

Saint Paul Public School Facilities Department
1930 Como Avenue
St Paul, MN 55108

04.28.23

Groveland Park Elementary PTO
2045 St Clair Avenue
St Paul, MN 55105

Groveland Outdoor Classroom / Anticipated timeline

Dear Ms. Jude and Ms. Phadke,

Please find below a summary of the developments related to the Outdoor Classroom proposed by the PTO organization for Groveland Park Elementary. We would like to start by thanking both you and the generous donors who have made it possible to move the project forward. We recognize the time and commitment that your group, the school community, and you personally, have invested in this project and we intend to support its realization as best we can, given the various developments at the site.

Since the project's inception, several developments at the site related to accessibility and planned construction have impacted the anticipated timeline. The implementation of planned projects and the desire for accessibility improvements will require a delay in implementing the design produced through your efforts. A brief description of the work and the impacts on your planning are outlined below.

Roof work in summer 2023

As part of a planned upgrade to the roofing system for the school, new roof drains need to be constructed. These drains will connect to a storm sewer manhole in the grass area north of the building. This will require significant excavation in the area where the planned classroom connects to the North parking lot. Since this work is weather dependent, there are uncertainties around final timelines; we believe the work will interfere with construction of the classroom in the summer of 2023.

Pavement reconstruction.

Originally planned for summer of 2025, the District has accelerated the schedule for this work to summer of 2024 to address the paving condition along with accessibility concerns at the site. The work involves removal of the underground fuel storage tank, complete replacement of the paving, addition of a dumpster enclosure, renovation of the outdoor storage, and recommended improvements to accessibility for the building. The pavement-related work will need to be coordinated with the installation of the outdoor classroom and the unknowns related to final City requirements add to the need for a revision of the classroom schedule.

Accessibility study

The District has commissioned an accessibility study that addresses the paving work above and any potential improvements to the site in a comprehensive manner. The building is just over 100 years old and was not designed around compliance with ADA requirements. Various improvements and modifications have been made over the years but some challenges remain. In an effort to sustain continuous improvement at the site the District has engaged a consultant team with deep expertise in this area to analyze the current conditions and propose improvements. Any improvements would be

coordinated with the work outlined above and with the proposed outdoor classroom. We anticipate implementation of the paving work and any proposed improvements in the summer of 2024.

As noted above, we appreciate all of the time and effort that has gone into the development of the outdoor classroom project. We recognize the challenges posed by additional delay in the implementation but remain committed to ensuring that a final project is coordinated with the work outlined above. The end result promises to be a useful and attractive addition to the site that will support staff, students and the community for years to come. Thank you for your patience as we move these various projects forward. We will stay in touch and continue to coordinate efforts as the designs develop and the schedules are finalized.

Sincerely,

Charlie Colvin
Facilities Project Manager
St Paul Public Schools Facilities Department

Below is an excerpt from the RFP for design services commissioned by the Facilities Department per your request.

2.02 PROJECT SCOPE AND BACKGROUND

Groveland Park Elementary currently presents some accessibility challenges for mobility impaired students. Saint Paul Public Schools is seeking to mitigate the accessibility challenges by establishing a more convenient ADA compliant access to the building. In addition, complete replacement of the paving for the parking lot and drive lane are scheduled for summer of 2024. The paving work will also include a new dumpster enclosure and revised storage area for maintenance supplies.

The PTO is currently working on designs for an outdoor classroom in the lawn space adjacent to the rear parking lot. Potential solutions to the accessibility challenges should acknowledge the planning for this space and incorporate essential connections to this space as necessary.

2.04 RESPONDER SCOPE OF SERVICES

- A. Pre-Design, Design, Construction Documents, and Construction Administration services for:
 - ADA accessibility study
 - Proposed solution/s to improve accessibility
 - Paving replacement/remediation
 - Dumpster enclosure
 - Storage area redesign and replacement
 - Storm Water Management infrastructure if required by AHJ's
 - Required approvals including Site Plan Review, Watershed approvals, for all of the elements above
- B. A peer review of the accessible route created for the outdoor classroom is part of the scope of this analysis (see Exhibit D for conceptual plan)