Lorraine Ellis Park
Playground Renovation
Bellingham Parks & Recreation
Columbia Neighborhood Association Meeting
March 15, 2022
Outline

• Background – budget, history, site
• Program
• Design concept
• Action
Background

Estimated Construction Cost: $112,000

- Replace existing playground apparatus
- ADA path
- Site furnishings as needed
- Accessible off-street parking budget permitting
- Park sign replacement

Schedule:
Design 2022
Construct 2023
Background Location
The park is named for the daughter of Lawrence and Beatrice Ellis. Lawrence Ellis was partly responsible for developing a portion of the Eldridge Historical District. Beatrice was the daughter of a prominent local banker.

The Ellis’ donated the parcel ci. 1945. Then, in 1951, the Western Steel and Salvage donated $2000 for playground equipment. The donation wasn’t enough to install a playground. Sometime in the 1980’s the parcel was deemed a “park.”

The existing Miracle playground equipment, installed in 1990, over pea gravel, is weathered, difficult to find parts, lacks ADA accessibility requirements and is noncompliant with ASTM f1487 Standard Consumer Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use.
The site

This .5 acre neighborhood park is flat. Landscape: lawn, and 16 verdant Silver Maples.

Improvements: One playground, pea gravel fall surfacing contained by landscape timbers, two benches, one garbage can and one park sign.
The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan generally recommends this for neighborhood parks:

- active/passive recreation activities
- serve those living within a .5 mile walk along a designated pedestrian route
- sidewalk or trail (safe route)
- accommodate a variety of ages and user groups: youth, adults, seniors, and special needs populations
- create a sense of place by bringing together the unique character of the site with that of the neighborhood.

There are no specific recommendations for this park.

The Columbia Neighborhood Plan does not have any specific recommendations for this park.
Program

Initial Cut – Input during membership drive

- Straight, curl, spiral, slide; slides can have bumps and ribs on the slide bed
- No spiral slides >360 degrees.... not for tots
- Double bay to-fro swing one bay for school age or disk swing, one bay for tots
- “buddy swing”
- Sitting and/or standing spinner
- Spring toy – fitting the desired theme
- Talk tube – would like three-way conference call like shipboard phones
- Playhouse function
- Teeter totter, rocker (spring) can be for a group
- Arch climber
- Cable net climber suitable for tots
- Coil climber
- Rock climbing climber (could be natural looking rock or flat surface with hand grips) - fitting the desired theme
- Ladder climber
- No parallel bars
- Similar play events to existing
- Ground based play events such as play panels, music, talk tubes, etc. not requiring fall zones or fall surfacing are OK.
Design concept

- Replace existing playground equipment/timbers
- Park furnishings not shown: park benches, table, bike rack
- Maintain central location of playground
- Ramp
- Shortest distance ADA path to playground
- ADA Parking & Loading

West Illinois
Design concept

To-fro swing

Park furnishings not shown: park benches, table, bike rack
Design concept

School aged and preschool aged
Design layout

- Swing (5-12 YO)
- Swing (2-5 YO)
- Swing (toddler and adult)

- Fall zone
- Spinner
- Curve slide
- Climber
- Rock crawl

Preschool aged
Design concept

Preschool aged

Rock crawl

Climber

Curve slide
Design concept

- Spinner
- Swing (5-12 YO)
- Swing (2-5 YO)
- Swing (Toddler and Ad)
Design concept

Preschool aged
Design concept

Preschool aged
Design concept

School aged

6' spiral slide
Design concept

Fun factor: Red lined

Preschool aged
**Action**

Two or three people from the neighborhood willing to represent the association and meet with the design team during the design of the project.

Meet:
One or two times.
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