

COMMENT RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 03, 2013 COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

PLAY EQUIPMENT

Comment: Prefer predominately blue playground colors, like the existing.

Response: *The playground equipment will be muted/subdued in color and may incorporate blue accents.*

Comment: Add higher deck heights and more slides to the traditional structure.

Response: *The revised modular structure now includes 2 tube slides and a spiral slide. The deck heights varies with 56" being the highest deck. This height is within 12" of the existing deck.*

The rope equipment is not suitable for younger kids.

Response: *The rope equipment has been reduced to one module.*

Comment: Add two more swings.

Response: *Two additional swings have been added.*

Comment: Keep the sandbox.

Response: *The Department has been systematically removing sandboxes as playgrounds undergo renovations to address sanitation concerns, reduce maintenance, and to meet accessibility requirements. The new equipment includes an interactive ground level play piece which is intended to be an alternative for the sandbox. The Beach Park playground (201 Rucker Place), located ¾ mile away from the Hooff's Run playground has a sandbox.*

Comment: Equipment should be primarily for ages 2-7 ages.

Response: *The new equipment serves multiple age groups, from toddler to school age. In addition, the main pieces of equipment such as the revised modular structure and smaller rope module are recommended for ages 5-12 yrs.*

Comment: Reduce the rubber surfacing which gets hot during warm temperatures.

Response: *As with many finishes and surfaces, during hot weather the surfaces may get warm however the rubber surfacing does not typically exceed the temperature of a tennis court. Adults are advised to use caution and to check surfaces before allowing children in the playground or on equipment. The rubber surfacing provides ADA accessibility, provides consistent impact attenuation, improves site drainage, and reduces maintenance.*

Comment: Suggest a pattern for the rubber surfacing-perhaps like a puzzle; use a blue color.

Response: *The surface area will be an earth-tone matrix of colors.*

SITE FURNISHINGS

Comment: Adjust bench locations in Alternate B. Add more benches.

Response: *The locations will be adjusted to provide views for supervision and shade.*

Comment: Provide a child height water fountain with a handwash station.

Response: *The height and features of the existing fountain are designed to be in compliance with ADA standards. A new fountain is not in the scope of work.*

GENERAL PARK COMMENTS

Comment: Add a trashcan at the Commonwealth Avenue Bus Stop.

Response: *The request is being reviewed with the Solid Waste Department.*

Comment: Repair the basketball court retaining wall.

Response: *A work order has been submitted to Park Operations.*

Comment: Add a Speed Hump and Crosswalk at Rosement Avenue; and a “Children at Play” at play sign.

Response: *The request has been submitted to the Transportation Division. The request for a new crosswalk will be heard at the October 28 Traffic and Parking Board Meeting. The crosswalk will require removal of two parking spaces. The docket item can be viewed here: <http://www.alexandriava.gov/TrafficParkingBoard>*

Comment: Add adult fitness equipment

Response: *The project scope of work is limited to the playground. Dependent upon demonstrated future need, fitness equipment could be located near the basketball court.*

Comment: Add a bike rack

Response: *The project scope is limited to the playground. Dependent upon demonstrated future need, a bike rack could be located near the basketball court in proximity to the Metro.*

Comment: Prefer not to have the trail striping

Response: *The trail striping is removed from the scope of work.*

PLANTINGS

Comment: Include native plant species in the planting plan

Response: *Plantings will include appropriate native species.*

Comment: Tidy up garden storage and use softer fencing.

Response: *The existing planting beds will remain. The City will work with the volunteers to minimize conflicts with the park/playground use.*