2019 ONLINE SURVEY ANALYSIS

EASTERN MARKET METRO PARK

The EMMP design-build team (Keystone, MOYA and LandDesign) developed an online survey with the intent to get community feedback and engage the community in the design process and decision making. The online survey was open from July 31st, 2019, until August 21st, 2019. A total of **429 people**, both Capitol Hill neighborhood residents and non-residents, participated in the survey. The following types of questions, 15 total, were provided: check-all-that-apply, ranking, and fill-in-the-blank.





IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, WHAT AGE(S) ARE THEY?



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IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, HOW CLOSE DO YOU LIVE TO EASTERN MARKET METRO PARK (EMMP)?





DO YOU WALK THROUGH EMMP ON YOUR REGULAR COMMUTE TO WORK?









EXCLUDING COMMUTING TO OR FROM WORK, HOW OFTEN DO YOU CURRENTLY WALK THROUGH EMMP?

Answered: 429



HOW CLOSE TO EMMP IS YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT?









CHARACTER IMAGES INDICATIVE OF GENERAL STYLE OPTIONS AS THEY RELATE TO MATERIALS AND SITE FURNITURE, RANK IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE:

(1-MOST PREFERRED; 4-LEAST PREFERRED)



score 2.97	41.49% 178 24.71% 106 23.08% 99 10.72% 46	
^{score} 2.73	31.93% 137 24.71% 106 28.21% 121 15.15% 65	
score 2.28	14.69% 63 20.28% 87 17.48% 75 47.55% 204	



11.89% 51 30.30% 130 31.24% 134 26.57% 114





IN THE JANUARY 2019 SURVEY, THE COMMUNITY FAVORED THE FOLLOWING THEMES FOR THE PLAYGROUND: CONTEMPORARY AND NATURE INSPIRED. NOW, WE ARE LOOKING MORE CLOSELY AT THOSE STYLES. PLEASE SELECT YOUR TOP CHOICE ON THE IMAGES BELOW. RANK IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE. (1-MOST PREFERED; 3-LEAST PREFERED)



48.48% 208 35.90% 154 15.62% 67 **26.34%** 113 42.42% 182 31.24% 134 **25.17% 108** 21.68% 93 53.15% 228



WHAT PIECES OF PLAY EQUIPMENT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE PLAYGROUND? SELECT UP TO 5.





PUBLIC ART: CHARACTER IMAGES INDICATIVE OF GENERAL STYLE OPTIONS, RANK IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE:

(1-MOST PREFERRED; 3-LEAST PREFERRED)





WAYFINDING: CHARACTER IMAGES INDICATIVE OF GENERAL STYLE OPTIONS, RANK IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE:

(1-MOST PREFERRED; 4-LEAST PREFERRED)





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

No matter what design and layout is chosen, there needs to be a way to keep the park safe. Currently, it is overrun by the homeless and drug users, and people won't want to walk through the area or take their kids there unless that's addressed.

Chase away the drugged homeless folks.

Interactive I think should be prioritized for the kids while still keeping traditional elements of being in a city.

Is there any plan to relocate the methadone clinic across the street from the park? Addressing that situation is more important than any of these design decisions you are seeking in this survey.

Please make sure to help support and promote small, local businesses. :)

I would like to see the park have a name, perhaps named after someone who helped see the project through.

Seating /benches are important, and shade.

Please remove opportunities for homeless to hide in dark shrubbery or trees. Create sense of safety.

Please put in a separate toddler area and add sun coverage. Equipment cannot be used in direct summer sun! The park will need measures in place to combat loitering. If not, the playground will not serve its intended purpose.

Thank you for the thoughtfulness of this survey!

Ensure development also encourages a safe environment and friendly environment for families. But at the same time discourage panhandlers and loiterers.

Would like to see some space for performers

As important as the design of the site is addressing the problem of drug use and homelessness in these plazas. Without that, you can build it but we won't come.

What does the study of toxic air especially fine particulates, fumes and ozone indicate from idling buses huge delivery trucks and diesel indicate for youngsters and oldsters?

I do NOT think there's any need for a food/drink kiosk -- there are plenty of options nearby. I do think it's important to integrate well with the library, since the library has such little space and is such a vital community resource.





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

As a white cane user, I encourage you to keep visually impaired pedestrians in mind when designing architectural and wayfinding elements. Also, a designated dockless vehicle parking area would be awesome to include in the EMMP renovations! The scooter litter is especially frustrating on the surrounding narrow sidewalks — this site is ideal for a parking area because it's nearby the metro stop, bus lines, library, Trader Joe's and the many dining/shopping attractions on 8th Street and Pennsylvania Ave.

Please provide an enclosed dog park with water source for dogs and a hard surface. There are many playgrounds in the neighborhood but few dog parks.

Glad to be able to offer feedback!

I like the framing idea and any other big art that would be a good landmark and social media backdrop to attract people who don't have kids.

I think any of these will be better than the previous space. I will feel bad not letting my kids play there once the new playground is open.

Lets make sure to provide shade in the playground area so that we can protect the kids during the summer months.

This area is used by clients of Community Connections nearby and they need to be accommodated somehow in a non-threatening manner. There's a ton of trash accumulating in that park plus loitering of desperate ppl. Help them out too please & it will be more comfortable for them and for children/parents. The first bit already done looks great. Thanks!

Please do things to better protect area from cars.

A clean look

Please please please emphasize lighting as a priority for safety as well as minimize the ability to sit & or sleep for long durations of time (discourage homeless/drug/alcohol users from loitering and reducing safety) still make comfortable for tax payers. Consider a renewed contract with DC police and or private security to substantially reduce loitering (perception on risk) and criminal activity. Bring patrons back to Eastern Market and Marines barracks area, which increases spending in small businesses within this area. Clear lines of sight for officers from street car view. Good lighting. A minimum of two safety communication towers (like those on college campuses) to give perception of safety, peace of mind. Thank you for reading and giving Eastern Market a much needed face lift!





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

For the trees planted in the bosque plaza I think it'd be really valuable to look into structural soil technology to allow tree roots more space to stretch out and allow the trees to grow into large canopy trees. The structural soil or Silva Cells will support the sidewalk while giving more nutrients to the trees.

Please add more structure or plantings, trees to provide shade. Georgetown Park suffers of little shading structures and it gets hot during lunchtime. Therefore, providing shade structures or trees is key to a successful park, look at Bryant Park. Also on that note movable furniture is also key, it could be rope and bolted like the Georgetown BID did at its public areas, it is secure but allows flexibility. Thanks!

I am interested in having an area for toddlers not just for older children.

What are you going to do about the homeless and panhandlers that are already overtaking this plaza? No one will use the park if dozens of homeless and people begging for money are there sleeping and peeing.

More trees. Shade is important on the playground and for around the entire park. Look at Lincoln Park where people prefer the playground that's more shaded at the time of day.

Please ensure good lighting for evening safety when walking throu-

gh the park. Also, a fence around the children's play area — with so many busy streets nearby we don't want kids to be able to run from the slide over into the road.

Capitol Hill has a distinct style, so I think the area should not be in stark contrast. It would be great to have unique elements that are not already found at the neighboring playgrounds (swings!, different slides, safe spots for the littlest kids to play and interact). Also, shaded structures to help children and other pedestrians beat the summer heat.

I am worried that the playground will be an area of shelter for the lounging population that currently inhabits the park. I would like to make sure that there are not places of shelter in the park (particularly in the playground area).

Please no benches with dividers so homeless people cannot sit / sleep comfortably. Those are discriminatory and not what we want for our neighborhood and neighbors. Our neighborhood should lead the way and not use defensive architecture in its new projects.

The photos in your survey were really difficult to see on my iPhone. I'm familiar with architecture and design from my work experience so I could rely on the descriptions to make my selections. However others likely need to see the photos clearly. I'm on an iPhone running the latest iOS, and clicked the survey link from someone I follow on





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

Twitter. Also . . . making DC more biker and electric scooter etc safe is the most important thing to me.

Make sure design doesn't need lots of future upkeep (as nothing in the future is guaranteed).

Taking away the cut-out roads on either side on Penn on 8th is not a good idea. They are there to help alleviate traffic backup on 8th and at the intersection, as turning right off 8th onto Pennsylvania is difficult cause of the sharp nature/angle on the sidewalk/ intersection.

Would love to see designated spaces / basic shelter structures to allow for more mobile vendors! Sometimes you just need a bottle of water or a small snack and don't want to walk into CVS or 711. we need more mobile food and nick knack vendors!

Bike friendly

The Eastern Market area already has so much classic, historic architecture. I think this space is a great opportunity to mix in some modern, 21st-century trends that appeal to a wider demographic (a.k.a. younger and more diverse). Among millennials (my age group), I think the neighborhood has a reputation of being a little boring — this is potentially a chance to reset that tone.

Definitely need swings! Even great for adults

Glad to see that this is progressing and that you are seeking community input in such a visual way!

Wayfinding Comments:

- Should not be put on the ground where they will be covered by snow, damaged by ice melt.

- The directional arrows aren't as good looking as the other options, but they're the clearest to use. Please ensure the utility of any wayfinding aids, rather than just focusing on the style.

Benches that people CAN NOT sleep on.

I would also suggest having tables out and about or having an open space similar to the new sun deck in Navy Yard.

I would like emphasis placed on low maintenance costs. For example, beware of water features that will eventually break down and need repair, "interactive" features with mechanical or electrical elements that eventually break down and need repair, landscaping maintenance, etc.





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

The playground needs to be fully enclosed by a fence for safety, as it's close to a lot of traffic.

Please share what ideas you have to prevent the space from becoming overrun with loitering men.

The Southeast Library is a welcoming place for homeless people in the area. I would like to see that capacity enhanced and for there to be a convenient pick up spot for the shelter hotline vans.

Very important that this be well lit because of the pedestrian traffic coming from the metro and for safety. It should also be patrolled for safety and cleanliness

Less interested in the end product, more interested in maintaining the area and mitigating antisocial behavior through upkeep.

Please explain at beginning to use all the numbers in descending order. I used them to assign "grades" these two are A 1 ideas and these two are D 4 ideas and could not figure out why my form would not go through until Lisa Dixon explained it.

I would love for there to still be the entertainment pavilion — for library events, concerts in the spring/fall, a distinctive place to meet up with people.

No matter the style, the park will only be nice if the folks who use drugs and then sleep/pass out in the middle of the park are no longer loitering there. It is not pleasant AT ALL to be in the park -- particularly on the north side of Pennsylvania behind Big George. There is so much trash at the bus stops near the metro, too. Also, the library (adjacent to the park) steps and garden always have drunk or high individuals hanging out and it creates an awful atmosphere.

Please figure out a way to decrease drug use and vagrants in the park. The neighborhood is excited to use this space, but despite your wonderful work nobody will come here if the space is not cleaned up. It is not a safe space for children, and I'm not sure if a physical redesign will change that.

Swings!

All of these designs won't matter if the park remains an open drug market and resting place for the homeless. I've been verbally assaulted multiple times and have seen some really sketchy activities. Fix that aspect before moving forward with the renovations. Otherwise, I and others will continue not using the park (nor our families).





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

Please look at alternatives to mulching large areas. The particulate matter leads to a drop in air quality for those with breathing difficulties and asthma (mold) related issues. It also looks unnatural and should be limited to office flower beds in commercial areas instead of public gardens.

Adult exercise equipment would be nice, even just a pull-up bar. I walk through this park (or around it) everyday. I just want a nice place near my house to read or bring my dog without feeling harassed. (I have been verbally harassed and have had men expose themselves to me.) The park is in such disrepair that it attracts persons who know they can behave this way with no repercussions. (I've spoken to police that sit near the Starbucks, they do nothing, so I guess that is an issue in itself.)

Please include ways to water existing and new trees. Old George looks terrible right now due to a lack of watering

Swings and a water element please!

This is all amazing, thank you! Please consider what would be different from other nearby parks, like we really don't have swings nearby.

Swings are a must please.

Please, please include swings!! And also please include playground equipment for older kids. Many of the parks, such as Lincoln Park, are geared toward the younger crowd and it'd be great to have a part for upper elementary aged kids.

Kids on this part of the Hill need swings!

Why reverse the flow on D street? How are you going to get and keep the drugs dealers out? We need less DDOT buses snarling traffic. It will not be a pleasant place to 'hang out' and 'come to' with the sound of DDOT buses beeping to kneel every few minutes and fire trucks flying through with the station a block away. Also, not to mention the massive trucks on Penn Ave since that's a main thorou-ghfare for the city. And given how busy Penn Ave is, why would a parent allow their kids to run wild on the playground a few feet away?

Entertainment pavilion

Please no brightly-colored plastic playground equipment! The natural-looking wood / stone playground structures at the Beauvoir School Playground in NW DC blend in with the surrounding environment and seem to include features that children love. These types of playground structures are very typical in Germany.





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

Please ensure to include path to/from 9th & D St. in the east through the park towards 8th St.

I strongly support the construction of an entertainment pavilion. It would be a great addition to the neighborhood for shows, events, etc. and really make it a place for the community to come together.

I prefer understated, simple design.

Would be good to have a splash pad or something like that for kids to keep cool in summer.

I think that shade structures and a pavilion for live music or other events would be great additions.

I like the idea of a natural playground where the ground is landscaped as part of the play equipment. Kind of like the feel of the badlands playground in Rockville.

The abstract art is really ugly. =)

Prefer materials that are resistant to wear and easy to maintain such as stone benches. Add a musical element, such as space for live performers. Also, a box for donations to keep the parks clean. Do not reverse D St north of Parcel 1. It will send too much traffic up South Carolina Avenue, which is dangerous for small kids walking down South Carolina to use the park. Please tell us how and to whom to voice our concerns about the traffic study. Our neighborhood (9th, 10th, 11th St. SE) does not want more traffic entering our neighborhood streets from 8th, across D, and up South Carolina.

The park is great but honestly, the upkeep is the most important.

I strongly support the option to have a performance pavilion built.

This is way too kid-focused. What about neighbors who don't have kids? This should be a community spot for ALL, not just families.

How does the city intend the upgrade to not be a magnet for homeless people and drug dealers? This survey was poorly constructed. It assumes everyone is employed (I am a retiree) and the acceptance of options of which NONE are acceptable.

As many trees as possible, please! We need shady places in the summer — especially around the playground — and it would be nice to have a bit of a "forest-bathing" experience like you can get at the garden in canal park now.





Answered: 175 Skipped: 325

We walk through the park with our young kids all the time and spend a lot of time at playgrounds. Please take into account shade and seating for parents. I love the idea of a natural playground — it would be great to have something beautiful and different from other play spaces around Capitol Hill. I would also suggest kid-sized furniture that's artistic/whimsical (like butterfly shaped chairs etc.) It would also be awesome to have part of the landscaping incorporate a fairy garden (would it be possible to permanently secure small "fairy" houses?) I think more magic would make the space very special for the neighborhood kids!

The playground examples are terrible. They're all all the same generic products designed for a 'look' but there are no natural elements as 'nature' or 'watershed' would suggest. Both just look fake and tacky.

So very happy that this is finally happening! It'll be a great addition to EM and make us even more of a destination.

I thought this survey was seeking input about an entertainment pavilion as requested by the community?

Do not cut down healthy trees. In any open paved area near the metro entrance, place a small cast iron gazebo (like may parks in Paris) that sells coffee.

Pet friendly is kept in mind.

Please no roller slides. they are uncomfortable and young kids try to run on them and can really hurt themselves when they fall.

I would like to see the general design reflect traditional materials used in the Eastern Market neighborhood (red brick, wrought iron, intricate lamp posts) used in an elegant modern, updated design. I think that will bring freshness and a sense of rejuvenation to the area while maintaining the neighborhood's sense of identity and quaint/classic feel.

Please consider how the elements of the park will age. If you opt for modern, go simple modern with natural materials and measured use of color (other than plants/landscaping). My biggest fear is that things will get too flashy or quirky/fantastical modern and it will look dated quickly, not age well, and ultimately detract from the charm of the neighborhood rather than enhance it.

Was recently in Paris and Mexico City, kids playgrounds in both cities are amazing. Google image search them.

Please try to incorporate shade onto the playground. If you do not, it will be difficult to use for most of the year. Thank you.

Looking forward to the finished product!





IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE PERIODIC EMAIL UPDATES REGARDING EMMP RENOVATIONS, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW:

Answered: 175 Skipped: 254

