



Kenton Park Playground Bond Project Update - March 2018

The project has gone out for bid, and a contractor has been selected. The City's Procurement Services is now completing the contract set-up process. We anticipate the contractor will be on site by late May/early June 2018, assuming all goes smoothly.

Construction is expected to run from late May/early June through the end of September 2018, with the playground re-opening in October 2018. We will update the community if we encounter any delays due to weather, equipment suppliers, etc. that will impact the opening of the playground.

Construction Impacts

Playground and Paths: The area around the playground and large swingset will be fenced off, including pathways in the play area which will limit access through the park. The smaller set of swings separate from the main playground will be usable.

Restrooms: The restrooms will generally be open. The men's restroom may need to be closed for a few days at a time during the work.

Splash Pad: We have asked the contractor to maintain access to the splash pad, so it will be open for the summer. It traditionally is open by Memorial Day weekend and will be accessible from the park entry at N Kilpatrick and N Delaware

Summer Free for All - Lunch + Play Program: After discussion with our partners at Portland Public School (PPS), Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) staff have decided we cannot hold the lunch program at Kenton Park this summer. This was not an easy decision to make. We had hoped to be able to keep it operational, as we know this is an important service for the community.

However, last summer, we held the lunch program at Lents Park while the playground was closed for construction. The average number of meals served dropped from 60 meals per day (when the playground was open) to 33 meals



per day last year (when the playground was closed). PPS receives federal funding through the USDA for this program. In order for PPS to get this funding, lunch program sites must serve a minimum of 50 meals per day; otherwise PPS won't get funds for that site. Because of this financial issue, we must pause this year's lunch service at Kenton Park. PP&R plans to bring the Free Lunch + Play program back for summer 2019, so this decision is only for this season. There will be other lunch sites open in North Portland, including Columbia Park, Charles Jordan Community Center (by University Park), McCoy Park, Peninsula Park, and St. Johns Park.

Other Playground Options During Construction

Nearby playgrounds include: Gammans Park (0.5 miles). Harper's Playground at Arbor Lodge Park (0.7 miles), Trenton Park (0.8 miles), Columbia Park (1.0 mile), Farragut Park (1.5 miles), University Park (1.2 miles), and McCoy Park (1.5 miles).

Construction Communication

Yard signs will be posted in the park this spring announcing the upcoming construction. Advance notice will be sent by email to the project list and stakeholders (including nearby schools, PTAs, daycares, churches, and other groups) and posted on NextDoor.com. Signage will be installed on the construction fencing that will include details about other locations for play and lunch. Please let us know if you have other suggestions to get the word out to the community.

More Info:

Maija Spencer, Bond Community Engagement
503-823-5593 | maija.spencer@portlandoregon.gov
Project Page: portlandoregon.gov/parks/71826