one for the climbable cone spinner form our house | It's tough when the household is divided! Thanks for participating. |
| 15 | Thank you! Great presentation & thoughtful options...appreciate your work, City! | Thank you for joining the meeting tonight! |
| 16 | Great format - super way to have the entire family participate -thank you! | Thank you for participating! |
| 17 | Great job on the polls and images! Nice presentation. Thanks. Love the thoughtful inclusivity additions. | Thank you for making time for the meeting tonight and for providing your feedback. |
| 18 | Thank you!!! Our kiddos loved being able to vote and provide input. | Thanks for joining the meeting and bringing along the kiddos! |
| 19 | Is there a chance for open conversation? | The raise hand function is operational now. |
| 20 | Thank you for your attention to making this playground a fun place for ALL children. | We appreciate you joining the meeting. Thank you! |
| 21 | Do we see any chance for a possible water feature? | live answered |

| # | Question | Answer(s) |
|----|--|---|
| 22 | Thank you so much, this was a fun way for the kids to be involved! We can't wait for the new park, thanks for all your hard work. | Thanks to you and your family for participating in the meeting tonight! |
| 23 | Will the final design be audited by your consultant Mara Kaplan? | Yes! Mara has even helped in our continued design of the train feature |
| 24 | Has anyone suggested turning those exercise stations into additional park features? We go to Mercerdale a lot, and have seen only one person ever using any of the stations. Signage could be changed to include play options. | live answered |
| 25 | yes i would like a water featyre PLEASE From Valerie, i am 9 | Thanks so much Valerie for sharing your ideas! My kids love water features too! |
| 26 | My two children with special needs would enjoy a water feature for the rest of their lives! | Thank you Jill, the water feature is popular for many ages. We've also received feedback as part of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan and imagine we'll be talking more about the spray park as part of that process. |
| 27 | Great point about the workout stations (that are also not accessible) nobody ever uses them. Those are options for monkey bars. | live answered |
| 28 | Will the musical/sernsory equipment area be sufficiently distanced from the more active play areas? | live answered |
| 29 | LOVE the music elements, chimes, etc | My kids love them too! Thanks Meg. |
| 30 | Many generations is an important mention. | Absolutely! |
| 31 | Sorry if you already covered this but what does the train feature look like? | live answered |
| 32 | Thank you Thank you for considering the fence!!! Super important for safety :) | Appreciate you raising the topic during the presentation as we had not included that detail. |
| 33 | These could be play structures - we've seen kids playing on them, no adults exercising/ | Thanks Mariana. This is definitely something we can take a look at as part of a future phase. |
| 34 | Agree with Daniel Thompson about this presentation! When ?will we see the train rendering? | live answered |
| 35 | Thank you so much, for taking into account everything. This looks amazing. | live answered |
| 36 | We didn't talk about swings? | live answered |
| 37 | Please consider a larger swing that multiple kids can sit on. | |



Northwest Playground Equipment, Inc.
We Work So Others Can Play

P.O. Box 2410 Issaquah, WA 98027
Toll Free: 1.800.726.0031
 Local: 1.425.313.9161
 Fax: 1.425.313.9194
www.nwplayground.com
sales@nwplayground.com


EQUIPMENT SIZE:

USE ZONE:

AREA: PERIMETER:

FALL HEIGHT:
8'

USER CAPACITY: AGE GROUP:
Apprx 200 2-5 & 5-12

✓ ASTM F1487-17
 ✓ CPSC #325 

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| PROJECT NO: NW042021-1 | SCALE: 1" = 10'-0" |
| DRAWN BY: TKA | Paper Size B |
| DATE: 4-21-21 | |

Mercerdale Playground - Option 1
 Mercer Island, WA



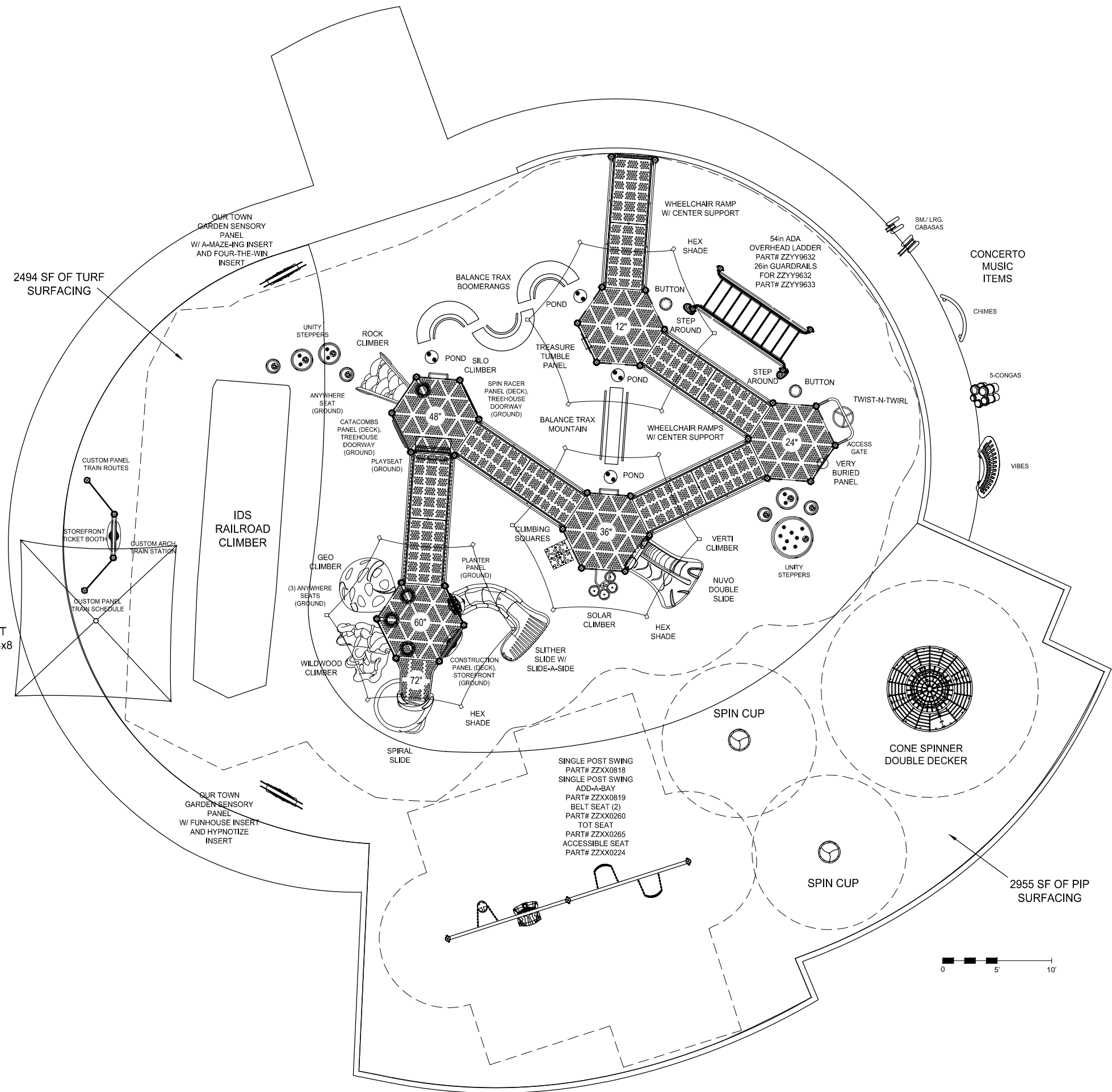


Mercerdale Playground
Option - 1





P.O. Box 2410 Issaquah, WA 98027
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 Fax: 1.425.313.9194
www.nwplayground.com
sales@nwplayground.com



EQUIPMENT SIZE:

USE ZONE:

AREA: PERIMETER:

FALL HEIGHT:
8'

USER CAPACITY: AGE GROUP:
 Apprx 200 2-5 & 5-12

✓ ASTM F1487-17
 ✓ CPSC #325

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| PROJECT NO: NW042021-2 | SCALE: 1" = 10'-0" |
| DRAWN BY: TKA | Paper Size B |
| DATE: 4-20-21 | |

Mercerdale Playground - Option 2
 Mercer Island, WA





Mercerdale Playground
Option - 2



Inclusive Playground Rating

Design Number:

Design Name: Mercerdale Park (Option 1)

INCLUSIVE GRADE:

EIGHT KEYS TO INCLUSION

**mandatory to get an A rating and be a Playworld Certified Inclusive Playground*

*Is there something on each deck besides a slide and climber? **Yes** No N/A

*Does it have multiple levels of challenge? **Yes** No

Spinning: 3 out 3

Swinging: 2 out 2

Balancing: 3 out 3

Climbing, Crawling, Strengthening: 2 out of 3 (Hopefully the train has some high challenge climbing)

*Is the Coolest Thing in the playground accessible to all? **Yes** No
Everything is accessible

*Does the design include unitary surfacing throughout entire playground? **Yes** No

Does the design include perimeter containment? Yes No

Is the playground divided into zones? **Yes** No

Are similar types of play grouped together? **Yes** No

Are there places for solitary, parallel, and associative play? **Yes** No

Are the travel routes around and through the playground wide enough for wheelchair users to pass, transfer onto equipment, and get close to activities? **Yes** No



OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Does this design support children with autism? **Yes** No

- Is there Cooperative Play? Y
- Is there a Cozy Space? Y
- Is there Vestibular Motion? Y

Does this design support children who use a wheelchair? **Yes** No

- Is there something to do while sitting in your chair? Y
- Can you easily transfer to play on something? Y
- Are you in the middle of the play? Y

Can you get to the highest deck in a mobility device? **Yes** No N/A

Does this design offer something besides PR5 (climbing, crawling, strengthening) and PR2 (sliding)? **Yes** No

Is there shade? **Yes** No

Comments:

Top Inclusive Products in the design

- SpinR
- Cozy Cocoon
- Concerto
- Aeroglider
- Accessible Whirl
- Accessible Swing Seat
- Slide-a-Slide
- Balance Trax



EQUIPMENT BREAK DOWN BY TYPE OF PLAY AND CHALLENGE LEVEL:

| Intent | Equipment & Levels |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Spinning | Accessible Whirl—Level 1, 2 and 3 SpinR—Level 1, 2 and 3 Loopy Whoop—Level 2 Spin Cup—Level 1 Cozy Cocoon—Level 1 |
| Sliding | Slither Slide Slide-a-Side |
| Rocking | Aeroglider |
| Swinging | Tot Seat—Level 1 Accessible Swing Seat—Level 1 Belt Swing—Level 1 |
| Balancing | Balance Trax Boomerang—Level 1 Balance trax Pond—Level 2 Step Around—Level 2 Stationary Button—Level 3 |
| Climbing, Crawling, Strengthening | Playcubes—Level 1 and 2 Overhead Ladder with guardrails—Level 2 Climbing Squares—Level 2 |
| Jumping/Bouncing | Playcubes |
| Running, Walk, Rolling | Ramps |
| Movement from a Wheelchair | Accessible Whirl Aeroglider |
| Tactile | Our Town Garden Wall Cozy Cocoon Playcubes Climbing Squares |
| Auditory | Concerto Instruments Very Buried panel |
| Vision | Funhouse insert Hypnotize Insert Treasurer Tumble panel Very Buried panel |
| Cozy Spaces | Cozy Cocoon |
| Interaction with Nature | |
| Social Interaction | Playcubes |
| Cooperative play | Accessible Whirl SpinR Aeroglider |
| Symbolic Play | Playcubes Our Town Garden Wall Train and Train theme surfacing |
| Game Play | Four-the-Win insert |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Loose parts | Ramp to Slide |
| Functional Play | |
| Manipulative Play | Slide-n-Learn Panel Our Town Garden Wall A-Mazing insert |
| Stretching | |





Mercerdale Playground
Option - 1 - Alt PIP

 Northwest Playground
nwplayground.com

 PLAYWORLD



Memorandum

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

9611 S.E. 36th St. • Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732

(206) 275-7608 • FAX: (206) 275-7814

www.mercerisland.gov

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

Date: May 3, 2021

From: Paul West, CIP Project Manager

Re: Mercerdale Playground Renovation color selection

At the May 6 meeting, staff will be asking for input on color schemes for the new playground. The attached renderings are intended to start the discussion.

The first two images are the color schemes that received the most votes at the April public meeting: Option 2: Natural with Brightness and Option 4: Pops of Color. We have heard through public input the importance of the playground color selection for:

- complimenting the natural park setting
- avoiding strong visual stimuli that might exclude some users
- providing visual interest to engage other users

Subsequently, staff worked with Northwest Playground to refine color schemes for the PRC to consider. The results are the remaining four renderings, which feature natural colors and vary by the use of accent colors. All four options presented are to be part of the discussion.

These renderings have several limitations. They are not able to show gradients, textures and subtle color differences. In particular, the rubber “pour-in-place” surfacing will have a mixture of colors to reduce color intensity. Another limitation is more significant. While it is very possible to vary the color of the components in different parts of the main climbing structure, it is time consuming to do so in the graphics program used to create these renderings. Staff is not able to demonstrate the possible color variation in the structure that could help reduce the visual mass of the main climbing structure, as well as show how that could tie-in with the other playground components.

For these reasons, we could not present these renderings as final products. As stated in the staff report, we have additional work to do making sure the final color scheme works well with the playground design and the site itself. Your input will give us direction toward that goal.

Option 2 - Natural with Brightness



Option 4 - Pops of Color

Item 4.





Mercerdale Playground
Option - 1







Mercerdale Playground
Option -1





Mercerdale Playground
Option - 1

 Northwest Playground
nwplayground.com

 PLAYWORLD



Let Kids Play!

Because every child deserves to play

May 3, 2021

Dear Playground Planner,

This letter certifies that both of these playground designs meet our criteria for an Inclusive Playground.

Let Kids Play uses the principles laid out in *the Inclusive Play Design Guide* to determine how inclusive a playground design is. We believe that playgrounds need to meet these top-level requirements listed below to be truly inclusive.

Top Level Requirements

- Include Sensory, Physical & Social Activities on the playground to create a rich environment for everyone
- Ensure multiple levels of challenge within each activity
- Ensure that the "Coolest Thing" in the playground is accessible to all
- Use unitary surfacing

Physical, Social and Sensory

Both of the designs do an excellent job of providing various physical, social, and sensory experiences.

Physical Activities

The Inclusive Play Design Guide recommends eight different types of physical play. Both designs offer opportunities for seven of them. There is swinging, sliding, climbing/strengthening/crawling, balancing, jumping, and "walking, running and rolling."

Sensory Activities

There are seven different sensory systems, and we like to see five of them represented in an inclusive playground. We do not look for taste or smell in our review. Both designs incorporate five of the other sensory systems: vestibular, proprioceptive, tactile, auditory, and visual. Attached is a list of what equipment in the design engages what sensory system for each of the designs.

Social

Social play and cooperative play experiences are essential for all children but become especially crucial tools for children with autism and learning disabilities. Often, we see that cooperative play experiences on missing on the playground as we do in Option 1. Option 2 includes the Double Decker Cone Spinner, which is an excellent group cooperative play experience.

The double slide, the train, and the anywhere seats provide places for children to socialize with one another.

The playground is rich in pretend play experiences. The train and the train station and even the design in the surfacing help make a statement and give children many different ways to engage in symbolic play.

Multiple Levels of Challenge

Providing multiple levels of challenge on the playground ensures a challenging activity for a child to participate in regardless of age and ability. Often when designing a playground, some children are not challenged. Either we make the playground too simple to ensure a young child or a child with a disability can play on it or create a playground geared towards the oldest child and the ones with the best motor planning skills. To create a truly inclusive playground, each and every child coming to play must be challenged.

| | Option 1 | Option 2 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Balancing | 2 out 3 levels of challenge | 2 out of 3 levels of challenge |
| Swinging | Complete range of challenge | Complete range of challenge |
| Spinning | Only 1 level of challenge | Complete range of challenge |
| Climbing/Crawling/Strengthening | Complete range of challenge | Complete range of challenge |

Option 1 puts its challenge into climbing. That design's structure goes up to 96" with challenging climbers at that end of the structure. However, it only provides a straightforward spinning activity.

On the other hand, Option 2 puts its challenge into spinning. The Double Decker Cone Spinner is a wonderful piece. It provides challenging climbing while at the same offers three levels of spinning challenge. There are many ways to play on the Double Decker Cone spinner, and it is an excellent group cooperative play piece. The trade-off is that the structure only goes up 72".

If I were making a choice, I would go with Option 2, but it is up to the community to decide your priorities.

The "Coolest Thing" is accessible to All

Nothing excludes, separates, and creates differences between children more than having the special piece of equipment that everyone wants to play on be inaccessible to some of them. It is essential to include these "Cool Things" and ensure that they are accessible to children of all abilities.

The Coolest Thing is the piece of equipment that everyone will run to as soon as they get to the playground. It is subjective, and we often identify multiple pieces of equipment. I believe that the train is the Coolest Thing in both of the options. Every child can have a meaningful play experience, whether wheeling in to drive the train or climbing up to the top. The train offers physical, sensory, and social experiences. So not only is it the "coolest thing, but" it is also accessible to all, ensuring that it meets this criterion.

Other Inclusive Features

1. There are wide wheelchair access routes throughout the layout.
2. To support a child with autism, it is crucial to have cozy spaces, cooperative play opportunities, opportunities to experience vestibular motion, and equipment that offers auditory experiences. Option 2 meets this criterion, while Option 1 does not because there is no cooperative play event.
3. To support a child who uses a mobility device, it is important to have equipment where a child can play without leaving their device and laid out so that he/she can be in the middle of the play. Both designs provide for these experiences.
4. Unitary surfacing is one of the most crucial aspects of an inclusive playground. The other critical element is a fence surrounding the playground. The number one request of parents who have a child who uses a wheelchair is unitary surfacing. The number one request of parents who have a child with autism is fencing, followed by unitary surfacing. Children with autism are often not taken to the playground because it is not fenced.
5. The layout of the environment in this design will help children with an autism spectrum disorder, visual impairment, and/or sensory processing disorder prepare for their time at the playground. The sidewalk that surrounds the play elements acts as an orientation path helping children determine in advance where they would like to play. It also becomes a quieter, safe place to return to and then choose where to go next.
6. I would recommend adding an Inclusive Whirl. This piece allows a child who uses a wheelchair to have a movement experience without leaving her wheelchair.

On behalf of families who are raising children with disabilities, I would like to thank you for your commitment to inclusive play. Either one of these **Inclusive Certified Designs** will bring joy to children of all ages and abilities for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,



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Top Inclusive Equipment included in this design

Slide a Side -- Slide-A-Side gives children the chance to take their time when leaving the slide. Whether they need assistance from a caretaker, a mobility device, or just a moment to regroup, Slide-A-Side provides a relaxed exit while allowing other kids to continue sliding. (In both Option 1 and Option 2)



Balance Trax-- Playgrounds are great places for children to practice balancing. Most balance activities were geared toward typically developing children. The unique Balance Trax by encourages children of all ages and abilities to practice their balancing skills. Particularly children with delayed gross motor skills benefit from this new product. Balance Trax was developed in coordination with a physical therapist who works with children with autism, cerebral palsy, and Spina Bifida, just to name a few. He lamented that when people develop equipment for children with disabilities, they make it so easy there is no challenge to push the child to the next step. Challenge is important for all children. By putting the different pieces together, you create a series of challenges for young children and children with balancing issues. The textured Balance Trax pieces provide a tactile grip so children can better sense the surface. (In both option 1 and 2)



Accessible Swing Seat—Swinging is not only one of the most fun things that happen on a playground; it is also one of the most beneficial for a child's development. The Accessible Swing Seat ensures that children who require postural assistance have the opportunity to swing next to their peers. (In both option 1 and 2)



Concerto-- The Concerto line of outdoor musical equipment allows children of all abilities to experience the joy and benefits of making music. Designed at a more accessible angle and height, all kids can play these instruments comfortably, including those with mobility devices. The instruments are tuned to a traditional seven-note-scale enabling children to play actual songs. (In both option 1 and 2)



Double Decker Cone Spinner This spinner combines the excitement of spinning with the challenge of climbing for an exhilarating play experience. This cone spinner is great for children of all physical abilities. Children can challenge themselves by climbing to the top or socialize and play toward the bottom. The floor level opening enables a child who is unable to climb to crawl into the middle. This highly cooperative play equipment engages children of all ages and abilities.



Accessible Whirl—The Wheelchair Whirl provides all children with the excitement of spinning. Spinning engages the vestibular system. Spinning activities help with improving balance, muscle control, and gross motor skills. Children AND adults using wheelchairs and other mobility devices can join in the fun. The wheelchair whirl is flush with the ground for ease of access. The change of textures from the playground's surfacing to the Whirl allows children with visual impairments to easily maneuver onto the equipment. There is room for two wheelchairs. For children who need support and aren't using a wheelchair, there is a seat and rails to hold on to.



There is room for friends to join in on the fun or a parent to sit side-by-side. The Wheelchair Whirl is one of only a few products that lets you meet the goal of providing a movement experience from a mobility device. Meeting this goal leads to a fully inclusive playground where all children are actively involved in the playing. (Recommended)

Sensory integration is the neurological process that organizes sensation from one’s own body and the environment and makes it possible to use the body effectively within the environment. Sensory processing is the brain receiving, interpreting, and organizing input from all of the active senses at any given moment. Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) SPD is a condition that exists when sensory signals don’t get organized into appropriate responses. A person with SPD finds it difficult to process information received through the senses, which makes performing everyday tasks challenging. Because of motor clumsiness, social anxiety, auditory and visual disturbances, and balance and performance problems, SPD can make simple “play” difficult.

Sensory Systems: These are part of the nervous system responsible for processing sensory information. A sensory system consists of sensory receptors, neural pathways, and parts of the brain involved in sensory perception



TACTILE

Touch is a perception resulting from activation of neural receptors, and a variety of pressure receptors respond to variations in pressure. The system works when activity in a sensory receptor is triggered by a specific stimulus; this signal eventually passes to an area in the brain uniquely attributed to that area on the body and this allows the processed stimulus to be felt at the correct location.

Equipment that enables children to engage the tactile system:

- Garden Sensory Wall
- Wildwood Climber
- Climbing Squares Block Climber
- Train



PROPRIOCEPTIVE

Proprioception is the sense of the relative position of neighboring parts of the body and strength of effort being employed in movement. This sense is very important as it lets us know exactly where our body parts are, how we are positioned in space and to plan our movements. Examples of our proprioception in practice include being able to clap our hands together with our eyes closed, write with a pencil and apply with correct pressure, and navigate through a narrow space.

Equipment that enables children to engage the proprioceptive system:

- Unity Stepper
- Verticlimber
- Deck to Deck Climber
- Wildwood Climber
- Climbing Squares Block Climber
- Twisted Climber
- Tower Climber
- Rock Climber
- Silo Climber
- Solar Climber
- Twist-n-Twirl
- Train
- Overhead Ladder
- Step Around
- Stationary Buttons
- Balance Trax
- Play Seat
- Anywhere Seat



VESTIBULAR

Explains the perception of our body in relation to gravity, movement and balance. The vestibular system is a unifying system.

Equipment that enables children to engage the vestibular system:

- Belt Seat
- Accessible swing Seat
- Toddler Seat
- Slither Slide
- Nuvo Spiral Slide
- Nuvo Double Slide
- Spin Cup



AUDITORY

Hearing is the ability to perceive sound by detecting vibrations, changes in the pressure of the surrounding medium through time, through an organ such as the ear. Auditory processing relies on how the brain interprets, recognizes and differentiates sound stimuli.

- Concerto Instruments



VISUAL

Sight or vision is the capability of the eyes to focus and detect images of visible light and generate electrical nerve impulses for varying colors, hues, and brightness. Visual perception is how the brain processes these impulses recognizing, differentiating and interpreting visual stimuli through comparison with experiences made earlier in life.

Equipment that enables children to engage the visual system:

- Treasure Tumble Panel
- Hypnotize Panel
- Funhouse Panel
- Very Buried Panel

References:

Playworld’s Inclusive Play Design Guide
7 Senses Foundation
Play and Playground Encyclopedia

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Equipment that enables children to engage the tactile system:

- Garden Sensory Wall
- Climbing Squares Block Climber
- The Wildwood Climber
- Window Planter Panel
- Train



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Equipment that enables children to engage the proprioceptive system:

- Unity Stepper
- Geo Climber
- The Wildwood Climber
- Climbing Squares Block Climber
- Rock Climber
- Solar Climber
- Silo Climber
- Twist-n-Twirl
- Train
- Double Decker Cone Spinner
- Overhead Ladder
- Step Around
- Stationary Buttons
- Balance Trax
- Anywhere Sea
- Play Seat

References:

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7 Senses Foundation
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- Belt Seat
- Accessible Swing Seat
- Toddler Seat
- Slither Slide
- Nuvo Double Slide
- Spin Cup
- Double Decker Cone Spinner



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