



# CITY OF SAN MATEO

City Hall  
330 W. 20th Avenue  
San Mateo CA 94403  
[www.cityofsanmateo.org](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org)

## Agenda Report

---

Agenda Number: 2

Section Name: {{section.name}}

File ID: {{item.tracking\_number}}

---

**TO:** Park and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Parks and Recreation Department

**PREPARED BY:** Sheila Canzian, Director of Parks and Recreation

**MEETING DATE:** March 02, 2022

**SUBJECT:**  
Central Park Play Area Renovation - Design Development Update

### RECOMMENDATION:

Review and comment on the latest design development program for the Central Park Play Area Renovation.

### BACKGROUND:

In September 2021 the Park and Recreation Commission reviewed and commented on the preferred design alternative, Adventure Village for the Central Park Play Area Renovation. The Commission agreed that the natural character of Adventure Village which includes numerous elements such as an elevated boardwalk, play towers, huts, stone walls, etc. and is intended to inspire creative and imaginative play, fits well within the majestic tree canopy of the park. In addition, the play area will feature more active play elements such as swings, a zip line, climbers, slides and a musical garden.

Commissioners provided numerous comments which are listed on the illustrated site plan (Attachment 1), Comments included a desire to add additional stair access points to the boardwalk, locations for stroller/scooter parking, additional seating areas, etc. At the Commission meeting representatives from RRM, our design consulting firm will provide the next iteration of design development drawings and review changes in response to previous Commission comments.

In September staff also indicated we would return with design images for both the new restroom and picnic shelter buildings. Those are included as Attachments 2 and 3, respectively. When seeking to identify architectural themes within the park that could inspire the design of the restroom and picnic shelter, two design themes emerged, those associated with the Japanese Garden and the existing recreation center and those connected to the remaining elements of the Kohl Estate. The adopted Central Park Master Plan shows the recreation center to be removed (and replaced with an activity building adjacent to the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Plaza). The Japanese Garden is such a recognizable and distinctive feature, that to replicate it's theme somewhere else in the park could appear to diminish its significance. The designers from RRM looked to the existing Kohl Pumphouse (home to the San Mateo Arboretum Society and the only remaining building from the estate) as at least a starting point for design consideration. The roof design for the restroom building and picnic shelter is similar to that of the Kohl Pumphouse with the addition of a second tier clerestory to provide additional architectural character. Both of the units are pre-fabricated, which saves on design and engineering fees and can be customized to the City's specifications, including use of materials, fixtures, colors, etc. At this stage these are intended to be design development images, not finished construction detail.

### BUDGET IMPACT:

Anticipating the need for major funding to implement the Central Park Master Plan, park in-lieu fee funds have been incrementally added to CIP Project #610027 over the past five years. Presently the balance sits at \$7.5 million with another \$1 million budgeted for FY 21-22. Recently, the project was awarded a \$100,000 District Discretionary Measure K grant from San Mateo County, thanks to the support of Supervisor Carole Groom. \$75,000 will be allocated to fund the

playground renovation project and \$25,000 will be allocated towards construction of the Fallen Heroes Memorial. RRM has prepared an initial cost estimate of \$9.5-\$10 million for the playground renovation portion.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:**

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21065, the Commission's review of and comment on the design development program is not a project subject to CEQA, because the Commission is not taking action at this time.

**NOTICE PROVIDED**

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Att 1 - Site Plan with Commission Comments

Att 2 - Restroom Design

Att 3 - Picnic Shelter Design

**STAFF CONTACT**

Sheila Canzian, Director, Park and Recreation

[scanzian@cityofsanmateo.org](mailto:scanzian@cityofsanmateo.org)

(650) 522-7404