

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION **PRESENTED:** March 6, 2013

TITLE: 1818 Portage Road – Reindahl Park Splash Pad in UDD No. 5. 17th Ald. Dist. (29296) **REFERRED:**

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Alan J. Martin, Secretary **ADOPTED:** **POF:**

DATED: March 6, 2013 **ID NUMBER:**

Members present were: Richard Wagner, Chair; Melissa Huggins, Henry Lufler, Tom DeChant, Richard Slayton, Dawn O’Kroley and Marsha Rummel.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of March 6, 2013, the Urban Design Commission **RECEIVED AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** for the Reindahl Park Splash Pad located at 1818 Portage Road in UDD No. 5. Appearing on behalf of the project were Sarah Lerner and Kay Rutledge, representing the City of Madison; and Dean Mueller, representing Water Technology, Inc. Lerner presented plans for the splash park, indicating that Mayor Soglin wishes to install three splash parks in the City in three years. The splash pad is one of many improvements proposed for Reindahl Park. The pad is approximately 2,300 square feet where there is currently a floating ice rink that hasn’t been used in over a decade. This location will also provide sight lines for rangers and MPD in dealing with park issues. There will be a maintenance and concessions building with a metal roof system, as well as removable shades at seating tables. Landscaping is existing. The recirculating system for the splash pad cleans the water. The splash pad features three different zones: one for toddlers with features that aren’t quite as aggressive, a family zone with more interactive features, and a teen zone with water guns and tipping buckets. The features are on timers and will shut off when not in use. Comments from the Commission were as follows:

- By either extending the overhang, or by how the building is sited, you could get some shade on the concession window.
- Look at all of your shelters and think of the buildings as a series. If they had something that relates them they would be stronger. Think about how the park collectively presents itself architecturally.
- The split face concrete block is the least approachable material.
 - We have serious graffiti problems in our parks; split face materials is a bit more difficult for them to graffiti and a lot easier for us.
- Maybe consider the Water Utility on the south portion of the site when finalizing your plans.
- You may want to rethink where the dry versus wet areas are to be sure there is enough separation and to make sure there is enough space around in the fenced area without the spray hitting the dry observers.
- In addition to the graffiti deterrent, if there’s a chance to put some kind of vine on that wall please look into that.

- You're creating artificial shade with those canopies. Natural shade is a very nice thing to have. In the long run maybe think about some shade trees that will provide natural shade. They could be far enough back that they begin to shade the concrete without creating issues.

ACTION:

Since this was an **INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION** no formal action was taken by the Commission.

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 is 5.

URBAN DESIGN COMMISSION PROJECT RATING FOR: 1818 Portage Road

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

General Comments:

- Balance environmental design to prevent crime with creating shade and comfortable spaces.