MONROE PARKS
MASTER PLAN

CHARLES JOHNSON | CHENNAULT | FORSYTHE

JUNE 2023

CITY OF MONROE

CITY OF MONROE

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
Parks and Beautification

CARBO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

HEALTHY FUNROE
BETTER YOU ON THE BAYOU

CONTENTS

01 **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**
02 THE TASK AT HAND
02 MASTER PLAN PROCESS
05 MASTER PLAN GOALS

07 **II. SITE EXPLORATION**
08 INFO GATHERING
08 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS
10 ENGAGEMENT ROUND ONE
14 ENGAGEMENT ROUND TWO

19 **III. CHARLES JOHNSON PARK**
20 EXISTING CONDITIONS
22 CONCEPT PLAN
24 MASTER PLAN

37 **IV. CHENNAULT PARK**
38 EXISTING CONDITIONS
40 CONCEPT PLAN
42 MASTER PLAN

57 **V. FORSYTHE PARK**
58 EXISTING CONDITIONS
60 CONCEPT PLAN
62 MASTER PLAN

75 **VI. IMPLEMENTATION**
76 PHASING STRATEGIES
82 SITE ACTIVATION

97 **VII. APPENDIX**

MONROE PARKS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CHARLES JOHNSON | CHENNAULT | FORSYTHE

I.

THE TASK AT HAND

CARBO Landscape Architecture was selected to complete a Master Plan for three large parks in Monroe: Charles Johnson Park, Chennault Park, and Forsythe Park. The first steps in this process were gathering information, talking with stakeholders, and mapping key features, boundaries, and visible infrastructure for each park. CARBO also met with other designers and architects who were working on similar studies of downtown Monroe and the Community Centers.

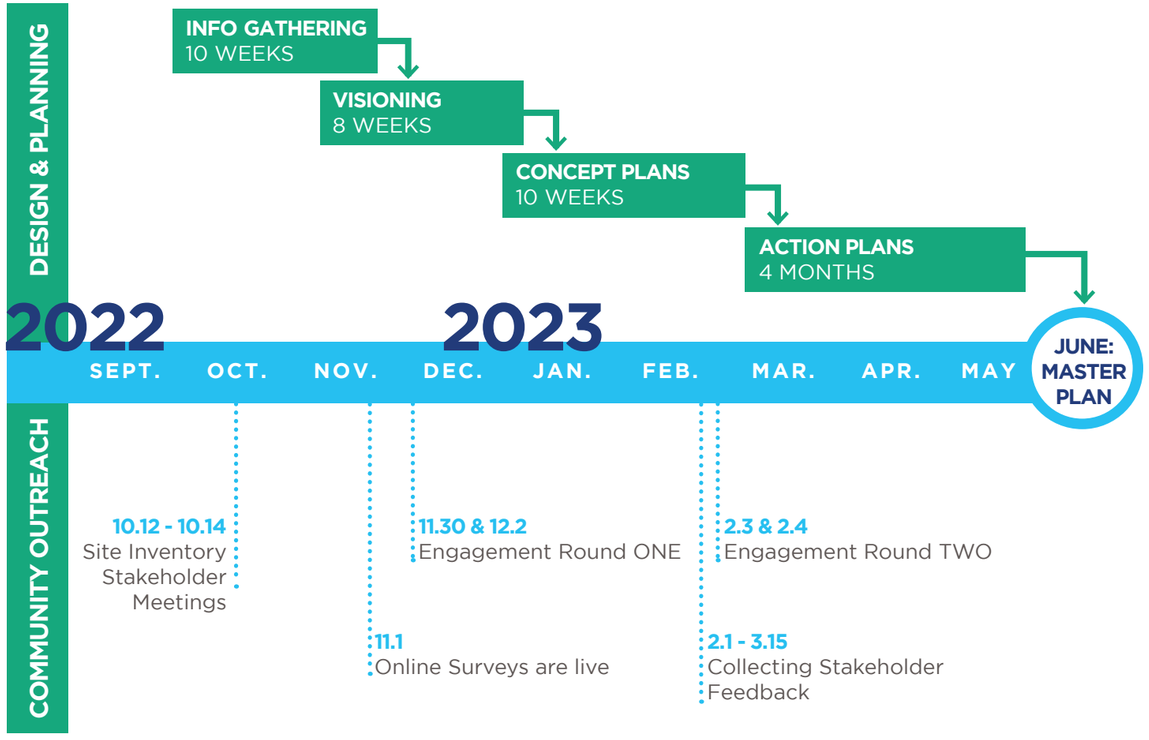
After the initial stakeholder meetings, on-site research and data collection, the design team created an online survey and hosted community engagement events to gather information from the residents of Monroe on how they would like to use their parks. The information collected from stakeholders, research, and the community then informed an initial concept for each park. CARBO returned to Monroe to review the concept plans to confirm the plans reflected the community's vision. Comments were then collected and incorporated into the final plans. The master plan for each park will provide the City with a road map of implementable improvements that work in concert with the rapid improvements currently ongoing in the City.

MASTER PLAN PROCESS

The plan created for each park is a culmination of 9 months of community and stakeholder engagement. At each touch-point with the community, CARBO aimed to pull stories of the past and visions for the future.

TODAY each park serves their adjacent communities at varying levels of success. Charles Johnson Park provides walking paths, exercise equipment, and some opportunities for play without any meaningful connection to the Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo and surrounding neighborhoods. Chennault Park, though largest in land area, is the least programmed and least utilized of the three parks. Forsythe Park is a hub for recreation and activity with close proximity to downtown. Its heavy use often leads to heavy vehicular traffic and unsafe pedestrian conditions.

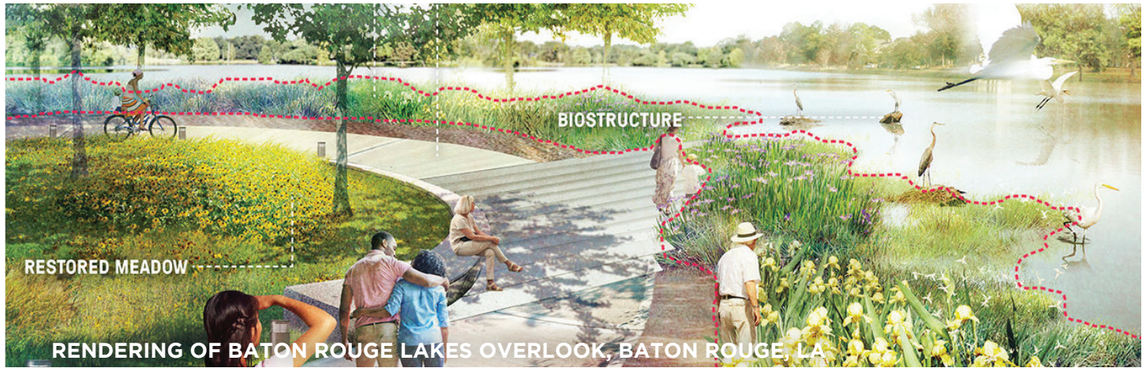
Through an accelerated timeline and open dialogue with City officials and the public, a vision for each park has been articulated and will serve to guide future development.



AMPHITHEATER AT MEMORIAL PARK, SILOAM SPRINGS, AR

RENDERING OF PAVILION AT GRETNA CITY PARK, GRETNA, LA

SPLASH PAD AT MEMORIAL PARK, SILOAM SPRINGS, AR



RENDERING OF BATON ROUGE LAKES OVERLOOK, BATON ROUGE, LA

MASTER PLAN GOALS

ORGANIZE PARK ELEMENTS

This is achieved by...

- **Clustering like uses:** Examples of this practice include grouping the active sports together such Baseball, Softball, and Soccer while maintaining large natural areas for more passive uses such as picnicking.
- **Improving safety and efficiency through circulation:** Utilizing one-way roads to eliminate the use of the parks as cut-through routes, limiting vehicular access to the perimeter of each park, and separating vehicular and pedestrian routes.

ENHANCE IDENTITY

This is achieved by...

- **Embracing the adjacent community:** The park elements employed in each park should serve the daily users and neighborhoods adjacent to each park. Past, present, and future user groups were all considered during the master plan process.
- **Reinforcing each park as a destination:** Park elements such as iconic play structures, architecture, and event spaces should be unique to each park to further the park's identity within the culturally rich city fabric of Monroe.

PRIORITIZE PROGRAMMING

This is achieved by...

- **Reducing Redundancies:** In an effort for each park to have its own unique identity, redundant uses among the three parks were recommended for elimination, where appropriate. Certain uses, such as hosting events and improving areas for play, serve their adjacent communities at varying scales, justifying their duplication. When uses are duplicated, they are done in a way that offers a varied experience from park to park.
- **Providing a variety of activities:** Each park is intended to offer a different experience, through a variety of uses and stylized elements. During the public engagement events, the design team aimed to pull stories, nostalgia, challenges, and opportunities for each park! A variety of activities ensures each park is ACTIVATED by a variety of users. Increased user-ship means increased safety and overall quality of life for the citizens of Monroe.
- **Addressing Existing Needs:** The Master Plan for each park, while forward-thinking, will only be considered successful if they meet the needs of the community today.

MONROE PARKS
SITE EXPLORATION
CHARLES JOHNSON | CHENNAULT | FORSYTHE

II.

INFO GATHERING

After a kick-off meeting with the Department of Community Affairs, the Parks Division, and the Mayor's office, the design team began gathering GIS data for each park. During the team's visit to conduct stakeholder meetings, in depth site visits were conducted at each park to better understand existing conditions and how the parks are used daily.

CHARLES JOHNSON PARK

Charles Johnson Park is the smallest of the three destination parks, but serves as the largest park for the surrounding community. The park features expansive green spaces, playgrounds, and highly used walking trails. Many neighborhood events are held at the park including cross country and track, cultural festivals and markets, and family cook-outs. Charles Johnson Park is bordered on one side by the Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo and on two sides by a large deep drainage canal.

CHENNAULT PARK

At roughly 950 acres, Chennault Park is the largest of the three parks. It is currently home to the Northeast African American Heritage Museum, an 18 hole public golf course, the Northeast Louisiana Soccer Association complex, two 18-hole disc golf courses, horse shoes, three ponds, tennis courts, dated play equipment, acres of forested area, and open lawn space beneath mature trees. The property is divided by a network of drainage swales with large swaths of forested wetlands. The park is most commonly used on a daily basis by golfers and disc golfers during the week and soccer on the weekends during the active season.

FORSYTHE PARK

Forsythe Park is a 40-acre urban park located adjacent to the historic Garden District neighborhood and has connectivity to Downtown Monroe. It has expansive green spaces, towering trees, and views from the river. The park offers a range of recreational amenities, including walking paths, picnic areas, tennis courts, golf course, soccer fields, a boat launch, and river access. With its diverse offerings, Forsythe Park serves as a popular destination for locals and visitors alike, providing a serene escape to enjoy nature and partake in various outdoor activities.

STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Initial stakeholder meetings were held in October of 2022, conducted over three days at locations near each park. The team met with several groups representing multiple user types from the surrounding communities. The stakeholders engaged throughout the Master Plan process include representatives from the following organizations: (Detailed list of all stakeholders engaged is included in the Appendix.)

- Mayor's Office
- Parks Administration and Staff
- Council Members
- Community Affairs Staff
- Festivals and Hospitality
- Healthy Funroe
- African American Heritage Museum
- Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo
- Walking and Running Communities
- ULM Fishing Team
- Water Sports
- Baseball and Softball Communities
- Northeast Louisiana Soccer Association
- Youth Group Representatives
- Friends of Forsythe Park
- Chennault Park Golf Course Management

ONLINE SURVEY ROUND ONE

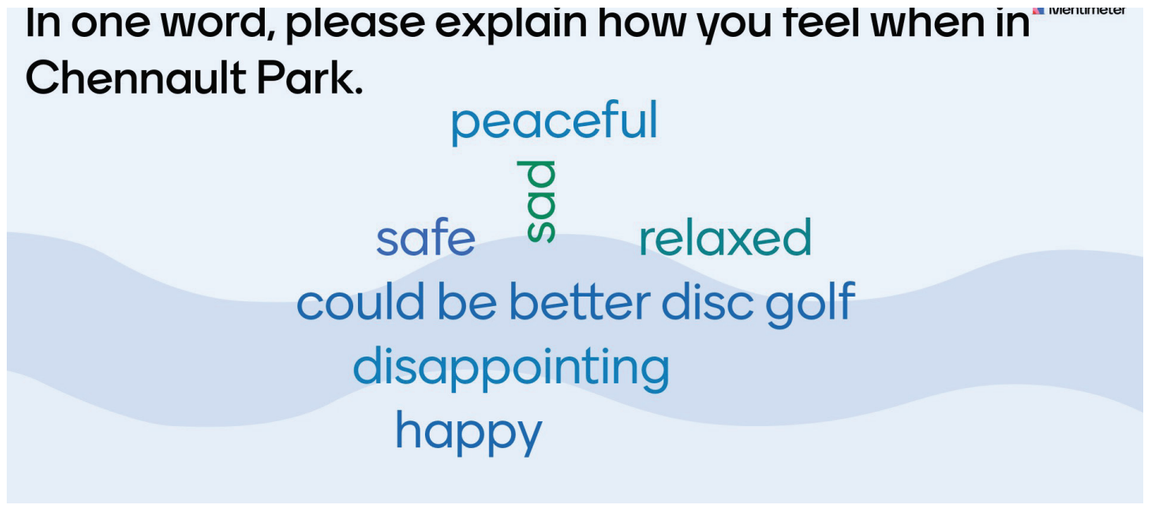
During the early info gathering phase, the design team created an online survey for each park to better understand how the parks are used regularly and the overall "feel." Signs with QR Codes were utilized along pathways or areas with high pedestrian traffic directing park patrons to the online survey. Public participation was indicative of the activity level in each park with the most responses gathered for Forsythe Park and the least with Chennault Park.

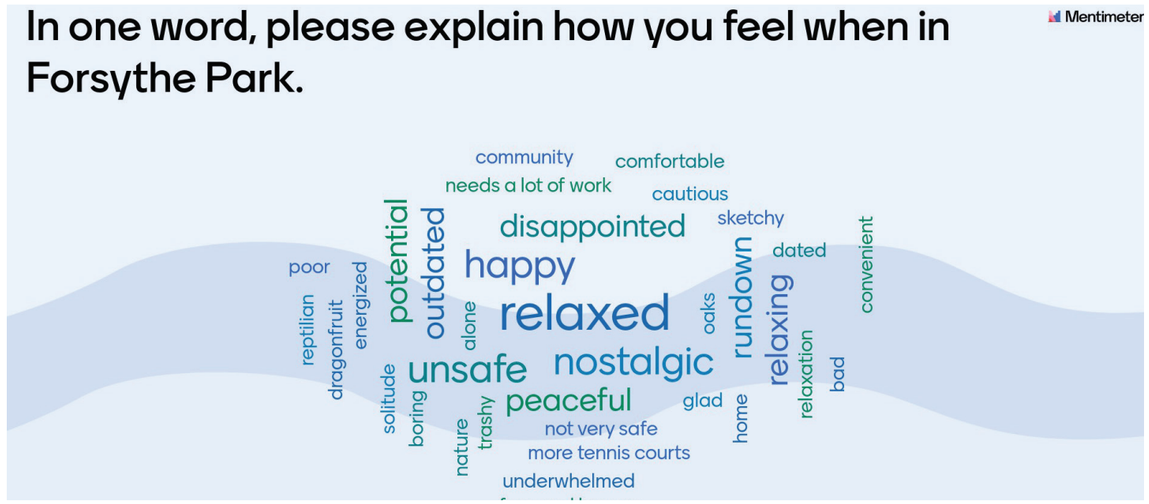
The questions posed for each park include:

1. In one word, please explain how you feel when in _____ Park.
2. What is your favorite feature of the park?
3. What feature do you think needs the most improvements?
4. What brought you out to the park today?
5. How often do you visit the park?

To conclude each survey, participants were provided with the information on the first public engagement events and an option to enter their email address to receive regular updates about the Master Plan progress.

The complete survey results for each park can be found in the Appendix.





ENGAGEMENT ROUND ONE

COMMUNITY VISION

The first round of public engagement was kicked-off in late November/early December at two community events: Movie in the Park and the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. The intent of the activities planned for these events was...

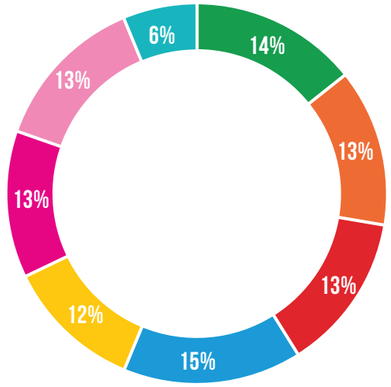
1. To invite the public into ongoing participation through a clear introduction of the forthcoming process
2. To capture the vision for each park that would inform the concept plans.

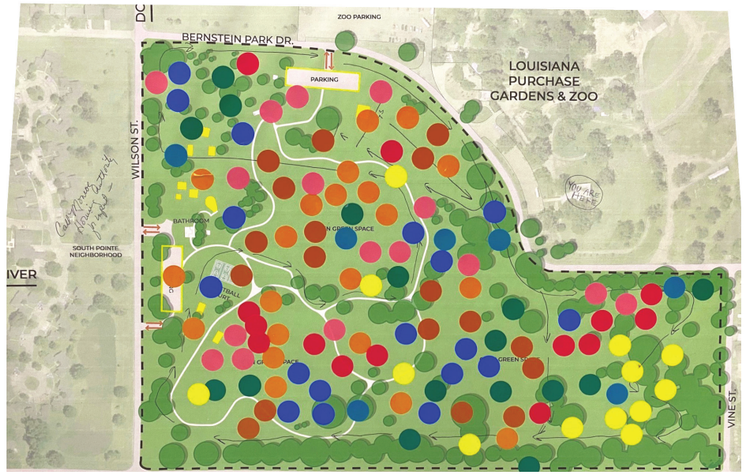
Activity boards with corresponding colors were displayed for constituents to respond and place what they would like to see in which park. In order to have each person prioritize where they would prefer certain program elements, each participant was limited to one sticker for each color. Children were encouraged to draw how they play or what they would like to see in their parks.

POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES

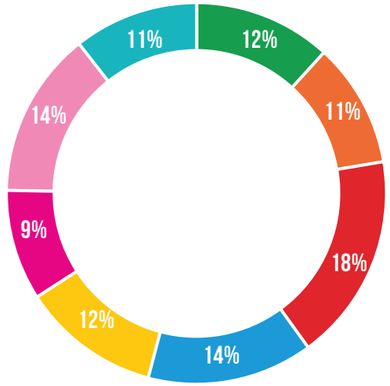
- OPEN SPACE
- PLAYGROUNDS / SPLASH PADS
- LARGE GATHERING SPACES
- SMALL GATHERING SPACES
- ACTIVITIES ON A PATH / BIKING / WALKING
- EXERCISE / CIRCUIT COURSE
- BALL GAMES
- ACTIVITIES ON THE WATER

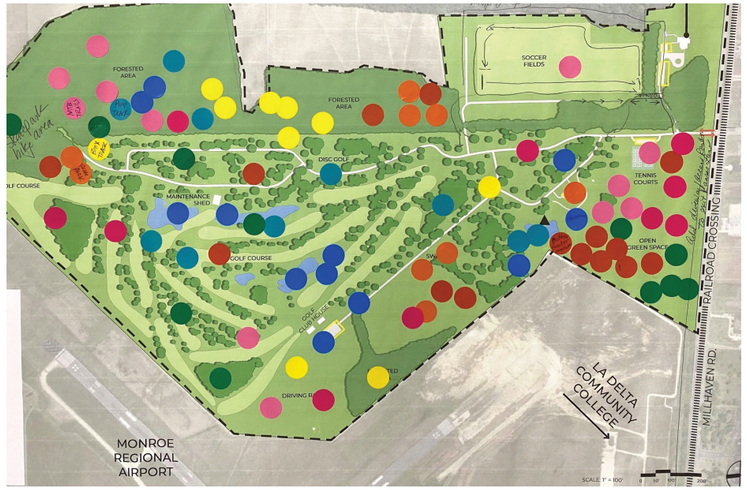
CHARLES JOHNSON PARK



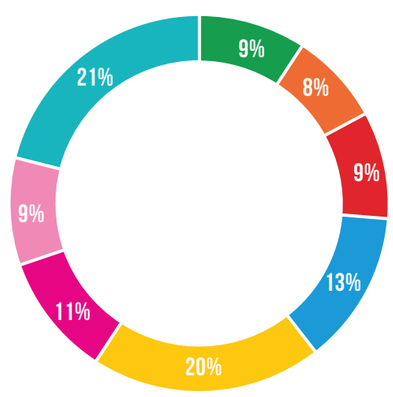


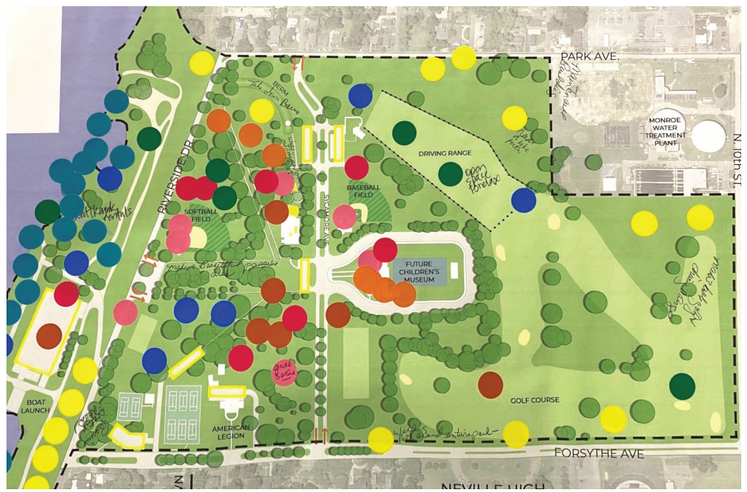
CHENNAULT PARK





FORSYTHE PARK





ENGAGEMENT ROUND TWO

REVEAL AT THE RIVER MARKET

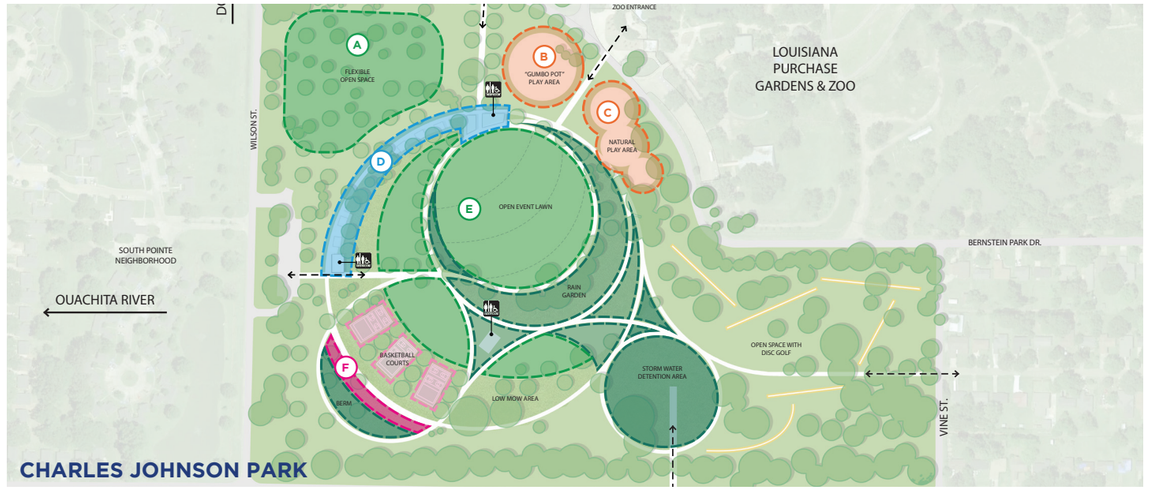
The design team provided two opportunities to collect public input as part of the second round of community engagement. The first was held at Saul Adler Community Center where the City and design team made a short presentation explaining the work that lead to the Concept Plans. The presentation was followed by a casual question and answer session.

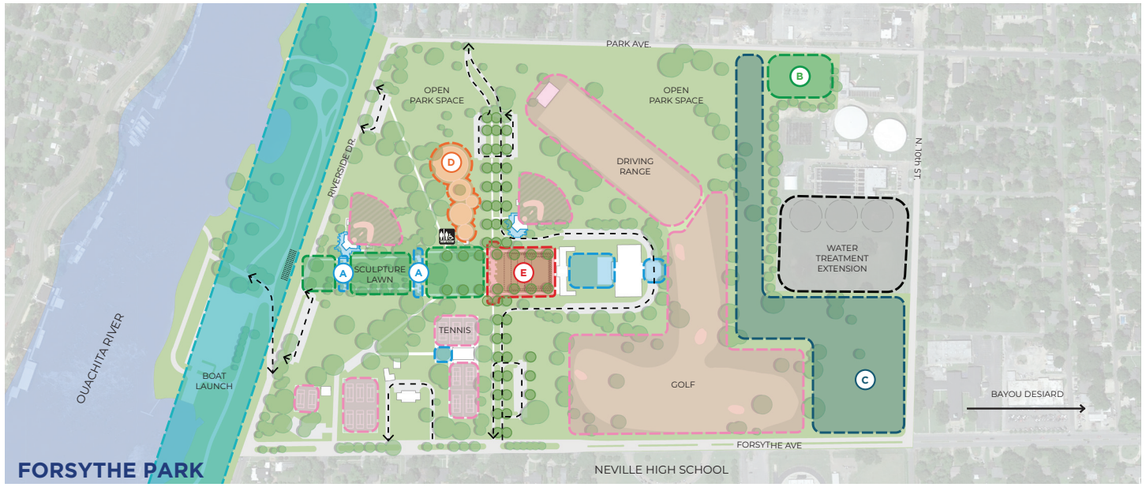
The second event was held at the River Market as part of the events leading up to the Krewe de Riviere Parade. Feedback was collected through casual conversation as well in written form on sticky notes that were color coded or each park.

The concept plans showcased how program elements could be organized throughout each park. Improvements to pedestrian and vehicular circulation were considered in coordination with monthly and daily activities. Precedent imagery was used to illustrate the appropriate scale of design features as well as aesthetic/visual qualities.

POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES

- OPEN SPACE
- PLAYGROUNDS / SPLASH PADS
- LARGE GATHERING SPACES
- SMALL GATHERING SPACES
- ACTIVITIES ON A PATH / BIKING / WALKING
- EXERCISE / CIRCUIT COURSE
- BALL GAMES
- ACTIVITIES ON THE WATER



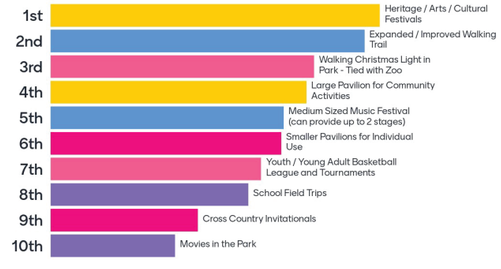


ONLINE SURVEY ROUND TWO

PRIORITIZING SITE ACTIVATION

Following the reveal of the draft master plans for each park, an online survey was distributed amongst stakeholders to better prioritize the spaces planned for each park with the goal of early activation. The following results helped shape how the draft plans were revised to create the final master plans by informing scale, proportion, and proximity of uses to existing facilities and resources.

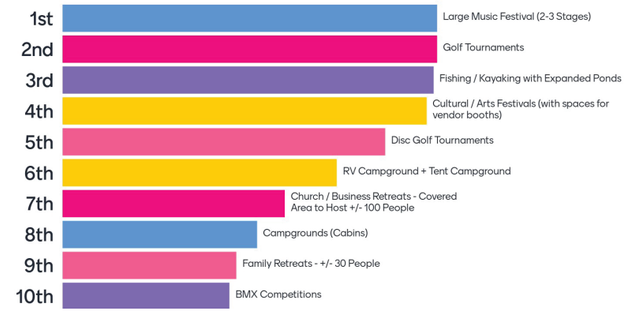
Which events do we see most likely happening in Charles Johnson Park?



Are there any specific events that take place in Charles Johnson Park not listed? What is the event size? What time of year do they take place?

- No.
- Not aware of any
- Any community events that are safe and positive are welcome additions.
- I am not familiar with any additional events in Charles Johnson Park.
- Uncertain
- Movie in the Park / Fall
- N/A
- Gatherings with live music or DJ along with nice grills
- Not sure of all the events that take place!

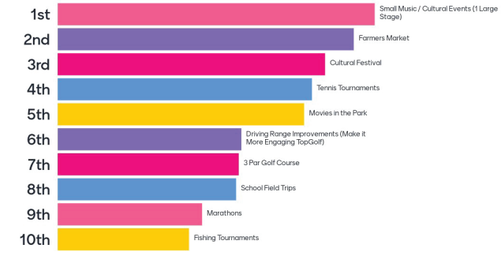
Which events do we see most likely happening in Chennault Park?



Are there any specific events that take place in Chennault Park not listed? What is the event size? What time of year do they take place?

- Pickleball Courts to be added the tennis courts.
- Unaware of any
- Recreational activities are a very in-demand activity!
- Soccer tournaments occur during soccer season.
- Horse Shoe Pitching Competitions, Family Gatherings, Walking Trails
- Uncertain
- Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament / May-June
- Soccer and the African American Museum
- N/A

Which events do we see most likely happening in Forsythe Park?



Are there any specific events that take place in Forsyth Park not listed? What is the event size? What time of year do they take place?

- Pickleball tournaments
- We need pickleball courts in Forsythe Park. I think they would be heavily used. Our area needs dedicated, open-air pickleball courts. Forsythe Park is the perfect place for them - at least 4.
- Skatepark! Ruston has made this happen don't get left behind!
- The Children's Museum, after it relocates, will likely host several events geared toward youth.
- Baseball League, Football league, Soccer League, Cricket Games, Walking Trails, Softball League, Yoga in the Park
- Uncertain
- I would love safe and expanded access to the river and levee! This park is DYING to be expanded to the levee with a walking trail. Also, big signs for where to park and connecting sidewalks EVERYWHERE
- Biggest Loser / May-JunePicnic in the Park / Fall & Spring
- Baseball and Softball along with sand volleyball

MONROE PARKS
CHARLES JOHNSON
MASTER PLAN

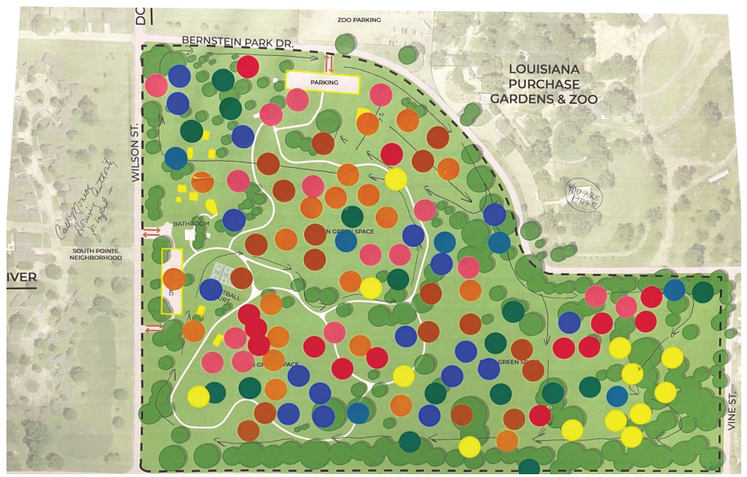
III.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Charles Johnson Park is a beloved children's park located adjacent to the Louisiana Purchase Gardens & Zoo. The park is well-known for its scenic walking trails and large open spaces. However, the locations of the play structures are fragmented and the park lacks a cohesive design that would connect its various programming elements. Despite being a popular venue for a variety of festivals, including Cross Country showcases and Juneteenth celebrations, the park is currently lacking in essential amenities such as overhead structures, restrooms, and planned open space that would allow it to reach its full potential as an event space. Additionally, the park has inadequate lighting, which can make visitors feel unsafe. While Charles Johnson Park is beloved for its natural beauty and walking trails, it has room for improvement in terms of its design and amenities to better serve visitors and create a safe and welcoming environment for its users.

LEGEND // EXISTING CONDITIONS

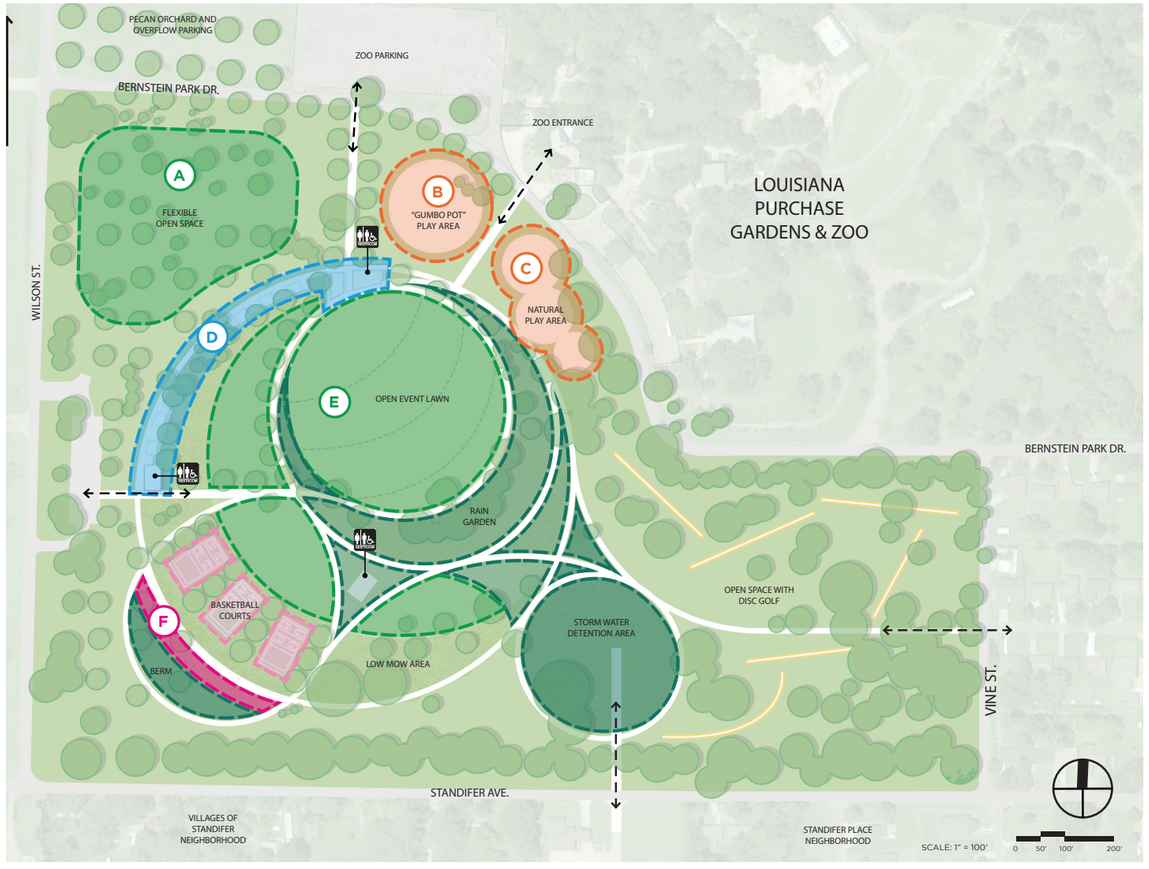
- PARKING
- PLAY AREAS
- TREE CANOPY
- GOLF COURSE
- SOCCER FIELDS
- TENNIS COURTS
- ENTRANCE & EXIT
- JOE ALTON DELANEY MEMORIAL



CONCEPT PLAN

The Concept Plan for Charles Johnson Park is based on the feedback from the early community and stakeholders engagement along with the existing conditions analysis, and overall goals for all three parks. The major design moves at Charles Johnson Park include:

- Re-organized walking trails
- A pecan orchard with overflow parking stalls
- Two new and exciting playgrounds - Louisiana Kitchen and Garden themed
- An updated fitness circuit
- A series of small overhead shelters
- Large covered shelter for event space
- Shaded open space for picnicking and hammocks
- Expansive open lawn for large festivals
- A new disc golf courses
- Improved stormwater site strategies
- 3 new basketball courts
- New and improved restroom facilities
- Enhanced security lighting and updated site Furniture



EXERCISE CIRCUIT

BALL SPORTS

SMALL GATHERING

STORMWATER DETENTION AREA

PLAYGROUND

OPEN SPACE

WALKING TRAIL

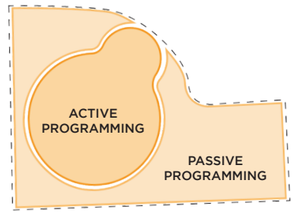
TREE CANOPY

BASKETBALL

ENTRANCE & EXIT

RESTROOMS

PARK ORGANIZATION



Centering active programing elements within the park nestles the children's playground and other highly active elements within a protected buffer.

MASTER PLAN

The revised Charles Johnson Master Plan brings a much-needed level of organization and functionality to the beloved park by connecting programming elements with a new series of walking trails.

New program elements include:

- Fitness zone complete with accessible exercise equipment, 5 new basketball courts and a “yoga lawn”
- Great lawn
- Pecan orchard with overflow parking
- 2 brand new children’s playgrounds
- 8 “party pavilions” with 1 large festival pavilion
- Enhanced stormwater management strategies that adhere to the sites existing topography

LEGEND

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FROM ZOO ENTRANCE
EXISTING TREES
NEW TREES
DISC GOLF
1 PRIMARY ENTRIES
2 SECONDARY ENTRIES
3 EXISTING BASKETBALL COURT
4 NEW BASKETBALL COURTS / MULTI-USE SPORTS COURTS
5 EXERCISE CIRCUIT
6 FLEXIBLE “YOGA” LAWN
7 WET MEADOW PLANTING
8 STORMWATER DETENTION AREAS
9 RAIN GARDEN
10 SLOPED FLEXIBLE LAWN/EVENT SPACE
11 SMALL PARTY PAVILION AREA
12 CHARLES JOHNSON ENTRANCE PAVILION
13 GUMBO POT PLAYGROUND
14 “LOUISIANA” NATURE PLAYGROUND
15 PAVED WALKWAY
16 MOWED LAWN TRAIL THROUGH MEADOW
17 DISC GOLF COURSE
18 PECAN ORCHARD/OVERFLOW PARKING
19 RESTROOMS
20 OPEN LAWN/PICNIC SPACE

MASTER PLAN

ENLARGEMENT

Two linear entry plazas, wide enough to host art and farmer's markets, have replaced the existing entries. These plazas direct visitors to a breathtaking view of the great lawn area, which acts as the hub of the park, with the ability to support a large stage for concerts and festival-sized crowds. Three new restroom facilities have been added, as well as eight small-scale "party pavilions" perfect for BBQs, birthday parties, or simply acting as shade structures with seating for large festivals. A new pedestrian entrance connected to the zoo leads directly to a giant Gumbo Pot play structure on the right and a naturalistic play area complete with a climbable catfish structure on the left.

The following pages provide supporting imagery and graphics to further illustrate the design intent.

LEGEND

- PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FROM ZOO ENTRANCE
- EXISTING TREES
- NEW TREES
- 1 ENTRY PROMENADE
- 2 RESTROOM
- 3 LARGE PAVILION
- 4 SMALL PARTY PAVILIONS
- 5 EXISTING BASKETBALL COURT WITH MURAL
- 6 SLOPED FLEXIBLE LAWN/EVENT SPACE
- 7 FLOWERING TREES
- 8 PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FROM ZOO ENTRANCE
- 9 GUMBO POT PLAY AREA
- 10 LOUISIANA NATURALISTIC PLAY AREA
- 11 RAIN GARDEN
- 12 OPEN PARK SPACE
- 13 EXISTING PARKING LOTS

PLAYGROUNDS

- “Gumbo Pot” play area with ingredients iconic to Louisiana cuisine
- Naturalistic play area with rope and climbing elements
- Custom play structures of catfish, crawfish, and oversized vegetables and utensils

ST. JAMES PARK, TORONTO

BRIDGELAND PARKLAND, HOUSTON, TX

GUMBO POT CUSTOM PLAY PIECE

FLEXIBLE GREEN SPACE

- Adequate open green space to accommodate large festivals
- Area of reinforced lawn to for stage set-up
- Densely shaded open space for picnicking and hammocks

HUNTER’S POINT SOUTH PARK, NEW YORK

HELLER STREET PARK, BRUNSWICK, AUSTRALIA

SEATING WITHIN PARK CANOPY

SMALL AND LARGE GATHERING SPACES

- Small shade structures for smaller events like birthday parties and barbeque’s
- Larger shaded structures with storage and restroom facilities
- Can accommodate bigger events like music festivals, family reunions, and Cross Country showcases

LOGIS ECO INDUSTRIAL PARK, VICTORIA

WONGAL PARK, CROYDON, AUSTRALIA

RAILROAD PARK, BIRMINGHAM, AL

PATHS AND EXERCISE CIRCUITS

- Exercise circuits with equipment to accommodate active and aging adults
- Improved walking paths with consideration to existing trees and optimum views

NAVY YARD CENTRAL GREEN, PHILADELPHIA

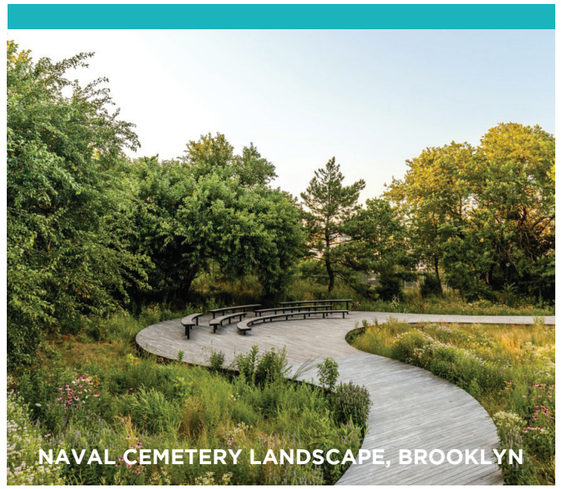
WALKWAY LINING PLAY AREA

NAVY YARD CENTRAL GREEN, PHILADELPHIA

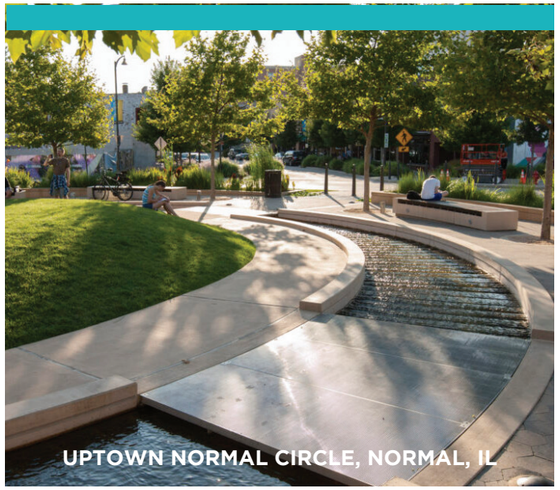
FUNCTIONAL LANDSCAPES

- Stormwater detention areas - spaces designed to remain dry until a storm event when the space provides temporary stormwater storage
- Native plantings to provide ecological diversity, pollinator habitat, and a food source for wildlife

LOGIS ECO INDUSTRIAL PARK, VICTORIA



NAVAL CEMETERY LANDSCAPE, BROOKLYN



UPTOWN NORMAL CIRCLE, NORMAL, IL

ENTRY PLAZAS

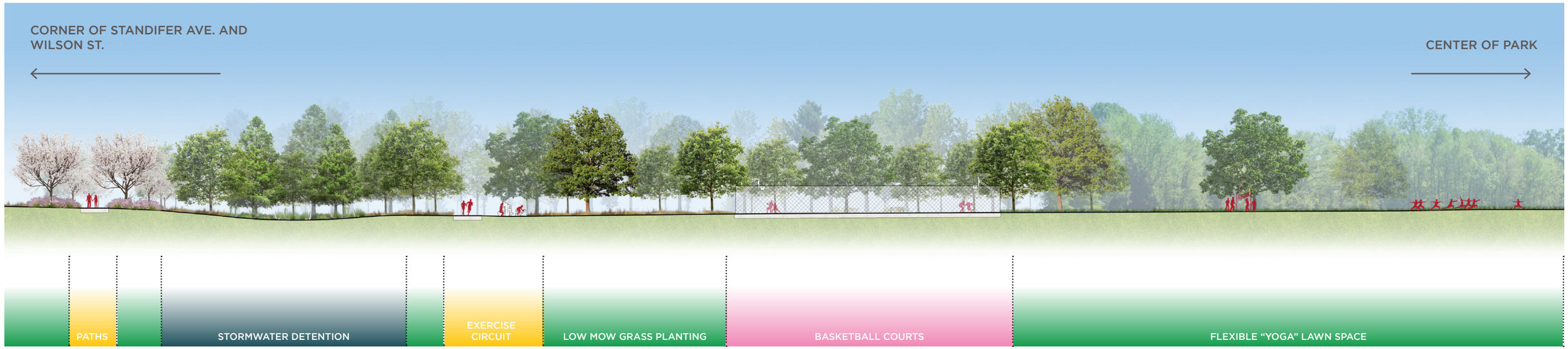
- Initial character building with iconic overhead structures
- Restrooms
- Shade trees
- Benches and flexible seating

KLYDE WARREN PARK, DALLAS, TX

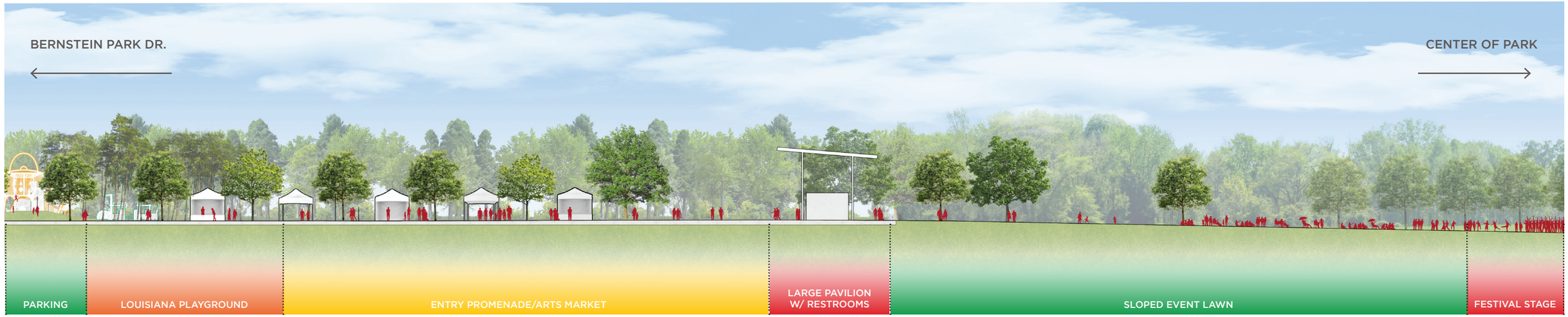
DEN BRINK SCOUT GROUNDS, DENMARK

POTTERS FIELD PARK, LONDON

CHARLES JOHNSON
CHILDREN'S PARK



SITE SECTION A-A'



SITE SECTION B-B'

MONROE PARKS

CHENNAULT PARK

MASTER PLAN

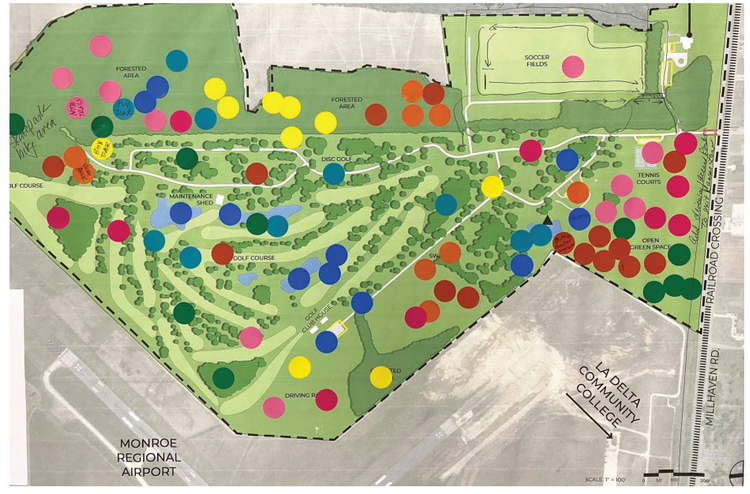
IV.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Chennault Park is home to large mature hardwoods and ample green space. As the largest area of the three parks studied, this park's biggest challenge was identified as its lack of consistent activation. The sprawling shaded lawns are largely underutilized. Several structures and facilities across the park, including the restrooms and shade structures, have gone into disrepair after years of neglect. In short, the park caters to the few that use it regularly: disc golfers, horse shoe players, and weekend soccer. The lack of updated facilities does not invite these users to stay any longer than needed and does not invite new users to the park. The natural setting positions the park to become a celebration of nature and family for the City of Monroe.

LEGEND // EXISTING CONDITIONS

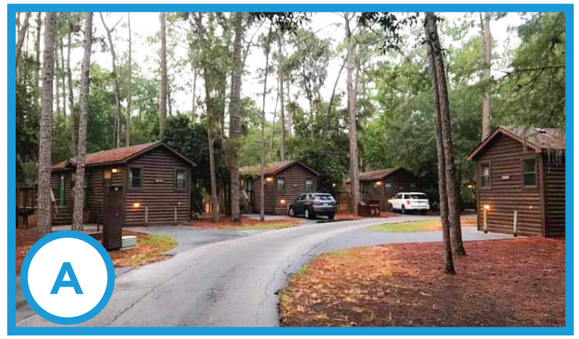
- PARKING
- PLAY AREAS
- TREE CANOPY
- GOLF COURSE
- SOCCER FIELDS
- TENNIS COURTS
- ENTRANCE & EXIT
- JOE ALTON DELANEY MEMORIAL

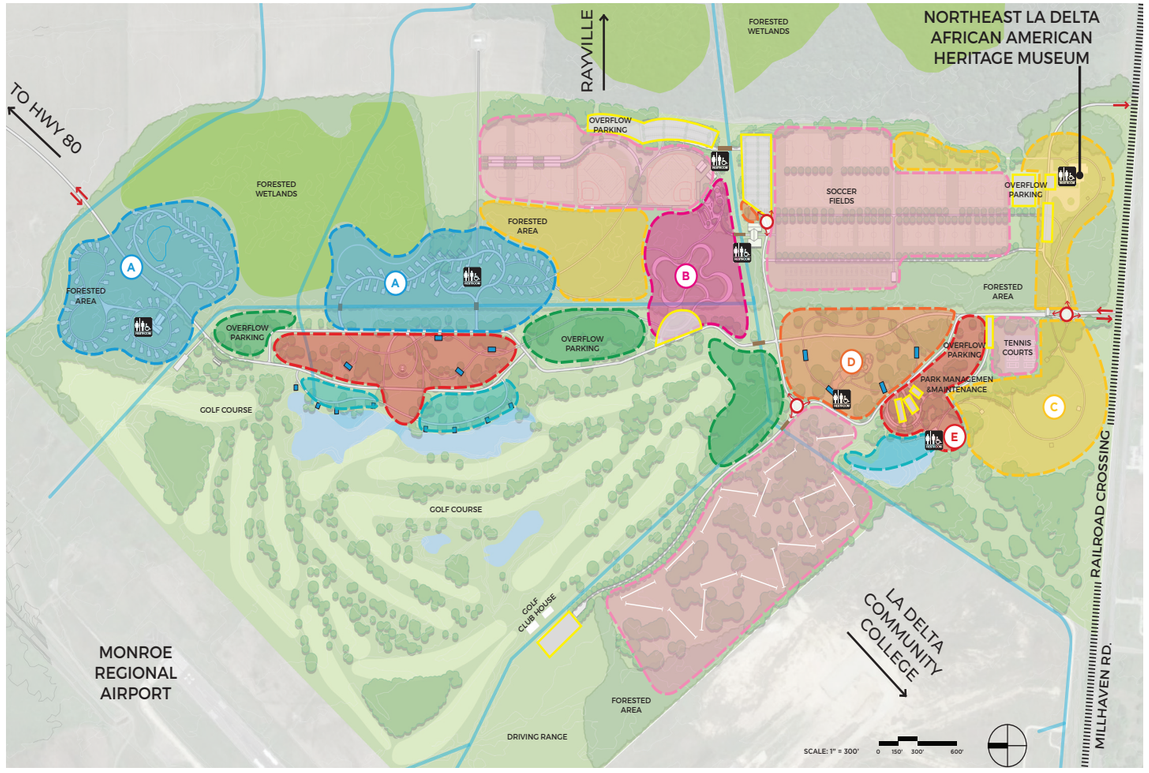


CONCEPT PLAN

The Concept Plan for Chennault Park is based on the feedback from the early community and stakeholders engagement along with the existing conditions analysis, and overall goals for all three parks. The major design moves at Chennault Park include:

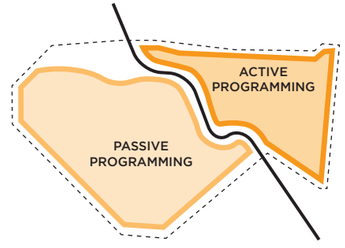
- Improvements to main entrance circulation
- Consideration of an additional exit on Millhaven Rd
- Additional entrance/exit towards the northern-most portion of the park leading to Hwy 80
- Extensive trails system
- Sculpture Garden leading to NE LA African American Heritage Museum
- Large covered event space
- New picnic shelters
- Clustering play equipment
- Consolidation of disc golf courses
- Water access
- Enhanced soccer facilities
- Opportunity for multi-purpose fields
- Extreme sports park
- RV and Primitive Camping





ACTIVITIES ON A PATH
EXTREME SPORTS
BALL SPORTS
SMALL GATHERING
LARGE GATHERINGS
PLAYGROUND
ACTIVITIES ON WATER
OPEN SPACE
ENTRANCE & EXIT
TRAFFIC CIRCLE
WALKING TRAIL
TREE CANOPY
TENNIS COURTS
GOLF COURSE
RESTROOMS

PARK ORGANIZATION



The organization of uses and spaces for Chennault Park was centered around clustering active, more regularly used spaces near the existing park entrance off Millhaven Rd, and reserving the internal portions of the park for more passive uses to include camping and a day of golf. This allows these areas to be ticketed/ limited access when needed, and buffers them from the sounds of the lively front half of the park.

MASTER PLAN

During the reveal of the draft plans for each park, one theme heard repeatedly for Chennault Park was the wish to have it activated once again as it was in its heyday. A survey circulated to stakeholders prioritized using Chennault for the following (listed from highest priority to lowest):

- Large Music Festival
- Golf Tournaments
- Fishing/Kayaking with Expanded Ponds
- Cultural/Arts Festivals
- Disc Golf Tournaments
- RV Camping + Tent Campground
- Church/Business Retreats (100+ people)
- Cabins
- Family Retreats (30+ people)
- BMX Competitions

In addition to hosting events, many golfers in the community mentioned that Chennault's golf course could be a great asset for the community with some added care and updated facilities; a perspective echoed by Golf Pro, Don Walters. Revenue generating activities for Chennault will allow for golf course updates and regular activation of the park.

LEGEND

PROPOSED TRAFFIC CIRCLE
EXISTING TREES
PROPOSED TREES

1	MAIN ENTRY	12	ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
2	SCULPTURE GARDEN/PATH	13	PUMP-TRACK
3	PICKLE BALL COURTS	14	NEW SOCCER CLUBHOUSE
4	EVENT PARKING	15	BMX COURSE
5	JOE DELANEY EVENT PAVILION	16	WOODLAND MULTI-USE TRAIL
6	EXPANDED POND	17	PRIMITIVE CAMPGROUNDS
7	POND OVERLOOK W/ HILLSIDE SEATING	18	RV CAMPGROUNDS
8	FLEXIBLE LAWN/EVENT SPACE	19	CAMPING CLUBHOUSE + SHELTER
9	DISC GOLF COURSE	20	MAINTENANCE BUILDING/YARD
10	UPDATED GOLF CLUB HOUSE	21	SPORTS COMPLEX
11	RE-ORIENTED DRIVING RANGE	22	HWY 80 ENTRY

MASTER PLAN

ENLARGEMENT

The overall strategy for the Master Plan is to activate the core of the park, clustering similar uses. The areas that are proposed to be used more frequently are concentrated within the southern half of the park, closer to the existing entrance. This protects the natural environment of other areas of the park while activating areas near existing facilities: The Northeast Louisiana Delta African American Heritage Museum, Northeast Louisiana Soccer Association Fields, and Joe Delaney Memorial Monument.

The northern portion of the park is intended to support the Golf Course on the west and proposed camp grounds to the east.

The enlargement shows how event spaces can support one another through shared parking and pedestrian circulation. Events held in the southern portion of the park can be monitored or ticketed, limiting vehicular circulation during large events and allowing for a safer pedestrian experience.

The following pages provide supporting imagery and graphics to further illustrate the design intent.

LEGEND

- PROPOSED TRAFFIC CIRCLE
- EXISTING TREES
- PROPOSED TREES

1	MAIN ENTRY	11	ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND
2	SCULPTURE GARDEN/PATH	12	PUMP-TRACK
3	PICKLE BALL COURTS	13	NEW SOCCER CLUBHOUSE
4	EVENT PARKING	14	NEW SOCCER/BMX PARKING
5	JOE DELANEY EVENT PAVILION	15	BMX COURSE
6	EXPANDED POND	16	WOODLAND MULTI-USE TRAIL
7	POND OVERLOOK W/ HILLSIDE SEATING	17	TO CAMP GROUNDS
8	FLEXIBLE LAWN/EVENT SPACE	18	TO GOLF COURSE + DRIVING RANGE
9	SHELTER 2 WITH UPGRADES	19	MAINTENANCE BUILDING/YARD
10	DISC GOLF COURSE	20	FUTURE SPORTS COMPLEX AREA

PLAYGROUNDS

- Adventure Playground using a mix of natural and manufactured materials
- Natural obstacle course to provide challenges for children and adults alike
- Zip lines and other play pieces can continue the extreme sports theme of the park introduced by the BMX Trails and pump track while catering to varying levels of ability

ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

NATURAL OBSTACLE COURSE

ZIP LINE

FLEXIBLE GREEN SPACE

- Bradburry Park in Brisbane, Australia provides a scooter track set within the park setting of lawn and trees
- Blue Hole Regional Park in Georgetown, Texas makes use of passive green space near the water's edge
- Hammocks throughout the park can be utilized by children and adults; these could be clustered near high activity areas

BRADBURRY PARK, AUSTRALIA

BLUE HOLE REGIONAL PARK, TEXAS

HAMMOCKS WITHIN PARK CANOPY

EVENT SPACES

- The Josey Pavilion in Decatur, TX is a fantastic example of an outdoor pavilion that makes use of natural wood and other simple materials for a striking site facility
- Hilltop Arboretum in Baton Rouge, LA is another example of the successful use of simple materials to provide an event pavilion space in a naturalistic setting
- The shelters at Railroad Park in Birmingham, AL also share the character of simple forms and materials used for outdoor gathering space; this type of pavilion could be replicated throughout Chennault if the existing shelters were phased out

JOSEY PAVILION, DECATUR, TX

HILLTOP ARBORETUM, BATON ROUGE, LA

RAILROAD PARK, BIRMINGHAM, AL

WALKING AND BIKING TRAILS

- Multi-use paths throughout the Park offer walking, jogging, and biking paths for a variety of experiences and through meadows and no-mow areas and provide a variety of experiences along Millhaven Rd.
- Similar to Storm King Art Center in upstate New York, large scale sculptures could be placed along paths originating at the NE LA Delta African American Museum and extending toward the proposed Multi-Use Pavilion with high visibility from Millhaven Rd
- The path network could extend along and through the wooded areas of the site

MULTI-USE PATH THROUGH MEADOW

STORM KING ART CENTER, NEW YORK

MULTI-USE PATH ALONG WOODLAND

PRIMITIVE AND RV CAMP SITES

- The Fort Wilderness Resort as part of Disney World is a large scale example of thoughtful RV and tent camping sites; the goal for Chennault is to make use of existing utility hook-ups/ infrastructure
- Another goal for the campsites at Chennault is to provide planted buffers between campsites and to disturb as little of the natural environment as possible
- Large outdoor gathering amenities, such as the table shown in the last image, would provide for the needs expressed by the Community within Chennault

FORT WILDERNESS RESORT, ORLANDO, FL

FORT WILDERNESS RESORT, ORLANDO, FL

EXAMPLE OF GATHERING TABLE

ACTIVITIES ON THE WATER

- By connecting and expanding the existing ponds, the Park opens itself to greater use by kayaks, canoes, and the fishing community.
- A kayak launch should be considered for ease of access to the ponds once expanded
- The expansion of the ponds can provide a scenic backdrop at the Multi-Use Pavilion and the Camping Community Center

BLUE TRAILS THROUGH CONNECTED PONDS

PRIVATE DOCK, TEXAS

HILLTOP ARBORETUM, BATON ROUGE, LA

EXTREME SPORTS PARK

- BMX Trails through the woods are proposed adjacent to the existing soccer fields to cluster active uses together and to share amenities; Chennault's existing forested canopy offers a unique trail experience if completed with minimal clearing
- The scooter track at Bradburry Park is a great example of form, function, and materials that has been borrowed for the pump/scooter track planned between the green space that links the future soccer clubhouse to the adventure playground
- Keeping consistent with other proposed materials across the site, the BMX Trails could make use of natural materials, such as wood, where applicable

BMX TRAILS, BURNABY, CANADA

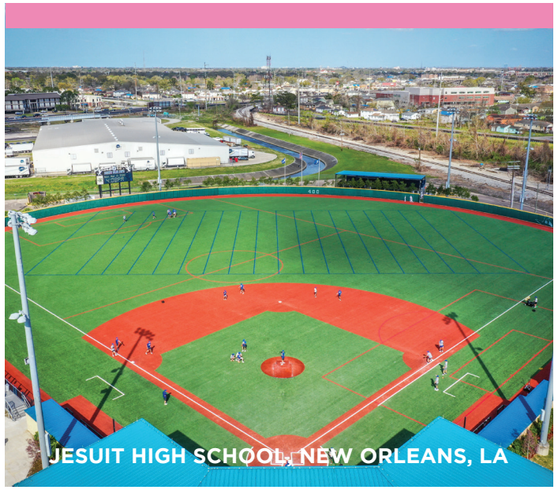
BRADBURRY PARK, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

WOODEN BMX TRACK

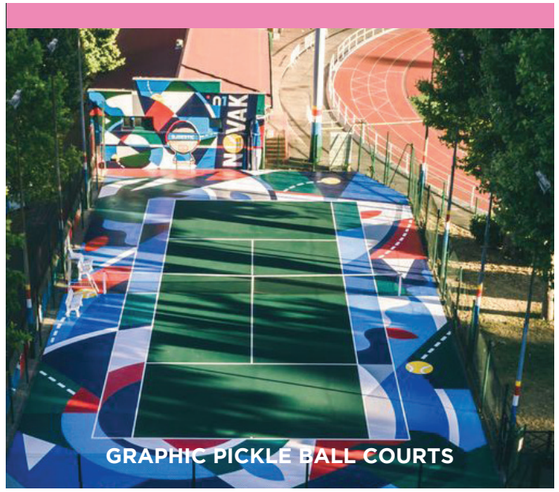
MULTI-USE SPORTS PARK

- Proposed updates to the existing soccer fields include a pedestrian promenade linking the fields to other parts of the site and to future sports facilities
- Multi-purpose fields using artificial turf can pack a lot of uses into one area as shown in the example at Jesuit High School in New Orleans
- When revamping the tennis courts and converting them to pickle ball courts, an iconic graphic language could be used for a memorable and noteworthy experience; an artistic application could potentially tie the pickle ball courts to the rest of the sculpture garden at the Millhaven Dr entry

OCGP SPORTS PARK PROMENADE, IRVINE, CA



JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL, NEW ORLEANS, LA



GRAPHIC PICKLE BALL COURTS

HIDDEN PARKING

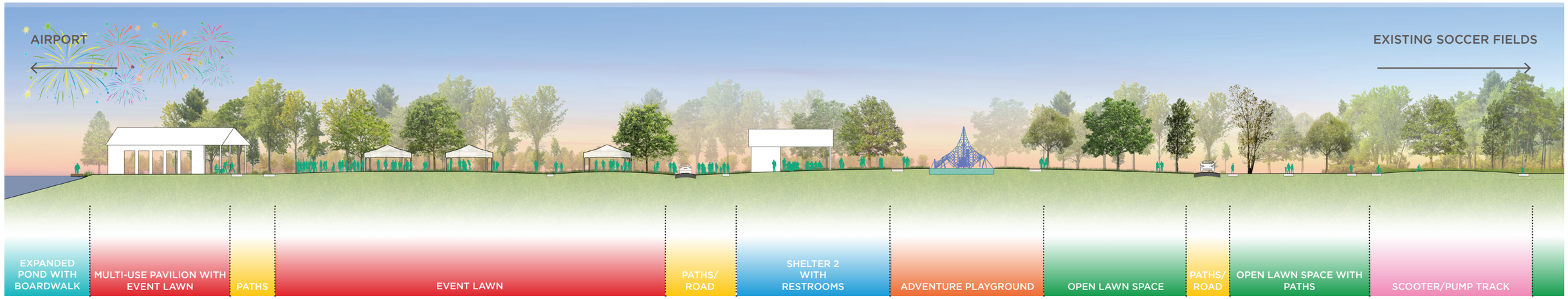
- Parking can and should be treated thoughtfully in Chennault to both provide enough room for the large events that the site is designed to handle and to respect the natural character of the park
- Trees can help delineate parking stalls and pervious gravel surfaces can be used for lots that are intended to receive less traffic
- Planting can also help to soften parking lots that are intended for more regular use and to collect stormwater runoff so as to not create new drainage problems for the Park

PRIVATE RESIDENCE, NORTH LOUISIANA

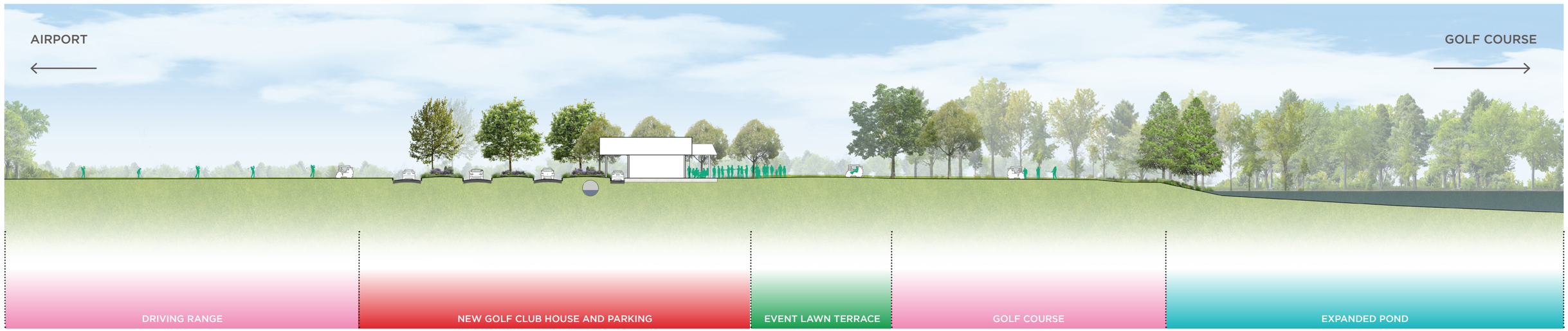
OVERFLOW PARKING IN TREE ALLEE & GRAVEL

GRAVEL PARKING DELINEATED BY PLANTING

CHENNAULT PARK & GOLF



SITE SECTION A-A'



SITE SECTION B-B'

MONROE PARKS

FORSYTHE PARK

MASTER PLAN

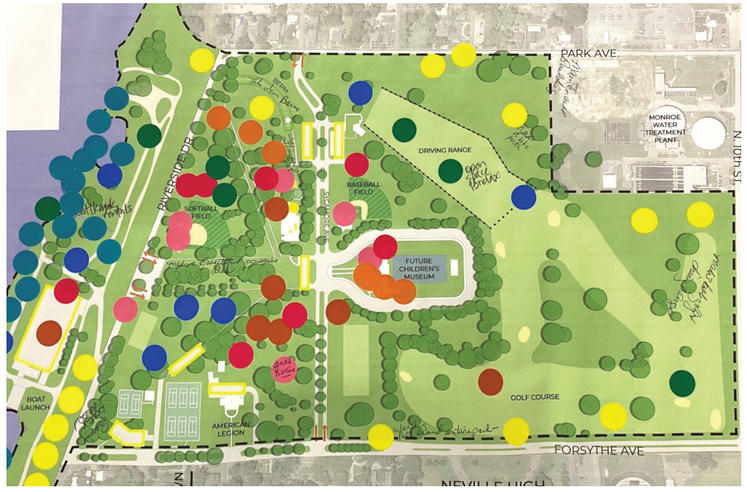
V.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Forsythe Park is a historic park within Monroe's Garden District and serves many functions for the surrounding community. Over the years the park has been claimed by many uses including softball, baseball, golf, pick-up soccer games, track practice, and tennis to name a few. These activities have slowly eaten away at the limited remaining passive spaces of the park and inched closer to the delicate canopy and root system of the beloved mature live oaks. Outdated play equipment once served the community well but has fallen into disrepair. Poor drainage also plagues the park, limiting how much of the remaining green space is used following a storm event. The park is also directly adjacent to the Ouachita River, but provides limited connections to riverside activities. Walls, berming, and visual clutter have limited visibility into the park creating either physical or visible barriers. When coupled with outdated site amenities, park users are subject to increased risk and the potential for injury.

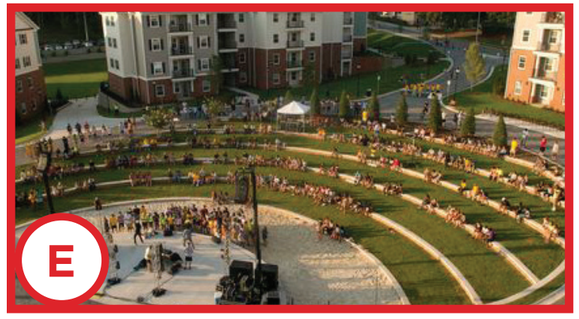
LEGEND // EXISTING CONDITIONS

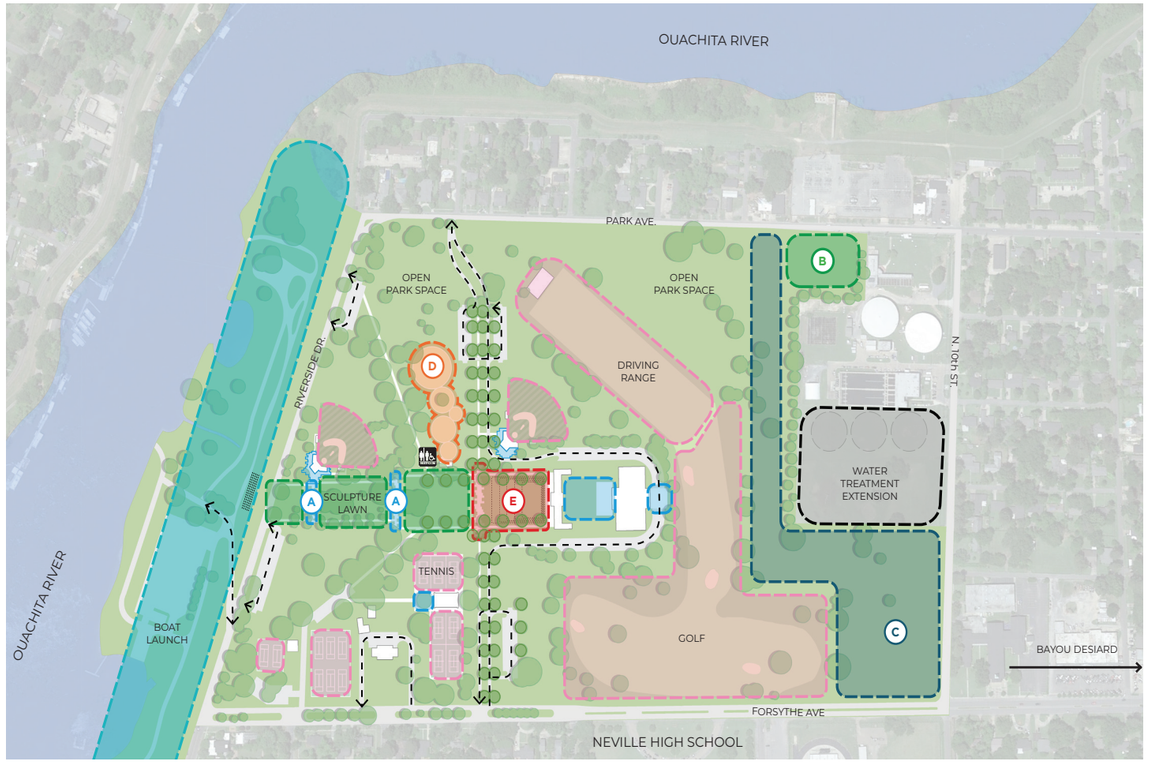
- PARKING
- PLAY AREAS
- TREE CANOPY
- GOLF COURSE
- SOCCER FIELDS
- TENNIS COURTS
- ENTRANCE & EXIT
- JOE ALTON DELANEY MEMORIAL



CONCEPT PLAN

The initial concept for Forsythe Park worked to organize and cluster similarly programmed elements in an effort to protect and celebrate the park's identity and history. During the community engagement and stakeholder meetings, there was a great need identified for this park to host community and civic events. Safe pedestrian circulation was also critical to park users, so this concept seeks to limit vehicular circulation through the heart of the park. Another challenge for this concept was planning for future projects slated to occur within the park to include: the Children's Museum, Tennis Court Expansion and Clubhouse, and expansion of the Water Treatment Facilities. While providing space for all the park's current and future uses, the concept also engages the local art community through a sculpture lawn that draws the eye and the visitor along the park's east-west axis from the existing natatorium to the new riverside access.





SCALE: 1" = 150'

BALL SPORTS

SMALL GATHERING

LARGE GATHERINGS

PLAYGROUND

ACTIVITIES ON WATER

OPEN SPACE

TREE CANOPY

ENTRANCE & EXIT

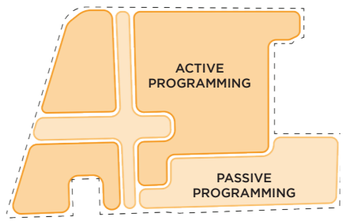
GOLF COURSE

RESTROOMS

WALKING TRAIL

TENNIS COURTS

PARK ORGANIZATION



The overall goal is to organize and cluster like elements in the park while keeping the parks core open and accessible with passive programing elements to optimize pedestrian circulation.

MASTER PLAN

Expanding on the initial concept, the Master Plan defines Forsythe's identity by embracing its history. This plan aims to achieve three overall objectives; enhanced safety, accessibility, and sustainability.

Safety: The reconfiguration of Sycamore Ave. reduces the speed that vehicular traffic passes through the park and limits the interaction between vehicles and pedestrians. Removing visual clutter and outdated structures also contribute to the safety of the visitors. Clustering elements with similar uses helps open up views into the park, allowing visibility to and from the adjacent neighborhoods.

Accessibility: Safe pedestrian circulation is a critical component of the master plan. Prioritizing pedestrians in the core of the park through a series of walkways connected to the surrounding neighborhoods and park elements creates a comfortable and accessible experience for visitors. This plan provides a safe, accessible route for visitors to experience both the river and the park.

Sustainability: Reconfiguring the existing golf course to a par-3 course allows both the water treatment facilities to expand, and the opportunity to capture, treat and store stormwater runoff, helping to alleviate the pressures on the current city drainage system. Opening up this area also allows for an expansion of the park's walking trails and educational opportunities.

LEGEND

	EXISTING TREES	11	RENOVATED RESTROOMS
	PROPOSED TREES	12	DOG PARK
1	PARK GATEWAYS	13	DRIVING RANGE
2	EXISTING TENNIS COURTS	14	3-PAR GOLF COURSE
3	NEW TENNIS COURTS	15	'GREAT LAWN' / SCULPTURE LAWN
4	BALL FIELDS	16	STORMWATER DETENTION
5	INFORMAL SOCCER FIELD	17	MEADOW
6	SLOPED AMPHITHEATER	18	PAVED WALKWAY
7	PEDESTRIAN PROMENADE	19	PARKING LOT
8	NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM	20	IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
9	SMALL GATHERING SPACE	21	MODIFIED SYCAMORE AVE.
10	RENOVATED PLAYGROUND	22	RELOCATED MAINTENANCE FACILITY

MASTER PLAN

ENLARGEMENT

Reconnecting the park to the Ouachita River is instrumental to the success of the park and the Master Plan. Suffering from the effect of the constructed levee, the park has become disconnected, allowing facilities located on the other side to fall into a state of disrepair since being out of site. Because this is the only public park with river access in Monroe, the master plan proposes to prioritize the focus on recreational activities, such as an improved kayak launch, a sand beach, walking trails, bird-watching viewing platforms, and a seeded meadow to reduce the maintenance responsibilities.

The grand gesture for this side of the park is reworking the edges of the barrow-pits remnants to create a more experiential course for visitors and increase the wildlife habitat at the aquatic edge. This will allow visitors an option for either fishing, kayaking, or paddle boarding near the river, but without fear of the current.

The following pages provide supporting imagery and graphics to further illustrate the design intent.

LEGEND

- EXISTING TREES
- PROPOSED TREES
- 1 PEDESTRIAN ACCESS
- 2 ENHANCED PARKING LOT
- 3 ENHANCED RESTROOMS
- 4 BOAT LAUNCH
- 5 SAND BEACH
- 6 WALKING TRAILS
- 7 ENHANCED BARROW-PITS
- 8 WETLAND PLANTING
- 9 VIEWING TOWER
- 10 SAND VOLLEY BALL
- 11 SEEDED MEADOW

PLAYGROUNDS

Drawing inspiration from the adjacent neighborhood, the concept is for children to immerse themselves with larger-than-life garden elements, such as flowers, insects, and more. The design is intended to foster play and whimsy, embracing fun while cultivating the healthy development of children's physical and social well-being. This is to be an inclusive playground for all children to enjoy.

WOODLAND DISCOVERY PLAYGROUND

NATURE PLAY ELEMENTS

SCULPTURAL PLAY EQUIPMENT

PROMENADES

The promenade provides a generous walking path for patrons, while also allowing vendor trucks the ability to drop off their goods directly in front of their tent space during farmers market events. Gateways and large lawns help create a hierarchy of importance for these areas.

FARMERS MARKET PROMENADE

PARK GATEWAY

FLEXIBLE LAWN AND PROMENADE

SMALL AND LARGE GATHERING SPACES

The stage and historic natatorium provide optimal viewing and proximity to the sloped amphitheater, while allowing access from the street for service as an added amenity. The great lawn keeps the space flexible and usable on a regular basis while accommodating larger periodic events for spillover space.

SCULPTED LAWN AMPHITHEATER

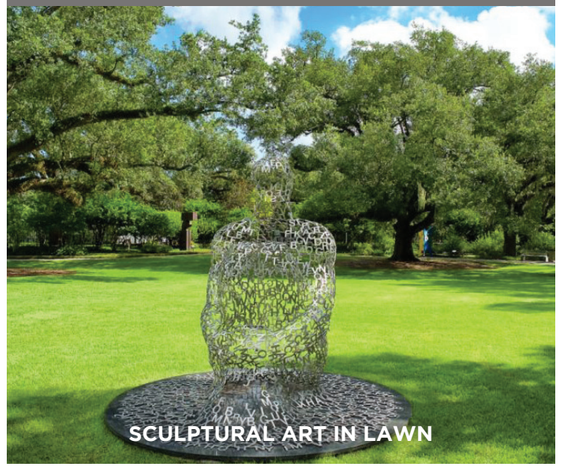
SUNKEN AMPHITHEATER

SPLASH PAD IN PLAZA

ART IN THE PARK

Working with local artist that are influential in the region, art pieces will be arranged in the open lawn, under tree canopies, and within understory planting, all connected by pedestrian walkways designed to complement the landscape.

SCULPTURAL ART IN LAWN



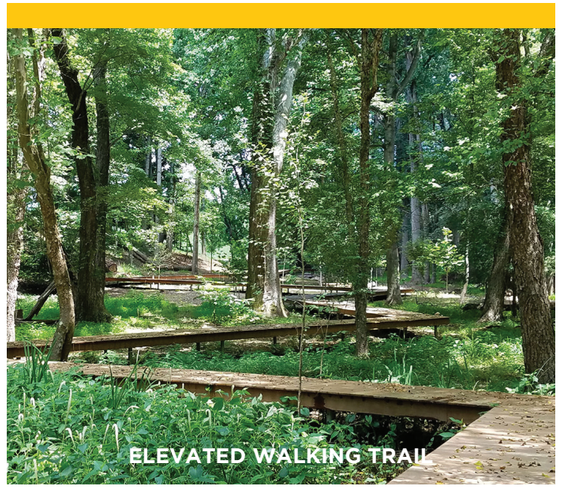
SCULPTURAL ART IN LAWN

SCULPTURAL ART OVERHANGING SIDEWALK

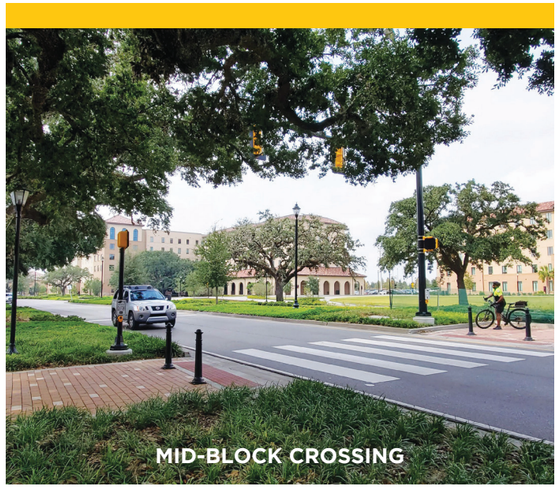
PEDESTRIAN PATHS

Pathways will provide improved and safe connectivity from adjacent neighborhoods to the park and access to amenities such as the existing dog park, amphitheater, and recreational sports. These trails will also traverse different types of wildlife habitats and planting zones, providing educational opportunities on native species and highlight the natural beauty of the Park.

MULTI-USE TRAIL UNDER LIVE OAKS



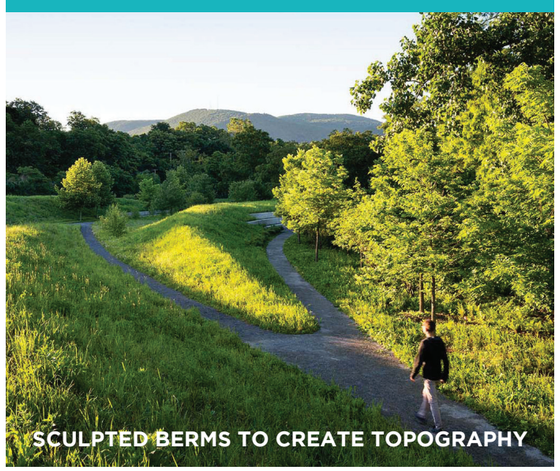
ELEVATED WALKING TRAIL



MID-BLOCK CROSSING

ACTIVITIES ON THE WATER

Forsythe has direct access to the Ouachita River. Improvements to the boat launch area are recommended along with modifications to the barrow-pits to expand and enhance the edge condition to create opportunities for paddle boarding, kayaking and fishing.



SCULPTED BERMS TO CREATE TOPOGRAPHY

PEDESTRIAN SCALE KAYAK LAUNCH

VIEWING / BIRD WATCHING TOWER

SITE SECTION A-A'

SITE SECTION B-B'

MONROE PARKS
IMPLEMENTATION

CHARLES JOHNSON | CHENNAULT | FORSYTHE

VI.

PHASING STRATEGY

CHARLES JOHNSON PARK

PHASE ONE

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- Grand Lawn - irrigation and grading
- Farmers and Festival Market Entry Promenades (2)
- Exercise Circuit

SITE GRADING/CLEARING/DEMOLITION

- Berm at Playground
- Stormwater Earthwork
- Arborist hired for Selective Pruning/Removal/ Transplanting

SITE CIRCULATION

- Park Sidewalks
- Park Walking Trails
- Pedestrian Promenade

SITE FACILITIES

- Site Lighting
- Site Furniture

PHASE TWO

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- **Children's Playground (Ideally happens in first phase pending available funding)**
- **Basketball Courts and Murals**
- **Pecan Orchard**
- New Tree and Shrub Planting

SITE CIRCULATION

- Street Sidewalks
- Parking Lot Improvements (2 lots including partial demolition to North Lot in Charles Johnson)
- Pedestrian Crossings (4)
- Park Entrance / Gateways (2)

SITE FACILITIES

- Small Party Pavilion Installation (10) with Electrical Hook-ups

PHASE THREE

SITE GRADING/CLEARING/DEMOLITION

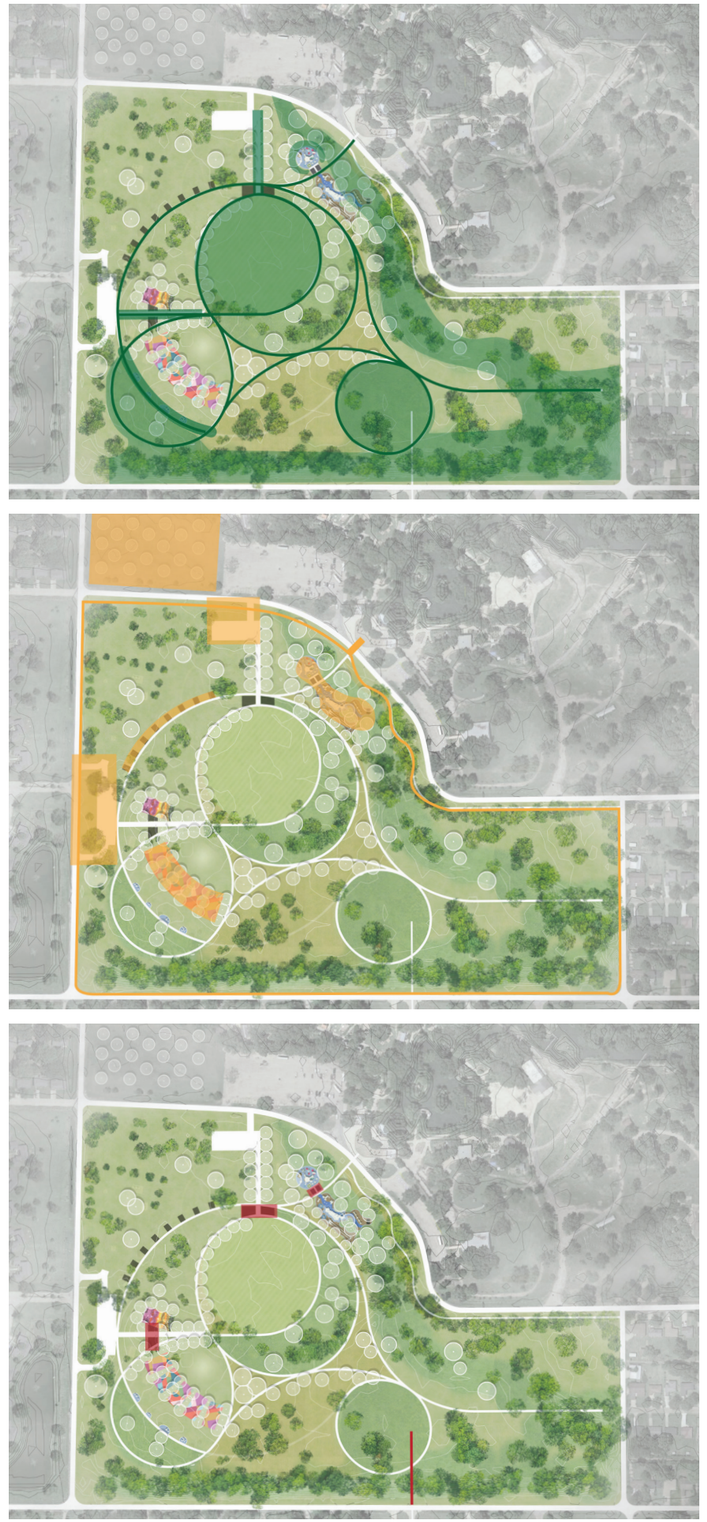
- Demolition of Existing Restrooms

SITE CIRCULATION

- Boardwalks throughout Stormwater Management Area with Educational Signage

SITE FACILITIES

- Restroom Facilities (3) to include Electrical, Sewage, and Water Hook-ups
- **Large Festival Pavilion Installation**



PHASING STRATEGY

CHENNAULT PARK

PHASE ONE

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- Children's Playground
- Convert Tennis Courts to Pickle Ball Courts
- Call for Entries for Sculpture Garden
- Irrigation Updates @ Golf Course and delineate no-mow areas
- BMX Planning and Design
- Multi-Use Pavilion Planning and Design (Architect + Land. Arch team)
- Re-orient Driving Range

SITE GRADING/CLEARING

- Lake/Pond Expansion at Memorial Site
- Minimal clearing and grading for first set of camping spots: RV and primitive

SITE CIRCULATION

- Expanded Paths to Soccer Fields from NE Delta African American Heritage Museum
- Expanded paths to Shelters and Playground
- Demo of existing parking near Memorial and Maintenance shed
- Addition of Street Parking near Playground
- New Planting at Golf Parking including screening Driving Range and Golf Cart Rental/Maintenance
- Roundabout at existing Entry and Updated Guardhouse

SITE FACILITIES

- Updates to existing Shelters and Bathrooms
- Site Furniture
- Relocation of Golf Maintenance Facilities

PHASE TWO

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- Pump Track/Paths between Playground and existing Soccer
- BMX Track in the woods
- Decking and Lake Overlook
- Installation of Sculptures (east and west of Millhaven Dr. Entry)
- Reinforced Turf at Event Lawns + Utility Updates
- Pouring Pads for first set of RV/tent Camp Sites

SITE GRADING/CLEARING

- Connect and expand Golf Course ponds near Disc Golf

SITE CIRCULATION

- Sculpture Garden Paths (east and west of entry)
- Secondary Connections within the Park
- New Parking lot and Promenade @ existing Soccer
- New Parking lot from Pickle Ball to Multi-use Pavilion
- New roundabout and road realignment leading to Soccer.
- Second entry and roadway connecting to HWY 80

SITE FACILITIES

- Multi-use Pavilion
- Golf Club House and obtain liquor license
- Guard House at new HWY 80 entrance

PHASE THREE

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- Cabins at expanded Golf Course ponds on Disc Golf side
- Pouring pads for expansion of Camp Sites

SITE GRADING/CLEARING

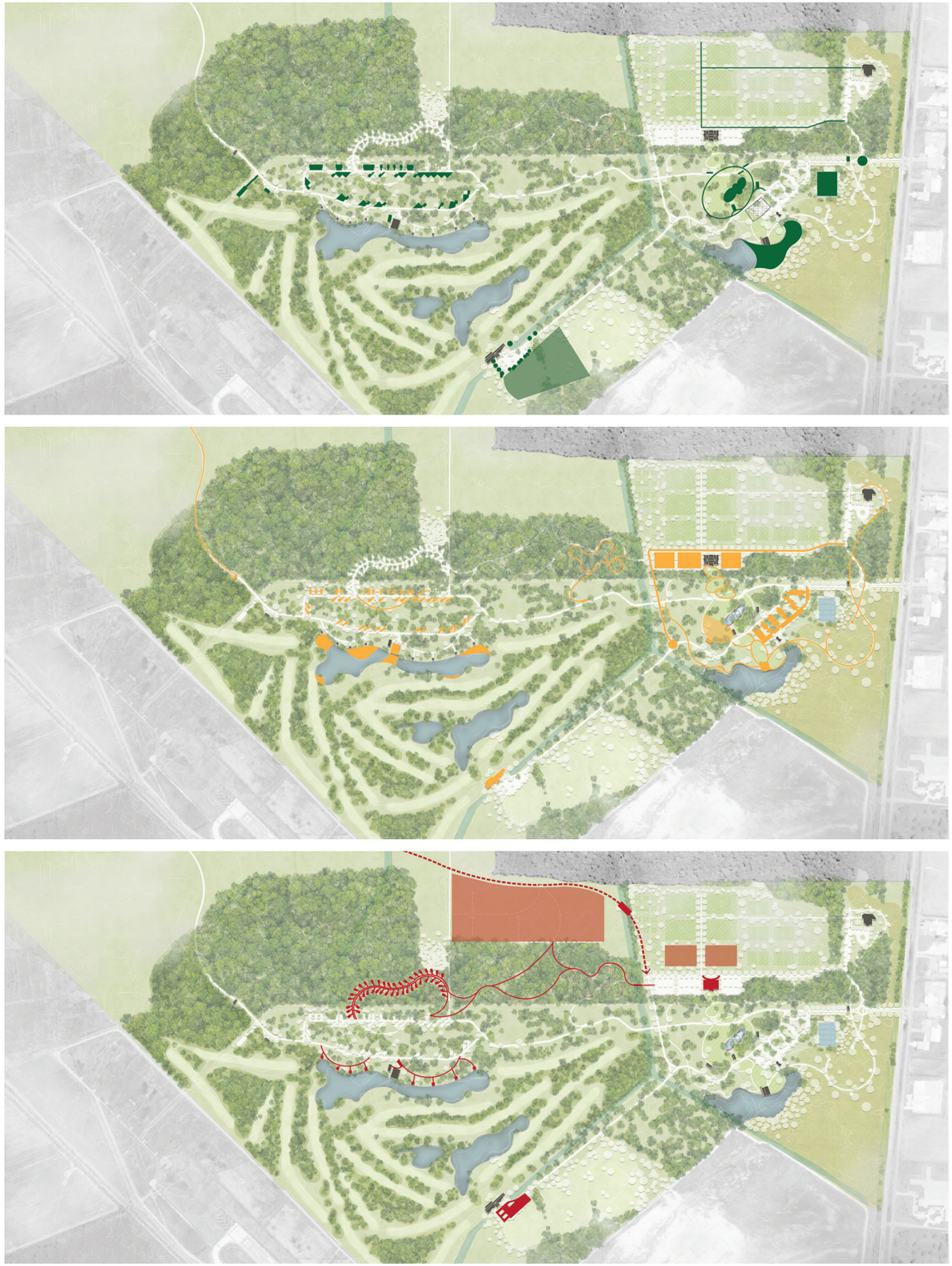
- Minimal clearing for Camping Expansion: RV and Primitive
- Demo of existing Golf Parking lot

SITE CIRCULATION

- Expansion of BMX Trails
- Bridge connecting BMX to new Soccer Parking and Clubhouse
- Woodland Trail Expansion connecting all camping to Sports Area
- New Parking at Golf Club House
- Roadways to Camping Expansion
- Roadway connection from second entrance to New Sports Area

SITE FACILITIES

- Existing Maintenance Shed converted to Community Center
- Soccer Club House
- Turf Soccer Fields with Seating
- Multi-use Fields
- Additional Baseball Fields



PHASING STRATEGY

FORSYTHE PARK

PHASE ONE

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- Children's Playground
- Tennis Courts
- Great Lawn
- Recreational Soccer Field Relocation

SITE GRADING/CLEARING

- Berm Removal
- Arborist hired for selective Tree Pruning/Removal/ Transplanting
- Remove Parking Lot @ Playground during construction along Sycamore Ave.

SITE CIRCULATION

- Sycamore Ave. Modifications to include: modify bottleneck in front of Natatorium during construction of Children's Museum; restrict traffic from Park Ave. and use paving for temporary walkway until Farmers Market Promenade/Amphitheater is built
- Sidewalks Improvements to include: Primary Connections from Parking to Attractions; Connections to Park Edge into Neighborhood
- Resurfacing Parking Lots that will remain in place to include: Golf/Playground Lot, Northeast Parking Lot, and existing Tennis Court Parking Lot

SITE FACILITIES

- Updates to Playground Restrooms for Universal Accessibility
- Site Furniture
- Relocation of Site Maintenance Area

PHASE TWO

SITE ATTRACTIONS

- Softball / Baseball Updates
- Amphitheater
- Farmers Market Promenade
- Convert Golf Course to 9 hole, Par-3 course.
- Sand Volleyball Courts established on River Side

SITE GRADING/CLEARING

- Stormwater Earthwork
- Relocate T-Ball Field behind Softball Field to Benoit

SITE CIRCULATION

- Secondary Sidewalk connections within the Park
- Park Walking Trails
- Parking Lot Improvements to include: Additional Parking along Riverside Dr. and Additional Parking near Tennis Courts
- Establish Park Entrance and Gateways at Riverside Dr. and Forsythe Ave., Riverside Dr. and Park Ave., and Sycamore and Forsythe Ave.

SITE FACILITIES

- Site Lighting under Live Oak Allée, at Children's Playground, and parking lots
- Natatorium Remodel

PHASE THREE

SITE ATTRACTIONS

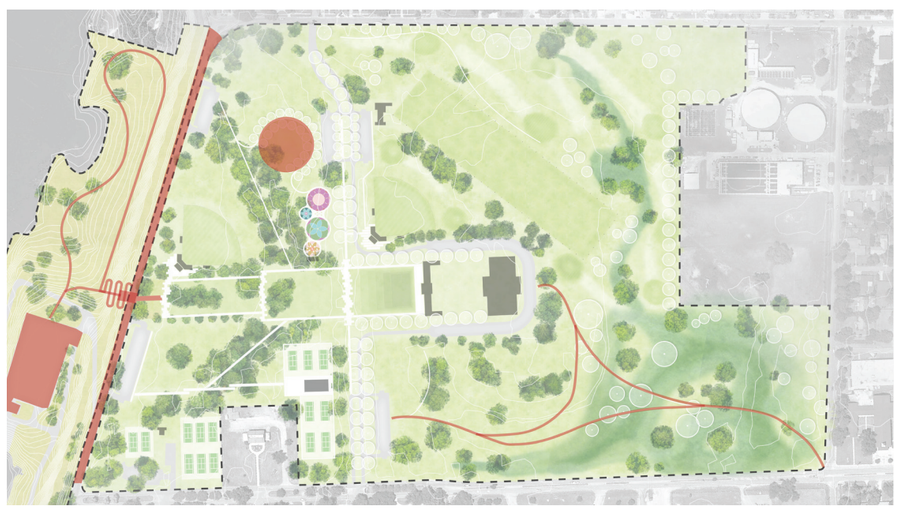
- Boat Launch Improvements
- Dog Park

SITE GRADING/CLEARING

- Borrow Pit Rework on River side of Park

SITE CIRCULATION

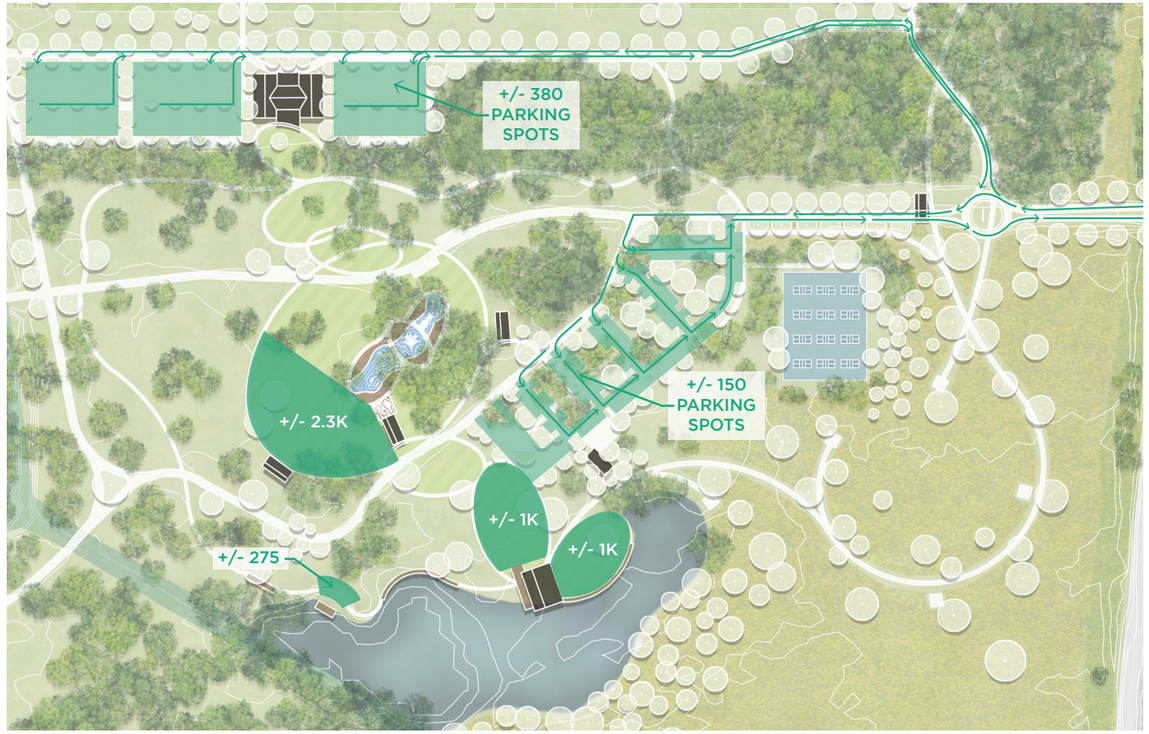
- River side Walking Trails
- Riverside Drive Modifications to include: reduce lane widths, add parallel parking, and add speed table @ Sculpture Lawn and Levee for safe pedestrian crossing

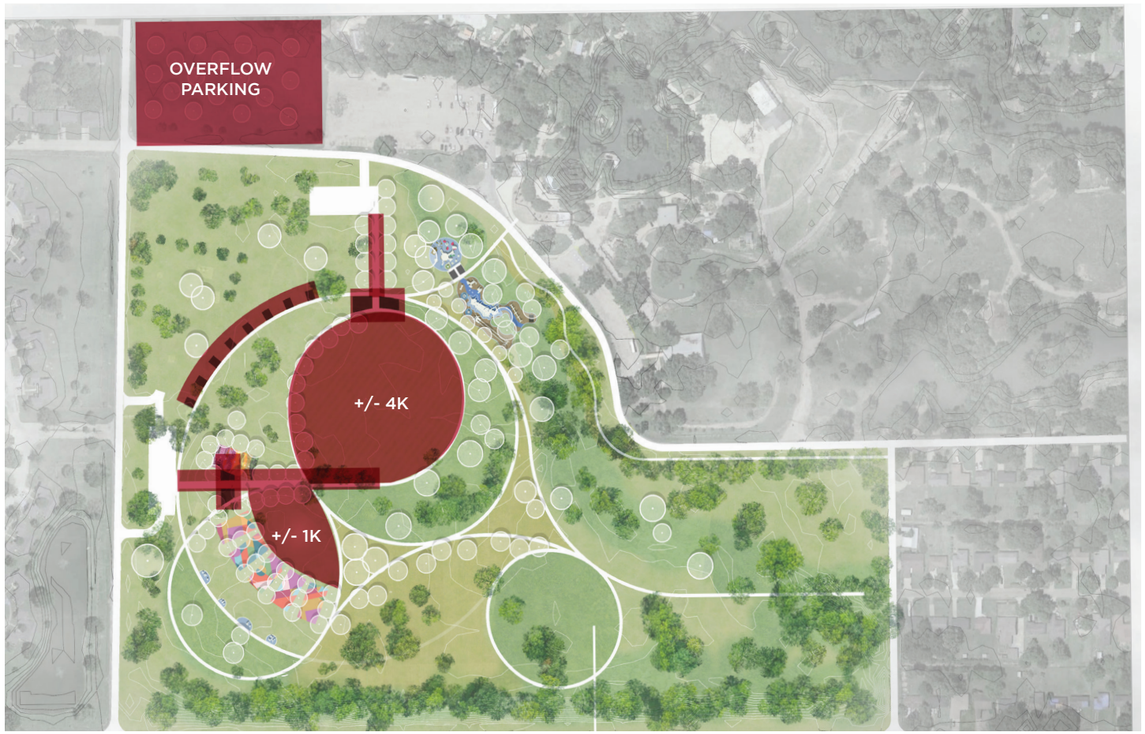


SITE ACTIVATION

LARGE FESTIVALS

Each park has been designed to hold large festivals at differing scales relative to their size. Chennault Park being the largest is designed to hold the largest gatherings and is able to accommodate roughly 4,575 people with 3 or 4 different stage areas. Charles Johnson Park is designed to accommodate right around 4,000 people in the grand lawn, 1,000 people on the yoga lawn, and a stage/utility hook-ups for a stage at each. Forsythe Park is designed to accommodate just under 1,000 people at the natatorium turned amphitheater and an additional 1,000 people on the open lawn space.



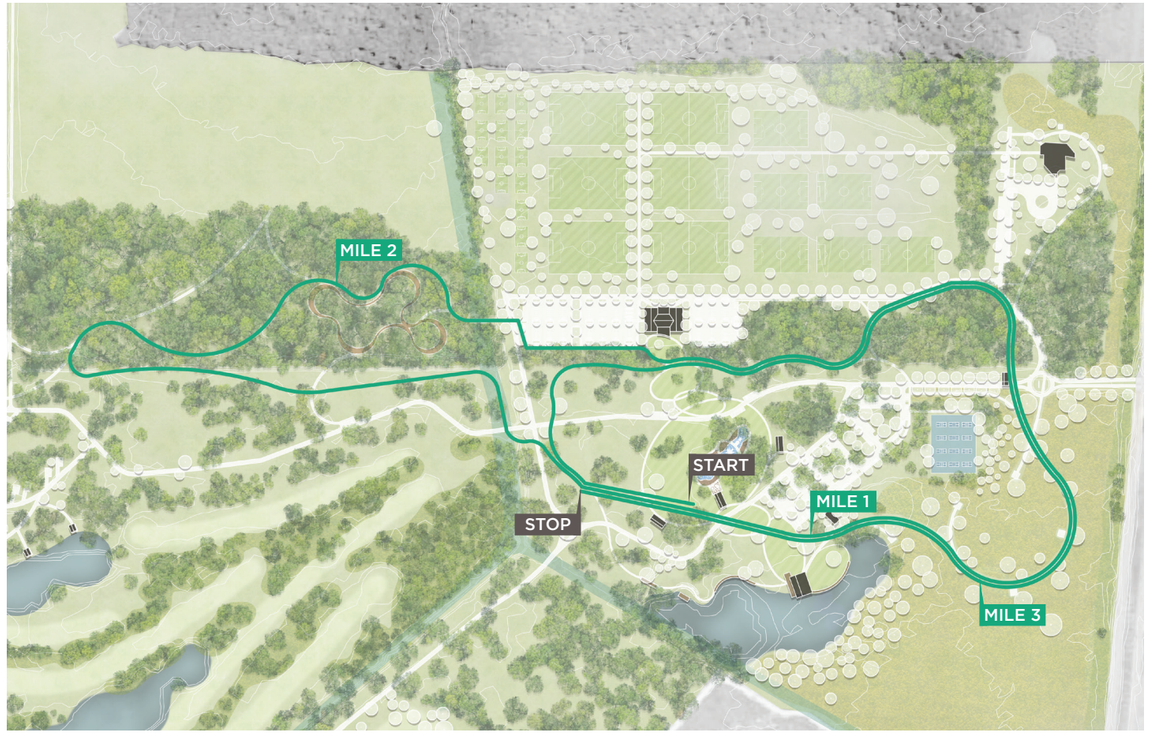


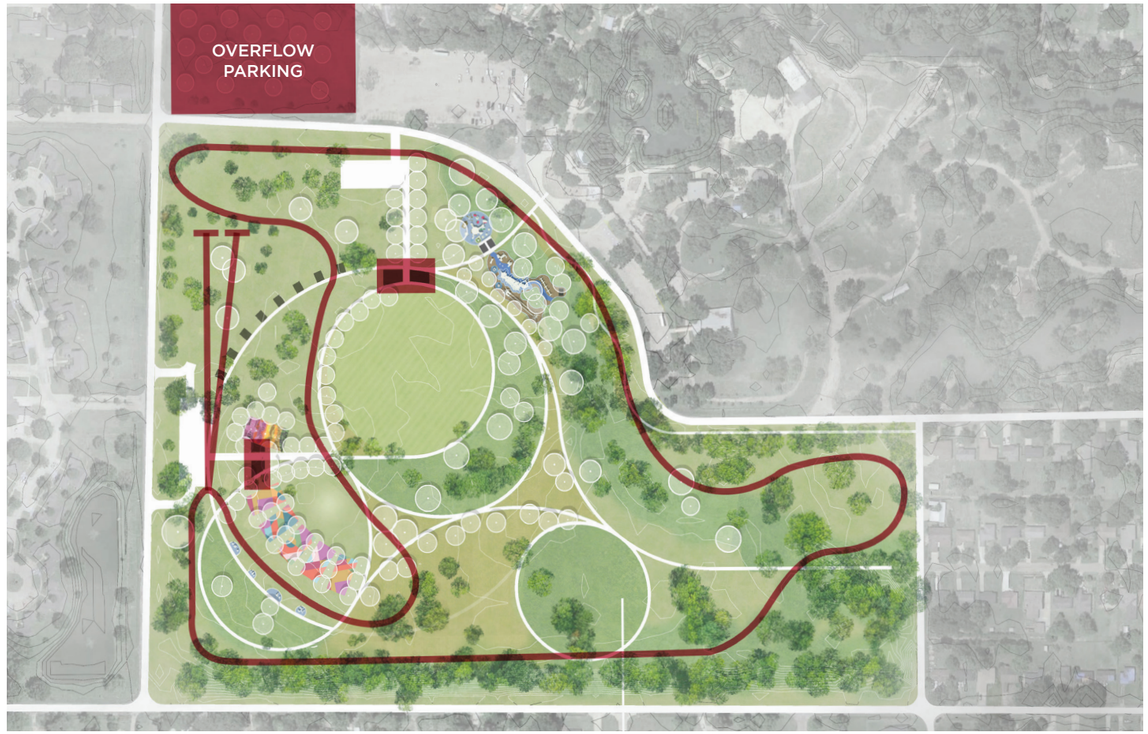
SITE ACTIVATION

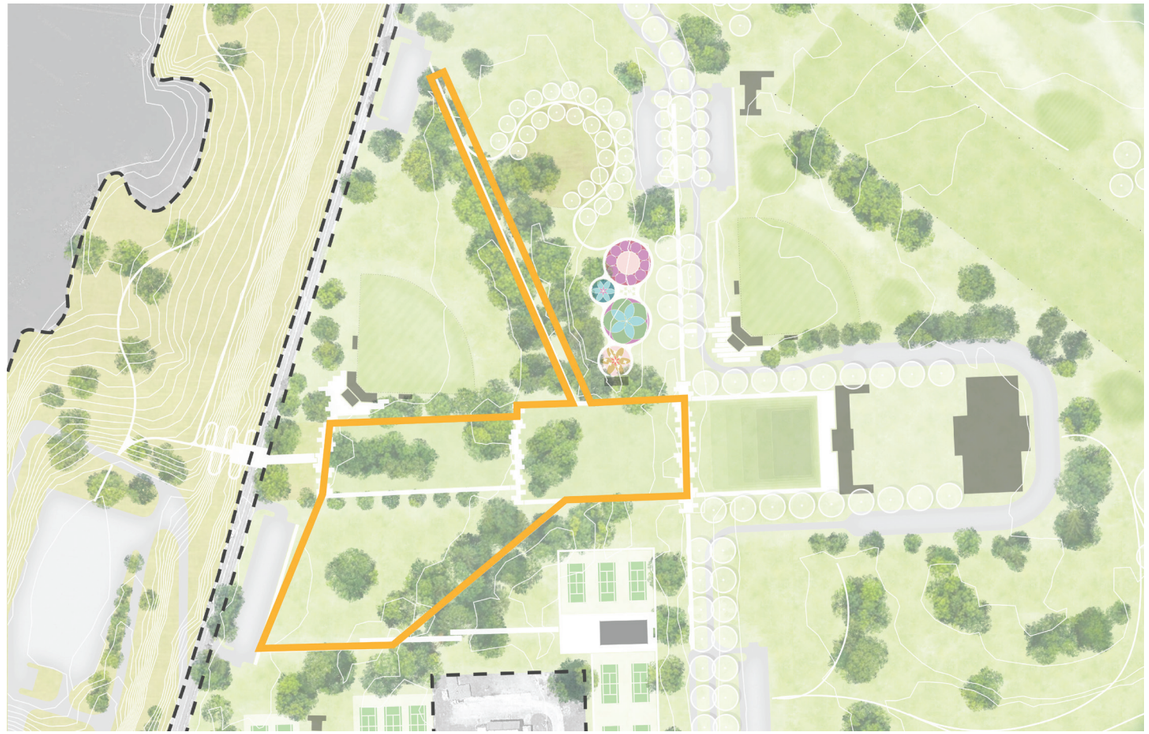
CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK

During the stakeholder meeting and community engagement events, there was mention of how cross country and track teams use each park currently. It was important to the design team that these uses were accommodated at each park. Charles Johnson has successfully hosted cross country meets and other recreational races in the past. Cross country meets have been a challenge to host at Chennault Park in the past due to scheduling conflicts. With minor grading improvements, Chennault Park could prove to be a scenic setting for cross country meets. With each phased implementation of both Charles Johnson and Chennault's designs, both parks would offer a wide variety of running experiences.

Forsythe Park had not previously hosted any cross country meets to the knowledge of the design team; however, local school track teams currently use the park for practice. Additionally, many races start and stop at the park throughout the year. By clustering uses, and preserving open green space, the master plan provides ample room to safely continue track practice and to host races.







SITE ACTIVATION

PICK-UP GAMES/DISC GOLF

Each park master plan has been designed for diversity, flexibility, and adaptability to allow for different intensities of use to occur both daily and seasonally. Healthy, active parks are able to adapt over time and open green spaces within our three destination parks will allow for spontaneous and unprogrammed events to suit their surrounding communities and aid in regular activation.

In some parks the design team added more opportunities for impromptu games to occur such as at Charles Johnson Park where five basketball courts were added along with a gently sloping lawn. Forsythe Park acts much like the Garden District's shared backyard where people would meet regularly to play soccer without any formal field markings. Not only has green space been preserved in Forsythe Park to continue to promote these activities, but drainage improvements are also proposed to ensure that these spaces dry quicker following rain events.

Disc golfers have consistently used Chennault Park for tournaments and the master plan intends to continue that use by providing two 18-hole disc golf courses with slight modifications from their current layout.

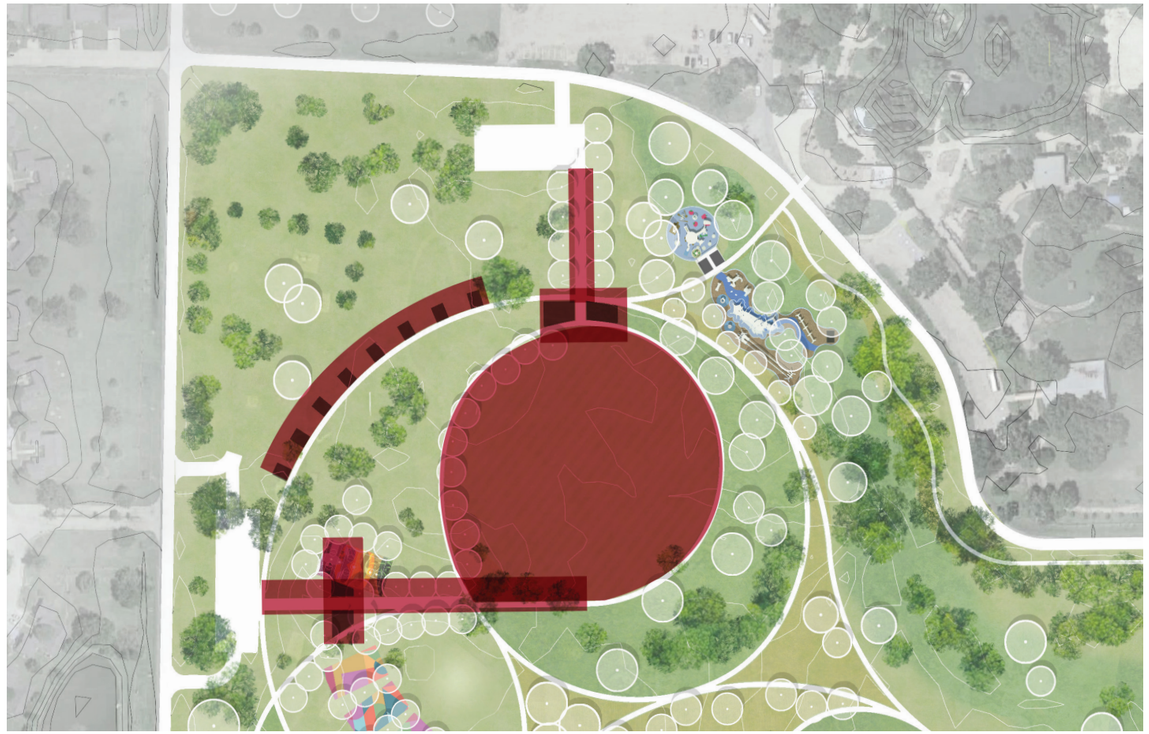
SITE ACTIVATION

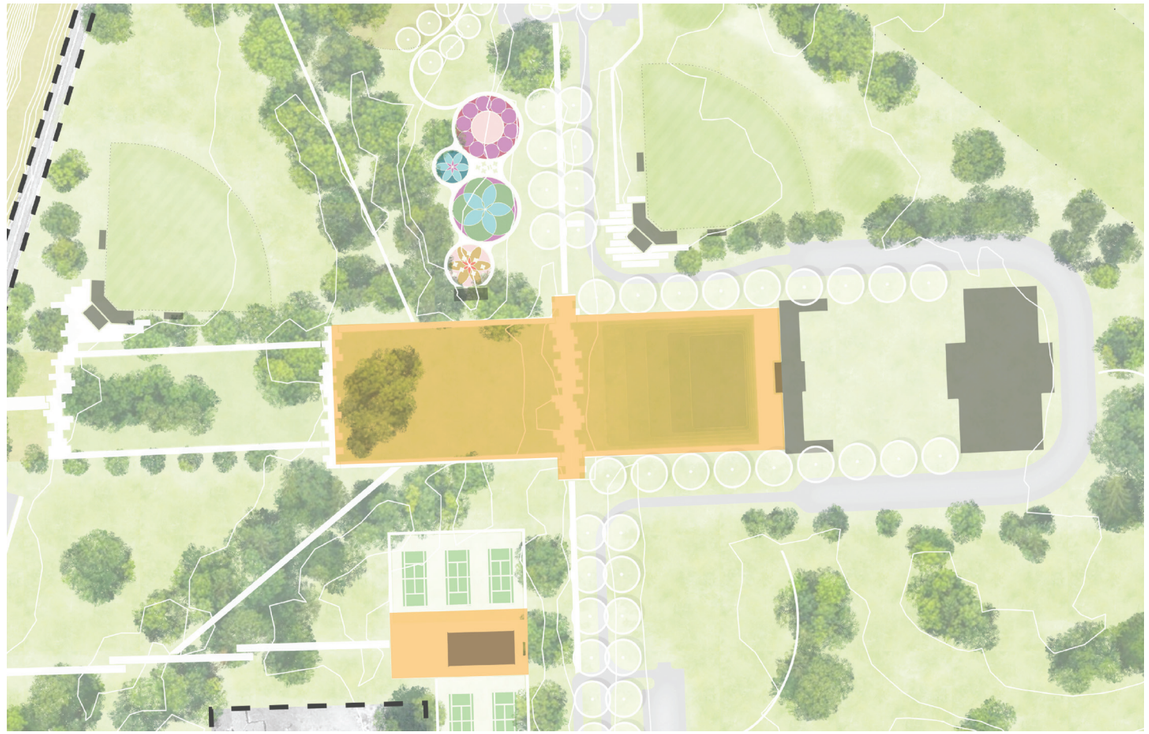
COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

In addition to the larger festival events for each site, a need for smaller events was voiced for each park during community engagement. Charles Johnson and Forsythe Parks are both important gathering spaces to their adjacent neighborhoods. The proposed improvements at each provide site amenities to continue the rich cultural traditions at each park with multiple pavilions to rent at Charles Johnson Park and the tennis clubhouse and open lawn spaces available to rent at Forsythe Park.

The existing shelters at Chennault Park have long been used for family reunions, church and business retreats, and birthday parties. These uses have decreased in recent years as the shelters have fallen into disrepair. Updating the shelters and providing new amenities such as new play equipment and bathrooms coupled with an updated golf clubhouse could make Chennault Park a highly sought after event venue space.

These amenities can also serve to generate revenue for each park that can in turn fund maintenance and future improvements.





SITE ACTIVATION

STORMWATER DETENTION

Each site is designed to manage site stormwater at varying scales. In doing so, drainage improvements allow for a quicker return of use to each park following a rain event and the introduction of stormwater best management practices provides an educational opportunity. By daylighting these systems, Monroe residents are able to experience natural processes in their community parks.

Charles Johnson Park provided ample opportunities to highlight how the site drains and deals with stormwater. A common theme when implementing best management practices is to slow the draining of stormwater, allowing for sediment and impurities to filter out of the water and to recharge the groundwater table. Rain gardens are used near children's play areas for increased exposure to natural systems and a network of boardwalks allows residents to venture through the areas of the site that will experience differing levels of inundation.

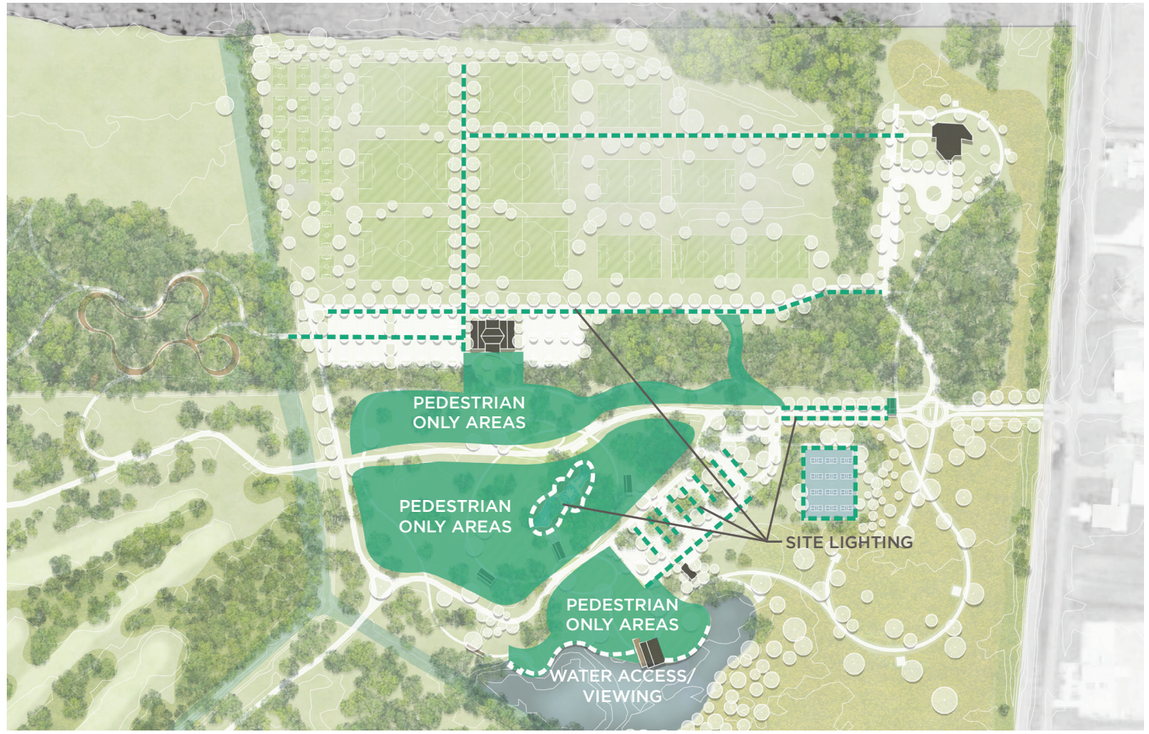
Similarly, Forsythe Park makes use of some of the decommissioned golf course to provide ample storage for stormwater with a series of boardwalks linking high points to the overall site circulation.

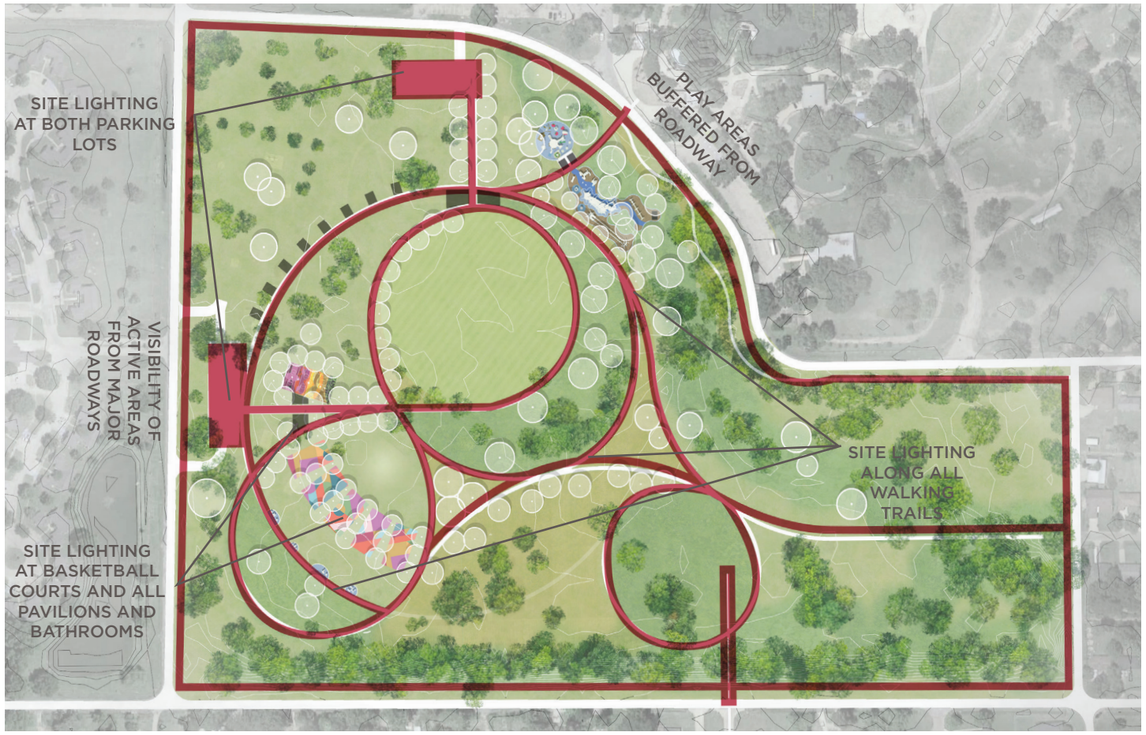
The strategy at Chennault was to protect existing forested wetlands and drainage-ways that are critical to the overall function and ecosystems surrounding the park.

SITE ACTIVATION

SECURITY MEASURES/CONSIDERATIONS

Integral to the proposed improvements at each park were security measures and safety considerations of users. Improvements include increased park lighting, safe water access/viewing, increased views into and out of each park, buffering people during work-outs, separating pedestrian circulation from vehicular, and enclosing children's play areas through the use of planting and low fencing. Each park master plan also put thoughtful consideration into how access can be effectively limited or ticketed during events and how best to restrict vehicular traffic from festival and heavy pedestrian-use spaces.





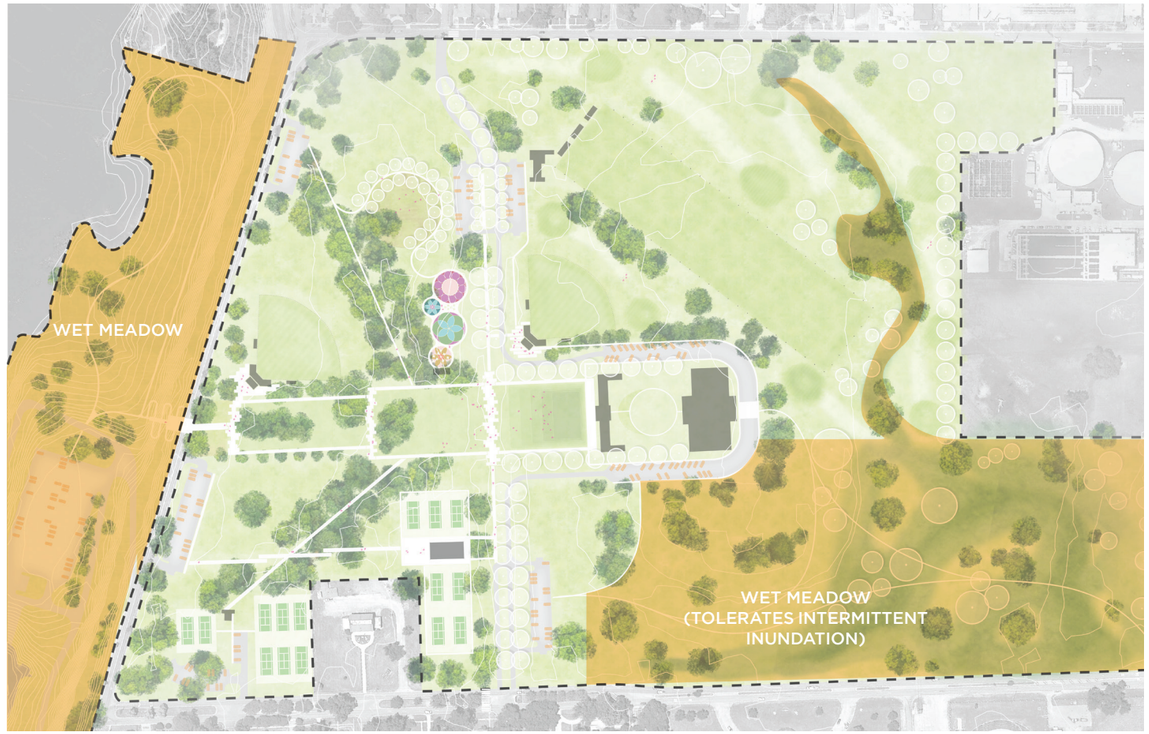
SITE ACTIVATION

DECREASED MAINTENANCE

Landscape maintenance costs can be a large percentage of the overall budget for parks. By decreasing mowing at each of Monroe's largest parks, the Parks Division is able to spend less on maintenance and ideally put more into park facilities and amenities. These diagrams illustrate the large swaths of parkland that is proposed to be converted to areas that is mowed once annually (meadows) or not at all (forested areas).

There is no such thing as zero maintenance landscapes. Once established, meadow and other native habitats require lower maintenance when compared to traditional planting beds and lawns. Establishing a mature meadow takes around 3 years and may require regular weeding, re-seeding, and mowing or controlled burns to achieve a satisfactory establishment.

Soil conditions and fluctuating inundation levels will determine the plant palette selected for each meadow habitat. Consulting with a professional to determine ideal species will ensure the seed mix tolerates the conditions specific to each site.



MONROE PARKS
APPENDIX

CHARLES JOHNSON | CHENNAULT | FORSYTHE

VII.

PLAY EQUIPMENT

CHARLES JOHNSON PARK

KOMPAN!
Let's play

KOMPAN!
Let's play

KOMPAN!
Let's play

KOMPAN!
KOMPAN!
Let's play

KOMPAN
Let's play

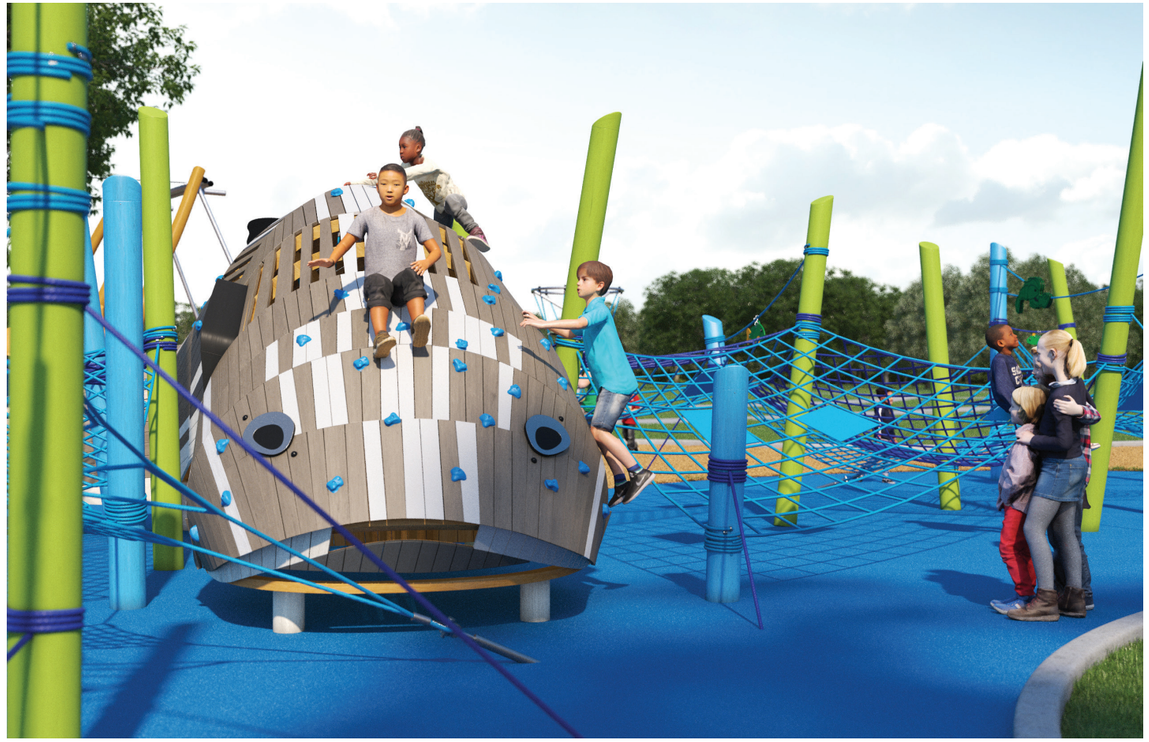
KOMPAN
Let's play

KOMPAN
Let's play

KOMPAN
Let's play

KOMPAN
Let's play

KOMPAN
Let's play

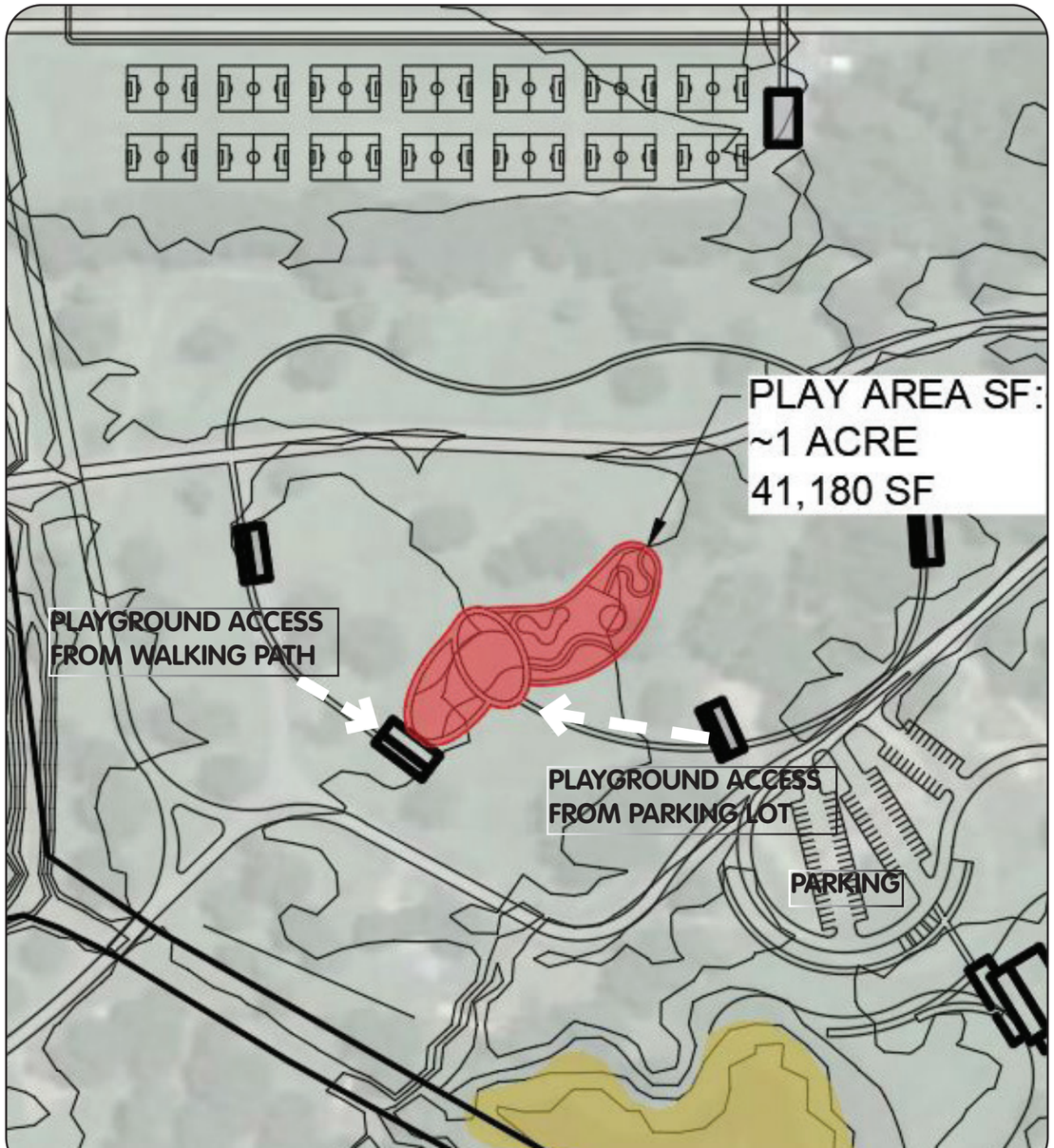


CHENNAULT PARK

The playground is located in the Chennault Park, near the golf course and several sports areas, surrounded by trails. Playground should be more challenging to fit in with all the radical activities.

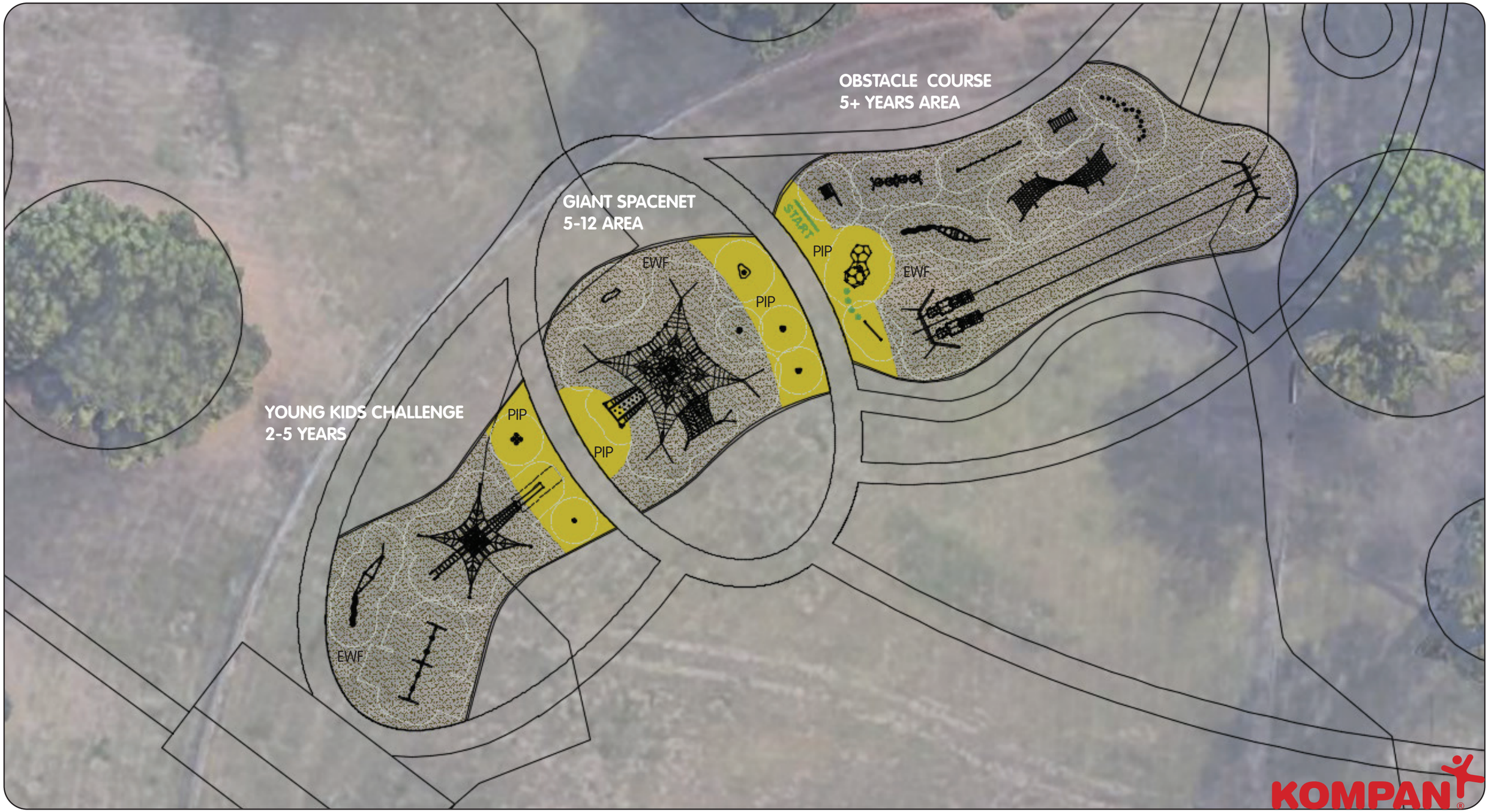
Site location

Playground and Fitness location and access points



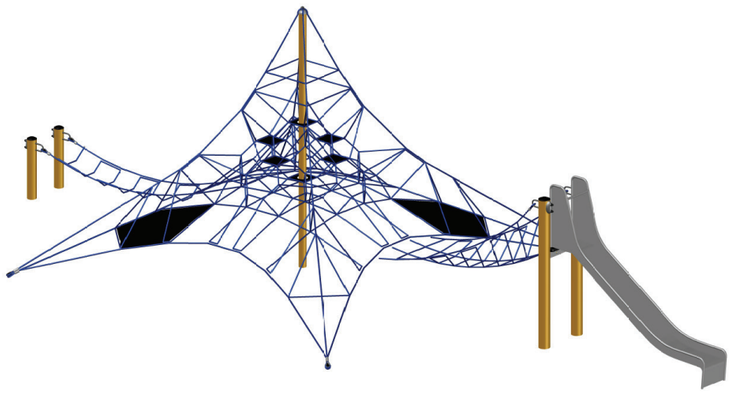
Conceptual Plan

Extreme Sports - Graduated Challenge playground

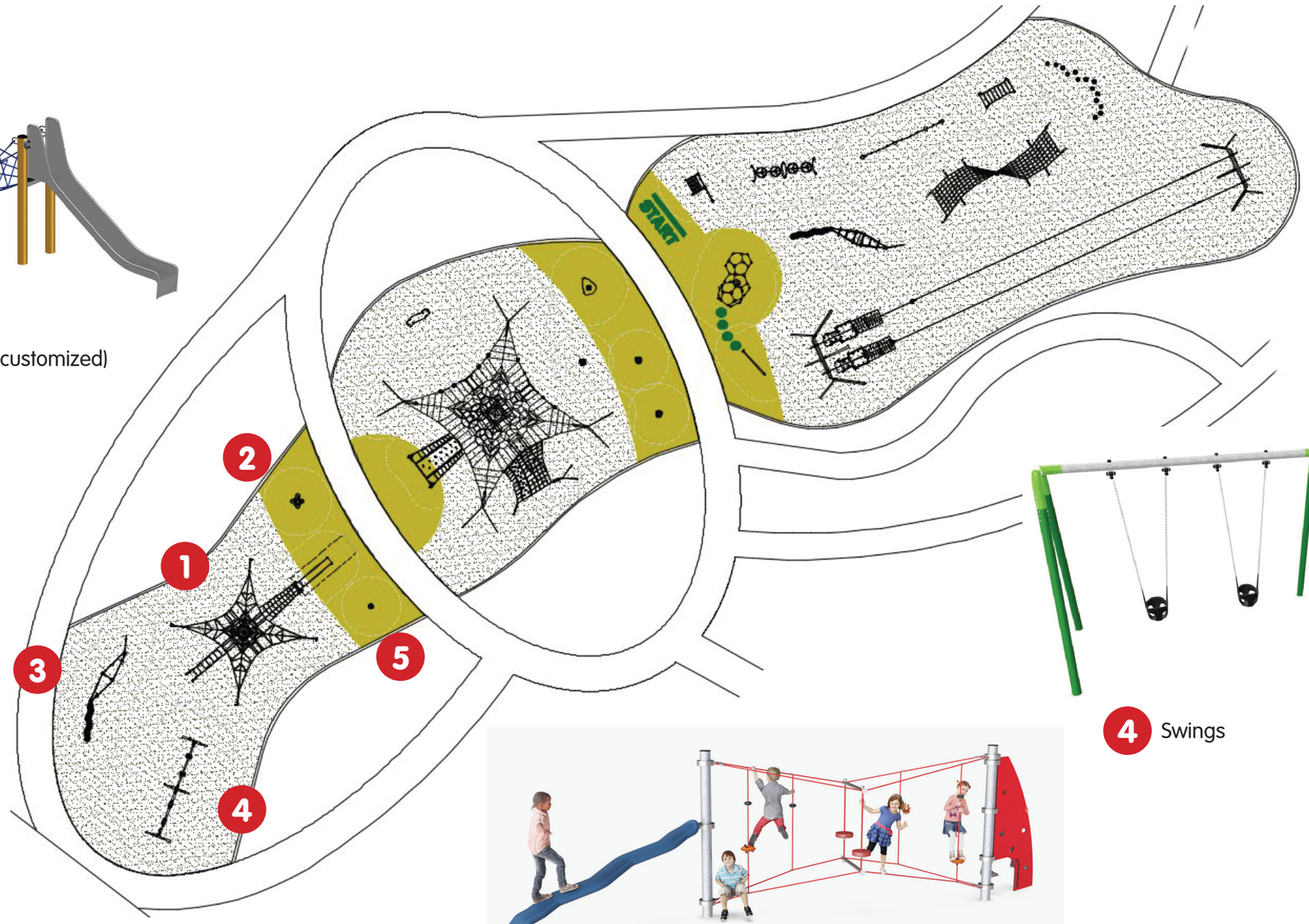


Equipment Plan

2-5 area - Young kids challenge

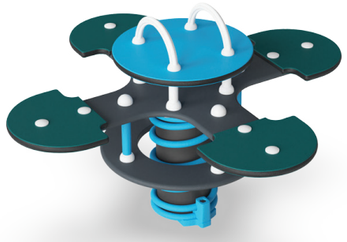


1 Mini Spacenet with bridge and slide (to be customized)



5 Jr Spica

4 Swings



2 Daisy Springer

3 UFO Trail (colors to be customized)

KOMPAN®

Reference Images

2-5 area - Young kids challenge

Mini Spacenet with bridge and slide (to be customized)

Net climber

Daisy Springer

Jr Spica spinner

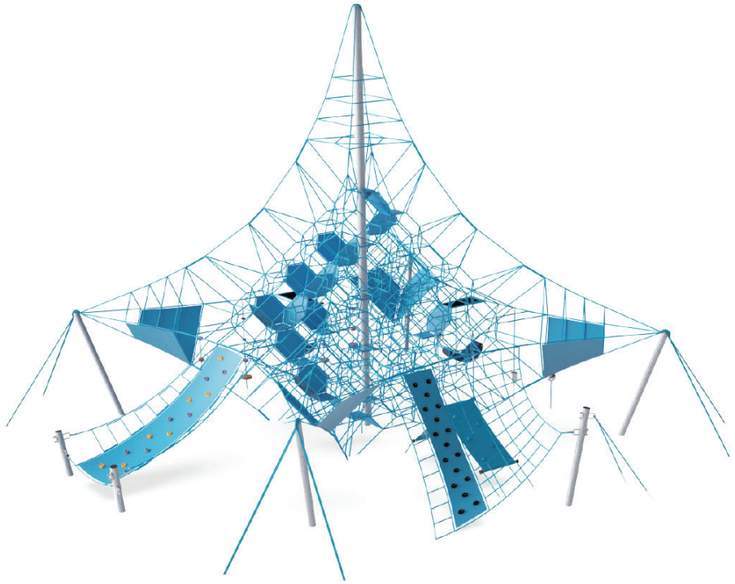
Mini Spacenet with bridge and slide (to be customized)

UFO trail

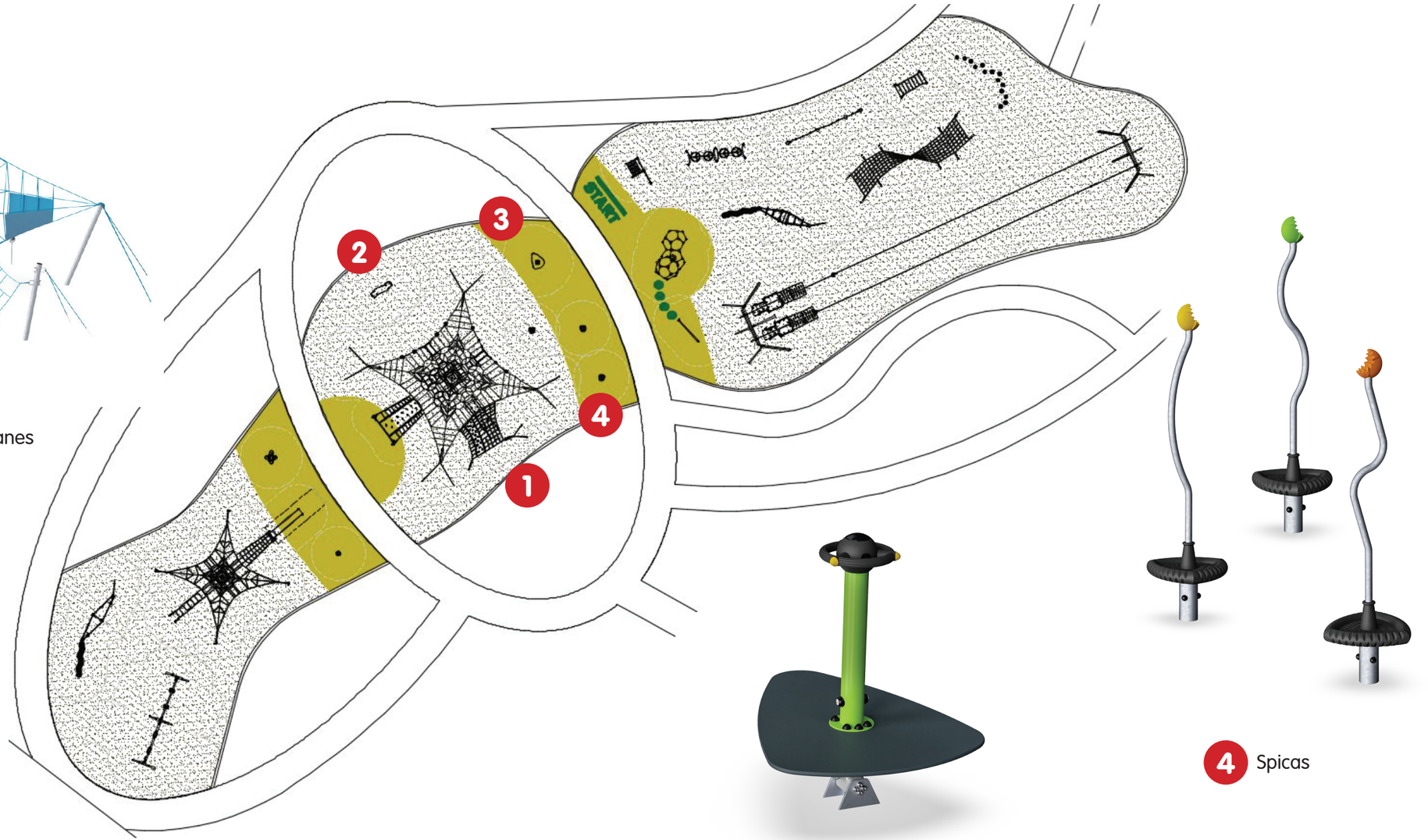
Swings

Equipment Plan

5-12 area - Giant Octanet area



1 Giant Octanet with extensions and membranes)colors to be customized)



2 Starsurfer

3 Rock-it

4 Spicas

KOMPAN®

Reference Images

Extreme Sports - Giant Octanet Area

Giant Octanet with net extensions, 29 ft high, to be customized with natural colors

Starsurfer

Spicas spinners

Giant Octanet view from top

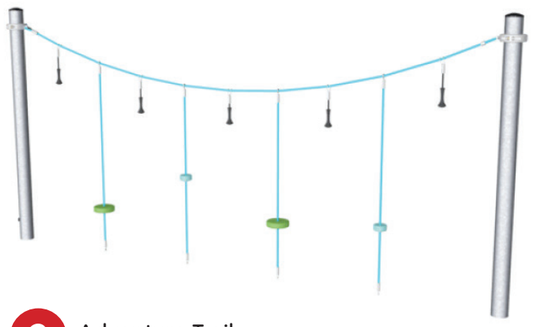
Rock-it

Equipment Plan

5+ area - Obstacle Course

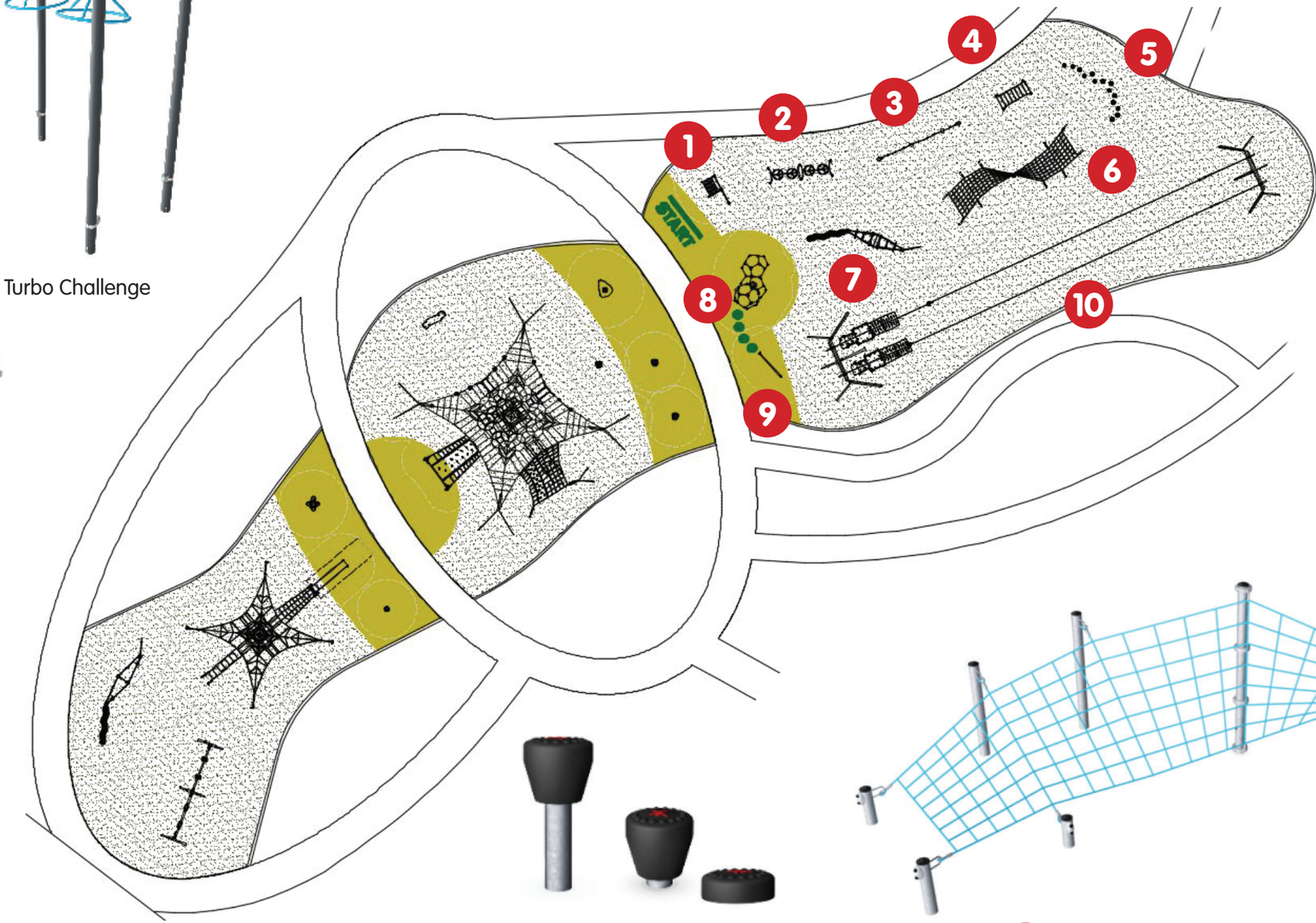
1 Vertical Net and Wall

2 Double Turbo Challenge

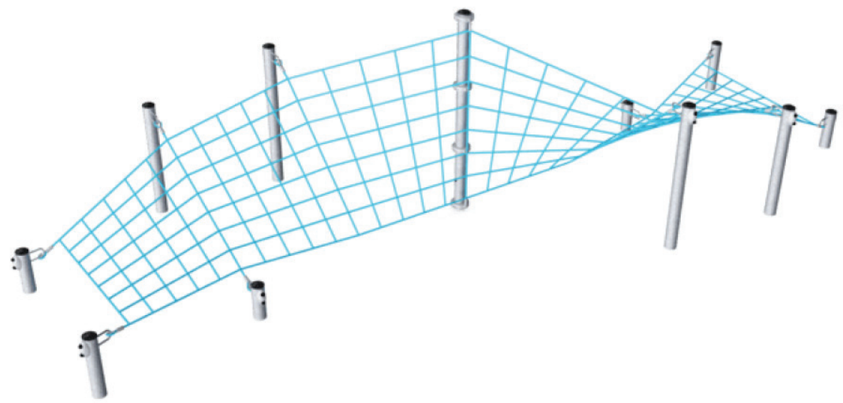


3 Adventure Trail

4 UNO Climber



5 Stepping Pods

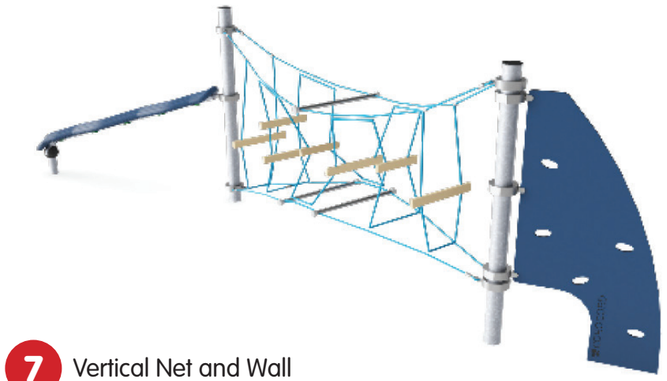


6 Corkscrew Net

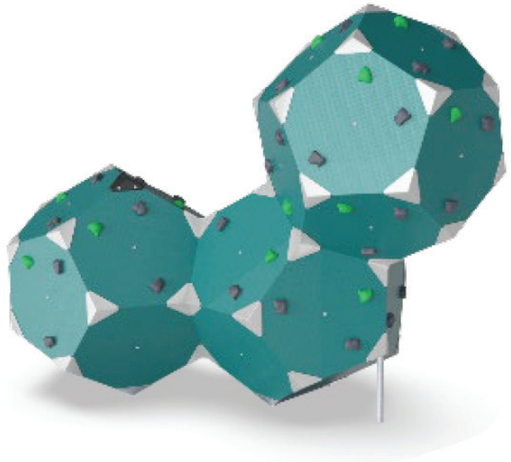
KOMPAN®

Equipment Plan

5+ area - Obstacle Course

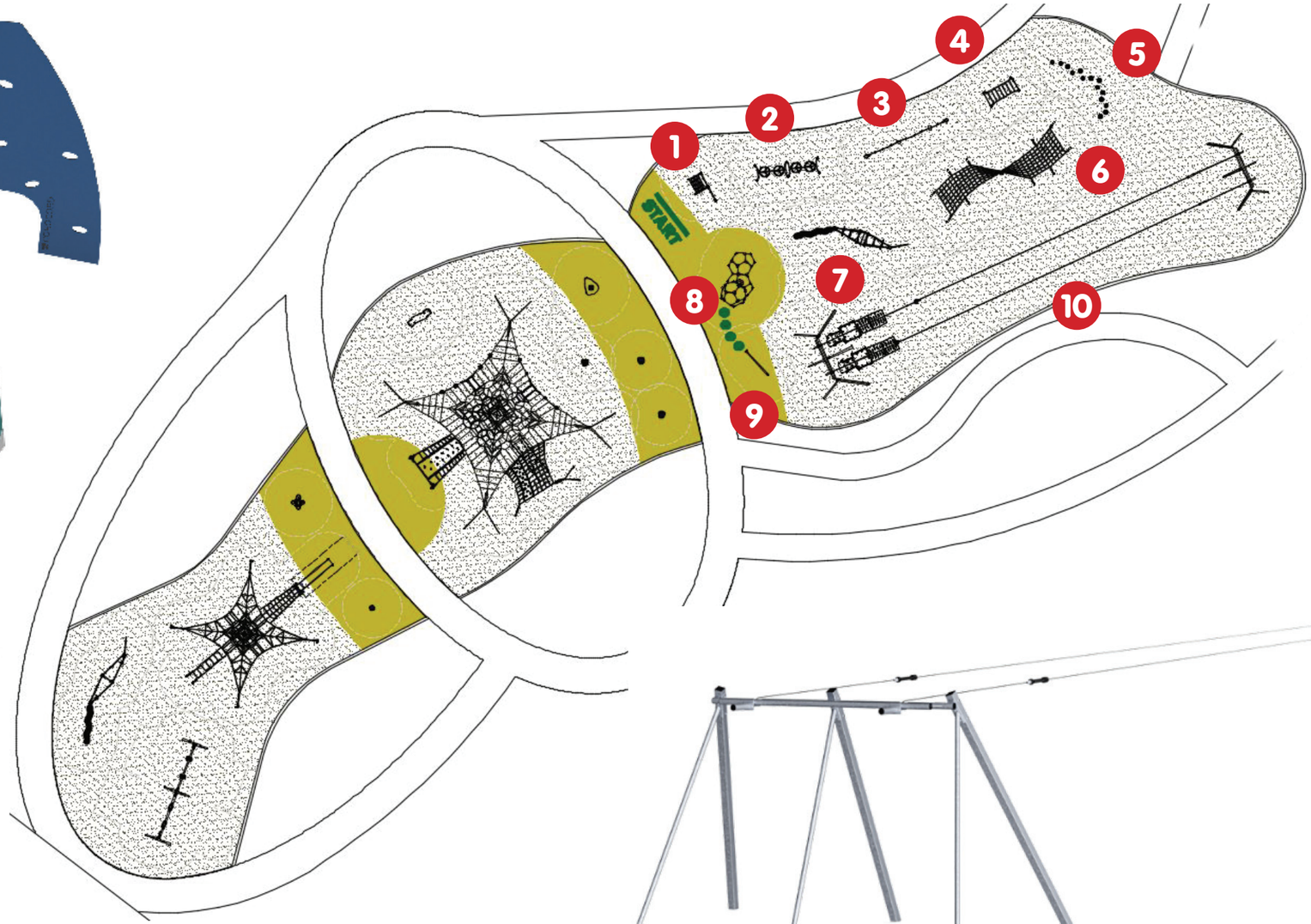


7 Vertical Net and Wall



8 BLOQX 3

9 Balance Beam, Round



10 Double Zipline with Start Platforms

KOMPAN

Reference Images

Extreme Sports - Obstacle Course (5+ area)

Vertical Net and Wall

Double Turbo Challenge

Adventure Trail

UNO Climber

Stepping Pods

Reference Images

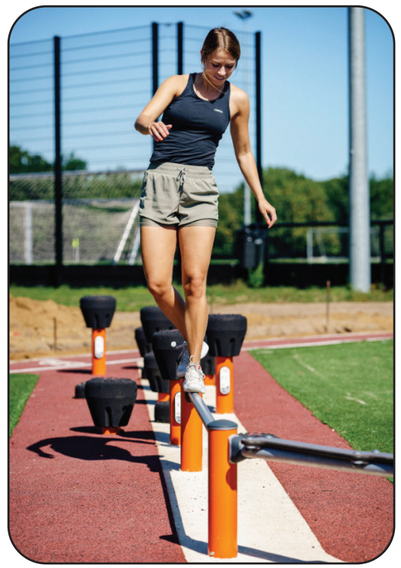
Extreme Sports - Obstacle Course (5+ area)

Corkscrew Net

Up and Down Trail

BLOQX 3

Balance Beam

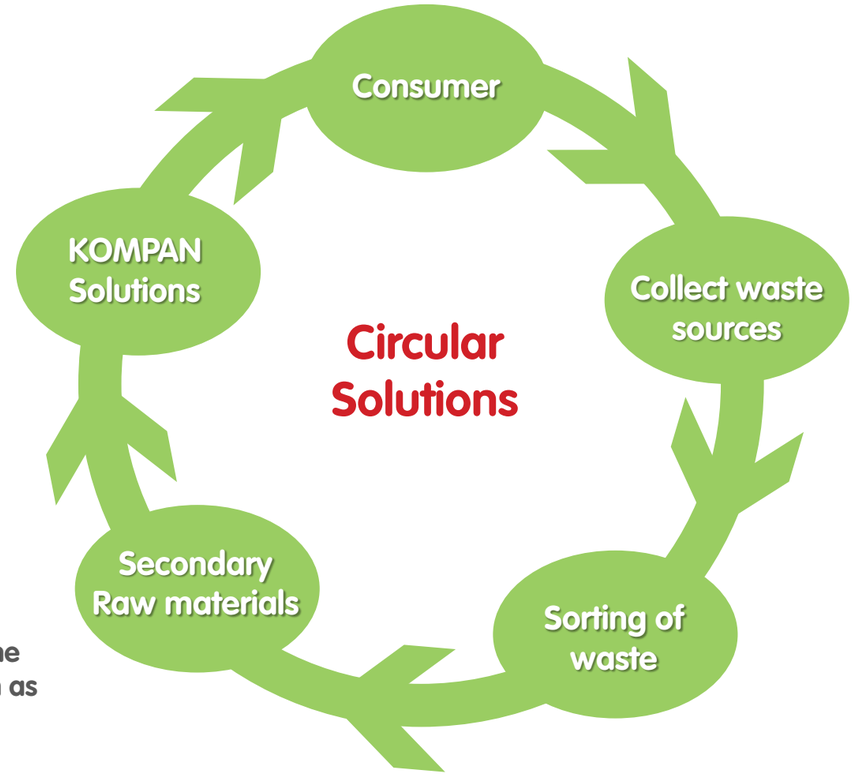


Zipline

KOMPAN Sustainability

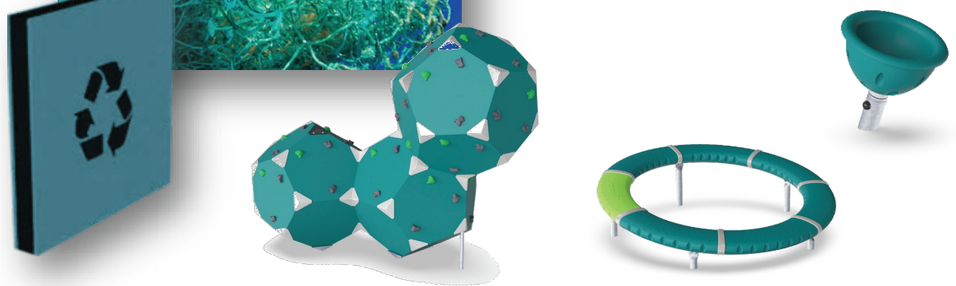
Made Green: Post-consumer Waste

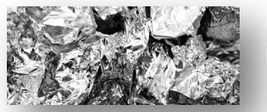
TexMade™ Posts made in 100% Post-consumer recycled textile and plastic waste



EcoCore™ HDPE sheets in 100% Post-consumer material in the core from e.g., food packaging waste

Components made in Post-consumer Ocean waste collected from the maritime industry, such as fishing nets, ropes and trawls





Extruded Aluminum in Low Carbon

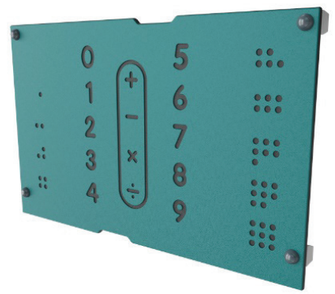
Surfacing made of 20% Sneaker grind 80% Post-industrial recycled EPDM

KOMPAN Sustainability

More Sustainable Material Choices

EcoCore™ Panels

Ultimate sustainable EcoCore™ panels



- ✓ **Dark teal** made of 100% post-consumer ocean recycled waste
- ✓ The dark teal is the natural color from Ocean waste
- ✓ **Other EcoCore™ panels** with the black core made of 100% post-consumer material from food packaging waste

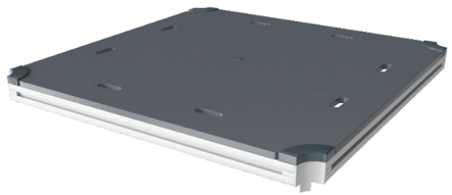
TexMade™ Posts

Textile posts in greyish color

- ✓ TexMade™ posts are made of 100% recycled PE and textile waste
- ✓ Fixation points are made unique designed with threaded inserts = TexNut™ of zinc alloy material
- ✓ TexMade posts are anchored by 15cm elevated hot dip galvanized steel footings

Molded PP Decks

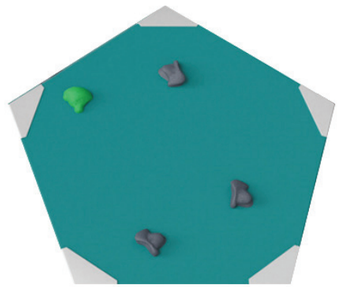
New sustainable deck design & material



- ✓ Molded PP decks made of 75% post-consumer ocean recycled waste
- ✓ Non-skid pattern and texture surface
- ✓ Can replace present installed HPL decks ⇔ Green update of playgrounds.

Bloqx™ Panels

Sustainable molded PP panels



- ✓ Molded PP panels which consist of 75% recycled post consumer ocean waste and 25% virgin material ocean recycled waste
- ✓ Unique pattern that provides a non-skid surface texture
- ✓ GreenLine ensures the lowest possible CO2e emission factor

Rotomolded parts

Sustainable molded PP panels

- ✓ Rotomolded PP parts which consist of 25% recycled post consumer ocean waste and 75% virgin material ocean recycled waste
- ✓ Fine texture surface
- ✓ GreenLine ensures the lowest possible CO2e emission factor

Coastal Hardy Offering

Design for and protect from flooding

Specific coastal conditions require additional precautions to ensure the product has a long lifetime. From the factory we can provide:

- Increased level of surface treatment (C4 Paint)
- Substitution of aluminium for steel posts

We also recommend:

- Regular washing with freshwater
- Repainting with C4 paint, when needed

Warranty Guidelines

Coastal Hardy products installed in coastal areas, within 200 meters or 600 feet from the shore, will be covered by the warranty for half the period of the standard product warranty.

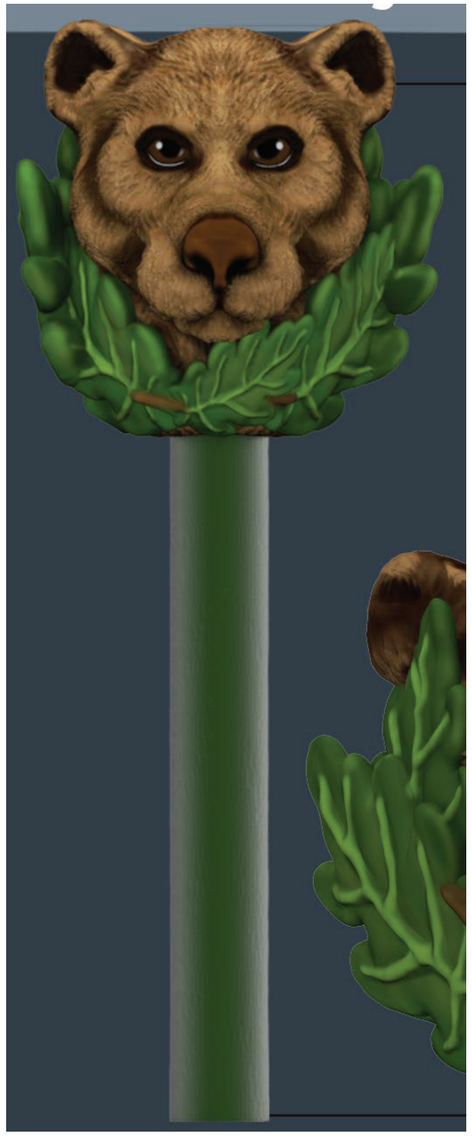
KOMPAN's Lifetime warranty if applicable is limited to ten years.

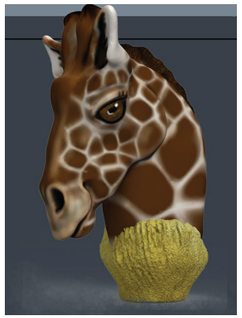
As standard for all equipment, KOMPAN uses Hot Dip Galvanization on all steel parts. Powder Coating is also used to protect metal surfaces from environmental damage.

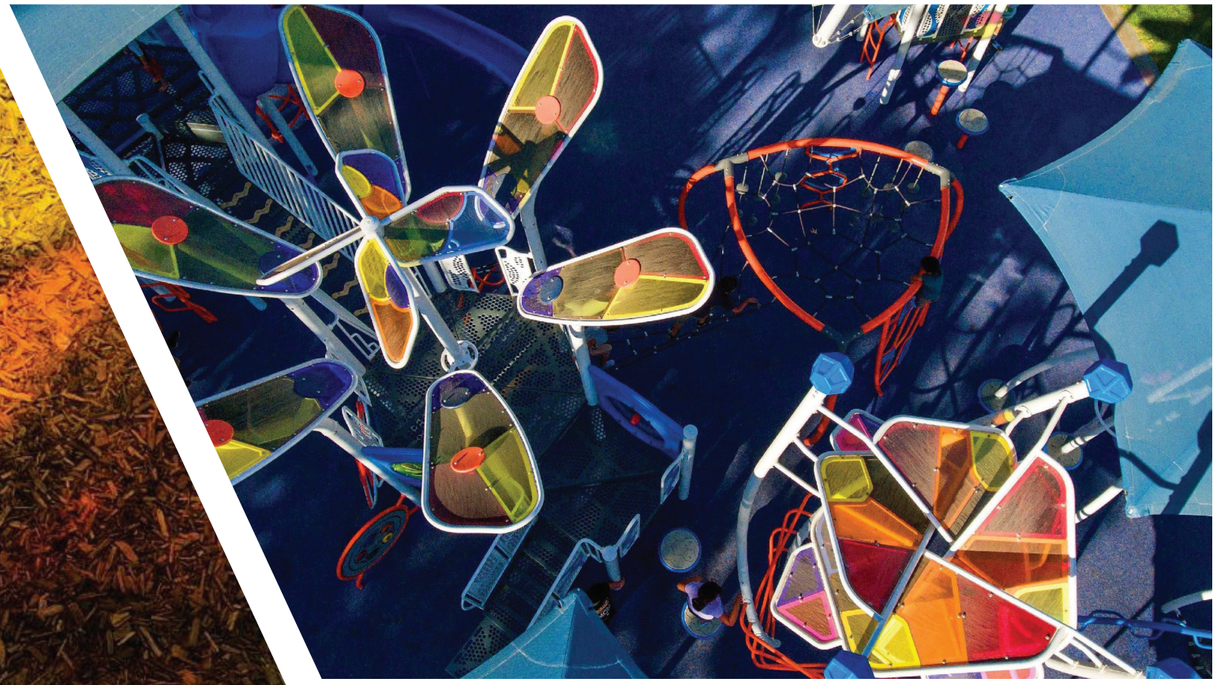
FORSYTHE PARK

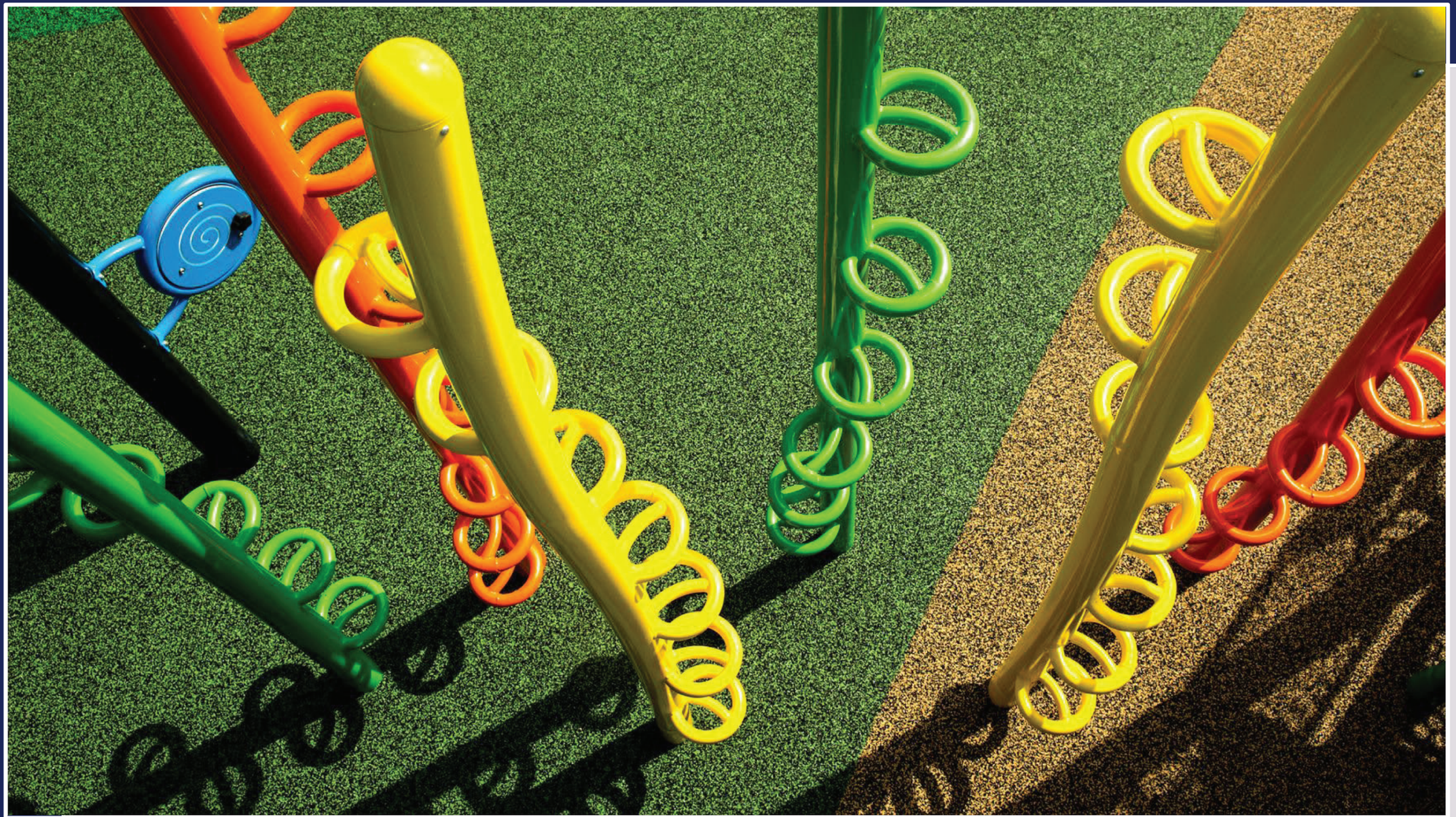
CONCEPTUAL IDEA FOR GARDEN DISTRICT/ART THEME

CUSTOM ANIMAL
POST TOPPERS









Volcom

SENSORY SPINNING SEAT

ONLINE SURVEYS

CHARLES JOHNSON PARK

ENGAGEMENT ROUND ONE

In one word, please explain how you feel when in Charles Johnson Park.

Mentimeter

What is your favorite feature of the park?

Mentimeter

He did what he felt to help the community,when we lost Mr Johnson we lost a community,his voice not only heard here in Monroe be world community , in one word (GREAT!!!!)	The park has lots of open area and some grand oak trees.	The walking trail
The walk trail although some asphalt location need rework	Roomy	Walking trail
Signs and WorldTrail	Zoo	I like that the park is big and spacious. The park has area for picnic tables and children play areas. I love that it is close to the zoo with a nice walking trail.
Soothing .	I love my peaceful walk in the mornings.	The elders

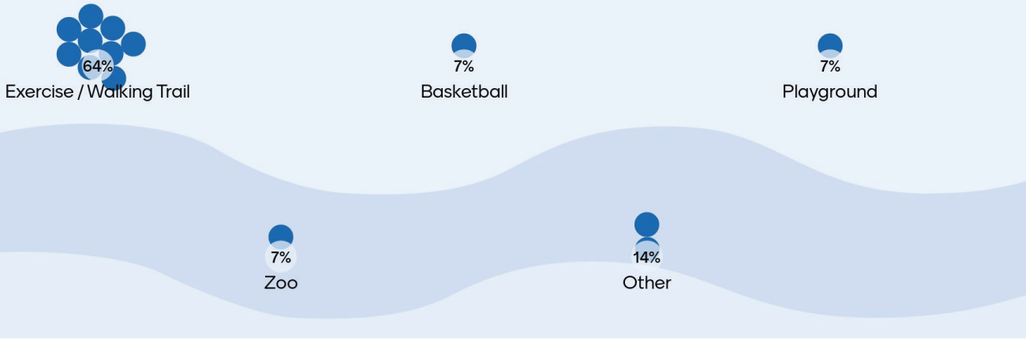
What feature do you think needs the most improvements?

Mentimeter

Park walk pass need to over lay,make wider.	Oftentimes, the parking areas have trash and broken glass on the ground. Some of the walkways are not properly lighted.	To widen the walking trail
Walk trail.	SAFE up- to-date children's play equipment and surrounding space. There is nothing there to absorb the shock of impact or prevention of injuries.	None. I love all the improvements. Love the park
The entire park needs to be improved. The parks need more children playing areas, another children jungle gym and basketball. I need more swing for infants to swing in at the park. The park needs paint and more cover picnic table .	The park is in need of routine maintenance and up keep. The powers that B should keep park up like the other major parks in Monroe. Shame on you!!	Grass moving and trash dumping schedule
		The trash

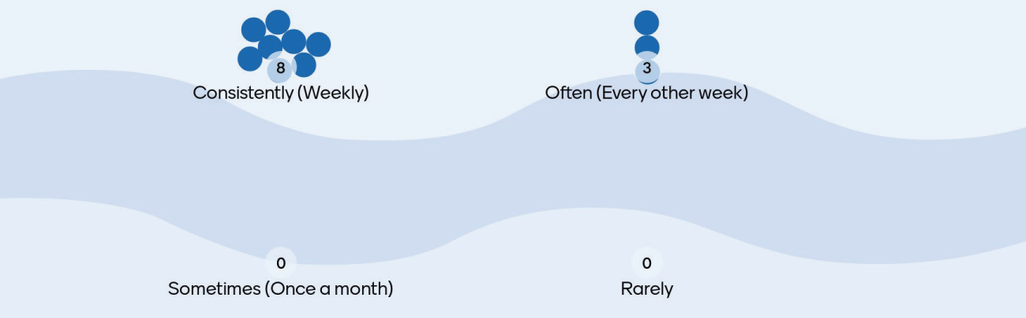
What brought you out to the park today?

Mentimeter



How often do you visit this park?

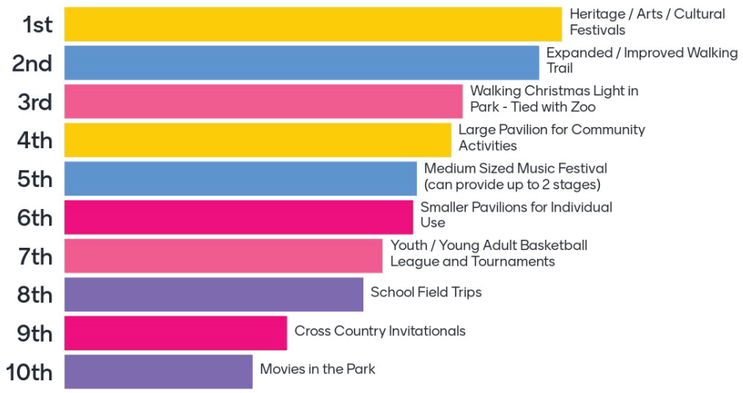
Mentimeter



CHARLES JOHNSON PARK

ENGAGEMENT ROUND TWO

Which events do we see most likely happening in Charles Johnson Park?



Are there any specific events that take place in Charles Johnson Park not listed? What is the event size? What time of year do they take place?

- No.
- I am not familiar with any additional events in Charles Johnson Park.
- Gatherings with live music or DJ along with nice grills
- Not aware of any
- Uncertain
- N/A
- Any community events that are safe and positive are welcome additions.
- Movie in the Park / Fall
- Not sure of all the events that take place!

CHENNAULT PARK

ENGAGEMENT ROUND ONE

In one word, please explain how you feel when in Chennault Park.

Mentimeter

peaceful
sad
safe
relaxed
could be better
disc golf
disappointing
happy

What is your favorite feature of the park?

Mentimeter

- Accessibility
- This park used to be kept immaculate but within the last 5 years the maintenance has been lacking to put it lightly even tho the staffing didn't change. I know when his because I played disc golf daily. It was obvious that those in charge didn't car
- Disc golf by far.
- Size
- Play areas and discus golf
- Swings, Walking Paths, and Tennis Court for shooting a Water Bottle Rocket

What feature do you think needs the most improvements?

Mentimeter

- Finally things are beginning to improve, thank goodness. Trees need to be planted to replace the old ones being lost. Drainage is a big issue, also. Bathrooms and pavillons need attention
- Tennis courts maybe. Horseshoe pit not in direct sunlight. I've never seen anyone in there anyways. Trash cans gone in back. Drainage addressed
- Everything
- The bridge with the BIG hole in it
- Bathrooms and Soccer complex

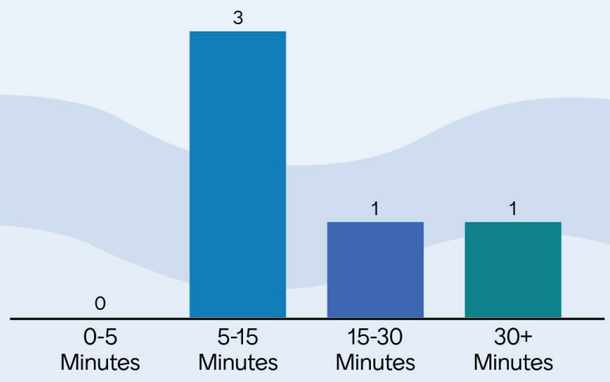
What brought you out to the park today?

Mentimeter

13% Exercise / Walking Trail	13% Soccer	0% Golf
38% Disc Golf	13% Access to Nature	0% African American Heritage Museum
0% Playground	0% Pavilions / Gatherings	25% Other

How long did you travel to get here?

Mentimeter



How often do you visit this park?

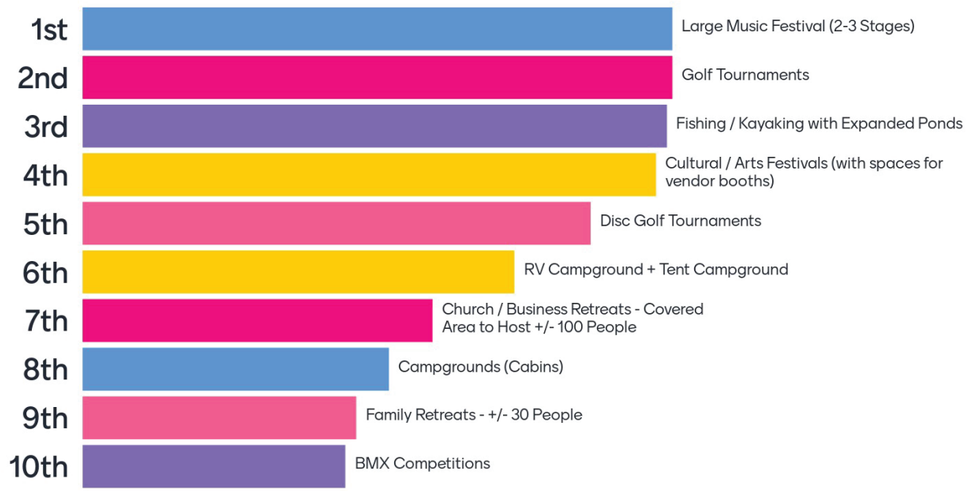
Mentimeter

3 Consistently (Weekly)	1 Often (Every other week)
0 Sometimes (Once a month)	1 Rarely

CHENNAULT PARK

ENGAGEMENT ROUND TWO

Which events do we see most likely happening in Chennault Park?



Are there any specific events that take place in Chennault Park not listed? What is the event size? What time of year do they take place?

- Pickleball Courts to be added the tennis courts.
- Unaware of any
- Recreational activities are a very in-demand activity!
- Soccer tournaments occur during soccer season.
- Horse Shoe Pitching Competitions, Family Gatherings, Walking Trails
- Uncertain
- Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament / May-June
- Soccer and the African American Museum
- N/A
- Not sure of events that take place!
- I have never been to an event at Chennault other than golfing with my husband and taking my son to the "park" or to go walking, but there is SO much potential. We live in the Swartz area.

FORSYTHE PARK

ENGAGEMENT ROUND ONE

In one word, please explain how you feel when in Forsythe Park.

Mentimeter

What is your favorite feature of the park?

Mentimeter

The balance of trees and open space.	Poorly lit walking trails. Car parked on grass with blaring music.. no occasional police presence for any deterrence .	Plenty of paths and roads nearby to run
The walking trails. We wish there were more.	Green space	The space and choices golf, tennis, ball, green space, soccer, and playgrounds.
the playground	It's very big we have a lot of room to play with. Also we need more security cameras	Proximity to levee and river
The walking paths, the levee, and the tennis courts.	Trees	Play area, needs a little upgrading
Walking spaces	Nothing, but I wish the golf course was nicer	Walking trail
They were the tire swing and fountain that both no longer exist.	The giant oak trees	Tennis courts

What is your favorite feature of the park?

Mentimeter

Playground	The trees	The wall
The updated stuff	The new lights in the trees so that you can see at night.	The oak trees and lights are absolutely beautiful but everything else around doesn't seem welcoming
The old oak trees, the historical pool building, the band stand.	Baseball diamond	Multiple play areas
tennis courts	Would love for there to be longer/walking paths for walking with kids and strollers.	Trees
I love that is a large sprawling park with multiple areas of use, from soccer to the playground to tennis courts.	baseball and softball fields, walking paths, tennis courts, community feel.	Playground
Trees	Trees and lawn.	Walking paths
Trees	Tennis Courts	Diversity of space and amenities in a very convenient location
Location and potential	The trees, the location.	Space and more space for everyone to enjoy the grounds
The large oak treea	Trees	The Hills
Tennis courts. Play with my friends and do lessons every Thursday	Lots of empty feild to walk in and equitment for smaller kids	It lacks in any features.
mix of ball parks and play equipment	Oak trees and open green spaces.	

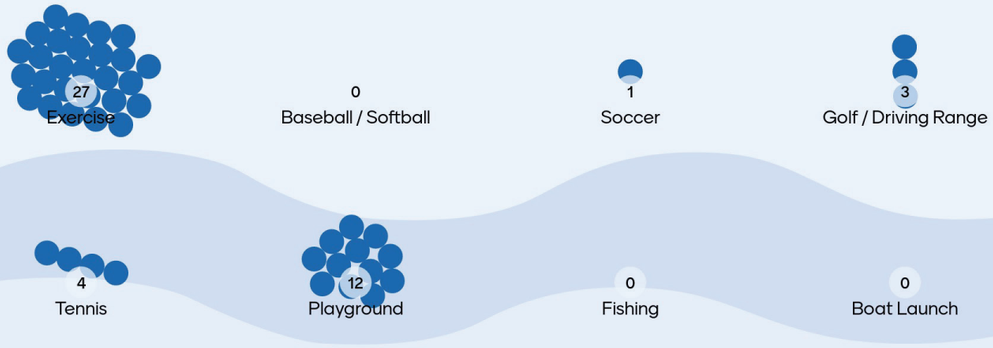
What feature do you think needs the most improvements?

Mentimeter

Community engagement.	A few more lights around parking, security presence, events to bring people to the park	Fountain area and the wall - quite shabby
More benches	Playground	the landscape care
More security cameras and new swing sets.	Pedestrian connectivity and safety, walk ability to riverfront	Bring the dragonfly back! General cleanliness. Expanded tennis courts. Excited about children's museum.
Lighting at night	Play area	General maintainece
All of it	Posting all dogs should be on lease.	Tunnel, sidewalks, fountain, swings, bathrooms, parking lots, picnic tables, sand table, and paint.
Play area for the kids and bathrooms	Playground and pavilions with picnic tables	Play ground
Playground equipment	Playground	The ground by the older equipment
The entire park	Parking lots, fountain, walls	Play equipment
The ground. There's holes everywhere that can cause a fall. Under the swings stays muddy when it rains. And the equipment could definately use some upgrades.	the berms and walls and needs more equipment	Walking paths, colorful amenities
Security via lighting, patrols, etc	It needs updated playground equipment and a better thought out plan for kids play.	General Upkeep and modernization.
Walking trails	Playground	I'm not sure. It's nice the way it is but has so much more potential.
playground	Picnic area old buildings	Tennis facilities
Golf course could be converted to a landscaped, well lit jogging/walking/biking trail. All sponsored 5 & 10 K runs could be held on site. Police on bicycles for security. Keep driving range for golfers	Playgrounds, walking paths, landscaping	I think all elements need to be updated. It looks neglected
Better lighting; landscaping improvements; trees need trimming; add playground equipment and picnic tables.	Everything	Picnic tables out in the open, under trees ect
Newer and more engaging things	We should be so lucky to have a park like Kiroli in West Monroe.	not sure
	Connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods.	

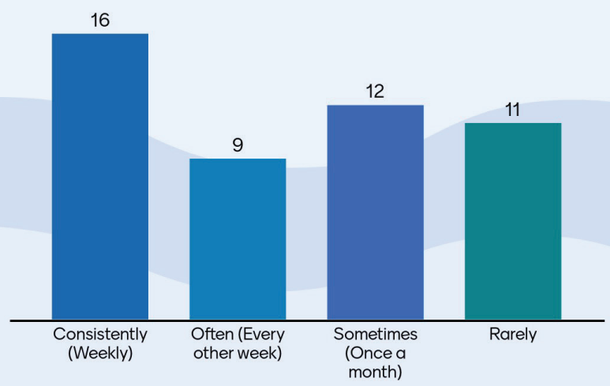
What brought you out to the park today?

Mentimeter



How often do you visit this park?

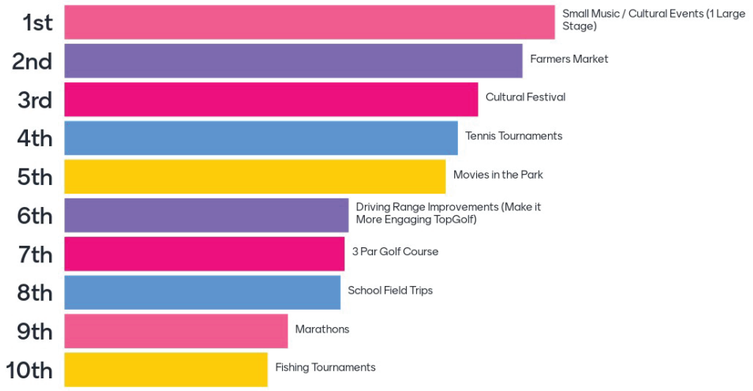
Mentimeter



FORSYTHE PARK

ENGAGEMENT ROUND TWO

Which events do we see most likely happening in Forsythe Park?



Are there any specific events that take place in Forsyth Park not listed? What is the event size? What time of year do they take place?

Pickleball tournaments

The Children's Museum, after it relocates, will likely host several events geared toward youth.

I would love safe and expanded access to the river and levee! This park is DYING to be expanded to the levee with a walking trail. Also, big signs for where to park and connecting sidewalks EVERYWHERE

N/A

We need pickleball courts in Forsythe Park. I think they would be heavily used. Our area needs dedicated, open-air pickleball courts. Forsythe Park is the perfect place for them - at least 4.

Baseball League, Football league, Soccer League, Cricket Games, Walking Trails, Softball League, Yoga in the Park

Biggest Loser / May-JunePicnic in the Park / Fall & Spring

Physical Fitness eventsAll year round100+ in attendance

Skatepark! Ruston has made this happen don't get left behind!

Uncertain

Baseball and Softball along with sand volleyball

CITY OF MONROE

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
Parks and Beautification

CARBO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

HEALTHY FUNROE
BETTER YOU ON THE BAYOU