



Butterfield Park District
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August 31, 2010

Dear Kensington Park Neighbors,

On behalf of the Butterfield Park District, I would like to provide an update on Kensington Park. The old playground has been removed. A non-for-profit organization, Kids Around the World, removed the playground and will reassemble in a third world country. As stated previously, this resulted in considerable savings for the District and will provide a country in need a playground. The new playground along with the swing set and drum feature was assembled and installed the week of August 2. Afterwards, weed barrier and mulch was added and the area was open to the public on August 16. The area where the old playground and the existing pile of mulch were was restored with top soil, grass seed and blanket. Also, the ground along the border of the new playground was groomed, seeded and blanketed. Most trees in the northeast section and near the parking lot were edged and mulched. In order to address the erosion of the walking path in certain areas, the staff determined the most efficient and economical solution was to asphalt those areas. This was completed on August 20. Waste receptacles were installed. A bike rack was placed near the new playground to go along with the existing bike rack near the parking lot. Finally, an additional weed control to the entire property was applied with particular attention focused on crabgrass. The property was then slit seeded and fertilized.

Items remaining include the Brian McGarry memorial; grooming and dragging the ball diamonds, additional signage, dog waste refuse stations, spectator bleachers and the removal of the mini-shelters. The District's original intention was to reinstall the shelters. However, the cost to do so as well as to restore the units was impractical. Instead, picnic tables and a grill will be placed in the vicinity of the old playground. The walking path will be groomed where needed. There have been questions regarding the detention basin. It has held water for the majority of the summer. This is largely a result of the excessive rains that we have had. However, once plant life is established in the base, the water that is still remaining will be absorbed. While the banks of the basin were reseeded and plant life is becoming noticeable, the bottom has not been seeded due to the standing water. This will be done in late fall.

The Park District appreciates your patience and support of the project. Please contact me with any questions, concerns or comments.

Sincerely,

Dave Harris
Butterfield Park District