



MINNEAPOLIS
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MPS Playground Safety Inspection Report

School/Building: Cooper

Playground Location: Northeast of School

Address: 3239 44th Ave NE, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Playground Manufacturer & Install Date: Game Time, Mexico Forge, and Landscape Structures – 1997

Playground Age Range: Blue Equipment (2-5 Year-old), Green/Tan Equipment (5-12 Year-old)

Ground Cover Material & Border: Engineered wood fiber and sand, with poly and timber border

Date of Inspection: 5/15/2023

Evaluator: Jason Karpe, CPSI – Safety Specialist, Environmental Health and Safety

Playground Environments/Items	Acceptable (Y/N)	Action Required/Comments
1. <u>Entrapments</u> (Rigid equip. >3.5" and <9.0") (Flexible equip. >17" and <28")	Y	
2. <u>Swings & Tire Swings</u> (Worn swing hangers, worn broken chains, missing, damaged, or cracked swing seats, tire swing, swing bridge, connecting rods and spacing, seized equip. with lubrication needed)	N	The swings chains and seats are worn and in need of replacement. (Priority 2)
3. <u>Climbing Walls, Cargo Nets, Chain Ladders</u> (Deformation or open hooks, shackles, rings, links >.04 gap, frayed cable or rope)	Y	
4. <u>Spring Rockers or Track Glides</u> (Base mount, handles, track guide, loose bolts/screws, etc.)	Y	
5. <u>Hand rails, Barriers, Pots, Roofs, Shelters</u> (Visible cracks, bending, warping, rusting or breakage of any components)	N	The south handrail on the entry point of the playground is bent and loose and should be replaced. (Priority 3)
6. <u>Accessible sharp edges, points, etc.</u> (Deformation or open hooks, shackles, rings, links >.04 gap, frayed cable)	Y	
7. <u>Barrel Glides & Slides</u> (Exposed ends of tubing that should be covered by plugs or caps, broken or missing rails, steps, rungs, slides or mounts, loose or missing bolts, nuts, screws, collars, etc.)	Y	
8. <u>Tunnel Crawls</u> (Damaged poly or metal, loose or missing bolts, nuts, screws, collars, etc.)	N/A	
9. <u>Graffiti, Fire Damage, Vandalism, etc.</u> (Chipped or peeling paint, obscenities or gang symbols, signs of fire damage or vandalism)	Y	
10. <u>Protrusions and Entanglements</u> (Gaps that can catch clothing and/or hoods, nails/screws/bolts, re-caulking needed, more than 2 exposed bolt threads, cracked/damaged poly)	Y	

11. <u>Exposed mechanisms, junctures of moving components at pinch or crush points</u> (Steering wheels, teeter-totters, etc.)	Y	
12. <u>Wood</u> (Splintered, cracked, worn or otherwise deteriorated)	Y	
13. <u>Footings</u> (Exposed, cracked or loose in the ground, broken supports/anchors)	N	The concrete footing for the swings are partially exposed. Sand should be moved and cover the footings routinely. (Priority 1)
14. <u>Ground Cover Material</u> (Sand, pea gravel, wood fiber, rubber composite > 6" minimum in depth)	Y	Sand is used for ground cover material around the swings. In this application, sand does not meet industry standards and should be replaced with EWF. (Priority 1)
15. <u>Ground Cover</u> (No trash, broken glass, rocks, feces, weeds, shrubs, sand burrs, thistles, etc.)	Y	
16. <u>Surface Under Swings & Other Equipment</u> (Low, hard or compacted, wash outs, exposed fabric or rubber pads)	N	Sand is used for ground cover material around the swings. In this application, sand does not meet industry standards and should be replaced with EWF. (Priority 1)
17. <u>Fall Zone</u> (Foreign objects in the 6' diameter under and around equipment)	Y	
18. <u>Tripping Hazards</u> (Roots, rocks or other environmental obstacles)	N	Additional mulch is needed in the south and east portions of the playground to cover the exposed roots that are creating a trip/fall risk. (Priority 2)
19. <u>Collections of Dirty/Contaminated Water</u> (Poor drainage areas, fungus or mushroom growth, etc.)	Y	
20. <u>Playground Border</u> (Timbers rotting, splitting, uneven or excessive wear. Damaged poly, concrete, block or asphalt. Loose/missing spikes. Fence or gate condition)	N	The plastic border is missing spikes. The border is in poor condition and are in need of repair. (Priority 2)
21. <u>Components Needing Lubrication</u> (Chains, axels, hinges, rusted components, etc.)	Y	
22. <u>Misc.</u> (Other loose/missing parts, items of note, etc.)	N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The areas of deteriorating paint and step/platform coating should continue to be monitored due to corrosion of the metal underneath. (Priority 2) • The clevises and anchor points for the hanging walkway are worn thin. The hanging walkway should be removed, and access boarded up (Priority 1)

Custodian Briefing (Weekly inspection log up to date?):

- N/A – Closed Site.

Overall Playground Condition/Review (Good, Fair, Poor):

- Poor – Equipment is 26 years old and showing signs of aging. Paint and protective step/platform coating is deteriorating. The metal platforms are beginning to rust and structurally are becoming safety hazards. The hanging walkway bridge is deteriorated and should be removed. The sand around the swings does not meet industry standard for fall protection. Playground borders are deteriorated. Based on age and condition, playground equipment should be taken out of service.

NOTE: All unsatisfactory items will include pictures for reference in the Photo Documentation section to follow.

Maintenance Priority Rating Scale:

- Priority 1 – Must be taken out of service or corrected immediately.
- Priority 2 – Must be corrected as soon as possible.
- Priority 3 – Should be corrected when time allows.
- Priority 4 – Should be corrected if condition worsens.
- Priority 5 – Continued preventative maintenance is recommended.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

Photo of the Cooper playground viewed from the southwest.



5. The metal handrail is bent and loose.



13 & 16. The concrete footing become exposed under the swings.



18. Exposed roots which create trip hazards.



18& 20. Exposed roots and the plastic border is damaged.



22. Areas of the paint and step/platform coating are deteriorating and so continued monitoring/preventative maintenance is needed. The metal is structurally weak.



22. The metal of the standing platforms are aging and rusting. Structural integrity of the metal is weakening and is becoming a safety concern.



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22. The clevises and anchor points for the hanging walkway should be reinforced as they are nearly worn through. This is a structural and safety concern.



22. The clevises and anchor points for the hanging walkway should be replaced as they are nearly worn through.

