Metzger Park Local Improvement District Advisory Board Agenda

Date: Monday, October 26, 2026
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Online https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82067029233

Item 1: Call to Order, Introductions, Sign-in

Item 2: Public Comments

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

- July 2026 minutes

Item 4: Operations Report

Item 5: Old Business

- Fiscal Year 2027-28 MPLID maximum annual assessment
    - Community Survey results

Item 6: New business

    - Set the 2027 annual meeting schedule of the MPLIDAB

Item 7: MPLIDAB Issues/Discussion

Item 8: Next Meeting: January 25, 2027

Metzger Park Local Improvement District Advisory Board Minutes

Date: July 27, 2026
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom (online)

Item 1: Call to Order, Introductions, Sign-in

- Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

  Present: Carl Fisher, Tom McGowan, Jordan Silk, Wilton Cloud, Barret Johnson, Erin Lafollette, Roy Beaty
  Absent: None
  Public: None
  Staff: Carl Switzer, Peyton Ellis

Item 2: Public Comments

- None

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

- April 2026 minutes approved as amended. Amended to clarify that Wilton Cloud was not in attendance.

Item 4: Operations Report

- Staff updated the MPLIDAB on routine maintenance updates at Metzger Park. MPLID raised the question that a tree at the northwest corner of the park (near the tennis courts) may have future conflict with overhead powerlines. Staff will inspect and take necessary action.

Item 5: Old Business

- MPLIDAB appointments
  - Barret Johnson, Erin Lafollette, and Roy Beaty welcomed to their first meeting as official MPLIDAB members.

Item 6: New business

- Fiscal Year 2027-28 MPLID maximum annual assessment
    - Community Survey

The Board of Commissioners approved utilizing LID funds for a consultant-lead community survey to get more information on the Metzger LID community's interest in paying to replace the playground and, if so, at what amount. Staff shared some concept questions to illustrate what kinds of information will be collected. MPLIDAB offered a good quantity and variety of questions and comments which will be shared with the consultant team. The consultant firm will help refine the questions and materials used. The outcome of the community engagement work will be discussed at the October MPLIDAB meeting.

Item 7: MPLIDAB Issues/Discussion

- Carl Fisher asked if the horseshoe pits would return to the park since they were removed for path construction. There is no way to effectively rent horseshoes to the public, most people do not have horseshoes at home, these pits consume a large area, and as such Parks does not have a plan to replace them at this time.

Item 8: Next Meeting: October 26, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared for

Washington County

Prepared by

JLA Public Involvement

October 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Project Overview....3
Project Objectives....3
Public Involvement Goals....3
Outreach....4
Survey Results....5
Communication Tools....9
Conclusion....10
Appendix A – Survey Comments....11
Appendix B – Mailer....24

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The playground at Metzger Park is one of the park's most popular amenities, but the equipment is nearing the end of its useful life and will eventually need to be replaced or removed for safety reasons. Washington County is exploring options for funding a replacement playground.



There are currently two slides at Metzger Park.

At their April 7, 2026, business meeting, the Board of County Commissioners included an additional $25,000 in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 assessment of the Metzger Park Local Improvement District (MPLID) for a consultant-led community engagement process to assess the Metzger community's interest in including capital costs for a playground replacement project with the request to raise the maximum annual assessment for operations in FY 2027-2028.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Survey the MPLID residents to determine if they want a replacement playground at Metzger Park.
- Understand what level of assessment increase residents would support to help fund a replacement playground.
- Use community feedback to inform future decisions about funding a playground replacement.
  - If sufficient support exists, determine a funding strategy for replacement through the MPLID.
  - If replacement funding is not secured, maintain the existing equipment until it can no longer be safely maintained, and then remove it.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT GOALS

The primary aim of public involvement was to **inform** the MPLID residents about the condition of the playground and **consult** them about their interest in paying higher assessments so Washington County Parks may purchase replacement equipment in the future.

Target Audiences

- Approximately 2,800 residents within the MPLID
- Metzger Elementary School, Parent Support Organization
- Area daycares and preschools

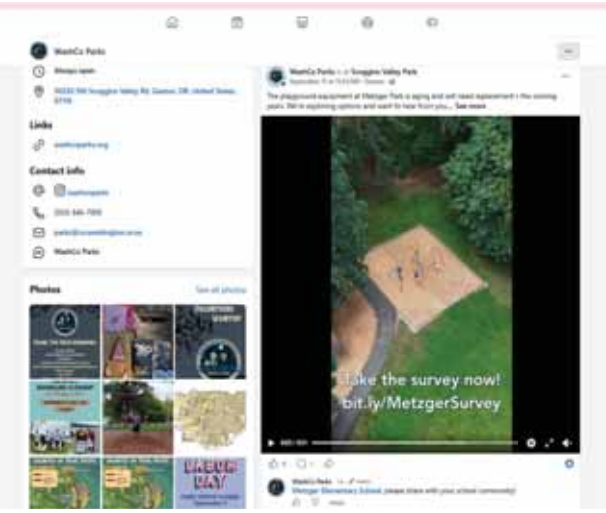


Special events at Metzger Park typically draw lots of people to the playground.

- The MPLID Advisory Board
- The greater Metzger community

OUTREACH

Washington County Parks sought community feedback through an online survey open from September 11, 2026, through October 11, 2026. The survey asked residents about the future of the Metzger Park playground: whether it should be replaced and what level of assessment increase, if any, residents would support. It was promoted through a variety of online platforms, direct mail, printed yard signs, and community partnership outreach.



Screenshot of a Facebook post advertising the online survey.

Survey Information Provided to Participants

Before answering survey questions, participants were provided with background information about the condition and age of the existing playground equipment, the reasons replacement will eventually be necessary, and the potential funding implications. Participants were encouraged to watch a short informational video and review a comparison table describing the partial replacement, full replacement, and no replacement options. See adjacent screenshot of the table.



A screenshot of the online survey showing the three options for the future of the playground.

SURVEY RESULTS

A total of **437 people completed the survey**, including 400 respondents who reported living within the MPLID (that is response rate for MPLID residents of about 15%).

Key Findings

- Most respondents (92%) reported living within the MPLID and would be directly affected by any assessment increase.
- A clear majority of MPLID respondents support full replacement (58%).
- More than half of all respondents reported using the playground frequently or occasionally.
- Among MPLID residents who use the playground at least monthly, approximately 72% support full replacement.
- Opposition is concentrated among residents who report never using the playground.
- Written comments indicated strong support for maintaining a playground in the park, while concerns focused primarily on affordability, assessment increases, and project cost transparency.
- Respondents emphasized preserving the playground's well-loved features, including the merry-go-round, caterpillar structure, and monkey bars.

Crosstabulation for MPLID Residents Only

The following table shows how MPLID residents' support for playground replacement varies based on how frequently their household uses the playground. Responses indicate a clear relationship between frequency of use and support for replacement, with regular users showing the strongest support for full replacement.

Playground Use Frequency	Full Replacement	Partial Replacement	No Replacement	Total
Frequently (>1x/week)	95	15	20	130
Occasionally (>1x/month)	61	18	9	88
Rarely (few times/year)	40	13	21	74
Never	35	18	51	104
Total	**231**	**64**	**101**	**396***

*Four records among the 400 had missing/incomplete answers that affect the crosstab total.

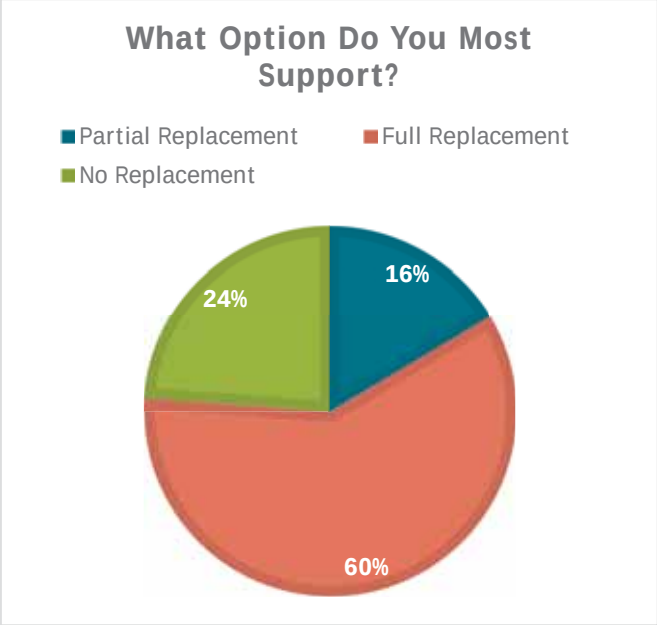
Among MPLID residents who use the playground frequently, 73% supported full replacement, compared with 34% of those who reported never using the playground. Assessment-paying residents who use the playground most frequently are also the strongest supporters of full replacement.

Support for Playground Replacement

Support for full playground replacement exceeded support for either partial replacement or no replacement. While survey results indicate a clear preference for replacing the playground, written comments show that many respondents would like to preserve popular existing features through the future redesign. Survey results showed:

- Partial replacement – 71 people
- Full replacement – 259 people
- No replacement – 103 people
- No response – 4 people

Approximately 76% of all respondents indicated a willingness to fund a playground replacement.



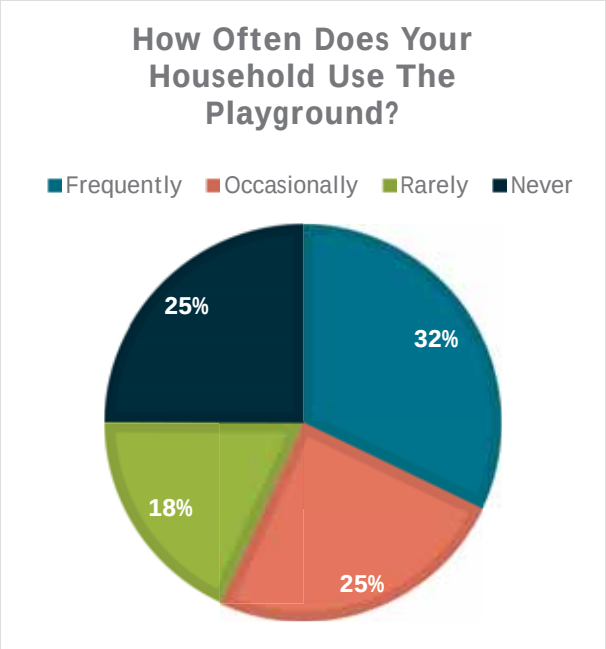
Note: Percentages in the chart above reflect respondents who selected an option.

Among MPLID residents, approximately 58% supported full replacement, 16% supported partial replacement, and 25% supported no replacement. Support was strongest among residents who reported using the playground regularly.

The full replacement option received more than twice as many votes as the no replacement option and more than three times as many as the partial replacement option.

Playground Use

Playground use was high among survey respondents. This suggests the equipment is an important community amenity despite concerns about its age and condition. Respondents were asked how often their household used the playground and survey results showed the following:



Note: Percentages in the chart above reflect respondents who selected an option.

- Frequently (more than once a week) – 139 people
- Occasionally (more than once a month) – 107 people
- Rarely (a few times each year) – 79 people
- Never – 108 people
- No response – 4 people

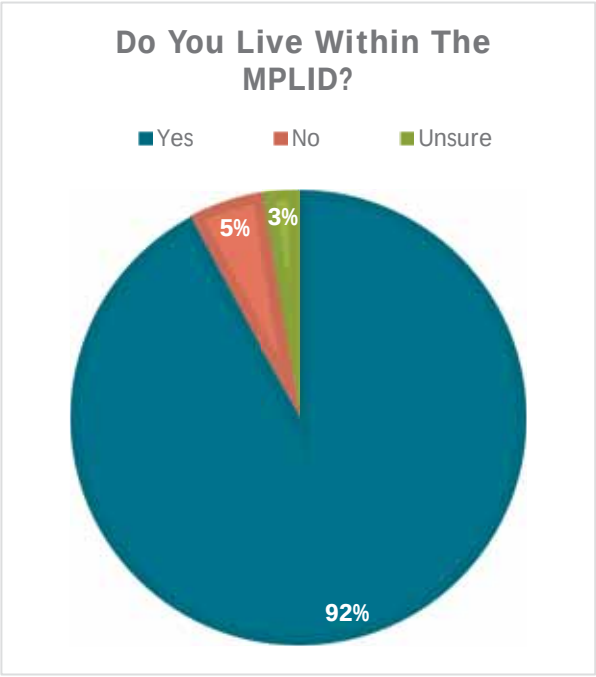
Approximately 57% of all respondents (including 55% of MPLID residents) reported using the playground occasionally or frequently. Among MPLID residents, 33% reported using the playground frequently, or more than once per week, while 26% reported never using it. Overall, nearly three-quarters of MPLID respondents reported using the playground at least occasionally.

Metzger Park Local Improvement District Residency

The following survey results show how many respondents live within the MPLID:

- Live within the MPLID – 400 people
- Do not live within the MPLID – 23 people
- Not sure – 11 people
- No response – 3 people

More than 92% of respondents who answered this question said they live within the MPLID. Because the vast majority of survey takers identified themselves as MPLID residents, survey results largely reflect the views of those who would be directly affected by a potential assessment increase.



Note: Percentages in the chart above reflect respondents who selected an option.

Open-Ended Feedback

Respondents were asked if they had any additional feedback about the Metzger Park playground replacement project. Although many people indicated they did not want their assessments increased, comments showed broad agreement that Metzger Park is a valued community asset. Respondents frequently emphasized preserving beloved playground features, improving accessibility, and maintaining affordability for residents.

Analysis of the 231 responses showed the following themes. For all comments, see Appendix A.

- **Concerns about assessment increases and affordability**
  Many respondents expressed frustration with rising property taxes and assessments. Seniors, people on fixed incomes, and households facing higher living expenses were particularly concerned. Some opposed any additional assessment increase, even if they supported improving the playground.
- **Support for replacing or improving the playground**
  Many respondents were supportive of a safer, more modern, and better-maintained playground. Some described the existing equipment as outdated or potentially unsafe and see the future improvements as an investment in neighborhood families and future generations.



Kids playing on the 50-year-old swings.

- **Accessibility and inclusive play**
  Respondents asked for equipment that children with disabilities can use and accessible routes and surfaces. Some described the limitations of the existing equipment and wanted the park to serve a broader range of families.
- **Preserve the park's unique, beloved equipment**
  Some respondents expressed attachment to the existing playground's character, especially the older-style structures, such as the merry-go-round, caterpillar, and monkey bars. Some wanted selective replacement rather than full replacement, while others supported modernization only if the signature features remain.

> *"Please retain and refurbish the caterpillar. It's a unique feature to this park that is beloved by three generations of our family. My grandchildren call Metzger Park the caterpillar park."*

- **Seek grants, donations and other funding sources**
  Several comments suggested grants, business sponsorships, private donations, and fundraisers as alternatives or supplements to higher assessments. Some respondents questioned whether all available funding sources had been explored.

- **Questions about project costs and financial transparency**
  Some residents questioned the estimated cost of replacing the equipment and requested more details about maintenance expenses, bids, budgeting, and long-term planning. Others wanted to understand why replacement was necessary if portions of the existing equipment appeared to be usable.

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

The County used the following communication tools to inform people about the online survey.

Digital Outreach

- Direct link to the survey on the Washington County Parks Webpage, which received 979 views.
- Video – A two-minute informational video received 216 views and 1,649 impressions (or times the video or its thumbnail was displayed to users).
- Social media posts, which included the video link for a total of 4,976 combined views.
  - Facebook posts on September 11, September 16, and September 24.
  - Instagram posts on September 11 and September 16.



Ten of these signs were placed around the park.

Community Partnerships

Emails and phone calls were directed to the following groups:

- Metzger Park Local Improvement District Advisory Board
- Metzger Park Elementary School Parent Support Organization (included promotion in two school newsletters)
- Hall Boulevard KinderCare
- Metzger Community Preschool
- Creative Hands Preschool



Metzger Park Elementary School newsletter promotion.

Print Outreach

- Mailer sent to the approximately 2,800 MPLID residents on September 11. See Appendix B for full copy.
- Yard signs – 10 were placed around the park and out for the duration of the survey period.



A mailing was sent to all residents in the MPLID.

Communication Protocols

Project materials were developed using accessibility and plain-language best practices, including the following:

- All project materials were written using concise, plain language. Information was presented in a visual format, with simple accompanying narrative.
- Project materials were intended to be written at an 8th grade level using the Flesch–Kincaid Grade Level Formula.
- Color deliverables were readable when reproduced in black and white and ADA accessible for color blindness.
- The mailer was run through ADA accessibility checks.

CONCLUSION

Public outreach for the Metzger Park playground replacement project generated significant participation from community members, particularly residents within the MPLID.

Survey results indicate strong support for playground replacement, with full replacement receiving the strongest support. At the same time, respondents expressed concerns about their ability to afford assessment increases and wanted more information about anticipated playground equipment costs.

Written comments highlighted the community's desire to preserve unique playground features, improve accessibility, and explore grant funding and other alternative funding sources.

APPENDIX A – SURVEY COMMENTS

- My family likes the nature area and trails better than the playground. It would be a better idea to include natural play scapes for kids to explore rather than a playground.
- "The tennis court seems also in need of some refurbishing, and it would be great if there was a way to have dual use for pickle ball.
- Does the more than doubled fee go down at the end of five years? Or does this become a permanent increase and the funds will be used for additional improvements?"
- The main play structure looks like it's actually in remarkably good shape. Some of the other equipment clearly looks tired. Do we really need to replace the main structure at this point? Why not keep it longer and focus on replacing things like the swings?
- Children need a safe park to play. As citizens of Metzger, we need to keep up with Metzger park maintenance and equipment. Many children and families depend upon using this park.
- Having more toddler friendly options would increase the frequency we go to the park. Now we drive to other parks to find better suited equipment for our young kids
- I appreciate the thoughtfulness of this outreach. While the main play structure is a huge draw, the infant swings and adult swings are important features loved by young families. I would like to see those replaced in any scenario.
- My fees have already increased by nearly 100% multiple times in the last few years. This is unacceptable. You need to consider charging for use, asking for volunteers to help with maintenance, look for grants and soliciting donors if you cannot operate within your allotted budget. No private company would still be in business if they failed to plan for things like this. How can u expect tax payers to afford another increase in fees when you already doubled our fees less than one year ago. Stop raising the fees and if you can't operate within your budget close the parks!
- What about an option to build another inclusive/accessible play area next to the current structure, and use the existing equipment through the remainder of it's useful life? That could be 10 years of additional benefit to the community, and for a lower cost than full demolition and full/partial replacement. Demolition would leave the park without a play structure for all/most of the summer while the replacement is constructed, whereas a complementary adjacent play area could be constructed while the existing structure is still being used.
- Can you add a pop up dog park
- Something's terribly wrong with the estimate. That is simply not $1,000,000 worth of equipment and labor. I'm all for new swings and jungle gym. It should be well under $100,000.
- The main structure is nostalgic and unique! The monkey bars and other climbing bars should be replaced first because some of them are bent. Also the weird caterpillar thing by the baby swings… what is it for? Didn't know as a child and still unsure as an adult. The play structure also doesn't need rotating monkey bars wheel things AND rings to swing across on. Maybe ditch one and add some sort of netted or studded climbing structure. Love the curvy steps to the big half, the rubber steps on the small half, and the bridge that connects the two halves of that bigger structure.
- Most excited for the addition for younger kids. I have a 2 and 10 year old son they would both get to use it more equally
- I don't need it, but maybe others do.
- Splash pad! Also important though to keep the big field area.

- As a senior on a fixed income I cannot afford all the tax increases. It's not just Metzger park, everything is going up and I am being taxed right out of my home of 39 years! Can't we figure out another way to fund this? How about fund raisers? It's interesting you show a picture of the easter egg hunt which brings in many other family through out the community who don't pay the taxes on this park. How about we cut out some of the admin fees and landscaping fees that goes to WA County and find local landscapers that don't have their hands in the pot?!!
- I think the main playground equipment is wonderful as is. Keep it and replace the older stuff instead.
- Do only required maintenance on the rusty joints and reweld and paint. No additional care of grounds cost.
- Out door fresh air physical activities socializing for children and adults are a very important part of our community Metzger is a beautiful community we do care about our future 💜
- No matter which option is ultimately chosen (we hope it's full replacement), please retain and refurbish the caterpillar. It's a unique feature to this park that is beloved by three generations of our family. My grandchildren call Metzger Park the caterpillar park.
- Splash pad would be amazing!! Cook does not have one. Bring that to Metzger!!
- Some how making the field less of a mud pit in the winter. Covered seating for summer
- The needs of disabled and differently abled families are not met by the current park. Bark is used for ground cover. The swings are completely across the field. The structure requires children and adults to be fully mobile to utilize them. The slide has caused numerous injuries including one light weight child being launched off at the bump resulting in a severely broken arm. The reason this park is so popular is the location actual bathroom access, and the merry-go-round. Families drive here from boarding cities just for the merry-go-round. This is a feature that must be incorporated in the future plans. Summary, no bark, easy access play structure, space for young kids, swings at main play area, and keep a merry-go-round. See Gabriel Park for tips on a well loved park and playground.
- Please don't take the park away. So many kids and families use it daily
- It's such a beautiful well maintained park. Our children and grand children played in the equipment when they were younger. Makes sense to have it for future generation. I'm all in.
- Cook Park was recently renovated and it is much better than the previous park, creating an even more fun and safe place for families and children enjoy it. Metzger should benefit from the same increase in enjoyment if the playground is fully renovated.
- The reason my daughter loves this park is because it has the bars to flip on and the merry go round and all of the fun old school equipment. We also love it because of the large grassy area and the big trees
- Have some options for middle schoolers as well as the little kid please
- REPLACE THE TENNIS COURT pls ? 🥺
- I do not support contributing additional funds beyond what we already pay to the park. Last year residents were already assessed a significant increase (over 100%). The response was given said it would address the rising cost of maintenance including the cost to maintain the 23 playground equipment. Asking for additional funds now makes me question the long term financial long term term planning and sustainability of this project. I would like to see more transparency on the budget and projected costs of the project before residents are asked for additional funds. .
- I have lived in this area for 12 years and although my grandkids are almost too old to use the playground equipment now, they have used it from time to time when they've visited me in the

past. I walk by Metzger Park often and I always see people of all ages making good use of and enjoying the park, so I support making it safer and accessible to folks of all ages. It's a bright spot in the neighborhood and a good use of tax dollars.

- Basketball court needs all new hoops and a functioning water fountain please!
- Is there an option that would cost less than option 1?
- No replacement should be done. We pay enough as it is, with increases that cost the taxpayer too much for no improvements.
- I cannot afford to pay more then we are now.
- Our kids are adults now but we/they often went to Metzger Park from toddler through high school years. We support full replacement bc having a park that is walk-accessible within the neighborhood, and has new/maintained play equipment, is an important benefit for all, as this area has many apartments as well as homes. Kids/parents need to have play alternatives that don't necessarily require a car or bus to get to, and school grounds are often committed to organized sports or can be too far to walk with young ones.
- We love Metzger Park and use the playground frequently! While I don't see any issues with the current equipment, when it fails, it would be nice if we could replace it with similar items.
- $75 increase per year over 5 years per homeowner is $1,125,000. Seems like an exorbitant amount of money for new equipment. What is it about the equipment that’s causing maintenance and operations to skyrocket?
- Please do another survey when it is time for the design.
- Would love if it could be aesthetic, that the play area could be compelling aesthetically for all ages. (Perhaps look at finish design and parks).
- Do not ask taxpayer for more money. Give those that are willing an opportunity to donate money, and then you can recognize them by letting them put their names on the playground equipment. There are those that have an abundance that love doing that sort of giving (and like being recognized, or they can choose to remain anonymous if preferred.)
- Get personal donations, not forced tax payer funding
- The costs seem very high for the equipment being replaced.
- Please please please keep that creepy caterpillar somewhere in the plans or auction it or something, we go to the park every day and he's my favorite to look at.
- All inclusive playground equipment would be great!
- I loved seeing the transformation that Cook Parks’ central playground went through. The increase in access and inclusion of a variety of ages and abilities has made our visits there all the more enjoyable. I hope Metzger Park will go through a similar transformation that allows the same level of inclusion and access. I also hope that all of the trees and existing plants will be kept and tended to throughout the construction process.
- Please keep the short basketball hoop!
- An update to the bathrooms would be very beneficial too.
- If there are unusual play structures in the new plan, instructions should be posted somewhere as to avoid misuse, confusion and potential damage.
- More seating for parents/caretakers that aren't picnic tables would be beneficial. Facing/adjacent to the play structures preferred. Places to lock up bikes/strollers, and some kind of sheltered area for picnic would be awesome.
- We need to pay it forward!
- You should add a small dirt jump spot for bikes
- Great play space! Love the low basketball hoop and the steep slide!

- This park is a treasure to the community. Thank you for thoughtfully approaching this improvement.
- I took my kids there regularly when they were smaller, over a span of many years. My special needs daughter who has significant motor impairment loves the play structure. I don't see the need for a replacement at this time and strongly oppose any tax increase to spend money on something we don't need. I would support investment in additional infrastructure such as pickleball or volleyball courts, or a mini soccer court with artificial turf.
- May not be practical but please look to do something similar to Cook Park.
- I'm in support of children having safe playground equipment, however, in the five years I've lived here this will be the third increase or assessment. Most recently the annual budget was doubled. Where is that money going? I've not seen the park equipment it was claimed was needed. There needs to be more transparency and accountability
- My kids have gotten hurt multiple times with the bark chips maybe that can be changed
- It would be nice to have an up-to-date playground. There's not a lot for the children to play with, my 2 boys get bored fast, but they do love the smaller basketball hoop! We still love this park and I take them there all throughout the summer.
- No, but please keep the dog poop collection bag dispensers adequately stocked up! 😬 👍🏻
- It's unjustified for 3000 households to provide expensive play equipment for a small fraction of those households. I grew up without such equipment and turned out just fine. It's an exorbitant amount of money for a very limited benefit.
- Lower basketball hoops would be a nice addition for the early elementary kids
- Add more monkey bar stuff
- Rentable covered picnic shelters. A lot of events/parties take place at Metzger.
- Make a spot for kids to play soccer
- We used this park very frequently when my children were younger, and I would love to see it continue to be the center of this community. I do not live within the specific boundaries that would be taxed for this, but I live just outside of them and would be interested in contributing to some additional fund if something like that was possible.
- The play equipment definitely needs an upgrade, we have 2 children that love to go to the park. Love that there's a basketball court and tennis court.
- Having a more inclusive park experience for neurodivergent and physically divergent friends would incentivize us to play at the park more.
- We just moved to Metzger area a couple months ago. We have a 5 and a 3 year old and would frequent this park much more often if it had updated equipment. We chose to drive to farther away parks more often. Would love to invest in this community!
- This is an important part of the community without many other nearby parks
- Don't get rid of the playground, and if you don't recreate it as close as you possible can. this is the playground my children grew up on.
- My husband and I do not have children of our own, but we both value children and their right to play safely outside. We have enjoyed other features of the park and support a full replacement for the health and wellbeing of the surrounding community.
- Must add a merry go round. That is the most used piece of equipment. And the baby swings are always busy.
- This survey should be for us that pay this assessment. Not sure why people from outside the district can include a cost increase for us already paying
- Homeless hang out here.

- More benches and areas for elderly or parents to be while children play.
- Having the swings separate from the main play structure is challenging for families with multiple kids. Metzger Elementary School playground is being replaced by TTSD Bond funds in 2027 and will be accessible/inclusive. The Metzger Park playground does not need all of the same accessible features as it is less than 1 mile away.
- A covered community gathering space would be wonderful. Perhaps also a space for local vendors to set up for a farmers or neighborhood market.
- Please restore the little caterpillar! Kids LOVE IT! Could almost be a park mascot!
- My children love this park and love the grounds with the newly placed walking path and all the native plants. While the playground equipment maybe old, it's still functional and fun. I don't really see the need to thrash what's not broken, to the tune of millions.
- Overall the park is fine but if you have to upgrade it that's fine I guess. Leave the merry go round.
- Our kids love the playground just as it is. We cannot afford to keep paying increased taxes. Advertise the building space and bring in finding by renting it out.
- Expecting our first child in October 2026 and it would be nice to have more options for different ages.
- Hallelujah
- Please put in a covered area. Kids need a place to play and eat when it's raining.
- Please put a roof over it! That way it can be used during wet weather and the roof will provide shade during the summer. There are virtually no covered parks in Portland, a notoriously rainy city, and a roof would make this so unique and usable all year round.
- Option 4, leave the large, still usable play structure, remove the older, stand alone pieces and add a second structure for the younger kids.
- Would love to see a splash pad put in too!
- Please consider using eco-friendly concrete play options. It's long lasting and not susceptible to wear in the rainy environment. https://upcparks.com
- Yes, you wasted money on the new plantings too. The asphalt walk was a good improvement. That is all, I have spoken using common sense.
- Put in a disc golf practice basket. Only costs maybe $2,000 and lasts for years.
- Take out everything and leave basketball and tennis alone.
- NA
- We will be happy to support all efforts and our fair share of the cost to have the playground equipment completely replaced. We feel that it is an important part of our community even though we have no children that play on the equipment. A community support should always be a joint effort for everyone.
- It's a great part and well utilized
- No
- I understand the need for a safe place/park for kids to play, however because I do not have kids and I do not use this park I do not want to pay more for something I do not use or enjoy. My second option would be Partial Replacement.
- This issue is not so much about playground equipment, but about taxation. The assessment for the Metzger Park Local Improvement District (MPLID) increased more than 2x for FY 2026-2027 from $318K to $639K, after already having received an increase just two years prior. Incremental increases are understandable, but doubling within two years is unsustainable, regardless of the justification.

- We noticed some drug transactions going on. It would be good to have the police patrol the park often.
- We love this Park!!!! Any updates please keep all the trees. Thanks for all you do.
- All of the equipment is good and easily maintainable for at least another 50 years
- We use the park regularly, and enjoy climbing, slides, and a big play structure to enjoy.
- My property taxes are already too high
- Please keep the merry-go-round! We love it! We love Metzger Park
- I am retired and on a fixed income, I can not afford any new taxes!!! Have a user fee and parking fee for those who wish to use the park!
- Lets do a smart replacement by keeping the equipment that is functioning well and replacing parts that need to be replaced.
- Replace the tennis courts and add pickleball, please!
- You already receive $425,000.00 from 3000 people that is more than enough for care for the park. Include a fee of $25.00 for use of the playground equipment when someone uses the building for an event or gathering. Don't charge those of us who don't use the park or equipment I appreciate the improvements that have been done this year for me who just walks through the park. I appreciate that there have been no over night camping. I do feel safe when walking through it.
- We love this park!! We play pickle ball as a family in the tennis courts- as with others. The slide here terrified me when my kids were toddler. My kids are older now but We are happy to pay extra money for this beautiful park
- Metzger Park is well used and well loved by the local community, and the children deserve the best play structure
- We have lived in the Metzger area for 30 yrs and often walk to the park just to sit, relax and enjoy the families whose children play in the park. As senior citizens, we appreciate the nearby park. Although we do not have young grandchildren, we realize the many apartments that are within walking distance of the park have many families with young children. The availability of a clean and safe park is vital to those families whose home most likely does not have a play area. Several years ago, we did not feel Metzger Park was safe and have greatly appreciated the changes that have taken place...the new tennis/basketball court is wonderful. The walking is great for strollers and wheelchairs. The park is well used and lovely. It is worth the extra money to keep it that way.
- Build sidewalks in Tigard
- Can a donor give a big sum of money to get an amazing playground here? How much money would be needed to make a nature playground?
- Although I selected the option for full replacement I personally think the existing structures are great. I would like to see them used as long as possible, perhaps spray coat the fittings to help seal the structure for longevity and add a new section for the younger kids. Also would really like at the park outdoor fitness equipment, from traditional calisthenics to modern fitness stations like you see in European cities. This would be beneficial for all ages.
- My children have outgrown the playground, but I love seeing other families using it. It would be wonderful to see it stay current (similar style to Gabriel Park playground. The covered/shaded area like Westlake park is great for very hot or slightly misty days. One thing my household would definitely and frequently use would be 2-4 pickleball courts.
- The estimated $1,000,000.00 price tag is a staggering amount, especially considering this provides NO additional funds for the Patricia Whiting Hall! I urge the Advisory Board to

recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that a modest amount from the proposed assessment be set-aside for a modest improvement project on the interior of the hall.

- I feel no trees should be cut down in the process of partially redoing the park for I feel those big trees are iconic for the park. I feel I like the set up, but the swings and stuff could use a little less rust.
- Adding not only inclusive however sensory as well for special needs children
- In full support of the full replacement.
- Taller playground structure and more monkey bars
- Water play is always fun! Also please keep the big trees as shade is best. Love the path that goes all the way around now. Can we have a memorial service for the merry go round? 😂
- We love Metzger Park!!
- Don’t ever come asking for more money. $425k/year to maintain that tiny park is absurd. Find the money elsewhere. Ask the city. Stop funding illegals. Why is your answer only ever “have them pay more”. No. Enough is enough.
- While I don't have children I do walk through the park and contributed a memorial bench (the Warner family) around 2004 so would like to see it maintained.
- Between property taxes, water bills, and PGE, seniors are being taxed out of our homes. There should be discounts, or no taxes, and utilities to seniors who built this community.
- I'm retired and on a fixed income and with inflation and rising Medicare costs as well as drug costs i can't afford to pay any more for something i don't use, possibly the board could install a policy to charge for day use and parking permits to use future repairs or maybe close the park all together to take the burden off of senior citizens before we lose our own properties.
- I think is a great idea. I live across the street from the park and watch the kids (and some adults) play on the equipment every sunny day. Please maintain & improve the equipment we have.
- Give us the option to select which specific pieces of equipment we’d prefer to remove and which to leave.
- I support full replacement of the playground. Playgrounds are vital for community strength and the improvements proposed would allow more folks to utilize the playground.
- I don’t understand why a full replacement would nearly double the annual assessment, if I understand this correctly. The average assessment now is $90 a year and this suggests that an additional $75 would go on somewhat indefinitely although I see the caveat about reconsidering in five years. I think a modernized inclusive design to meet the needs of children is the right way to go. I know many communities have received grants and so would think that it would be possible to get grants for this area. It’s not a very high income area and it is diverse. I walk through the park frequently and I think it is very important for our community, and I’d like to trust my appreciation to the staff who take care of it because it almost always looks just great.
- I do not want to see any increase in price. Things are already expensive.
- would be great to get sensory, climbing and wheelchair accessible like other parks. we love this park and would love an update for our littles to enjoy the coming years.
- Our household does not use the playground part of Metzger Park but we access the park multiple times a week and we see children / families there all the time. It is important to have safe places for children / families to hang out -- please use the money to invest in the wellbeing of communities. Some folks may understandably be nervous about any increase in $ out of their pockets -- being very transparent about the exact costs of various parts of the playground might

be helpful so people are well aware of where the money is going (maybe there can be votes on each major component?). Thank you!

- The toddler swings are very important to my family and are used very often by many. We think they are a priority
- "The update to the park seemed a bit excessive and costly. Did we need a mini grandstand at the bball courts? All the plant signage? Replacement of sturdy picnic tables with lighter ones?
- My assessment more than doubled… which I was expecting."
- Thank you for the ongoing trail maintenance, it looks beautiful. I love the native plants that have been added to the park.
- No
- what does it mean, "end of it's useful life". These things cannot be repaired and maintained?
- No more taxes!
- I would love for it to have one of those swings for baby and mama/ parent similar to the one in the small Cook park. They bring so much joy!
- Please do not take out the merry go round.
- The playground is used regularly and removal would result in a huge deficit to our community.
- Option 2 Full Replacement would provide an incredible legacy for our community while prioritizing our youngest citizens.
- Fund new equipment when needed. The existing equipment will last year's yet
- Stop taxing us more. You take and take and take and then ask for more. $425k/year seems like an ungodly amount of money already for a tiny park. The main structure seems just fine. Find it in your current budget. Don't ever ask us to pay more. You guys are thieves.
- It would be great to be included on the selection of the new equipment or at least to have options proposed with this being taxpayer money.
- "I have a 6 year old who has lived his whole life playing at Metzger Park. We love the playground equipment as is. Our park is special because it is the only one left with a merry-go-round and it has both a metal and steep slide. The monkey bars are great. My child learned on them. I love the wood chips for ground cover because, in addition to padding, they provide a material for children to manipulate and imagine with; They are non-toxic, cool to the touch, and provide so many learning opportunities.
- The only thing that might concern me with our current playground is the potential for lead paint. I've never checked it, but assume there has to be some on there. I would be up for having any old paint sandblasted and replaced, but no other improvements are necessary. Plastic turf, rubber padding, or removal of the merry-go-round would be offensive."
- Choose Buell Recreation LLC. They did Memorial Park in Wilsonville and it's amazing.
- Will we still be able to play on the grass?
- Choose the company that did Memorial Park in Wilsonville. It was built and installed by Buell Recreation LLC
- We like all the mature trees in the park. That is the most important feature of the park and every effort should be made to maintain and preserve them.
- This is a key neighborhood playground that my kids love playing at. It would be a tragedy and a shame if the playground were removed. Please keep a playground at this park open.
- Would love options for a wide rage of kid ages
- I want more of a say of how my constantly increasing tax dollars are used.
- No more added fees to homeowners to pay for loitering and open drug use. Have all new low income apartments foot the bill. They get tax breaks while homeowners are continually being

nickled and dimed. The cost far outweighs the actual kids going to the park. Homeowners are tired of being the piggy bank, every two years a new bill/ levy etc. gets introduced to add to homeowners taxes. Add it into utility bills so everyone pays their fair share. Or pass a bill that only homeowners can vote on taxes/ levies that will effect them and not renters etc.

- Add a small dog, dog park
- Please don’t waste our tax money.
- Live within your budget. With over $420,000 annually at your disposal, you need to make some decisions (must-have vs nice-to-have). We don't have any more money to give!!
- Enough is enough-buy a can of paint and a few nuts and bolts-let the Mexicans pay for it! they got playgrounds in New York that are a hundred years old-repair don't despair!
- "My kids are adults now but we used to use the playground a lot and it was nice to have one nearby.
- There are also a lot of apartments near and those kids should have a nice park and playground.
- A new crosswalk was installed across Hall making access safer from those apartments. Let’s keep the playground!"
- I would love a fenced area and to NOT take down any trees. The best part about it is how shaded it is
- Would love a splash pad and informational plaques about the stream, the native trees/plants etc.
- property taxes are already very, very high.
- I fully support this park and taxes to improve it. I have loved this park before kids and during raising kids. But I also work in planning for and paying for infrastructure and it seems that the county has failed completely in their duty to maintain funds for this park. To have a funding plan for all these year and not have the foresight to have a reserve fund ready for the aging infrastructure is a complete failure by either management or the elected's. A nearly doubling of the assessments is not how you plan for something you know will have an end of service life. We also just had a major improvement of the park and open houses to do that. Why wasn't this incorporated in one project? Another waste of money. And finally, I like big swing sets, monkey bars, merry go rounds and the worm guy that kids love to climb on. New playground equipment is sterile and lacks the character of what we have. I know any changes will be met with removing the "now deemed unsafe" style of metal equipment we all love. I can't support the nearly doubling of cost, to cover the mismanagement and shortsightedness of leadership, to put in equipment that to be compliant with modern code will be less than the fun things of what we actually want. Option 4 is to bring in welders, metal workers and rebuild, repair and refinish the current equipment. For sustainability alone, Oregon just passed the Right to Repair Law and we as a county should lead by example and fix what we have. As a collector, metal can be fixed and made safe and reliable and beautiful.
- I vote to remove the equipment as it no longer becomes safe and then replace each piece at that time. Right now I think the playground is in good condition.
- No more taxes!!! Find the money from somewhere else. You take too much already.
- Lower our financial burden. You guys bleed us dry then come back to us with open hands. Stop paying all this money for illegals or drug addicts. You have enough of our money. Find it elsewhere. You guys couldn’t manage a lemonade stands correctly. Why would I give you a penny more of my hard earned money? Property tax is theft. Get out of here.
- heard the cost of replacement of playground equipment over million really
- I love the pathways ! Metzger Park is the only park close to my home . It’s a lovely gem!

- Metzger Park is a critical place where our community can and does gather. This is increasingly important in our fractured world where we spend more time on screens than we do with people. My children played on the play structure at Metzger and I hope that one day my grandchildren will. $150 per year for the use of Metzger park seems quite reasonable to me.
- We use the park nearly every day but don't have children that use the play structure. There seems to be plenty to do at this park and maintenance appears sufficient on the existing equipment. I'm skeptical that this park needs to collect $700k -$800k a year. I think a better solution would be to run some charitable fund drives at the park and have people voluntary donate to a fund so that the equipment can be replaced as needed. Anchoring this survey with 3 options where you do nothing, or you have a 60% to 80% increase in the annual assessment for a single park is not fiscally responsible and puts those who pay and use the park in a difficult position.
- No. On unrelated note. Can the tennis courts be converted to Pickleball courts? These are in very high demand. In the tennis courts are rarely used. Thank you!
- I've been coming to this park for 40 years. It seems fine to me. For the fully inclusive park we have Cook Park. Metzger is just a charming little neighborhood park and mostly at this point my grand kids use the basketball hoops. The other equipment seams great to me, It doesn't seem like it is anywhere near needing replacement.
- All taxes, assessments and daily living expenses are unaffordable now. Please don't assess homeowners further.
- Let the people that use the park pay for maintenance. I don't want to pay for people's recreation!
- I live about 5 block from this park. I believe this beautiful park with all its trees are a great resource for our Metzger community. A gathering place for people of all ages. I believe the value of my home is INCREASED by having this park nearby. And that this increase is MORE than the increased LID taxation of my property. I want children to be able to play on safe playground equipment. We will attract families with young children to our neighborhoods, and we will flourish more with these upgrades. Why wouldn't I want to make investments in my neighborhood?
- Yes! Option 4: replace only the OLD swings, marry-go-round, monkey bars with new equipment. Keep the current slide structure intact.
- It would be amazing to add a small splash pad! Splash pads are excellent for all abilities and ages, an accessible sensory play option.
- Keep and maintain the older toys like the big swing and merry-go-round. They can be maintained. If you don't think so, reach out to the community for help.
- "Residents cannot afford additional taxes. Enrollment is down in schools, property taxes are increasing, and it's driving out young families.
- Our family has enjoyed the playground for years without any issues. There are kids of all ages there. The park path was a nice upgrade, but we cannot afford more costs to our already high costs of living in this area."
- There must be better options than an adding 55 dollars a year charge to residents. I love the park but in today's world I challenge the board to budget correctly and find room in the existing budget to perform these enhancements. Additionally, look at previous years and the increase in this cost it is beyond belief that the cost of operations would increase at this much of an accelerated rate.

- A lot of people use the park for jogging and waking exercise. I would be for adding adult exercise equipment like other parks have. This would aid our community's aging population and promote community. It would also be great to turn part of the tennis courts into pickleball courts or even just add the pickle ball lines to the courts. Also on the tennis ball court if on side had a wall so if someone wanted to play solo they had the option would also be a great addition. I saw none of these improvements listed in the above proposal. The existing children equipment is fine and doesn't need replacement.
- Why hasn't "Set Asides" been done over the years for this and other situations? Where does the income from the use of the park building go to? Why not use these monies to fund the playground?
- "I Like that any additional funding would be limited to 5 years. Would not support anything with a never ending increase.
- I have had children in this area and never ever used this park because it is not easily accessible to our home- we will be close to new Steve Street park which I'm guessing will also ask for money.
- Issue with Metzger is lack of easily connecting roads with sidewalks.. I don't even know how to get to Metzger Park."
- Keep benches around the perimeter for adults without children who come to the park to relax.
- You did not provide enough information on what is broken and what needs replacing. You should have allowed for more than just three options. And what does "today's community needs" mean?
- Please leave it as is!! We love our park just as it is. The new inclusive playgrounds you've built elsewhere are cute and fun, but we like our neighborhood park as is. It would also make it so much busier—we like it not so busy; and like the old style playground equipment. It's one of our favorite things about it actually. We do have 4 young kids so we get the desire for safer equipment but it really is fine as is.
- I don't trust the park board to spend LID funds appropriately, when I was involved I saw too much suppression of community voice and self-dealing with WashCo.
- Have the play area closed so young kids don't run off
- I have only very rarely seen this playground actually being used.
- Would be happier to pay a higher assessment for a more unique installation such as a skate/bike park or pump track
- More picnic tables would be nice
- Maintain what there is should not be a option 3
- Consider keeping the merry-go-round if feasible. Like having space between elements like swings and monkey bars. Consider challenge course option that utilizes natural features of the park in this area.
- Grass area gets sloshy. Dogs are off leash too much. Need a good dog park alternative.
- First of all $424,000 for maintenance of a single park seems like a lot of money. I would personally be a full time steward of this park and keep it in tip top shape for half that. The equipment does not seem like it is rusty or unsafe. What year was the last upgrade of the equipment done? Saying that it is 25-50 years old seems uninformed and is a red flag. I think that in order to get the levy you need from the neighbors, someone is likely going to have to do a much better job at pitching this to the neighbors. We definitely need to have a community meeting about this at the meeting hall at the park at a time when a majority can actually show

up and have a chat about it. We are on the precipice of a major recession and to ram through a property tax for this seems quite wasteful and unwise.

- I appreciate the native plants that were recently added. I use the park's path when walking or running.
- Cannot afford more!
- "All about full replacement. Other top
- Priority would be to improve drainage in the field to make it useful for more of the year."
- $90/year is already probably too much for a park. Imagine if we were charged $90 for each park around us.
- As someone who visits accessible playgrounds, I don't see any issues with maintaining equipment rated for ages 5-12 as it meets the needs of the largest population. In addition, I think it would be more important to prioritize safe walkways to the playground (crosswalk on Locust), sidewalks etc. than replacement the equipment that has plenty of time left.
- We especially love the older metal equipment! Do not remove the jungle gym bars or the merry-go-round. They are the best part of that Park.
- I really love the bark chips and would love to see that continue as opposed to rubber and plastic options.
- A safe park is always a priority for our children
- More structures for toddler age kids
- No
- A good deal of Tigard residents will use it. Why not charge all Tigard residents.
- I think if there are only 3000 households paying for this, I think more surrounding areas should help pay for it because more than just Metzger residents will use it.
- I used the park a lot when my kids were younger. If there are grand kids I will want to take them to the park. Please keep the big settings for us adults who like to play :)
- "I live one block from the City of Portland and about 3 blocks from Beaverton. This neighborhood should not be included in the finances of the park. Maybe in a real sense, thinking of all apartments close by and more currently being developed on Hall, close to Scholls Ferry, move
- the boundary line down to 74th or 80th; Taylor's Ferry Rd to SW Pfaffle St. How about charge a user fee?
- Just some thoughts and I appreciate allowing input on this proposal.
- fee?"
- Water play areas would be neat
- Playground equipment should be replaced as funds permit. We walk through the park on a regular basis for exercise. There's no need for replacing everything at this time. Our property taxes are already too high.
- I do not believe replacement of a playground is benefiting all the residence of the Metzger area, only a very few. There is a lovely playground at the Metzger grade school, which is very nearby that those few children could easily use. I would rather see money spent on improving the streets so that it's safe to walk in the neighborhood. Currently there are no sidewalks and it's dangerous to be a pedestrian or a cyclist.
- Has a study been done to look at the needs of the population in this area? It seems that less than 10% of households have children in the targeted demographic. Is a play structure the right approach or is there another alternative that meets the needs of the community more holistically for the long term future? I fully support accessibility improvements 100%.

- Though my son is too old for the playground now, we have lots of fond memories of being there and we take our dog there these days. Happy to support is beautiful park in the area!
- I am amazed that we don't have a splash pad or anything like that close by.
- We really do not use the park much and we have lived here for over 30 years. While I love that we have a neighborhood park that is accessible for all, the 5 years of additional costs/fees is a lot to ask of residents at this time where budgets are tight, wages are stagnant, and taxes are increasing. Could grants and corporate sponsorships be investigated further?
- Get rid of the LID. No where else has one
- You use You pay Property taxes are high enough
- Leave it as is
- Our tax burden keeps increasing - not just by MPLID but also other property taxes and high taxes on income. If "services" have to be cut to reduce tax burden that's just fine.
- I like the park. Senior on fixed income. No kids or grand kids. Property taxes are increasingly less manageable. County should look to corporate donors, as they have in the past, to bear some of the equipment cost. Or find a way to seek tax-deductible contributions from citizens, outside the property tax mechanism.
- My toddler would love more age friendly options! But please keep the big open grass area 💔
- We are taxed enough!
- Maybe a fenced in area so small kids can play without worrying about running off or a dog running up to them and knocking them over. Sometimes sketchy people kind of lurk at the park so I'm not sure what can be done about that but well-visible kids areas and maybe a covered picnic area would be nice. Cook park is a good example.
- I'm a senior citizen and don't care to pay for the upkeep at Metzger Park, which I've never used. My taxes are high enough already without this added inconvenience.
- Can we please look for grant money, have a fund raiser, reach out to local businesses to see if they will donate a one time gift of a play structure. There has to be other resources than always asking for tax payers to increase our taxes. Basic necessities like water, sewer, electricity and food are increasing and our monthly income doesn't increase at all.
- I support any park funding that the community wants, but I think the park is very fun and safe as is.
- "We visit parks all around Portland and outside of Portland very frequently. Metzger is the most outdated by far and really needs replacing sooner than later.
- The structures are dangerous for many kids and are rusting even in the limited toddlers section.
- Making a playground within the right fit similar to Gabriel park or cook park (obviously smaller scale) would be such an improvement to this already beautiful park."
- An opportunity for resident discussion is needed. You already raised our assessment fee to upgrade plantings without our input. I'd like an accounting, and bid transparency to the costs associated with the three options.
- If you do replace equipment, a merry-go-round HAS to be part of the new playground. It's the main draw to the park for my kids. They prefer it over the updated, seated and handicap accessible spinning equipment at the other parks. We have been going almost every week for years.
- I hope it all will be replaced because my disabled child with mobility problems can only watch others playing

APPENDIX B – MAILER

WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND OR
PERMIT NO. 994

6
1

**********AUTO**SCH 5-DIGIT 97223
Current Resident
10000 SW HALL BLVD UNIT 5
TIGARD OR 97223-8847

Do you live here?

If you live in the Metzger Park Local Improvement District (MPLID), you currently pay for the upkeep of the park.



Take the Survey

This 2-minute survey will help the Board of County Commissioners decide what to do about the playground and how to set the MPLID assessment level for Metzger Park. Please take the survey today to tell us what you think!

Give Us Your Input by September 30!

Scan the QR code or go to online survey: https://bit.ly/MetzgerSurvey

Help Shape the Future of Metzger Park Playground

Take a 2-minute survey by September 30, 2026

The playground equipment at Metzger Park is aging and will need replacement in the coming years. Washington County is exploring options for the future of the playground and wants to hear from residents and park users before making any decisions.

Scan the QR code or go to online survey: https://bit.ly/MetzgerSurvey

Why Are We Asking?

Metzger Park is an important community gathering place, and while the trail was recently improved, the playground equipment is getting old and needs to be replaced.

Washington County is looking at options for the playground and wants to understand what the community thinks before making a plan. Your feedback will help us understand:

- How important the playground is to the community.
- How much residents want to financially support a new playground.



Playground at Metzger Park

How Is Metzger Park Funded?

Homeowners in the Metzger Park Local Improvement District (MPLID) pay to keep the park beautiful and well maintained. The average homeowner currently pays about $90 per year through the MPLID assessment.

Most of this money supports ongoing park operations, maintenance, and improvements. The playground equipment is aging, and replacement parts are no longer made for some of the equipment. As a result, it is becoming more difficult to keep the playground safe and operational.

Questions?

Send comments and questions to Washington County Parks at **https://washcoparks.org/index.php/contact-us**

Learn More

Watch an informational video at https://bit.ly/MetzgerParkVideo

Visit: bit.ly/MetzgerParkLID

2027 Meeting Schedule of the
Metzger Park Local Improvement District Advisory Board

Quarterly on the Fourth Monday of the Month
7:00 pm
Patricia D. Whiting Hall
8400 S.W. Hemlock
Portland, OR 97223
-or-
Online
(see each agenda for meeting location)

January 25, 2027
April 26, 2027
July 26, 2027
October 25, 2027

DRAFT

MPLIDAB Agenda and Minutes materials are located at https://washcoparks.org/advisory-boards