

AGENDA # 8

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION	PRESENTED: January 10, 2007
TITLE: 902 Magnolia Lane – Public Project, Cypress Spray Park. 14 th Ald. Dist. (05346)	REFERRED: REREFERRED: REPORTED BACK:
AUTHOR: Alan J. Martin, Secretary	ADOPTED: POF:
DATED: January 10, 2007	ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Paul Wagner, Chair; Todd Barnett, Michael Barrett, Lisa Geer, Ald. Noel Radomski and Bruce Woods.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of January 10, 2007, the Urban Design Commission **GRANTED INITIAL APPROVAL** of the Cypress Spray Park located at 902 Magnolia Lane. Appearing on behalf of the project was Bill Bauer of the Parks Division. Prior to the presentation, staff noted to the Commission that the plans for the proposed “Cypress Spray Park” were conceptual and the basis for a design bid process by the Parks Division yet to be completed and awarded. Staff explained that the request for initial or final approval was based on the Commission finding that efficient information was provided with the plans as presented by Bauer to allow for Parks and Urban Design Commission staff to administratively approve final details of the spray park based on input from the Commission or as an option initial approval with the project to return for final approval based on awarding of the bid and final design details being provided at a later time. A presentation of the concept plan, as well as an outline of the project’s features was provided by Bauer, detailing the amenities for the proposed spray park facility, including a toddler playground, a pumphouse with rooftop observation, and screened enclosure. Bauer noted that awarding bid for the design project would provide a specific design/color schemes to be determined. He noted that the project would provide for scattered bike parking and limited landscaping with ornamental shrubs and plantings but no trees due to litter issues with the spray park and with shade to be provided by shade canopy structures. Following the presentation, the Commission noted the following:

- The proposed fence enclosure is problematic; need to provide plantings in combination with a different fence styling. Like to see trees despite litter issue.
- Like the potential for solar in conjunction with MG&E. Like the viewing platform; consider solar panels at roof structure above viewing platform.
- Look at more educational water feature amenities beyond run-through and stand.
- Concern with overall development’s framing with “eyes to the street.” In addition, it needs trees and look at alternatives to the fencing.
- Toddler play and spray areas should be coordinated to allow cross-use.

ACTION:

On a motion by Woods, seconded by Barnett, the Urban Design Commission **GRANTED INITIAL APPROVAL**. The motion was passed on a vote of (6-0). The motion required address of the above.

After the Commission acts on an application, individual Commissioners rate the overall design on a scale of 1 to 10, including any changes required by the Commission. The ratings are for information only. They are not used to decide whether the project should be approved. The scale is 1 = complete failure; 2 = critically bad; 3 = very poor; 4 = poor; 5 = fair; 6 = good; 7 = very good; 8 = excellent; 9 = superior; and 10 = outstanding. The overall ratings for this project are 5, 6, 7 and 7.

URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION PROJECT RATING FOR: 902 Magnolia Lane

	Site Plan	Architecture	Landscape Plan	Site Amenities, Lighting, Etc.	Signs	Circulation (Pedestrian, Vehicular)	Urban Context	Overall Rating
Member Ratings	5	-	4	5	-	7	6	5
	6	-	-	-	-	5	-	6
	6	-	-	-	-	6	8	7
	6	-	-	-	-	6	8	7

General Comments:

- The entire space needs to have a better sense of “framing.” That means more than a fence. The entire space should encourage parents lingering along the periphery to provide informal “eyes on the site.” That means trees for shade!
- Good start.
- Plantings in lieu of fence. Place solar panel on top of pumphouse as rooftop shading fence.
- Try to move the toddler spray area closer to the toddler swings/play area so they can move more freely between the two.