



Ft Ward Play Area

LOCATION COMPARISON

Agenda

- ▶ Project Review
- ▶ Site Pros and Cons
- ▶ Next Steps
- ▶ Board discussion

Project Review

- ▶ Reminder
 - ▶ Identified in Comp Plan, (Chapter 5, Park Exhibits, page 115, 156) as a “future potential improvement”
 - ▶ Lack of Public Play Area in vicinity

Permitted uses per Agreement Regarding Transfer of Park Property

- ▶ Exhibit “B” 1. Potential uses
 - ▶ Passive park activities, such as hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, boating, kayaking, swimming, picnicking and nature viewing.
- ▶ Section 2 Conditions of Transfer:
 - ▶ 2.2 Use of Fort Ward Parade Grounds.
 - ▶ As noted in the plat, upon recommendation of the Fort Ward Neighborhood Association, a portion of the Fort Ward Parade Grounds may be developed as a children’s playground, consistent with historical use.

Fort Ward Parade Grounds Plat Notes

- ▶ Note 10.
 - ▶ Open space – A shall be limited to informal recreation such as bird watching, walking, photograph, picnicking, and kite-flying. Upon recommendation of the Fort Ward Neighborhood Association, a portion of the open space may be developed as a children's playground, consistent with historical use.

Project Review

- ▶ Board introduction on July 21, 2022
 - ▶ Goal of project is to provide neighborhood access to a walkable play structure
 - ▶ Request received from original Ft Ward Neighborhood association
 - ▶ Description of restrictions/conditions on Parade Ground
 - ▶ Presentation of possible locations for a playground
 - ▶ Community comments taken
 - ▶ Board request for community to discuss and report back

Project Review

- ▶ Community update on Sept 15, 2022
 - ▶ Survey conducted by neighborhood
 - ▶ Solid support for playground in the area
 - ▶ Parade Grounds appeared to be the first choice
 - ▶ Report on Community meeting held at the Bakery to gather input
 - ▶ Support for a playground in area
 - ▶ Less consensus on a location/some felt the upper Ft Ward lot was chosen that day

Project Review



Board meeting comments

Citizens have attended numerous meetings to provide input

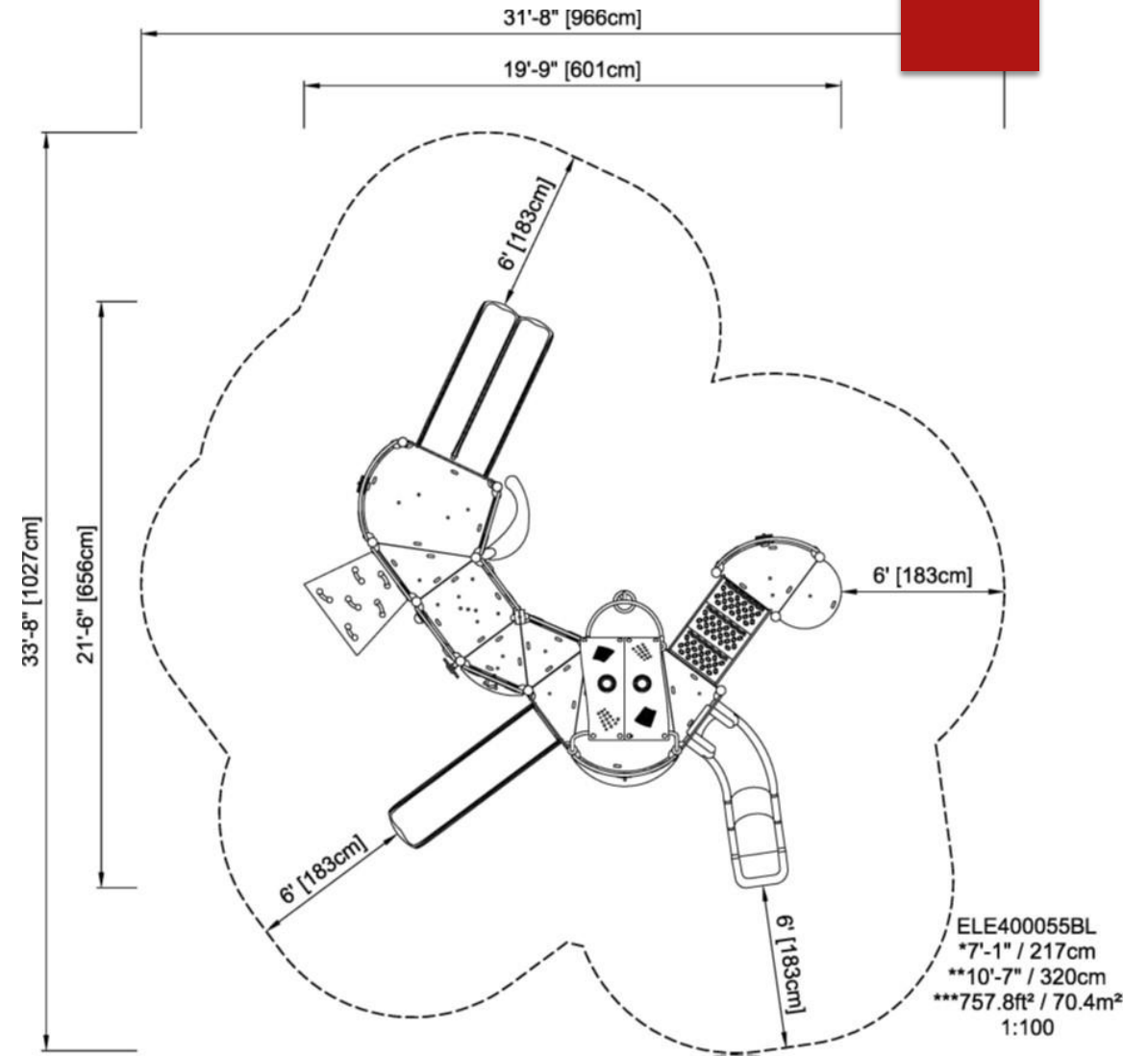


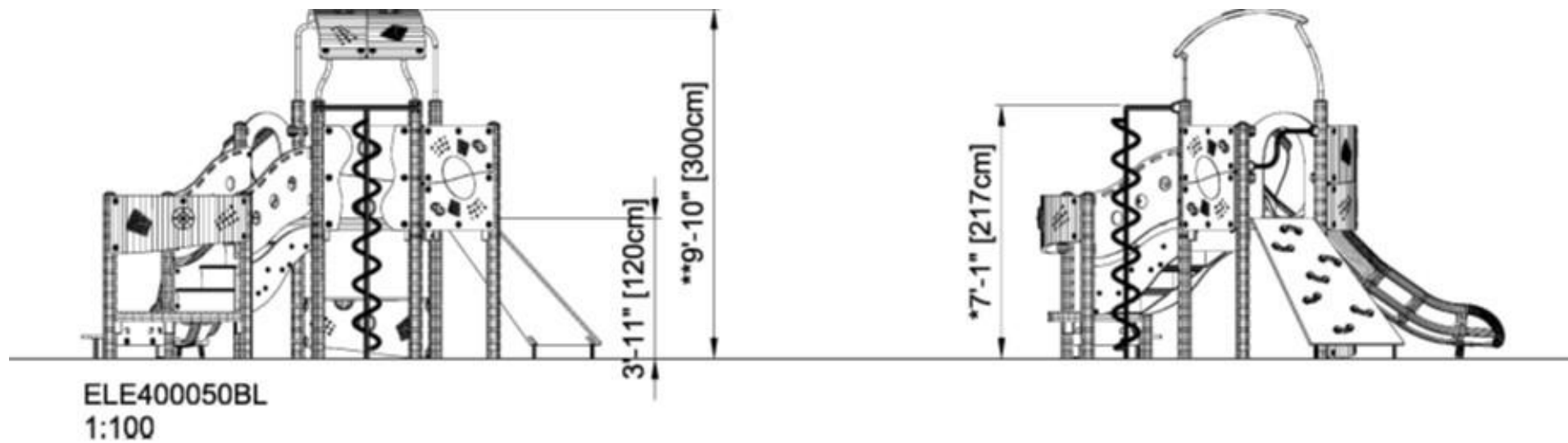
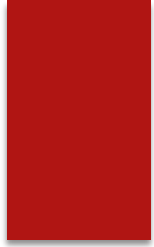
Emails/letters/phone conversations

The Board and staff have received a large number of comments through a variety of communications

Project Review (size/scope)

- ▶ Main Structure 32 x 24 feet
- ▶ 758 sq feet





Project Review (size/scope)



Project Review (size/scope)



Project Review (size/scope)






Project
Review
(size/scope)





Cave Family Heritage Park - 1.04 Acres

-  Cave Playground
-  Cave Family Heritage Park
-  5ftContour

Comparison



Schel Chelb Playground - 0.86 Acres

Comparison

General Conclusions

Opposition

Worried
about:

Increased traffic/limited parking

Increased noise

Crime/loitering

Decreased property values

Having it in their back yard

Proponents

Feel it will:

Provide a place to take children/grandchildren
in the neighborhood

Provide a place to socialize with neighbors

Provide recreation options that don't require
driving to

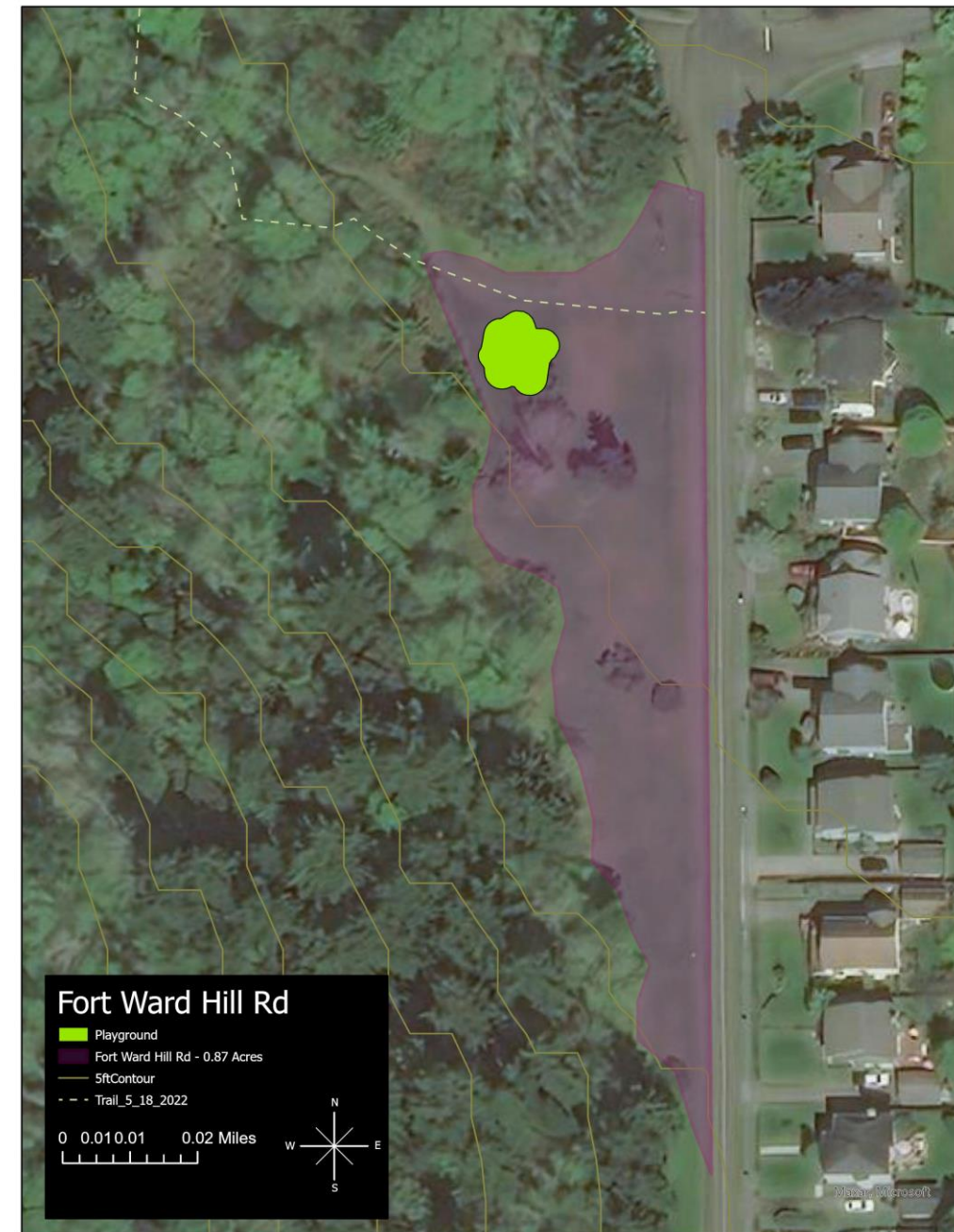
Could make the area more welcoming to
families and children

Location Discussion



Site 1

- ▶ Pros
 - ▶ Most neutral of original sites proposed
 - ▶ Near trail to Ft Ward Trail system
 - ▶ Less impact to residences
 - ▶ Large enough space for structure
- ▶ Cons
 - ▶ Proximity to street
 - ▶ Street crossing concerns (COBI willing to consider street calming measures)
 - ▶ Fencing would be recommended



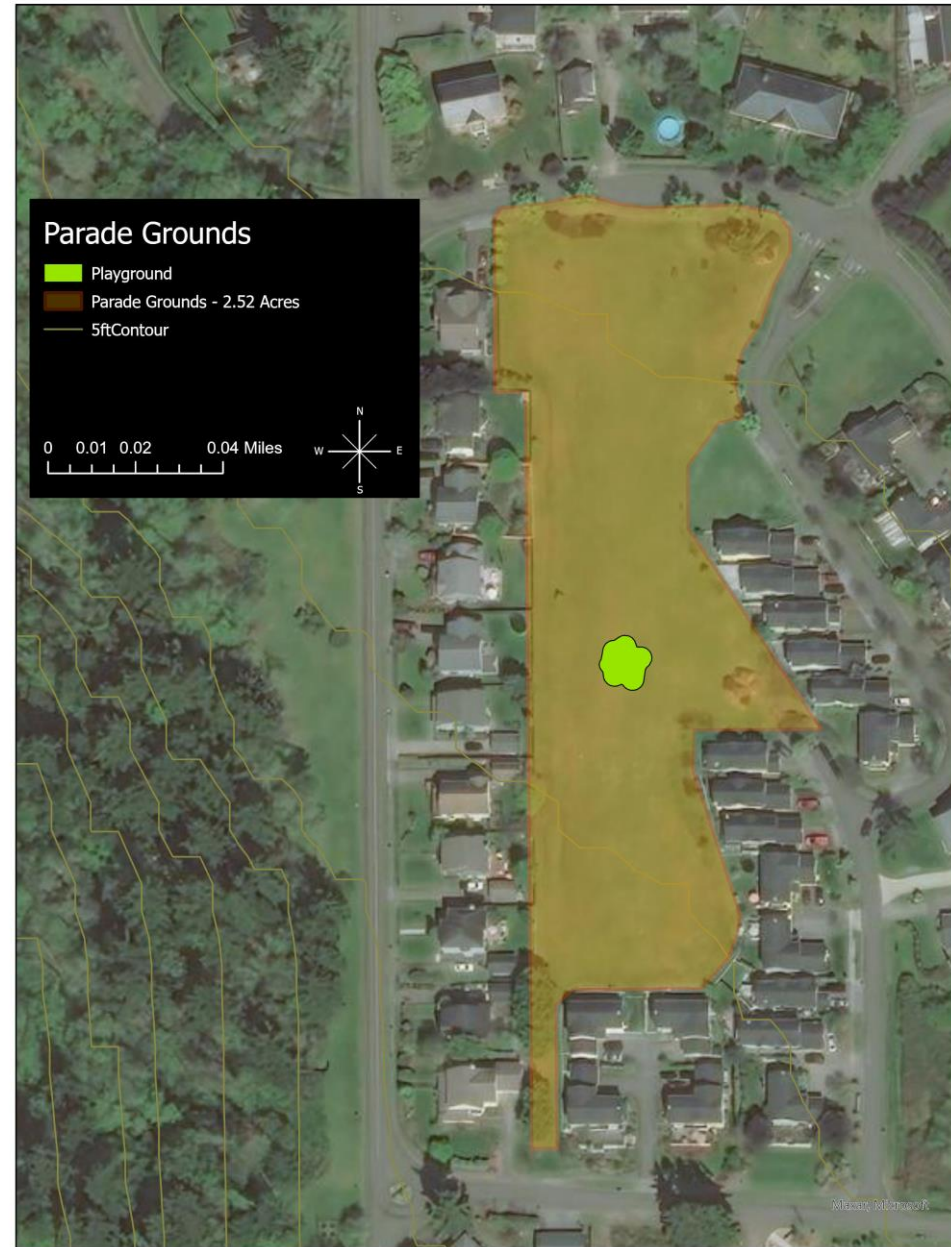
Site 2

► Pros

- Close to residences and children
- Large enough
- Protected from Roads
- Already established use for children's play

► Cons

- Close to residences
- Concern regarding National Historic significance



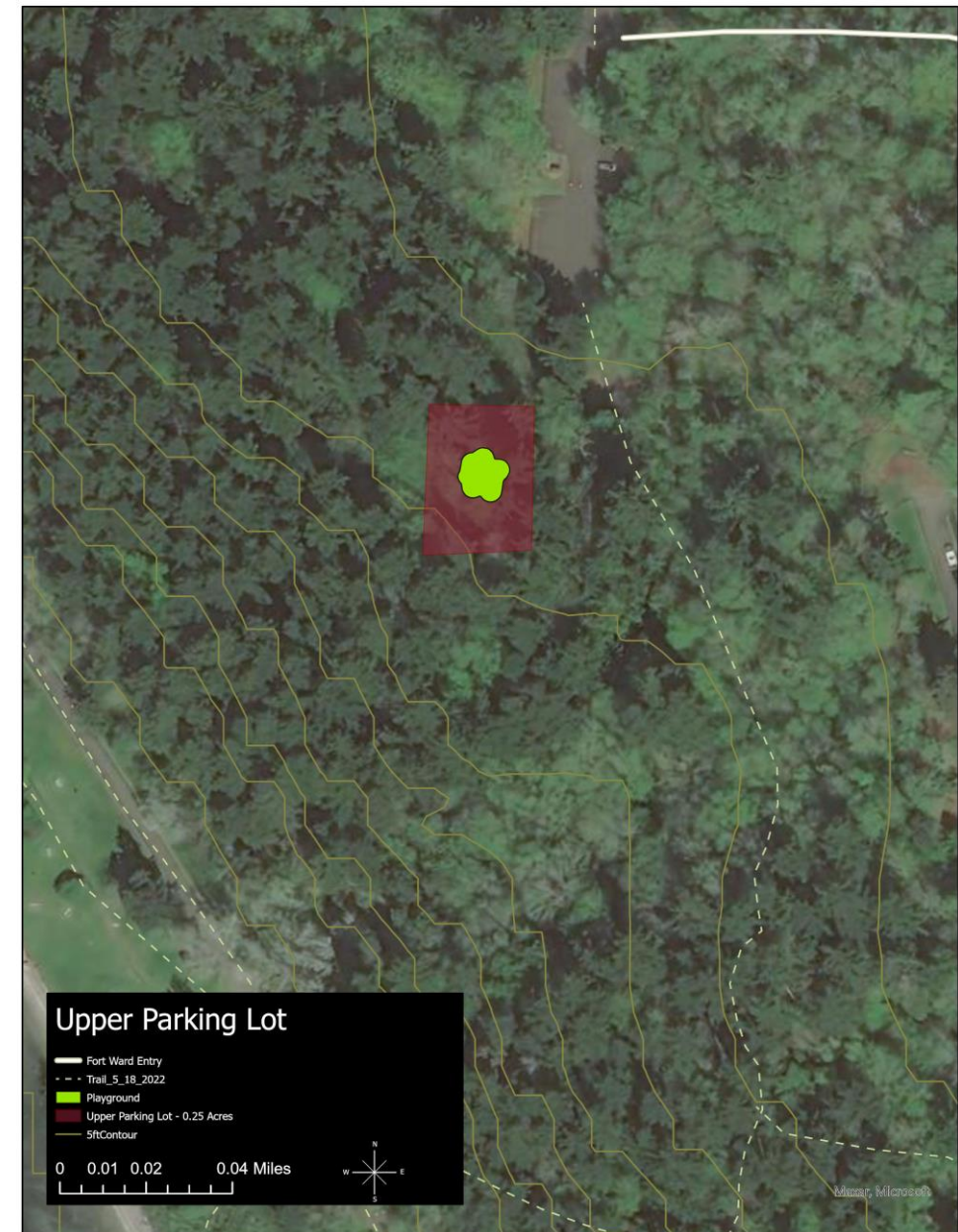
Site 3

- ▶ Pros
 - ▶ No restrictions or conditions
 - ▶ Large enough
- ▶ Cons
 - ▶ Inequitable impact to just 1 residence
 - ▶ Seems to be consensus with eliminating consideration of this location
 - ▶ Proximity to road would create recommendation for fencing



Site 4

- ▶ Pros
 - ▶ No restrictions or conditions
 - ▶ Restrooms and parking available
 - ▶ Little to No impact to residences
- ▶ Cons
 - ▶ Same concerns regarding roadway as Site 1
 - ▶ Wetland and buffer to the east
 - ▶ Steep slope to the west
 - ▶ Furthest from kids and other potential users
 - ▶ Tree limbs pose potential hazard
 - ▶ Security concerns
 - ▶ No homes nearby



Next Steps

- ▶ Determine date to make final decision on location
- ▶ Once site location is selected:
 - ▶ Staff will work on Project Agreement with BIP&TF
 - ▶ Form committee to determine type of play area
 - ▶ Bring final draft of structure proposal to Board for approval at a later date



Questions?