

COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION
Public Comments for
Cosmo Park – Shelter Improvements

Meeting Held January 18, 2022

Online Comments were open from January 5, 2022 through January 25, 2022

Please comment on what you like about the proposed potential improvements:

- Plans look great! Too bad my kids are now too old for the tot lot but my friends and their kids will certainly enjoy the improvements.
- I've been coming to Cosmo park with a toddler (or two) since 2010. In spring, I avoid that area because of puddles or mud. In summer - the equipment is too hot. There is no shade, no place to sit to do toddler things like eat a snack or breastfeed a baby. I recommend a playground with a shade, like the new elementary schools are adding. Some play scapes include race tracks/paths for hot wheels or acorns to roll down. The city park playground by Parkade elementary is a good example of this. I also recommend a fence between street and playground- like at the Farmers Market playground.
- I like the new walkway and larger play area being all inclusive
- New equipment and better drainage would be great! The current toddler playground feels really neglected, but I appreciate that there's a dedicated space away from the big playground.
- I like that you are installing new equipment, moving the location (hopefully to a spot with shade, see comment below), and adding benches. Parents love to be able to sit down while their children play.
- I like the swings. I would like to see a playground structure that focuses on sensory objects for them to play with besides just something to climb on. Toddlers are all about using their bodies and senses to explore!

What would you change about the proposed potential improvements? Please be concise:

- I think all playgrounds should have fine sand rather than mulch or (uggghh!) shredded rubber. I mean fine sand, like beach sand or what can be easily collected from the Missouri River flood areas. Try it. You will find children spending hours digging and getting creative.
- Don't like your new website. Too hard to navigate. Took me forever to find this comment page. The old site was so much easier.
- Playgrounds in Columbia lack shade. No mention is made of trees, but the addition of 1-2 (close enough for parents/sleeping babies etc) would be awesome.

- Needs more shade, some kind of shade for seating
- None - please do it!
- Is one picnic table enough?
- I would like the city to consider the amount of sun for the toddler playground area. If possible, please install a sunshade. Often times my youngest children were never able to play at the toddler playground due to the intense summer sun and heat. It is important that we provide shade cover for the youngest, because sometimes it is difficult to find safe and effective sunscreen for young children.
- Add more trees that will eventually shade the playground and sidewalk. It is bloody hot out there on a warm spring day and unbearable in the summer. Direct sunlight and little reprieve from it prevent me and other parents from taking our young children to the existing toddler playground.

The above record(s) is subject to Missouri's open records laws and may be provided to the public if requested and/or placed in public domain.

Thank you for your participation.
City of Columbia, MO
Parks and Recreation