



Callander Associates

Landscape Architecture

40
YEARS

Via Email Only

September 17, 2018

Meeting Summary

East Avenue Park Renovation

RE: Community Meeting #1

Date: September 15, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Attendees: **Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD):**

Hai-Ping Mo, moha@haywardrec.org

Meghan Tiernan, tiem@haywardrec.org

Callander Associates (CA):

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The purpose of this meeting was to receive input from the community on their concerns about the existing park and their level of support for potential park enhancements and changes.

Meeting Results Summary

The majority of attendees were 55 or older, live adjacent to the park, use the park daily, visit the park for an hour at a time, and walk to the park when they visit. Feel and character of the park is very important to the majority of the attendees. The open green space and trees greatly add to this feeling. The top amenities that attendees want improved are the restrooms, picnic tables, and the basketball court. The top concerns attendees want addressed are traffic/speeding through the park and adjacent to the park without adding more parking, summer camp impacts (such as noise, length, and traffic), dogs not being on leashes, and trail/bridge maintenance.

User Questionnaire (#1 to #9)

The majority of attendees were 55 or older, live adjacent to the park, use the park daily, visit the park for an hour at a time, and walk to the park when they visit.

Total returned questionnaires: 30

Total number of attendees: 32

Question #1: How old are you?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Under 16	0
16 to 30	0
31 to 55	7
55+	22

(one respondent left question blank)

Question #2: How far is your home from the park?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Adjacent to the park	22
1 mile	8
2 to 5 miles	0
5 to 10 miles	0
More than 10 miles	0

Question #3: How often do you visit the park?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Daily	24
Weekly	4
Monthly	1
Yearly	1
Rarely/Never	0

Question #4: When do you primarily visit the park?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Weekends	4
Weekdays	2
Both	24
Never	0

Question #5: When you visit the park, how often do you stay?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Less than one hour	8
1 hour	15
2 to 4 hours	7
More than 4 hours	0

Question #6: By what means do you get to the park most often?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Car	1
Bike	0
Walk	29
Transit	0
Other	0

Question #7: What do you like most about the park?

<i>Options</i>	<i>Tally</i>
Picnic areas	2
Playground	3
Basketball	5
Horseshoes	0
Feel/Character	13
Trees	19
Distance/Convenience	14
Summer Camp Program	3
Other (Trails)	6

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Question #8: What are the most important things to improve at the park? (Ranking)

The top three things attendees want improved at the park are the restrooms, trails, and dogs having leashes on. This was determined by assigning points to each category (3 points for A, 2 points for B, and 1 point for C) and adding up the total points.

A – Highest Priority:

- Bridges //
- Bus kids to and from your office
- A much better basketball court
- Bathroom ///
- Don't need extra parking
- Preservation of open space & access to greenbelt
- Hiking paths
- Less car congestion
- Dogs on the leash ||
- Leave trees
- Accessibility
- New trees
- Play structure
- Keep the outdoor county to it
- Maintain grass on hill
- Camp parking
- View
- I like the park the way it is, a small neighborhood feel

B – Medium Priority:

- Bathrooms
- Safe trees
- Trails and bridges /
- Need more green space
- Playground
- Tables & benches
- Ongoing care
- Security
- Walking trail drainage
- Open area
- Update tables
- Replace trees
- Dead trees removed
- Maintain trees (as many as possible)
- More security
- Move containers

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C – Lowest Priority:

- Basketball
- Need more natural landscape
- Monitoring traffic to and from summer camps/unsafe conditions
- Bathrooms?
- Parking
- Sporting amenities
- Hiking trails
- Update bathroom
- Not increase picnic areas size
- Gopher holes
- Relocate dumpster
- Signs for dog owners: 1. keep dogs on leash 2. pick up after your dogs

Question #9: What attracts you to the park?

The top three things that attract attendees to the park are the open green space, trails, and trees.

- Grass ||
- Trees |||||
- A place to walk my dogs ||||
- Open green space ||||| ||||| |||
- Hiking trails/walking ||||| |||||
- Closeness to where I live
- Picnic area
- Natural setting - wild life ||
- Location, beauty ||
- Quiet, peaceful ||
- Vista
- The calm
- Safe ||
- Green area |
- Proximity to park
- Serenity and families

Inspiration Images



When asked to rank their park priorities for amenities, other (open grass, trees, clouds), picnic tables, and basketball court were the top three.

- Sport court (basketball): 46
Leave basketball as is
- Sport court (pickleball): 7
- Shade structure: 0
- Ping pong: 0
- Play structure: 24
Looks scary
- Seating: 23
- Game table: 22
- BBQ: 21
Better ones, bigger in large picnic area
- Picnic tables: 53
Maintain current footprint, maintain and replace current tables
- Other (Open grass, clouds, trees): 61

Other Comments

This consists of responses to on question #10 on the questionnaire, e-mailed comments, and written comments on the different plans/graphics displayed at the meeting. The other main comments attendees had pertained to traffic speed in the park and adjacent to the park, summer camp impacts (length, noise, transportation), need for trail maintenance, and the desire to relocate or screen the unattractive shipping containers.

Question #10: Other Comments

- Thank you
- Special space for exercise like basketball court
- We are here 352 days a year - aside from ADA to bathrooms & play area. everything else is minor
- Bus kids from your office to and from the park. dangerous traffic. loop road in case of fire or health emergency
- Restroom improvements Bus campers to park
- Please don't ruin the ambiance.
- Keep it the way it is. I have lived here for 30 years
- Do NOT expand parking! not in a healthy direction for air - no more asphalt
- During the summer camp organization with parents blocking, trash, speed. I don't see planting trees (I just see cutting trees). Safety summer camp stuff parking, driving in the park area. There are a few bridges on trails needs to be replaced for security
- Not interested in extended parking lot. |
- Would not like to see parking extended up the hill
- Limit camp length control camp noise ||
- Like to not hear the noise and stop loud...
- Can you incorporate a real shed instead of containers?
- Remove horseshoe court
- Need to maintain status if possible
- Remove (sea containers)

Emailed Comments (received after 9/15):

- Something came to mind this morning that I wanted to pass along. The subject of water fountains didn't come up as far as I know and I wanted to be sure it got into the mix. For that entire picnic area, there's only one water fountain. In fact, it's the only source of water, except for the bathrooms. How about adding additional water fountains and sources of water to fill water bottles and water jugs for picnickers to mix juices and things?
- I was not able to make it to the first community meeting held at East Ave Park last Saturday. I'd like to send some input on renovation to our park: a splash pad like one at Castro Valley Community or San Ramon Community Park. Also, playground with rock climbing and zip lining like San Ramon Community Park. Fingers crossed we will get these at our park. Excited about how the park will turn out. The families here will continue to enjoy the park years to come.

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Comments on Plans/Graphics and Notepad:

- Reduce Traffic on open lawn: Speed and dust biggest issues!
- Work with crews on education to slow down
- Close gate on weekends
- Maint. Counselors use road too fast
- People drive onto park direct to picnic
- Amphitheater underutilized
- What is the evacuation plan for summer camps if a fire, earthquakes, etc.
 - Split camp locations
 - Bus kids up
 - Concern is amount of cars coming up to pick up kids blocking exit out
- Small dump/big dump in parking lot: screened, relocate, clean up. Can you consolidate?
- Keep off grass in winter (cars)
- Open to moving or greening, can you locate with dumpsters too
- Move the containers
- Can you use a remote drop off and bus kids in?
- What is the footprint of the restroom?
- Will the project need CEQA – any mitigation for wildlife/construction impacts
- Can you reduce the number of children or reduce the hours/limits hours of summer/reduce time of children?
- Protect feeling of greenery, safety, like the way it is
- Put trellis back in
- People speeding, accidents right across from the play area.
- People blocking driveways
- Trails, bridges need to be replaced
- Safety at culverts on trails
- Community wants money spend on other things/dilapidation-bridges
- Open pipes on the trails
- Do not expand the parking lot. It is rarely full and we need less traffic, less concrete, and a lighter footprint on the park.
- We need a speed bump or two...
- Families with kids aren't represented by attendees, consider reaching out via picnic table reservations list or surveying on weekends when families come
- Sound of children playing is a good sound
- Storage containers are ugly/stick out. Can they be screen or moved?
- Can play area be expanded?
- Off leash dogs can be a problem – can 'security/ regulation be increased?
- The play structure used to be red and not compatible with the naturalistic surrounding. We fought to have the green naturalistic looking one.
- Minimize the presence of restroom. The restroom should look compatible with the residential atmosphere. Screen it with trellis and plants.
- The storage containers look ugly.
- Mike does a good job to keep the park clean.
- A couple of neighborhood teens ride motorcycles into the park while Mike is not there. And speeds down the street.

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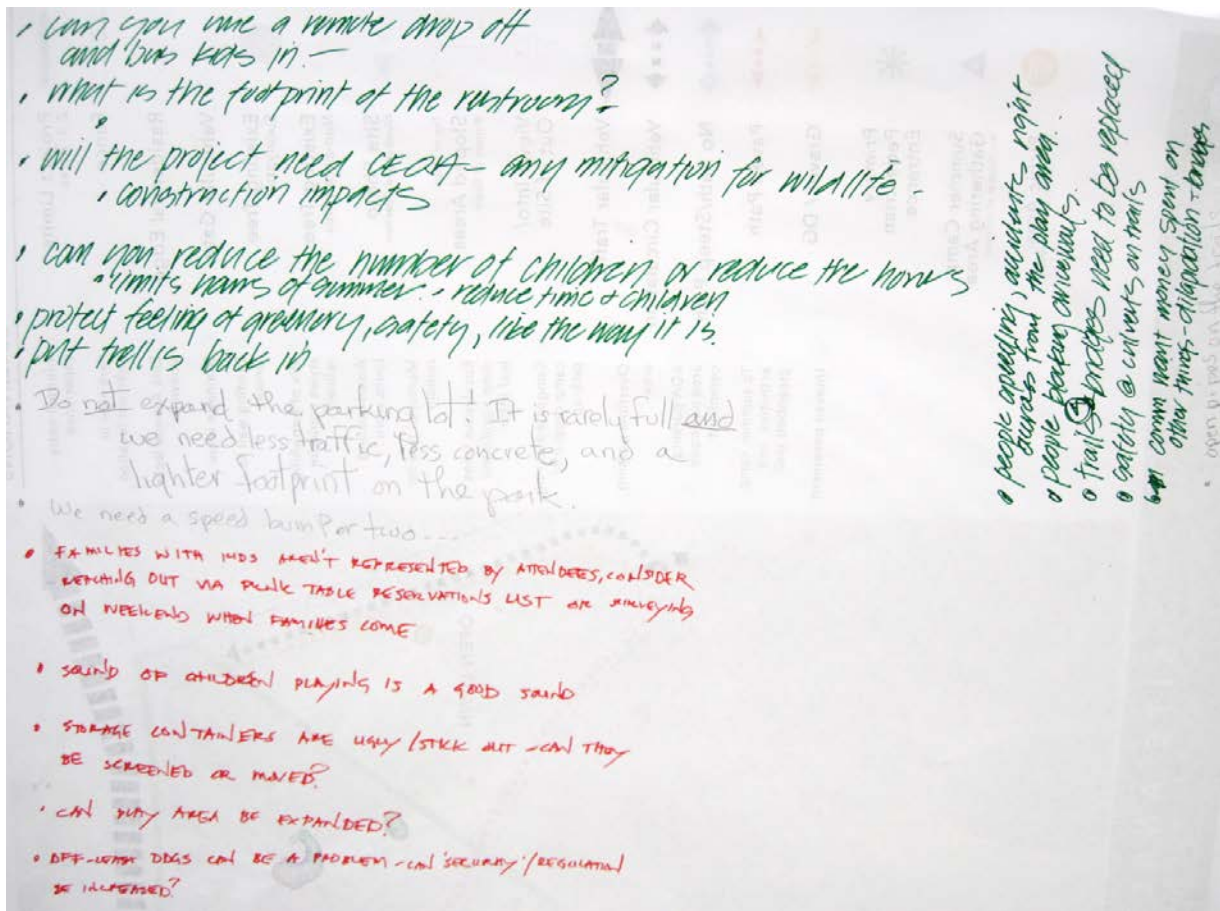
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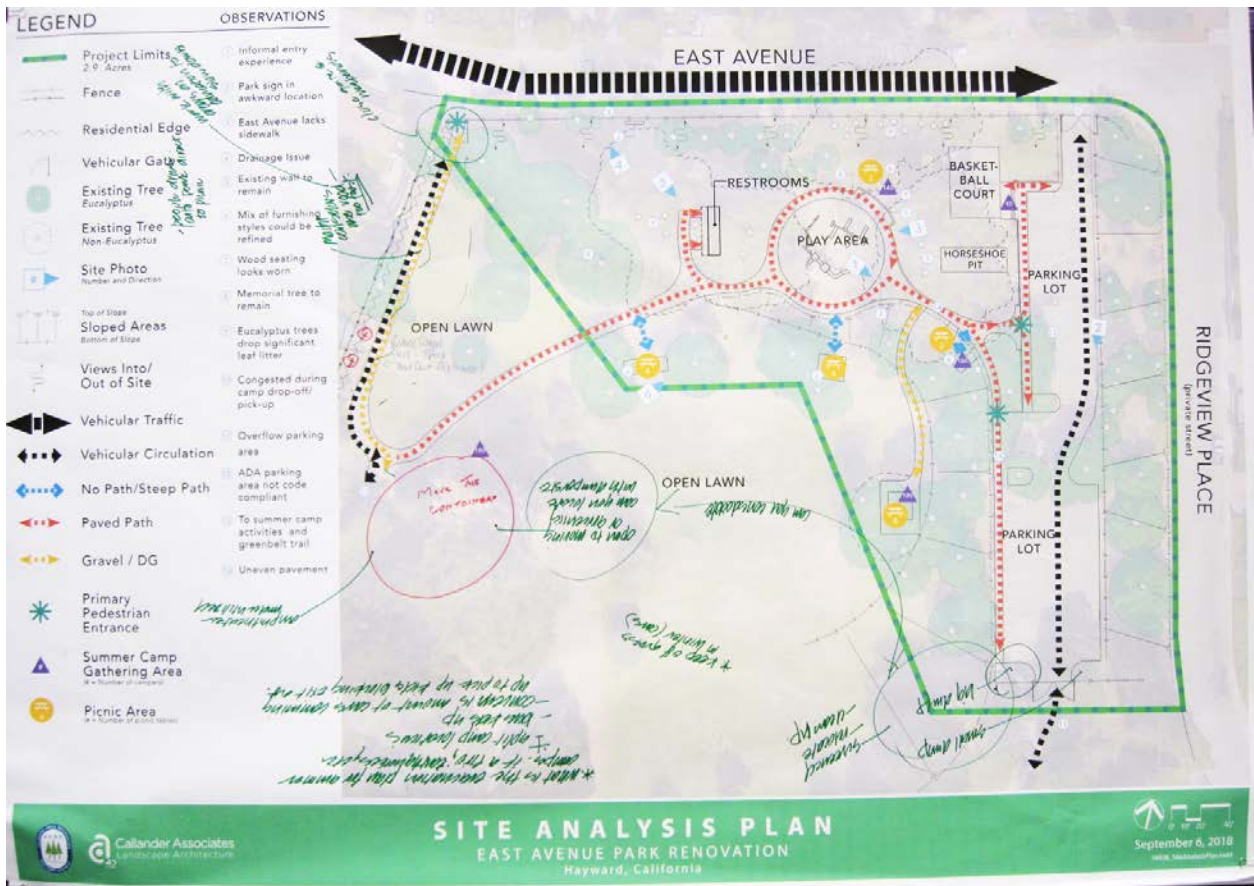
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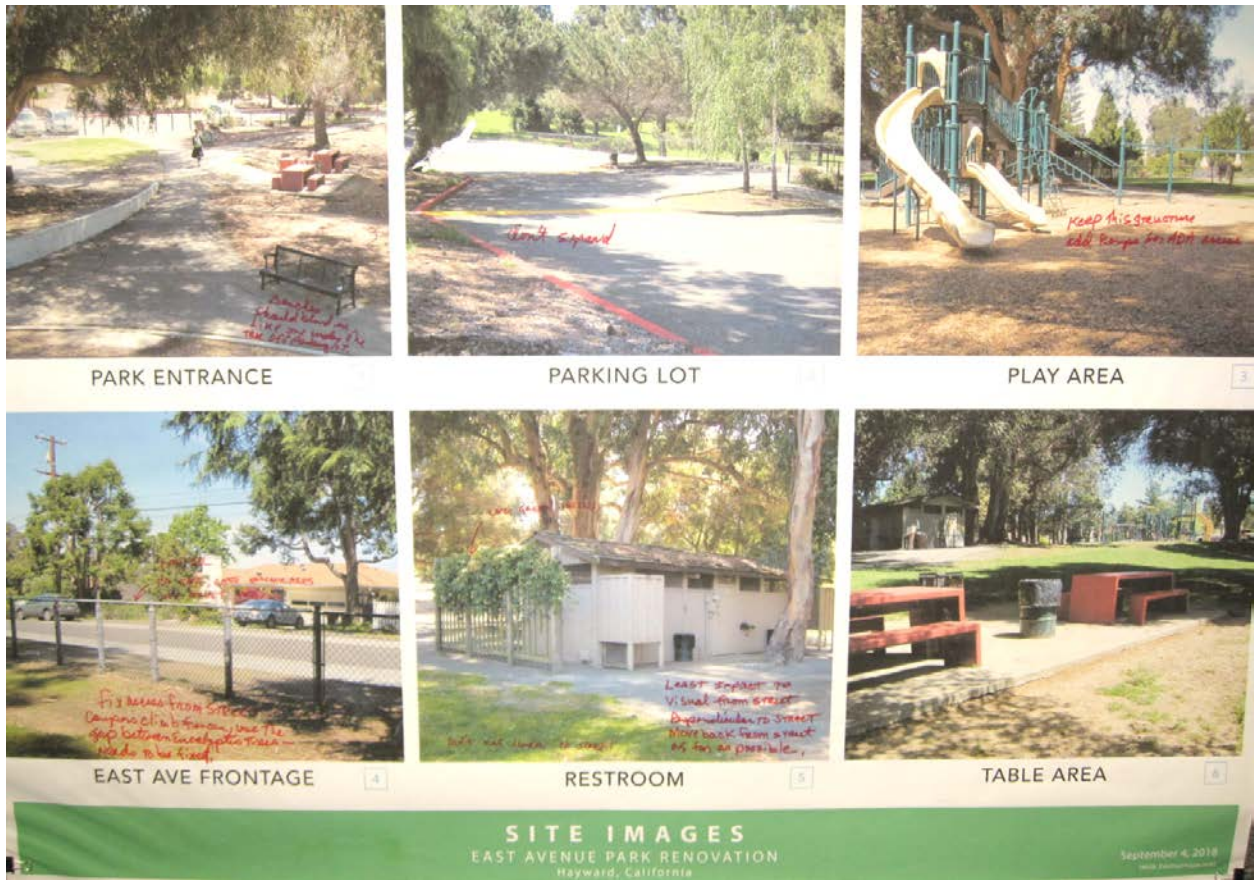
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- Summer Camp parking congestion has improved/ However some parents still park along the street. Some time block the driveway and make u turns on the street.
- This group of community is "dog owner" community. Please consider reaching out people reserving picnic area in the summer for improvement suggestions.
- The bridge (x4) along the trail not working. It is fire access as well. & public safety issue.
- Dumpster look ugly. Can it be screened or removed?
- Park Entrance: Benches should blend in Like under the tree off parking lot.
- Parking Lot: Don't expand
- Play Area: Keep this structure add ramps for ADA access
- East Ave Frontage: prefer no gate, gate encourages on street
- Fix access from street campers climb fences, use the gap between Eucalyptus trees needs to be fixed.
- Restroom: Like green trellis
- Don't move closer to street
- Least impact to visual from street perpendicular to street move back from street as far as possible
- Adjacent Facilities Analysis:
- Can we replace trees that have died



- * The play structure used to be red & not compatible with the naturalistic summary. We fought to have ^{the} ~~the~~ green naturalistic looking one.
- * The Minimize the presence of restroom. The restroom should look compatible with the residential atmosphere & screen it with trellis & plants
- * The Storage containers look ugly
- * Mike does good job keep the park clean
- * A couple of neighborhood teens ride motor cycle into the park while Mike is not there and speeds down the street
- * Summer Camp parking congestion has improved. However some parents still park along the st. some time block the drive way and making a fair on the street
- * This group of community is "dog woman" community. Please consider reaching out people reserving picnic area in the summer for improvement and gesture
- * The bridge (x4) along the trail not working. It is fire access as well as public safety issue
- * Dumpster look ugly can it be screened or removed?





The information above is Callander Associates' understanding of items discussed and decisions reached at the meeting. Callander Associates is proceeding with the project based on this understanding.

Submitted by:

Marie Mai
Callander Associates

cc: All attendees

END