



Earl J. Pomerleau Pocket Park Park Master Planning

Summary Report of Public Meeting #1 September 27, 2018

Austin Parks Foundation, in coordination with the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department, has awarded design services to Pomerleau Pocket Park for Park Master Planning. The master planning process is seeking input from the surrounding community to provide a long range vision and amenity prioritization for future development of the park.

The first public meeting included approximately 25 attendees and was held from 6-8 pm on Thursday, September 27th at the Memorial United Methodist Church at 6100 Berkman Drive. The meeting featured various activities, including giving the participants an opportunity to design the park and mapping their residence location relative to the park. There were also various stations where participants could see the park in a current and historical context through pictures and other visuals, including a video and a timeline.



“Design your park” activity station



Video of park land on display

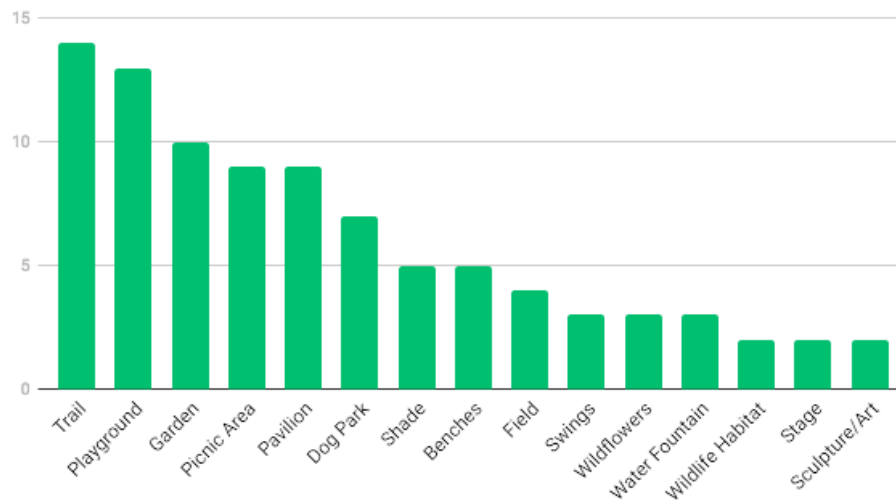
Activity: Design your park

Meeting attendees were provided with a scaled plan of the park, cutouts of amenities such as picnic tables and swings, and markers. They used these to design the park and share with us what they would like to see in the park. Additional comments were added.



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Most Common Park Amenities Drawn/Selected



Additionally, a comment section was also provided. The most common requests were:

1. having bathrooms at the park
2. keeping the park fenced
3. having better lighting

Survey Results

A paper survey was available at the meeting for attendants to fill out. Through the survey, we were able to collect information about whom would be using the new park and what the community would like to see in the park.

Twenty-two (22) participants provided responses. All were older than 31 years old and lived in a house. Over half live within three blocks in relation to the park. Just over half of the households have children. Seven (7) households have 2-5 year olds, four (4) have 0-2 year olds, and three (3) have 5-10 year olds. Only ~27% had ever visited the property before it was purchased for future park land.

Most individuals indicated that their family utilizes a different city park, with Mueller and Bartholomew being the top two most commonly used. When the park opens to the public, walking would be the most common means of travel to the park.



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The most important values documented for the future park were:

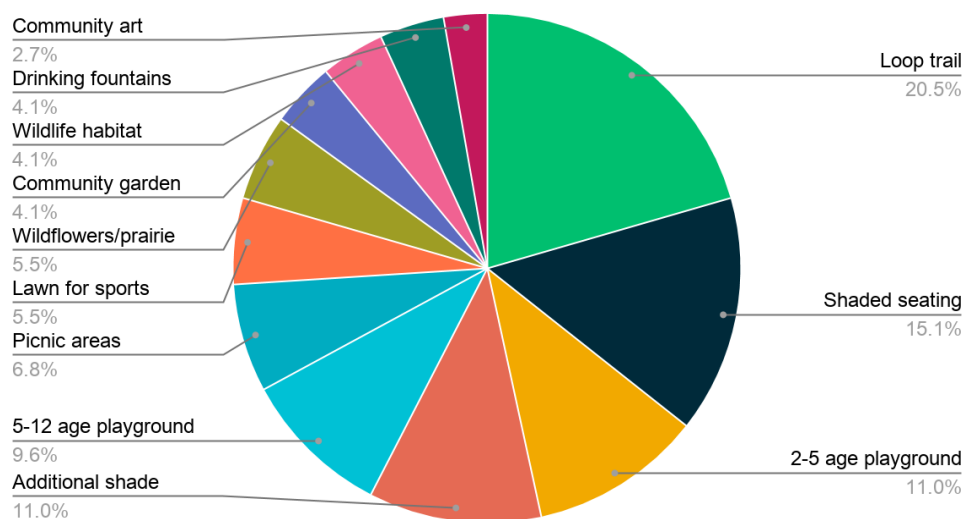
1. Safety
2. Access to natural spaces/wilderness, and
3. Sense of community

The primary reasons respondents think they will use the park for in the future is as a:

1. place to bring their children
2. way to connect with nature
3. place to exercise
place to bring dog (tie)

In the pie chart below, you can see the park elements that were consistently ranked as the respondents' top five (5) most valued.

Park Elements Consistently Ranked in the Top 5 Most Valued



Some of the hopes and concerns expressed about the development of the park included:

1. having better lighting
2. keeping the park fenced
3. making sure the park is safe