

City and County of San Francisco
Recreation and Parks Department
Failing Playgrounds Task Force
Meeting #7 NOTES
Tuesday November 18, 5:30 – 7:30 PM
City Hall, Room 278

AGENDA ITEM 1: Welcome/thank you/review of agenda

Task Force members will have time to send additional comments on the final reports

- However, Task Force will not be revisiting the decisions made in Meeting 6

AGENDA ITEM 2: Review and Refine Final Report

Quick overview: Report attempts to do a thorough job of documenting the evolution of the Task Force meetings and the critical issues behind the decisions that were made and how decisions were made

- Major themes heard and issues facing the Task Force
- Final maps shown in the Appendix

Task Force final thoughts regarding the report:

- Michelle Parker: Really impressed with the report, reflecting on the process, impressed with staff responsiveness, transparently communicates what happened at the meetings, covered themes, covered process, is the next best thing to having been at the meetings
- Rob Connelly: Appreciated picture juxtapositions of kids on the playgrounds. Report encapsulates what happened in the process although was play value actually a high priority? Two asks going forward, (1) how will the process survive us? Is every task force going to start from scratch? (2) Keeping Task Force informed as the Recreation and Park Commission makes decisions, as well as updated on playground renovations and openings
- Lee Anne: Felt happy with final outcome, felt strongly about removal of CCA pressure treated wood, know there are additional task forces in the future and following a similar kind of process of transparency, go to public meetings if really interested
- Dawn: Staff did very thorough job
- Albert: Staff was amazing and anticipated questions, process was open and inclusive
- Anthony: Important that the Task Force brought together people from different backgrounds and using different technology like Tableau. Inclusion of McLaren Park - Group Picnic section articulated very well the concerns of the Task Force, some grammatical errors still present and should be corrected.
- Katie Albright: open and inclusive with community members, came to a consensus in a way that was very San Francisco
- Toks Ajike: very functional Task Force, the level of questions asked was incredibly thoughtful and beneficial throughout the process
- Lisa Bransten: created a group of city wide advocates for playgrounds



Failing Playgrounds Task Force

sfrecpark.org/failing-playgrounds-2012-bond

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Public Comment:

- Linda D'Avviro: list brings up opportunities for other money streams or other grant opportunities
- Edna James: appreciate the time, report is excellent

Addressing Play value question:

- Proper representation of play value-it was decided that play value was not easy to quantify
- Play value got past it note votes but was not as frequently discussed as report card grades

Report Title Discussion:

- Katie- to change the name, we need to know who the audience is
 - Dawn- Rec and Park Commission is the final audience
- Dawn: Origin of the title is from the bond report, called the Failing Playgrounds program
 - Consistency
- Aspirational titles with Failing Playgrounds as a subtitle? Title suggestions:
 - Go play San Francisco
 - Get out and play

AGENDA ITEM 3: Playground Task Force Narrative

What would say if asked what the Task Force did?

- There is no one story- many tasks were accomplished and need to have different stories to resonate with different communities/stakeholders
- If asked questions on why a certain playground?
 - Referring back to the report, the need always outweighs the resources at hand. There are always important trade-offs that has to be made in coming to decisions.
- Themes:
 - Reviewed existing data to understand current state of playgrounds in SF
 - Developed a set of criteria for prioritizing playgrounds for rehabilitation - CCA treated wood, low household median income, and high youth density
 - From this, created tiered list for which playgrounds will receive priority for rehabilitation

AGENDA ITEM 4: Next Steps

Task Force members asked if there would there be the opportunity to have a 1 or 2 pager on how expensive playgrounds are?

- Information is roughly captured in the report but isn't a main point, but Task Force should be transparent about this

Upcoming milestones: RPD Commission presentation, design charrette, and implementation plan

- Presenting the staff report to the RPD commission on Dec 18th 10AM
 - Public comment encouraged, especially from those who regularly attended Task Force meeting
 - Hoping to adopt at the Dec 18th meeting, skipping capital committee
- Design forum to be hosted by the Parks Alliance in early 2015.
 - Design Forum will bring together community leaders, parents, children, child advocates, and landscape designers to set design guidelines and discuss experiences children should have at playgrounds that will be renovated. Sonia and Julia will be leading the process.

- Toks and Dawn will return to commission in March or April to present the capital delivery plan.
 - The plan will propose a schedule for design and process.
 - Time is needed to make some strategic decisions around working with philanthropic partners and how to possibly bunch playgrounds together for economic reasons.
 - Always helpful to have community represented at commission meetings, not anticipating it being a contentious meeting but if have time certainly welcome attendance for community perspective.
 - Design of each of the playground will come back to the commission separately as well