

**Groff Park Public Forum**  
**April 24, 2018**  
**Concluding Comments and Questions**

Park, including spray pad, needs to be free to serve entire community and to be equitable.

Kids have been burned by slide on lower level; it needs to be removed because of safety issues.

The welcome kiosk and signs at Groff need to be in multiple languages.

There are safety concerns about sidewalks and route along East Hadley Road leading to the park.

Efforts should be made to save as many trees as possible. Can there be a way to design around the trees, including in the spray pad area—maybe have water drain to trees?

What happens in spray pad when it is not open? Will the fixtures get damaged?

Will lower level pavilion be made accessible? There should be at least one accessible pavilion/shade structure that is always open to the public (i.e. not reserved or rented).

Could there be a river theme to help link surface colors and designs to the natural site around the park?

Groff is a very relaxing place with great views and natural setting. Do not overpower space with design or bright colors.

Have seating that also takes advantage of views looking out of the park.

Make sure that there are play elements and splash pad elements that are fully accessible and can be used by people with limited mobility or other impairments.

Look at Roger William Park Zoo for ideas about accessibility and inclusion; it has a swing for wheelchairs.

Do not put spray park near the entry because it will make the park feel less vibrant when it is not in use, especially during off-season.

Natural shade from trees is much better than rows of tents or shade structures.

There should be both public seating/shade areas and some private seating/shade areas.

Plan for bike racks and other site amenities.

Use light colors on surface.

Will there be structures or design elements for teenagers and other age groups beyond 2-5 and 5-12? And, will the equipment be able to withstand use by older kids even if designed for the 5-12 age group? Make the park exciting and usable for all age groups.

Will equipment be used from more than one manufacturer?

Have minimal vertical elements in spray pad to make pad usable as a hardscape service when not used as a spray pad, and to minimize disruption of the views.