



Desired Outcomes and Introductions:

- Jennifer Johnson is a resident and on the Parks and Rec commission. She wants to be part of the process by thinking forward and creating new programs.
- Sarah Staley Shenk is on the Parks and Rec commission. She wants to satisfy the goals of the city and best serve the needs of recreation and engagement. She wants to improve accessibility and marketing of the parks.
- Ahmad Basin works in the Menlo school district with the art/music programs. He wants to work with the city to satisfy their needs.
- Amirta Bhasin is a student resident and wants to help with change in Menlo.
- Stella Kaval is a student resident and wants her voice to be heard.
- Tim Goode is a recreation user and oversees a non-profit for a sports league. He wants to help with the process.
- Glen Rojas is part of the chamber of commerce, a rotary member, former city manager. He wants to continue to see how the facilities will serve the community. He discussed adding pocket parks downtown that don't take away from businesses (i.e. creating homeless encampments etc).
- Steve Young is a pool operator and believes the community should be served by parks and rec.
- Steve Foster is a resident and soccer league president.

Missing from Menlo Park Parks:

- The parks need to be accessible for everyone with a universal design. They should not be destination parks because more people from outside of city, but still unique.
- Suggestions included building integration like rooftop parks, and slides on buildings. This would mean better utilizing current space and new different ideas that look at the big picture.
- Good field spaces and places for individual play like rebound walls are needed for kids.
- Safe Spaces like Emergency Boxes (Blue Lights) and making an Action Plan that includes improving awareness and maybe an emergency supply box is needed.
- Wayfinding, park themes, improved signage, and story boards could improve the user experience.
- Showcasing interesting ideas to residents would increase feedback.
- It is needed to improve awareness (specifically to seniors).



Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Oversight and Outreach Group Summary

Dot and Post It Posters:

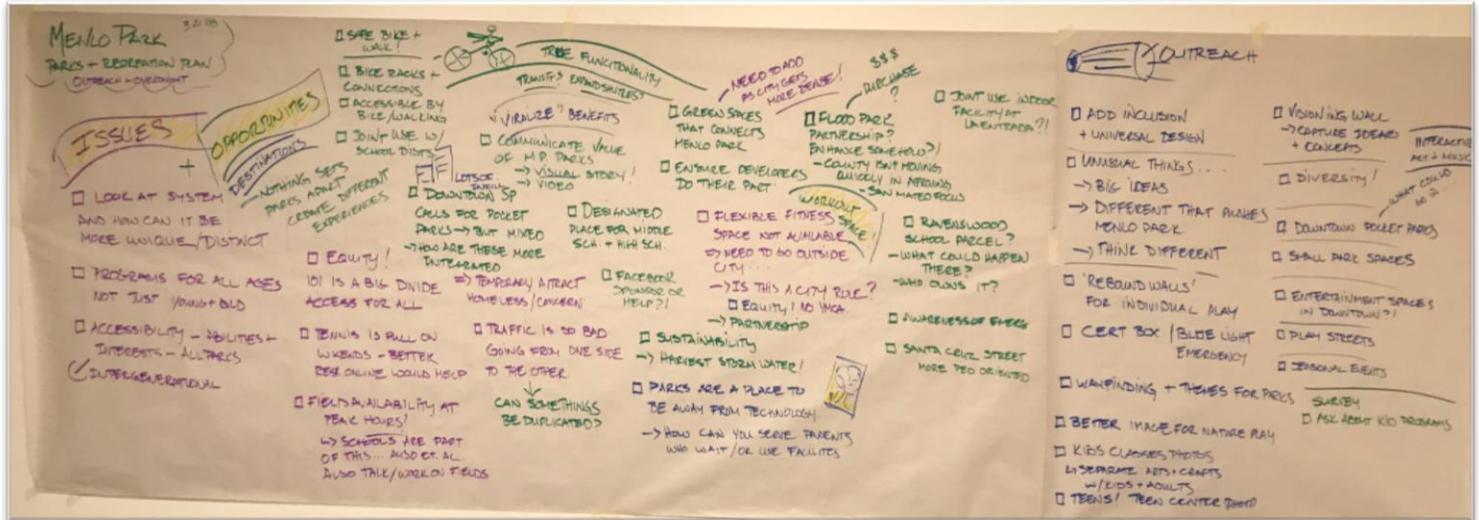
Can we put the dot and post it posters be put on rollers and move them places. This would allow them to rotate around rec centers. It would get parents just waiting to take the survey. Also the posters could be brought to farmers markets, Off the Grid, sports games, practices, and to high school during lunch with a booth

- Suggestions:

- Nature playground just looks like stumps.
- No classes with children in images or teens in teen center.
- No Diversity (Racial, age).
- No image for pocket parks.
- Add live performances/entertainment/off the grid/etc
- Add play streets? Shutting down streets (i.e. santa cruz ave turned to a plaza or First Friday in Oakland)
- Add pedestrian walkways.
- Expand on events (seasonal events). Need to show off more events.

Survey Suggestions:

- Survey needs clearer instructions. Explain how many choices they may choose.
- Add children programs.
- Add "How long does it take you to get to your program?", and "What are the challenge and accessibility issues?"
- For travel questions, should we ask about distance or time? *and should they assume best time or worst time (kid time 4-7, 5:30)*
- Add "Is your closest park in Menlo Park?", and "Which park do you use the most?"
- Can we create certain surveys for different ages?
- At the end of the survey add a comments box.



Issues with the Park System:

- Look at system and how can it be more unique/distinct.
- Not enough programs for all ages. Not just old and young (intergenerational).
- Accessibility for both abilities and interest in all parks is lacking.
- Equity! 101 is a big divide. How do we create access for all?
- Tennis is filled on weekends; a better reservation system would help.
- Field availability during park hours. Schools are part of this and we should talk/work on fields.
- Temporary attractions for homeless is a concern.
- Traffic is so bad from one side to the other.
- Not enough green space as city density increases.
- Flexible fitness space not available forces people to leave the city. Is this the city's role? Why isn't there a YMCA?
- Parks are a place to be away from tech, so how can you serve parents who wait/or use facilities?

Opportunities in the Park System:

- No unique parks - creating different experiences.
- Safe bike and walk paths.
 - Bike racks and connections.
 - Accessible by walking and biking.
- Joint use Park and Rec with school district.
- Downtown calls for integrated safe pocket parks.
- Communicate value of Menlo Park parks to the community through visual stories and videos.
- Adding transit? Expand shuttle program?
- Adding designated places for middle schoolers and high schoolers.
- Facebook sponsor or help?!



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- Sustainability -> harvest storm water.
- Green spaces that connect Menlo Park.
- Ensure that developers do their part.
- Purchase Flood Park or think of a partnership? Enhance somehow? County isn't moving quickly in approving because of the San Mateo focus.
- Joint use indoor facility at la Entrada?
- Ravenswood school parcel? What could happen there? Who owns it?
- Increase awareness in case of emergencies.
- Santa Cruz Street oriented for more pedestrians.

Outreach Board:

- Add inclusive designs.
- Adding unusual things
 - Big ideas
 - different that pushes Menlo Park
 - think different
- Rebound walls! for individual play
- Cert Box - Blue Light Emergency
- Wayfinding + themes for parks
- Better image for nature play
- Kids classes photos
 - separate arts and crafts for kids and adults
- teens! teen center photo?
- Visioning wall
 - capture ideas and concepts
- Diversity
- Downtown Pocket Parks
- Small park spaces
- Entertainment spaces in downtown
- play streets
- seasonal events
- interactive art and music for parks

Survey

- ask about kid programs