

PARK CONSTRUCTION REPORT

Greetings all! We hope you are as excited about the new playground as we are. Believe me, no one is looking forward to the install and final touches being completed as I am.

At this time last summer, we were still excavating and piling up the dirt to create the level surface. The bulk of the soils were removed and hauled away last September. We retained enough material to keep the fence along the back-property lines stable for the winter. In preparation for winter, we covered any unstable dirt piles as well as the steep cut near the fence with Visqueen plastic and stabilized it with straw waddles as required by the Building Department.

This spring, we hired BMP, an earth-moving specialist, to help with the final excavation cut along the fence line as well as the trench for the footings of the retaining wall. Despite the COVID restrictions we have all been having to follow, construction schedules were still booked up, and we had to wait for a few weeks for our concrete contractor, North Tahoe Concrete, to get to us. Once they started, they were able to form, place the rebar per plans, receive the inspections, and pour, all in about three weeks.

After waiting two weeks for the concrete to come to its prescribed hardness, myself and numerous other volunteers set out to install perforated pipes and crushed gravel to provide drainage. Once that was completed, we began the backfilling to grade. Many of the rocks we had saved from the excavation were used to cap off the back side of the wall to discourage adults and children from walking in that area. Before the last layers of dirt and rocks were placed, we installed a new watering system to irrigate spots for plants along the wall as well. This will also discourage foot traffic and beautify the back of the playground.

Another piece of the puzzle is the complication we have had with the utility guy-wires that come down into the new playground footprint. With the help of TCPUD, we were able to pull together a meeting with representatives from Liberty Energy. Plans were made, engineering calculations figured, emails, and phone calls exchanged. As a result, one set of guy wires have been removed, new anchors and a new pole were set. One more set of wires still have to go- they belong to ATT and/or Suddenlink. Arrangements are being made at this time to have those removed, hopefully very soon.

Once that is settled, we will be able to remove the last little pile of dirt that sits around those existing anchors. We will then have some base material delivered to spread and compact as the final surface prep before the playground equipment and finish surface can be placed. At the same time, our concrete contractor will return and finish the last section of the wall, the stairs at the stage end of the playground, and a platform near the BBQ that will serve as the top end of the future ADA ramp.

We, your Board of Directors, are so grateful and impressed with the number of donations our community has provided. Those funds, along with hundreds of volunteer hours, have enabled us to get this far! Attached below is an accounting of proceeds and expenses. Unfortunately, more funding is necessary to get across the finish line. If you can donate once again that would be very much appreciated. If you know of any companies or organizations that do community outreach or other types of grants or would be interested in making a fund matching pledge, please contact the Board.

Once again, thank you for all of your support! This is really going to be something to be proud of and will be a great legacy for future generations in Tahoma. Thanks for being a part of it!

Best regards,

David Eichenberg