

# Daley Park Improvements Public Input Summary February 2024

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# I. Background

The planned improvements to Daley Park will include a new inclusive playground with artist-designed rubber surfacing, sidewalk and ADA improvements, and new site furnishings. A public meeting was held to gather feedback on the proposed playground improvements for Daley Park from 9 to 11 a.m. on Feb. 10 with 6 participants. Additionally, a survey was available online at <a href="tempe.gov/Forum">tempe.gov/Forum</a> from Feb 10 - 25, 2024. This survey received a total of 135 visitors and 96 responses.

#### II. Outreach

#### **Direct Mailer**

A direct mailer was sent to residents near Daley Park. The boundaries were Apache Blvd to the north, Broadway Road to the south, Mill Ave to the east, and Rural Road to the west. The direct mailer included a brief overview of the project and details on how to attend the public meeting and provide comments.

#### **Emails**

A notification email was sent to Tempe Forum subscribers, neighborhood contacts, relevant Boards and Commissions and previous participants in Daley Park outreach inviting them to attend the meeting or to comment online.

#### Yard Signs

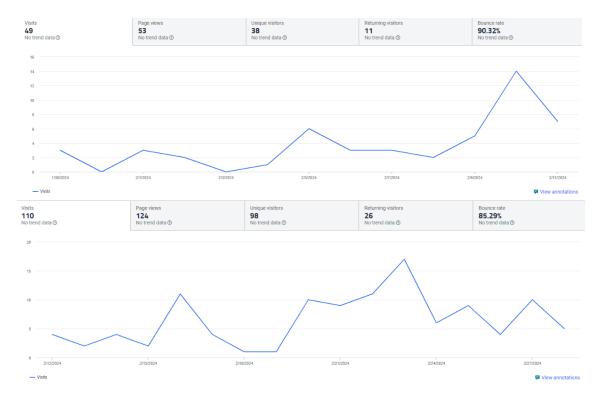
Yard signs with meeting and comment information were placed around Daley Park.

### Project Webpage

The project <u>webpage</u> was updated continuously and included information about the project, the date and access information for the public meeting and online comment information. From Jan. 30 - Feb. 28, the website had 177 views.

#### Top Sources:

- Direct
- Google
- Tempe Forum
- Mailchimp
- Spikes
  - o Feb 10 for the public meeting and Feb 22 for the survey reminder



#### Social Media, Eblasts and Press Release



1/31/24 - Public meeting announcement

• Impressions: 49 I Engagements: 0

2/8/24 - Public meeting reminder

Impressions: 121 | Engagements: 0

2/22/24 - Survey reminder

• Impressions: 52 | Engagements: 0



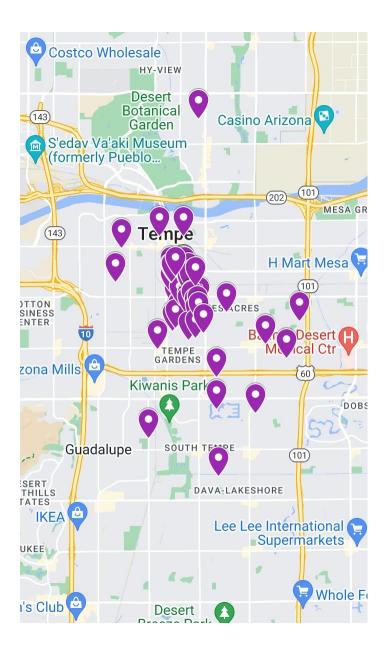
1/31/24 - Public meeting announcement

- 33 emails sent, 56.7% open rate, 11.7% click rate, 2 clicks 2/8/24 Public meeting reminder
- 31 emails sent, 58.6% open rate, 17.6% click rate, 5 clicks 2/22/24 Survey reminder
- 30 emails sent, 65.5% open rate, 36.8% click rate, 17 clicks

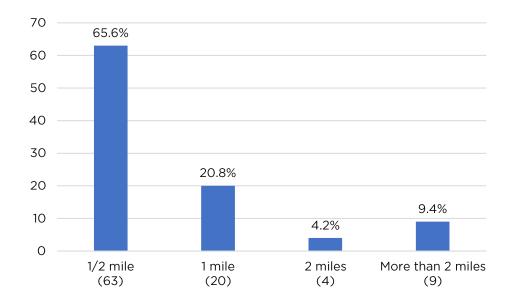
# III. Survey Results

The survey was available online at <u>tempe.gov/Forum</u> from Feb. 10 - 25, 2024 to gather feedback on proposed park improvements for Daley Park.

62 respondents provided an address with approximately 97% in Tempe.

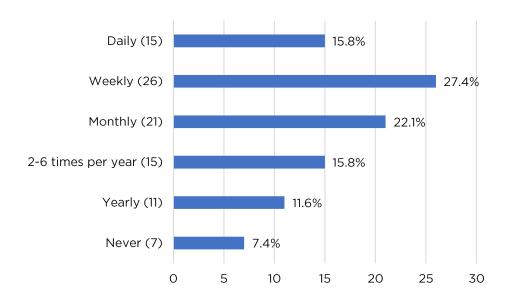


# 1. How close do you live to Daley Park?

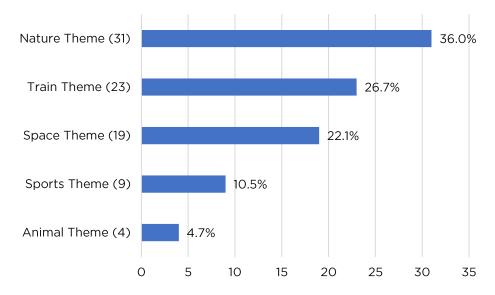


Responses: 96

# 2. How often do you visit Daley Park?

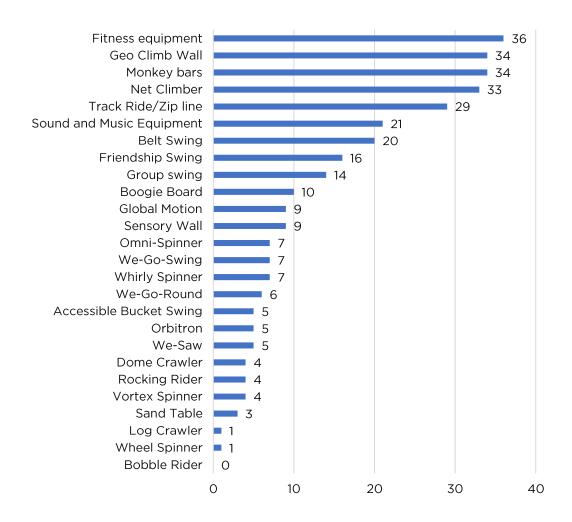


3. What playground style would you like to see in the new renovated park?

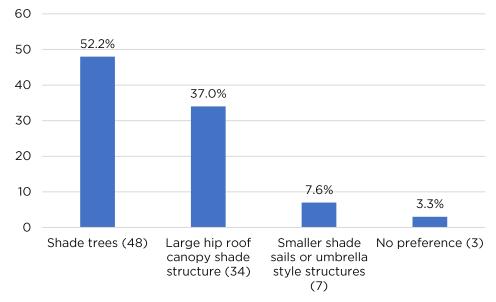


Responses: 86

4. From the list below select the top 4 playground equipment you would like to see in the new playground.

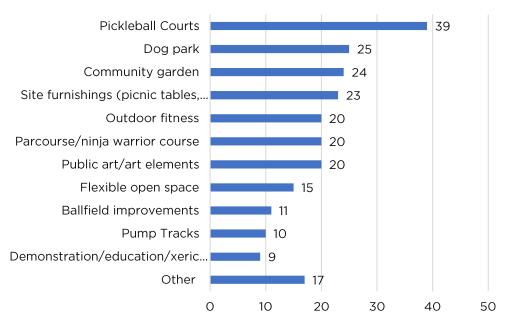


5. Additional shade in this area is being considered in and around the playground area. Which type of additional shade opportunities do you most prefer?



Responses: 92

6. If in the future funding were available for an additional amenity expansion at Daley Park, which of the below are you most in favor of adding? Select up to 3.



Responses: 93

Other comments:

- 4-8 pickleball courts
- A grass turf to sit and relax on

- Basketball update, new hoops please!!!
- fix the basketball court please! make the ground concrete!
- Full time ranger
- I really miss seeing the Changes art that was on the corner. It always made me happy. Yu can't even see that the current thing there is art. I had to tell someone I was with! They didn't believe it! Neither do I.
- Keep it geared to young children, young families, older neighbors walking and picnic areas. Keep it a neighborhood park. Let everyone else go to some large amusement park.
- More trees
- Preserve open green space free of hardscape elements!
- running track
- Skate park
- Sport court for roller sports
- Stage for live music
- Water pad for kids
- Water park splash pad
- Water splash pad
- We would like a walking path around the park. We are elderly and like to walk daily

# 7. Do you have any additional comments regarding the Daley Park improvements?

- 1. A walking path on the north side of the park from College to the alley would be nice. My husband and I often walk at Kiwanis park because it is paved and in an oval. We are elderly and try to walk every day. Dailey park is our nearest park and would be more convenient than Kiwanis if there was a walking path.
- 2. Adding shade and accessible playground equipment, in my humble opinion, are the only two things needed. Please consider redirecting funds to either affordable housing or to multi-mobility. Thank you kindly for your time.
- 3. As a father to a 6 year old, any and all of these playground upgrades would be incredible. If pump track is a concrete track for skateboards, roller-skates, and bikes, I am very interested in this!
- 4. Basketball hoops update please!
- 5. Community garden sounds nice, but really most of these neighbors have property for gardens, so probably no needed at all Ninja course sounds awesome and unique The big problem is the homeless. Neighbors are scared to intermix with the dozens of homeless that day and sometimes night camp in our park.
- 6. Currently, the park is not well-cared for and feels unsafe. There is always trash lying around, bathrooms are dirty, and there are too many adults lingering around all day. Whatever is done to revitalize the park, the maintenance and safety are a priority. With more and more kids in the neighborhood, this should be a haven for the kids to come out and play in a fun, safe environment.
- 7. Dog park should be included!!
- 8. Dog park/enclosure is desperately needed at Daley Park!
- 9. Fitness equipment would be very cool and I am excited to see what happens!
- 10. Hate to be negative, but what's the point of improving a park that's often proved unusable due to homeless encampments and a parking lot taken over by ASU students. I use the park every weekday and can't imagine families running gauntlets of unhoused residents and campgrounds, not to mention threatening looking dogs, after having to park in the farthest lot from the playground due to de facto student parking. Daley Park can be a beautiful resource. You can see it come alive on many weekends. But weekdays, not so much. The park needs to be better loved and respected by the city. That would be the best improvement.
- 11. Help the homeless people so they don't camp in the park
- 12. Hoping there can be a way of making sure the park is safe and accessible to all residents
- 13. I don't use Daley Park because it scares me. The park is always full of homeless congregations along with their belongings and trash. It is intimidating, not friendly. They tend to focus near the playground equipment. I rarely see kids in that area for obvious reasons. Why would

- you put in more playground amenities that would not be used by children?
- 14. I don't visit Daley park but I do pass by frequently on my bike due to college having a significant roll as a North-South bike route to and from downtown Tempe. Could we see bike repair stations with a bike stand to change flats or pump up tires?
- 15. I hope to see more of a barrier between the park space and college to provide the most safety for my young children. The main reason we don't visit often is due to feeling unsafe because of the homeless. The equipment that is currently available is not suitable for toddler age and does not allow for much visibility and supervision due to the amount of slides. We call it slide park. We are also deterred by the amount of trash and surprisingly one occurrence of raw chicken all throughout the sand. I want to be proud of the community I live in and foster a positive perspective of outdoor play for my children. Daley is located in a affluent neighborhood with an abundance of children. The community deserves a safe, inviting, clean, all-age appropriate space to enjoy every day.
- 16. I like the timeless feel of the park being reminiscent of how it has been in the past
- 17. I live behind Daley Park. I NEVER take my grandchildren to THAT homeless infested 'park.' It's disturbing to drive by. Adding more shade and tables will just encourage more. The last improvements to Daley park resulted an increase in homeless and a decrease in children use. Sometimes I see 4 groups of homeless men just hangong out there waiting to be fed and catch a bus. With the nice weather I see their numbers increase. Perhaps they're being bussed here from other areas? These are not our neighbors. No one feels safe there. This is not acceptable for our children and families. I felt comfortable taking my children there 30 years ago. This is absolutely not fair for our younger generation and likewise for those of us that have lived here and supported Tempe for many years to watch Tempe become slum. The church adjacent to Daley Park fosters the homeless problem. They need to be stopped. I think there should be restrictions on loud music too. Music is fine but the volume is way out of line. Sometimes my walls shake. I believe Daley Park could be nice again but it's going to take the powers to be to fix it. At this point I've lost confidence in that. The city of Tempe needs to get the homeless congregations out of the parks. If not, your mission statement needs to be changed and restated to tell the truth.
- 18. I play with my nephews there often and there is always trash and even a couple times needles. I wish there was more cleanup because it is a nice park.
- 19. I take my Grandkds to Daley Playground several times a mo. They love the slides but the rubber coating on the metal has deteriorated. When it's hot it's soft but when it gets cold it's sharp and dangerous. I hope you are just repairing that area and not removing it. What Daley Park really needs is a dog park. It could be directly North of the Playground by the RR tracks fence. Everyone around here has a dog or 2 and it

would bring neighbors to this park, who wouldn't otherwise go. It may cut down on the transient population to have more people coming there. On the wall by the park there's a picture of a dog playing. That would be nice. The 4 feeder neighborhoods could get together and put their yearly \$10 k Maryann Corder money toward it. With \$40 k that should be enough for some fencing, lights, water and benches. I'm sure Maryann would have approved.

- 20. I think the first Improvement should be to manage the homeless population there. I quit taking my 3 year old granddaughter because every time we went it was over run with homeless people and was very uncomfortable.
- 21. I used to go to the park more often, but then there would always be homeless people taking up the picnic tables and it scared me off.
- 22.I would love to bring my grandkids to Daley Park on a more regular basis. Unfortunately almost every time I pull up with them in the car there is someone (with their shopping cart) sleeping either under one of the structures or on the benches nearby. Wondering if the entire play area could be relocated away from College Avenue. Super glad you're getting rid of the sand.
- 23.If homeless continue to congregate and sleep in the park, it's Ramada's and in neighborhood surrounding park- even with improvements the park will be avoided.
- 24. Improve the dug outs and fix the restroom problem since the in sheltered use of freely for a drug house.
- 25.It is a shame the Homeless have taken over Daley park and the pavilion....No longer take the niece and nephews there I drive them to Meyer
- 26.it is already a nice park. Lets see if we an make it even better.
- 27.Less is more when it comes to Daley Park. It is functioning well as it is and has been for decades. People use it for what they want to use it for. Improvements are great but I'd prefer to see improvements to what is already there rather than cramming in new stuff like pickle ball courts or a dog park. Those things take away from the functionality of what people already love.
- 28.Less is more. If you absolutely have to add fences or sidewalks or statues, keep them out of the open areas where people play frisbee or toss a baseball around. Don't try to "improve" nature by paving it.
- 29.Most importantly, I'd like to see a larger buffer zone / sidewalk area that runs along College Ave. This particular section of sidewalk has heavy foot traffic and pedestrians regularly have to step into the bike lane or street when passing people with dogs, strollers, carts, etc. This is an important safety problem. I'd also like to see more lighting along this stretch of sidewalk at night, including a more brightly lit bus stop area. If additional capital investment is made, I'd love to see more natural space in the park like native plants and perhaps a small nature walk (sensory herb garden or pollinator garden). Additionally, it would be great to add a walking/biking loop path around the park with distance markers, so that people know how far they've walked/run along the loop.

- 30. No homeless or people loitering/camping in the park as parks are for families. Also add a sidewalk/track around the park to go for a walk.
- 31. Pickelball courts!
- 32.Please don't replace the sand in the playground. My children enjoy making sandcastles. Actually, there is nothing wrong with the current playground equipment that justifies the cost and disruption of replacing it. If you want to make a significant improvement to the park to benefit children, please increase the efforts to discourage the homeless and other rough characters from hanging out there.
- 33.Please have 24/7 security at the park. The homeless keep returning! Thank you!
- Please please do something to help deter the homeless 34. community from destroying our park. We have found needles, fentanyl pipes, raw chicken, people urinate in the slides. This park should serve as an example of what the city of Tempe represents due to its close proximity to the city center. Make this a place similar to Kiwanis, where everyone feels safe and everyone is still welcome. Nobody uses the cornhole area or park benches because it's serves as a hangout for the homeless community. Please make this a park for everyone and not just better amenities for the homeless. People avoid the playground because they are afraid of getting in the way of the homeless sitting at the benches. This park should be like Koret park in San Francisco or riverview park in mesa. We want to be a city that supports affordable housing, sustainable development and attracts families, not just a college town that has a ton of homelessness running rampant and smoking meth under trees.
- 35. Put skatable obstacles At Daley park please
- 36. Re Parks in general in Tempe, I suggest some parks with sports stuff but at least some Parks that are all natural, with dg walkways. More trees please!
- 37. Safety please help us feel safe to live across the street from a park. We love our neighbors and our neighborhood we want to love all the wonderful possibilities a neighborhood park can provide.
- 38. Shade strictest and trees are essential
- 39. Something must be done about the safety of daley park. We need to support our transient crowd but not at the expense of the safety of the neighborhood. Residents of the neighborhood are often unable to use the bus stop, the covered concrete table and play area, or any shaded tree areas because they are overrun. There are dogs off leash with these groups and the overall feeling of cleanliness of safety from the park is gone.
- 40. Tempe needs to address the population of people who live in the park. Every gazebo or picnic table is occupied by people without homes, making the park inaccessible to anyone else. Tempe needs to develop SROs and work with community care organizations so the people who live in Daley park have better options for dwelling. Daley Park is designed to be a neighborhood park and is ill-suited as a place for people to live.

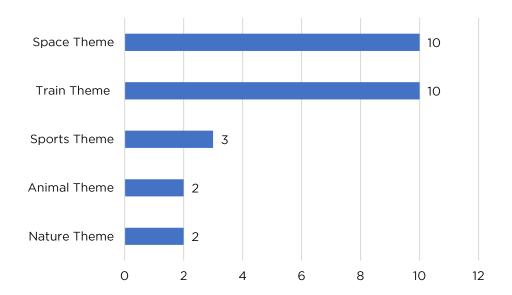
- 41. The existing shelter along College Ave. functions too much as a quasicamp for unhoused members of our community many hours per day, rather than as a resource for all users of Daley Park. I avoid bringing children to the play structure at Daley Park because the users of the shelter next to it too often have unpredictable behavior. Before adding any new shelter structure is added to Daley Park, Tempe needs to address how the existing shelters are being used.
- 42. The homeless encampment in the newly renovated area of the park along College (and the fact that we get an occasional pedophile or sex offender notification in the mail) adjacent to the childrens play area needs to be addressed in some manner. Community members volunteered their time to improve this area and it's often left a mess which feels disappointing at best.
- 43. The main thing with Daley Park is the homeless problem. I know the city is trying to do something, but it's like an ecological niche. Empty it of one set of residents and another fills in behind. The current ramadas are frequently (like everyday) at least partly filled by homeless encampments shopping carts, clothing, food, dogs, etc. It's intimidating and troublesome. I honestly don't know why any mother would want to take their kids to the playground when surrounded by such a scary environment.
- 44. The newer bathrooms are great but regularly are a mess. The bathrooms at the public park in Downtown Flagstaff are in great shape even with a regular un-housed population. Shade structures would love something over the play equipment for summer mid-afternoon shade, but we love the trees and don't want a shade structure to take away from those.
- 45. The Restrooms are a mess, and more Patrolling would be great, overall Daley is good, needs some refreshing.
- 46. This is one park where we sometimes feel unsafe due to number of adults that linger around here as well a lot of trash:(
- 47. This would be an amazing opportunity to create an "accessibility park" for the city see St George UT and Springfield UT for examples of parks with greater accessibility that are not only fun for individuals with disabilities, but also kids of all ages!
- 48. We love that there are so many options for play currently. Besides Papago, Daley Park has the most slides (7-8 of them) and large interlocking playground structure to actually play on. There are many trees that currently shade the sun on the west side but morning play can be hot. We love the large wheelchair ramp that also lends itself to scooters and small bikes so a pump track type of addition would be amazing.
- 49. We used to come to the park multiple times per week, but the ball fields are covered in a material that smells awful. My children feel nauseous when they smell the fields, which makes them not want to use the park. Could the fields be covered with a different material?
- 50. What is wrong with leaving it as it is? Why does every place need "further development?" The park is fine the way it is. Stop catering to

- people who want to change Tempe. People moved here because they liked it.
- 51. Will the playground update include installing soft flooring to replace the sand?
- 52.would like to see more trees along north and south ends of the park. and possibly a walking path
- 53. Would like to see security and elements that deter urban camping

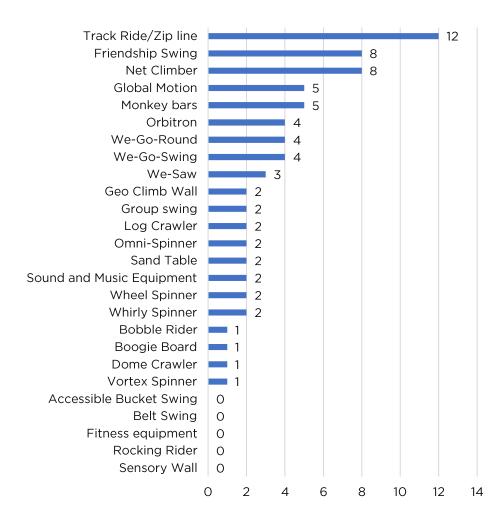
# IV. Additional Outreach

# Brownie Troop 2097 near Daley Park

# Playground Theme



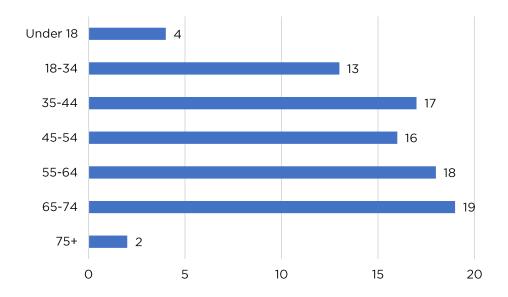
# Playground equipment



# V. Demographics

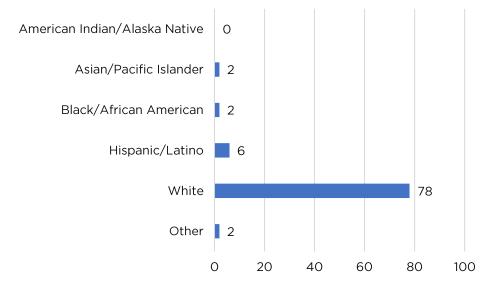
The City of Tempe wants to better understand how well it is serving community members. Collecting demographic data allows the city to effectively plan and distribute its programs and investments. The collection of data provides a more precise picture of current Tempe residents and businesses. Providing this information is highly encouraged and helpful to the city, but it is not mandatory.

# Age

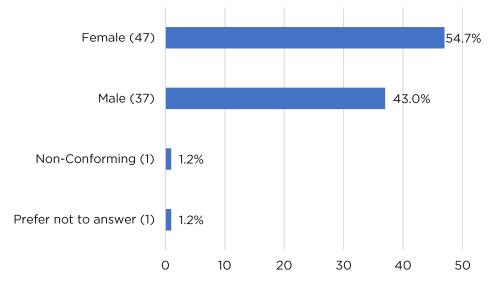


Responses: 89

#### Race

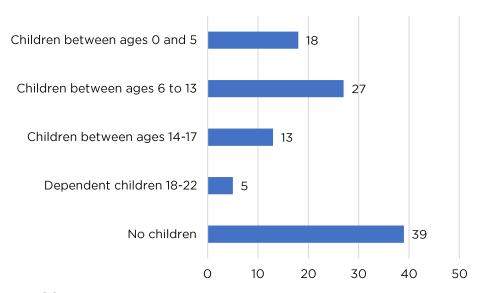


# Gender

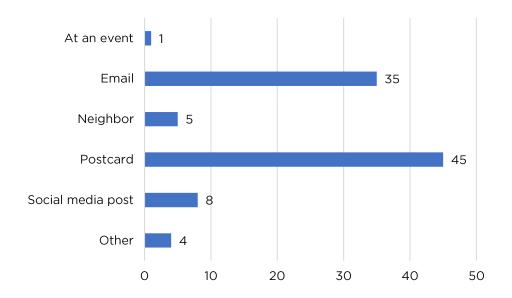


Responses: 86

Do children in the following age groups live in Tempe with you? Select all that apply.



How did you hear about this survey? Check all that apply.



Responses: 89

Other comments:

- City staff
- co-worker
- Online
- Signs at Daley Park

Dear Mr. cor & wood

We are troop 2007 and we would like to help dayley park. We notice that the Play ground is dirty and broken.

We Suggest a new play Structure
With monky bars, Slides, and swings.
We also think there should be
a garden and trees.
we want to help by picking
up trash.

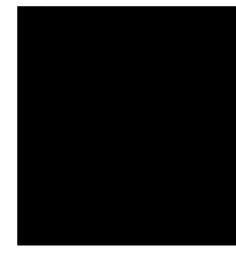
thank volus

Dear mayor cory woods We live hear daily Park. We Have Noticed the following Problembs: brocken equipment, Dirty sand, Grafitti in bathrooms the girls eachs in troup 2097 Have had a meeting and suggest the following salutions: ·two play areas, one with bigger equitment and one with smaller. · wheel chair the accessible equitment · work out section ·adjustable basket ball hoops · dog park · use wood chips instead of sand MONDANA This is what we can do for help: · start a trash pick up club, in tempe school district once a month · be good examples ·collect donations for the park We hope you consider in your next park meeting. Sincerely, 2097

Dear Mayor C. Wood's Hit we are brownie troop 2097. We Live neer daley Park. we've noticed alot of problems are messy transh and the playground equiptment is old. We really hope that you can finish it before. June 2024 I'll tell you something that we can do about it:

a make posters a repaint it ago door to door and ask for nelps thanks it

from troop 2097



Letters from Tempe Orownie Troop 2097