

Parkland Rehabilitation Design

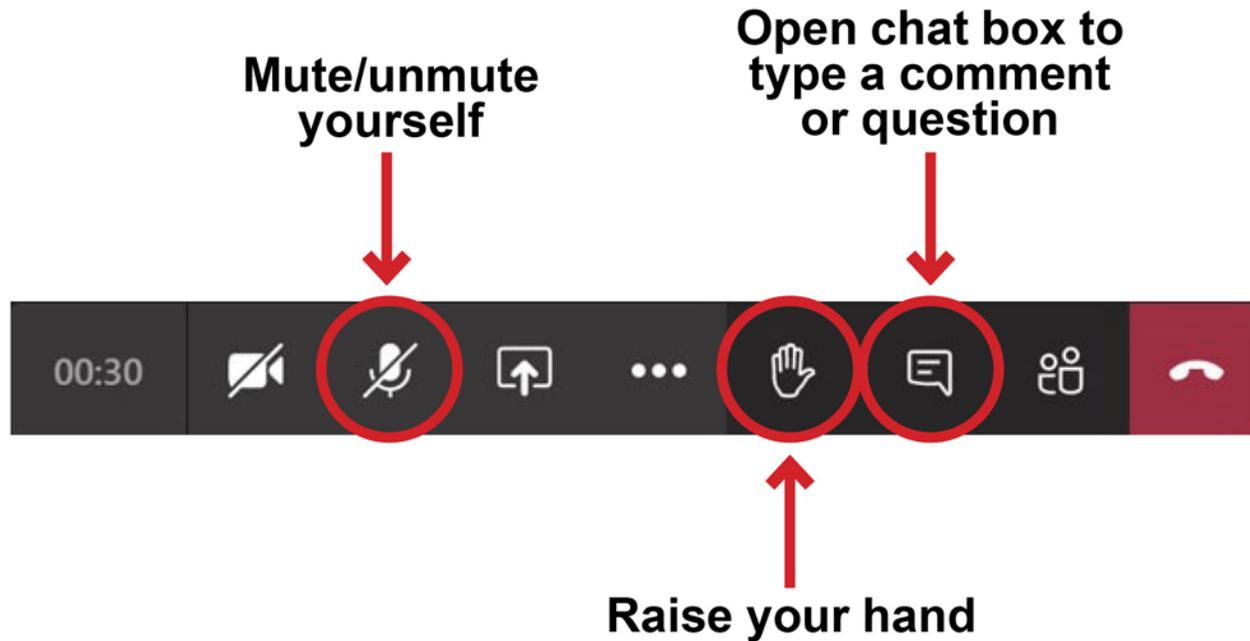
Public Meeting #1

October 20, 2022



Meeting Housekeeping

Please sign in to the meeting using the website link posted in the chat box.





Agenda

Welcome + Introductions

Meeting Purpose

Existing Conditions

Review of Concepts

How to Submit Comments

Questions + Answers



Meeting Purpose + Goals

The NPS is committed to activating and reinvesting in the Parkland section of Shepherd Parkway located in Congress Heights.

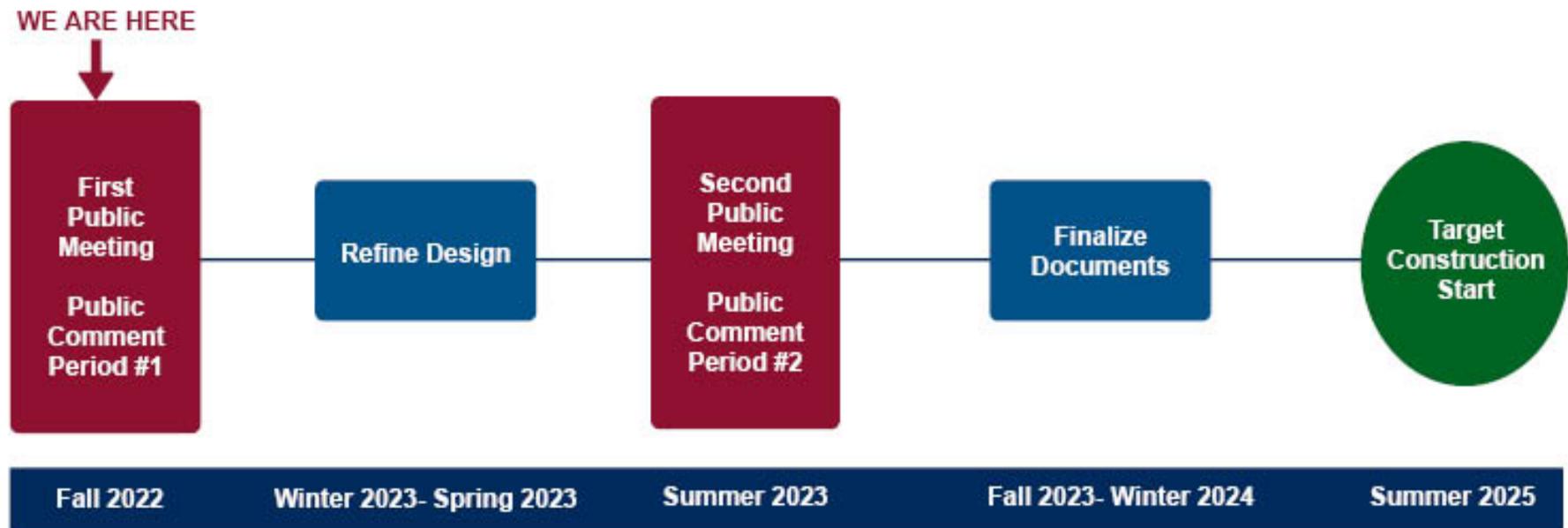
The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with an opportunity to:

- Review proposed concepts
- Identify any issues, concerns, and ideas

Community input is critical at this phase. The re-design of the playground, selection and mix of recreational amenities, and future programming will be largely based on community input.

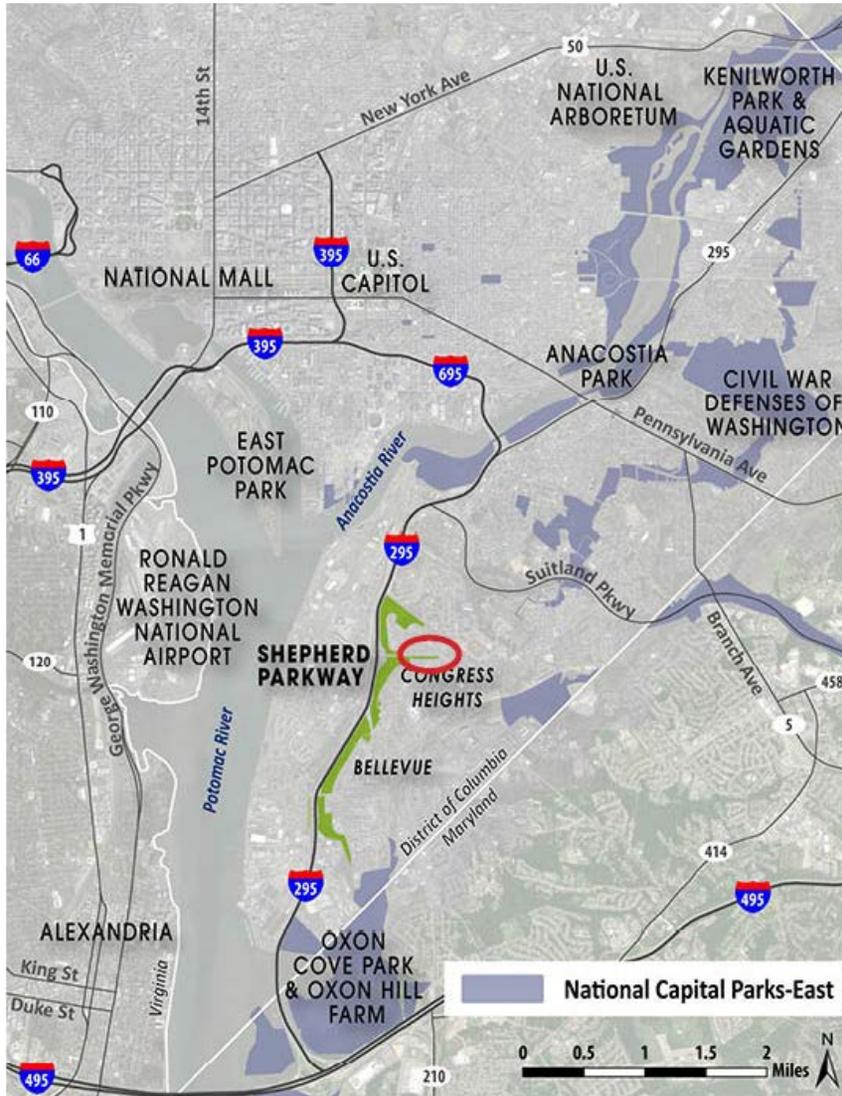


Project Timeline





Project Context: Shepherd Parkway



Shepherd Parkway Area Context Map



Regional Context Map



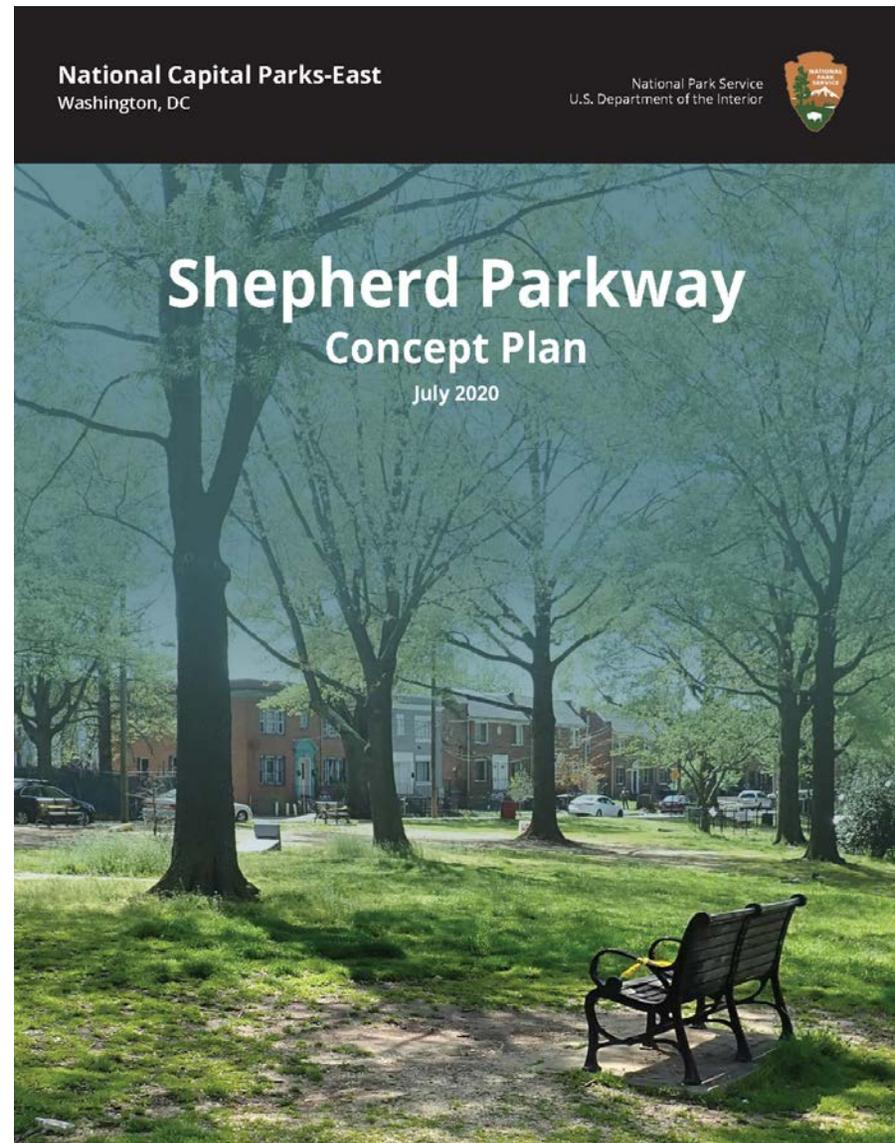
Project Area: Parkland Section of Shepherd Parkway





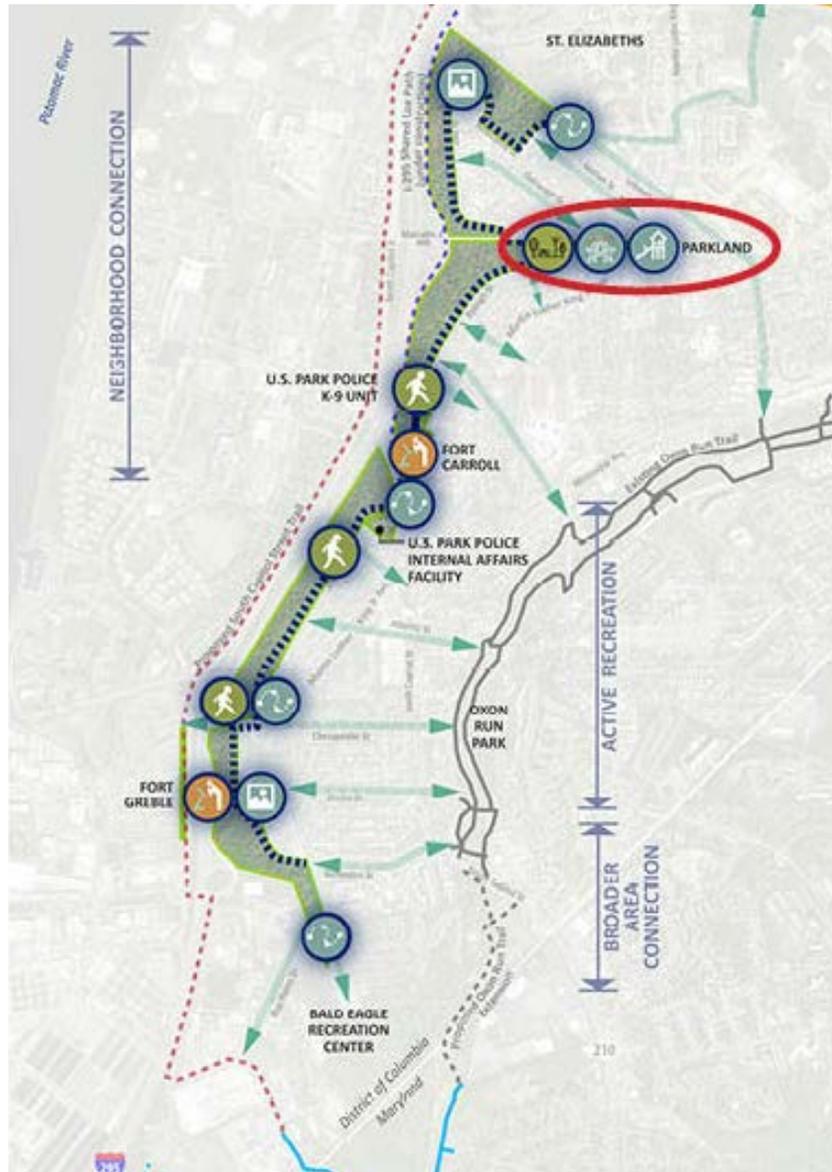
Shepherd Parkway Development Concept Plan

- NPS developed the Shepherd Parkway Development Concept Plan (DCP) in 2020
- NPS conducted 2 public meetings and public comment periods for the DCP
- Rapid Ethnographic Assessment Procedure (REAP) also informed the DCP
- DCP provided 2 overall concepts for Shepherd Parkway and 2 specifically for Parkland
- Parkland is the first project of the DCP for implementation





Shepherd Parkway Development Concept Plan



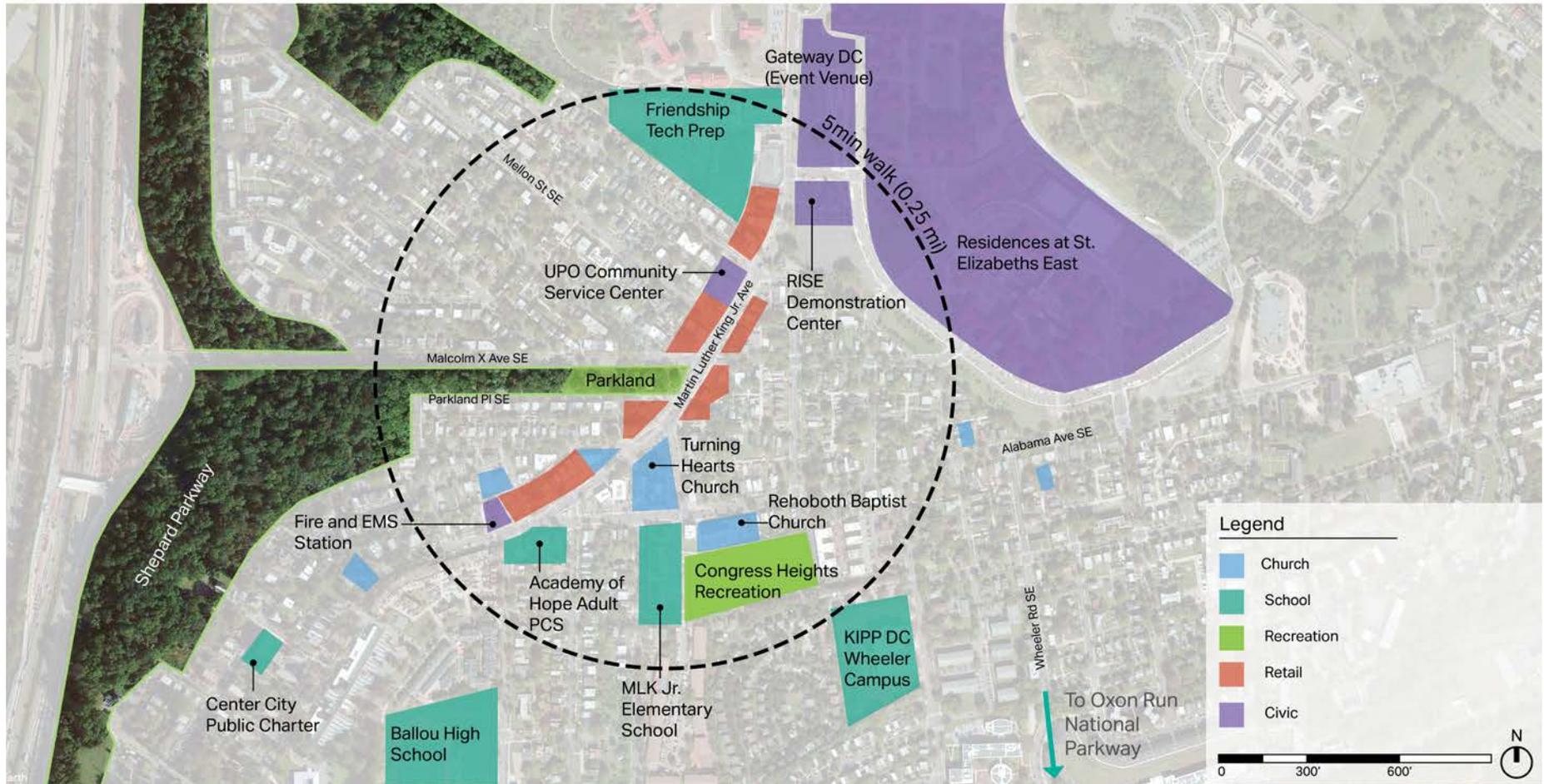
- Shepherd Parkway
- Existing Sulfand Parkway Trail
- Existing Oxon Run Trail
- Existing Oxon Cove Multi-Use Biker Trail
- Proposed Oxon Run Trail Extension (source: Oxon Run Trail Rehabilitation Concept Plan, DDOT, 2010)
- Proposed Oxon Cove Multi-Use Biker Trail Extension (source: Oxon Cove Multi-use Biker Trail, NPS, 2016)
- I-295 Shared-Use Path (under construction; exact alignment to be confirmed; source: I-295/Malcolm X Avenue Interchange Improvement Project NCPC Final Design Submission, GSA, 2016)
- Proposed South Capitol Street Trail (exact alignment to be confirmed; source: South Capitol Street Trail fact sheet, DDOT)

Proposed Key Activity Nodes and Connections

- Trail
- Flexible Open Green Space
- Picnic / Family Gathering
- Interpretive Signage and Treatments
- Trail Connector to Existing/Future Trails
- Playground
- Flexible Open Space for Events
- Overlook / Filtered View
- Connections to Local Trails and Destinations

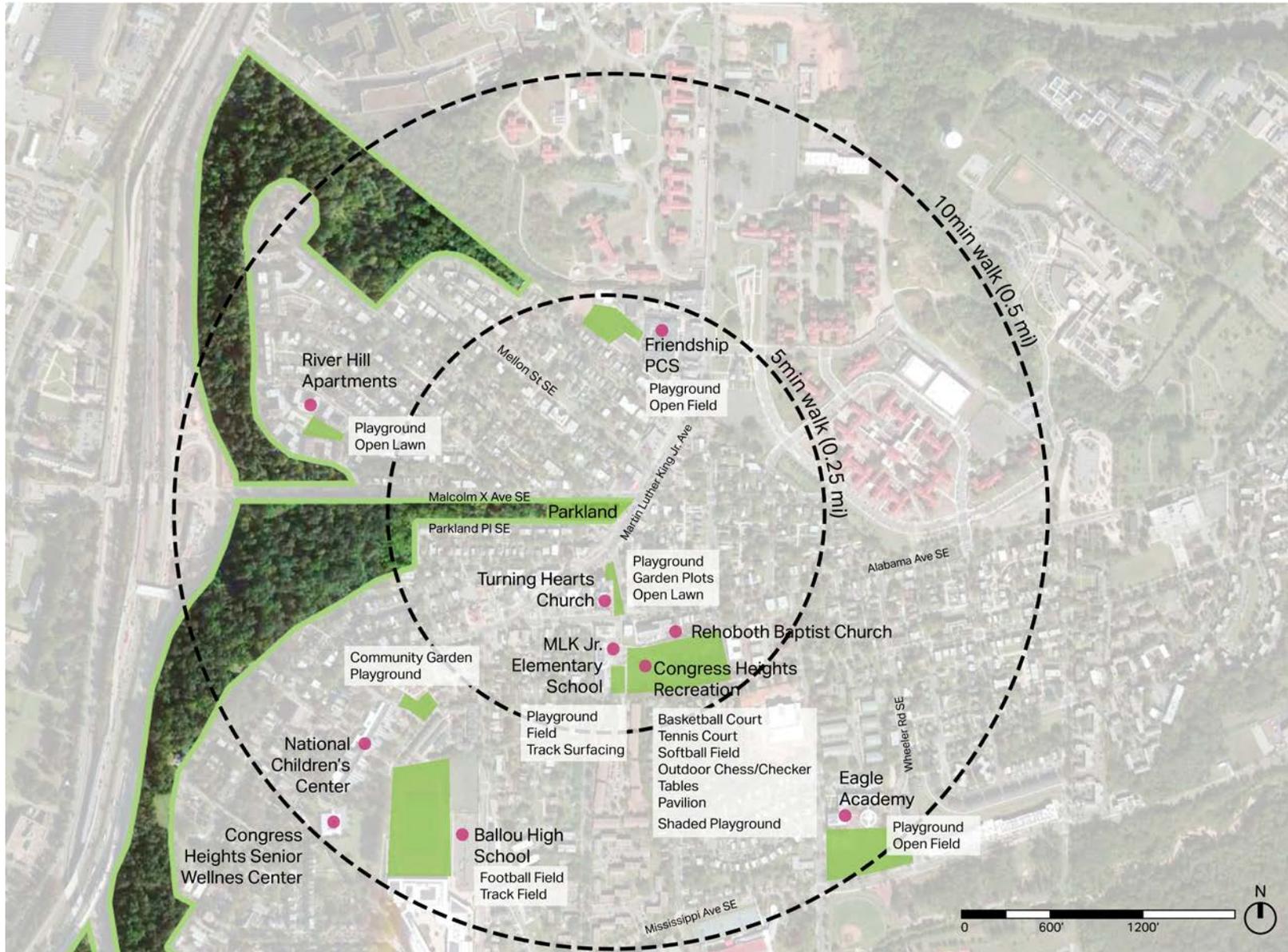


Nearby Land Uses





Nearby Recreation Amenities



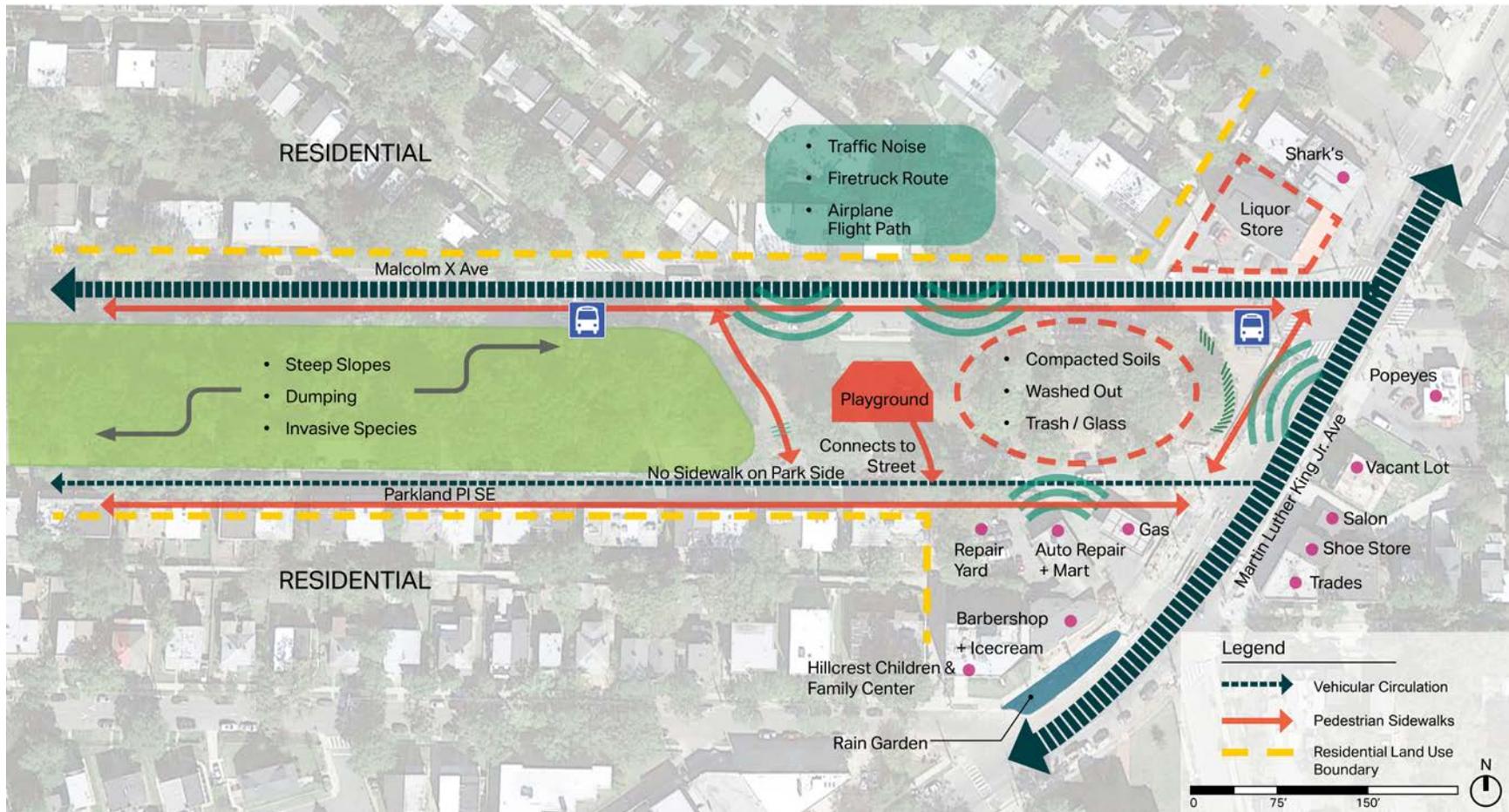


Area of Potential Effect



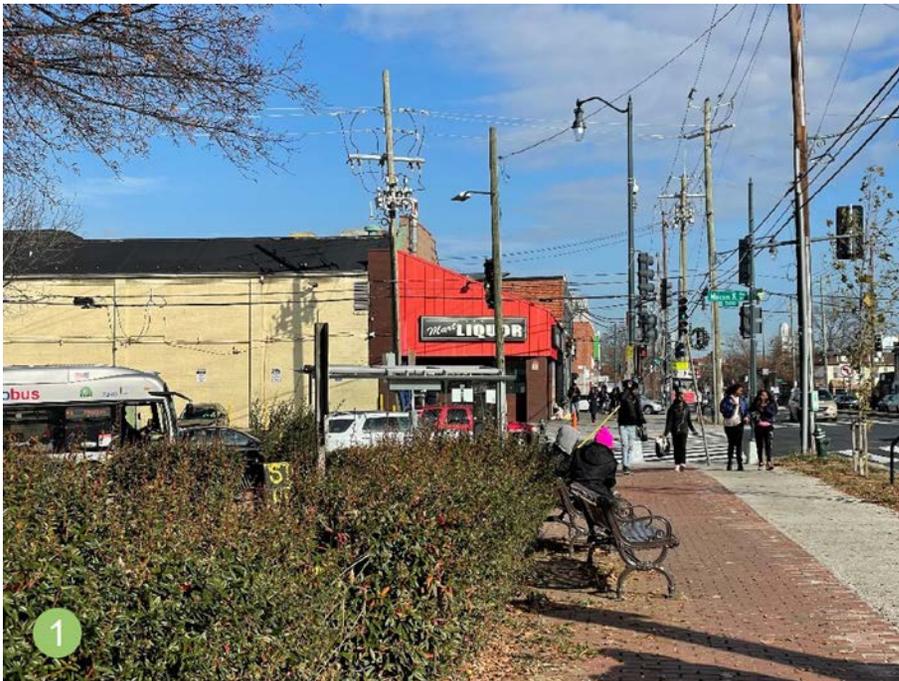


Site Analysis





Site Photos: Northeast



Looking north along Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, the Parkland site has a busy intersection with a high volume of vehicular traffic and no shade at the plaza.



Looking west along Malcolm X Avenue, adult uses discourage youth from using the park. Despite being prohibited, alcohol use occurs in the park.



Site Photos: Southeast



Looking northwest from Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, significant portions of the site show signs of soil compaction and erosion.



Looking west along Parkland Place, the site has exposed tree roots and lacks groundcover.



Site Photos: Southwest



Looking northwest from Parkland Place, the playground is surrounded by fencing.



Looking east along Malcolm X Avenue, the playground is raised from street level.



Site Photos: Northwest



The playground includes a swingset.



The playground has a lack of accessible play features.



Site Photos: West



Looking northwest from Parkland Place, the western edge of the project site is wooded and contains invasive plants.



Looking northwest, an unofficial pedestrian path is worn across the site.



Park Design Approach

The concepts attempt to incorporate the park's existing features in the design, including the following:

- Tree canopy
- Park benches
- Circulation paths
- Topography
- Playground area





Review of Concepts

Both concepts have the following features:

- Circulation throughout the park
- New, enlarged playground areas
- Flexible community gathering space
- Park signage
- Future trail connection to Shepherd Parkway
- Picnic areas, including individual tables and grouped tables with shade structure
- Site furniture including benches, trash receptables, bike rack, and lighting
- Education areas
- Permeable paving

Features not included:

- Community garden
- Off-leash dog park
- Spray park
- Sandbox
- Restrooms



Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop





Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop

Site Circulation



--- PROPERTY LINE ——— EXISTING TRAIL - - -> CIRCULATION



Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop

Existing Trees



- PROPERTY LINE
- - - EXISTING TRAIL
- EXISTING TREE TO REMAIN
- ✗ EXISTING TREE TO BE REMOVED



Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop

Proposed New Trees



--- PROPERTY LINE - - - EXISTING TRAIL ● PROPOSED NEW TREE ■ PROPOSED PLANTED BUFFER



Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop

Proposed Activity Locations





Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop Playground





Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop

Picnic Area





Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play





Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play

Site Circulation



--- PROPERTY LINE - - - EXISTING TRAIL - - -> CIRCULATION



Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play

Existing Trees



- PROPERTY LINE
- EXISTING TRAIL
- EXISTING TREE TO REMAIN
- ✗ EXISTING TREE TO BE REMOVED



Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play

Proposed New Trees



--- PROPERTY LINE - - - EXISTING TRAIL ● NEW PROPOSED TREE



Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play

Proposed Activity Locations



- PROPERTY LINE
- EXISTING TRAIL
- > CIRCULATION
- PLAY AREA
- PICNIC AREA
- PLAZA



Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play

Picnic and Nature Play





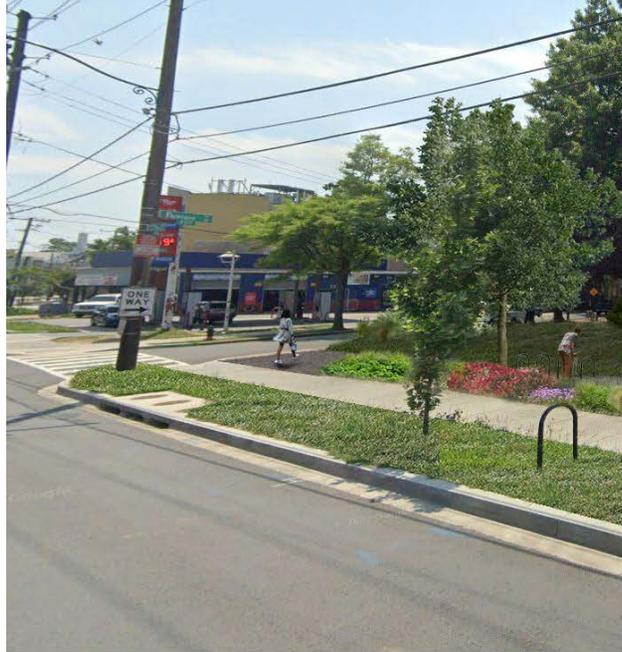
Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play

Play Area



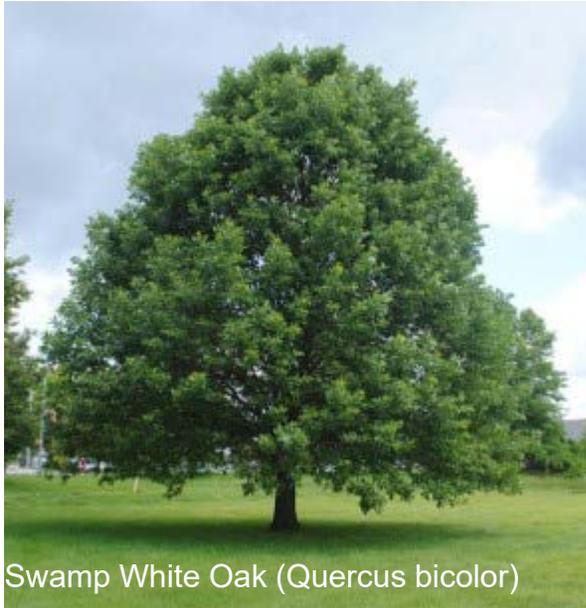


Concepts A and B: Option for Plaza Planting Buffer





Suggested Native Plantings





Suggested Native Plantings



Hairy Alum Root (*Heuchera villosa*)



Grassland Sedge (*Carex divulsa*)



Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*)



Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)



White Turtlehead (*Chelone gabra*)



Blue False Indigo (*Baptisia australis*)



Park Amenities Preferences

Which do you prefer?



A. Group picnic areas



B. Small picnic areas



C. Fitness equipment



D. Grills



E. Education Stations



F. Play



Play Equipment Preferences- Types

Which do you prefer?



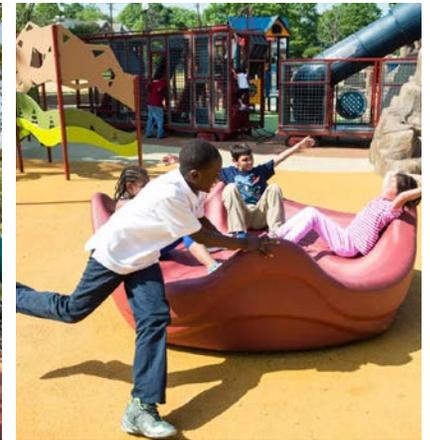
A. Playset



B. Slide



C. Climbing



D. Spin



E. Music



F. Swings



G. Nature Play

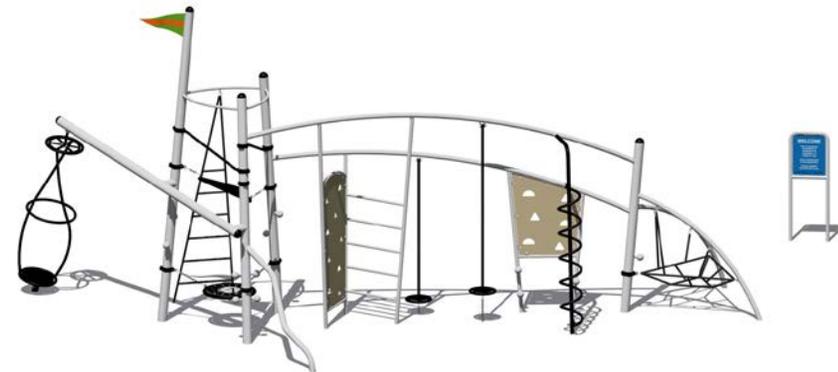


Playground Equipment Preferences- Playset

Which do you prefer?



A. Traditional Style



B. Modern Style



Comparing Concepts

Concept A: Neighborhood National Park w/ Fitness Loop



Concept B: Neighborhood National Park w/ Playground & Nature Play





How Can You Submit Comments?

- **Online:** Submit written comments by **November 20** at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=112091>
- **Written comments can be mailed to:**
 - Superintendent
 - Attn: Parkland Rehabilitation
 - National Park Service
 - 1900 Anacostia Drive SE
 - Washington, DC 20020
- **Mailed comments** must be postmarked by **November 20** to receive consideration

Please Note: Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.



Next Steps

The NPS will take the following next steps at the end of the public comment period:

- Receive and review public comments
- Add lighting to park concepts
- Refine design to incorporate comments
- Return to public with a single design concept



Questions + Answers

