APPROVED

5/30/2025 MG

The City of Encinitas:

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
FINAL REPORT
Park Equipment Replacement – Orpheus Park
Case No. CPP-006909-2024

The Park Equipment Replacement project at Orpheus Park consists of the replacement of existing playground equipment with new playground equipment. The project will also replace the playground's sand and poured in place rubber ground cover with an engineered wood mulch. A new adult fitness machine will be installed south of the playground. And the existing Picnic Shelter will be replaced with a new one of approximately equal height, shape, and diameter. The shelter's concrete slab foundation will need to be replaced to accommodate the exact dimensions of the new structure. Lastly, the playground's drainage will be investigated for potential improvements.

A neighborhood meeting was held on December 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM at Encinitas City Hall – Carnation Room. A letter and vicinity map notifying all property owners and occupants within 500 feet of the project site about the meeting was mailed on November 18, 2024. Additional community groups if applicable were also notified by the request of interested City departments. Of the 173 notices that were mailed out, 10 were returned as undeliverable. The meeting was hosted by Carlos Baldenegro, the project's project manager from the City's Engineering Department CIP Division. Seven (7) citizens attended the meeting, including Ross Ridder from the City's Parks and Recreation Commissioner. Representing the City's Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department was Edward Drobnicki, Parks and Beach Supervisor. The Engineering Department's design consultant, Michael Baker International, was represented by Jeremy Franzini and Jessica Leyva. After project team introductions, a brief presentation on the proposed project was made by Mr. Franzini. Citizens were encouraged to ask questions at any time during the presentation. After the presentation, there was a question and answer session regarding the details of the proposed project. The meeting ended at 7:10 PM.

The questions, comments, and responses shared during the meeting are as follows:

Citizens asked approximately 40 specific questions during the meeting.

Question No. 1: Why is the playground equipment being replaced?

Response: Their age makes them expensive to maintain.

Question No. 2: What is the age of the equipment?

Response: We will investigate this.

Follow up: The park was constructed in 1993. The playground was installed at this time. The playground equipment was subsequently replaced. We don't have a precise date when this took place, but we have equipment proposals dated 2001 and 2002. The equipment in the proposals was eventually installed.

Question No. 3: Where will the adult fitness equipment be?

Response: We will discuss this soon [in the presentation].

Question No. 4: Can a walkway straight through the park be built?

Response: We can look into this.

Question No. 5: Will there still be a fence around the playground?

Response: Yes.

Question No. 6: What age group are you targeting?

Response: 2 to 12 years old due to the limited space.

Question No. 7: Are materials sturdy? Teenagers climb on them.

Response: Yes. Metal posts and plastic parts.

Question No. 8: As part of your process, did anyone observe current use?

Response: No. We plan for current [playground equipment] standards.

Question No. 9: What is the current ground cover?

Response: Sand and rubber.

Question No. 10: What is the height of the slides?

Response: It will be different for each age group.

Question No. 11: What is the current height of the slides?

Response: Probably 5-ft or so.

Question No. 12: Will the zipline be gone?

Response: Yes.

Question No. 13: What is the play reason for the bus in the options?

Response: For kids to climb in. It's also accessible.

Question No. 14: Does rubber stay cooler than sand?

Response: Rubber gets warm. It's used for ADA accessibility more [than to stay cool].

Question No. 15: What size kids fit in spinning unit?

Response: Ages 2 -5 years or 5 -12 years.

Question No. 16: For the climbing structure, would you have to climb it to get to the slide?

Response: Yes.

Question No. 17: What are the new umbrellas made of?

Response: They can be made of fabric or metal. We were asked to provide integrated shade, but it makes the structures taller.

Question No. 18: Is this structure made with metal supports?

Response: Yes.

Question No. 19: What is the orange arch?

Response: It's a climber like monkey bars.

Question No. 20: Is there demand for this type of [adult fitness] equipment?

Response: Yes. The City wants to promote fitness for all.

Question No. 21: So, should we not consider an alternative location?

Response: Yes, we can. There's the brown area [where the grass has worn out] but its sloping ground makes it more difficult to site the adult fitness equipment there, requiring walls. There's next to the shade structure, on its west of east side, next to the picnic tables. Moving the adult fitness equipment to a place around the shade structure allows you to include shade for the adult fitness equipment.

Question No. 22: A lot of parties are held in the gazebo. Will the fitness equipment be fenced?

Response: That's not in the options but we can look into this.

Question No. 23: How do we clean up what's there now? It's a mud pit. What's irrigation doing? Is it being worn out by dogs? Who's beating it down?

Response: It's a maintenance issue. We [Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts] will need to study this.

Question No. 24: Is there any plan for lighting on equipment?

Response: No.

Question No. 25: Can a badminton court be built?

Response: Residents said no. The court requires more room.

Question No. 26: What is the time frame to do this project?

Response: We will discuss this later in the presentation.

Question No. 27: How many tables are being planned for the new shade structure? There are currently 4.

Response: We need to comply with ADA requirements. The current configuration doesn't. But if we go with a larger diameter structure, we may be able to fit more in.

Question No. 28: Will you be installing concrete tables?

Response: Yes. That's City standard.

Question No. 29: What is the playground's shade height?

Response: May be a little taller than the gazebo. We don't think it's an issue due to the height of nearby trees.

Question No. 30: What is the existing color scheme?

Response: Tan and brown [with green structural frame elements].

Question No. 31: You're taking sand away. Kids like to play in the sand. Can you add a sand area [sandbox]?

Response: We heard this yesterday. City needs to look at this.

Question No. 32: Is there more play equipment in Option 1 than 2? Kids like swings. They have more play value.

Response: Swings take up a lot of space.

Question No. 33: I like Option 1. Can you put in ladder from Option 2 into Option 1?

Response: We don't know if it will all fit.

Question No. 34: What's the blue thing in Option 1?

Response: A stepper/climber.

Question No. 35: Mr. Franzini asked the attendees if Option 1 was the preferred approach.

Response: Residents said yes.

Question No. 36: Mr. Franzini asked if the colors were ok.

Response: Residents said yes. One added that we should make the adult fitness equipment the same color.

Question No. 37: What's that spinning blue thing?

Response: It rotates at a slower rate [from when we were kids]. But this one is made to be accessible.

Question No. 38: Is there data for exercise physiology that determines what best [equipment] to buy?

Response: There are no studies available from the manufacturer. Maybe someone else has studied this.

Question No. 39: Are there any off-gassing during the poured in place rubber installation?

Response: We don't know.

Follow up: Yes, off-gassing can occur when rubber poured in place ground cover is installed. This is because materials like recycled rubber, binders, and additives used in these surfaces can release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) over time, especially when exposed to heat. These VOCs can be released into the air and can be harmful to inhale. This is why agencies choose to install engineered wood fiber (EWF) or other safer options to avoid the potential health concerns associated with rubber mulch. Some manufacturers are developing rubber

products with reduced VOC emissions or using non-toxic binders, says adventureTURF. The City will look into installing this type of poured in place rubber material or an optional rubber tile product.

Question No. 40: How do rubber surfaces hold up to dogs?

Response: We don't know.

Follow up: This playground has a fence around it to keep dogs out during their allowed off-leash time periods. This helps keep the ground cover within as clean as possible and safe for kids.

The following comments were also received during the meeting:

Comment No. 1: The tables are falling apart at shade structure.
- We will consider/look into that.

Comment No. 2: Kids get dropped off at [Orpheus Ave] and run across the park to get to school.

Comment No. 3: You are showing two swings. Currently there are four. A modification could be to include two for older kids and two for toddlers
- We can modify the layout to include them.
- Swings require large safety zones.

Comment No. 4: Maybe two big kid swings and one toddler.

Comment No. 5: Bigger kids like ziplines.

Comment No. 6: Option 2 is a more modern design. There is more emphasis on the structure. There's also a ramp for accessibility.

Comment No. 7: I think Option 2 will encourage older kids to abuse the equipment.

Comment No. 8: Tallest tower is over 20-ft and can cover our views. We have an agreement with the City to protect our views.

Comment No. 9: We frequently have nannies bringing children to the park. There could be a safety issue.

Comment No. 10: You mentioned ADA accessibility [for Option 2]. You didn't for Option 1.
- We meant to.

Comment No. 11: Regarding the exercise area, there are two options: one with shade and one without.
- Option 1 with shade would be 14-ft tall.
- Option 2 is the same configuration but without shade.

Comment No. 12: [The proposed location for the adult fitness equipment] puts the equipment closer to homes. We get noise from the existing playground equipment.

Comment No. 13: When the park was first built, we agreed to everything in it. Now you're changing things.

Comment No. 14: Shelter – the current one is made of wood, which is part of the problem.
- The new shelter will have powder coated metal to tolerate the park's marine environment.

Follow up: The existing picnic shelter has metal columns and a wooden pergola roof. The base of each metal column is severely corroded. As such, the number of planks in the pergola roof have been reduced to reduce the weight of the roof.

Comment No. 15: There's an option to put tables outside the shelter.

Comment No. 16: Mr. Franzini mentioned that toddler swings can be added/[attached] to playground equipment but swings for older kids must be detached/free standing.

Comment No. 17: Commissioner Ridder mentioned that color schemes are made to match age of user. Thus, kids have kids' colors and adults have their own.

Comment No. 18: Replace spinner with climbing structure.
- We will need to see if there is one that fits.

Comment No. 19: Mr. Drobnicki mentioned that the existing grass is a warm weather variety. It's cold now. So, we would have to close it off to renovate it. Residents said it's ok to close it.

Comment No. 20: The project schedule shows that we're going to Parks & Recreation Commission in January 2025. However, this will more than likely need to be pushed back to February 2025. It takes time to procure the playground equipment.

Comment No. 21: Adult fitness was not on the comment card.

Comment No. 22: The next opportunity to review the plans for the park's equipment will be when the project is brought before the Parks & Recreation Commission.

At the end of the Q&A session, City Staff thanked the citizens who attended for their time and comments. The meeting ended around 7:10 PM. Some questions and

comments were received through the City's Engineering Public Notices website. Others were received in-person through a Comment Sheet. And others were received via email. Attendees were informed that a report (including the sign-in sheet, comment sheets, and correspondence received) would be prepared and submitted to the Development Services Department. Once approved, a copy of the report will be distributed to all CPP participants.

December 3, 2024

Community Planning Meeting at City of Encinitas – Orpheus Park

- General Overall Park Notes
  - The grass area "page right" of the park is often dormant or muddy. Residents would prefer it be more green
  - It was also mentioned that bikes and dogs run through this dormant grass area.
  - Existing concrete picnic tables are deteriorating.
  - Park is a major route for when parents pick up and drop off kids at school. Kids cross park to get to and from school.
  - One resident was concerned if existing fence around playground would stay in place. The fence keeps dogs out.
  - Residents do not want any new lighting added.
- Option #1: "Surf Shack"
  - Residents prefer 3-4 swings
  - Someone inquired about slide heights
  - Someone asked if the "zipline" would be incorporated. We answered that it wouldn't be. This seemed acceptable since it doesn't get that much traffic now.
- Option #2: Modern Option
  - Resident is concerned it looks easier for the high school kids to climb. Residents want to deter high schoolers from using playground.
  - Residents are not fond of the tall tower because they want to keep the existing view they have. However, they think the trees are blocking their view now and not the playground.
  - One resident did prefer the modern option.
  - Resident asked if the shades were a metal or fabric material. We answered that it was most likely metal.
  - Existing playground does not have shade. Residents don't care for it, but City would like shade.
- Exercise Area
  - Residents prefer that it is not located so close to homes. Residents do not want more noise that would come from the exercise area.
  - Older kids hang out at park at night. Adult exercise area gives them another area to loiter in.
  - Alternative location: south of the playground
- Picnic Shelter
  - More tables, the better. Three to four is preferred if they can fit.

5 Hutton Centre Drive, Suite 500, Santa Ana, 92707

Office: 949.472.3505 | Fax: 949.472.8373

- Recap
  - Option #1 is preferred
  - Residents think trees block their view more than the shade structures
  - Resident inquired about viability of sand box
  - Residents like swings and a blue-green color scheme.
  - Generally, people liked the “Mary-go-round.”

CITY OF ENCINITAS
Engineering Department

505 South Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas, CA 92064 Phone 760-633-2770 Fax 760-633-2818

PARK EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT – GLEN PARK SIGN-IN SHEET: DECEMBER 2, 2024

If you wish, please provide your contact information to be used by the City only regarding this project.

Name	Phone	Email
Bernard	—	SVENTORE@GMAIL.COM
Rahul Deshpande		DESHPANDE_RN@yahoo.com
[illegible]		[illegible]
Ross Ridder		ross.ridder@me.com
Alyssa Lucca		alyssa.lucca@gmail.com

PARK EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT ORPHEUS PARK
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PROGRAM
Online Comments

ID	Start time	Completion time	Email	Name	Please choose from the two Playground Options being considered to replace the existing playground equipment.	Do you have any comments regarding the information presented about the choice of Playground Options?	(OPTIONAL) NAME - Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.	(OPTIONAL) PHONE NUMBER - Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.	(OPTIONAL) EMAIL ADDRESS - Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.	(OPTIONAL) MAILING ADDRESS - Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.	Question
1	11/21/24 9:04:08	11/21/24 9:04:33	anonymous						cbrown@encinitasca.gov		
2	12/3/24 12:50:42	12/3/24 12:59:56	anonymous		Option 2	SO excited this park will be updated, and LOVE that the city is installing adult exercise equipment. As a mom and nearby resident, I know Orpheus is an underused playground. Option 2 will offer options for a much larger age range of children, is visually more interesting/inviting, and appears to have more shaded play area. I'd be afraid that option one would not attract an audience much beyond toddlers. Which also means more parents could take advantage of adult equipment w playground option 2. // This park is so sunny, shade is a huge consideration. As such, I prefer the shaded exercise equipment as well. This park is easily walked and biked to by the neighborhood, so I applaud making it a more useable space (right now it feels mostly like a dog park, walk through, and "nice bench to sit at" kind of park)	Katy Fox	6172404704	katy@wearemovement.org	423 Parkwood Ln	12/3/2024
3	12/3/24 14:34:36	12/3/24 14:36:42	anonymous		Option 2	Both look great, chose #2 as it looks like it would be more fun for the ages of my own kids (4 and 6 years old). I also like the idea of an exercise area WITH shade.	Micaela Lowery				12/3/2024
4	12/3/24 17:01:39	12/3/24 17:07:06	anonymous		Option 2	W/ shade. Way more useful than option 1.	Chris Lowery	3104975953			12/3/2024
5	12/4/24 20:21:32	12/4/24 20:25:02	anonymous		Option 2	Please add swings to Option 2. Kids love swings and the currents swings at Orpheus parks are always busy. Not having swings is a big miss.			Hellokathrynjohnson@gmail.com		12/4/2024
6	12/5/24 8:37:38	12/5/24 8:40:34	anonymous		Option 1	I question the need and possible placement of the adult exercise area. There is not a suitable level area for this equipment, and the suggested locations appear to be "shoe-horned" in.					12/5/2024
7	12/10/24 17:01:35	12/10/24 17:01:54	anonymous		Option 1	Test	Carlos B				
8	12/11/24 15:46:09	12/11/24 15:46:51	anonymous			testing the form					

COMMENT SHEET

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Park Equipment Replacement – Orpheus Park
Case No. CPP-006909-2024

Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM
Encinitas City Hall, Carnation Room
505 South Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas, CA 92024

1. Please choose from the two Playground Options being considered to replace the existing playground equipment.

I would like a combo of 1 & 2 incorporating ladder climb slide arch from 2 into 1.

2. Do you have any comments regarding the information presented about the choice of Playground Options?

I would like the adult area to not be kinesetic equipment, but a fun activity space (maybe ping pong table) since really adults don't use that equipment. I have been at many work that that equipment is never used

(OPTIONAL) Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

47 yrs

COMMENT SHEET

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Park Equipment Replacement – Orpheus Park
Case No. CPP-006909-2024

Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM
Encinitas City Hall, Carnation Room
505 South Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas, CA 92024

1. Please choose from the two Playground Options being considered to replace the existing playground equipment.

Option 1 add curved climber
fewer spinners
cute UW plan

2. Do you have any comments regarding the information presented about the choice of Playground Options?

great info + presentation

(OPTIONAL) Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.

NAME: Georgina Anderson

PHONE NUMBER: 760-942-0877

EMAIL ADDRESS: ginander@pacbell.net

MAILING ADDRESS: 475 Orpheus Ave. 92024

COMMENT SHEET

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Park Equipment Replacement – Orpheus Park
Case No. CPP-006909-2024

Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 6:00 PM
Encinitas City Hall, Carnation Room
505 South Vulcan Avenue, Encinitas, CA 92024

1. Please choose from the two Playground Options being considered to replace the existing playground equipment.

Option 1 with modifications as discussed

2. Do you have any comments regarding the information presented about the choice of Playground Options?

(OPTIONAL) Please provide your contact information in case we need your assistance with evaluating your comments.

NAME: Judy Gechman

PHONE NUMBER: judygechman@gmail.com

EMAIL ADDRESS: 460 Orpheus

MAILING ADDRESS:

Carlos Baldenegro

From: Carlos Baldenegro
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 4:27 PM
To: Heather Cox
Subject: RE: Dec 3 2024 Meeting re Orpheus Park

Categories: CP23D Park Equipment Replacement

Hi, Heather! Thanks again for your question. As the project was originally envisioned, the sand and ground cover are to be replaced with an engineered wood mulch. However, as we complete these neighborhood meetings and learn from residents like yourself, we will take this information back with us and discuss internally which of the suggestions can be implement in our design starting point. It may be the engineered wood mulch ground cover as we had started with. Or it could be something else, such as the poured in place rubber ground cover. Costs and maintenance are always a big factor. Of course, if we go with the rubber ground cover, we will have to address the added consideration of what color should it be as well as any other options associated with the material.

Thank you!

~Carlos B.

From: Heather Cox <heather1cox@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2024 8:29 AM
To: Carlos Baldenegro <cbaldenegro@encinitasca.gov>
Subject: Re: Dec 3 2024 Meeting re Orpheus Park

CAUTION: External Email. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender, verified their email address, and know the content is safe.

hi Carlos,
at the meeting it was specifically confirmed by the City that it would be the soft material & not the mulch ground cover, so if you can please reconfirm that. The mulch seems like it would be a challenge to keep clean of debris, but if its that over a purple soft material then that would be preferable.

best
heather

On Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 04:41:18 PM PST, Carlos Baldenegro <cbaldenegro@encinitasca.gov> wrote:

> Hi, Heather! I was routed your email from our Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts Department. I'd like to thank you for providing your comments. I'm also glad you found the neighborhood meeting for Orpheus Park informative and productive. I will include your comments from this email in the project's Citizen Participation Plan (CPP).

Our consultant is taking into account all of the comments and questions received at the meeting and online to come up with an updated design for Parks to review and approve before we proceed with design. Based on these comments, the color scheme is definitely being looked. However, the project is being proposed with an engineered wood mulch ground cover for ADA compliance and to save costs. The renderings didn't show this well. Going with a rubber ground cover would be more expensive but not beyond consideration. It's the combination of sand and rubber that will no longer be possible due to their incompatibility.

As to the information presented at the neighborhood meeting, the Engineering Department posts its public notices on the City's website. Please follow this link to get there:

https://www.encinitasca.gov/government/public-notices/engineering-public-notices

Information on the Orpheus Park Playground Equipment Replacement project's CPP can be found a little farther down the webpage under Previously Held CPP. There you will find a link to the project's webpage (this is the correct link to that webpage: https://www.encinitasca.gov/government/city-projects-initiatives/playground-equipment-replacement-at-orpheus-park), the notice you received in the mail, an online comment feedback form, and the PowerPoint presentation, in PDF format, that was presented at the meeting. I've left the comment form open while I prepare the Final CPP Report in case residents want to provide more comments.

Thanks again for your comments and questions, Heather!

~Carlos B.

From: Heather Cox <heather1cox@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, December 10, 2024 5:06 PM
To: Encinitas Parks and Rec <prca@encinitasca.gov>
Cc: Heather Cox <heather1cox@cox.net>
Subject: Dec 3 2024 Meeting re Orpheus Park

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good afternoon,

I attended the December 3rd meeting to present the options for the proposed enhancements to Orpheus park.

It was an extremely informative and productive meeting and the members from the City of Encinitas & those presenting seemed very interested in our input and really seemed like they would take it into consideration when making the final determination.

The meeting attendees unanimously agreed that we liked Option 1 Surf Shack (over Option 2 Modern Tower), & had some additional requests for possibly an infant swing be added to the 2 proposed swings.

My house sits to the North of the park with direct access from our property into the park so visibility of the Park is paramount to us.

Tt wasn't until we were home looking at the park in its existing neutral colors that we realized the colors proposed by Option 1 of light blue & green equipment with a purple rubber ground color would be too vibrant and "loud' in our opinion. If there is any way the colors can mirror the existing neutral colors with green & tan equipment & possibly a tan (or green) rubber ground color, that would be greatly appreciated. Also, to further support this request it was noted that a lighter color rubber ground material would be more conducive to the sun and not hold as much heat.

I could not locate the specific area noted at the meeting to upload any questions or concerns we had. Can you please confirm where exactly I need to upload to?

regards

Heather Cox

949-493-7711