Attendees: Ruby, Sonika, Angel, Jasmine, Mia Martinez-Lopez (West Early Learning College Principal), Mark Tabor (DPR), Nora Neureiter (NHN Consulting), Heather Noyes (Studio CPG)

How do you use the park?

- Whenever I am there it is clean.
- When I am there I feel comfortable.
- There is a lot of litter, it is safe, but its not sanitary and there is litter and needles.
- It’s easy to get to, but when we go we have to cross the street, we just walk across the street and don’t use the crosswalk.
- It’s relaxing and I can easily hang out w/ my friends and play volleyball.
- I see litter and dead plants. It not good for the environment.
- It’s pretty.
- I haven’t been here at the school long enough and haven’t had a chance to go to the park.
- I really like how the grass is green, but I have never seen sprinklers in the park. And I don’t know if there are sprinklers there…..sometimes the grass is really dead.
- I used to play soccer in the park because the West High Football team was using the school’s turf field and we had to play in the park.
- I go there to eat lunch sometimes.

What are your memories of the park?

- I have a photo of the park in winter that was hanging in my grandmother’s house that I donated to the school.
- When I was little my family would go Sunken Gardens to look for Easter eggs in the park.
- I remember when we used to have fire drills at school, we would go to Sunken Gardens. It was icy and snowy and we had to get out of the school…..and I made new friends by pushing other kids into the snow.
- We school uses the park for evacuations, celebrations, classes, events.
- We did community service for Earth Day by cleaning up the park.
- The basketball court gets used a lot.

What are your hopes for the park? What kinds of improvements would you like to see?

Public Art:

- There is a lot of public art in our neighborhood, and it gives the neighborhood a pop.
- I think art would make the park stand out more.
- Public art especially during this time would be nice, and it should relate to BLM and the pandemic – current events.
- The art should be reflective of what is going on now, the pandemic, social situations, reminders on how to be safe, wash your hands.
- There should be mini signs about masks, wash your hands, to remind people on how to be safe.
West Campus Students
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Flower Gardens:
- I’ve never seen a flower garden in a park, but it would look really nice since there is so much 
  open space.
- Some flowers please. We don’t have any color in the park...it’s gone.

Playground:
- I would like the playground to be remodeled…it’s really old.

Outdoor Classroom:
- The outdoor classroom would be great.
- I really like the outdoor classroom, and it would be good change for the science and art classes.
- The outdoor gathering spaces could bring the community together.

Basketball Court:
- The basketball court should be remodeled and updated.
- Remodel the basketball court for sure.

Is the park used by West students at lunch time?
- Only the upper classes get to use the park during the lunchtime.
- There should be more benches

Dogs
- The park does not have a dog park.
- I have seen a lot of people with their dogs and we should have a place where they can play with 
  their dogs. Like Barnum Park.

Paths and Other Park Elements:
- We use the paths, and in some places you have to use the sidewalk because there are no paths.
  It’s not really a trail, it’s not a loop so you have to figure out how to use the sidewalks to 
  connect.
- Some teachers ride their bikes to school. I’ve seen other people use their bikes in the park.
- South side of park: I have not hung out there in a while. We are strictly in the bigger open space 
  – the lawn area.

Access:
- When we go to the park we cross Elati Street and that is the way we usually get to the park. And 
  we cross at 9th Avenue too.
- As an administrator, I always have mini heart attacks watching students dart across Elati Street.
- More safety measures should be installed because the park is really close to a busy street, like 
  Speer.

Safety:
- Benches or gates to keep people safe inside the park.
- We don’t want to close off the park, but we want it safe.
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- What makes me feel safe in the park is the environment and the community. Being around people that don’t cause bad energy.
- Sometimes you see people in the park and they are not using it in the best way they can and they are littering. I think that the park should be more taken care of.
- There should definitely be a hand sanitizer station.
- There are a lot of homeless people there and it's not good for the community – there should be more shelters.

Gathering Space:
- My family uses the park and it’s a family group of 20 and 30….
- It would be nice to have a grill at the park so you don’t have to take your own grill. My uncles bring their own grill, but there used to be a grill located over by the steps.
- Add more picnic tables so people don’t have to sit in the grass - I don’t see many tables.
- For an event space it would be nice to have something like they do at La Alma - the dome. It is a dome/shelter and you can sit in.

Play and Exercise:
- Because the park is in front of the high school, new improvements should not be focused on younger kids – not everything needs to be so kid-ish.
- Maybe things to climb on, swings, jump on, sit on.
- Exercise Equipment: The weightlifting class could go there and be in an outdoor environment to work out.
- Pull up bars would be great
- We don’t really use the playground when we are at school, we use the steps area and the big open area lawn area.
- I know that definitely not just West uses Sunken Gardens for sports. GALS uses the park too.