



Resolution 2015-357

Resolution Accepting the Non-Appointed Community Advisory Committee Recommendations and Approving the Concept Plan for Wading Pool Improvements at Matthews Park in South Minneapolis

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is a steward of the Minneapolis parks;

Whereas, The MPRB has allocated \$600,000 for wading pool and related improvements at Matthews Park within the 2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP);

Whereas, The Board approved the formation of a non-appointed Community Advisory Committee (CAC) with the charge to provide design recommendations for wading pool improvements at Matthews Park;

Whereas, The Board desires broad and representative stakeholder involvement in decision-making when constructing or redeveloping park facilities;

Whereas, A community engagement process, including soliciting feedback on site and at nearby existing events, a public meeting, and use of mailed and digital communication methods have been employed to fulfill the CAC charge;

Whereas, Community members have guided the design recommendations resulting in a concept plan for wading pool improvements at Matthews Park;

Whereas, The MPRB project team has refined the concept plans to balance community input and project budget parameters; and

Whereas, This resolution is supported by the MPRB 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan, which envisions "Dynamic parks shape city character and meet diverse community needs;"

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners accept the non-appointed Community Advisory Committee recommendations and approve the concept plans for wading pool improvements at Matthews Park in South Minneapolis; and

RESOLVED, That the President of the Board and Secretary to the Board are authorized to take all necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.



TO: Planning Committee

FROM: Michael Schroeder,

DATE: December 2, 2015

SUBJECT: Resolution Accepting the Non-Appointed Community Advisory Committee
Recommendations and Approving the Concept Plan for Wading Pool Improvements at
Matthews Park in South Minneapolis

BACKGROUND

This resolution considers approval of the recommended concept plan for wading pool improvements at Matthews Park in south Minneapolis. The wading pool improvements were proposed as part of the 2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). \$600,000 has been allocated for the design and construction of this park improvement.

Matthews Park is a 10-acre neighborhood park located south and east of downtown, and bordered by 27th Avenue South, 29th Avenue South, East 25th Street, East 24th Street, and Seward Montessori School. The wading pool was originally constructed in 1970. Through the years changes to the wading pool have been only minor in nature, with upgrades to the plumbing and pool mechanical systems. A goal of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board has been to replace its non-ADA compliant pools with ADA-compliant, zero-depth entry pools. Existing pool amenities such as the fencing, pool deck, and seating have also aged and require replacement.

The existing pool is located in the northeast quadrant of the park, between two playgrounds and south of the building that houses both Seward Montessori School and Matthews Recreation Center. Site access to the wading pool is from the north, east and west, and is well defined and accessible. Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) owns land adjacent to the northeastern area of Matthews Park. Seward Montessori is a K-8 school and uses the MPRB playground, but is not in session during the pool season. The Matthews Recreation Center is attached to the Seward Montessori building and the park staff coordinates programming and access to school rooms with MPS.

The community engagement process for the wading pool was combined with the community engagement process for the playground, which will be improved in 2017, and the South Service Area Master Plan project. Throughout the summer and fall of 2015, MPRB staff solicited input at various community events and festivals in the park and at a family function at Seward Montessori School. In addition, residents and park users were invited to share their preferences for pool and playground improvements through an online survey, and staff had



ongoing conversations with school faculty. MPRB staff also conducted a public open house meeting at Matthews Recreation Center. The input gathered through the events and survey informed the preliminary wading pool design concept and the pool play feature options presented that have been shared with the community.

While some community members requested that the pool be moved in order to consolidate the playgrounds, school staff felt that the current layout with two separate playgrounds was desirable for them. Given cost and construction issues with moving the pool, MPRB staff determined that the pool should remain in the current location. The community liked the idea of a wading pool that incorporates more play features in order to extend the appeal to older children. Shade and play features were the most common requests beyond the basic pool. Several community members asked for a shady area within the pool, in addition to shade on the deck. There were also several requests to save the existing pool whale.

Staff defines the basic project as a 30' x 50' wading pool with a zero-entry edge, a minimum of four benches, two shade structures, and small play bubblers. Additional benches, shade structures, pool play features, and connections for future features will be incorporated into the bid documents as add alternate options and completed as budget allows. Staff will also examine the possibility of creating a larger pool, as the existing space would allow for some expansion. While the existing whale cannot be salvaged for pool use, it may be possible to move the whale into a playground.

The wading pool will be bid in the winter of 2016. Construction is planned to begin in August of 2016, and continue through the fall. Construction will be finalized in the spring of 2017 and staff anticipates the pool reopening for the normal 2017 season.

MPRB staff is continuing with community engagement for the playgrounds and overall park concept. Staff plans to seek concept approval for the playgrounds in the spring of 2016.

FUNDING/COST SUMMARY

Sources		\$600,000.00
2015 Net Debt Bonds	\$600,000	

Uses		\$585,700.00
Survey / Geotechnical Report/Testing	\$23,000	
MPRB Staff time	\$36,000	
Communications / Advertising	\$4,000	
Design Consultant Fees	\$50,000	
Estimated Construction costs	\$442,700	
Construction Contingency	\$30,000	



Balance

\$14,300.00

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board accept the non-appointed community advisory committee recommendations and approve the concept plan for wading pool improvements at Matthews Park in South Minneapolis.

This action is supported by the following vision and goal statements in the MPRB 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan.

Vision Theme 2: Recreation that inspires personal growth, healthy lifestyles, and a sense of community.

Goal: Residents, visitors, and workers enjoy opportunities to improve health and fitness.

Goal: People connect through parks and recreation.

ATTACHMENTS:

- [Matthews-Pool-FINAL POSTING](#) (PDF)

Prepared By: Kate Lamers,, Design and Project Management

Review:

Cindy Anderson Completed 11/18/2015 10:18 AM

Cliff Swenson Completed 11/18/2015 10:37 AM

Michael Schroeder Completed 11/18/2015 11:56 PM

Jayne Miller Completed 11/19/2015 9:05 PM

Planning Committee Pending 12/02/2015 5:10 PM