

respectively. Additional retaining wall options of greater height will further reduce the overall impact with a corresponding increase in cost.

One way to look at this is by comparing the cost per square foot of land area saved with a retaining wall compared to the fill slope. The approximate total playground surface area to be impacted and lost is about 2200 sq ft with a fill slope under Option #1. The four foot high wall (option #3) would spare about 760 sq feet of the playground which is roughly \$101 sq ft. for the additional cost of the wall. These are preliminary figures but may be helpful in the justification for added costs. The retaining wall options are certainly costly with minimal gain but we recognize that the playground is relatively small to begin with.

Another design consideration we must take into account is the requirement that a fire lane be maintained which currently follows the base of the slope leading to the back of the school from an access on Park Ave . We have noted that the fill slope option (Option #1) will likely necessitate that the swing set / jungle gym must be relocated as well as the basketball hoop. However, with the 4' high retaining wall (option #3), only the basketball hoop may be affected. The positive aspect of any of the options now being considered is that the slope stabilization will not affect the kick ball / baseball portion of the playground where the extent of the flat surface is more important.

It is possible to construct the stabilization project in phases. Option #1 could be selected at this time and then return at a later date when funds might be available to construct the wall. This may result in some additional costs regarding earth moving and temporary support during construction but it would allow the city to defer some of the costs until budgets can be planned. However, we are concerned that a do-nothing or postponement of the project for another winter could be problematic. An interim or temporary solution is not immediately evident. Please bear in mind that we have a limited window to undertake this work during the summer school vacation so we are pressed for time to make our decisions.

Econo Lodge

We have had no further developments since yesterday.

Upcoming Meetings:

July 14

6:00 PM -- goals and priorities
Water/Sewer ordinance and resolution changes
Berlin Pond Ordinance (sit as Health Board)
Appointment of Energy Committee
Continued update of Carr Lot/District Energy
Senior Citizen – Councilor Jarvis memo draft
Events policy
Hubbard Street Slope

Have a great weekend.



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Assistant City Manager