

Central Hill Community Park

Master Plan Design

Duluth, Minnesota

July 8, 2014

Background:

The City of Duluth, along with the community of Central Hill, saw a strong need to better organize and develop a design for Central Hill Community Park. The City of Duluth uses this park that is centrally located in the old town area and saw the need to redesign and make improvements to the park. The park plays a major role in the community to provide recreational opportunities within a walking distance for many residents and pulls the community together when a special event is held in the park. The community has a strong interest in the park and supports the need for improvements to draw new people in the community to the park. Our objective will be to design a park that will stand out in the community, be safe, and become an important part of the overall Duluth park system.

Process:

The process undertaken to develop this plan will require a combination of recreational design analysis and extensive public and staff involvement. At least two public meetings will be held to receive community feedback and to develop the needs of the park.

Pros:

Central Hill Community Park is located in the center of the old Duluth community area. It has a great deal of history in the community and the property was set aside for recreation and for the community to hold special events that bring the community together. It would be impossible today to have such an important green space in the center of the old town of Duluth if this area had not been set aside for a park many years ago. The importance today is this area is being redeveloped with new community improvements to retain life in the city. Keeping the old city alive is so important to the overall city and quality of life in the intercity community of Duluth.

Cons:

As time has passed, the park facilities have gotten old and run down. The importance of the park has been overlooked until now. Redevelopment of the inner city areas are becoming more important to major cities to keep them alive. It will cost a substantial amount of money to redevelop and make the park once again an important part of the community. Having quality recreational facilities is a really great way to attract the public. By improving parks, communities develop savings in law enforcement issues. A safe place to live makes the inner city a more desirable place to redevelop and live as a community as a whole.

Four Concepts:

Working with park staff that have had previous meetings with the community, we have developed four concept plans to be reviewed and discussed before we develop the final plan. This plan is for the community and park users and needs to be carefully developed for the further use of the community and the City of Duluth Park System. In all four concept plans, we have basically redeveloped the whole park.

Concept # 1

- Upper parking area needs control by placing concrete precast curbing.
- Provide walk off of parking lot to building and street.
- Redo steps to lower area.
- Re-grade the site and remove old bridge as shown.
- Provide new shelter.



- Organize a path system that is ADA.
- Provide new open shelter.
- Provide picnic tables and benches.
- Develop Kompan Play Structure as shown.
- Have open space for special events and community activities.
- Locate new toilet building centrally located for park users.
- Redevelop area by building as a community theater and gathering area.
- Remove old play structure lower area and provide community garden.

Concept #2

What's different than Concept #1?

- Enlarged theater area and redesigned the parking lot – made more green space.
- Does not have a community garden. Uses space for smaller shelter and picnicking with some benches.
- Added sand volleyball by existing basketball court.

Concept #3

What's different than Concepts #1 & #2?

- Re-designed the parking lot by building that is at main level to main park to provide more parking for the elderly and ADA compliant. This makes the park more accessible to all people, especially parents with young children.
- Move community theater and gathering area into park.
- Stage for theater built into the hillside.

Concept #4

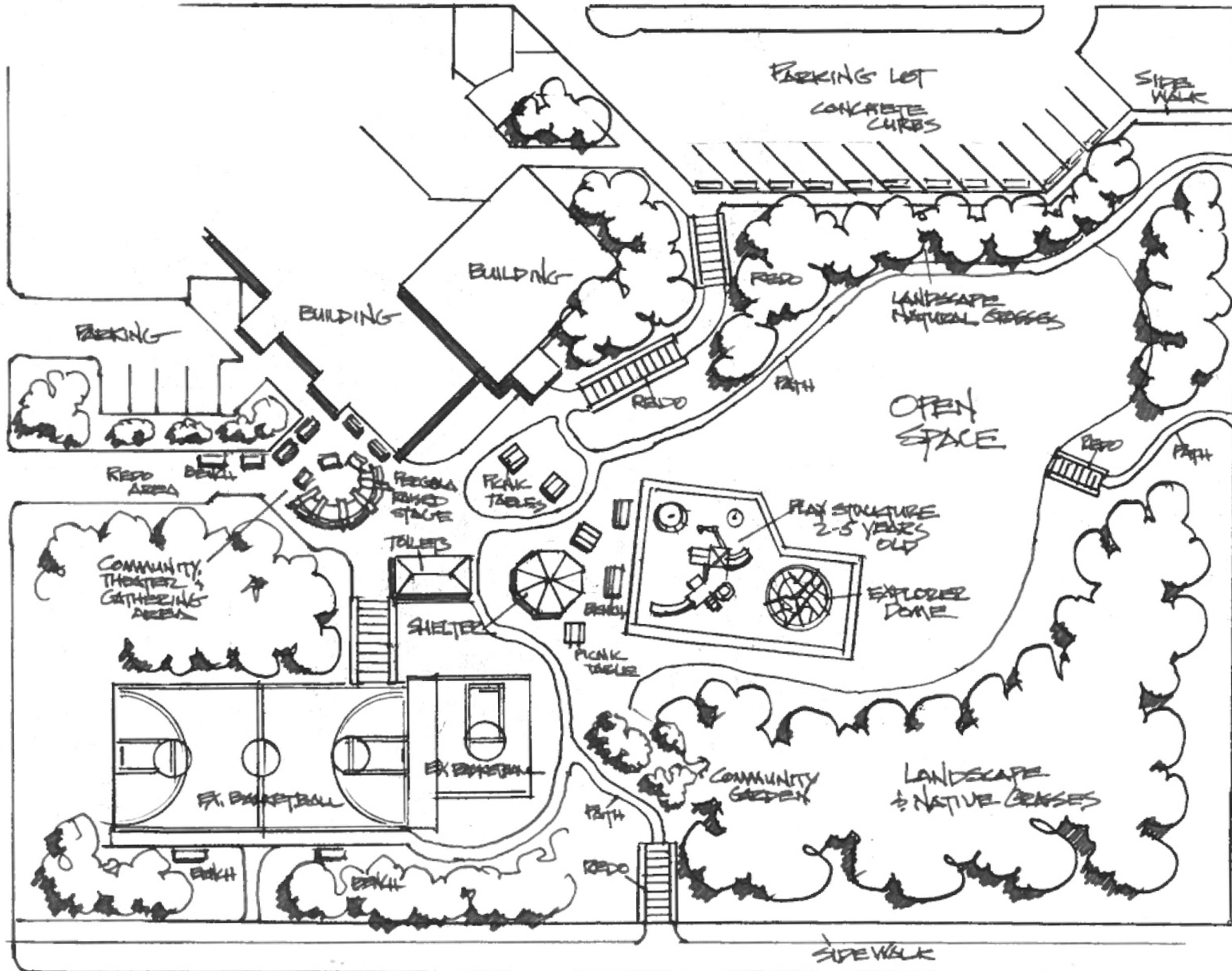
What's different than Concepts #1, #2 & #3?

- Basically only focused our design efforts on the main park area.
- Place community theater and gathering area but have sitting built into the hillside.
- Other alternative would be to move stage and theater to other side of open space.

This is the first design meeting and the ideas presented are only ideas to be considered and comments can be directed to park staff or John Winter at 218-556-1022.

Thank you for attending this important meeting.





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Duluth, MN

I hereby certify that this plan, specification, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Registered Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

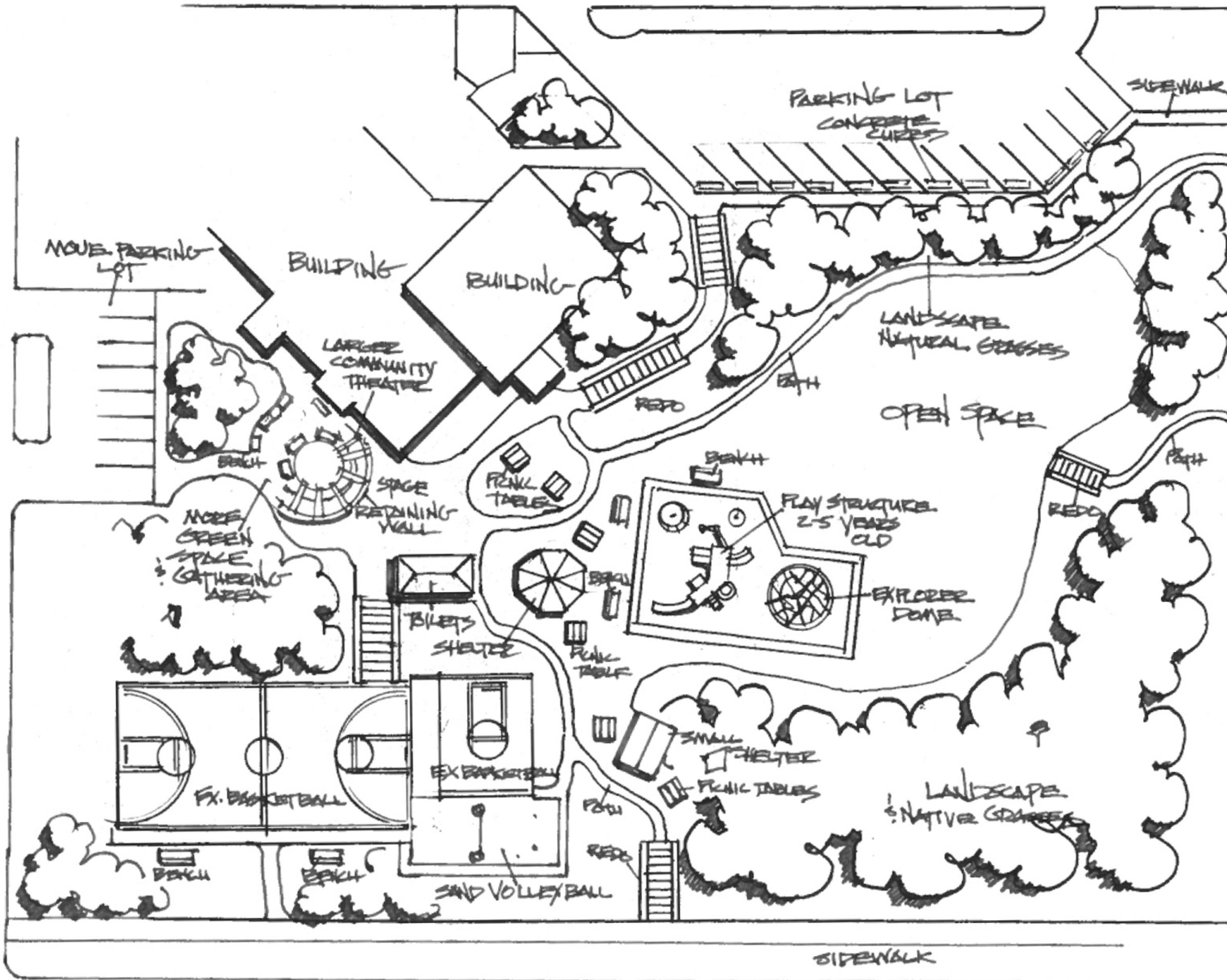
John C. Winter
[Signature]
reg. no.: 12258
date: 07/08/14

drawn: JCW
designed: ELF/JCW
date: 07/08/14
revisions:

Concept
Plan

L1

SCALE:
1" = 40'



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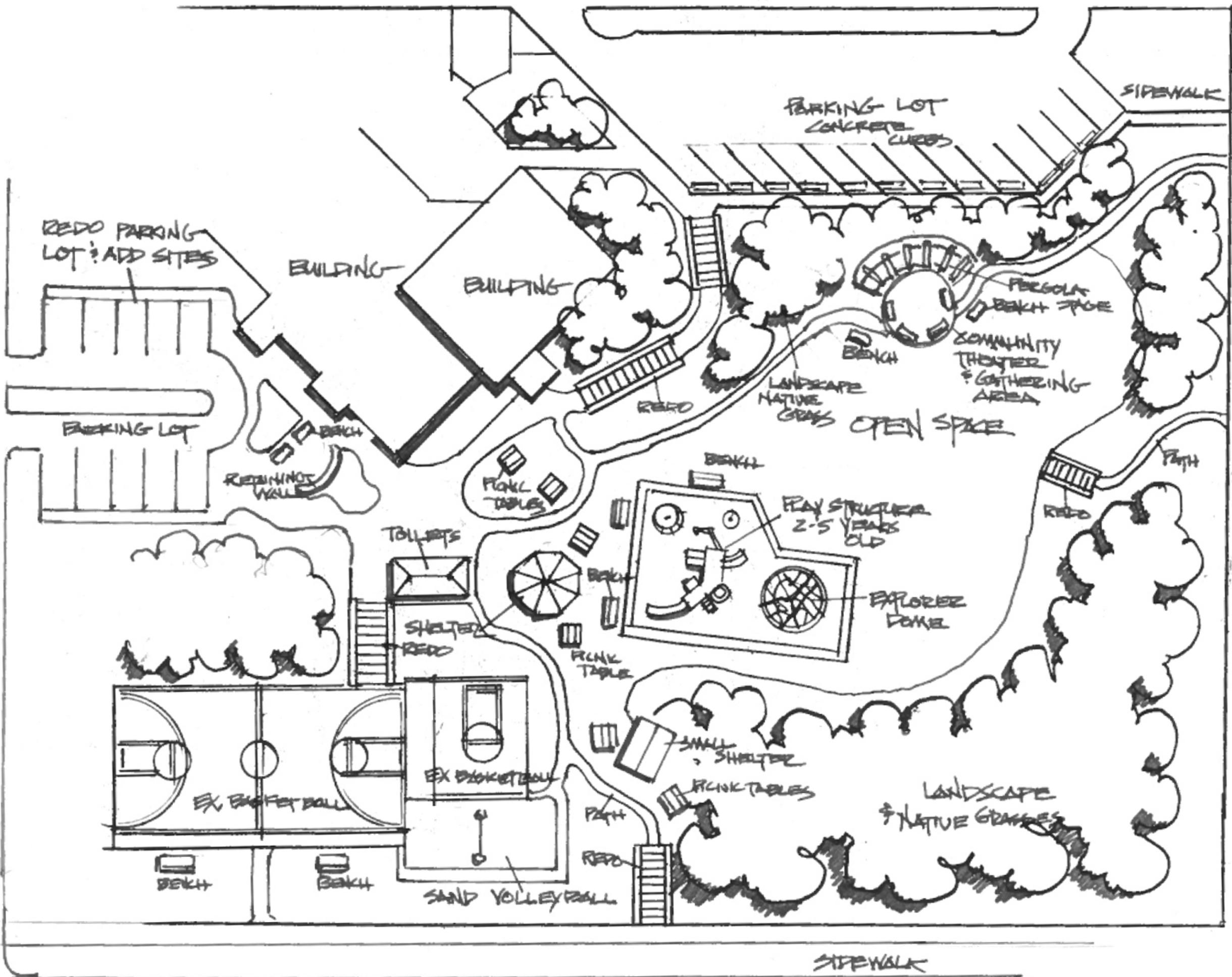
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Concept
Plan

L2

SCALE:
1" = 40'

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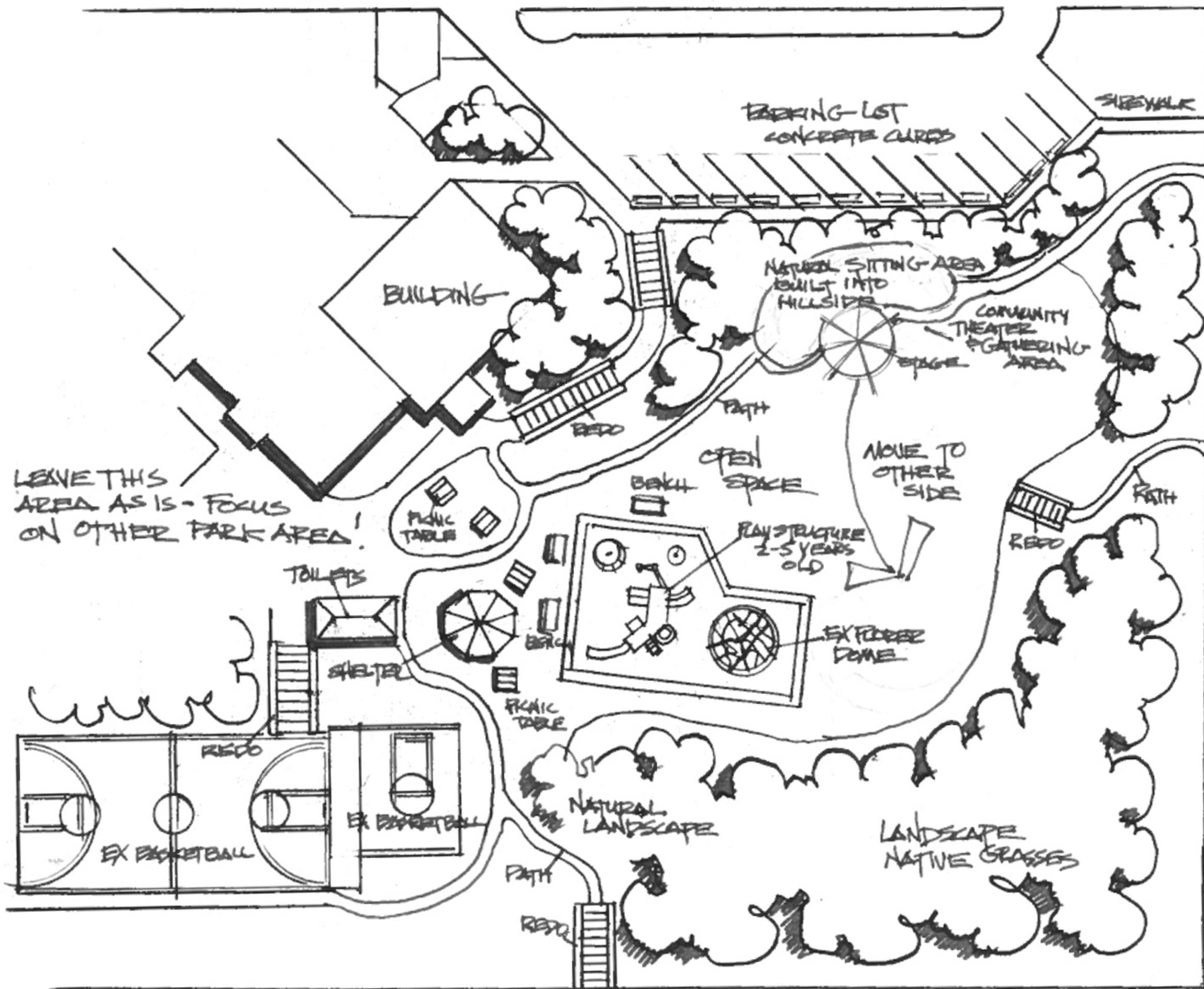
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Concept
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SCALE:
1" = 40'

L3



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Concept Plan

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L4



