CITY PARK PLAYGROUND

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The City Park Playground is located just west of Ferril Lake in City Park. The playground was constructed in 1996, and is a highly utilized regional facility. Replacement of the existing playground is envisioned to be a regional ‘destination’ playground and fulfills the vision identified in the City’s Playground Master Plan.

This 17,000 square foot playground has shown signs of wear for years and continues to put excessive burdens on Parks Operations. The safety surfacing has begun to crack and separate, and the decking throughout the structure is warped creating trip hazards. Due to the removal of play structure features, areas have been closed-off to reduce safety concerns. Overall, the playground is beyond its useful life and warrants the replacement. The playground is rated as poor in the park asset conditions report. The playground would remain in the same location but would be a complete replacement.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Location: 2795 E 17th Ave, Denver, CO 80206
District: 9
Neighborhood: City Park
Elevate Denver Funded Amount: $2,000,000
Additional Park Funding Amount: $400,000
Designer: Mundus Bishop (Phase 1 and 2)
Contractor: Haselden Construction (Phase 3)

PROJECT BENEFITS

A regional destination playground space
Picnic area upgraded to Tier A standards
Improved accessibility and circulations

KEY MILESTONES

PHASE 1 OUTREACH / CONCEPT COMPLETE
PHASE 2 DESIGN COMPLETE
PHASE 3 CONSTRUCTION FALL 2020
PROJECT COMPLETION LATE SPRING 2021

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MAY 2021
CITY PARK PLAYGROUND — PHASE 1

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CONCEPT DESIGN

Phase 1 solicited community input on how the community envisions “play” in City Park and specifically what they hold dear about the existing playground space. This phase included an existing condition inventory / site analysis, and development of goals, objectives, conceptual alternatives, estimate of construction, and a preferred concept.

Community Outreach and Concept Design kicked off spring 2018 and concluded December 2018 with a Saturday Open House at Carla Madison Rec Center. The community outreach portion of this Phase included three informal “pop-ups”, three open houses, and three online questionnaire surveys that received over 340 responses.

Denver Parks and Recreation hosted a pop-up public event at the existing playground engaging with families that use the space in October 2018. Community members provided input on the design concept and reference imagery.

Illustration of the approved design concept for the playground renovation that was shared with community members at the final open house in December 2018.
CITY PARK PLAYGROUND — PHASE 1

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CONCEPT DESIGN

As shown in the design illustration above, all elements of the playground will be completely replaced including equipment, pavement and landscaping. This conceptual design was shared with community members at an open house hosted at the nearby Carla Madison Recreation Center in December 2018.

The above play components were evaluated and preferred by the community during outreach events. These components have been incorporated into the final playground design.
CITY PARK PLAYGROUND — PHASE 2

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTATION

Final construction plan of the playground renovation for City Park Playground. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2020.

This rendering shows the addition of a custom play tower that pays tribute to Gio Ponti, an Italian architect who designed the Martin Building of the Denver Art Museum Tower. The original playground included a Denver Cityscape mural that was beloved by all playground users. The custom tower is intended to renew this element from the original playground while continuing with the castle themes and concepts.

Rendering of the custom dragon play feature designed to incorporate play elements desired by community members, such as fantasy, adventure, climbing and inclusivity.

The new playground design will eliminate safety concerns or potential hazards at existing playground such as cracked surface areas and warped decking that can cause injuries.