

DATE: November 9, 2022

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission and Urban Forestry Board

FROM: Marichrisse Hoang, Associate Civil Engineer
David O. Printy, Principal Project Manager
Edward Arango, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer

SUBJECT: Evelyn Park Conceptual Review and Recommendation, Project 21-60

RECOMMENDATION

1. Review and comment on the proposed Evelyn Park Conceptual Plan and forward a recommendation to the City Council.
2. Select at least two names for City Council consideration for the new park.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The 0.68-acre park site located at 525 East Evelyn Avenue was dedicated to the City for park use by the developer of the 525 East Evelyn Avenue development project (see Figure 1).

In June 2020, Council approved Evelyn Park, Project 21-60, as part of the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Council approved a professional design services agreement with Callander Landscape Architects on January 25, 2022.

Site Description

The project site was used as a staging area by the developer of the 525 East Evelyn Avenue development project during its construction and is now a vacant flat space. The developer plans to install temporary irrigation and grass on the site in late 2022/early 2023 for the community to use as open space while the park is in design. The developer will maintain the site at no cost to the City and the temporary improvements will be removed prior to the start of construction.



Figure 1: Project Location

Community Meetings

Two community meetings were held for the future park. Community Meeting No. 1 was held on July 19, 2022 to obtain community input on the design and amenities of the new park. Approximately six people attended the in-person meeting and provided input on the park design. The consultant team obtained feedback based on discussion of the existing conditions of the site and conducted a dot sticker voting poll. The poll helped to gauge the features the attendees desired for the park, which included a habitat garden, a flexible use plaza, and a labyrinth.

Community Meeting No. 2, held on September 26, 2022, reviewed three conceptual plans for the new park, which included features and amenities voiced at the first meeting. Three members of the community attended the in-person meeting.

Following a presentation of each concept, attendees voted using differently colored dot stickers indicating their level of preference. Overall, Concept A (Figure 2) obtained the most favorable votes with specific modifications suggested to make the park feel more public.

Revised Concept A (Figure 3) reflects modifications suggested and includes both play and fitness equipment as well as open lawn space, a habitat garden, and a labyrinth. Recommended park amenities include bicycle racks, a drinking fountain, a pet litter station, picnic tables, and benches. In response to the feedback received in the second community meeting, the plaza in Revised Concept A was widened and proposes a pathway design to improve connectivity between the park and the public sidewalk.

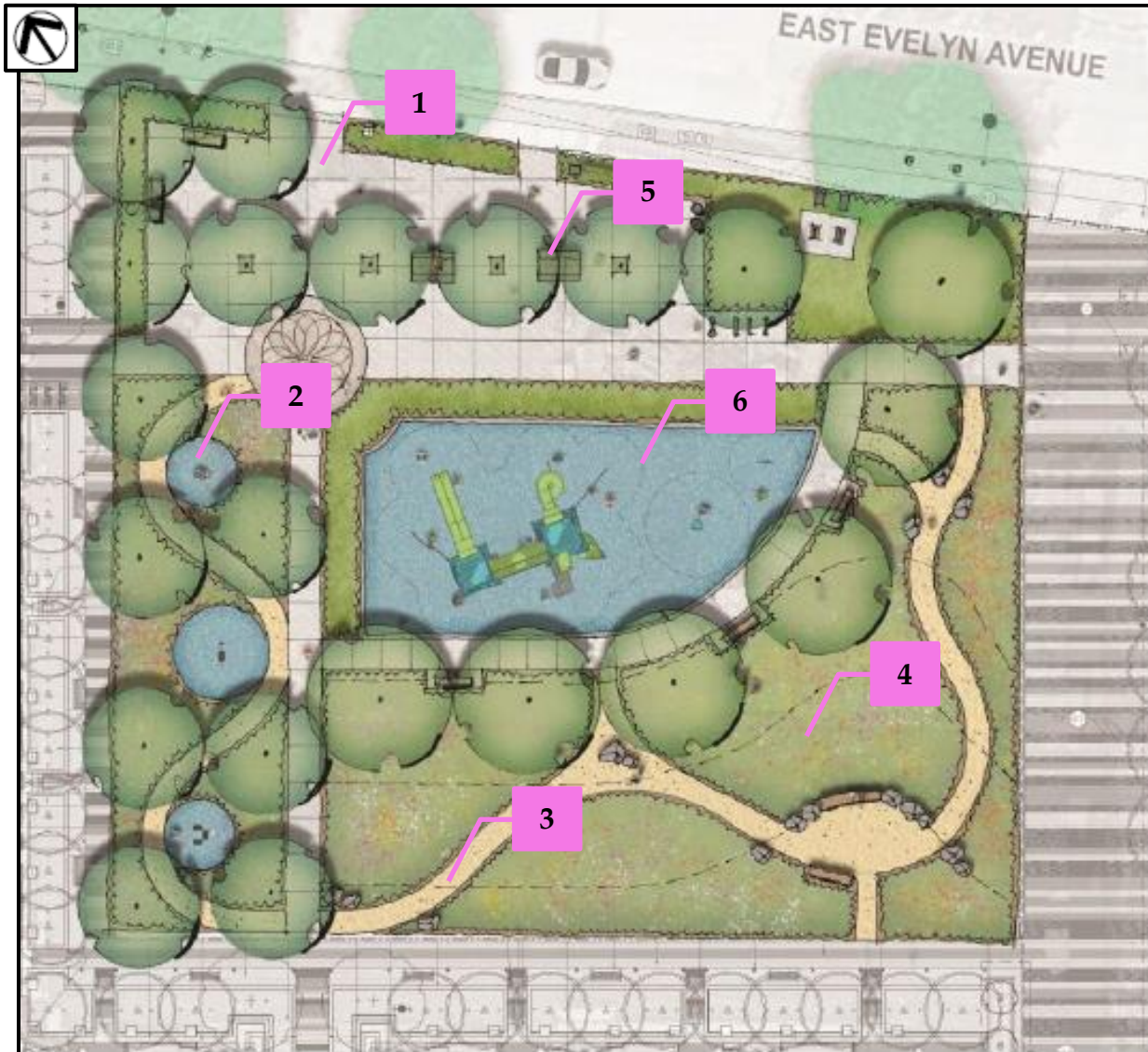


Figure 2: Concept A Presented at Community Meeting

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Flexible Use Plaza | 4. Habitat Gardens |
| 2. Fitness Stations | 5. Picnic Tables |
| 3. Meandering Decomposed Granite Path | 6. Play Area |



Figure 3: Recommended Revised Concept A

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| 1. Plaza with Picnic Tables and Shade Trees | 4. Habitat Garden |
| 2. Flower-Inspired Labyrinth | 5. Play Area |
| 3. Meandering Walking Path | 6. Fitness Equipment Stations |

Similar to other parks, no overhead lighting is included due to the park closing one-half hour after sunset per the City Code (Section 38.13). Although installation of an on-street accessible parking stall is not feasible due to the “No Parking” restrictions along East Evelyn Avenue to accommodate the existing Class II bike lane, accessible parking for park visitors will be available at the neighboring 525 East Evelyn Avenue development. As part of the conditions of approval for the development, parking within the underground parking garage will be made available for both residential building guests and visitors to the future public park, including one accessible parking stall. The 525 East Evelyn Avenue development is nearing completion, and at the time

this park project completes construction, anticipated at the end of 2024, park visitor parking will be available at the development site.

There will be a public art component included in the park. Staff will follow City Council Policy K-5, which involves the Visual Arts Committee (VAC) to select the artist and art. Once the park concept is approved by the City Council, the VAC will begin their process.

Park Naming

Staff initiated the park naming process at the second community meeting and sent a mailer to the surrounding property owners/residents soliciting response through October 28, 2022. Criteria were provided for naming a new park based on City Council Policy K-17. The Policy states that a park may be named for a school on which it is located, a street it is adjacent to, a local landmark, or historical figure. Other park names will be considered only if one of the above criteria do not provide a name suitable for the park. The Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) is required to submit at least two names to the City Council for consideration and final name selection.

Staff received a record number of park name suggestions from the public. The following park names were submitted by the deadline for the PRC's consideration:

Suggested Park Name	Council Policy K-17 Relevance
Flower Mart Park	Site of development used to include a flower market
Dorothy Vaughn Park	"Notable African American mathematician and human computer"
Robert Noyce Park	Credited with inventing the first commercially practical integrated circuit
Rosemary Stasek Park	Former City Councilmember and Mayor
Lakeina Francis Park	Specialist seaman
Yñigo Park	Historical figure
Evelyn Park	Street name adjacent to park*
Dali Park	Street name close to park

Other Suggested Park Names	
Bernardo Botanica Park	Moogs Park
FlowerBern Park	Evelinita Park
Evelyleaf Park	Pleasant View Park
Everlyfern Park	Choo Choo Park
Eden Flowers Park	Flower Park
Strawberry Fields Park	Apricot Heritage Park
Evelyn Fields Park	Old Apricot Park
Ohlone Community Park	Joan MacDonald Park
George Washington Park	

As stated, there are specific requirements in Council Policy K-17 for the selection of park names. The following are some examples of applying Council Policy K-17 criteria to the list of suggested names.

Street Adjacent to Site

“Evelyn Park” was suggested by two residents based on the future park location. “Evelyn Park” is an appropriate name for the new park.

“Dali Park” was suggested based on this being a street name nearby; however, the street is not immediately adjacent to the future park location.

Local Landmark

Two residents suggested “Flower Mart Park” based on the long-standing location of a flower mart on part of the property now being developed with the park site.

Historical Figures

Lopez (Lope) Yñigo was of Costanoan or Ohlone Indian descent born and raised in Mountain View. In 1844, Yñigo was given a 1,696-acre Mexican land grant under the name Rancho Posolmi, which today is Moffett Field. He was once recognized by the Mountain View Pioneer and Historical Association. See Attachment 1 for additional information.

Two additional names highlighting local figures were also submitted, including a member of the Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC) Board of Directors, Joan MacDonald, and Lakeina M. Francis, a specialist seaman. The names of these individuals are not eligible based on the criteria set in Council Policy K-17 which states a park can be named for a historical figure if the historical figure has been deceased for a minimum of five years.

After reviewing all names on the list and the application of Council Policy K-17, staff recommends PRC submit Evelyn Park and Flower Mart Park as the two names for Council consideration.

Staff will forward the PRC’s recommendation of at least two names to the City Council for approval of a park name.

FISCAL IMPACT

Evelyn Park, Project 21-60, is funded in the amount of \$2.395 million for design and construction. The estimated construction costs for all concepts are within the construction budget of \$1.5 million.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The next step is to submit the PRC-recommended concept and park names to Council for final approval in January 2023. Following Council approval, the design consultants will prepare detailed design plans, estimated to be completed by fall 2023, and construction is anticipated to begin in early 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICING

In addition to the standard agenda posting, property owners and residents within 750' of the park received notices of the PRC meeting. A notice was also placed on the City's website.

MH-DOP-EA/6/PWK

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Attachment: 1. Email Park Name Suggestion—Yñigo Park

cc: PWD, APWD—Arango, PPM, ACE—Hoang, F/c