<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE:</th>
<th>September 16, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAFF ATTENDING:</td>
<td>Patricia McManus M-NCPPC Park Development Design Section Supervisor</td>
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<td>Ching-Fang Chen M-NCPPC Park Development Project Manager and Landscape Architect</td>
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<td>PROJECT:</td>
<td>Edith Throckmorton Neighborhood Park Renovation</td>
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<td>SUBJECT:</td>
<td>Ken Gar 125th Anniversary Celebration</td>
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Staff attended the Ken Gar 125th Anniversary Celebration with a table and tent to provide information about the upcoming park renovation and obtain community feedback. Concept plans were available for review, along with boards of precedent images for activities that could be included within the park. Staff explained concepts to visitors along with a summary of feedback received at the two prior community meetings and asked people to review the images to comment on what they liked or didn’t like, and whether there were additional activities they would like to have included in the park. Comments and preferences were marked on the image boards (attached) and in the notes below. Staff estimates that comments were received from 50-75 people, including a number of neighborhood residents and children. Comments are summarized below.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION
- Having the park serve multiple generations was a repeated comment throughout the day. There are families with elderly parents living at home that would use the park if it had more to offer.
- The concept of terraced program spaces in a garden setting was well-received. Many people liked examples of community open space with seating opportunities whether paved or covered with lawn. Labyrinth as part of the community open space was brought up multiple times.
- Older residents would appreciate a space that’s calm and has plenty of seating and areas where they could watch kids play.
- There was a strong preference by most people to have a formal boardwalk connection through the trees to Mertford Street and a suggestion that there could be benches or a place to sit along this connection.
- Several people requested connections to the natural surface trail system within Rock Creek stream valley, so that the park is connected to the Kaiser Permanente site and the active use areas of Ken-Gar Palisades Local Park.
- Many of the kids requested swings, which was not shown on the image board. Parents indicated there’s a need for tot swings as well as swings for older children. Some of the swings in the playground have been removed over time.
- Younger boys requested a basketball hoop to be included in the park. There were also several requests for a soccer goal for shooting practice.
- Adequate lighting was requested.
- The playground equipment should accommodate all age groups of children.
- In addition to the swings, requests for playground equipment included a climbing structure, a big slide, a zip line, rock climbing, monkey bars, a loop path for tricycles, and water play elements.
• People are in favor of nature themed play as well as stormwater integrated nature play opportunities. Stepping stone and logs were particularly popular.
• There were multiple requests for shaded areas, places to sit outside and read, and a picnic area.
• There were individual suggestions for artwork or interpretive information to commemorate the history of Ken Gar, provide information about Edith Throckmorton, or to include information about local wildlife and nature. Suggestions were made to interpret history at the front of the park and nature at the rear towards the Rock Creek stream valley.
• There was also a suggestion to possibly include a small kid’s gardening area for flowers or vegetables.
• There was preference for including movable furniture and picnic tables. Outdoor ping-pong table and game table also received positive feedback.

NEXT STEPS:

• M-NCPPC staff will discuss the suggestion of a basketball hoop with the Montgomery County Department of Recreation and investigate the possibilities of providing a basketball hoop in the park, at the recreation center or on other public property in the neighborhood.
• Staff will also investigate the possibility of trail connections to the stream valley.
• Develop a design based on community input to present at an upcoming community meeting.