

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor Bill Agan and members of the Richland Hills City Council
From: Jason Moore, Assistant to the City Manager
Date: August 4, 2015
Subject: Kate Baker Park Playground

Council Action: Authorize the City Manager to proceed with design development for Kate Baker Park based on one of two playground designs (attached).

Background Information: When Council authorized an agreement with Schrickel Rollins and Associates (SRA) this last May to design and update Kate Baker Park, Phase A1, the consultant began working with playground manufacturers to develop an initial concept.

Based on direction from the Finance Council Committee, the new playground should utilize remaining funds from the 2012 PPFCO Schedule 1 for Park and Playground Equipment. There is approximately \$180,000 available for park and playground equipment.

In reviewing several options for new park designs at Kate Baker, staff is recommending that Council consider one of the two options as presented in the attached.

Option 1 is a traditional playground. In this option, play equipment will be separated and designated by age groups, which is industry standard. There is a 2-5 year old area and a 5-12 year old area. There are also swings for all ages, along with curbing and area drainage. The price for the equipment, freight, and installation for this option is \$125,000. Therefore remaining funds from the PPFCO could be used in the following manner: upgraded fall material from wood chips to poured-in-place rubber surfacing; and custom shade structures for equipment and seating areas.

Option 2 is a mixture of traditional equipment and concrete reinforced elements to give a natural stone appearance. This may be the more aesthetically unique and pleasing option, however, it also costs a little more. There is a 2-5 year old area separate from the 5-12 year olds along with two sets of swing bays. Because the footprint of this option is slightly smaller, the cost for upgrading from wood chips to poured-in-place rubber surfacing is also possible. The total cost for equipment, freight, and installation is \$144,000. This still leaves some available funds for various shade elements or the upgraded surfacing.

The final component to think about when evaluating which option you prefer is the ongoing maintenance and operational costs. Option 1 has a slightly larger footprint, so there is a little more surfacing required as well as ancillary drainage requirements. In order to properly maintain the playground pods, routine maintenance is required if using wood chips. It compacts fairly quickly, so there is a general standard that the chips be tilled once per week in and around the fall zones. If poured-in-place rubber is used, then chipping of material is likely to occur over time and will need to be patched quickly before sub-surface damage were to occur.

Option 2 contains concrete reinforced elements, which if chipped or vandalized, are more challenging to repair. While the consultant informs us that this material is extremely durable and hard to vandalize, you need to keep in mind that if it happens, we would need to hire someone to repair it. It is a specialized process that requires a person trained in patching.

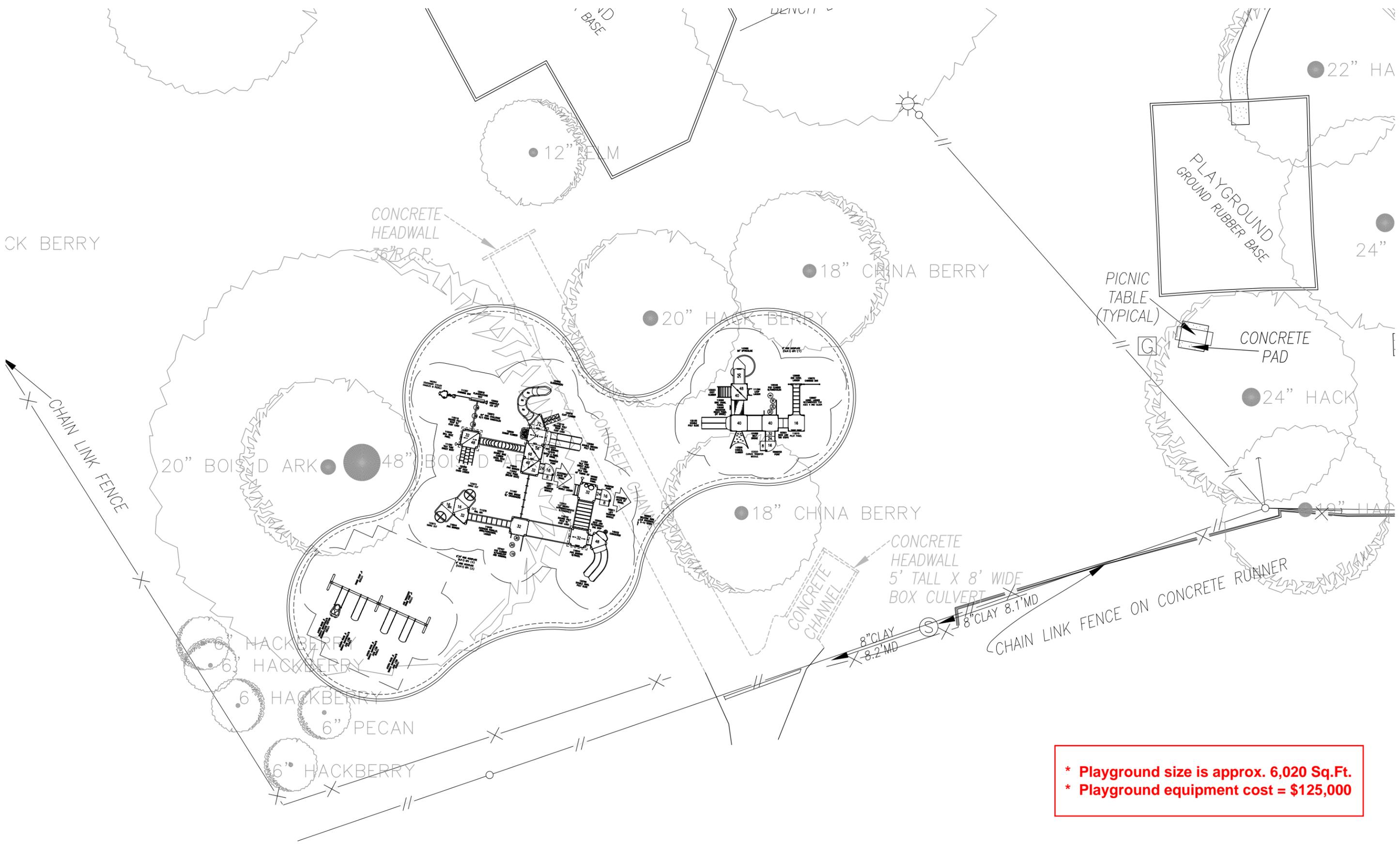
In staff's opinion, either design would be a great asset to the community and will surely be enjoyed by users of all ages and abilities.

Board/Citizen Input: N/A

Financial Impact: not to exceed \$180,000 for equipment/freight/installation

Staff Contacts: Jason Moore, Assistant to the City Manager, jmoore@richlandhills.com

Attachments: Playground Options 1 & 2



*** Playground size is approx. 6,020 Sq.Ft.**
*** Playground equipment cost = \$125,000**



Kate Baker Park

Richland Hills Texas June 26, 2015 #3549Palette D



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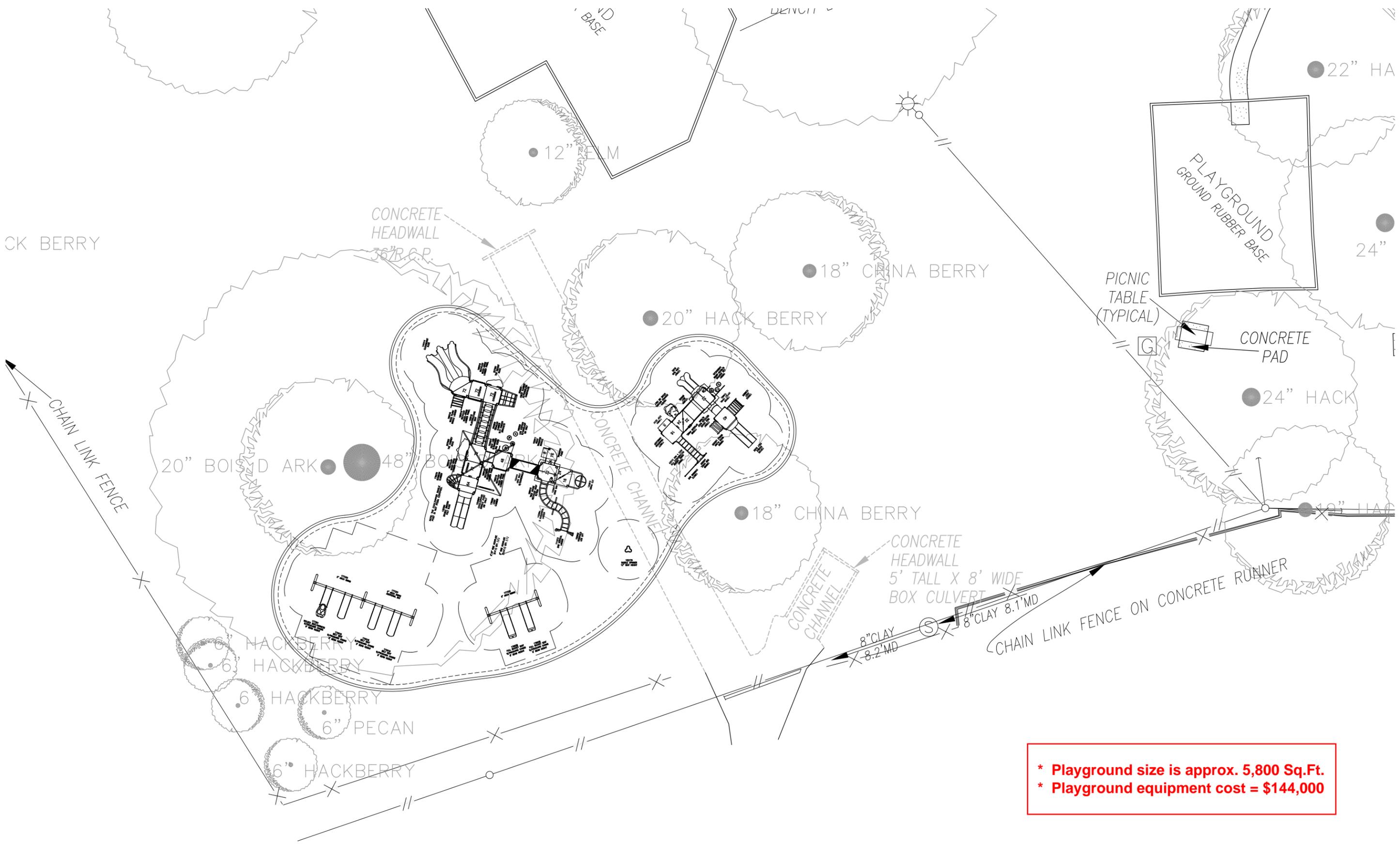
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*** Playground size is approx. 5,800 Sq.Ft.**
*** Playground equipment cost = \$144,000**

Kate Baker Park

Richland Hills, Texas June 9, 2015 83279-2-1



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Kate Baker Park

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Kate Baker Park

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