**Public Spaces Tool – Leslie Searl**

Record the place you visit (name/identification): Spring Creek Park

Day and time visited: November 1, 2016; 3:30 p.m.

To assess your public space, use these categories to analyze the different aspects, and respond as indicated.

1. Places to sit
   1. How many chairs/benches/tables? *2 benches to seat 4 people*
   2. Are they spread out throughout the space, or clustered together? *Clustered together*
   3. Height
      1. No higher than average waist? *No*
   4. Barriers to seating
      1. Any stones or slants? *No*
      2. Is there a way to adapt to the barrier? *N/A*
   5. Width
      1. Is there space for people on either side of the seating areas? *Yes*
   6. Are there movable seats?
      1. Do people willingly move the seats? *No they are attached*
      2. How many people can sit in the moveable seats? *N/A*
2. Water
   1. Is it permissible to play in the water? *N/A*
   2. Is it permissible to wade in? *N/A*
   3. Does it provide a soothing “sound effect?” *N/A*
3. Public art
   1. Is it interactive? *N/A*
   2. Are you able to sit on it / touch it? *N/A*
   3. Is it accessible? *N/A*
      1. Is it no more than 3 feet elevated or recessed by stairs from ground level? *N/A*
4. Open Space
   1. Is there a fair amount of open space? *Yes, roughly 3 acres.*
   2. Is there lots of green space/ hard space? *Sod Grass*
      1. Some people may be drawn for certain activities in certain areas *This park has turned into an unofficial dog park as of late.*
   3. Are there areas for sporting? *People like to play soccer here*
   4. Are there areas for picnicking? *Only on blankets*
   5. Are there areas for small children? *Yes, Nice Playground*
5. Trees: Rate each on a scale from 1-10.
   1. Are they older? 1=very young “stick’ trees; 5=about two stories tall; 10 very tall, providing shade to street and yards. *Eucalyptus trees reach roughly 50 feet high, not shade providing.*
   2. Are they organized into groves or bunched? 1= just a few places; 10=virtually everywhere. *1 – sporadic for erosion control*
   3. Do they provide shade and cover in hot weather? 1=no; 3=for front yards; 5=for walkers; 7=for walkers and parked cars; 10=everything in shade *1 - no*
   4. Aesthetically pleasing? *Mostly*
   5. How much of the space is shaded by trees? 1=part of yard; 5=sidewalk; 10=whole street. *1 – basically none*
6. Food / Vendors during most usage periods?
   1. *Absent* Present for “events” Present seasonally Mostly present
   2. Seating for the vendor? *N/A*
   3. Seating (formal and informal) for the public (whether purchasing food or not)? *N/A*
7. Accessibility
   1. Is it easily accessible to the public? *Yes*
   2. Can you walk to the public space? Is transportation nearby? Bike accessibility? *Walk and bikeable, not accessible by any public transit.*
   3. Is it a high traffic area? *Yes, near major cross roads*
   4. Is it easily visible from street? *Not really, in a hole for flood control*
      1. Does the public space seem open, well lit, and visible enough to feel safe? *No lights, nice and safe during day time, its probably fine at night as well.*
   5. Is the public space occupied by people?
      1. People like to go where other people are – *Yes, particularly with the after work bring their dog crowd.*
8. Sociability. Rate on a scale from 1-10.
   1. Can you enjoy the space either alone? 10=quickly incorporated into conversations; 1=nobody talked to you except employees. *5 – can be as involved or uninvolved as you want.*
   2. Can you enjoy the space in groups? *Yes, many childrens birthday parties are held here*
   3. Are people socializing? 10= everyone; 5=if they came in groups; 1=most silent.  *8 - many*
   4. Do groups of people tend to stay close to each other or are they far apart? *close*
   5. Do people seem to be meeting one another there? 1=no; nobody arrived alone; 10=common  *10, common*
   6. Does it show signs of inaccessibility to different groups?
      1. Are there signs of racism, sexism, social-class exclusion? *No, but everyone is mostly white and over 50*
      2. Are there signs of exclusion by physical abilities? - *no*
9. Time of Day
   1. When are people most likely to be in the public space?
      1. Night (after dark) or daytime?  *Daytime*
      2. Morning, Afternoon, or Evening? *Evening, but with the time change looming, that will change soon.*
   2. Does the public place “close”
10. Vicinity
    1. What is around the space? Classify (circle) and Describe.  
       *Houses* Apartments Small Businesses School Factory/Big shopping ctr  
       Church Public Bldgs Private land without houses Warehouses
11. Are there areas to play and exercise?
    1. Large grassy areas? *Yes*
    2. Play equipment?
       1. Interactive: basketball courts, tennis courts, chess boards, other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. *No*
       2. Solo: areas to run, fitness “trail,”? *No*
12. Cleanliness:
    1. Is the place clean? 1=dirty/unhygienic, 10=surgically clean *Clean - 8*
    2. Is it being actively cleaned (do you see people cleaning it)? Yes *No*
    3. How accessible are the trash cans? None *Few, far apart* Many, scattered throughout.
    4. How bad a problem is litter? 1=lots of litter, everywhere; 10*=no litter*
    5. Are there “Park adopted by…” signs? Yes *No*
       1. Is there evidence that adoption is active? Is trash picked up, etc.? *Yes* No
13. Decorations within public space?
    1. Banners, flags, flowerbeds, etc? *No*
14. Threats and problems diminishing use? (homeless, gang, or threatening people using it? Dangerous or unpleasant spaces, etc.) *No*