



QUATTROCCHI KWOK
ARCHITECTS

May 22, 2017

Alameda USD – Districtwide Fencing Projects

Otis Elementary – Site Committee Design Meeting #2 Notes

Attendees:

See attached sign-in sheet

Notes:

Discussion Item #1: What is required by Board approval of Safety and Security Standards:

- a) A committee member asked what is required by the boards approval of the safety and security standards for fencing. Robbie stated that fencing around the entire campus is required. A committee member endeavored to correct him. Committee member stated that the Board's action required a secure perimeter, but that does not require a fence, as the standards state that it can be a building with lockable doors.
- b) A question was asked how can this be changed? Robbie said only if the Board changes the direction.
- c) A question was asked about fire department review of plans. Robbie indicated that the local fire department will review the site plan prior to construction. Safe dispersal zones for building evacuation must exist on-site, or else gates with panic hardware must be provided that lead to safe dispersal zones.
- d) A committee member asked what the "target issue" is. Susan Davis mentioned that she attend numerous site meetings during master planning and she recalled tha the threat and uneasiness of strangers on campus was a repeated concern and part of what lead to these standards. Robbie indicated a few other specific targets:
 - Intruder
 - Shooter
 - Student assault (such as occurred at Bay Farm)
 - Staff assault (such as at Edison)

Discussion Item #2: General comments and questions:

- a) One committee member indicated she had to leave but had brought her son (a student at Otis) at his request and he would like to say something. He indicated that he would locked in and unsure that he could get off campus in an emergency if there were more fencing.
- b) A committee member asked if – during school hours – kids will have access to the park. Shariq replied "yes", and the presentation has an option for this.
- c) Will community have access to blacktop after hours? Yes gates will be open after hours.
- d) One committee member with a tablet logged into the district website and offered link to the AUSD website information.
- e) A committee member expressed concern about the Janitor having to unlock all the gates in the morning, and then lock them back up during school, then again in the afternoon. They asked if a

keypad or other system could be used. One person mentioned that they are familiar with a school in another district that has gates on a computer system that can be electronically locked remotely.

- f) A committee member asked if we could phase in the fencing project and have the back fence be phase 2.
- g) Nick asked if there were any areas of higher or lower priority if budget becomes a concern. For example expanding the front fence at the kindergarten play area across the grass planter to the back of the sidewalk could be costly due to grade change between blacktop and sidewalk, and utilities that may need to be relocated or modified. The general response was that all areas are high priority, except the back fence between the park and the blacktop.

Discussion Item #3: Type of fencing at various locations:

- a) A committee member asked if the fence between the park and the blacktop can be ornamental. Robbie said yes.
- b) A committee member expressed that he believed ornamental fencing is more difficult to climb than chain link, and expressed a desire to have ornamental fencing to secure all the perimeter. Robbie mentioned that it gets costly and the budget is not unlimited.

Discussion Item #4: Cameras:

- a) There was a question about cameras. Robbie said yes cameras can be installed but locations are not settled yet, and he stated that it is not intended that the video be watched full time, but rather only if something happened and they wanted to review the video of that.
- b) Shariq indicated that cameras are not required at elementary schools and thus not in the plan at this time.

Discussion Item #5: black top and park integration:

- a) It was explained that kids are always supervised when on the blacktop and also when they are beyond the blacktop, in the park, in the bark area.
- b) A couple committee members did express concern about the openness between the park and the blacktop. Stating that when supervising these areas sometimes it is difficult to tell which kids are Otis students and which are not, and that they don't always know who the adults are in the park.
- c) A committee member asked how big the gate opening could be between the blacktop and the park. Robbie held a shop drawing in his hand and indicate that it could be up to 30' wide.

Discussion Item #6: Site Plan review and options discussion:

- a) Nick presented the site plan from meeting #1 with notes from the April 26 meeting written in red ink. In addition, he also presented on the screen a fencing plan option 1 that was presented last meeting. He also presented a slide of option 1A which was a revised option 1 incorporating the site committees requested revisions. The committee requested that if option 1 or 1A were adopted that the fence between the black top and the park be ornamental.
- b) The committee requested a new option be considered. This was noted on the site plan drawing in green ink this time.
 - Instead of a fence between the black top and the park, this new option (Option 1B) indicates a new fence between the portable buildings and the MPR building (see attached sketch and site plan option 1B).
 - This suggest also includes the policy of locking all the doors along the back of the school that faces the park during school hours, except when the blacktop is supervised by adults.
 - Some expressed concern that the PE teacher, who was not in attendance, would not like this option at all, as it bisects the already too small blacktop with a fence.

Discussion Item #7: Schedule:

- a) A committee member asked when a decision would be required. Robbie said before school is out this summer. Robbie also mentioned that there is a cost implication to get direction soon, as he is hoping to bid several projects together this summer to get better pricing due to “economy of scale”.
- b) Robbie said that option 3 will be developed ASAP and he will have the Fire Department review it.

Discussion Item #8: Next Steps:

- a) Robbie asked Nick to prepare site plans that show option (1B) along with the requested revisions to option 1A.
- b) A follow up site committee meeting was not scheduled.

End of notes