

AGOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES



Eastern Market Metro Park Advisory Team Progress Meeting

Date: July 23, 2019
Time: 12:30 p.m.
Location: Southeast Library (403 7th Street, SE)
Attendees: See attached
Distribution: EMMPAT; Posted to EMMP Website; Cassidy Mullen (DGS); Lisa Dixon (DGS); Anthony DeLorenzo (DGS); Stephen Campbell (DGS); Donna Harris (DGS); John Stokes (DGS); Matthew Scalf (DGS); Alphonso Fluelling (DGS); Brent Sisco (DPR); Nick Kushner (DPR);

AGENDA

1. Project Status Update
 - a. An additional \$7,000,000 has been allocated to the capital budget for this project in Fiscal Year 2021 (i.e. Starting 10/1/20).
 - b. CFA approved concept plan and future consultation will be at staff level.
 - i. DGS stated that despite CFA's comments about removing shade structures, DGS will work to include them in the park, especially in the playground area.
 - c. HPO has determined that project will have "no adverse effect" on historical characteristics of the community.
 - d. Public Space Committee hearings scheduled for August 22.
 - e. Interim playground work has commenced.
 - f. NCPC Final Hearing tentatively scheduled for October.
 - g. Traffic Study is not complete. DGS apologized for the delays as DDOT and the traffic engineers are working on confirming acceptance.
 - h. Community Meeting will be July 31 at 7:00 p.m. at the Eastern Market North Hall.
2. Pavilion
 - a. Several members of the EMMPAT expressed disappointment that the pavilion was not included in the plans. DGS noted that CFA has not been receptive to above-grade structures and expressed concerns from a programming standpoint that the area would not be very well-utilized.
 - i. DGS worked on the space to provide flexibility for all types of engagements and events.
 - b. EMMPAT members noticed what they see as advantages to a pavilion:
 - i. Provide a gathering spot and sense of place for Parcel 4.
 - ii. Could be used not just a "bandstand" but as a gathering space for the public and programming by DCPL.
 - iii. A \$50,000 donation is available to contribute to the pavilion structure.
 - iv. Structure could double as a storage space to benefit maintenance teams.
 - c. DGS stated that if the consensus of the community is a strong, positive feeling towards the bandstand, DGS will take a second look and work to discuss it with CFA and other federal oversight agencies.
 - i. DGS and/or DPR will follow up about the donation.
 - ii. DGS asked EMMPAT members to provide details on frequency of programming.
3. Overview of Schematic Design
 - a. DGS and LandDesign presented selected schematic design plans.

- b. DGS noted for demolition plan that the majority of trees will remain and noted tree protection fencing that will be erected.
 - c. EMMPAT requested 11x17 printouts for all future meetings. DGS agreed and would supply copies at the meetings.
 - d. EMMPAT members noted inconsistencies on crosswalk plans. DGS confirmed that all crosswalks will have the “zebra stripe” pattern. Many crosswalks will be widened for the purposes of safety.
 - e. EMMPAT noted that the tree box structures at the southeast corner of South Carolina Ave and 3rd Street, SE was a well-liked example of bioretention.
 - f. DGS will run final location of relocated historical markers with EMMPAT.
 - g. EMMPAT noted that the potential future bus stop at Parcel 4 (southbound 8th Street) was not shown. DGS would show the bus shelter as a potential future stop.
 - h. DGS would try to clean up plans to remove underground utility markings. DGS noted that the final location of some elements may shift due to unknown or mis-marked utilities.
 - i. EMMPAT inquired about the location for public art.
4. LandDesign noted the two options are including it in the larger plaza area or putting it as a gateway marker, possibly with a way finding aspect. The latter is currently shown in the schematic drawings.
5. EMMPAT noted that, since the business district is split in to two parts, having something serve as a way finding location would be very desirable. EMMPAT also liked the idea of using pavers for way finding purposes.
- a. DGS noted that there are some new bulb-outs at South Carolina and 7th due to the cancellation of the Circulator Bus routing on 8th Street.
6. Community Survey
- a. For Question 3, EMMPAT stated that the word “often” is very subjective. Will be changed to daily, weekly, etc.
 - b. EMMPAT suggesting changing the images and text to more clearly show the differences and if feedback is being requested for styles or materials.
 - c. EMMPAT asked if the different playground styles have greater maintenance costs. DGS stated that all styles will have similar costs for maintenance.
 - d. Purchased equipment that will be used for the interim playground and will be used for the permanent playground are green and gray and could go with any of the proposed options.
 - e. EMMPAT liked the designs of the Brent Elementary School playground.
 - f. EMMPAT requested that the data be able to be cross-analyzed.
7. Construction Schedule
- a. DGS noted that, since the total project funding is approximately \$14,000,000, almost all of the plaza should be able to be improved with the likely exception of the Pennsylvania Avenue medians. Estimated construction duration is one year.
 - b. EMMPAT requested that the playground and southern portion of Parcel 4 be done first.
 - c. DGS stated that EMMPAT will serve as an advisory ground in planning construction activities and during construction.
 - d. DGS stated that the EMMP project will likely be winding down when the SE Library project mobilizes, but that there will likely be some overlap. DGS and DCPL will coordinate all activities and, if needed, have a DCPL rep at EMMPAT meetings during construction.