

Hello Jody,

The Ramsey Hill Association (RHA) is sending you this letter to support the McQuillan Play Area and the upgrade of it.

We are concerned about the statement in the CIB proposal that the McQuillan Play Area is a candidate for removal in the 'systems plan'. Thanks for recognizing that it is popular and the neighborhood would be upset if it were closed. At a minimum, we request this land continue as a park. RHA has supported it for years. In 1992, we partnered with the City to erect a sign explaining the contributions Mr. McQuillan made, and for numerous years, RHA members have planted and maintained flowers in it to enhance the appearance.

The upgrade project will improve it further. As CIB proposal indicates, it is 19 years old and is first of 77 for replacement due to safety, access, and existing condition of the park facilities. The nature of the play structures in McQuillan Park are more suitable to older children (7-14 years of age) whereas the Holly Totlot, the other nearest park, has structures for children primarily 0-7 years of age. There have been comments from patrons of the Holly Totlot that its use by older children is a deterrent to the younger kids so upgrading the McQuillan Play Area will benefit both parks.

We appreciate there are other nearby parks, however, the location of the McQuillan play area allows park access without having cross busy streets. This is important for both kids going to the park independently as well as for parents of small children. Also, there are multiple dwelling units in the neighborhood so these small play areas are needed.

It should be noted that it is the only park on the list with a tennis court and we have had input that this is important to some residents. If the McQuillan Park makes the upgrade list, we support having a neighborhood meeting to gather full input on moving forward.

Additionally, RHA asks that electrical power outlets be included in the upgrade so we could install holiday lighting in the park. The winter lighting would improve both neighborhood aesthetics as well as safety.

The McQuillan Play Area is an important resource in Ramsey Hill. We encourage your continued support and the upgrade---of the eight park improvement projects, McQuillan is the 3rd least expensive and we believe this investment will be worthwhile.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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