

All Saints Playground Project 2022: Questions & Answers

1. What exactly are we building?

We are replacing playground equipment that was installed over 20 years ago.

We have taken inspiration from some of the newer play spaces around Portland, and have opted for a more natural and open-ended play area. We're doing this in three phases, with the first one complete (replacing a broken structure, adding fresh lines to the blacktop, adding more bark chips, etc.).

2. What are the primary materials and why?

We are moving away from plastic, so the new structures are mainly wood with some rope and metal components integrated into the pieces. No sand or water features are involved.

3. How important were eco-friendly aspects in our choices?

We wanted to be as eco-friendly as possible, so we have opted for natural components. In addition to the sustainability aspects of the materials, studies have shown children playing in more natural environments have higher rates of unstructured play and creative use.

4. What is the estimated lifespan of the new playground materials?

These play pieces should provide decades of use. The wood components are locally sourced premium grade douglas fir selected specifically to be tough and

durable. All the timbers are hand selected and inspected. Timbers also receive a pressure-preservative treatment.

5. Will any of the playground be covered, either for shade or rain?

Currently, one of the new sections will have a roof, the remainder will be open, although there is existing tree canopy in the area.

6. From whom are we ordering the components?

The playground pieces were designed and ordered through the local company Outdoor Cathedral, the local representative for the manufacturer, Columbia Equipment. Columbia is a local company with decades of experience making playgrounds here in the Pacific NW. The removal of the old equipment and installation of new equipment will be performed by RSI.

7. What will the ground area be covered with?

We will continue to use wood chips as our ground cover. After reviewing the pros and cons of other materials, it was found that wood chips provided the best drainage and least environmental impact.

8. What's the youngest and oldest approximate ages that the new design is intended to serve?

We hope that this playground is fun for all ages, kids and adults alike!

9. Who provided input into the design elements?

A committee was created involving parents, members from SAC and the administration, who met several times throughout the past few years. Our members included architects, real estate professionals, land use experts and marketing specialists.

10. Who designed it for us?

The Committee contracted Outdoor Cathedral to design the particular playground pieces. This design was created with input from the Committee and school representatives.

11. Who will be building it? (e.g., Is install being handled by one local company we can name?)

Recreation Services Inc. (RSI) will be handling the demolition and installation of our first piece of equipment.

12. Do we anticipate any opportunity or need for any volunteer muscle among current school parents to sign up and help the effort?

Just support our kids in the upcoming Move-a-thon and thank you to the many individuals and businesses who have donated already!

13. Will this supplement the current playground structures or are all of the existing being replaced with the new design?

Eventually we will be replacing most of the existing plastic structures with the new design. What's described in this document is the second of the three phases because Phase 1 is complete as described above.

14. When will the current playground close and become a removal and construction worksite?

We are waiting on delivery of the new equipment and were given an arrival time frame of May. We have our installation contractor waiting for word that the materials have been delivered.

15. When do you expect to have everything fully done?

It depends on the success of the fundraising efforts. We will implement Phase Two as soon as we have raised sufficient funds after the Move-a-Thon.

16. What is this costing in total? What has already been raised?

We are estimating a total playground cost of \$200,000 for all three phases of the playground project and have already raised \$125,000 through past fundraising events. In addition to the \$75,000 still needed for the playground, we are at the same time raising another \$125,000 for All Saints' annual operating needs and contingency funds. So, our total Move-thon goal is \$200,000 for the playground and other school funding because it'll be our one fundraising event for this school year, instead of the usual three.

17. How many swings will there be? How many slides?

This first piece of playground equipment is a multi-use jungle gym. It includes multiple platforms, many different types of climbers, and a spiral slide.

18. How are we striking a nice balance between safety, fun, and kids being able to feel like they're being daredevils if they want?

This first piece of equipment is a jungle gym style design, not unlike the piece it is replacing, but with many more playing options and natural materials. The slide platform (the highest piece) is only six feet off the ground and the bark chip bed is maintained at appropriate depth for safety.

19. In what year was most of the current playground installed?

Approximately 2002.

20. Who can we email if we have questions or feedback about the project?

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