

East Queen Anne Playground
Play Area Renovation

Project Website: https://engageseattleparks.com/east-queen-anne-play-area-renovation

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East Queen Anne Playground | Play Area Renovation







East Queen Anne Playground Play Area Renovation | 2026

Scope of work:

This project will replace the existing play equipment with new equipment that meets current safety and accessibility standards. All improvements will be compliant with the standards from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Site improvements will include:

- New play equipment (including age 2-5 and age 5-12 equipment and swings)
- New safety surfacing
- New site furnishings
- Repair of existing drainage infrastructure
- New trees, mulch and lawn restoration around the play area
- Pavement repair for accessibility

Budget:

Seattle Parks District Major Maintenance provides $1,050,896 for planning, design, construction.

Schedule:

Planning: Fall - Winter 2025/2026
Design: 2026
Construction: 2027

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Site Challenges



Sand spilling into safety surfacing

Loose sand spilling into engineered wood fiber surfacing reduces fall protection.





Sand damaging lawn and irrigation

Sand migration into lawn areas has clogged irrigation heads and caused turf damage.

Non-compliant walkways and ramps

Existing walkways and ramps do not meet current accessibility standards.

Site Opportunities



Popular play features

Swings and slides are popular across all age groups.





Strong community identity

The park's open layout and visibility foster a welcoming, neighborhood gathering space.

Wading pool

A beloved summer feature and community hub that brings families together.

What we've heard from you...

What do you love about your playground?

- Wading pool: the most frequently praised feature; seen as a community hub and summer favorite.
- Swings and slides: consistently popular across all age groups.
- Spacious layout: appreciated for its openness, multiple zones, and visibility.
- Community feel: many respondents emphasized the park's role as a neighborhood gathering space.



What we've heard from you...

What is missing? What would make it even better?

- More toddler-friendly equipment: especially for ages 2-5, including climbing structures and imaginative play.
- Picnic and seating areas: more tables, benches, and shaded areas for families and gatherings.



What we've heard from you...

What colors, themes or elements would make the playground feel more comfortable and/or welcoming for you?

Top requested features:

- Climbing walls, bridges, balance beams
- Spinners, whirl features, spring toys
- Slides
- Music and play panels (though some concerns about noise)
- Upper body equipment
- Swings (including toddler and parent-child swings)

Color preferences:

- Natural tones (greens, browns)
- Some interest in bright or pastel colors

Themes:

- Nature-inspired
- Local Seattle / PNW theme


Climbing wall


Bridge


Balance beam


Spinners


Whirl


Spring Toys


Slides


Music


Upper Body


Swings

What we've heard from you...

Should the sandbox be removed to expand the play area for ages 2-5, or kept with reduced play space?

- 61% — Remove the sandbox
- 27% — Keep the sandbox
- 12% — No preference

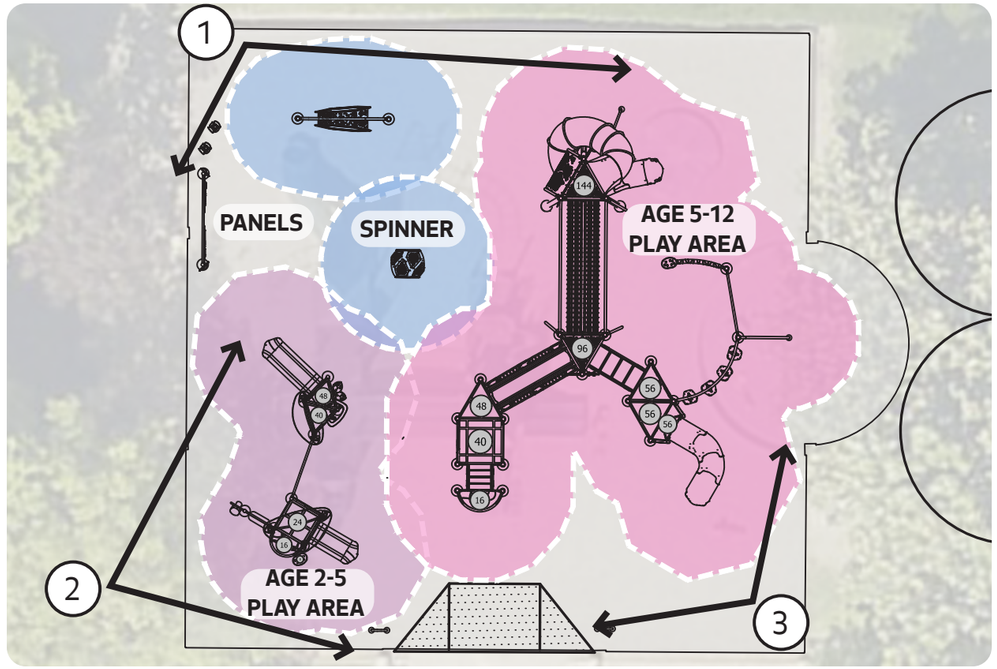
Age Groups Represented in 100+ responses:

- Children under 5 - heavily represented
- Children ages 5-12 - most common group
- Teens and adults - many responses from parents, caregivers, and local residents
- Seniors - a few responses from older community members

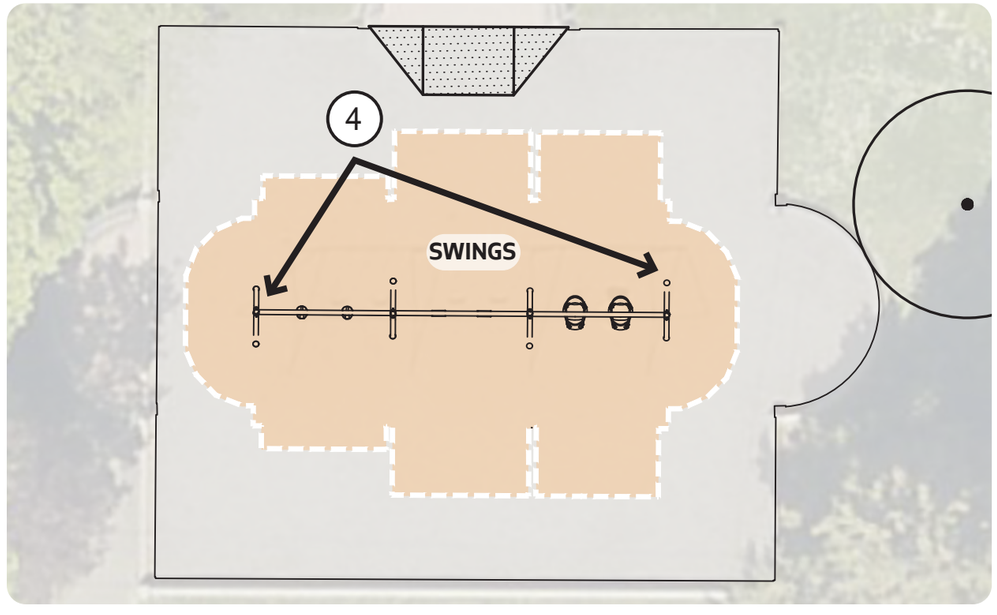


Design Option A

Site Plan - North Play Area



Site Plan - South Play Area (Swings)



Views

1



2



3



4



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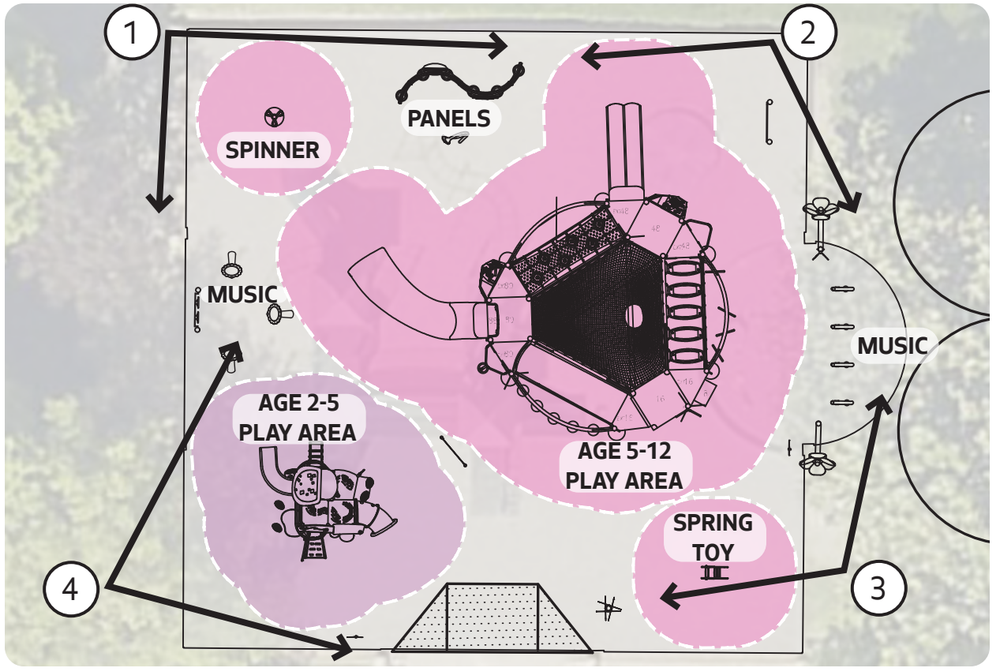
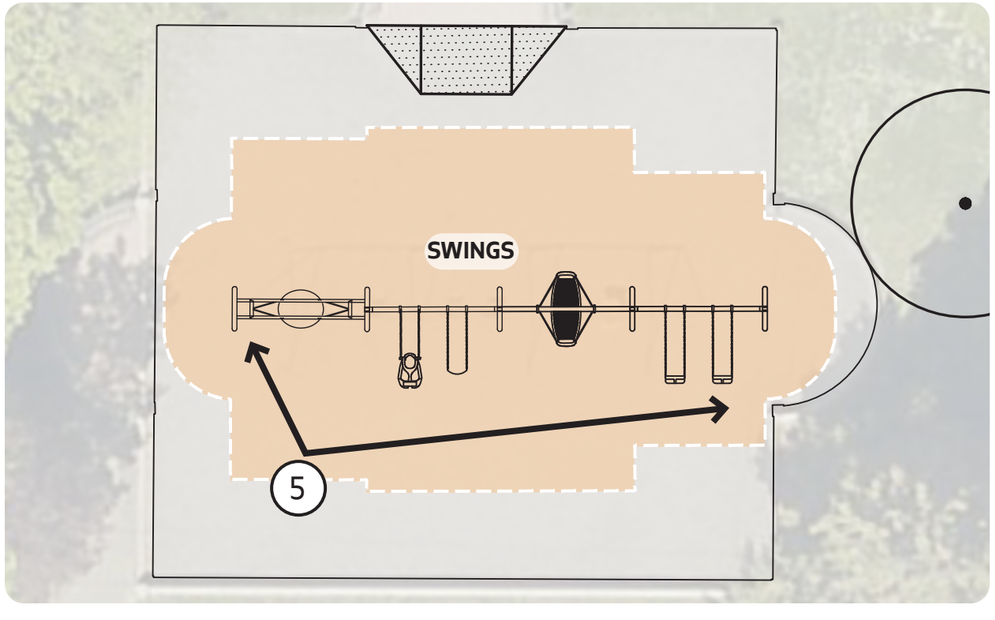
Design Option B

Site Plan - North Play Area



Site Plan - South Play Area (Swings)



Views

1



2



3



4



5



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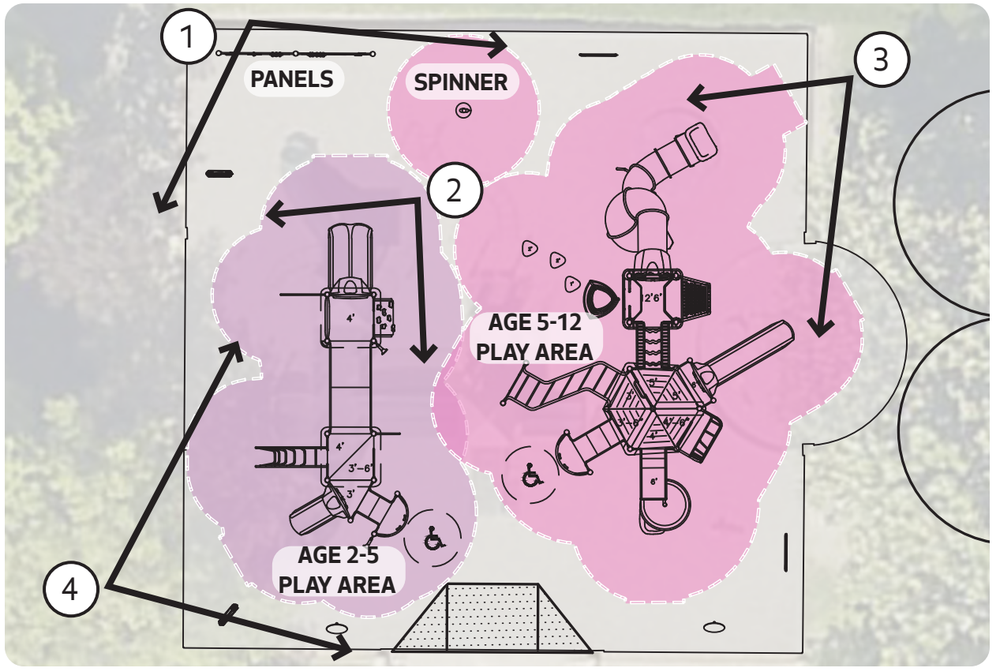
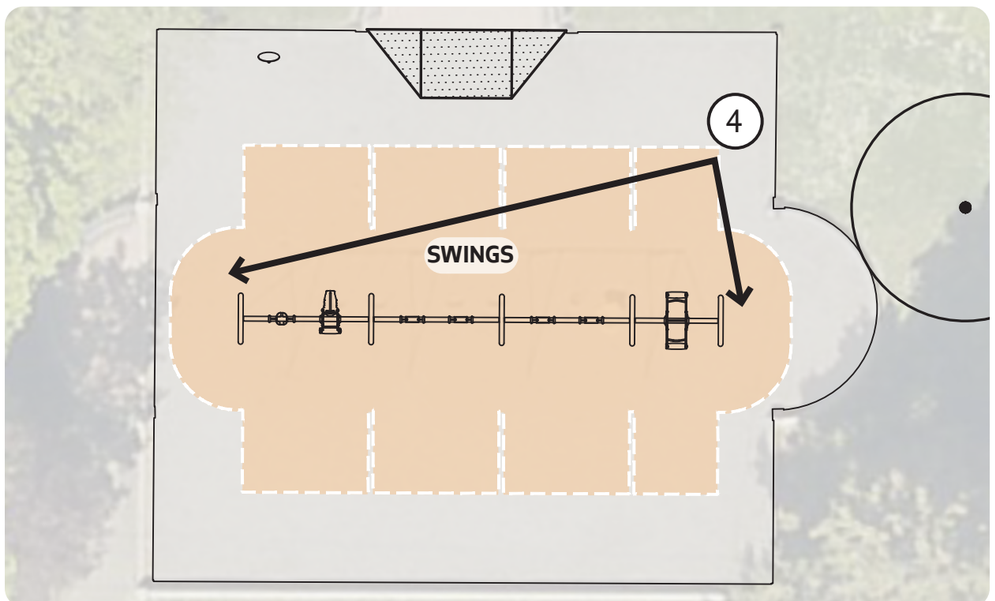
Design Option C

Site Plan - North Play Area



Site Plan - South Play Area (Swings)



Views









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Design Options

Option A



Age 2-5 play equipment:

- Small play structure with a short slide
- Ground-level panels for sensory and learning play
- Pretend play elements and a cozy spot for quiet play
- Musical play features

Age 5-12 play equipment:

- Large multi-level climbing structure
- Rope tunnel bridge for adventurous play
- Curved and tall tube slides
- Multiple climbing elements (rope climbers, vertical climbers, balance)
- Freestanding spinner

Proposed swings:

- 2 toddler swings
- 2 belt swings
- 2 inclusive swings for multiple users

Option B



- Age 2-5 play equipment:
  - Structure with 16 interactive developmentally-appropriate activities, curved slide, climbers, sensory panels and tunnel
  - Spring toy
  - Music
- Age 5-12 play equipment:
  - A large net-climbing structure with multiple climbers, bridges, panels and scavenger hunt
  - Slides
  - Stand-up group spinner
- Proposed swings:
  - 2 toddler swings
  - 1 belt swing
  - 1 adaptive swing
  - 1 flex multi-user swing
  - 1 dish swing

Option C



- Age 2-5 play equipment:
  - Small play structure with bridge and short slides
  - Play panels
  - Multiple climbing features
- Age 5-12 play equipment:
  - Structure with tower and multiple climbing elements
  - Curved and tall tube slides
  - Freestanding spinner
  - Play panels
- Proposed swings:
  - 1 toddler swing
  - 1 adaptive swing
  - 4 belt swings
  - 1 multi-user swing