City and County of San Francisco
Recreation and Parks Department
Failing Playgrounds Task Force
Meeting #5 NOTES
Wednesday July 29, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
City Hall, Room 278

AGENDA ITEM 1: Welcome and Review of Agenda

Working towards creating list of priority and need:
- Part 1 of agenda will present the three alternate lists prepared by the analytical team. None are proposed final lists but rather a range of alternatives to consider in developing your first draft final list.
- Part 2 will be more smaller group work, groups will choose one list as their preferred base and then work to improve it and to provide feedback for analytical team.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Alternative Lists of Priority Projects

Lists were created by starting with the report backs from the small groups from last meeting. Each groupused different criteria and and created a different prioritization. The lists we are presenting today similarly use different criteria and present different results.
- The Lists
    - 1st list prioritized household median income and proximity, then CCA wood and report card stores and then youth density and last renovated
    - 2nd prioritized CCA wood highest, then youth density and median household income, then report card and proximity and then last renovated
    - 3rd list sorted out the A and B graded playgrounds, then sorted with CCA wood, then report card score then house household median income
    - Looking at all three lists together, you can see we have also created a common universe of 25-30 playgrounds we are considering.
    - We also added an outer "bubble" layer—playgrounds that didn't quite make it and should be considered the first replacements if a chosen playground is removed.
- Questions/Observations/Ideas for Improvement
    - Explanation of weighting in first two lists: took scores for a criterion and then multiplied by a number (10, 6,4, 3, 2) to give more or less weight to that crierion.
        - Weighting quantifies the subjective judgment of importance
    - 3rd list: Removed playgrounds that got A's and B's, then sequentially sorted by CCA then report card scores (by ranks) and house hold median income
    - Regardless of multipliers used for weighting similar lists of playgrounds were created
    - Growth areas can be a tie-breaking element
    - How did you get to these three lists: looked at priorities from rankings heard from group at last meeting, played around to see how they fit together well
    - There are some criteria that are duplicative and cancel each other out

Failing Playgrounds Task Force
sfrecpark.org/failing-playgrounds-2012-bond

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AGENDA ITEM 3: Choosing/Creating a Preferred Alternative

Groups will take the 3 lists and evaluate which of the three is best place to start as a base for their custom list. Recommend starting to modify the outer levels first.

- Can also look outside the lists and add to it as seen fit, but need to have a compelling and unbiased reason.
- If would like to see more analysis, give the analytical team feedback.
- Use three lists, maps and profiles of the playgrounds
- Report Backs
  - Group 1: Went back to original purpose of Task Force to define playgrounds that are failing.
    - Referenced original map of playgrounds with CCA-treated wood. Both tiers all have CCA issues. Inner circle: low income, high youth density. Created outer bubble tier of other playgrounds with low-income, high-density issues.
    - Excluded India Basin because playground doesn't present as needing renovation and is not best served by this pot of money. Also excluded Portsmouth, although it serves a low income demographic there is larger scale master planning occurring in that area.
    - Wanted to have less complex and straight forward criteria to make for a simpler narrative in explaining results
   - Results:

- Group 2: Lists B and C resonated the most, looked at commonalities between the two.
  - Both look at CCA and Report card in first tier, then looked at pictures, profiles and stats and to make decisions playground by playground, still keeping the same criteria in mind.
  - also looked at parks that were to be renovated in the next year or two.
  - Results:
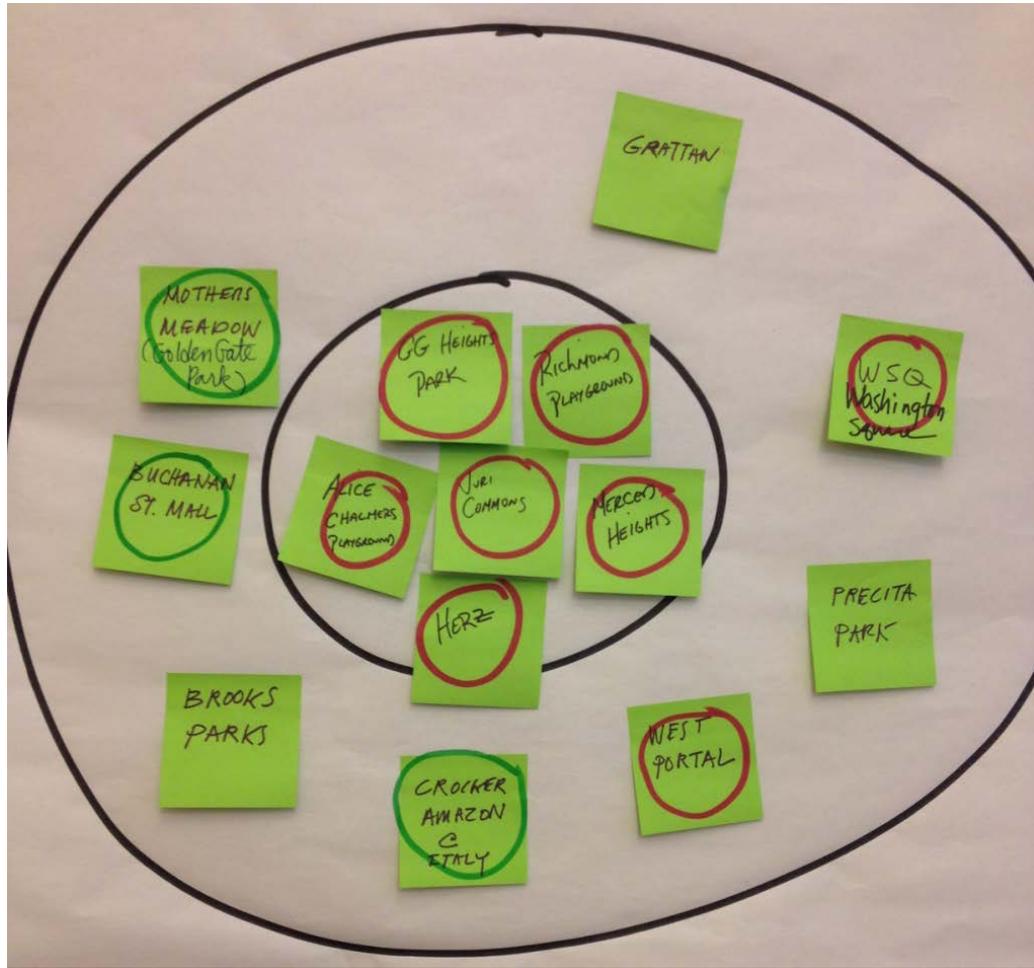
- Group 3: Took common playgrounds and assigned points based on placement in tiers.
  - 3 playgrounds showed up on inner circle on all 3 lists, started with those 3 as basis of the custom list
  - Then added the 4 playgrounds that showed up in inner or outer on all 3 original lists into the inner circle of custom list.
  - For the outer circle looked at how often they appeared, added Mothers Meadow because of use and location.
  - Relied heavily on visuals to create outer layer.

- Results:
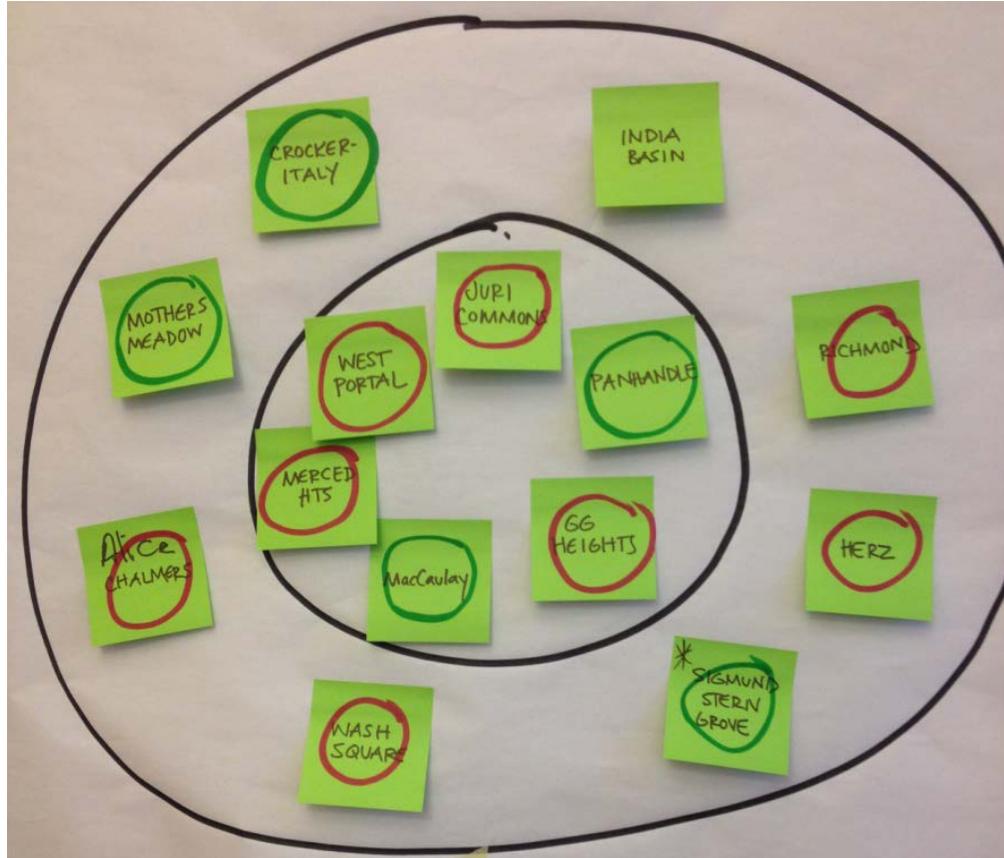
- o Quick analysis: 8 of the 14 show up on all 3 lists created by Task Force members.
  - In photos, playgrounds circled in pink appear on all 3 lists and playgrounds circled in green appear on 2 out of 3 lists.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Next Steps and Observations

Additional information and tools requested:
- Richmond playground and density pocket surrounding it
- Ranking within tiers
- Deeper analysis of results from today
- CCA on the playground vs on surrounding park facilities
- Share information on what parks are part of larger master planning processes' and can thus be excluded
- Report card detailed information
- Tonight's breakout group work be available for reference
- Geographic distribution of the common sites
- Size of each site—to compare "mini" parks and playgrounds

General Observations
- Groups independently came to the consensus that Alice Chalmers is not an A.
- India basin and Portsmouth both being included in a larger scale planning processes were also discounted.
- Strong importance on CCA and low income, high youth density, report card.
- Some Task Force members discounted report card grades due to questions about validity of grades.

- Other Task Force members didn't think report card was perfect, but liked approach of taking out A&B playgrounds when creating lists.
- Mini Parks & bang for buck analysis:
  - Some mini parks are islands, don't have other parks around - Doesn't mean they're not important is just one of the choices to make.
  - How much space is actually at mini parks? Bringing some of them up to code will take away equipment.
- Should be thinking about McLaren playgrounds as playgrounds even though play structures have been removed – think about future potential.

Analytical team will send out a compilation of tonight's work and work on gathering data based on feedback for the next meeting.

Task Force Members in Attendance:
Julia Brashares, Director of Street Parks, SF Parks Alliance
Alejandra Chiesa, Project Manager - Parks for People, Trust for Public Land
Anthony Cuadro, D7 Representative, PROSAC
Rob Connolly, President, Boys & Girls Club of San Francisco
Dawn Kamalanathan, Director of Planning & Capital Management, SF Recreation & Park Department
Eric McDonnell, Commissioner, Recreation and Parks Commission
Albert Ko, Executive Vice President, SF Parent Teacher Association
Michelle Parker, VP Communications, SF Parent Teacher Association
Mario Paz, Executive Director, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center
Mark Scheuer, D8 Representative, PROSAC
Lee Anne Weldon, Council Member, Policy Council, SF Parks Alliance

Task Force Members not in Attendance:
Katie Albright, Executive Director, San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center
Chelsea Boilard, Director of Programs, Coleman Advocates
Doreen Pacini, Youth Representative, GreenAgers