Washington Park North Boathouse Area Community Survey #2: Survey Summary

- Online survey via Survey Monkey
- Survey open March 31 – April 12, 2021
- Response total: 368 started survey

Q1. What do you like about Concept A? (open ended) (n=267)

Themes
- Turf Mounds
- Picnic Tables
- Performance Deck
- Sculptures
- Trees and green space
- Natural areas
- Overall aesthetics
- Overall layout
- Nothing/not much

Representative Quotes
- Turf mounds. Kids love the hill in the current playground.
- The mounds for kids to run on and the performance deck.
- I like the open space and the mix of areas for adults and kids
- I love the green space, the sculpture, the picnic areas. Great for inviting users of the park to engage and use this area. Visually appealing as well.
- I think that Concept A is inviting and welcoming, and that I could see many families and friends spending lots of time there.
- Variation in breakdown of areas, lots of places to sit, define as meet up
- I like that there are a variety of areas to sit with friends and enjoy the park. I think it is really important this area include options for adults. Kids will use the play areas for a few years while they are little, but as someone who has lived in the Wash Park area for over 20 years I’d like to see options for those of us who will use the park for a lifetime.
- Not very much. There is no active area for kids to play. You removed an entire playground and have no plans to replace/include that.
- Nothing -- this isn’t a playground. It is a seating area with a sculpture.
- Not much—Wash Park has plenty of seating and gathering areas! What is needed is a replacement playground.
Q2. What concerns you about Concept A (n=275)

Themes
- Not kid friendly enough
- Need more play space
- No traditional playground
- Not enough seating
- No water features
- Artwork will be important – selection of it
- Feels too manicured/not welcoming enough/boring
- Not enough shade until trees mature
- Too much hardscape, too “hot”

Representative Quotes
- Not enough for kids to do
- It’s boring with so little play area
- It’s more an area to gather which the park is not lacking
- Designed for low traffic. There is already a mid-park playground. This area already busy. What day/time are the designers thinking of. thinking about
- It’s too simple and kids want an adventure not an open area to look at sculptures...this budget is way too big to make all the minor, stupid adjustments. disappointed to say the least.
- This doesn’t seem like a very usable space. There are other areas with picnic tables and the other playground has a mounded artificial turf hill. I just don’t find this design very compelling.
- Very little interaction area - we already have a done of great seating options at the Park that this doesn't really enhance it. The playground is already PACKED and summer just began. more space for kids/family to play would be much more practical.
- Wash park needs more family friendly playgrounds and interactive spaces - this is not responsive to those needs
- I like it - no big concerns. I know some parents of young children are strongly advocating for more playground stuff. But the park is for everyone and I think the turf mounds are a good compromise.
- [old] sculptures being destroyed
- The [new] sculpture could make or break the space.
- Picnic tables in a sunny area seem uncomfortable during peak recreation season (too hot)
- There is not enough seating anywhere. The picnic tables with 4 seats are too inflexible for parties of larger size and the seats are often too far away for smaller people.
- The synthetic turf will probably get roughed up and dirty quite quickly
- Synthetic turf and maintenance, plus blend with rest of natural area, placement of performance platform & benches (would prefer all seating areas face towards the water)
Q3. Please rank the activities in this concept (n=328)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smaller Natural Turf Area</td>
<td>4.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focal Point Sculptural feature with accent paving</td>
<td>3.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raised planters with shrubs and perennials</td>
<td>4.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance deck</td>
<td>4.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic tables in crusher fine paving</td>
<td>4.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic turf mound play area</td>
<td>4.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smooth concrete mound for sliding</td>
<td>3.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q4 What other features would you like to see in Concept A (n=231)

Themes
- Interactive features
- Active play elements (swings, zip lines, monkey bars, rock climbing structure)
- Playground
- Splash Pad or Water Feature
- Shade in seating area
- More seating
- Natural vegetation, open space, perennials
- Skate Park
- Bike racks
- Nothing

Representative Quotes
- More play features to climb on
- More play space or maybe a water feature (that can be played in).
- Engaging equipment for kids! There is nothing fun for kids here
- Play structures for older kids. Zip lines, monkey bars, rock climbing, bouldering, skate park, parkour something active for older kids.
- An actual playground. The other playground in Wash Park is consistently REALLY crowded at peak times. The park definitely can accommodate and needs another play structure (not just some small hills that will kind of entertain toddlers but not be interesting to most kids)
- PLEASE redesign the entire concept to include a large playground (since that was removed) for kids to play on. Look into an outdoor parkour course as well.... If we want to encourage kids to be outside, then build it...and they will come. Please reconsider an active playground area and make the passive areas very minor.
- Playground, anything for kids. A sandbox, a swing set, a water splash area - like they have in aspen. that kids can run through
• A skatepark. It helps build the community and is a great place for kids of all ages
• Trees for shade above picnic area
• A designated seating area on the lake

Q5. What do you like about Concept B (n=301)

Themes
• Water features
• Seating options
• Picnic benches near water
• Swings
• Performance deck
• More kid friendly
• Trees and space
• Everything/All
• Better than A
• Nothing/not much

Representative Quotes
• Love everything- water feature, stadium seating, performance deck, swings!!
• Diverse activities. Fun. Creative water way for splashing. Swings! Swings! Swings! Who doesn’t love Swings. Love the size of the performance decking and the fact that benches face it
• That it replaces a playground with at least some pieces children could enjoy.
• More family-oriented space, water feature
• Bingo!! This is so much more Wash Park. Tons of places to sit, and lots of fun stuff for kids
• I like how concept B has multiple fun features for children that don’t get in the way of other things, and are pretty to see such as the water feature. I like the terrace steps a lot as well as the picnic tables close to the lake.
• This is SO MUCH BETTER than A. Picnic near water is what people will want to do. Water feature will be even more appealing in increasingly hot dry summers to come. Benches are oriented to watch activity, which is how natural tendency. Swings bring back some of the appeal for kids and families. Performance space looks for more flexible.
• I like this better than A. There is more seating.
• Again, this concept misses the mark completely as additional seating/gathering is not needed in a giant park. What is desperately needed is a similar replacement playground.
• I hate this....We have a beautiful, historic park and do not want this modernist crap messing up our beautiful park. We would rather have nothing than this crap.
Q6. What concerns you about Concept B (n=245)

Themes

- Nothing
- Water feature
  - Water waste
  - Only in use a few months
  - Will be too crowded in summer with kids
  - Cost concern
  - Couldn’t this be a splash pad instead
- Performance deck
  - Where would you sit for audience?
  - Would it be used with boathouse so close?
  - Who would use it, given the size?
- Not enough play equipment
- More benches needed
- No skatepark or parkour
- Needs more shade

Representative Quotes

- Swings are great, but I still strongly feel that more play equipment is needed here that will be interesting to a range of kids and can handle all the kid visitors to the park.
- More play areas for kids (swings) are always great, but I worry that this might turn the whole area into another playground. Probably not really an issue, but worth considering. Expand the water feature for more play for kids (like union station!). If you’re doing swings, do more than just 3 and also need something kids can do while waiting. Like the grass slide area in concept a + more water spouts. What about a climbing rock wall feature?
- Needs a few more benches, perhaps facing the swing area
- Again, no playground. The 'performance deck' does not make any sense. If there are performances, there is not enough seating for anyone to enjoy. You show people sitting on it as if it is a large seating area rather than a performance area. The water feature is pointless and cannot be sanitary with the number of dogs and animals that use the park.
- The swings and water feature don’t seem like it could accommodate nearly the large amount of children that play at the park. I don’t see the purpose of the performance deck at all.
- I think the water feature will be too expensive and the logistics of getting potable water to this area may be prohibitive. Also, the water will have to be turned off, probably timed with stopping the water flowing in the City Ditch. The money saved could be used for amenities which could be used for a longer period of time. The performance deck could be smaller, allowing areas for s few slides, a few climbing structures for 2 - 5 year olds, and sand. Sand seems much more versatile than water.
- It’s not a skatepark. A skatepark would probably be cheaper
- Rather have grass & flowers
Q7. Please rank your favorite activities in this concept (n=313)

Please rank your favorite activities in this concept? (#1=top choice)

- Natural Turf: 2.77
- Performance deck with stadium seating: 2.83
- Interactive water feature: 3.97
- Terrace steps: 2.42
- Basket and belt swings: 3.18

Q8. What other features would you like to see in Concept B (n=194)

Themes
- More benches
- More play areas (mounds, climbable boulders, climbing structure)
- Water area too small
- Art (W, B, N statues moved here)
- Game tables
- Bike racks
- Flowers and greenery
- Sun shade for benches, tables, and/or swings
- Traditional playground elements (slide, monkey bars)

Representative Quotes
- Replace the performance deck and seating with a larger water feature as this will get too crowded unless it’s way bigger. More big kid swings and less basket swings. Swings for older kids were an issue before as there were never enough climbable mounds (like at the other playground in wash park)
- Possibly a small slide? Since the playground is so far south in the park
- I thought the Winken, Blinken, and Nod statue was to be moved back to this area. Prefer it over new statues as it acknowledges history of the park.
- This looks like a fun interactive place for families and couples to gather. The water feature is super but will/would be in high demand so needs to be large!
- Perhaps remove the stadium seating and add a larger water feature. We need on so badly it will be completely packed all summer
- "Raised flower beds/shrubs - Include turf mounds
- Play structures for older kids. Parkour, rock climbing, bouldering, skate park, monkey bars, 4 Square, wall ball, tether ball.
• Make the water feature bigger and more interactive. Add a splash ground. Copy features like Johnson-Habitat Park in Denver. There’s no reason we need a performance deck.
• I think having the smooth concrete mound for sliding would be very nice and to have a pump track that can move from each other

Q9. Any other thoughts you would like to share with us?

Themes
• B is better than A
• Don’t like either
• Add a skatepark
• Need it to be a playground only
• Need it to only be passive play
• Add shade structures

Representative Quotes
• Would like to see some picnic tables and small group gathering spots. This concept is much better than concept A
• The water feature will be extremely busy and there needs to be lots of shaded seating for caregivers
• “Same as Concept 1. Why remodel it????? It has been there for many years. Why change it??????
• I’d like to see something similar to the Westlands park on Quebec. Great play area and the water park area south of the park is the best I’ve seen.
• Focus on kids play. The adults dominate the great lawn area and can jog/bike/tennis. The new playground has less square footage than the prior two playgrounds.
• You must create a space that nurtures art and inclusion. Capitalize on the performance stage. Maximize seating. Concept B is vastly superior to Concept A.
• Thanks for all the good, creative work. I think either option will improve the area around the boathouse.
• These are terrible designs for children! The other playground is too congested and is not friendly for smaller children so it would be nice if this playground helped with those issues...
• Please stop forcing this modernist intervention into one of the most beautiful parts of our park, you are not listening to us. We do not want you to do this.
• My apologies if I am repetitive. The designer is doing a good job but is constricted by the space provided. Suggest spreading out the features and giving them a more flowing park like shape, rather than a city plaza shape. Although I like wood, it should probably not be used for flat surfaces exposed to sun and the elements. It just wont last and creates a maintenance issue. Choose a more durable material. Suggest tinting the concrete to mute the bright stark finish. Suggest incorporating the city ditch into the design more, or at least a connection to it with this plan. Seatwall edges work well and are flexible for family. Perhaps more of those
• I don’t think this needs to be a full on playground, but for a park this size kids need another safe place to play and climb. Please keep that in mind.
• The playground on the other side of the park is so crowded - need more play space to spread everyone out. Would LOVE an interactive water feature, since wash park doesn’t have an outdoor swimming pool.
• I think it is important that this space be inclusive of people of all ages and not just young children. I visit the park multiple times per week and this area is very convenient to meet up with friends. Also, my 80-year-old parents live in the near the park and it would be nice for them to have a space where they can relax when they’re in the park.
• Denver Parks should consider moving away from the current grass nearly everywhere strategy in Wash Park - it’s outdated and a poor choice for our arid climate. How about putting in some natural areas like what you’ve done in city park near DMNS?
• Parks & Rec built a huge playground farther south, near Lake Grasmere. We don’t need another, smaller playground by Smith Lake.
• I still think this design is trying to accomplish too much, but doing nothing extremely well. The boathouse is a city-wide attraction, and this area adjacent is an opportunity to really enhance it as an attraction the city can be proud of...instead of trying to tick all the boxes.
• Please build a skatepark. Skateboarding, scootering, and biking have province to improve quality of life. The nearest skatepark is a 15 min drive at best and many kids don’t have that option. Funding is many times not a problem because there is a lot of support for this skatepark and there are many foundations that help build skateparks.

DEMOGRAPHICS – optional

Q12. What is your home zip code? (n=306)

68% of respondents live in 80209 and 25% live in 80210 (surrounding Washington Park). Other common zip codes came from 80218 (1%), 80223 (1%) and 80220 (1%)

Q13. How old are you? (n=323)

How old are you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 7</th>
<th>8-11</th>
<th>12-14</th>
<th>15-17</th>
<th>18-34</th>
<th>35-44</th>
<th>45-54</th>
<th>55-64</th>
<th>55-74</th>
<th>75+</th>
<th>Prefer not to say</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.31%</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>1.24%</td>
<td>2.17%</td>
<td>8.05%</td>
<td>34.67%</td>
<td>16.41%</td>
<td>11.76%</td>
<td>17.96%</td>
<td>3.41%</td>
<td>3.41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q14. What is your gender identity? (n=323)

What is your gender identity?

- Female: 71.52%
- Male: 22.60%
- Prefer not to say: 4.95%
- Prefer to self-describe: 0.93%

Q15. How do you identify your race and/or ethnicity (select all that apply) (n=316)

How do you identify your race/ethnicity? (Please select all that apply.)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 0.95%
- Asian or Asian American: 2.22%
- Black or African American: 0.63%
- Hispanic or Latino: 3.16%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.63%
- White / Caucasian: 80.06%
- Prefer not to answer: 0.95%
- Other (please specify): 13.61%