

Stewart Park Site Improvements Phase 1 - Concept Plan - General Feedback Summary

Initial Prioritization Feedback	Concept Feedback Summary Comments*	MPRB Concept Output/Response
Top priority – new multi-use field.	I can't wait to see the improvements, especially the multi-use field.... Approved, great idea! I can walk on the sidewalk back and forth while my kids play, and I can keep an eye on them.... We need programming for the youth. We need space to fly a kite.	Multi-use field included in the concept plan.
2 nd priority: Benches and picnic tables with grills.	More picnic tables with grills. More benches.	MPRB's current estimate indicates these items are likely out of reach in our current budget. We will bid these elements alternates. While these elements are reflected as the second priority for the community, the fence along 26 th will be prioritized over tables/benches as an alternate to the extent possible.
3 rd priority - Raise the E 26th St. fence, add a fence, or add a net.	The fence at 26th is a good idea.... If the fence on 26 th street is not possible on the budget is OK. We the community adapt and it's our responsibility to keep our kids safe. The community will work together to keep the park safe. The community will be okay to whatever the park does.	The fence along 26th will be bid as an alternate in hopes that we get good bids and that it is able to fit into the project budget. It will be prioritized first, if the alternate fits into our budget.
The initial engagement indicated concerns about muddiness just south of artificial turf field.	The area where the multi-use field (is planned) needs to be leveled and try to maximize the space that already exists. The fence around the new field is important.	The concept plan makes usable the area that is often wet and muddy. We will add fencing on two sides of the new field. On the east side, the building, trees, and access pathways are a buffer from other activities. On the south side the baseball fence will separate the fields
No rental on new multi-field prioritize the community.	What is a multi-use field?	The multi-use field is open green space planted with grass. For the new multi-field use, priority will be given to MPRB programs. The new multi-use field will be made available to a wide a range of activities such as pick-up soccer, picnics and gatherings, kickball, baseball catching and throwing, or a game of tag when it is not being used for MPRB programs or otherwise reserved.

Make multi-use field an artificial turf field.	None.	This isn't feasible with available funding. The additional cost would be 500k and up. Also, artificial turf fields prohibit certain activities (like picnic gatherings) that might take place on a multi-use field.
Concerns about trees being removed. Some interest in improved paths.	Concerns expressed about trees being removed or the pathways being removed.	No trees and no paths are being removed in the concept plan. New accessible paths are planned for the new field and the existing artificial turf field.
Playground needs to be updated; new swings and all rubber surfacing	The playground needs to be updated. The equipment is getting old and sand is hard to maintain and gets stuff in it that needs to be cleaned.	MPRB will have \$355,000 available in beginning in 2023 for play area and site improvements at Stewart. Under the current Phase 1 funding the CIP is directed at master plan implementation and related work. The fields are very heavily used. The additional field will repurpose an area of the park that is often saturated with water to provide more open green space for additional activities.
Improve and program baseball fields. Expand their use to other sports or activities.	Baseball at Stewart Park is not highly used. Concerns about outside communities using the baseball field. The baseball field should be left open to other uses (soccer, dog park, school, etc...).	This comment has been shared with Athletic Programs leadership and Recreation Staff. MPRB has confirmed that the ballfield is currently being reserved for baseball and for other uses at the director's discretion (based on what won't damage the field). The ballfield has been reserved on a regular basis for some soccer practices. Baseball field use was down in 2019 because of drainage problems which were fixed so that the field could re-open in 2020. With COVID, the sports reservations for all kinds of fields are still down. The ballfield is typically only reserved for Minneapolis-based teams who may host out of town teams. For example, Minneapolis Youth Baseball Association has used the field. In the past, MPRB tried not having the gate to the field locked, and the result was a lot of damage to the field (which required repair in 2019). Also, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board accepted the field donation and renamed the field to honor Bob Casey. The SSAMP retained the field because it was donated and had the potential to be

		the premier baseball field in the south service area.
Questions about multi-use field.	The new multi-use field should be open to many activities, such as baseball and soccer.	The multi-use field will be made available to a wide a range of activities that can be done there safely. Priority will be given to MPRB programs.
New pool shade structure – lower priority.	None.	Pool shade structure isn't included in the Phase 1 improvement concept.
Updated basketball court.	One question at engagement event.	The basketball court is on land that was approved to be traded with the school in a land swap.
None.	Need off-leash or dedicated dog area.	A dog park or dedicated dog area is a new amenity not indicated in the South Service Area Master Plan. This comment will be shared with MPRB Strategic Planning staff.
None.	Baseball field is used by Tony Oliva league and MPRB league and should stay. Scoreboard is not working, and field fence needs repair.	MPRB maintenance staff confirmed that the scoreboard is working. This concern will be shared with maintenance staff.
None.	Gardening for landscaping with volunteer forces is a good idea. It could also include gardens for food.	Naturalized areas on the north side of the park are indicated in the master plan, while a formal garden isn't. I've inquired with our gardeners if native flower gardens fall into that definition. A stewardship agreement with MPRB would be necessary to install and maintain them. More information will be available in the future, from our gardeners.
None.	Exercise stations (simple) like Powderhorn or fancier/more complex equipment for working out outdoors is requested.	Our current budget has a shortfall for the proposed Phase 1 improvements, so this request can't be satisfied at this time. Please look for future opportunities to share this comment on future projects.
None.	Convert the baseball outfield to a shared use field to make it multi-purpose. We think that idea will save the cost of a new multi-purpose field.	This request is not in line with the approved Master Plan for the park. The basis for the decision to retain the premier ballfield primarily for baseball is based on several things: the need for a premier baseball diamonds in the south service area, the field has already been donated and constructed, the field was named to honor Bob Casey at a large expense to funding partners, the large cost to repurpose the field and construct a new premier diamond field (est. 500k and up) elsewhere in the service area, the earlier trial

		leaving the gate open which resulted in field damage, and the need for a multi-purpose field that is not primarily for baseball, but that is available for MPRB programs and community use.
For safety, can a pedestrian crossing (RRFB) and crosswalk be added at 11th Ave. S. and E 26th St.? For safety recommend no parking on E 26th St. For safety recommend a designated left turn only on E 26th St. to turn onto 10th Ave. S.	For safety, can a pedestrian crossing (RRFB) and crosswalk be added at 11th Ave. S. and E 26th St.?	The roadway, parking, and crosswalk is under the jurisdiction of the City of Minneapolis. We will share these requests with City traffic/public works.
Current drug use? Will it continue post construction? Will money be spent, and no one will still use it?	None.	MPRB Planning staff has reviewed this project with Park Police. We have requested opioid syringe drop box from the City.
From safety perspective No naturalized areas – vermin, trash, needles.	None.	MPRB Planning staff has reviewed this project with Park Police. We have requested opioid syringe drop box from the City. Naturalized areas are indicated in the master plan, but none are planned to be implemented in Phase 1. Trash containers are planned for the new field.
From safety perspective move the porta-potty anywhere it can be monitored with the camera.	None.	MPRB's current estimate indicates this is likely out of reach in our current budget, although we will bid these elements as an alternate if we get great bids under our estimate.
Cameras outside need to be monitored inside by the park board.	None.	This request falls outside our scope but it will be passed along to MPRB staff.
Need more cameras and lights	None.	Additional cameras were added on the building in 2019. No additional cameras are currently being considered in Phase 1 improvements, since it wasn't considered one of the highest priorities and because of high estimated costs. Lighting has been reviewed with Park Police. Park Police worked with forestry to have trees trimmed to help the existing lighting to increase the light in interior park areas.
Heated benches for more winter use	None.	Due to budgeting constraints and because this is not a current standard in the park system, heated benches are not currently being considered in Phase 1 improvements.

Review need for outside electricity for events	None.	MPRB has disabled one electrical receptacle outside due to misuse. This is not currently being considered in Phase 1 improvements.
Water fountains	None.	Water fountain(s) may be considered in a future phase. Due to current funding constraints, it is not being considered in Phase 1.
Install AC in the park building	None.	This falls outside the parameters of our funding, which is aimed at outdoor improvements.
Add fencing on the park interior side	None.	Fencing along 26th will be bid as an alternate. Fencing will be bid along with the new multi-purpose field. Aside from that, additional fencing isn't included in Phase 1.
Solar lights	None.	Due to budgetary constraints solar lighting is not currently being considered in Phase 1 improvements.
Ideas shared from prioritization engagement not in current master plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter uses like ice skating hockey, broomball, etc.... • Pond • Dome for field • Another large soccer field • Wider/larger/varying depth or extra wading pool • Bike trails inside • Permanent bathrooms (for outdoors) • Add more sports fields like Farview Park • Add a picnic pavilion 	None.	These ideas aren't consistent with the approved master plan, nor are they funded. The current project can only make improvements consistent with the approved master plan for Stewart Park.
Maintenance concerns from prioritization engagement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix the soccer nets • Plow/Remove snow on the trails and the blacktop in winter • Do something to improve port-a-potty odor • It's too wet by the baseball fields 	None.	These comments do not fall under the scope of work in this project and were passed along to asset management.
Have parks open on the holidays	None.	This comment has been be passed along to recreation staff.
*Summarized/paraphrased feedback. Feedback summaries were combined when similar and were paraphrased to convey the basic ideas shared during engagement.		