

Engagement Results

Overview

In 2026, the Jefferson Park playground will be replaced to continue to serve as a social and recreational focal point for the neighborhood, providing opportunities to connect with nature and each other.

The goals for the engagement process were to:

- Determine preferred equipment activities, styles and color schemes
- Utilize symbol/visual-based engagement and multiple platforms (mailing, online).

Neighborhood residents and the broader community were invited to participate in the planning process by mail or online with the survey closing on October 30, 2025. Postcards were sent directly to local residents, while the wider community was encouraged to engage through a press release and social media announcements. An in-person workshop was also held at Lincoln Elementary School, which serves neighborhood children.



Students at Lincoln Elementary school select their preferred activities, equipment style and color scheme.

Engagement Summary

As part of the online survey, participants noted the street where their home is located to help understand whether responses were coming from the neighborhood or the broader community.

A large number of online survey responses (40%) were from the broader community. However, when combined with the in-person event at Lincoln Elementary school, neighborhood input increased to 89% of all participation.

In-Person Event

229 Neighborhood Students
in Kindergarten-5th Grade

Online Survey

41 Total Households
48 Neighborhood Residents
32 Community Members

The survey and in-person data were analyzed both as a whole (including non-neighborhood residents) and as neighborhood-only to ensure that where there was disagreement on a park element between the broader community and the Jefferson Park neighborhood, the neighborhood input was given priority.

Play Equipment Preferences

Play Activity Options

Jefferson Park is a neighborhood park located at 665 University Avenue. The existing equipment includes a sand area, track ride/zip line, multiple slides, and climbing options. The park also includes a half basketball court.



The planned improvements to the park include retaining wall replacement, fencing, signage, and installation of new rubber surfacing and replacement of play equipment. Many of these elements have already been updated in preparation for the play area construction. The half basketball court will remain and the play site and equipment will be a similar size to the existing site and equipment.

Residents were asked which types of activities they would like to see accommodated in the playground equipment. They were also provided with the option of having no opinion on the topic. The results are below in the order of preference.

1. Track Ride/Zip Line
2. Spinner
3. Climbing Structures
4. Bridge
5. Slides



Play Equipment Style Preference

Residents were asked how they would like the playground equipment to look. They were also provided with the option of having no opinion on the topic. Neighborhood residents showed a slight preference (35%) for **geometric/modern equipment** over **nature-based equipment** (29%), while the larger community showed a preference for nature-based equipment (41%) over geometric/modern equipment (29%).



35% of residents prefer geometric/modern style equipment; 29% prefer nature-based equipment.

Play Equipment Color Scheme Preference

Residents were asked to select their preferred play equipment color scheme. They were also provided with the option of having no opinion on the topic. Neighborhood residents were equally split between Nature-based, natural materials (28%) and **Blue Monochrome** (28%) color schemes. When combined with **wood-look, nature-style materials**, a **nature-based, natural materials** color scheme leads (31%) and is also the broader community preference.



Recommendation

Some of the activity elements selected by residents (spinner) would be difficult to produce using natural materials. Given the divided nature of the survey results, a natural style including the blue monochrome, ropes, natural and wood-like materials could be used to meet the neighborhood's preferences.