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LIBERTY PARK



Site Planning Workshop Report
Aviary & Concession Areas

Final Report

June 2014

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



LOGAN SIMPSON DESIGN INC.
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LIBERTY PARK



Site Planning Workshop Report

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LIBERTY PARK

Site Planning Workshop Report



1.0 INTRODUCTION & ANALYSIS

I.I INTRODUCTION

Salt Lake City's Department of Parks and Public Lands contracted with Logan Simpson Design to provide and coordinate a site planning workshop. This workshop included public outreach and visioning to re-purpose a portion of Liberty Park, part of which will accommodate a Tracy Aviary expansion of approximately 1 acre. The process also sought and collected input regarding the amusement rides, use preferences, and potential design opportunities for this section of the park. This process was a collaborative effort between SLC's Public Services, Parks and Public Lands Division and Planning Department, Tracy Aviary, and the public. The project consultants performed the following services in collaboration with city staff and stakeholders:

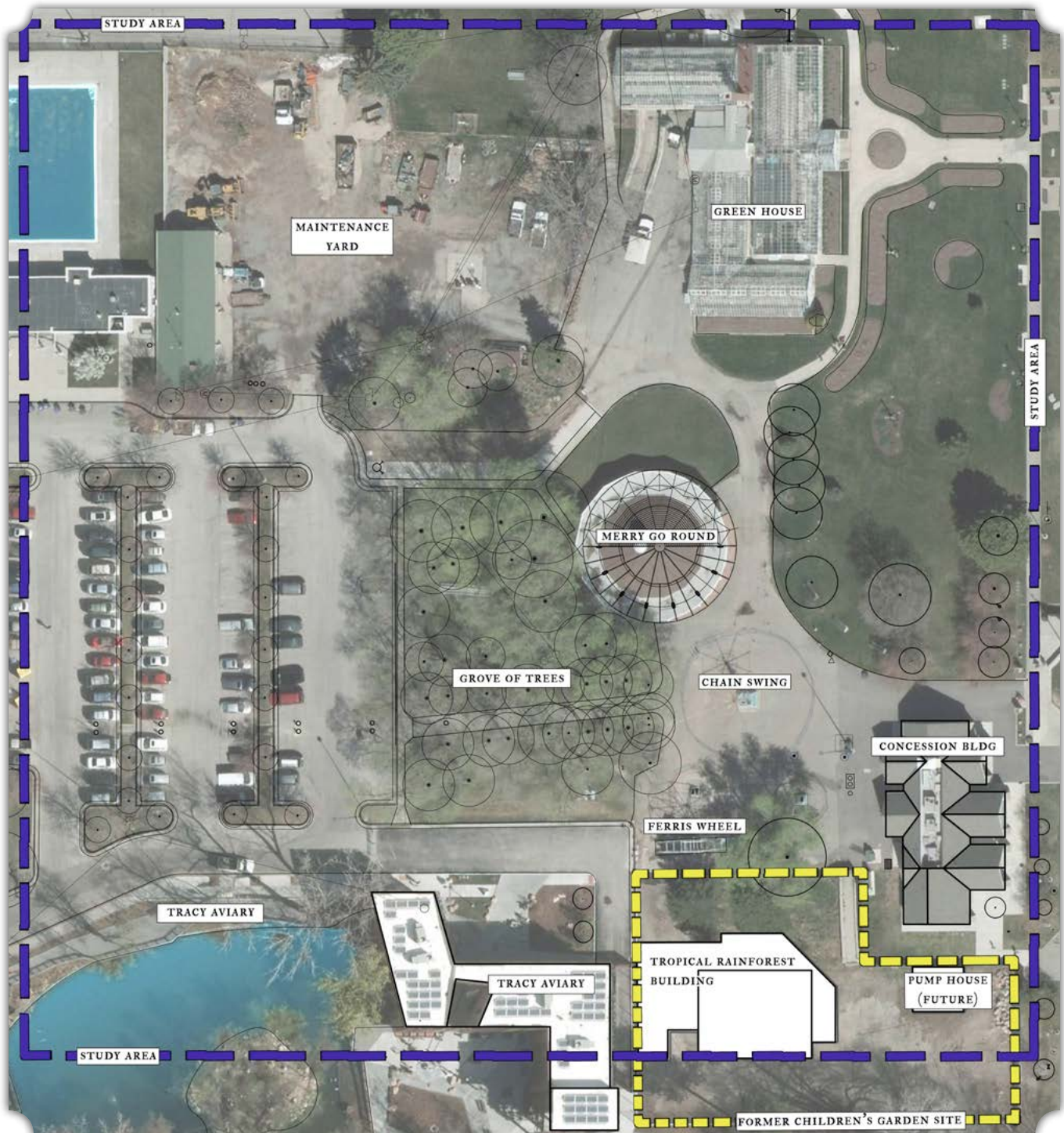
1. Site analysis and data collection
2. Public outreach and participation
3. Summary analysis of public input
4. Mapping and Recommendations

Liberty Park is the city's premier park. It is the oldest and most prominent park in Utah, and is used by a large, diverse population. Liberty Park was originally purchased by SLC in 1881 from the Brigham Young Estate. The park's historical values are an asset to both the city and state. The Chase Mill, located in the northeast corner of the Tracy Aviary, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Liberty Park appeals to many people providing a wide range of options from active play areas to quiet, relaxing niches. This process and future studies should make every effort to restore the original historic character and vision of the park.

The study area is located between the tennis courts facility and the entrance to the Aviary (map 1). The large parking lot on the west borders an iconic grove of trees separating the parking lot from the amusement rides and concession area. The concession and restrooms building forms the south east corner of the study area. The amusement ride area is paved with asphalt. Base maps, created from aerial photos, were presented at a public meeting. The city provided CAD files along with a potential footprint for a new pump house and proposed Aviary Building. Photo boards were utilized to compare historic images and existing site photos.



Map 1: study area in context of liberty park



Map 2: study area detail

1.2 STUDY AREA

KEY FACTORS OF THE SITE

PARKING LOT: One of the largest parking lots in the park at approximately 140 stalls and serves general park activities, Tracy Aviary, the swimming pool, and the amusement ride area.

MAINTENANCE YARD: The maintenance yard is used for all grounds maintenance for city properties in this part of the city, not only Liberty Park.

GREEN HOUSE: The green house dates back to 1903, and is an iconic architectural building that is used to grow plants for city use.

CONCESSION BUILDING: The concessions building has limited hours and is seasonal, but provides a unique amenity to the park.

AMUSEMENT RIDES: The amusement rides provide a fun park experience that cannot be found elsewhere in Salt Lake City. The Marry Go Round, Ferris Wheel and Chain Swing represent an interesting feature of Liberty park's culture and use.

GROVE OF TREES: This is a unique mature grove of trees that offers a fun entry experience into the park from the west.

TRACY AVIARY: The aviary provides a diverse experience and an educational element to its patrons. It also brings year round interest and activity to this part of the park.

PUMP HOUSE: Proposed building for new secondary water connection.

TROPICAL RAIN FOREST: Proposed Building at Tracy Aviary.

1.3 SITE PHOTO INVENTORY



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PHOTO LEGEND

1. View looking east from the parking lot through the grove of trees.
2. Concessions and restroom building.
3. Merry-go-round (enclosed for winter season).
4. View looking east toward the ferris wheel.
5. Chain swing at the amusement rides.
6. Grove of trees east of the primary parking lot.
7. View looking west at the parking lot.
8. View looking north at seasonal plantings near the greenhouse.
9. Old Chase Mill.
10. View looking north toward the maintenance yard from the parking lot.
11. Electrical transformers near the concessions building.
12. Public entrance to Tracy Aviary.
13. View looking west through the primary parking lot.
14. View looking west from 500 West.
15. View looking east at the boat dock and pond.



World War II Memorial on axis with center promenade

1.4 HISTORIC CONTEXT

Liberty Park is a significant landmark in Salt Lake City, and in Utah. It was first listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, and it is the oldest park in Utah. Purchased by Salt Lake City from the Brigham Young Estate on April 20, 1881, the City paid \$27,500 for the land which included 100 acres.

The farm that later became Liberty Park, was originally owned by Isaac Chase. The old farm included the operation of a grist mill (built 1853-1854) on the site. Grist mill is now known as The Isaac Chase Mill, and is currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the only remaining grist mill in Salt Lake City that is still in its original location. Historical reports state that Brigham Young exchanged land with Isaac Chase to acquire the mill and its surrounding land. Young stated, prior to his death, that he desired the property to be sold to the city after his death for the lowest price. (Huglund, 1979)

The national Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination form for Liberty Park states that “Liberty Park is significant as one of the earliest and largest urban parks in Utah . . .it documents the spirit of reform of the second half of the nineteenth century, when parks were seen as important factors in civilizing America’s increasingly industrialized cities and improving the moral character of their inhabitants.” (Haglund 1979)

When the City first purchased the land with the intent of creating a city park, local newspapers reported that the land was large enough that it would “never be necessary to keep the grounds like a lawn. The whole can be made to appear rural and rustic . . . and still give ample room for picnics, for ponds, for walks, for driving and for all other purposes for which parks are used.” (Haglund, 1979)



Early improvements occurred immediately after its dedication (1882) when the city hired Arnold Schultess, a Swiss landscape gardener, to design the park grounds. The roads constructed during this period consist of the oval loop road (Constitution Drive) a central north-south drive

following the alignment of 600 East, and a mid-block east-west drive. (Meess, Ellis, 2011;3 and references therein)

Structures built in the early 1900's were generally characterized by their rustic design elements and incorporated natural materials such as wood and cobblestones. In 1917 the city constructed 32 pergolas in the park consistent

with the rustic theme. The city also installed classical and formal features in the early 1900's, such as two pillars with vases on top at the northern entrance in 1920.

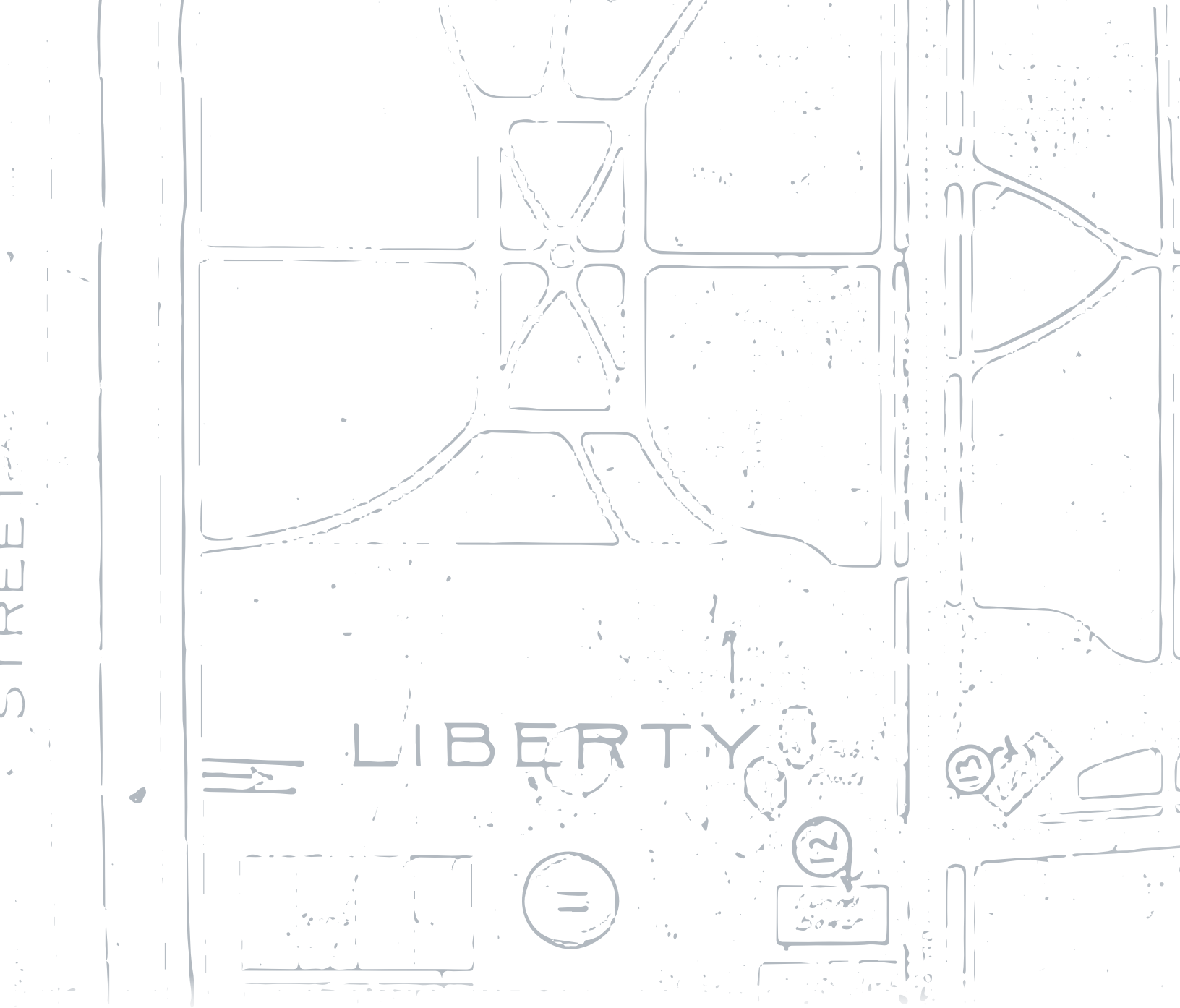


The park, and many of the features that are still present within it, were well established by 1920. The park was a popular attraction for Salt Lake City residents. A 1931 report on parks and recreation centers describes the park: "Broad driveways bordered by colonnades of shade trees; lawns, flowers, lakes, playgrounds, tennis courts, concerts, and the municipal zoo have long been the outstanding attraction of this extensive park". The zoo moved to its current location near Emigration Canyon in 1931. (Meess, Ellis, 2011)

The most significant change to Liberty Park during the 1930's was the addition of Tracy Aviary by the donation of a large collection of birds to the city in 1938 by Russel Tracy. The collection included 200 birds, equipment to care for the birds, and contributed funds to help establish the Aviary. The Aviary was quite successful until 1975, when management changed. The city assumed management in 1982 and contributed funds to improve its facilities. In 1993, a group known as Friends of Tracy Aviary was established to manage the aviary. Large-scale renovation of the aviary facilities have been ongoing since 2005. (Meess, Ellis, 2011;5)

More recently, changes to Liberty Park include restrooms, a concessions building, Wilson Pavilion, and several monuments. Activity areas recently constructed include: the Seven Canyons water feature, playgrounds, and bocce ball courts. Lighting, fencing, signage, street furniture, mechanical boxes, and new sidewalks (including a jogging track) were added to the park during modern times. Several historic buildings in the park were demolished in the 1980's. (Meess, Ellis, 2011;7)

"Although the park has been significantly altered during the historic and modern periods, Liberty Park continues to serve a variety of uses that reflects the historic diversity of uses in the park. The park provides for both active and passive recreation. The design of the park also reflects the historic intent to include naturalistic areas and open space as well as more formally landscaped and planted areas that now include large, mature trees that obscure city views from inside the park and provide a sense of remoteness." (Meess, Ellis, 2011)



LIBERTY PARK

Site Planning Workshop Report





2.0 PUBLIC OUTREACH & PROCESS

2.0 PUBLIC OUTREACH & PROCESS

OVERVIEW

Salt Lake City (SLC) conducted community outreach and input for ideas on how to enhance the west entrance to Liberty Park, utilize the space around the restroom/concession building, and re-purpose a portion of vacant land in the former Children's Garden. Staff also received feedback on the amusement park ride area of the park and expansion plans for Tracy Aviary to build a Tropical Rain Forest building/exhibit on approximately a quarter acre or fifty percent of the vacant space.



Several internal meetings and one community outreach meeting were organized and held as directed by Salt Lake City Staff. Internal meetings consisted of Salt Lake City Staff representing Public Services, Community & Economic Development, Planning, Parks and Public Lands departments; Tracy Aviary; and Logan Simpson Design along with Landmark Design.

Summary of meetings and community outreach

Kick-off Meeting:

A kick off meeting with city staff and consultants was held on October 2, 2013 to discuss the full scope and define the appropriate study area of the project, City presented background and history of the project site, and the importance of conducting and receiving public input. Goals of the project were determined to include, 1) a forum to solicit public comments regarding the expansion of the aviary on the study area. 2) We would not solicit information outside the study area, however, these likely comments would be documented and used by the City in future efforts. 3) Study public sentiments regarding the amusement rides, parking, access and general use of the study area within the park.

Project Team Meeting #1:

A project team meeting with city staff and consultants was held to discuss the location, time, and presentation material including the program format of the public input. The group discussed the importance of having multiple forms of public input. Open City Hall for on-line feedback and chalkboards at the project site were identified as the best mediums to reach a broad audience. The consultant summarized the scope of work, presented initial findings, site analysis, and site photo inventories of existing conditions for stakeholders. The meeting also included an open discussion

with staff and stakeholders which provided additional information, design direction, opportunities, and constraints. Salt Lake City then advertised to the public that a public open house would be held. Advertisement was provided electronically through the SLC website and mailings along with emails and fliers to residents.

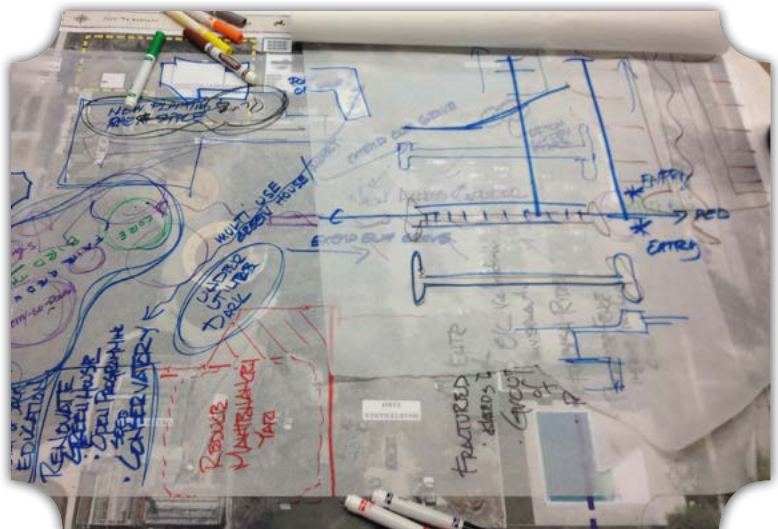
Public Input Workshop:

A Public Input Workshop was held in the Old Chase Mill inside the Tracy Aviary on October 24, 2013, approximately thirty-six members of the public were in attendance. The project team prepared site maps and image boards of current and historic context photos. SLC provided a brief history of the site, outlined the purpose of the meeting, and emphasized the importance of receiving public input. Approximately thirty-six attendees participated in the workshop. Attendees participated in breakout groups at one of six tables, each with a facilitator, site maps, and images. Ideas, comments, and concerns were obtained and recorded. Following the breakout session each table presented a summary of key issues they discussed. These comments helped to document the values, concerns, and future potential of the aviary expansion and affected area.

Project Team Meeting #2:

Following the public workshop activity, the City's consultant prepared a comment analysis document outlining each topic discussed and an analysis of common and unique comments. The analysis was presented and discussed with the project team on January 19, 2013 at the City County Building.

Primary topics of concern or areas of high consensus that resulted from the public were: safety of park patrons, safety of amusement rides, interest in bird watching, conflict in circulation between bikes, vehicles, pedestrians, screening the maintenance yard from view, and using the space more efficiently. The detailed results of the workshop and public comments are displayed in the fold-out pages of section 3.0 that follow.



3.0 RESULTS

OVERVIEW

At the Public Input Workshop, participants were divided into six break-out groups, each group was seated at a table with the opportunity to make individual comments and discuss the site opportunities and challenges. The facilitators for each table documented the public comments with the primary concerns, ideas and opportunities specific to the study area. The comments have been summarized and are outlined in the following fold-out sections. See the appendix for the detailed analyses.

Public comments have been summarized and organized into several categories. No preference has been given to the sequence of the comments. Each category has been given an icon or symbol that is located on the map representing where it occurs on the site. The icons are shown in three sizes of significance (indicating the frequency the comment was made) along with the corresponding numbers. The three fold-out maps are:

Map #1: Circulation, Entry/Experience, and Parking

Map #2: Birds and Habitat, and Tree Grove

Map #3: Concessions, Green House, Maintenance Yard, New Aviary Building, Pump House, Restroom, and Rides



#	Comment	Analysis of Comment
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Circulation

1	A detailed discussion took place about user conflict, particularly between bicycle and pedestrian users. Although outside the scope of this project, generally agreed there needs to be a design that prioritizes bicycles in specific places and pedestrians in others, and that these places should be marked with directional and other safety signs; direct and clear bicycle/pedestrian connection routes need to be established to 500 East.	High Consensus Items: 1. Improved safety for circulation, including creating specific locations for bikes and pedestrians. 2. Improved maintenance access with signage. 3. Better connectivity to other uses in the Park, especially for pedestrians. Conflict Items: Conflicting ideas about prioritization and design of bicycle vs. pedestrian accommodation through the site
2	Improve connection from the parking lot to the park, concern that the north end has conflicting uses with the maintenance equipment. These conflicts would be made worse if access enhanced without modifying the maintenance yard.	
3	The area needs improved passages so bicycles and pedestrians can easily navigate from the west end (parking lot) to the east end (600 East). Multiple pathways/walking paths should be considered, providing access adjacent to the aviary, along the north edge of the ride zone, in addition to a clear pedestrian link from north to south somewhere in the middle of the site (possibly along the east edge of the parking lot).	
4	Provide better connectivity with other areas.	
5	Improve sidewalk along north side of aviary provide access to pond.	
6	Make the walkway between the greenhouse and the maintenance area safer.	

Entry/Experience

1	A new/better entry experience should be designed.	High Consensus Items: 1. Unclear entry experience. Could be so much more. 2. Too much hardscape, need more life Unique Comments: Maintain the monuments on the east side.
2	There is not a clear or defined entrance for pedestrians.	
3	Arrival from the south east corner needs to be improved.	
4	Entrance is unclear. Enhance it.	
5	The space has the potential to be a classic space.	
6	Concern that the area has too much asphalt. It needs more green/planted areas.	
7	NO MORE CONCRETE.	
8	Maintain the monuments on the east side.	
9	When you approach in a car, you look at the wheel and the backside of the concession building. Both structures are “dead” much of the year. The view is not one that draws you into the Park.	

Parking

1	Rotate the direction of the parking so that the parking isles run east/west instead of North/South, and add a center walkway or promenade connecting to the park.	Conflict Items: Different opinions whether additional parking should be added.
2	Group felt that the parking was not adequate, but would not recommend enlarging.	
3	New parking is necessary to better accommodate aviary events and programs. When park events are taking place, there is no room for aviary customers. Extending the parking to the north into the maintenance yard is a possible idea to consider.	Unique Comments: 1. Reduce parking on east side for more green. 2. Rotate parking lot orientation.
4	Lose the east side of the parking lot. Make it green.	

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# Comment		Analysis of Comment
<div><div></div>Birds & Habitat</div>		
1	Habitat for people & animals that visit the park. Improve habitat plantings (bird watch). There are 74 different birds in the park.	High Consensus Items: Provide more trees and improve opportunity for bird watching
2	Several wanted to ensure quiet times where the natural setting could be enjoyed and activities such as bird-watching prioritized. These opportunities would be supported by expanding the green belt and providing many more places to sit in the grass and tree areas. Increasing the available seating in the area was a top priority with broad support.	Unique Comments: 1. Provide bird feeders, seed makers, etc 2. Provide quiet times.
3	Near the aviary put in some bird feeders, seed makers, etc for birds.	
<div><div></div>Tree Grove</div>		
1	Recommend saving the grove of trees between parking lot and rides.	High Consensus Items: Protect and keep the hilly tree grove; other comments suggested expanding and improving this grove into the maintenance area.
2	The hilly tree grove should be preserved and improved. It is an informal queuing area for school groups and others waiting to enter the aviary.	
3	Leave the stand of trees east of the parking lot alone.	

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Concessions

1	Good food, need to be open more often.	High Consensus Items: 1. Concessions are a good use but are under utilized. Need to be open more frequently and consistently, and need to be expanded. 2. Need better seating (additional seats and shade). Unique Comments: Make concessions stand smaller.
2	Not being used to full potential. Unsure when it was open, usually closed. The group agreed that if the concession stand were open consistently and at useful hours, and if it would offer items such as coffee, muffins, etc., it would change the usability and attractiveness of the area significantly.	
3	The concession stand should be improved, incorporating a pergola/outdoor dining area with shade. At present diners must seek shade under trees north of the building, which is inconvenient.	
4	Year round concessions at the concession stand. Do something to make it work.	
5	Make the concession building smaller.	

Green House

1	Would like to see it programmed, clean and improved. There are great opportunities for this to be educational, show native plants, provide point of sale, and be a botanical garden.	High Consensus Items: Greenhouse is an underutilized asset to the park. Fix it up and make it accessible to the public; incorporate education elements. Unique Comments: Opportunity for point of sale items, plants, etc.
2	The Green house is a great opportunity for a conservatory and open to the public. Could be an asset.	
3	Table liked greenhouse and felt that it was an asset to the park, but needs a lot of repair.	
4	Several thought the site plan should ensure that the green house was renovated and turned into a better community amenity, where school children and community gardeners could do spring-time starts, and perhaps related learning opportunities could be hosted.	
5	Fix up the greenhouse; turn it into an architectural gem. Open it up to the public, and allow it to serve an educational/interpretive role.	

Maintenance Yard

1	Reduce the size of the maintenance yard.	High Consensus Items: 1. Reduce size of maintenance yard, too much land for non public use. 2. Create a better screen or landscape buffer around it.
2	The maintenance yard uses too much land area dedicated to non public use.	
3	The yard is unsightly and ugly	
4	Participants felt the maintenance yard was too big, underutilized, and not kept well. All wanted to see the east half of the maintenance area converted into a natural area that connects to the current green belt west of the concession building.	
5	Indicated a desire to have the remaining maintenance yard better landscaped and screened to improve the beauty of the area.	
6	Maintenance area is too big. Make it smaller.	

New Aviary Building

1	Concern it will kill trees.	Conflict Items: Different opinions and preferences about the building, its location, and its design. TABLE CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
2	Concern it will shade too much of the amusement park.	
3	Concern it will take Liberty Park land.	
4	Liked the idea of adding a new building.	
5	Concern that the new building will be too close to the rides.	
6	Like the idea of the new building forming a "wall" to the plaza to the north.	
7	The bird building should remain low profile to preserve sight corridors.	

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Pump House

1	Concern it will be too close to the restrooms. Restroom needs to be open and visible for safety.	High Consensus Items: Numerous concerns about pump house placement: Restroom safety and visibility, park entry obstacle, aesthetic effects, and Landmarks Review status.
2	Concern that the pump house location will be an obstacle from people entering the park from the south.	
3	Hide the pump house.	
4	The flier for the open house shows the pump house closer to the Concession Building than what I recall landmarks approving. Shifting the pump house north is a good idea but Landmarks should be informed of the change.	

Restroom

1	Restroom area is dark.	Unique Comments:
2	Need a public restroom that is usable during park hours. At present need to ask for a key to the concession restroom.	

Rides

1	Equipment is creepy and run down - needs to be cleaned up.	High Consensus Items: 1. Equipment needs to be renovated and cleaned up. 2. Is the equipment safe? 3. Rides are a unique asset to the park. 4. Rides could/should be located or adjusted to create a better experience. 5. Ferris Wheel will need to be relocated if Aviary Building is built where shown. 6. Open up all sides of the merry go round
2	The equipment and spacing doesn't work.	
3	Amusement rides are great and appropriate for the park.	
4	Amusement rides help make Liberty Park unique and add flavor.	
5	Rides help provide a service that some children don't get to experience any other way.	
6	Rides need to be refurbished and made safe.	
7	Table questioned whether both swings were necessary to keep.	
8	Will need to move ferris wheel if Tropical Rain -forest building is constructed in location shown on map.	
9	The Ferris Wheel should have extended views from the ride.	Conflict Items: 1. Reduce vs Renovate the number of rides 2. Concern whether to keep rides (except merry go round) as site improves.
10	Could expand the amusement park area.	
11	Merry Go Round should be open on the north side.	
12	Merry Go Round needs renovation.	
13	Merry Go Round is an opportunity to "theme" this part of the park .	Unique Comment: 1. Locate Ferris Wheel for better views from the top.
14	Table disliked the other concession rides and felt they were dangerous, particularly the chain swing. These are not important or useful to the future design of the site. Agreed that these rides should be improved, replaced, or removed.	
15	The rides should be moved further to the north, just east of the greenhouse, in order to create a better space for passersby and users of the aviary alike.	
16	Open up the merry-go-round on all sides, so it becomes an attraction and a reflection of past eras.	
17	The ferris wheel should be moved or a buffer installed to the south to protect it from the new/proposed aviary building.	
18	Would like all rides to be upgraded and brought back into the modern age. The area was formerly privately owned and operated, which could serve as a "new" model for the future.	
19	Open up the merry go round so that people can see in and out.	
20	Think about options for the Ferris wheel. Make it user friendly.	
21	Get rid of all rides but the merry go round. Make it the focal point of the area (not everyone agreed).	
22	The rides could be better positioned and spaced.	

4.0 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

This report anticipates that a future comprehensive Liberty Park Master Plan will be developed, and as a result, the site analysis workshop was not intended to produce a final layout or design for the study area. The intent of this process was instead to identify key ideas and public values and to prioritize the features or principles that need to be emphasized as future study-area development opportunities emerge. As a result of workshop exercises, public comments, and project team analysis, several goals and supporting recommendations have been documented.



The three fold-out figures in Chapter 3 represent a collaboratively developed inventory and prioritization of the issues, needs, and opportunities for the site. As Salt Lake City undertakes future planning or construction actions in the project area, this prioritization may be used to guide activity toward high consensus opportunities and avoid or resolve specific conflict issues. Should the City undertake park-wide master-planning, this inventory and prioritization document may be used as guidance to help develop layout, design, and program elements for this portion of the Park. Additionally, the following four goals and accompanying recommendations provide a planning framework for near-term actions and long term master planning in this portion of Liberty Park.

Goal 1: Encourage projects within the Study Area support the historic function and integrity of Liberty Park as a whole.

- Recommendation 1.1: Develop a Liberty Park Master Plan that identifies, balances, and programs all uses and values of the park, and builds upon the study-area values and ideas documented in this process.
- Recommendation 1.2: Develop a park wide tree replacement/management plan with public education components. This plan would encourage a diverse mix of large and healthy trees in perpetuity, and would support a greater variety of bird species and associated bird watching activity.
- Recommendation 1.3: Design a specific concept to improve the parking and unique entry

experience the study area provides for Liberty Park.

- Recommendation 1.4: Select site furnishings, light fixtures, fencing, pots, and other such items that complement the historic values and nature of the park. Avoid introducing new furnishings and features that are of eclectic in color, texture, or design.

Goal 2: Promote an appropriate balance of natural and developed park amenities in the study area.

- Recommendation 2.1: Provide additional seating, bird feeders, and plant species, etc. that promote bird diversity and watching, as well as providing functional open-space and shade.
- Recommendation 2.2: Pursue opportunities to reduce the footprint of the Maintenance area and concrete/asphalt surfaces (recognizing these cannot be removed entirely from the park).
- Recommendation 2.3: Prioritize protection, re-purposing, and renovation of the greenhouse as a public asset.

Goal 3: Improve the safety of park visitors.

- Recommendation 3.1: Delineate and design appropriate areas for use of vehicles, bikes, pedestrians, roller-bladers, and skaters to protect and promote safety. Bikes should be located on outer ring and away from the blind spot for cars turning left into parking lots.
- Recommendation 3.2: Promote restroom safety and visibility. The design of the proposed tropical rain forest building will likely help alleviate safety concerns by adding visibility and lighting to the area.
- Recommendation 3.3: Install appropriate, vandalism-proof lighting in the vicinity of bathrooms and other park facilities that may be used at night.

Goal 4: Enhance and improve the functions and values of Liberty Park's concession area.

- Recommendation 4.1: Consider additional/supplemental concessionaire attractions that would promote year-round use of the park (e.g., a small ice-skating rink or an indoor Merry Go Round).
- Recommendation 4.2: Promote a parking-area design that can safely accommodate a variety of concession-supporting event uses.
- Recommendation 4.3: Develop a concession-area plaza design that locates rides and amenities safely and efficiently, and promotes better connectivity with surrounding park features.

5.0 APPENDIX

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Meess, Sara and Sheri Ellis

2011 Historic American Landscapes Survey: Liberty Park
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Salt Lake City, Utah

Salt Lake City – Public Input at Tracy Aviary

October 24, 2013 (5:30 to 7:00)



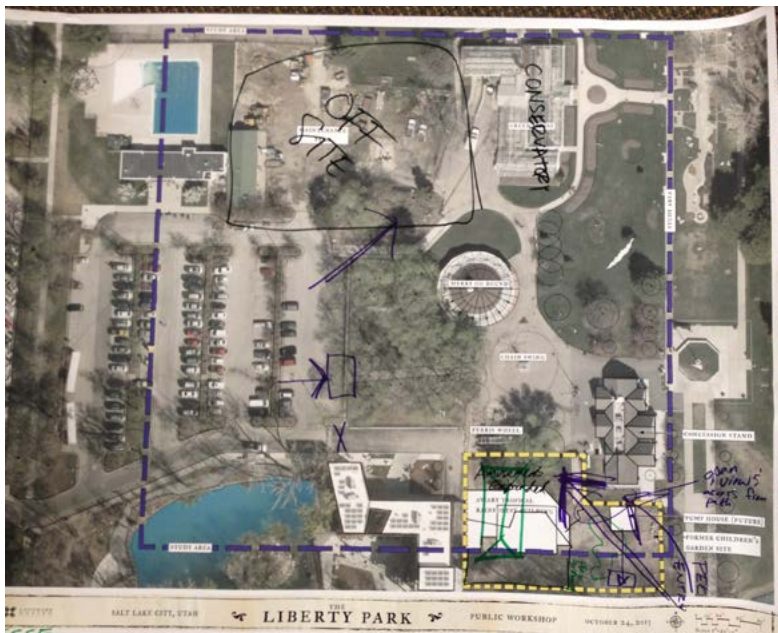
5.1 COMMENT EVALUATION

Comment Type	Group Number	Comment	Analysis of Comment(s)
500 E. Entry	3	Most participants at Table 3 felt that the lack of an access point on 500 E caused a significant inconvenience getting to the site and the aviary. One group participant, a resident on 500 E, did not want to see additional traffic.	Conflict Item
Birds	1	Habitat for people & animals that visit the park. Improve habitat plantings (bird watch). There are 74 different birds in the park.	High Consensus Items: Provide more trees and improve opportunity for bird watching Unique Comments: 1. Provide bird feeders, seed makers, etc. 2. Provide quiet times.
Birds	3	Several wanted to ensure quiet times where the natural setting could be enjoyed and activities such as bird-watching prioritized. These opportunities would be supported by expanding the green belt and providing many more places to sit in the grass and tree areas. Increasing the available seating in the area was a top priority with broad support.	
Birds	5	Near the aviary put in some bird feeders seed makers etc for birds.	
Chase Mill	2	Entrance into the aviary at the Chase Mill needs to be restored. Currently it is abandoned and under utilized.	Unique Comments
Chase Mill	Comment Card	The Chase Mill, the oldest commercial structure in the State, must receive respect in the redevelopment of the "Children's Garden". Buildings should not compete with it.	
Circulation	3	A detailed discussion took place about user conflict, particularly between bicycle and pedestrian users. Although outside the scope of this project, generally agreed there needs to be a design that prioritizes bicycles in specific places and pedestrians in others, and that these places should be marked with directional and other safety signs; direct and clear bicycle/pedestrian connection routes need to be established to 500 East.	High Consensus Items: 1. Improved safety for circulation, including creating specific locations for bikes and pedestrians. 2. Improved maintenance access with signage. 3. Better connectivity to other uses in the Park, especially for pedestrians. Conflict Items: Conflicting ideas about prioritization and design of bicycle vs. pedestrian accommodation through the site
Circulation	2	Improve connection from the parking lot to the park, concern that the north end has conflicting uses with the maintenance equipment and would be made worse if enhanced if additional modifications were not made to the maintenance yard.	
Circulation	4	The area needs improved passages so bicycles and pedestrians can easily navigate from the west end (parking lot) to the east end (600 East). Multiple pathways/walking paths should be considered, providing access adjacent to the aviary, along the north edge of the ride zone, in addition to a clear pedestrian link from north to south somewhere in the middle of the site (possibly along the east edge of the parking lot).	
Circulation	5	Provide better connectivity with other areas.	
Circulation	5	Improve sidewalk along north side of aviary provide access to pond.	
Circulation	5	Make the walkway between the greenhouse and the maintenance area safer.	
Concessions	2	Good food, need to be open more often.	
Concessions	3	Not being used to full potential. Unsure when it was open, usually closed. The group agreed that if the concession stand were open consistently and at useful hours, and if it would offer items such as coffee, muffins, etc., it would change the usability and attractiveness of the area significantly.	High Consensus Items: 1. Concessions are a good use but are under utilized. Need to be open more frequently and consistently, and need to be expanded. 2. Need better seating (additional seats and shade). Unique Comments: Make concessions stand smaller.
Concessions	4	The concession stand should be improved, incorporating a pergola/outdoor dining area with shade. At present diners must seek shade under trees north of the building, which is inconvenient.	
Concessions	5	Year round concessions at the concession stand. Do something to make it work.	

Comment Type	Group Number	Comment	Analysis of Comment(s)
Entry / Experience	1	A new/better entry experience should be designed.	High Consensus Items: 1. Unclear entry experience. Could be so much more. 2. Too much hardscape, need more life. Unique Comments: Maintain the monuments on the east side.
Entry / Experience	1	There is not a clear or defined entrance for pedestrians.	
Entry / Experience	2	Arrival from the south east corner needs to be improved.	
Entry / Experience	2	Entrance is unclear. Enhance it.	
Entry / Experience	1	The space has the potential to be a classic space.	
Entry / Experience	2	Concern that the area has too much asphalt. It needs more green/planted areas.	
Entry / Experience	5	NO MORE CONCRETE.	
Entry / Experience	5	Maintain the monuments on the east side.	
Entry / Experience	Comment Card	When you approach in a car, you look at the ferris wheel and the backside of the concession building. Both structures are "dead" much of the year. The view is not one that draws you into the Park.	
Green House	1	Would like to see it programmed, clean and improved. There are great opportunities for this to be educational, show native plants, provide point of sale, and be a botanical garden.	High Consensus Items: Greenhouse is an underutilized asset to the park. Fix it up and make it accessible to the public; incorporate education elements. Unique Comments: Opportunity for point of sale items, plants, etc.
Green House	2	The Green house is a great opportunity for a conservatory and open to the public. Could be an asset.	
Green House	2	Table liked greenhouse and felt that it was an asset to the park, but needs a lot of repair.	
Green House	3	Several thought the site plan should ensure that the green house was renovated and turned into a better community amenity, where school children and community gardeners could do spring-time starts, and perhaps related learning opportunities could be hosted.	
Green House	4	Fix up the greenhouse; turn it into an architectural gem. Open it up to the public, and allow it to serve an educational/interpretive role.	
Green House	5	Can you visit the greenhouse? If so make it more obvious.	
Maintenance Yard	1	Reduce the size of the maintenance yard.	High Consensus Items: 1. Reduce size of maintenance yard, too much land for non public use. 2. Create a better screen or landscape buffer around it.
Maintenance Yard	2	The maintenance yard uses too much land area dedicated to non public use.	
Maintenance Yard	2	The yard is unsightly and ugly.	
Maintenance Yard	3	Participants felt the maintenance yard was too big, underutilized, and not kept well. All wanted to see the east half of the maintenance area converted into a natural area that connects to the current green belt west of the concession building.	
Maintenance Yard	3	Indicated a desire to have the remaining maintenance yard better landscaped and screened to improve the beauty of the area.	
Maintenance Yard	5	Maintenance area is too big. Make it smaller.	
New Aviary Building	2	Concern it will shade too much of the amusement park.	
New Aviary Building	2	Liked the idea of adding a new building.	
New Aviary Building	2	Concern that the new building will be too close to the rides.	
New Aviary Building	4	Like the idea of the new building forming a "wall" to the plaza to the north.	
New Aviary Building	5	The bird building should remain low profile to preserve sight corridors.	
Parking	1	Rotate the direction of the parking so that the parking isles run east/west instead of North/South, and add a center walkway or promenade connecting to the park.	Conflict Items: Different opinions whether additional parking should be added. Unique Comments: 1. Reduce parking on east side for more green. 2. Rotate parking lot orientation.
Parking	2	Group felt that the parking was in adequate, but would not recommend enlarging.	
Parking	4	New parking is necessary to better accommodate aviary events and programs. When park events are taking place, there is no room for aviary customers. Extending the parking to the north into the maintenance yard is a possible idea to consider.	
Parking	5	Lose the east side of the parking lot. Make it green.	

Comment Type	Group Number	Comment	Analysis of Comment(s)
Planting	5	On east side by the pump house plant a structurally diverse forest with shrubs trees bushes etc.	Unique Comments
Planting	5	Love gardens in front of greenhouse.	
Pump House	2	Concern it will be too close to the restrooms. Restroom needs to be open and visible for safety.	<u>High Consensus Items:</u> Numerous concerns about pumphouse placement: Restroom safety and visibility, park entry obstacle, aesthetic effects, and Landmarks Review status.
Pump House	2	Concern that the pump house location will be an obstacle from people entering the park from the south.	
Pump House	5	Hide the pump house.	
Pump House	Comment Card	The flyer for the open house shows the pump house closer to the Concession Building than what I recall landmarks approving. Shifting the pump house north is a good idea but Landmarks should be informed of the change.	
Restroom	2	Restroom area is dark.	Unique Comments
Restroom	4	Need a public restroom that is usable during park hours. At present need to ask for a key to the concession restroom.	
Rides	1	Equipment is creepy and run down - needs to be cleaned up.	<u>High Consensus Items:</u> 1. Equipment needs to be renovated and cleaned up. 2. Is the equipment safe? 3. Rides are a unique asset to the park. 4. Rides could/should be located or adjusted to create a better experience. 5. Ferris Wheel will need to be relocated if Aviary Building is built where shown. 6. Open up all sides of the merry go round. <u>Conflict Items:</u> 1. Reduce vs Renovate the number of rides. 2. Concern whether to keep rides (except merry go round) as site improves. <u>Unique Comment:</u> 1. Locate Ferris Wheel for better views from the top.
Rides	1	The equipment and spacing doesn't work.	
Rides	2	Amusement rides are great and appropriate for the park.	
Rides	2	Amusement rides help make Liberty Park unique and adds flavor.	
Rides	2	Rides help provide a service that some children don't get to experience any other way.	
Rides	2	Rides need to be refurbished and made safe.	
Rides	2	Table questioned whether both swings were necessary to keep.	
Rides	2	Will need to move ferris wheel if Tropical Rainforest building is constructed in location shown on map.	
Rides	2	The Ferris Wheel should have extended views from the ride.	
Rides	2	Could expand the amusement park area.	
Rides	3	Merry Go Round should be open on the north side.	
Rides	3	Merry Go Round need renovated.	
Rides	3	Merry Go Round is an opportunity to "theme" this part of the park .	
Rides	3	Table disliked the other concession rides and felt they were dangerous, particularly the chain swing. These are not important or useful to the future design of the site. Agreed that these rides should be improved, replaced or removed.	
Rides	4	The rides should be moved further to the north, just east of the greenhouse, in order to create a better space for passersby and users of the aviary alike.	
Rides	4	Open up the merry-go-round on all sides, so it becomes an attraction and a reflection of past eras.	
Rides	4	The ferris wheel should be moved or a buffer installed to the south to protect it from the new/proposed aviary building.	
Rides	4	Would like all rides to be upgraded and brought back into the modern age. The area was formerly privately owned and operated, which could serve as a "new" model for the future.	
Rides	5	Open up the merry go round so that people can see in and out.	
Rides	5	Think about options for the Ferris wheel. Make it user friendly.	
Rides	5	Get rid of all rides but the merry go round. Make it the focal point of the area (not everyone agreed).	
Rides	2	The rides could be better positioned and spaced.	
Safety	1	The visibility to the space needs to be open and safe.	Unique Comment
Seating	1	Need additional movable tables and chairs.	High Consensus Items:

Comment Type	Group Number	Comment	Analysis of Comment(s)
Seating	2	Seating should in open and safe location, but not a focal point.	
Swimming Pool	1	The swimming pool needs to be more visible.	
Swimming Pool	5	Provide shade at the pool. Trees or awnings etc.	Unique Comments
Tree Grove	2	Recommend saving the grove of trees between parking lot and rides.	High Consensus Items:
Tree Grove	4	The hilly tree grove should be preserved and improved. It is an informal queuing area for school groups and others waiting to enter the aviary.	Protect and keep the hilly tree grove; other comments suggested expanding and improving this grove into the maintenance area.
Tree Grove	5	Leave the stand of trees east of the parking lot alone.	
New Design Ideas	3	Some were interested in a "grassy knoll" in the location of the current chain swing. This would give some contour to the landscape and provide a vantage place to watch children, relax, or watch birds from.	High Consensus Items: Design an area in the site for a playground and perhaps workout equipment, preferably near the existing splash pad.
New Design Ideas	3	Parents noted that there is no play equipment near the splash pad area, and that the nearest play equipment was far from the area. This creates an inconvenience because a single parent can't keep watch of kids using the splash pad and other play amenities from one place.	Unique Comments: 1. Design a "grassy knoll" where the chain swing is. 2. Create a shared playground/lunch place between concessions and Aviary areas. 3. Expand splash pad and water events throughout the site.
New Design Ideas	3	Discussed potential for workout equipment (push-up, pull-up, bar-dip, etc) somewhere on the site. The park lacks this kind of active amenity altogether.	
New Design Ideas	4	Would like a new playground incorporated into the cleaned up "plaza". Would also like a splash pad or small "water events" spread throughout the upgraded plaza area (the aviary area is far from the Rotary Playground/splash pad, and would be well served by water play.)	
New Design Ideas	Comment Card	Playground / lunch area is worth is worth considering. Perhaps a shared area with concessions and the Aviary.	
	B-Chalk Board		*Chalk Board Comments were difficult to interpret in the same way as our public exercise. Some compatible "vision" ideas emerged. However, not all of them were useful in the context of this site planning exercise. Highest interest items were observatory (birds), outdoor concert venue, free movie night, bike storage and oriental garden and tea house.





LIBERTY PARK

Site Planning Workshop Report
Aviary & Concession Areas

Final Report

June 2014