



DATE: November 13, 2018

CATEGORY: New Business

DEPT.: Public Works

TITLE: **Evandale Avenue Mini-Park, Project 17-45 – Approve Conceptual Plan and Select Name for Park**

RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve the conceptual plan for Evandale Avenue Mini-Park, Project 17-45.
2. Approve Evandale Park as the name for the new park at Evandale Avenue and Piazza Drive.

BACKGROUND

The proposed 0.27-acre park site located on Evandale Avenue at Piazza Drive was dedicated to the City by the developers of the 133 and 149 Fairchild Drive rowhouse project (see Figure 1 – Project Location).



Figure 1 – Project Location

In June 2016, Council approved Evandale Avenue Mini-Park, Project 17-45, as part of the 2016-17 Capital Improvement Program. Council approved a design services agreement with SSA Landscape Architects on January 23, 2018.

Site Description

The project site was used as a staging area by the developers of the 133 and 149 Fairchild Drive rowhouse project during construction. The site is now an open, flat space with no trees. The developer installed a new perimeter metal fence on three sides and a redwood good-neighbor fence on the property line shared with the single-family residential home on the east side. Street trees on the frontage of the park site consist of one Schwedler Norway maple tree that was protected during construction of the development, and three Freeman maple trees that were planted by the developer.

Community Meetings

On May 10, 2018, staff held Community Meeting No. 1. Approximately 10 people attended the meeting and provided input on the park design.

At Community Meeting No. 2, held on June 14, 2018, the consultants presented three concepts for the new park, which included features and amenities suggested at the first meeting (see Attachment 1). Approximately 10 members of the public attended.

ANALYSIS

Recommended Concept

The three concepts were voted on by the Community Meeting No. 2 attendees with the majority of the votes going towards Concept B. Following the vote, attendees provided additional input on revising certain features of Concept B. The consultant incorporated these changes, and the revised concept includes the following amenities:

- A central plaza and gathering space with shade trees and seating;
- A central walk with access points that connect to the sidewalk and townhomes;
- Play area with a climbing structure with ropes, spinning elements, and swings;
- A mounded lawn area surrounded by colorful canopy trees; and
- A modern style for site furnishings and play equipment.

Permeable concrete pathways will be installed to accommodate City vehicles for maintenance, and the existing perimeter metal fence will remain. Benches for seating along with picnic and game tables will be located in the plaza area. One accessible parking stall will be added along the street frontage of Evandale Avenue.

The recommended conceptual plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) on October 10, 2018. A resident of the rowhouse development expressed concerns that the proposed park layout was not suitable for children with special needs. However, the park is proposed to include some characteristics of an all-inclusive playground that will be accessible for children and adults of varying age groups and abilities. The park will also be designed to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility standards. The City is working with the Magical Bridge Foundation to have a large, all-inclusive park at Rengstorff Park.

After hearing input from the community, the PRC unanimously recommended that the City Council approve the Recommended Revised Concept B as shown on Figure 2.

Also, based on public input at the PRC meeting, staff assessed the need for improved street lighting around the park site. The two streetlights on Evandale Avenue nearest the park meet the City's Standard Design Code spacing requirements. In the future, with the street trees maturing, staff may reevaluate the lighting in this area.

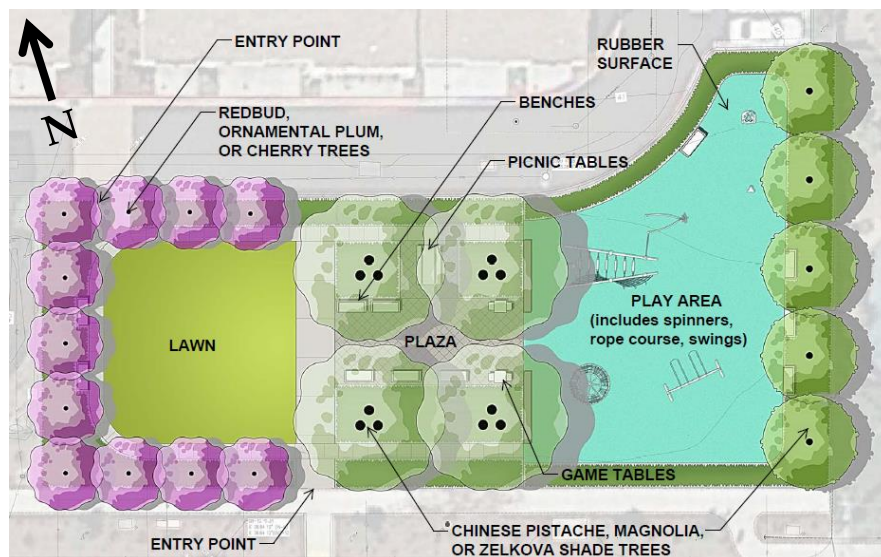


Figure 2 – Recommended Revised Concept B

Park Naming

Staff initiated the park naming process at the second community meeting on June 14, 2018, and solicited responses through September 12, 2018. The criteria for naming a new park are based on City Council Policy K-17. The policy states that a park may be named for a school on which it is located or street it is adjacent to or for a local landmark or historical figure. Other park names will be considered only if one of the above criteria does not provide a name suitable for the park. The PRC must submit at least two names to the City Council for consideration.

Staff mailed a notice to residents within 500’ of the project site, inviting suggestions for the park name. Twelve (12) suggestions were submitted as listed in Table 1.

SUGGESTED PARK NAMES	RELEVANCE
Evandale Park	Street name
Piazza Park	Street name
Piazza Point Park	Street name variation
Eva N’ Dale Park	Street name variation
Viewpoint Park	Name of adjacent rowhouse development
Wagon Wheel Park	Name of neighborhood association
Nuestro Park	Translation from Spanish to English to “Our” Park
Art Walker Park	Name of local developer
Moffett Park	
Silicon Valley Park	
Bryant Park	
Google Bus Park	

Table 1 – Suggested Park Names

Staff conducted research at the Mountain View Public Library History Center to determine if the property had any specific historical significance. In reviewing aerial images from the late 1940s and 1950s, the site does not appear to have a recent agricultural past but did have some minor outbuildings and miscellaneous buildings on or near the property. Fairchild, Evandale, Murlagan, and Sherland Avenues were undeveloped roads until the 1950s. No other significant information is known about the site.

On October 10, 2018, the PRC strongly recommended Evandale Park and provided Piazza Park as a second recommendation.

Next Steps

After Council's approval of a conceptual plan for the park, staff will work with the design consultants to complete the final design of the project by spring 2019. At that time, staff will return to Council for approval of plans and specifications for construction.

Park construction is scheduled to begin in late spring 2019 and be completed by fall 2019.

FISCAL IMPACT

Evandale Avenue Mini Park, Project 17-45, is funded in the amount of \$1,711,290 from a combination of Park Land Dedication fees and other revenue. The estimated construction cost for Revised Concept B is within the project budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

In accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project has been determined to be categorically exempt as a Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land, for the new park.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Provide other recommendations for the conceptual plan.
2. Select an alternate name for the park.
3. Provide other direction.

PUBLIC NOTICING

Agenda posting. Noticing for this meeting included a mailer to residents and property owners within 500', lawn signs at the project site, and an announcement on the City website.

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MG-LA/TS/2/CAM
943-11-13-18CR-1

Attachment: 1. Park Concepts A, B, and C

cc: CSD, ACSD, APWD–Solomon, PCE–Au, SPM–Rodriguez, ACE–Gabon,
SMA–Goedicke, PA–Li, File (17-45)