From:	Amanda Vierling
To:	Huang, Wen
Subject:	Feedback on Silver Spring Intermediate Park/Parks in general
Date:	Monday, April 16, 2018 3:21:17 PM

Dear Wen Huang,

I wanted to offer a small bit of feedback on the proposed updating of the park. I live near Wheaton Regional and Kemp Mill. Those two parks have recently been updated. We no longer use them because we do not like the new layouts. I suggest these comparisons as lessons learned for planning the Silver Spring park upgrades:

1. There are too many rope climbing things and not enough solid structures. One rope structure thing is plenty for any one park.

2. Too many (large) slides that are situated so that caregivers cannot get from top to bottom quickly. We took the kids to Wheaton Regional and one of us was at the bottom of the slides and another adult was at the top. The one at Kemp Mill is atop a rope structure. Children get up high, get scared, and it is hard to extract them.

3. My sister said the layout of both parks are terrible and made it hard to keep track of her two young children. Please keep parents of small children in mind. Clemonjontri Park in McLean is an example of a young child friendly park. It is easy to quickly cross the park to reach a child and it is one level. The playground at the Rio is another good playground.

It is frustrating that so many of our playgrounds are being chopped up with walls and weird levels and it makes it harder for caregivers. I truly don't understand why Wheaton is laid out the way it is - what may make it slightly more accessible for some makes it less accessible for others. I won't take my young niece and nephew together to either Kemp Mill Urban or Wheaton by myself because of the layout. We had a perfectly good playground at Kemp Mill and I am hugely disappointed in what we received. Please don't inflict that on anyone else.

4. Please ensure there is an enclosure. When Kemp Mill Urban Park reopened, there was nothing blocking children from the road.

5. Please include shade. We have very little shade, and the nice arbor that came around the side of the pond at Kemp Mill is gone. It is sorely missed, as it was a great place to sit and relax. There is another large park in Germantown that we do not visit on hot summer days because it is unbearable without shade. Trees make lovely shade and are prettier than structures.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amanda Vierling