

# Meeting Minutes

**Project:** Snyder Tot-Lot Playground Renovations (2026 Playground Renovations)

**Meeting Date:** Feb 19, 2026, 6:30 pm

**Meeting Location:** Lincoln Elementary School

**Meeting Purpose:** Neighborhood kickoff meeting to discuss park conditions and initial concepts

**Attendees:** Shawn Iles, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilmember  
Audrey Thompson, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Michael Callahan, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation  
Matt Poole, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation  
Jeron Dorsey, Deputy Director of Parks & Recreation  
Stefanie Levine, Senior Project Manager  
Kenon Boehm, Landscape Architect II  
Parks and Recreation Board Members  
Community Members (Roughly 17 attendees)

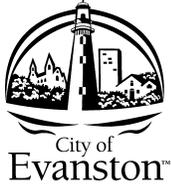
## PRESENTATION:

Public Engagement meeting #1 was held at the Lincoln Elementary School.

Staff went through the planned presentation, detailing project timelines, anticipated scope, existing conditions, and three starting concepts.

Following this presentation, Staff opened the conversation to allow for open discussion and general questions/answers. Question on percentage of playground renovation project to be put into Snyder park; Staff clarified that roughly 425k of the \$1.5mil budget is planned for Snyder Park. Attendees had various comments and questions as listed below.

- Really want a water feature. If not in budget, please make sure it happens somewhere soon.
- Fully enclose park with fence along Western edge of park
- Opportunity for a path to ride the brought toys
- Low monkey bars
- Natural elements, zip lines, merry-go rounds, tire swings, climbers, hammock swing, double see-saw, more swings
- More soft surfacing
- Storage area
- Sandbox relocated to shade area



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- Maintain toddler-friendly design
- Better lighting
- Prioritize Snyder Tot-lot as possible since failed playground equipment has been removed
- Keep tree canopy as possible
- Gradual Slide
- Zip line
- Love of the hill and separate swing bays
- Potentially a railroad track like Duke Park in Glencoe
- One big thing?
- Reference to Colleen Huss Elementary school with its natural elements allowing for creating risk taking and playful exploration

The meeting then moved into the breakout activities where residents could provide additional feedback. Attendees were given post it notes and stickers to be utilized on (5) boards. Attendees were asked to vote on their favorite concept as well their favorite color scheme.

Additional board input included:

- Maintain 2–5-year-old playground
- Like (4) person see-saw
- Love the play elements in Option #2
- Maintain Snyder Tot-Lot uniqueness
- No to sandbox! Issues with dog use
- Low monkey bars and spinning elements
- Add we-saw and musical elements to option #1
- Spinning elements to option #1
- Love a nature theme, but if no nature, including omnispin.
- Really like the idea of a big element to better create uniqueness of the playground

The meeting concluded with staff indicating that the next meeting would hopefully be in about a month and all attendees were encouraged to attend future meetings to provide additional public input.

Following the public meeting, staff compiled the votes with Option #1 capturing the most votes and #2 & #3 coming in a tie for second. A preference toward Golden Grove color palette. These options will be refined per public comments and brought back for a second meeting, featuring a similar setup to public meeting #1.



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Option #1 (8 Votes)







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**STEEL HORIZON**

**PAPRIKA COAST**

**GOLDEN GROVE**

**SEAFOAM AND SUNSET**

**PICK YOUR FAVORITE COLOR COMBO!!**

**TELL US MORE! ADD POST-IT NOTES TO SQUARES!!**

**Panel Fence and Gate**

**Park Bench**

**Accessible Picnic Table**

**Water Fountain**

City of Evanston

2026 PLAYGROUND RENOVATION | SNYDER TOT-LOT PROPOSED AMENITIES AND COLOR SELECTION

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING #1 | 02-19-2026

Color palette selection (5 Votes Golden Grove, 3 votes Seafoam and Sunset, 2 votes Paprika Coast) and additional comments