

Hillcrest View Park Development Public Comments

January 28, 2021

I live in the neighborhood and walk to the park with my grandchildren. I would like to keep it small and have the equipment geared to young children. More swings, one or more bucket swings, possibly a glider. I like the small and larger slides. Some steps to climb up with more enclosure on the sides to prevent falls.

If an artistic or natural character are considered, I suggest you incorporate the view. Could the playground equipment have perforated metal sides which mimic the mountains?

I would like to see a covered picnic table plus another bench for adults. Perhaps the bench could face the wonderful mountain view. We used the park for family gatherings during covid. The park is also a great place for a birthday party.

Eagles Nest Condos holds their HOA meetings at the park. If it rains the meeting ends due to no covering. Everyone brings their own chair due to no shade structure.

I think the open green space should remain. Neighbors bring their dogs for ball catch. The open space is great for tennis ball hitting with young children.

I would like to see the access modified. It is too steep for a bike or strider. It is also steep to push up a stroller.

My only complaint with the park is there is lots of dog poop. No one has ever left any trash.

I love this park. Thanks for including community input. Please keep me on your email list for future updates. Sarah

Sarah Kriehn

January 29, 2021

Dear Parks Crew,

Thank you all for the presentation on Thursday 1/28/21 and the opportunity to have some impact on the improvements.

Demographics of the neighborhood include mostly retired families, many who have lived in the neighborhood for 20 years plus and now have young grandchildren. This is a much loved park by its immediate residents.

First and foremost we need help with a dog poop problem. We have a serial offender which no one has been able to capture or identify. The playground and field space are simply covered in it.

Structure: 1) I will attach a google drive link with pictures of some interesting features not seen in Durango. In particular the climbing rope structures were the things my son spent the most time on while visiting the park over a week long visit.

Playground in Katy, tx

2) In my opinion smaller parks are perfect for smaller kids. The structure(s) should serve kids 0-6. Jenkins park is nearby and offers all that older kids need. Smaller parks provide an insular, slower, quieter space which is needed for kids with less gross motor skill capability. (i.e. small kids wont get run over by big kids)

A toddler center at the playground would provide something not found anywhere else in Durango. PlayCraft creates toddler (6 -23 months) center systems.

<https://www.playcraftsystems.com/structures/browse/6-23-months?categories=4315>

One member has shared that they really enjoy Bear playground equipments' nature like features. <http://www.bearsplaygrounds.com/index.html>

3) Slides and swings are a must. As a side: swings hold the infants happily while parents play with older kids.

4) Improvements could include an excavator or construction vehicle area such as the one at Needham Elementary. The large trees would provide excellent natural shade to what is otherwise a very hot activity.

5) Colors: several members have expressed an interest in keeping the structure colors natural rather than vibrant.

Field Space: We love our gentle slopes for small kids to develop footing skills and fencing at the back of the field. Bench location is perfect in the winter for keeping warm in the sun while a child plays.

Budget: One member has said they would be willing to help fundraise if needed.

Visibility: Keeping a view of the gorgeous mountains is key to our neighborhood appeal. Street visibility from within park is less of an issue. Generally we can see traffic from the park and the pitch of the slope helps provide insulation from the park interacting with the street.

Accessibility: Perhaps entrance from both north and south directions would be good. Also getting a stroller from the street to the sidewalk is difficult given there is no handicap entrance.

If visitors need to park across the street from the park, visibility for traffic could be a problem- I suggest a painted crosswalk and usual signage.

Thank you again for this opportunity. We are so very excited by all the possibilities.

Cheers
Kelly Ritter

January 30, 2021

Hi Cathy,

Here are some images I found on the Internet, which I think would coordinate aesthetically with the neighborhood. I included two different size play structures. Both have enclosed sides and provide a little shade. The larger one provides more climbing options plus monkey bars. There's a doggie poop bag dispenser, balance beam and rocker. The swing set includes a glider.

One thing I think everyone will agree on is, that no matter what is selected, the kids will love it. Sarah

Sarah Kriehn

