Resolution 2011 -099

Resolution to Approve the Recommended Schematic Design for Farview Park Wading Pool and Site Improvements

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) exists to provide places and recreation opportunities for all people to gather, celebrate, contemplate and engage in activities that promote health, well-being, community and the environment; and

Whereas, Farview Park was one of the first parks acquired by the Board of Park Commissioners;

Whereas, In 1953 a concrete wading pool was constructed at Farview Park;

Whereas, In 2010 the wading pool closed to the public due to mechanical issues;

Whereas, The Board authorized $500,000 from the Neighborhood Capital Improvement Program as part of the additional pay-as-you-go funding for replacement of the wading pool and site improvements at Farview Park;

Whereas, Neighborhood residents met on March 31, 2011 and recommended a preferred schematic design option for the wading pool replacement and site improvements; and

Whereas, Neighborhood youth reviewed and voted on possible water features for the new wading pool;

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the schematic design for a wading pool and site improvements at Farview Park; and

RESOLVED, That the President and Secretary of the Board are authorized to take all necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.

Adopted by the Park & Recreation Board
In formal meeting assembled on June 1, 2011

_____
John Erwin, President

_____
Karen Robinson, Secretary

Approved:

_____
R.T. Rybak, Mayor

TO: Planning Committee

FROM: Don Siggelkow, Assistant Superintendent for Development

DATE: May 18, 2011

SUBJECT: Resolution to Approve the Recommended Schematic Design for Farview Wading Pool and Site Improvements

Background

This project will replace an existing 1953 wading pool that was closed in 2010 due to required maintenance. At the time, it was determined that the needed repairs to the pool and associated mechanicals and restroom building would be inordinately costly and would not guarantee that other parts of the aged infrastructure would continue to function without additional major repairs.

Since the pool was constructed a gymnasium was added to the recreation center. Since there are no windows in the walls of the gym, the pool is currently difficult for staff to supervise. In addition it is located in full sun. Given this, the age of the pool and underground infrastructure, and current regulatory codes and health considerations for sun exposure, a new location for the pool was discussed with the neighborhood. The proposed new site, located near the park side entry to the recreation center, would allow for better site surveillance and natural shading from existing park trees. A project goal is to provide a convenient location to add new restroom facilities to the south side of the building for pool and park users. The removal of the existing wading pool and restoration of the area to turf has been included in the preliminary budget for the project.

The major components of the project will include:

- 1953 wading pool removal with site restoration to turf
- New code compliant, zero depth entry wading pool with water spray features
- New pool decking and amenities enclosed with fencing and security gate
- New restrooms and pool mechanicals room as exterior addition to the park building
- Removal, relocation and reinstallation of an existing rain garden at the site

- Redesign and restoration of pedestrian paths as needed
- Soil corrections, earthwork and general lighting and landscape improvements.

A community meeting was held on March 31, 2011 to review possible designs for the new wading pool. Community members supported option 3 for the pool and indicated that putting the shallow end of the pool closest to the building would be preferred to help with supervision. Staff and the consultant agree and made this change in the recommended schematic design. Residents also discussed the importance of retaining the rain garden that had been funded by the neighborhood. This will be re-built during the construction process. Additional topics included the repurposing of the existing restroom and pool mechanical building for storage, and prioritization of improvements. Staff will include options for repurposing the existing restroom/pool mechanical building into storage in the bid package for the project to determine feasibility of retaining the building.

This project is funded at $500,000 from the Neighborhood Capital Improvement Program as part of the additional pay-as-you-go funding. It is anticipated that design and construction of the wading pool coupled with mechanicals and an outdoor restroom will require all of the available funding.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve the recommended schematic design for Farview Park wading pool.

Attachments

Farview Park Site Map and Wading Pool Schematic Design

Previous Board Actions

December 13, 2010	Approval of 2011 Budget and 2011-2016 Capital Improvement Program

Prepared by: Jennifer Ringold, Manager of Public Engagement and Citywide Planning
Reviewed by: Don Siggelkow, Assistant Superintendent of Development Services
Approved by: Jayne Miller, Superintendent