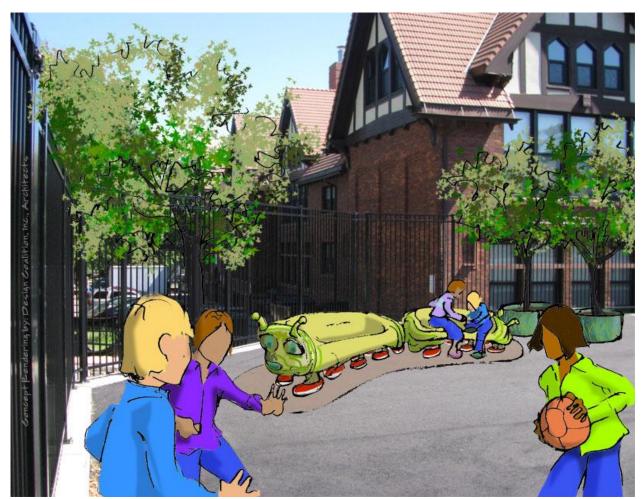
Olive Jones Park is a small city park on the near west side that also serves as the playground for Randall Elementary School. For the last three years, a neighborhood-school coalition called Friends of Olive Jones Park has worked with the city parks division to improve the playground and park. A wonderful new play structure was installed in summer 2010; a toddler playground was added in 2011 along with reconstruction of the school amphitheater performance area; this summer the project concluded with reconstruction of retaining walls, replacement of the asphalt play surface, and new perimeter fencing. The project won an award for 2010 Madison Parks Volunteer Project of the Year for its citizen involvement and broad-based public-private partnership. The project website, with photos of the playground, is found at http://www.randallschoolpark.org/.

This spring, the Regent Neighborhood Association and Friends of Olive Jones Park received a \$24,000 neighborhood grant from the city planning division to add a neighborhood and school gathering space on the east side of the playground, an area located away from the other new amenities. The purpose is to provide a place to sit, greenery and shade for children, parents and teachers, and to add some color and artistry to the area. We have been working with concrete artist Jeff Scott of Mount Horeb to design benches and planters for this area. Jeff was recommended because of the beautiful concrete troughs he created for the Madison Children's Museum, which can be seen at http://concretecountertops.ning.com/photo/photo/listForContributor?screenName=2343dcvl7qr4k.

The design includes two identical concrete benches, each about 8 feet long, shaped like caterpillars. The benches will be cast from a specialized concrete mix designed to resist water. Color will be integral to the concrete and the benches will be further densified and sealed using a colloidal silica polymer blend. Finished benches will shed water through weep holes in the seating area. The caterpillars will stand on multiple legs wearing multi-colored Converse tennis shoes. These will be made from actual Converse shoes hardened with an exterior grade fabric hardener, then filled with steel reinforcing rod and concrete.

The grouping also includes two concrete planters made from culvert sections large enough for two hornbeam trees, which can grow quickly to 15-20 feet tall to provide shade, and a kidney bean-shaped concrete pad and footing for the benches. Installation of the seating area is expected for spring of 2013 under the supervision of the city parks department.



Regent Neighborhood Association

Olive Jones Park – Randall School Gathering Space

Two caterpillar benches for northeast corner of park, raised concrete slab, and two planters

Regent Neighborhood Association

Olive Jones Park – Randall School Gathering Space

Two caterpillar benches for northeast corner of park, raised concrete slab, and two planters

Budget proposal October 1, 2012	
Bench installation	
Slab installation and subsurface preparation	\$ 4,140
(Homburg estimate 8/24/12)	
Bench construction and delivery	\$18,010
(Scott proposal excluding Homburg estimate 8/30/12)	
Trees and soil	\$ 1,000
(Maglio email 9/17/12)	
Bench decommission	
Remove bench and repave area at end of useful life	\$ 2,000
(Maglio email 9/17/12)	
Total cost of installation and decommission	\$25,140
Grant amount	\$24,000
Additional expenses	
to be paid by Friends of Olive Jones from already received donations	
Architectural rendering of bench design	\$ 390

(Host-Jablonski invoice 9/24/12)	
Concrete conservator report	\$ 720
(Laibinis estimate 9/28/12)	
Detailed site plan - in-kind donation	
(Rebecca Parish, Arch. Technician Instructor, MATC)	
Engineering report	\$ 600
(what does this consist of for a bench?)	
Excess of bench costs over grant amount	\$ 1,010
(\$25,010 - \$24,000)	
Total paid by Friends of Olive Jones	\$ 2,720
Possible donations: trees and soil, engineering report	

