



Quincy Street Play Community Meeting #1

Project: Improvements to Quincy Street Play
Meeting: Zoom
Prepared by: Design Team
Date: October 15, 2025
Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Attendees: City of Boston: Max Sell
Design Team: David, Warner, Sameer Bhoite, Yiling Wang
Audience: Laura Younger, Angle Brutus, Michael Koza

- Max Sell kicked off the 1st community meeting to state the overall City of Boston's Park priorities and general schedule
- Design Team discussed the existing site conditions and program elements at the park
- The meeting was opened to the community for feedback and comments

The key comments are organized by the following categories:

Existing conditions:

1. Per the community, the Haynes Early Education Center is supposed to be open to public, but they are not sure how this is operated and need follow up.
2. The basketball court is being used
3. The fitness stations are used sometimes by teenagers and adults but the layout when they are being used dissuades others from using the park.
4. The nearest bus stop is only for emergency use

Safety/site considerations:

1. Need to prevent kids climbing over the retaining wall by the basketball court and get to the garages that belong to the residents out back
2. Community cited some concerns around having more trees as they feel currently the park lawn and trees could use more maintenance.
3. Park signs exist but are not enforced as kids play basketball sometimes late into the night and some residents bring their dogs to the park
4. Potential security cameras for safety concerns
5. The chess picnic tables do not seem to be used.
6. Electrical outlet should be inaccessible
7. Site should be lit well to prevent people camping in the park.

Site Design/Programming:

1. Per Laura Younger (and echoed by Michael Koza), the park doesn't seem inviting, and it lacks an identity.
 - a. She emphasized as part of the design we consider what this park is going to be? It cannot be a park for everything.
 - b. A tot-lot or passive use may conflict with the usage of basketball games at same times.

- c. Regarding fitness, it could be more stamina building than just fitness equipment could be an alternative gym. The passive plaza with chess tables is not used well. She cautioned against passive hangouts or benches that do not invite homeless activities.
- d. She emphasized signage on hours of park, no dog use etc. along with good sightlines and lighting. In summer, sometimes basketball games are played way into midnight.
- e. The parks need more programming and other activities consider a multi-sport such as volleyball or double-dutch pad. The park needs lot of organized activities around sports games to activate the space and make it welcoming for kids of all ages including girls.
- f. There was a discussion around safety and installing cameras. Max said that Parks standpoint is not about enforcement and be a welcoming space for all. If not cameras, there needs to be some design measures that dissuade illicit activities. Design team to investigate options to address safety.
- g. Discussion focused back on programming activities that encourage different young people to use the park frequently.
- h. The park is not much used during workdays but over summer it is well used.
- i. Electrical outlets can be a good idea but they need to be locked so that general public does not use it for music, but community can take advantage if they want to use it for events like a community cookout or birthday gathering.
- j. There is no friends group currently but there is more than one neighborhood association. It might be helpful to include input from the following associations
 - i. Holborn Garnet Gaston
 - ii. Otisfield Betterment Association
 - iii. Clarion Property Management (Tenant Relations)
 - iv. Ellen Jackson Association for input from seniors
 - v. Hayes Education Center for older children input.
- k. The park needs to be accessible for folks with

Follow-ups:

- 1. Next meeting: winter 2025/26
- 2. Potential people to include the association/groups listed above.
- 3. BPRD to share questionnaire information

End of meeting notes

These notes are intended to represent the topics discussed accurately. Please notify the author of any corrections, clarifications or additions upon receipt. Revised notes will be redistributed; otherwise, these notes will serve as the record for this meeting.