

July 29, 2009

Mr. Stevenson Mountsier Lake County Public Building & Zoning Committee 18 North County Street Waukegan, IL 60085-4356

Re: Garoon Gateway to Science

At JCC – Elaine Frank Apachi Day Camp 23280 N. Old McHenry Road, Lake Zurich, IL Revision to Existing Conditional Use Permit

Dear Mr. Mountsier:

On behalf of the Jewish Community Centers of Chicago, this letter is to request a revision to the existing Apachi Day Camp Conditional Use Permit to allow for the construction of a science park within the grounds of the day camp. The location of the science park will be south of the existing Activities Building in the area previously designated for an amphitheater facility.

The Garoon Gateway to Science will be a series of paved, landscaped areas to accommodate approximately fifty interactive exhibits, each of which will demonstrate specific scientific principles. In general, the exhibits will consist of equipment or structures that are mounted directly to the paving surface. In many cases, the child will simply pull a lever or turn a crank to produce an effect within the exhibit. In other cases, the child may mount the exhibit, which is similar to playground equipment. For mountable equipment, the surface below will be a rubberized playground type surface.

The science park will be enclosed by an eight foot high transparent metal fence with one main entrance and two additional gates. Also included in the science park will be two small amphitheater areas covered by fabric shade structures and one open pavilion structure adjacent to the detention pond for use in the biology exhibits. An observation platform, which will be used for science demonstrations, will also be constructed.

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Mr. Stevenson Mountsier July 29, 2009 Page 2.

The park will be segmented into eight separate courts such as "forces, sound, water, vision, waves, biology, etc." Each court will be designated by a symbolic gateway structure graphically tied to the theme of the court. The court will be further identified by a specific color theme in the paving, equipment, and gateway structure.

All existing setback requirements and height limitations will be respected. The amount of impermeable paving is within the limits allowed by a minor amendment to the requirement specified in the original PUD. The calculations for impermeable surface are included in documents accompanying this submission.

The science park will be constructed for the exclusive use of attendees of JCC day camps and other groups specifically invited by the JCC, such a school classes. The park will not be open to the general public.

If you need any additional information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Best Regards,

Daniel D. Weinbach

Illinois registered Landscape Architect