Field Park Master Plan Update
28th October 2014
Tonight:

An update of the Master Plan 2006

How much of the Master Plan was constructed in 2007-8

What has been added since then

What is programmed to happen in the future
  • $350,000 programmed for Field Park Improvements in 2019

Discussion: How should we apply these funds?
Some of Main Items from Public Comment Date: Wednesday, April 5th, 2006

✔ Add a multi-use trail/peripheral path

✔ Plant lots of new trees
  PDOP and D97 have continued to plant additional trees and historic oaks may be planted next year

✔ Construct 3 playgrounds as school kids dominate the main playground

✔ Add a small drop-off to the Center but remove old concrete pad

✔ Add formal entryways and decorative fence
  (added entryways but decorative fence was too expensive, black vinyl was used instead)
Path system was instantly popular
Playgrounds were also instantly popular

Original playground in 2006

One of the new playgrounds in 2009
The new entryways changed the feel and use of the park

Northern Entry in 2006

New entry
Additional Trees

PDOP and D97 have continued to plant additional trees and hopefully historic oaks will be planted next year.

But much more has been added since the master plan.
Shelter & Bocce Added

Wildflower garden

Field Park Master Plan Update  Park District of Oak Park
Wildflower Garden, Shelter, and Bocce
Community Garden and Irrigation, Outdoors Classrooms, Moved Trash to free up space and for increased safety
And D97 redesigned and constructed the school playground, replaced the fence and added plantings in 2013.
## Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ 400,000 grant</td>
<td>Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources 2007-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ 1,057,547.98</td>
<td>PDOP, Phase 1 Construction 2007-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ 458,633.30</td>
<td>D97 Mann Playground, fence &amp; plantings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ 33,400.00</td>
<td>PTO, Outdoor classrooms and garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,549,581.28</td>
<td>Total plus incidental plantings and expenses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Back to the Master Plan and Community Comments

Main Items from Public Comment Date: Wednesday, April 5th, 2006

Looking into the Future..............................

In the long-term, the Center is to be removed and replaced by a Gym/Rec Center shared by school and community

Existing Center is in poor condition, but leave it for the moment and keep two potential sites for a new recreation center/gym attached to the school; one at the north end and one at the south end.

Currently there is NO funding available for a recreation/gym center
• The school playground was to move to the center of the park and free up space along Division for auto entry and parking.
• Teachers did not like the proposed site due to noise close to classrooms.
• Playground did not move and therefore parking did not move.
• D 97 parking did not move to the south
• Potential site for a new recreation/gym center remains but parking will become an issue
• Currently there is **NO** funding available for a recreation/gym center
Findings: Park Centers

Centers unused 45-75% of the day, financial burden, replace with multi-use shared facilities with multiple activities for children and adults.
2. Neighborhood Centers

Create efficiencies in operation, maintenance and programming by deconstructing some of the neighborhood centers

Support:

- Stakeholder interviews – generally supportive of removing some centers if creating a financial burden on District
- Community Survey – Centers ranked in lowest condition of District indoor facilities
- Trends – national trends towards centralization
- Usage – neighborhood centers are unused 45% to 70% of the time
- Priorities – these facilities cannot be efficiently used to address other community priorities
- Park & Facility Evaluations – some neighborhood centers were noted as having significant maintenance issues
The existing Field Park Center is in poor condition
Currently used primarily for preschool programs and restrooms
Rarely rented, spaces not flexible,
Financial burden for level of use
Long-term the building may not last
But no matter what happens the PDOP will keep a restroom facility
What is programmed to happen in the future

- 2019 PDOP has allocated $350,000 for additional improvements

  Suggested improvements include:

  Additional walking paths improvements, (replace poor concrete)
  Add lighting and landscape
  Improve drainage

  And/or

  Bagos, public art,
  shade structures for BaseBall,
  Another type of yard court use for the Bocce court
  But with Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources approval.
Add more trees to enclose the park and replace declining trees
Replace sections of concrete paths and improve drainage
Suggest alternate yard court use for the Bocci/Bocce Court?

Game being played in Italy

Bocci Court at Field Park
Discussion

- 2019 PDOP has allocated $350,000 for additional improvements

  Suggested improvements include:

  Additional walking paths improvements, (replace poor concrete)
  Add lighting and landscape
  Improve drainage

  And/or

  Bagos, public art,
  shade structures for BaseBall,
  Another type of yard court use for the Bocce court
  But with Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources approval.