



Onion Creek All Abilities Playground Community Meeting 1

January 18, 2023 (Virtual)

Questions and Answers and Chat below.

Meeting Question and Answer

#	Question	Asker Name	Answer	Question Time	Answer Name
1	Hello Neighbors. Happy New Year.	carlos austin		1/18/2024 18:33	
2	no hay problema.	carlos austin		1/18/2024 18:33	
3	How is parks coordinating with CapMetro to ensure there is plentiful accessible transportation from across the city to the park? I am a full-time wheelchair user. I live in the city but CapMetro does not provide services in my neighborhood. Without a method of getting to and from the park, its utility is limited.	Steven Eichner	Hi Steven- thank you for sharing your experience with us. Our team will be looking at all aspects of access to the site and we will make note of the information you have provided. Stay tuned as we continue to develop the design!	1/18/2024 18:43	Megan Daniel
4	Two missing elements in the plan are 1) the above-mentioned issue about transportation to the park and playground and 2) sufficient wheelchair/disabled accessible parking (probably exceeding state-required minimums) to accommodate expected usage.	Steven Eichner	Additional parking spaces and new drive connections will be included as a part of the new All Abilities Playground. Wheelchair/disabled accessible parking will be a top priority as part of those improvements.	1/18/2024 18:52	Megan Daniel
5	I work at one of the school and that sounds great. But now it's really unaccessible. There's not even sidewalks to get to the park and trails are not kept	Anonymous Attendee	Thank you for sharing your experience! Creating safe and accessible connections to the nearby schools is a top priority. We will make sure to record your feedback and take it into consideration as we design.	1/18/2024 18:55	Megan Daniel



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6	Have trash cans that are not used by the neighborhood to get rid of their extra trash.	carlos austin	Hi Carlos! Thank you for your feedback. We have noted your comment and will take it into consideration as we look into maintenance and placement of trash cans within the playground.	1/18/2024 18:58	Megan Daniel
7	create barriers to keep motorized vehicles from local to ride around the park. But access to the city to maintain the park.	carlos austin	Thanks Carlos- fencing will be a key consideration as we develop the design for this playground. We will make note of your comment	1/18/2024 18:58	Megan Daniel
8	I am very glad you are considering planting trees and providing shade. That will make the playground much more inviting.	wendy todd	Thanks for your input, Wendy! We agree that shade will be crucial for the comfort of the playground!	1/18/2024 18:59	Megan Daniel
9	Doggie poop bags dispensers along the trails to encourage owners to pick up after their pets.	carlos austin	Thanks for the feedback! We will be sure to note this as we think through the maintenance for this playground.	1/18/2024 18:59	Megan Daniel
10	Signage that helps people to fully enjoy all the benefits of the park and maybe in spanish too.	carlos austin	Great idea! Any proposed signage will be multilingual and as accessible as possible.	1/18/2024 19:00	Megan Daniel
11	Thank you for doing this.	carlos austin	Thank you for joining and for all your great feedback!	1/18/2024 19:01	Megan Daniel
12	Please consider USERS of all ages and not just "children." Everyone of all ages and abilities likes to play.	Steven Eichner	Thank you for that note! We agree that everyone of all ages and abilities deserves access to play. We will be taking all park visitors into account and encouraging feedback from people of all ages so this space will be welcoming to all.	1/18/2024 19:07	Megan Daniel
13	You have repeatedly said "children of all ages" during the presentation. Please take that to heart and really mean "all park visitors."	Steven Eichner	Thank you for all of your great feedback, Steven. We hope to hear more from you throughout the design process!	1/18/2024 19:09	Megan Daniel
14	If the design included a raised platform, it could be used as a fantasy stage for play as well as	Steven Eichner	Great idea! Please be sure to take the survey following this meeting- we are also interested in exploring unique	1/18/2024 19:11	Megan Daniel



	for use as an actual stage for entertainment.		types of play (such as performance) and would love your feedback.		
15	These structures are interesting to look at, but don't seem very functional to me. I would consider maximizing space and functionality. I don't see the "all abilities" component in this	Veronica Lara	Hi Veronica! Your feedback has been noted and will be taken into consideration as we work through the design. Accessibility is our top priority for this playground!	1/18/2024 19:13	Megan Daniel
16	Is there any plan to do a skatepark as discussed in the Vision Plan? I am interested in the concrete landforms with the spheres, these are also multi-use for wheeled sports like a pumptrack/ moguls can be played on and skated	Shane Yee	The skate park is called out in the 2015 vision plan in a different part of the park, off of Pleasant Valley Rd. Thank you though for your comments and feedback on features to be included in the playground area.	1/18/2024 19:13	Megan Daniel
17	A sugesstion would be to include the local culture which is bilingual/ hispanic heritage.	Pedro Caamano	Thank you, Pedro! We have noted your suggestion. Please also be sure to take the survey following this meeting- we ask a few questions about cultural aspects of the playground.	1/18/2024 19:16	Megan Daniel
18	Is there a plan for an area that can host exposition events? I can imagine a space where kids get to see a fire engine or a train engine to understand how they work. Could also host "museum-style" events in art, music, history, natural history, etc.	Michael Swinney	That is a great idea- thank you! We will consider this as we move forward with the design. Please be sure to take the survey following the meeting- there are a few questions about incorporating art, music and history into the playground.	1/18/2024 19:26	Megan Daniel
19	I have to go but I am really interested in participating in this project. I think I can provide valuable feedback since I have been in the area since 2006, I am a board member in my community and SPED teacher in a closeby school. My email is pedrocaam77@gmail.com. Thank you for doing this!	Pedro Caamano	Thank you for joining, Pedro! We will keep in touch throughout the process. There will be plenty more opportunities for feedback and engagement in the coming months.	1/18/2024 19:28	Megan Daniel



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20	A tennis court with kid friendly features. I volunteered at city courts in Brooklyn teaching children tennis who lived nearby. Removing the typical physical and financial barriers to play tennis was such a cool experience. There's no access to tennis courts in Onion Creek.	Anonymous Attendee	Thank you for sharing your experience and ideas! We will keep this in mind as we start designing.	1/18/2024 19:34	Megan Daniel
21	How was this area of Onion Creek selected for this project? It seems like this is already an excellent park and a better ROI would be to improve in the nearby Onion Creek Plantation or Onion Creek Forest which could be drastically improved with this park plan.	Geoffrey King	Onion Creek Metro was selected for this project for many reasons. The 2015 vision plan calls for the park to be more inclusive and provide more access overall. The vision for Onion Creek Metro Park is one of inclusivity for all ages, abilities, social economic statuses and variety of interests. Metro Parks are the largest parks in the system of parks in Austin and we envision that this playground will serve the neighborhoods around it as well as welcome people of all abilities from across the city.	1/18/2024 19:41	Megan Daniel



Chat from the Meeting

- 01:02:31 carlos austin: Hello to all of you. Happy New Year.
- 01:03:51 carlos austin: Weird we cannot see any of you.
- 01:05:12 jenni parandian: will we be able to see who is speaking?
- 01:06:42 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Hi Jenni - you should be able to see who is speaking in the "view" area of zoom.
- 01:07:14 Justin Schneider: Carlos and everyone, our ASL interpreters have been highlighted for access. We are exploring if it is possible for participants to change the speaker view.
- 01:08:05 carlos austin: Thank you. It's about community and watching a power point with no humans does not seem very friendly.
- 01:09:53 jenni parandian: no I cannot change view. At top it state "You are viewing Sebastian Puente, CS' screen.
- 01:10:31 jenni parandian: I can only see the interpreter
- 01:10:51 Debbie Cerda: Thanks to Austin Parks Foundation for sharing this community meeting - as a former volunteer coordinator for a local business, excited to see this partnership!
- 01:13:04 Hythus Hu, TBG: if you joined from you phone, try swipe right to see the presenter?
- 01:14:17 Vanessa Fuentes, D2 Austin City Councilwoman: Thanks again for joining today's Community Meeting! If I can assist, please don't hesitate to reach out to YOUR District 2 Office at District2@austintexas.gov or 512-978-2102. Thanks! Vanessa Fuentes, Austin City Councilwoman, District 2
- 01:14:28 carlos austin: audio is breaking up.
- 01:14:30 jenni parandian: loosing sound now to
- 01:15:11 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Survey
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAP-SURV-Eng>
- 01:15:26 carlos austin: Thank you for showing yourself Sebastian.
- 01:16:18 Lacey Spark: I think the issue is that Zoom cannot pin the ASL interpreter and ALSO show the speakers at the same time.
- 01:30:00 carlos austin: Gotta bounce for another meeting. Good luck for 2024 for you and your families.
- 01:30:10 jenni parandian: I can see adam now



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01:33:38 Steven Eichner: Please consider USERS of all ages and not just "children." Everyone, regardless of age, likes to play.

01:34:02 jenni parandian: Yes SE, my question to, what is the target age groups?

01:38:35 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: 53rd Ave Park West, Oregon

What do you like about this playground?

Can you identify specific play experiences you're interested in?

01:39:41 Jaime Zwiener: *

01:41:23 Janell Moyes: the lower left image of the 53rd ave park suggests play is available to larger visitors

01:41:36 Jennifer Lewis: Love how playful & inviting this park is. Would also love to see fencing around specific areas for helpful containment for kiddos who are prone to wandering so they can have a bit more freedom to explore safely.

01:41:57 Steven Eichner: we don't need a \$300,000 sculpture

01:42:30 Cecilia Hogan: Yes to the fence especially given how fast people drive around that corner on Nuckols Crossing!

01:42:52 Ashleigh Alvarez: The Rosedale School has an amazing playground as well as the RR All Abilities Park

01:43:10 Janell Moyes: My 9 year old is hoping hoping hoping to have a wheels play town down south as well

01:43:27 jenni parandian: These are beautiful concepts. I experienced a beautiful park in Jerusalem (Sacher park) last year, had experiences for all ages even for young and late teens. Also had a Ninja Course... would love to see something for the older kids

01:43:34 Tisha Hood: 1) Will there be any "painted engagement" on the floor for those with limited ability to "play upwards". For example, like hopscotch?

2) will there be cross engagement play spaces? Like 4 square that encourages a sense of belonging across visitors?

3) And I like the quiet spaces for book readers or those with sound sensitivity needs

01:44:00 Matt K Dawson: I would love the addition of shade structures and very large trees

01:44:34 Jaime Zwiener: enclosures (ie fencing) can be creative/artful/playful



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- 01:45:22 Spanish Recording (PAR): From Lupita (translation): My daughter is 12 years old with cerebral palsy and I really love that there was a separate bathroom where there is a large table for changing diapers. This has always been a big problem.
- 01:45:31 Ashleigh Alvarez: Fencing, nature component, music, splash pad, swings/hammocks for all abilities
- 01:45:44 Laura Guli: yes to quiet and calm spaces for those kids who are easily overwhelmed
- 01:45:50 Jaime Zwiener: Areas where individuals create their own play through their own imagination!
- 01:46:14 Ashleigh Alvarez: Morgan's Wonderland in San Antonio has a great layout too
- 01:46:14 Spanish Recording (PAR): From Lupita: I suggest you visit Rosedale School...their playground is beautiful.
- 01:46:34 Laura Guli: first aid readily available
- 01:46:55 Ashleigh Alvarez: We have an all abilities playground at The Rosedale School. The foundation would be happy to host a tour for the group, if interested.

We also host several Saturday Community Play Days open to the public.

- 01:47:06 Geoffrey King: The beauty of this park and 517 property is the raw nature. Parks and playgrounds are great, but please keep the raw state of this land in mind when designing. I see additional parking lots and expensive sculptures to be eyesores
- 01:49:03 Janell Moyes: Schaper Park in Minneapolis is a good example of a ninja course. It useful to small and large users.
- 01:49:21 Tisha Hood: GATHERING PLACE in Tulsa, Ok!!!
- 01:49:39 Geoffrey King: We are also already having flooding issues in Onion Creek. The city is working on the Onion Creek Flood Risk Reduction project and more impervious cover will have a direct impact on those of us that close to the creek.
- 01:50:25 Matt K Dawson:I would love for some place to view birds and wildlife
- 01:50:42 Laura Guli: include an art aspect ... chalk for kids, mosaic, etc
- 01:51:11 Jaime Zwiener: nature provides some of the best play opportunities!
- 01:51:50 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Woodland Discovery Playground, Tennessee

What do you like about this playground?

Can you identify specific play experiences you're interested in?



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01:53:15 Janell Moyes: Natural ground is nice, yet those picnic tables look difficult to access!
The natural look is really nice.

01:53:28 Tisha Hood: I like the seating options. Just make sure its smooth flooring as
wheelchairs cannot navigate on them.

01:53:47 Laura Guli: not green enough to me

01:54:31 Cecilia Hogan: I love nearby and was sad when I saw so many trees cut down to make
this park. So I would love a woodland theme park especially if it meant planting a bunch of trees.

01:54:40 Cecilia Hogan: I live* nearby

01:56:45 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Gathering Place, Oklahoma

What do you like about this playground?

Can you identify specific play experiences you're interested in?

01:56:46 Steven Eichner: An issue with gates is ensuring people in wheelchairs can get through
without using their arms if they have limited reach

01:56:57 Jaime Zwiener: shade of different kinds

01:57:18 Janell Moyes: wow The Gathering Place is pretty

01:57:40 Tisha Hood: 🙌🙌🙌 I vote 100% for the inspiration from Gathering Place!! 🎉

01:57:47 jenni parandian: Love this one!

01:58:14 Laura Guli: this is great

01:58:26 Cecilia Hogan: I love those giant bird statues, they add a sense of wonder

02:00:52 jenni parandian: Food forest?

02:02:42 Leticia Mendoza: Does this park have any elements of "playground equipment"
for all abilities? I love the natural and green spaces.

02:04:32 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Martin's Park, Massachusetts

What do you like about this playground?

Can you identify specific play experiences you're interested in?

02:04:37 Tisha Hood: YAAAAAY!!

02:04:52 Leticia Mendoza: Yes!

02:05:05 Janell Moyes: what an amazing ship!

02:05:17 Leticia Mendoza: This is a cool option! Looks like anyone and any age would have
fun here.



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- 02:05:17 Ashleigh Alvarez: Yes, that ship is super cool
- 02:05:27 Sarah Hafley: I like the opportunities for imaginative play
- 02:05:42 Tisha Hood: This park does include educational component about the history that could be inspiration for Chisolm Trail history...
- 02:05:49 Laura Guli: yes to sensory play experiences/equipment especially for neurodivergent population
- 02:06:26 Ashleigh Alvarez: Check out the Dinosaur Park in Kaiserslautern, Germany. It's incredible.
- 02:07:13 Carmen Whitten: I acknowledge the need for smooth surfaces for greater accessibility but it's very important, especially in the Onion Creek watershed, to have pervious ground cover. It seems like this parks has a lot of concrete paths
- 02:07:15 Leticia Mendoza: For any design chosen, perhaps engagement and educational prompts/signage (bilingual) for caretakers to lead learning opportunities; e.g. How many round shapes can you find?"
- 02:07:21 Ashleigh Alvarez: Austin is known for music, the bats, and outdoor activities. Incorporating those elements into the park
- 02:07:27 jenni parandian: there is a native American history here and the history of the camino real
- 02:08:15 Tisha Hood: Can we have a bridge incorporated into Onion Creek? Both Gathering Place and Martin's Park have bridges (both accessible by wheelchair) and it's such a wonderful touch. It's fun to have the varied levels of perspective.
- 02:09:05 Steven Eichner: I had to briefly disconnect. The parks department needs to be a good steward of scarce resources like water and serve as an example in conserving water and complying with drought restrictions on water use.
- 02:10:15 Steven Eichner: If the city doesn't adhere to restrictions, citizens may be less likely to comply.
- 02:11:39 Ashleigh Alvarez: Thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication to the neurodiverse community!
- 02:12:30 Steven Eichner: Gates need to be designed in ways they can be operated without using arms. Some people, including myself as a wheelchair user, have no/limited ability to reach out in front of them. I cannot open a fence gate.
- 02:12:46 Laura Guli: maybe a small area for a garden kids can work on



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- 02:13:03 jenni parandian: I live adjacent to the park, we have so much beautiful wildlife and plant life. A bird blind might be nice near the woodland edge. We have a lot a deer, hawks, coyote, fox, that still inhabit the park
- 02:13:56 Leticia Mendoza: Have we considered a children's focus group for their input on design?
- 02:14:37 Laura Guli: love the idea of a childrens focus group
- 02:15:27 Tisha Hood: Same. Love the children's focus group BUT we must make sure it is representative of the varied communities across Austin! Not just the children from the immediate area.
- 02:15:54 Janell Moyes: I once took my children to a general public input opportunity for the Dick Nichols playground improvements. It was fantastic for them to participate in community engagement important to them.
- 02:16:19 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: small group discussions
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAP-SGD>
- 02:17:58 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Survey
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AAP-SURV-Eng>
- 02:18:06 Jennifer Lewis: Thank you so much for taking into account the community in the plans for this project - looking forward to seeing this come to life.
- 02:19:25 Tisha Hood: Thank you for the chance to be included in the process! We're excited!!
- 02:19:40 Janell Moyes: thank you thank you!
- 02:19:44 Diane Miller, Community Engagement: Website
<https://www.austintexas.gov/Onion-Creek-All-Abilities>
- 02:19:51 Laura Guli: wonderful project!!
- 02:20:19 Matt K Dawson:Great job everyone!