

Carmichael

RECREATION AND
PARK DISTRICT

Memo

To: Advisory Board Directors

From: Stacey Yankee, District Administrator
Mike Blondino, Advisor to the District Administrator

Date: October 17, 2024

Subject: Cardinal Oaks Park Conceptual Design

Introduction/Discussion:

CRPD staff and the Cumming Group have been actively collaborating with Callander Associates to redesign Cardinal Oaks Park. The project aims to update and enhance the park based on community needs and input. We have made significant progress since initiating the redesign process, and we are now seeking your approval of the conceptual design so we can proceed to the construction documents phase.

Project Timeline and Stakeholder Engagement:

Bi-Weekly Meetings (Since Late June 2024):

CRPD staff, the Cumming Group, and Callander Associates have been conducting regular bi-weekly meetings since late June 2024. These meetings have been crucial in shaping the design direction and ensuring alignment with community interests and project goals.

Community Survey (Early September 2024):

In early September, we conducted an extensive survey of the surrounding neighborhood. The survey was promoted through multiple channels, including postcards to local residents, signage in the park itself, and social media outreach. We also work with a contact through Supervisor Desmond's office to engage the Afghan population. This approach helped us gather feedback from a diverse group of community members.

Online Community Meeting (October 1, 2024):

Following the survey, an online community meeting was held on October 1, 2024. During this meeting, we presented key findings from the survey and opened the floor for further community input. This session helped refine the park design based on neighborhood feedback.

Key Findings from Community Engagement:

The community survey and feedback from the online meeting provided us with valuable insights. Some of the most frequently mentioned priorities included:

- Improved recreational facilities, including updated playground equipment and seating areas.
- Enhanced accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
- Desire for additional lighting and safety features to ensure a welcoming environment throughout the day.

Conceptual Design:

The conceptual design integrates the feedback we received from the community. Some highlights of the proposed design include:

- Revamped Playground: Modernized play structures suitable for children of different age groups and abilities.
- Accessible Pathways: ADA-compliant pathways that improve access to all areas of the park.
- Sustainability Features: Low-water landscaping and the inclusion of native plant species to support the local ecosystem and reduce maintenance costs.
- Safety Enhancements: Improved lighting fixtures and add security cameras to ensure a safe environment for all parkgoers.
- Community Space: A dedicated area for picnics and small gatherings, responding to community requests for more social spaces.

Recommendation:

Staff recommend accepting the presented conceptual design by Callander Associates. Upon your approval, we will move into the detailed construction drawing phase, where we will further refine the project and work towards bidding of the project and construction.