

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION QUESTIONS
January 13, 2021 MEETING

Item 5.2 – San Antonio Mini-Park Conceptual Review and Recommendation, Project 20-48

1. Can you provide some background on the "historical figures" submitted by the public as potential park names? (Particularly as they relate to this specific site.) Or, did the people submitting those names provide their reasoning?
 - *Ada Lovelace Park*
Background research provided by submitter: "She's an important figure for such a tech heavy area as she is considered the first computer programmer, a huge feat not only for women, but our society and technological advancement as a whole."
Additional research from staff: Ada Lovelace was known to have assisted Charles Babbage in inventing the Analytical Engine around the 1800s. No information was found relating historical figure's relation to project site.
 - *Sherman Fairchild Park*
Background research provided by submitter: "Fairchild was a founder of Fairchild Semiconductor and the former building site is nearby on San Antonio Road."
Additional research from staff: Considered to have played a defining role in the development of Silicon Valley when he agreed to create the semiconductor division following a presentation by Robert Noyce in 1957. Fairchild Semiconductor was located at 844 E Charleston, Palo Alto.
 - *Robert Noyce Park*
Background research provided by submitter: "Noyce was the Fairchild employee credited with inventing the first commercially practical integrated circuit. Again, as the former building site of Fairchild Semiconductor is nearby on San Antonio Road, this would be a way to honor a great inventor."
Additional research from staff: Robert Noyce is a cofounder of Fairchild Semiconductors and later Intel in 1968.
 - *Shockley Park*
Background research provided by submitter: Shared link to Wikipedia page to Shockley Semiconductor Laboratory. Did not provide further information.
Additional research from staff: William Shockley was the founder of Shockley Semiconductor Laboratory. Shockley's lab was founded in 1956 and was located at the intersection of San Antonio and California.

- How big a hassle would it be to rename the recently named Fayette Park to Fayette Greenway (or one of the other modifications)? Is there much cost involved (changing signage, etc), or is simply a matter of jointly submitting the names of both areas to Council?

The cost to replace the two signs planned for Fayette Park is estimated to be \$1,000 - \$2,000 if the sign needs to be replaced or could be under \$500 if the work only involves in changing the lettering. The metal signs have been fabricated and are awaiting the addition of the lettering. The contractor has agreed to hold work on the sign until further notice.

- As part of staff’s presentation about the park to include some comparisons to existing parks in town. For example, the lawn area in Option Y is as large as the one at Mercy-Bush, or the size of the park is comparable to Park XX. It will help with visualizing the difference between the different options.

Below is a table showing Sod to Park Size ratios for existing City parks. Each park can differ in their sod to park size ratio due to varying factors such as the size of the parcel, existing conditions of the site before park construction (i.e. existing trees to remain versus an empty parcel), and the impact of play structure(s) that need more space for fall zones. The same information is provided for the three concepts to be reviewed with the PRC.

| PARK | SOD (SF) | PARK SIZE (AC) | PARK SIZE (SF) | SOD TO PARK SIZE RATIO |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Evandale | 1,320 | 0.27 | 11,761 | 11% |
| Wyandotte | 7,700 | 0.88 | 38,333 | 20% |
| Del Medio | 3,411 | 0.35 | 15,246 | 22% |
| Mercy Bush | 7,705 | 0.72 | 31,363 | 25% |
| Mariposa | 7,230 | 0.6 | 26,136 | 28% |
| Sierra Vista | 11,632 | 0.76 | 33,106 | 35% |
| Devonshire | 9,600 | 0.5 | 21,780 | 44% |
| SAN ANTONIO | | | | |
| Concept A | 8,500 | 0.45 | 19,602 | 43% |
| Concept B | 12,200 | 0.45 | 19,602 | 62% |
| Concept C | 10,100 | 0.45 | 19,602 | 52% |

- How likely is it to be able to expand the mini-park to the adjacent unkempt SFPUC parcel in the future? Has staff discussed this with the SFPUC?

The SFPUC has expressed to City staff it is not likely to allow development on the parcel in the future in order to provide construction staging areas for their own maintenance projects on the pipeline. Therefore, expanding the mini-park site to include the Hetch Hetchy right-of-way is not likely. Staff can pursue this in the future to obtain an official response.

5. It is a bit hard to understand the fencing proposed in the various plans - the symbol is obscured by the plant rendering. No heights are indicated, and the gates are hard to identify. Could you please clarify what is proposed in each option?

Concept A: *The park perimeter has a metal fence, 48" tall, proposed along Fayette Drive and around the borders of the lawn adjacent to the paseo. There will be gap openings to allow access into the park from Fayette Dr and the paseo. The metal fence then stops at the picnic and fitness area. There is an existing short metal fence between the park parcel and the dog area that will remain. A wooden fence, 7' height, is proposed along the parcel, adjacent to the SFPUC property. The play area will also be enclosed by the short metal fence with two gate openings coming from the concrete plaza area and picnic area.*

Concept B: *The park perimeter has a metal fence, 48" tall, proposed along Fayette Drive and around the borders of the lawn adjacent to the paseo. There will be gap openings to allow access into the park from Fayette Dr and the paseo. The metal fence will stop at the picnic area and continue again to border the play area. The play area will be enclosed by the short metal fence with two gate openings coming from the paseo. The existing short metal fence between the parcel and the dog area will remain. A wooden fence, 7' height, is proposed along the parcel, adjacent to the SFPUC property.*

Concept C: *The park perimeter has a metal fence, 48" tall, proposed along Fayette Drive and around the border of the lawn adjacent to the paseo. There will be gap openings to allow access into the park from Fayette Dr. The metal fence continues and encloses the play area. The play area includes one gate opening at the picnic area. The gate opening shown at the paseo is not recommended for safety purposes. The metal fence then stops at the picnic area and plaza. The existing short metal fence between the parcel and the dog area will remain. A wooden fence, 7' height, is proposed along the parcel, adjacent to the SFPUC property.*

December Monthly Report

1. How long is the waiting list at each of the Community Gardens?

Currently there are 278 gardeners on the waitlist for all three gardens, with 242 on the waitlist for Willowgate and Latham Community Gardens and 36 for the Senior Garden. When Latham Community Garden opened, staff exhausted the then lengthy waitlist to fill the 84 plots. Since the opening of that garden, the waitlist has steadily climbed with staff receiving a request to join every few weeks. With each renewal season since opening Latham Community Garden, there has been a turnover of 10-15 plots at each Community garden site. Staff estimates the current waitlist is about two to three years in length for both gardens.