



Westmoreland Nature Play Comment Results

NATURE-BASED PLAY CRITERIA

- Nature-based play areas should be primarily composed of natural elements and provide an experience of nature.
- Nature-based play areas should offer a unique experience with nature to engage and inspire.
- Nature-based play areas should, where feasible, incorporate interpretive elements and/or environmental themes for children and families to discover nature and foster stewardship.
- Nature-based play areas should be designed to be compatible with natural areas, so as not to conflict with restoration and preservation goals. Nature-based play areas can provide places where it is OK to get off the trail and fully experience and engage in the natural setting.

Please rate how well each design option accomplishes the above criteria:

1 = very well, **2** = somewhat, **3** = did not accomplish the criteria

Nature-based play areas should be primarily composed of natural elements and provide an experience of nature.

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1	23.3	23.3	71.1
2	41.9	58.1	17.8
3	34.9	18.6	11.1

Nature-based play areas should offer a unique experience with nature to engage and inspire.

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1	31.0	36.6	67.4
2	35.7	46.3	23.3
3	33.3	17.1	9.3

Nature-based play areas should, where feasible, incorporate interpretive elements and/or environmental themes for children and families to discover nature and foster stewardship.

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1	23.8	26.2	61.4
2	38.1	66.7	22.7
3	38.1	7.1	15.9

Nature-based play areas should be designed to be compatible with natural areas, so as not to conflict with restoration and preservation goals. Nature-based play areas can provide places where it is OK to get off the trail and fully experience and engage in the natural setting.

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1	31.0	22.0	70.5
2	31.0	56.1	18.2
3	38.1	22.0	11.4

Nature-based play areas should offer enough perceived risk and challenge to keep people interested, but make sure risks are visible and presented responsibly.

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1	42.9	33.3	59.1
2	33.3	50.0	20.5
3	23.8	16.7	20.5

Comments on missing criteria:

- Accessible seating areas for elders
- Inappropriate use, contamination (goose poop) and maintenance are concerns
- Suggested addition "Does it provide dispersed natural areas for passive use throughout the city?"
- Usability in inclement weather
- Need to be financially responsible

OPTIONS

Nature-based play can be interpreted different ways ranging from nature "themed" play (traditional plastic and metal play structures designed to look like nature) to very wild, completely organic elements. Feedback from the Advisory Committee and participants at the first Open House directed us to look to the middle and right side of this continuum as we developed this area.

A - This option has the most traditional playground elements of the three options. The boardwalk pulls the play zones together and guides the children up to the tower and slide with an accessible path. The big hill allows for climbing, sliding, and crossing bridges. There is a central sand and water area that leads into the frog discovery area. The discovery area has kid-sized hills, paths, things to climb, as well as musical instruments. There is also a swing set and small spinning equipment. **View [Option A](#)**

B - This option creates a playscape that highlights the effects that people and nature have on each other. A central plaza breaks apart and nature takes over toward the edges of the play area. Water trickles through runnels in the pavement cracks where children can make dams and redirect its path. Forested hills hide forest relics, an old bridge, and large downed timbers. Harmony between people and nature exists on the play area edges with wetland boardwalks and climbing ropes in the giant sequoia trees. **View [Option B](#)**

C - This option is the most natural of the three concepts. It will look and feel like a small stream and hills that are a fully playable landscape. Most of the materials will be natural with a few built elements including bridges, slides, seat walls, and/or water pump. As children explore the site, they will follow the course of Crystal Springs from the top of Mt Hood to the wetland in the park. In this playable version of the watershed, kids can leave their mark, explore, and maybe even learn a little! **View [Option C](#)**

Each plan calls for unique features that provide similar experiences. Please tell us your thoughts about each activity/experience:

1 = I like this a lot, **2** = I like it, **3** = I don't have an opinion, **4** = I don't like it, **5** = I really dislike it

Design Feature

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	55.3	51.2	71.8
3	6.4	15.6	13.0
4+5	38.3	33.3	15.2

Theme

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	51.0	54.2	67.3
3	14.9	14.6	14.3
4+5	34.1	31.3	18.4

Grove of Trees

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	71.4	68.8	68.8
3	16.3	20.8	16.7
4+5	12.3	10.5	14.6

Sand and Water

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	42.5	67.3	76.6
3	25.5	10.2	2.1
4+5	31.9	22.4	21.2

Flying and Weightlessness

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	54.2	80.0	15.2
3	14.6	8.0	19.6
4+5	31.3	12.0	65.2

Use of Space

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	62.5	48.0	58.7
3	14.6	14.6	21.7
4+5	22.9	37.5	19.6

Sliding

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	41.7	65.3	84.0
3	14.6	24.5	10.0
4+5	43.8	10.2	6.0

Climbing

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	64.6	79.6	71.4
3	16.7	6.1	10.2
4+5	18.8	14.3	18.4

Seating

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	52.1	74.0	74.5
3	14.6	8.0	14.3
4+5	33.3	18.0	10.2

Border between play area and park – comments indicate that separation is important, the numbers suggest not a strong feeling about type of separation

	Option A	Option B	Option C
1 + 2	57.2	56.5	52.4
3	12.2	23.9	16.7
4+5	30.6	19.6	31.0

Comments

- Adult access to nature
- More interaction with trees
- Keep basketball – this sentiment was strongly repeated in many comments
- Address parking issues – direction, use of lot
- Add willow
- Add interpretive features
- Add small off-leash dog area
- Don't like concrete around trees
- Separation from road is important
- Deal with goose poop
- Protect trees
- Accessibility is key for adults and children
- Concerns about amount of paved surface in Option B

Please tell us about yourself**I am age:**

35-44	30	56.6%
45-59	10	18.9%
60-79	7	13.2%
25-34	5	9.4%
under 16	1	1.9%

Total	53	
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I am

female	34	66.7%
male	17	33.3%

Total	51	
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How many children do you have living with you under the age of 18?

Total	49	
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How old are they?

1		4
2		6
3		7
4		6
5		11
6		4
7		8
8		3
9		5
10		7
11		1
12		6
13		2
14		1
15		0
16		1
17		0

Total		72
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Regarding residence, I

own	47	88.7%
rent	5	9.4%
other	1	1.9%

Total	53	
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I identify as (please check all that apply):**Asian/SE Asian**

Yes	4	7.4%
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Caucasian/White		
Yes	50	92.6%
My most frequently used mode of transportation is		
car	27	58.7%
foot	10	21.7%
bike	6	13.0%
bus	3	6.5%
Total	46	