



Pomerleau Public Meeting #2 Comments

Park Design Option A

Comments:

- “This is an *incredible* plan!! Greenspace is sort of a rarity in North-Central Austin, so compressing so many natural features into such a small park is fantastic! The **loop trail makes it feel so much larger**, too. It would be exciting to have an urban forest like this.”
- “More open tables with a couple BBQ pits.”
- “*Really* love the idea for the **shaded play area** to include both **natural play elements with traditional play structures**.”
- “Tables in pavilion + signage asking people to bring out any trash they create.”
- “This is a great design, but perhaps there’s a way to **add more community-building features** from Plan B? The open spaces for play and gardening would be neat to see integrated here.”
- “I like the **long meandering trail**.”
 - “Yes - totally agree! It feels so much more spacious.”
- “I like the restoration of the dry creek!”
- “Nature Play Area should be applied to Layout B and Fitness Plaza should also be applied to Layout A.”
- “I like Fence with Garden Beds in Layout B, love Native Grass Meadow in Layout A, like the long trail in Layout A.”
- “Love location of play area on restoration but would **prefer traditional playground**.”
- “Intermittent **picnic tables/benches** would be nice. Would love **swings and slides**.”
- “Would prefer a **fence instead of bollards**; even better if the **fence has latches** (like playground at Mueller next to Nessie sculpture.”
- “Like this [layout] better. Love a native grass meadow (would love **wildflowers - bluebonnets!**). Love pavilion, trails, open lawn, nature play area, and SHADE TREES.”
- “This is THE BEST. Like all the features on this more! **Longer, more interesting trail. No community gardens**, better distribution of shade, more shaded play area.”
- “**Picnic/BBQ area; granite loop trail**; love flow of restoration.”
- “Please **combine playground and playscape. Barrier (boulder)** would be nice.”
- “**No dry creek** please, place **picnic tables** out and around the park.”
- “**Benches along trail** throughout park + **tables throughout park**.”
- “**Bike locks!**”
- “Keep **rose bushes** please!”
- “Check **lighting on bollards** at WP library drive-in to slow access; light at night.”
- “Official **bike parking**; keep second entrance.”
- “**Connect crushed granite trail** so runners can make a loop.”
- “I like this option better - the layout and flow is more inviting; less formal is nicer.”
- Contact info? “Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, cmpbs.org”



Park Design Option B

Comments:

- “I really like the **community garden** option - particularly for the large quantity of apartment dwellers in WP.”
- “What about using the “**fence with garden beds**” for native grasses and **butterfly/bee garden**? KUT reported on dwindling monarch population’s need for garden ‘pit stops’.”
- “It would be really awesome if there was a way to **integrate some of the natural elements of plan A** (The grasses, looping train, and extensive tree cover.) The park could be a really cool way to enjoy naturescapes in our neighborhood.”
- “Representing four families with young children - a **splash pad** would be beloved.”
- “I LOVE the community space provided by this park layout - the open lawn and gardens are a wonderful way to help people connect and relax.”
- “**Tables** for community events/picnics/programs.”
- “Like the ability to host group fitness activities on a **larger space/fitness plaza**.”
- “Love the hedges - anything to make the park feel more accessible.”
- Concrete Loop Trail suggestion: “**Crushed granite**; make loop go all the way around.”
- “Want **trees on front of property, but not in grid form. Do away with community garden** to have more space for more irregular spacing.”
- “Suggest **moving pavilion to middle of property** on opposite side of playground, assuming gardens are gone.”
- “Want **playground**, but one that isn’t traditional slide/playground. Want more like John Gaines, with **more shade** maybe.”
- “**Buffalo/Blue Grama grass mix** for open lawn. Native, drought tolerant, can tolerate traffic.”
 - “Yes!”
- “Grass - use a **native grass** that doesn’t require much mowing, but still could be used for sports.” Suggestion: “**Habiturf**.”
- “Will there be water available for community garden? +**Drinking fountains**.”
- “Natural playscapes - **boulders** would be great.”



Survey Data:

- A **splash pad** I know is a big ask but it would really make all of the difference with the Texas heat. I also really love the **tunnel/astro turf play area** over at the Mueller some more inventive small space playscape options or hills would be great as well. Thank you for your great work!
- Both are fantastic options! I think either would be a wonderful addition to our neighborhood. Layout B is a little more structured, I feel like this lends itself to be easier to maintain the way it is organized with the **big field in the back and other functions up front**. That field would also be ideal for frisbee and other games where having more room is ideal. The **running loop/track** frames it nicely, and I like the adjacency of the fitness area by the play area and in one zone for this size track. I feel like it's the perfect size to do a rep, then run a lap and work your cardio in. Also love the idea of the **Pecan trees**- I think this could be a fun way to bring neighborhoods together (neighborhood pecan pie bake-offs!). I like the idea of the **partially open fence/bollards** to be more inviting, though, and think that could be applied to both (this "passive barrier" could be a fun AIPP opportunity too- think we could get creative here to welcome folks and entice people into the park while still serving this function)
- Any way to add an **off leash dog area**? Even if you don't have a dog- you may benefit from their humans having a dedicated space for them, and hopefully less unleashed dogs running loose.
- Please **avoid a pavilion** and instead **offer picnic tables and shade trees**. Every park with a pavilion ends up being covered in trash. It ends up being a place for birthday parties without the trash capacity that's needed. Please also **refrain from including any kind of off-leash area** in a park this small, especially if the park is intended for use by families with small children (mine)
- For fencing, I much prefer a **loose open wood fence** like seen at Dottie Jordan.
- I prefer the **natural themes** of Option A. Best idea from option B is the **fitness plaza** and would love to see that added to option A in lieu of the fitness stations. I very much dislike the idea of another play structure and prefer a nature-based play area for children.
- Visibility of the entire park from street to maintain safety
- Overall, I like layout A more than B. For my own purposes, I would get more enjoyment out of a **more natural, less manicured environment**. On the other hand, a playscape for kids next to a pavilion for family or community gatherings, as well as a **field to play soccer in**, would be nice for bringing neighbors together. I really like the idea of **community trees with fruit/nuts**.
- I like the natural playscape but also the traditional playscape (especially for folks who can't afford them in their backyard.) I wonder if there's a way to combine the two? Hope Park has a nice **all-wood + recycled materials playscape**.
- Please keep the **natural playscape!** We don't have anything like it this side of 51st.
- Regardless of which option, I love that this park is being developed!!! I think having **shade trees, play areas** for kids/families, and **safety measures** (lighting, police phone, etc.) and **walking trails** are all important.
- A playground is only really helpful if it has some **covering** (natural or manmade)



Earl J. Pomerleau Pocket Park Park Master Planning

- I live very close and regret not having been able to attend meetings. I am excited to see this park be developed. Thanks for soliciting online feedback!
- My only concern is that it is **well lit at night**.
- I think maintenance will be key, and safety because it is deeper than it is long (maybe **good lighting** throughout- some **solar options?**). Planning ahead for **waste/recycle/compost** will be essential (I think this has been a big challenge at other parks)- maybe we could turn it into a teaching opportunity with the garden? I also like the idea of the **nature play**, even if it does have to be manufactured in a sense- there's some pretty cool ideas in the mueller neighborhood parks (we might scope out the most popular spots with the kiddos for recommendations!)
- The right side of the park is extremely dark along Patton Ln. Adding lighting would not only provide safety but make it more appealing. There is already a light pole so we only need the light
- **Additional street lighting** is needed at the parks corners.
- I would like to make sure there is some **play area for all-ages/abilities** incorporated to make sure there is something for children <5 y/o and others who might benefit from all ages/abilities design.
- Safety and lighting
- The bigger the loop can be- the better.
- East Austin needs a fenced-in dog park.
- On the first scheme, which I really like, I think the native grass area should wrap on the left side all the way up to to fence or road, so the whole pavilion area is more nestled into the wilderness area. And for less maintenance, and low water, maybe **less grass where it's not needed to sit/play on, with mulch instead?**
- My biggest hope is a **playground area**
- I'm excited to have a park within close proximity to my home. The designs are very nice!
- Hoping for native plants, permaculture design, community garden/food forest; limit concrete, plastics, unnatural materials.
- A lot of folks want a **well-lit** park. I worry about the impact of too much light on both nature and crime (dark sky studies show light actually assists criminals - without it, they'd need a flashlight, making them more conspicuous.) Can we have a safely-lit park, but not brightly-lit park? And can lights be timed to turn off after, say, 11pm or midnight to discourage crime?
- Mostly just safety--fencing to keep kids from running into the road & somehow deterring people from sleeping or setting up camp there as we see at Bartholomew a lot. Not sure there's much you can do about that.
- Safety/security of the area; making sure enough amenities are present for residents of the area to use; parking/trails/access to the park from surrounding areas.
- A **walking path** would be great, ideally concrete, so you could push strollers, scooters, etc



Earl J. Pomerleau Pocket Park

Park Master Planning

Favorites/Requests:

- Long loop trail
- Open fence
- Pavilion
- Tables/benches
- Natural shaded playground
 - Nature incorporated into traditional design
 - Regular swings and slides + boulders? +Shade!!
 - Splash pad?
- Night lighting
- Drinking fountains
- Wildflowers
- Bike parking
- Native grass

Unwanted/Unsure:

- Community garden*
- Fitness plaza/stations*
- *more play/picnic areas instead
- Off-leash area