

## Art Commission Review – Submittal Form

*(Applicant complete below section)*

**Project Name:** Lemon Hill Playground

**Project Address:** 39 State Rte 3007, Philadelphia, PA 19130 **On Public Property?**  Yes  No

**Total Budget:** \$2.5m **Utilizing City Funds?**  Yes (specify amount): \$2.5m  No

**Project Type** (check all that apply):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building – New Construction or Addition | <input type="checkbox"/> Encroachment in/over ROW    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building – Renovation or Repair         | <input type="checkbox"/> Signage (Reconsideration)   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Park/Playground        | <input type="checkbox"/> Streetery (Reconsideration) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Art                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                |

**Project Team:**

Agency/Org.: Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Design Lead (firm): Marvel

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Contact for Project Communications:**

Name: Tyler Silvestro

Affiliation: MARVEL

Email: [REDACTED]

*(Art Commission staff complete below section)*

**Art Commission Meeting Date of Project Review:** 12/10/25

**Level of Review:**

Concept Review  Final Review If Final, specify date of preceding Concept Review: 10/8/25

Administrative Review (for projects with minimal visual impact on public realm)

**Staff Notes (Optional):**



# Memorandum

**To:** Katherine Liss, City Planner  
**From:** Priyanka Malik, Architectural Project Coordinator, CPO  
**Date:** November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
**Re:** Request for Arts Commission Review

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We respectfully request to be included on the Arts Commission agenda for December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for Final Approval of the Lemon Hill Playground project, located at 39 State Rte 3007, Philadelphia, PA 19130.

The drawings will be submitted by December 3, 2025. A brief description of the project is provided below:

The project proposes replacing the existing playground with an accessible play space that integrates the site's natural slope to create a tiered play environment. Each elevation will be connected by a traversing, ADA-accessible switchback path. Along the path, nodes will be organized by target age groups, creating a safer, more approachable public space for children and caregivers. Play zones will include dedicated areas for different age groups, as well as a shared space to encourage interaction across age groups.

Additionally, the design incorporates multiple seating and gathering zones, providing opportunities for caregivers and families to socialize and relax within a safe distance from children at play.

The estimated project budget is \$2,500,000.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. Please let me know if any additional information is required.

cc: Aparna Palantino, Director, CPO  
Francesco Cerrai, Project Director, CPO  
Tyler Silverstro ., Partner, MARVEL, tsilverstro@marveldesigns.com  
Tonghuan Wu, Landscape Architect, MARVEL, twu@marveldesigns.com  
File: Project # 16-25-7259-01, Section 2.13



# LEMON HILL PLAYGROUND

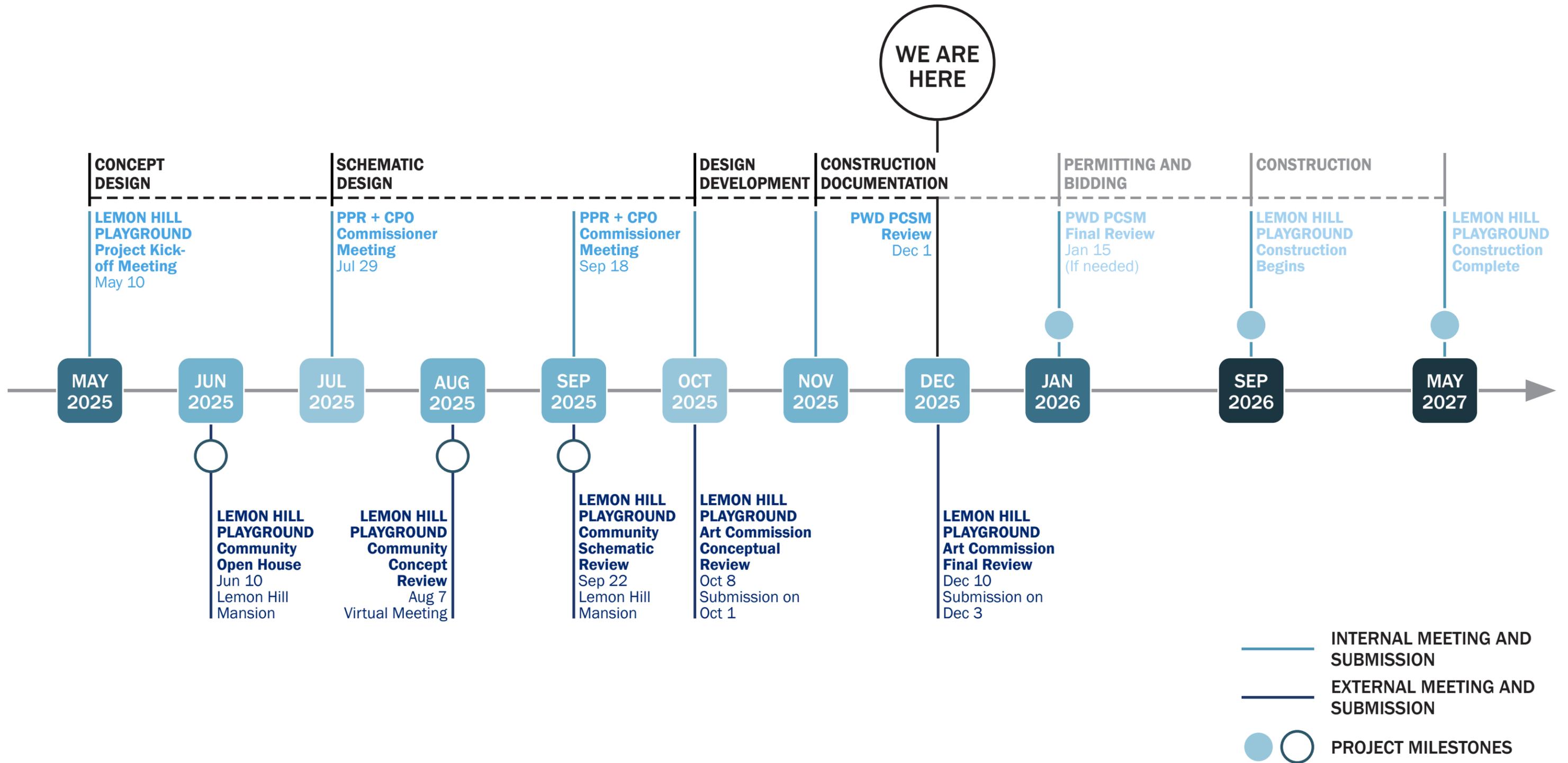
ART COMMISSION MEETING - FINAL REVIEW

DEC 10, 2025



MARVEL

# PROJECT TIMELINE | MILESTONES



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | HYBRID FEEDBACK



- **3 COMMUNITY SESSIONS**

2 EVENTS IN THE PARK (JUNE 10 & SEPTEMBER 22) AND ONE VIRTUAL MEETING (AUGUST 7) LED TO ROBUST FEEDBACK AND INPUT

- **100+ PARTICIPANTS**

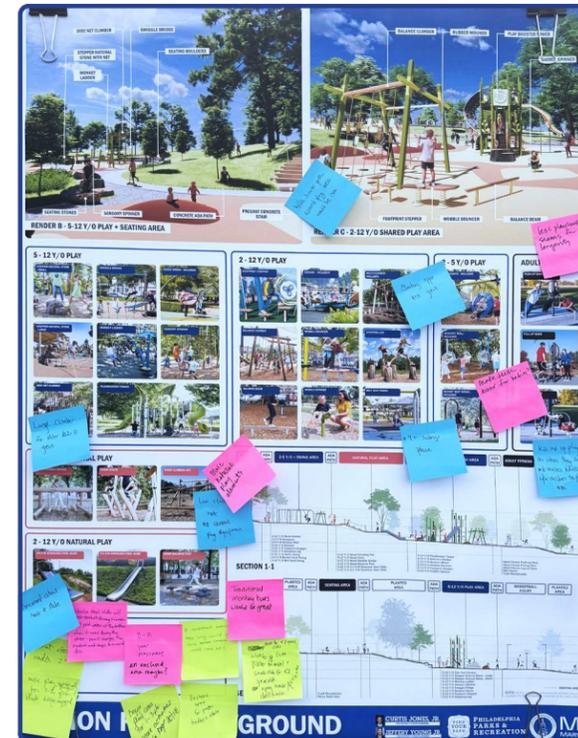
INCLUDING COMMUNITY MEMBERS, CITY REPRESENTATIVES, PHILADELPHIA PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF

- **150+ COMMENTS**

INCLUDING FEEDBACK RELATED TO THE PLAYGROUND LAYOUT AND PLAY EQUIPMENT SELECTION

- **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

INPUT FROM COUNCILMEMBERS, NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES, AND LOCAL RESIDENTS AND PLAYGROUND USERS SUPPORT THE DESIRE FOR AN ACCESSIBLE, DESTINATION PLAY SPACE FOR THE COMMUNITY IN LEMON HILL PARK



# LEMON HILL PLAYGROUND COMMUNITY FEEDBACK | SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT

## 1. CLIMBING & SLIDING OPTIONS

UTILIZE DIVERSE CLIMBING OPTIONS (WOODEN ELEMENTS ON HILL, LARGE 5-12 Y/O CLIMBER, & NET CLIMBER)

## 2. CREATE SAFE / AGE APPROPRIATE PLAY ENVIRONS

ALLOW CLEAR SIGHTLINES THROUGHOUT PLAYGROUND TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND PROVIDE AMPLE SEATING IN YOUNGER ZONES FOR CAREGIVERS

## 3. UTILIZE THE HILLSIDE

HILLSIDE ALLOWS MORE ACTIVE USE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATED PLAY

## 4. 0-2 Y/O PLAY FEATURES

ADD MORE PLAY FEATURES & OPTIONS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

## 5. SEATING, GATHERING, AND ACCESSIBILITY

ENSURE INCLUSIVITY AND A FULL RANGE OF ACCESSIBILITY AND SEATING FOR ALL CARETAKERS AND CHILDREN ALIKE

## 6. MAINTENANCE AND DURABILITY

ENSURE IF EQUIPMENT BREAKS, IT CAN BE REPLACED WITHIN A REASONABLE TIMEFRAME

## 7. MORE NATURAL PLAY

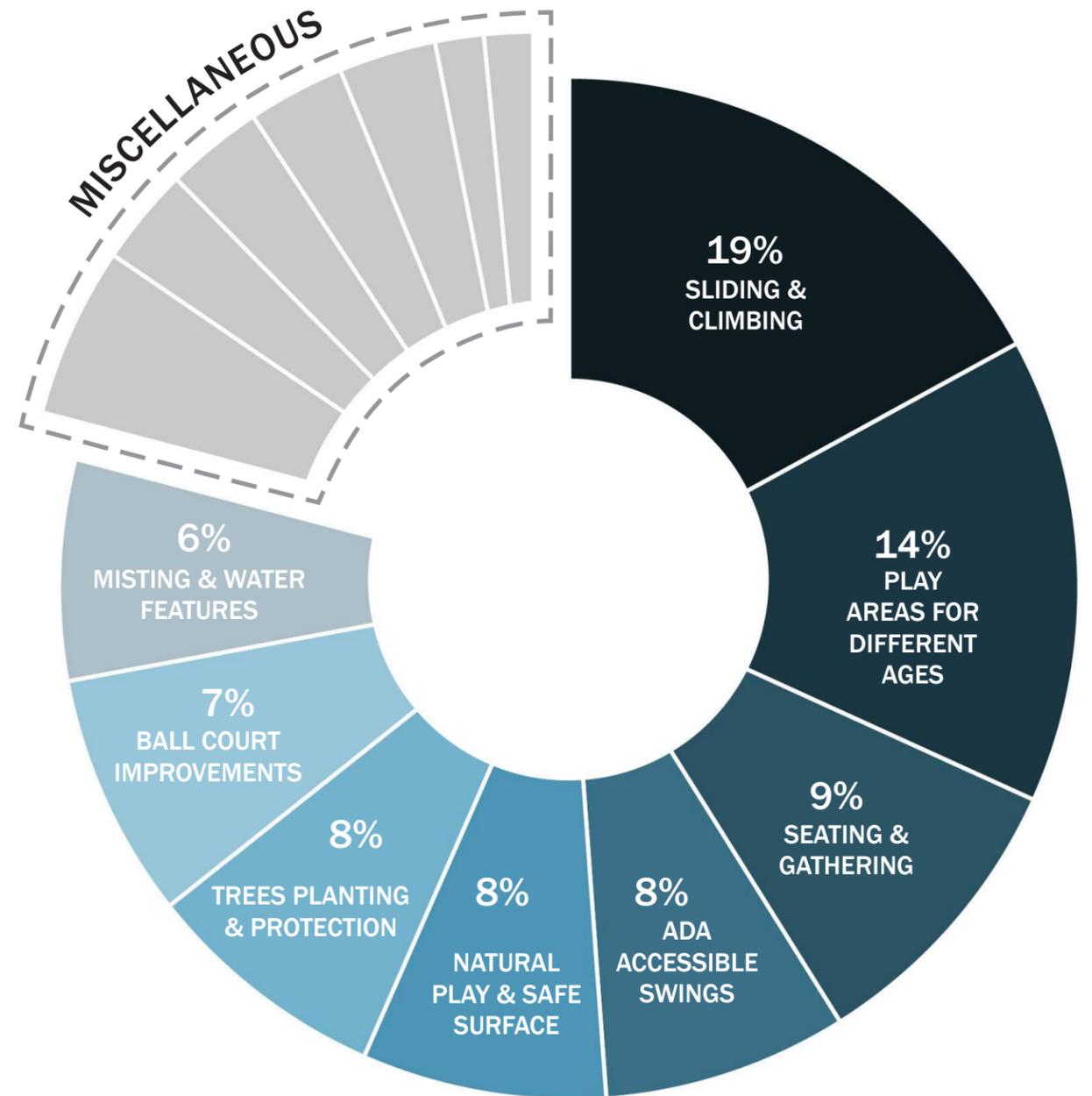
ADD MORE NATURAL WOODEN PLAY ELEMENTS LIKE STEPPING LOGS, NATURAL STONE & STUMPS

## 8. BALL COURT

KEEP THE EXISTING BALL COURT OPEN DURING CONSTRUCTION & ADD A FULL COURT AT A LATER DATE

## 9. MORE UTILITARIAN FEATURES

INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF TRASH BINS, BENCHES WITH BACKS, AND ADD COMMUNICATION BOARDS



The above graphic reflects the overall percentage of mentions, requests, and comments shared and recorded throughout the three engagement sessions and is synthesized from over 150 comments received.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Shade structures - 5% | Security lighting - 3% | Signage - 3% | Bathroom - 3% | Bike lane & traffic calming - 3% | Dog park - 1.5% | Inclusive play - 1.5%

**DESIGN IDEAS SUGGESTED BY THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

**DESIGN CONCERNS CRITICAL TO OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**

**PRESENTED DESIGN IDEAS LOVED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

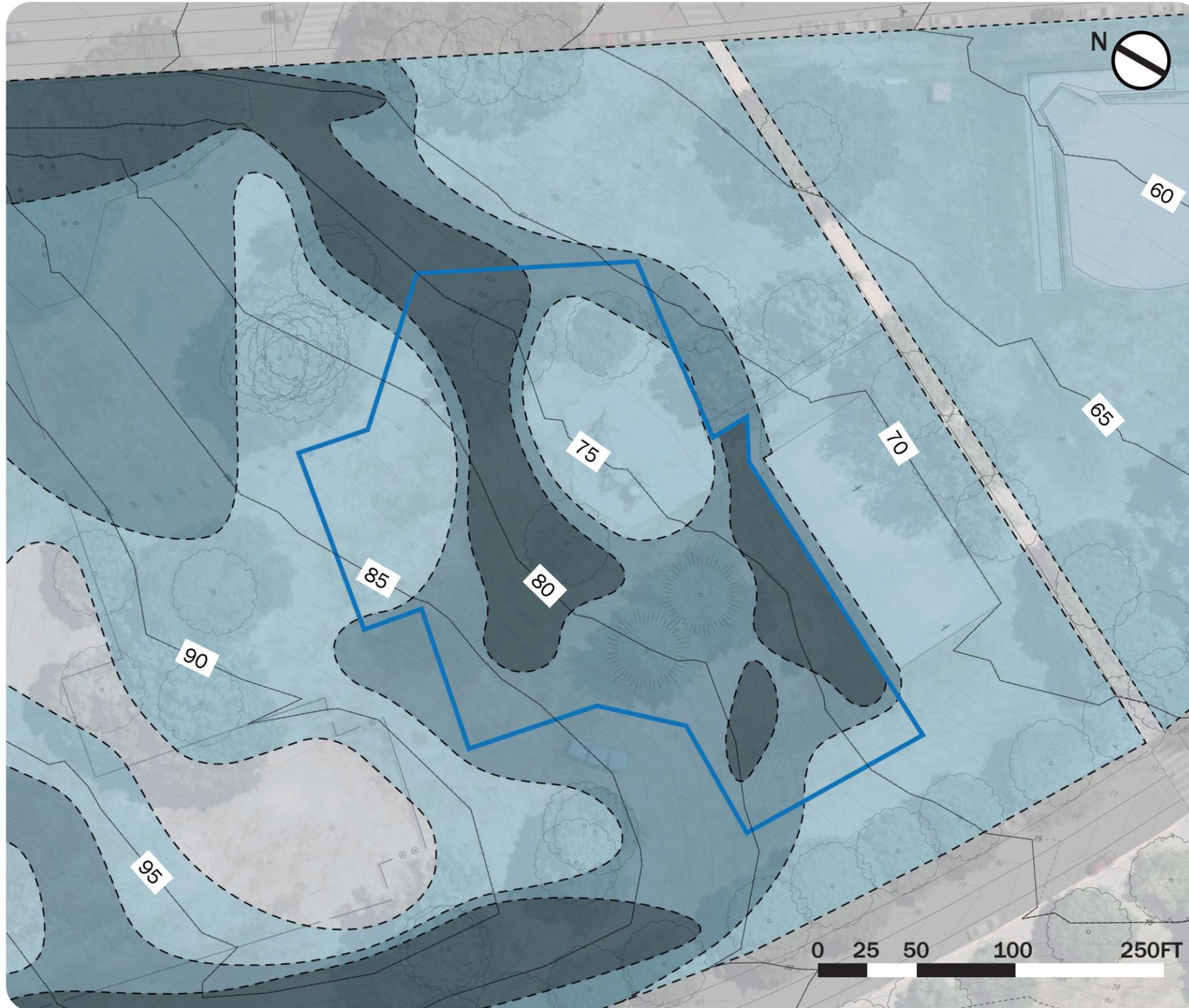
# PLAYGROUND SITE ANALYSIS | EXISTING CONDITIONS



LEMON HILL PARK

-  6' HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE
-  3' HIGH WOOD FENCE
-  EXISTING PLAYGROUND
-  AREA OF PROPOSED PLAYGROUND  
APPROXIMATE TOTAL AREA OF PLAYGROUND AND SITE, DISTURBANCE TO REMAIN BELOW 1 ACRE

# PLAYGROUND SITE ANALYSIS | SLOPE ANALYSIS



-  **AREA OF PROPOSED PLAYGROUND**
-  **FLAT AREA**  
AREA WHERE SLOPE IS SMALLER THAN 3%, SUITABLE FOR ANY TYPE OF OPEN SPACE, NO SITE WORK IS NEEDED
-  **ADA ACCESSIBLE AREA**  
AREA WITH A SLOPE RANGING FROM 3% TO 6.5%, SUITABLE FOR ADA ACCESSIBILITY WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT SITE WORK
-  **MODERATE SLOPING AREA**  
AREA WITH A SLOPE RANGING FROM 6.5% TO 10%, WOULD REQUIRE SITE WORK INCLUDING REGRADING AND SOIL STABILIZATION TO MAKE IT ADA ACCESSIBLE
-  **STEEP SLOPING AREA**  
AREA WHERE SLOPE IS LARGER THAN 10%, NOT SUITABLE FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACE. NEEDS SWITCHBACKS FOR THE ADA ACCESSIBLE PATH

# PLAYGROUND SITE ANALYSIS | EXISTING CONDITIONS



**EXISTING LEMON HILL PLAYGROUND**



**APPROACH FROM POPLAR DRIVE**



**APPROACH FROM SEDGELEY DRIVE**

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | CONCEPT LANDSCAPE PLAN



-  PROPOSED TREES
-  FALL ZONE
-  CONTOUR LINES

## LEMON HILL PLAYGROUND SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Total Disturbance Area: 43,500 SF  
 Total Play Area: 15,300 SF  
 Total Fitness Area: 1,090 SF  
 Total Seating Area: 1,150 SF  
 New Planted Trees: 20 QTY  
 Understory Planting Area: 2,000 SF  
 Total Cut and Fill: 2,250 CY  
 Total Impervious Area: 5,175 SF

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | MODIFIED LANDSCAPE PLAN



-  PROPOSED TREES
-  FALL ZONE
-  CONTOUR LINES

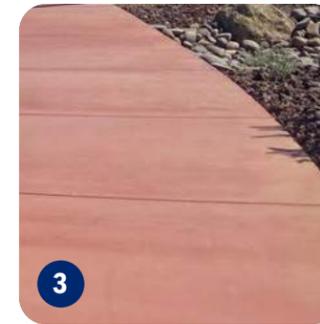
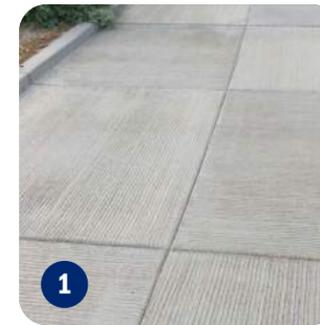
## LEMON HILL PLAYGROUND SITE IMPROVEMENTS

Total Disturbance Area: 43,200 SF  
 Total Play Area: 11,120 SF  
 Total Fitness Area: 1,090 SF  
 Total Seating Area: 885 SF  
 New Planted Trees: 24 QTY  
 Understory Planting Area: 2,200 SF  
 Total Cut and Fill: 1,250 CY  
 Total Impervious Area: 3,575 SF

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | MATERIALS PLAN



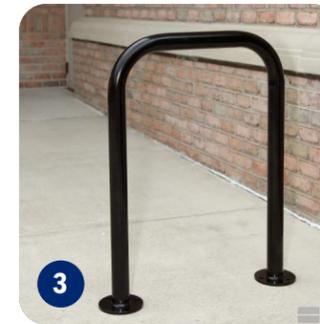
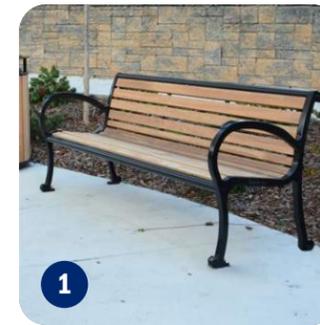
- 1 C.I.P CONCRETE PAVING
- 2 POROUS C.I.P CONCRETE PAVING
- 3 COLORED POROUS C.I.P CONCRETE PAVING
- 4 PERMEABLE SAFETY SURFACE
- 5 PERMEABLE RUBBER MOUNDS
- 6 C.I.P CONCRETE STEPS



# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | SEATING/FURNISHING PLAN



- 1  BENCH
- 2  PICNIC TABLE
- 3  BIKE RACK
- 4  TRASH RECEPTACLE
- 5  LANDSCAPE STONES
- 6  PARK SIGNAGE



# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | PLANTING PLAN



## TREE SPECIES

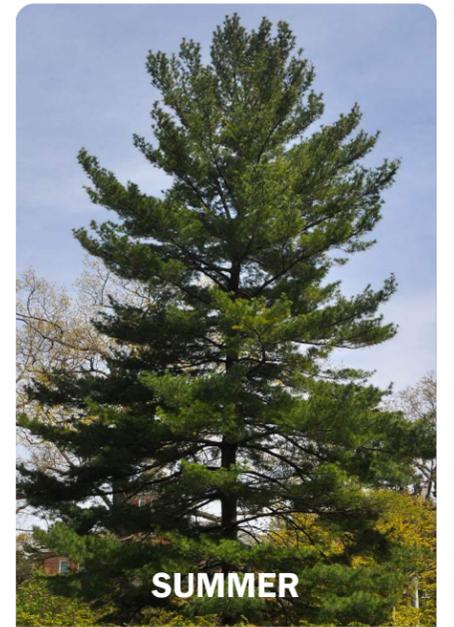
- NS** Blackgum, *Nyssa sylvatica*
- BN** River Birch, *Betula nigra*
- CA** American Hornbeam, *Carpinus caroliniana*
- MS** Sweetbay Magnolia, *Magnolia virginiana*
- CO** Hackberry, *Celtis Occidentalis*
- PS** White Pine, *Pinus Strobus*

## NOTES:

All existing mature trees on the site will be protected and preserved during the construction. All dead trees will be removed prior to the project by PPR.

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | PLANTING PALETTE

## TREES (SUMMER + FALL COLOR PALETTE)



**BLACKGUM**  
*NYSSA SYLVATICA*

**RIVER BIRCH**  
*BETULA NIGRA*

**AMERICAN HORNBEAM**  
*CARPINUS CAROLINIANA*

**SWEETBAY MAGNOLIA**  
*MAGNOLIA VIRGINIANA*

**HACKBERRY**  
*CELTIS OCCIDENTALIS*

**WHITE PINE**  
*PINUS STROBUS*

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | PLAY EQUIPMENT PLAN



- 1 2-5 Y/O PLAY AREA**
- 2-12 Y/O Multi-climber
  - 2-5 Y/O Hangouts
  - 2-5 Y/O Sensory Wall
  - 2-12 Y/O Seesaw
  - 2-12 Y/O Stepping Log

- 2 NATURAL PLAY AREA**
- 5-12 Y/O Wood Climbing Net
  - 5-12 Y/O Wood Stilts
  - 2-12 Y/O 3'H 5'W Stainless Steel Slide
  - 2-12 Y/O 5'H 3'W Stainless Steel Slide

- 3 2-12 Y/O SHARED PLAY AREA**
- 5-12 Y/O PlayBooster Tower
  - 2-12 Y/O Balance Climber
  - 2-12 Y/O Balance Beam
  - 2-12 Y/O Wobble Bouncer
  - 2-12 Y/O Footprint Stepper

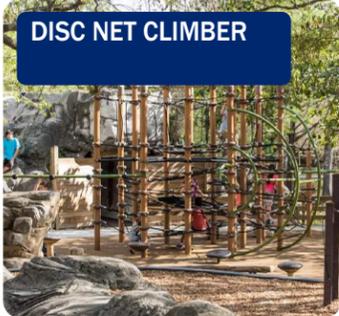
- 4 ADULT FITNESS AREA**
- Adult Fitness Push-up Bars
  - Adult Fitness Pull-up Bars
  - Adult Fitness Leg Lift Bars

- 5 SWING AREA**
- 2-5 Y/O Molded Bucket Seat
  - 2-5 Y/O Bucket Seat
  - 2-12 Y/O Belt Seat

- 6 5-12 Y/O PLAY AREA**
- 5-12 Y/O Disc Net Climber
  - 5-12 Y/O Stone Steppers
  - 5-12 Y/O Monkey Ladder
  - 5-12 Y/O Sensory Spinner
  - 5-12 Y/O Swiggle Bridge
  - 2-12 Y/O Balance Beam
  - 2-12 Y/O Footprint Stepper

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | PLAY EQUIPMENT SELECTION

### 5 - 12 Y/O PLAY



DISC NET CLIMBER



PLAYBOOSTER TOWER



STEPPER NATURAL STONE - SMALL



SWIGGLE BRIDGE



SENSORY SPINNER



STEPPER NATURAL STONE - LARGE



MONKEY LADDER

### 2 - 12 Y/O PLAY



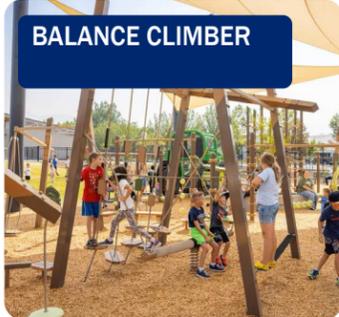
FOOTPRINT STEPPER



SEESAW - INCLUSIVE



MULTI-CLIMBER - INCLUSIVE



BALANCE CLIMBER



WOBBLE BOUNCER



STEPPING LOG



BALANCE BEAM



BELT SEAT



BUCKET SEAT - INCLUSIVE

### 2 - 5 Y/O PLAY



HANGOUTS - INCLUSIVE



SENSORY WALL - INCLUSIVE



MOLDED BUCKET SEAT - INCLUSIVE

### ADULT FITNESS



HANGOUTS - INCLUSIVE



HANGOUTS - INCLUSIVE



HANGOUTS - INCLUSIVE

### 5 - 12 Y/O NATURAL PLAY



WOOD STILTS



WOOD CLIMBING NET

### 2 - 12 Y/O NATURAL PLAY

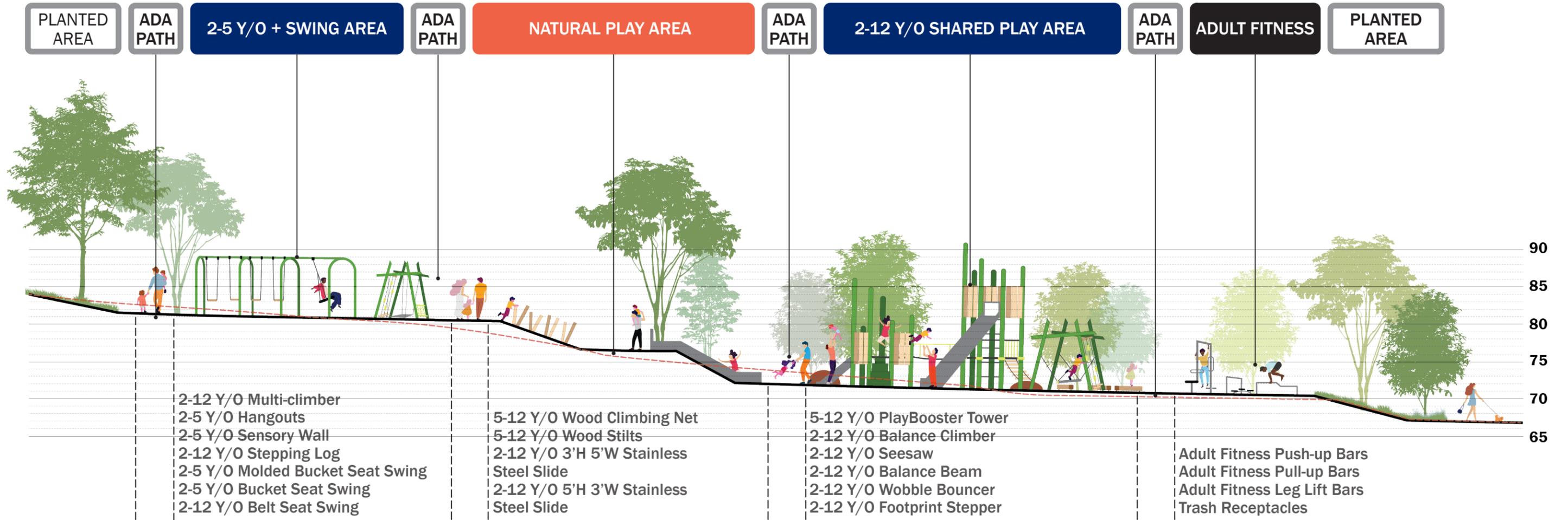


3'H 5'W STAINLESS STEEL SLIDE



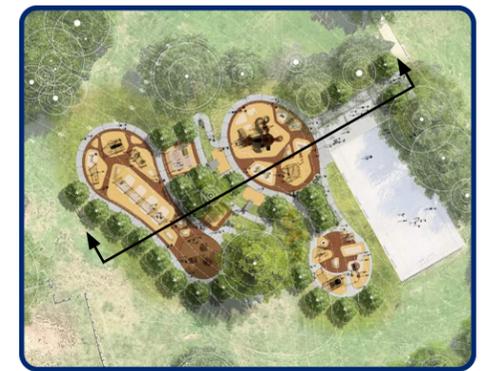
5'H 3'W STAINLESS STEEL SLIDE

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | LANDSCAPE SECTION

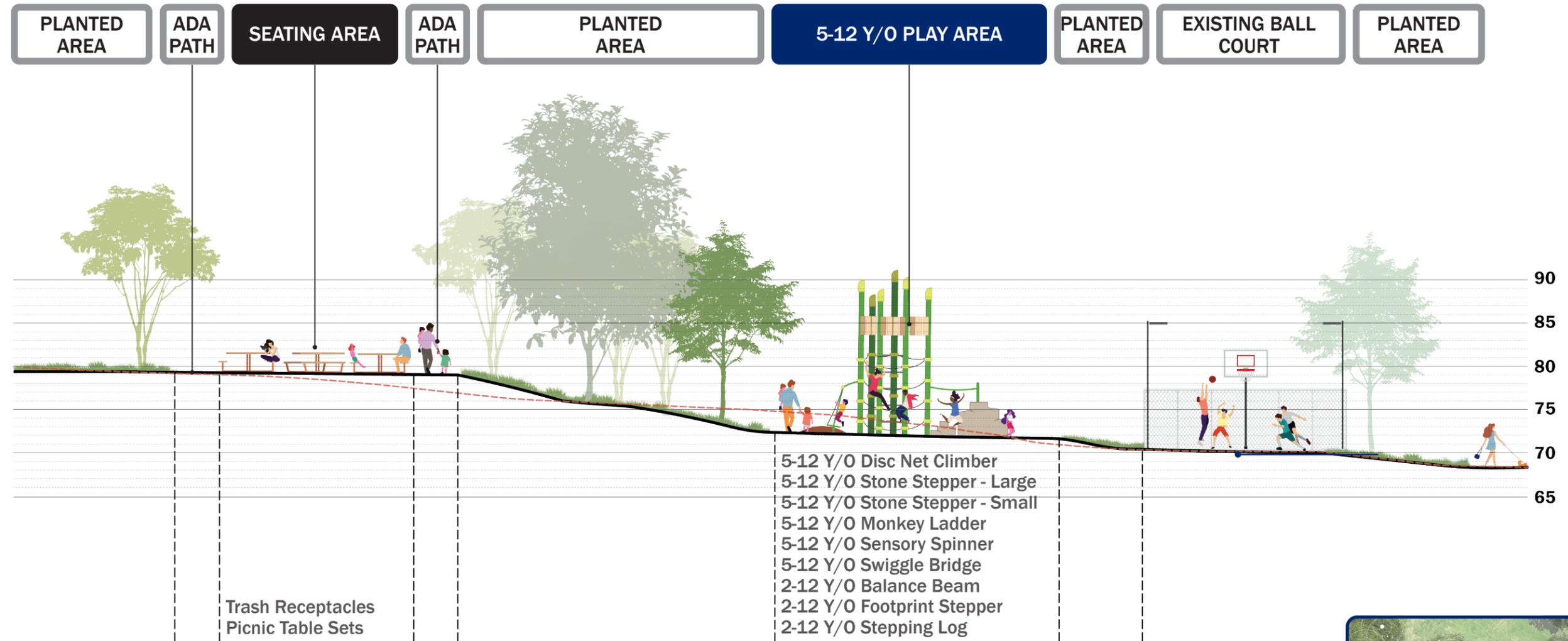


**NOTE:** All the images are references for concept only and do not represent the final products or materials to be used in this project.

--- EXISTING SITE GRADE  
 ↑ SECTION CUT LINE



# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | LANDSCAPE SECTION



--- EXISTING SITE GRADE  
↑ SECTION CUT LINE

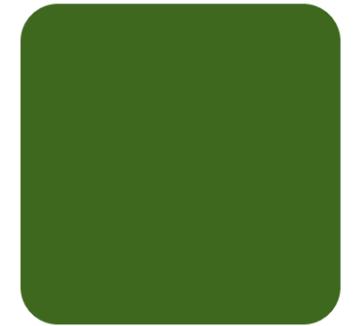
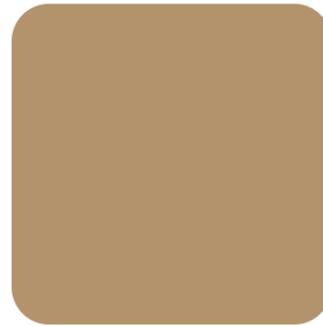
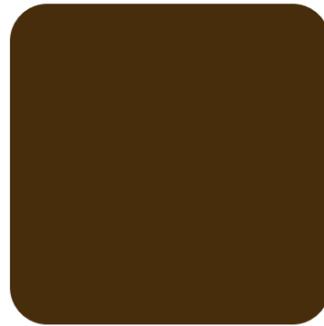
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# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | COLOR PALETTE



VIEW FROM LEMON HILL RIM TRIAL TO THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER WATERFRONT

**THIS COLOR PALETTE WILL BE USED FOR:**  
PLAY EQUIPMENT + FURNITURE COATING



VIEW FROM LEMON HILL MANSION TOWARD THE PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART AND DOWNTOWN

**THIS COLOR PALETTE WILL BE USED FOR:**  
SAFETY SURFACE GRAPHIC + PAVING MATERIALS

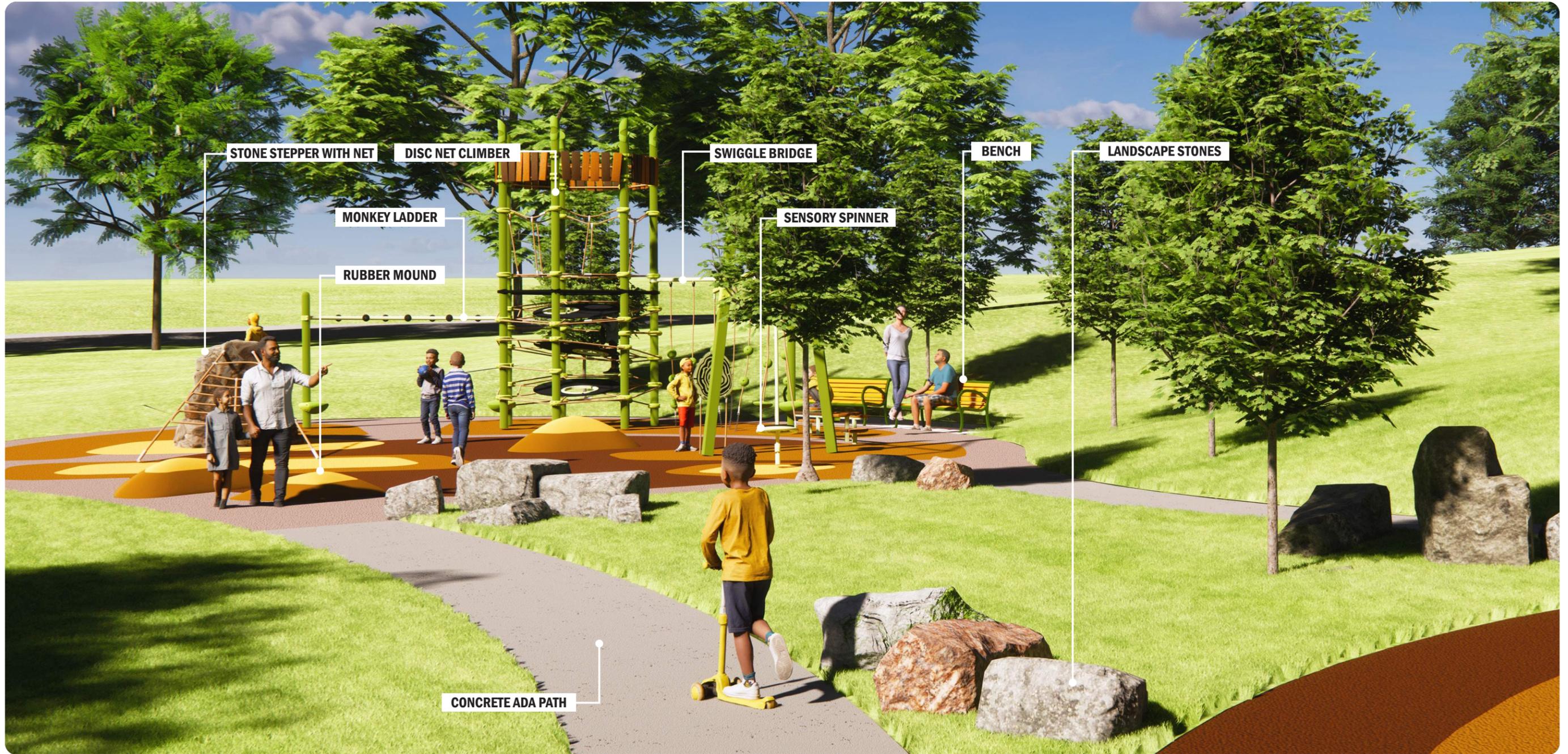


# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | ACTIVE HILLSIDE & UPPER PLAY SPACE



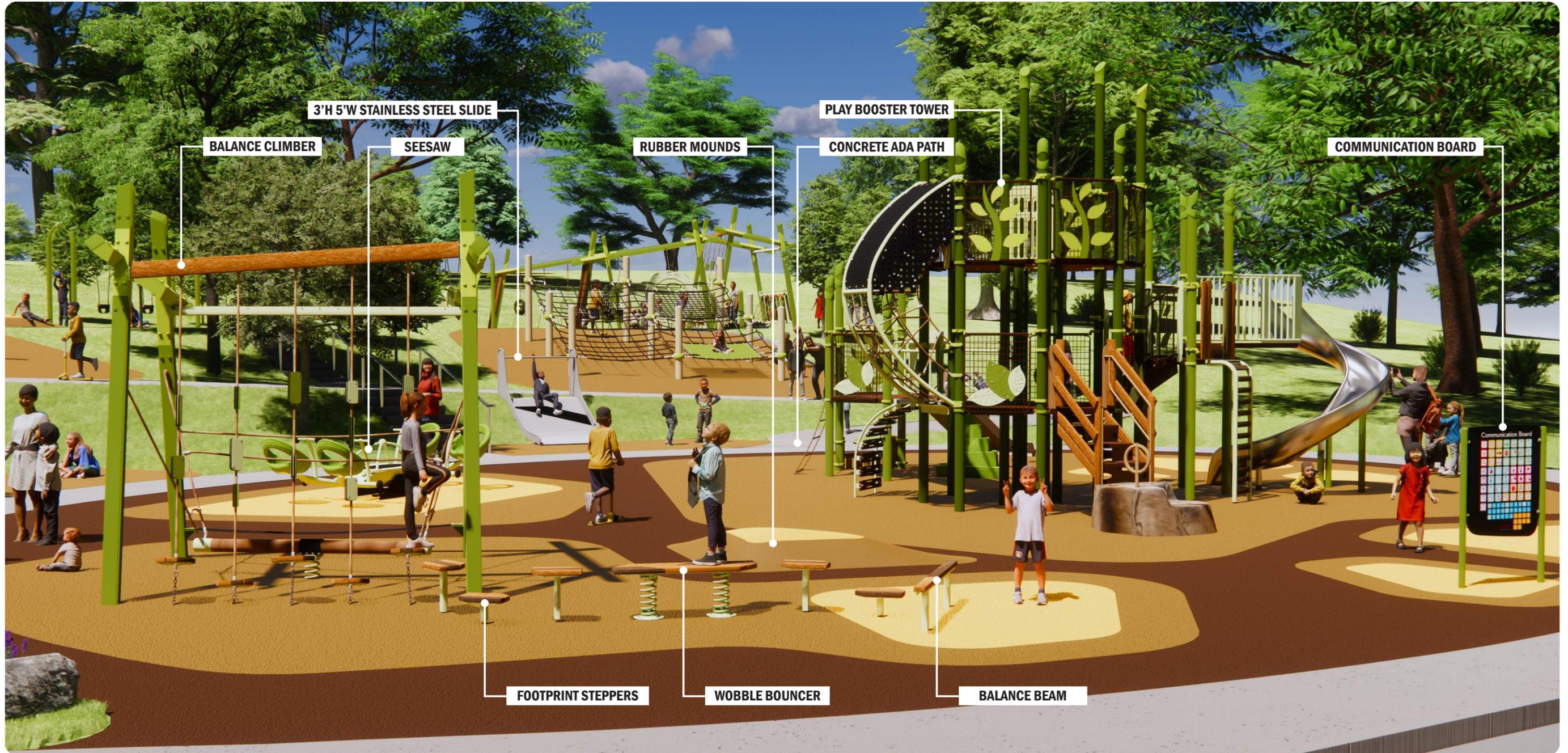
## NATURAL PLAY AREA

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | LOWER ENTRANCE



## 5-12 Y/O PLAY + PLANTING AREA

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | LOWER PLAY SPACE

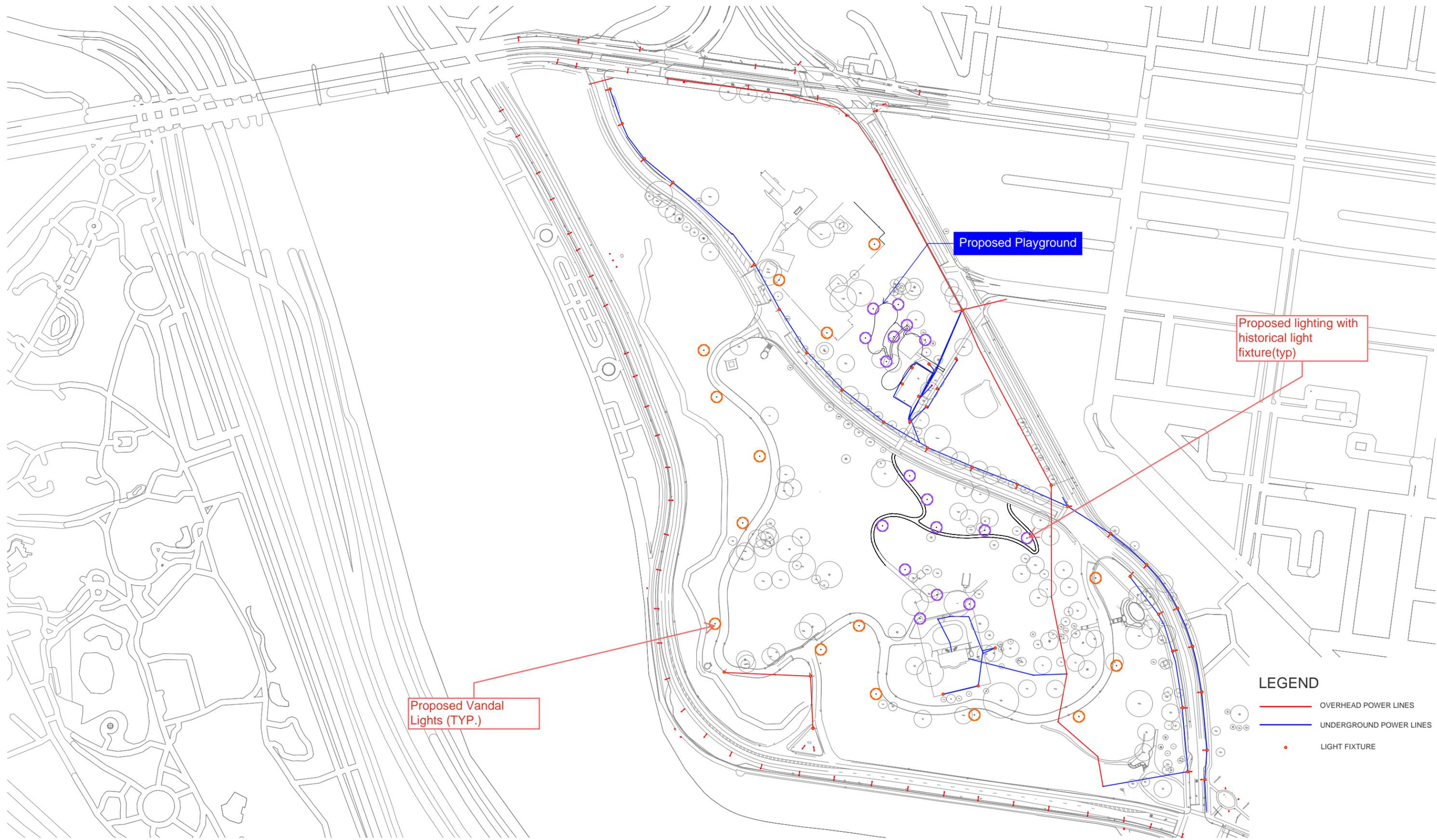


**2-12 Y/O SHARED PLAY AREA**

# PLAYGROUND CONCEPT DESIGN | AERIAL VIEW



**PLAYGROUND AERIAL VIEW**



**LEGEND**

- OVERHEAD POWER LINES
- UNDERGROUND POWER LINES
- LIGHT FIXTURE

**PROPOSED LIGHTING STRATEGY**

1

SCALE: 1" = 100'-0"

