

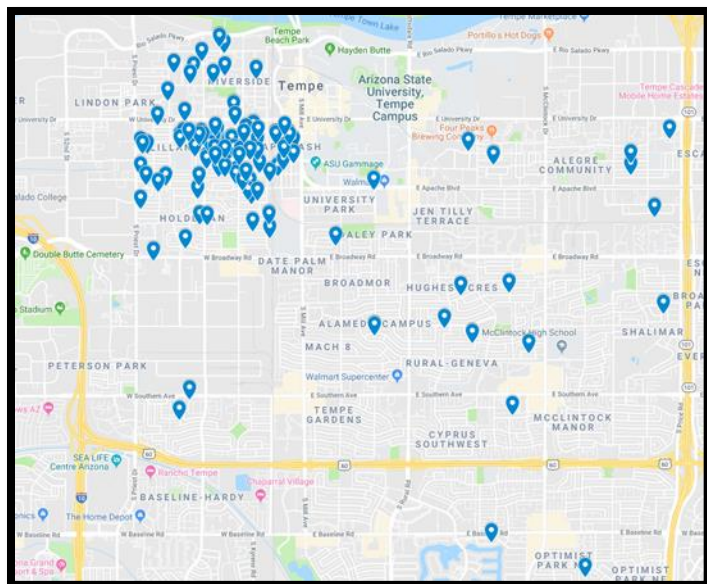
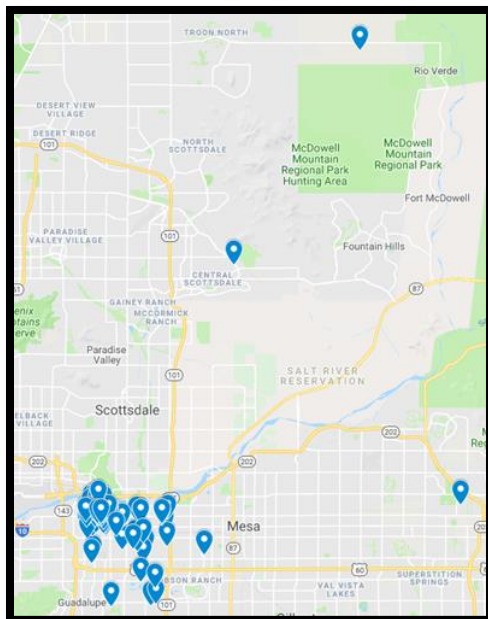


PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

Overview

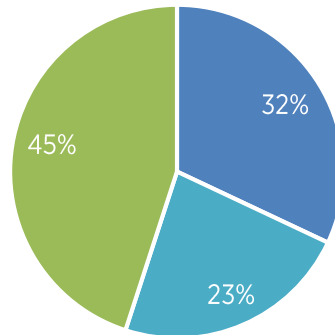
A public meeting was held on August 24, 2019 for feedback on planned improvements for Mitchell Park. Residents in the area of University Ave. to 13th St., Mill Ave to Priest Dr. (1573 households) were invited to participate in the process via postcard. Notices were posted to Nextdoor to 484 households in 5 neighborhoods directing residents to both the meeting and the website. Park signs were also placed in the park announcing the meeting. Twenty-seven (27) people signed in for the meeting in the park. Residents were asked to provide input on playground layout and picnic ramada location, theme, playground equipment, and overall park experience. Surveys were available at the meetings and online from August 24 through September 7, 2019, extended to September 15, 2019 due to a typo regarding the park name in the reminder postcard. A total of 144 survey responses were received; 8 at the meeting and 136 online, 2 addresses were incomplete and 36 were from outside the project mailing area.

Map of Survey Respondents



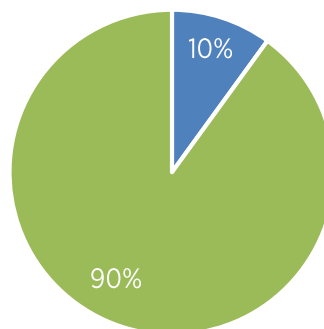
Survey Responses

1. Of the three proposed playground layouts for Mitchell Park, which do you prefer? (The budget is the same for each:



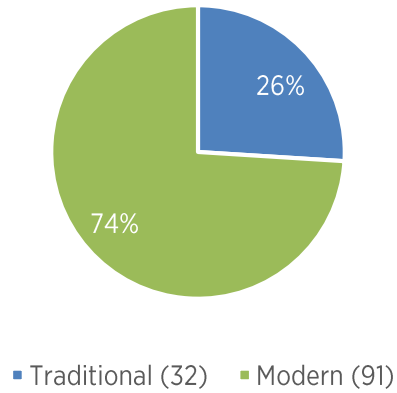
- Layout Option A with a new ramada between the basketball and volleyball courts (37)
- Layout Option B with a new ramada in the center of the playground area (27)
- Layout Option C with a new ramada in the southwest side of the playground area (53)

2. The most recent play structure installed in the park (shown on the north side of the playground area in all three plans) will be preserved, as long as it complements any themes or color schemes chosen during the outreach process. Are you in favor of preserving this play structure?

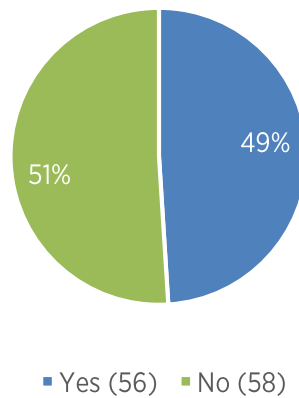


- No (11)
- Yes (102)

3. The playground design for Mitchell Park will include a play structure for 5-12 year-olds. Should this play structure be *traditional*, or *modern* (see examples)?



4. Should the playground be designed around a central theme?



5. If yes, what theme?

Nature (19)

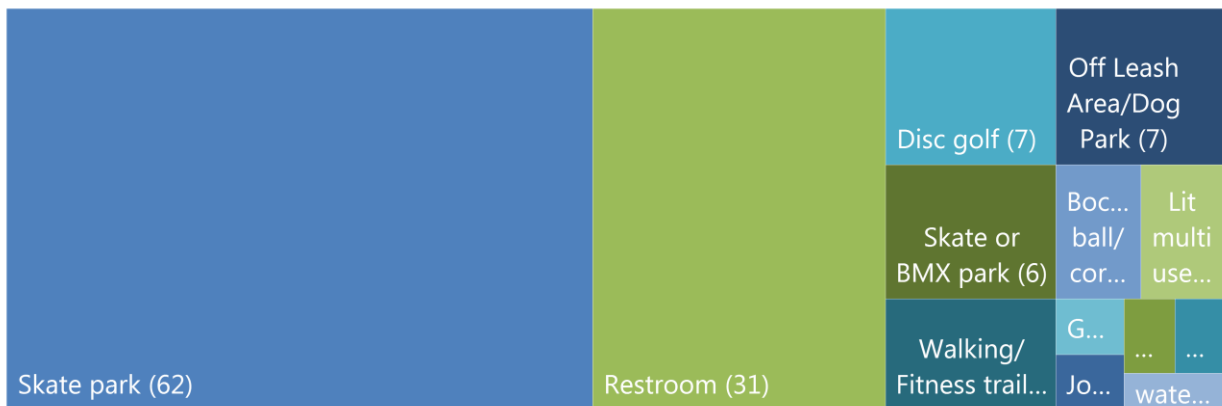
- Animals (8)
- Historical (3)
- Urban (2)
- Space (2)

6. Please list in order of importance the top five (5) pieces of equipment you would like to see in Mitchell Park:

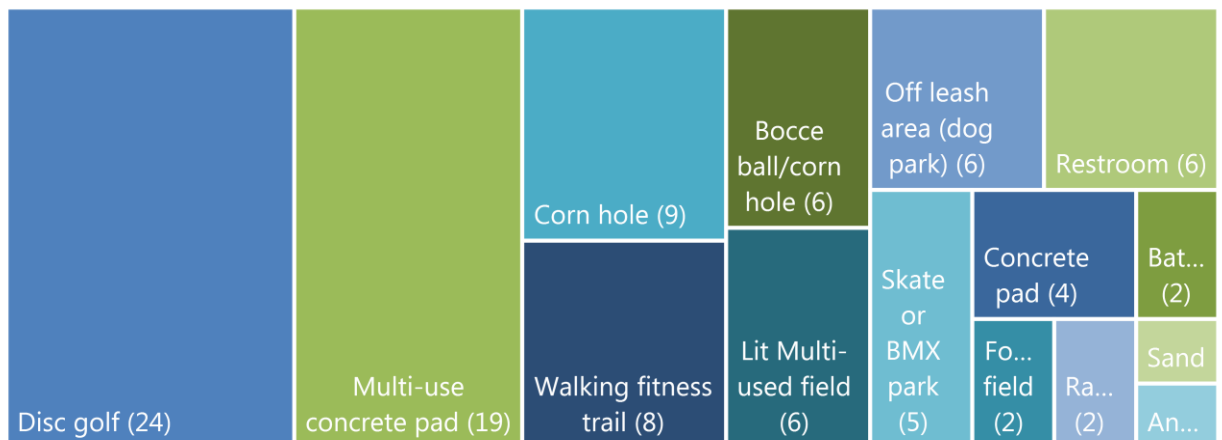
1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Fitness station (13)	Musical Play Equipment (8)	Rocky Ridge (9)	Musical Play Equipment (11)	Fitness Stations (5)
Arch Swings (13)	Fitness Station (6)	Sway Bridge (9)	Sway Bridge (8)	Play web climber (4)
Play Structure 2-5 (13)	Arch Swings (5)	2 Seat seesaw (2)	Unity Dome (7)	Net climber (4)
Drum Circle (5)	Net Climber (5)	Arch swings (5)	Fitness stations (4)	Spring Rider (4)
Musical Play Equipment (5)	Play Web Climber (5)	Drum Circle (4)	Play Web Climber (4)	Sway Bridge (4)
Skate Park (5)	Horse Shoe Court (4)	Musical Play Equipment (4)	Net climber (3)	Arch Swings (3)

7. In the future, Mitchell park and other neighborhood parks could be eligible for enhanced amenities which would increase the recreational value of a park. The number, type, and size of amenities will be determined by size of park, cost of amenity, and fit. Examples could include, *but are not limited to*:

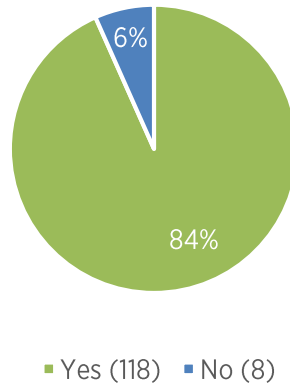
a. Please select the enhanced amenity you would **most** like to see in Mitchell Park:



Please select the enhanced amenity you would **least** like to see in Mitchell Park:

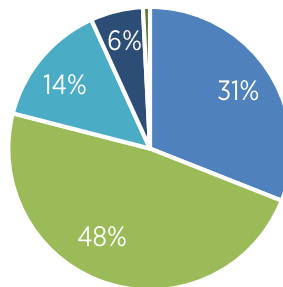


8. The following question is unrelated to the playground improvements. Area residents have expressed interest in installing additional skate elements on the existing eastern concrete pad on the north side of the park, contingent upon other funding and resident input. Would you support such an addition?



9. Our objective is to provide accessible, clean, safe, and friendly parks. Please rate how we are doing on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means very dissatisfied and 5 means very satisfied.

Cleanliness



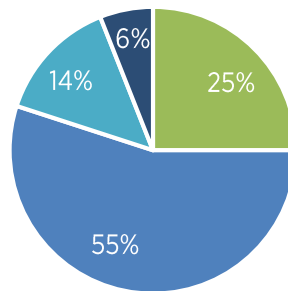
■ Very Satisfied (40) ■ Satisfied (63) ■ Neutral (19) ■ Dissatisfied (8) ■ Very Dissatisfied (1)

Comments:

1. This park desperately needs accessible restrooms for park-goers
2. Ramada often has trash laying around
3. Most of the park is pretty decent. I wish enforcement of dog waste pickup could be improved
4. Maintenance of dog park is the biggest cleanliness issue
5. Ramada is dirty from homeless

6. Having no restroom will keep it clean, keep it that way.
7. Needless, drug paraphernalia
8. Sand s/b be cleaned more often
9. The homeless situation is out of control. I'd be in favor of removing all of the ramadas and just installing more shaded seating around the playground
10. The amount of debris left in play area and Ramada from drug users (not homeless - there is a difference between homeless and drug users) has been found by my 2 year old.
11. There's a band of homeless druggies under the Ramada almost 24/7
12. Would like if there was access to a port-a-potty or restroom in the future.
13. I have a dog and we use the dog park 1-2x a week. Very nice park and I appreciate the maintainence and care that goes into it. Thank you! I often see many folks using the park at night playing volleyball and playing basketball, which suggests that folks feel safe. The skateboarders are a very polite and bring some good energy to the park.
14. Found Broken Glass in Sand
15. love our parks
16. The current dog park is always used more than anything. Those poop trash cans are quite rusty and old.
17. The parks crew do a good job but they sometimes drive over the wet areas and damage the ruf and sidewalks

Safety



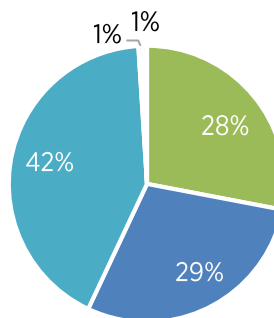
■ Very Satisfied (32)
 ■ Satisfied (69)
 ■ Neutral (18)
 ■ Dissatisfied (8)

Comments:

1. Additional police patrolling needed due to number of h ok me less at park. Before the summer there were often vagrants in the park
2. During daylight hours
3. Homeless ramada and one in dog park
4. I consider the park safe especially as it is used by the public and there is a lot of traffic

5. I feel our parks are very safe and do not need the G4S. All the G4S does is harrass the homeless population that is using the park just like anyone else.
6. More consistent maintenance of skate park
7. Please do not add a restroom, this will turn park to a trashy one
8. sidewalks are unsafe for people with disabilities due to continuously increasing cracks, holes.
9. Sometimes taken over by homeless
10. The current Ramada by the northwest side of the park often has people sleeping there/hanging out there for extended periods of time. We've found lots of cigarette butts, alcohol containers, and even a box cutter once when playing at the park with our young children
11. Very safe and great lighting!

Friendliness



■ Very Satisfied (32) ■ Satisfied (33) ■ Neutral (48) ■ Dissatisfied (1) ■ Very dissatisfied (1)

Comments:

1. Do not add a restroom.
2. Dog park guy is pretty cool.
3. Great park meeting
4. I have called a few times re issues at the park. Shane was very responsive.
5. I have never seen any staff at the park
6. I have not seen any staff
7. I've never interacted with park staff
8. n/a; never encountered park staff.
9. never met any
10. Never met any park staff
11. Never met any, but thanks!
12. Never seen park staff
13. No contact with park staff
14. No park staff
15. Park is not staffed
16. Restrooms would make the park more welcoming
17. There are no park staff on site
18. there is no park staff
19. There is staff? Never met them.
20. Usually respond well to suggestions
21. What park staff?

Additional comments:

1. Sleeping in the park by homeless people has become an issue with this park. Clearly this is a complex problem well beyond the scope of this individual park. However, playground structure design that minimizes co-location of people sleeping/loitering and children playing seems prudent. My guess is that designs B and C will minimize homeless use of the new ramada given location of the ramada in an area that would be more heavily used. However, the other possibility is that this design leads to lower use of the park by children if the ramada encourages loitering near the play structures. Thanks for revitalizing the park and for considering public comments! It would be nice to provide a legit skate park that kids can skate while their family is close by enjoying the park.
2. More skate park structures on NE corner on bare cement pad :)
3. I support the idea of getting rid of the sand - there's always broken glass and cigarette butts, and the sand gets in all the kids' shoes and clothes.
4. Mitchell Park truly needs restrooms! We are continually finding human excrement in a variety of places in and around the park!
5. The north west corner of the dog park (near the entrance) always is a wet, muddy mess. The dogs (and people!) end up muddy. I think there have been several attempts to fix it, including putting bricks down, but now the bricks are gone. Any new playground area needs SHADE, like an overhead tarp, or it will be useless most of the year.
6. It is important to include features for all age ranges. Some parks in Tempe do not have enough play sets for toddlers 2-5 and this segment is very likely to use parks as they are largely not in school. I would like to also see restrooms because it is challenging to visit the park with a potty training toddler or a younger child. Also, the new ramada should not be in the play area because homeless people sleep there and I would feel less comfortable visiting the park with my child if we had to play close to where the homeless people are living. I don't have a problem with them being there, just not in the middle of the children's play area.
7. I feel that park improvement funds would be better spent on creating larger shade structures for the playground area and other areas than on replacing existing equipment/turf that is still functional.
8. Need a restroom for families/small children to enjoy use of the park.
9. 3ft fence on south end of basketball courts
 - Fix puddling in dog park
 - Bench dividers in dog park to prevent sleeping
 - Permanent trash can/bag dispenser in south end of dog park
 - Replace light bulbs in dog park
 - Philosophical Opinion: Perform park maintenance/upkeep before executing new project to prevent community pushback. Thank you for a great roundtable!
10. Huge puddle engulfs double gate (entrance) area to dog park. Extends 20 feet into grass. A few dogs pee in it. All dogs play in it and spread it. One or two sprinklers just need to be adjusted.
11. Biggest addition the park needs is the use of a restroom. Possible solution- install coded lock that only local residents would have access to.

12. The dog park is the most used amenity in Mitchell Park and needs to be addressed with future grant money. Maintenance needs to be more consistent and the irrigation needs to be abandoned and new installation needs to be budgeted in future. Expansion of dog park would be amazing.
13. Put money in Dog park, most used per square inch in Dog park. Need "A" and "B" small and large Dog park. Put additional fence only 2 parts needed to complete small and large dog park. Put shade structure in Dog park. Put in benches in Dog park. Better water for Dog park, water fountain is half broken.
14. Letter-
 Thank you for offering the opportunity to hear the community's feedback regarding the City of Tempe's planned investments into Mitchell Park. As a frequent visitor of Mitchell Park, below is a list of suggested improvements to the park that would benefit all its visitors. The listed suggestions below are compiled from conversations with several park frequenters that would benefit the entire park.
 - *Replace burnt out light bulbs on the basketball courts
 - *Improve lighting or change light bulbs in the dog park
 - *Add a 3-foot fence along the south side of the basketball courts, similar to the volleyball courts. Due to monthly flood watering of soccer/recreational field
 - *Permanently fix the hole at the entrance inside the dog park that often becomes a pool of muddy water
 - *Replace benches/tables recently removed from dog park
 - *Remove and replace rusting benches/tables that have yet to be removed from dog park
 - *Install a third permanent trash can and waste bag dispenser at the south end of the dog park
 - *Install seating on west and/or east end of volleyball courts
 - *Fix broken water stations around the park
 - *Replace trash can lid on east side of the dog park
 - *Bench dividers to prevent homeless from sleeping on benches in dog park
15. Do not add a restroom.
16. Please do not add a bathroom to Mitchell Park. The homeless have overrun Clark Park, making it unsafe to be there at night. I believe the same will happen to Mitchell Park if a bathroom is installed... Please please please, do not install a bathroom at Mitchell Park.
17. I don't want to see many changes because Mitchell is a great park. The off leash area is the most useful part of the park besides the volleyball courts and both must remain.
18. Regarding question # 7, even though we prefer option B (ramada in middle of playground), we chose option A because inevitably the homeless would pick up residence in the ramada, making it uncomfortable for us as parents to feel safe playing with our two year old on the playground. Currently, whenever we go to the park, it's not rare to see a group of homeless people hanging out there.
19. I think the best feature to add to this park is a shade structure over the existing play equipment or a water feature. I like to walk to this park as it gives me a little exercise and Clark Park's equipment is a bit big for my kid, but in the summer it is absolutely unusable for my daughter (2.5 years) and I as the equipment is too hot to play on after about 6 am.

20. As residents and home owners we have found many of our neighbors play disc golf. This could be incorporated with a walking path/trail. It would be great to see this. We also use the dog park daily when the weather is cooler but the park is often too dusty or wet. It would be nice to see improved lighting at the dog park area. Unless a bathroom has been added recently, it would be so nice to have access to one. I stopped taking the kids there because I'd have to load them back into the car to take them home to use the bathroom.
21. It would be great to have a fitness station with a chinup/pullup and dip bars. Super cheap too.
22. Please do not install park furniture hostile to the homeless-- that's not our culture here at Mitchell Park
23. I love this park but the constant homeless presence makes me uncomfortable and makes the park unsafe for me to come to on my own. I would LOVE to see a shaded playgrojnd and shaded seating. Additional ramadas will just attract the homeless and make the park further unusable.
24. I love my park thank you!
25. We didn't list the dog park in #13, because it is already there, but improvement and/or enlargement of the dog park would be welcome. We would like to see better options provided to the homeless so they are not using the ramada(s) for their bedrooms.
26. Overall I love Mitchell Park. It does however need bathrooms that can be used anytime the park is open. It is very difficult to have picnics and other gatherings with no bathroom. I am also very disappointed in the cities use of G4S. I feel this is a very safe city and organizations like this only exist to intimidate people of color and harass the homeless. If you don't want homeless in the park the city needs to provide more services for this population.
27. A skatepark and playground addition would be amazing for the community!
28. Sometimes the park will be empty (when it is 120 degrees) with the exception of the skate park. I may not skate but I recognize its value, in that it is always in use. For this reason, I would strongly support investing more in the skate park. That skate park gets people outside and having fun at Mitchell Park.
29. We love Mitchell Park and its location. The redesign of the park has so much potential to be great and the park should be master planned with all the options and design possibilities being considered at the same time. The Tempe skate community wants and needs more skateparks and skate spots in town. Extensive research, planning & design was previously done for the Mitchell park Skate Spot phase 1 and 2. The original plan was to add perimeter quarter pipes to the existing skate spot to create better flow while planning for potential future expansion to the west. In our opinion that this would be a much better solution for adding more skateable area at Mitchell park while being considerate to Childsplay and the other activities that take place at the park.
30. I really would like to see a climbing wall be a part of the playground improvements. Perhaps on the side closest to the basketball courts so very young children would mostly frequent one side and a little older kids the other side. It doesn't have to be all that tall if it is long enough to offer a challenge of making it to the other side without touching down. Different color pegs scattered could offer different levels of difficulty (ex. try doing it only using blue pegs) while younger climbers could use them all.

31. Visited the skate park from PA shortly after it was made. fun was had. make it bigger!
32. Some additions to the park would be great. Lights would be huge for the community, but adding skate obstacles on the eastern pad would be great too.
33. They should keep the bathrooms open
34. Larger skatepark would be appreciated.
35. EXPAND THE SKATE PARK. CONSULT WITH STAFF AT COWTOWN SKATEBOARDS ON THE SPECIFICS OF THE SKATE PARK EXPANSION.
36. They need bathrooms that aren't a part of the school so people can use them at the park
37. More skateboarding will enhance and help this area and would be beneficial to the neighborhood for sure!
38. There is obviously a huge Skateboard community in Tempe and especially in the Mitchell Park Neighborhood. The Skatepark is already such a blessing to everyone and is utilized everyday but is very small and hard for more then a few people to skate at the same time. I think expanding the skatepark would make the skatepark so much better for everyone and it would utilize space in the park that nobody uses. Please don't put a corn hole area in the park there is already like 10 bars in the area for people to go enjoy that.
39. It would be really nice to have a place to skate at night because with these hot summer days it's extremely hard to get out and skate. Plus there's plenty of space at this park so if the skatepark was added to I would be so grateful for the city of Tempe
40. Expansion of the skatepark would be great for the community. There's a lot of skaters in this neighborhood but the park is too small. Lights for the park would also be good since it gets to hit in the summer the be there in the daytime.
41. I have really enjoyed seeing the small skateboard park area put in. This portion of the park is used every single day by residents of the neighborhood. Most importantly, I feel this provides a safe-space for children to learn how to skateboard.
42. Please add some quarter pipes
43. I use the skate park at least once a week and love it! I am very excited and grateful of the consideration in adding more obstacles and improvements to it!
44. Please expand the skatepark.
45. Adding additional concrete surface area to the skatepark as well as more obstacles would be amazing!
46. Would be very satisfied with improved skatepark features.
47. Please expand the skate park. Please.
48. Keep Arizona musically and physically active
49. please put lights at the skatepark, i feel like the skatepark gets used more than any other part of the park (aside from the dog park), thanks!
50. If no additions are made to the skatepark, at least please consider installing lights and more trees for shade in the summer. Other amenities in the park like the basketball courts have lights on til 10, I would like to see the skatepark have the same availability.
51. Please put in lights at the skatepark! It would make a valuable addition to the skatepark and enhance safety of the north side of the park, as that area is often quite dimly lit. Having a place to skateboard after dark offers enforces positive

usage of the area, and ensures safety (as often people still skateboard in the area after dark anyways).

52. Please note that as I don't have kids, I tried to make my best informed guess what could support a playground that offers (collaborative) activities for kids of different age groups (and adults) and provides a lot of natural (tree) shade. My other points pertain to the park as a place for social gatherings and connections, contributing to a sense of place and community resilience. In this regard, I'm wondering if the park could entail some signage that is kind and friendly and welcomes people to the park. It focuses on informing them what they can do (and less what they cannot do). It provides tips how to deal with heat and what to look out for in others (e.g., what are signs of heat stress? What to do? Who to call?). It provides tips for how to interact with other people, e.g., with homeless people as this was discussed at the meeting in the park. I greatly appreciate the City of Tempe's commitment to support vulnerable groups and the work that is being done. I'm suggesting this as I think each of us residents and park users could try contribute, too. Sometimes in these efforts it might help to have some guidance instead of having a security guard as was proposed by other residents. I also wanted to thank you for hosting an in-person event, as the active contributions of participants made clear that people wanted to hear from each other and share their views with others. Your event facilitated that conversation among neighbors.
53. We love living so close to such a great park. We do wish there was more opportunity for use of adult fitness equipment as there are many young adults in the neighborhood.
54. I have never seen the soccer field being using or the nets up on the goals. Is there a youth soccer league in the neighborhood? If not, it would be a welcome addition to the dog park space as we could really turn loose the pups. Thanks!
55. We are excited about the improvements to the park! We love walking there with our two kids when the weather is cooler.
56. Please consider an alternative more natural surface other than rubber such as wood chip. Also if additional funding is available, how about adding shading over play equipment?
57. I love Tempe parks, Mitchell Park is a gathering spot of the neighborhood - I'm happy to see it receiving some attention. :)
58. The main impediment to increased use of the park is the intense heat for several months of each year. The water fountain, being metal, gets dangerously hot when not shaded by surrounding trees. I always have to touch the bowl and water before my pups partake, to check the temperature. Also, the defunct freestanding water trough from the prior Mitchell School should be removed: it has been over 20 years that they have been left standing, rusted and unusable. The sidewalks are cracked and cratered in many places. Due to the moderator's suggestion (at the meeting) I took thousands of pixels of pictures; but really anyone could see this damage by merely walking the sidewalks. We desperately need a water feature and added shade (passive shade structures, which do not use water).
59. I live right next to Daley Park but have to go to Mitchell because they have a wonderful dog area. I would love to see that at Daley. I also go there because my Son lives 4 houses away from Mitchell Park on Laird St. I seem to be there a lot. I loved the Fox & Peacock Festival! Can't wait for the next one!

60. Strongly object to the inclusive doctrine as presented. There are many, many problems with it. The Center for Universal Design is defunct for good reason and should not be the science supporting the inclusive guide. Also, there is a Conflict of interest having Play World writing Tempe policy and selling us equipment. The inclusivity index doesn't pass statistical or system control validity to be used as a tool.
61. If we do get new park amenities put in, it would be great if we had maybe a giant, or pieces of triangular onnings circling the circle over some of the playground equipment to provide some shade. Trees can't always shade toward mid day, and it's 80+ degrees most of the day almost 9 months out of the year. Around 6 or 7pm, if it's not too hot, there are usually 40 to 50 dogs at that dog park. I think it would be nice to add a play set equipment thing for dogs to play on/with but that wasn't on the lists. Maybe not this time around but next time that is something to think about.
62. I went to Mitchell School, as a child, and love the park. Over the years, I have brought all my child to play, fly kites, and alike.
63. Please use some funds to fix other issues in the park. Like rusty basketball hoops and polls, the crumbling retaining wall, and nets back on the soccer goals.
64. Please use some funds to fix other issues in the park. Like rusty basketball hoops and polls, the crumbling retaining wall, and nets back on the soccer goals.
65. A restroom would also be nice to have. I'd also like to see nets on the soccer goals, it seems silly to have goals without nets and people do use this feature.
66. Will the children's playground have shade? It needs it. Build a maintenance vehicle drive from Mitchell to playground - avoid driving over rest of park except during tree trimming. build a "small dog" dog run for little dog safety. Improved playground will be great.