

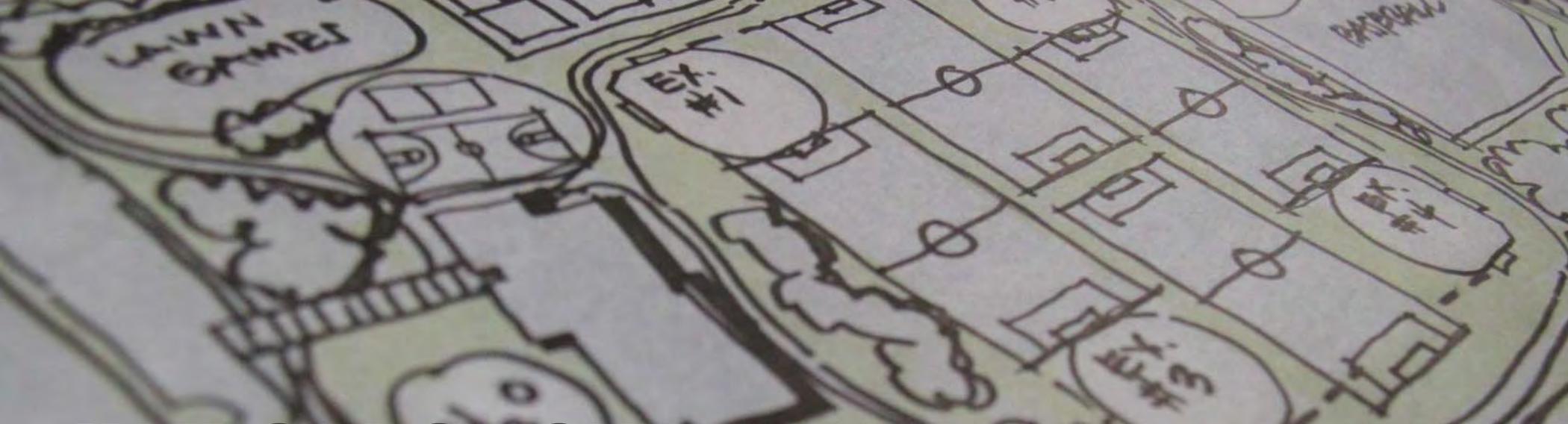
4 PARK PLANS



SECTION CONTENTS:

- INTRODUCTION
- KEY/LEGEND
- PARK PLANS & COST ESTIMATES

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INTRODUCTION

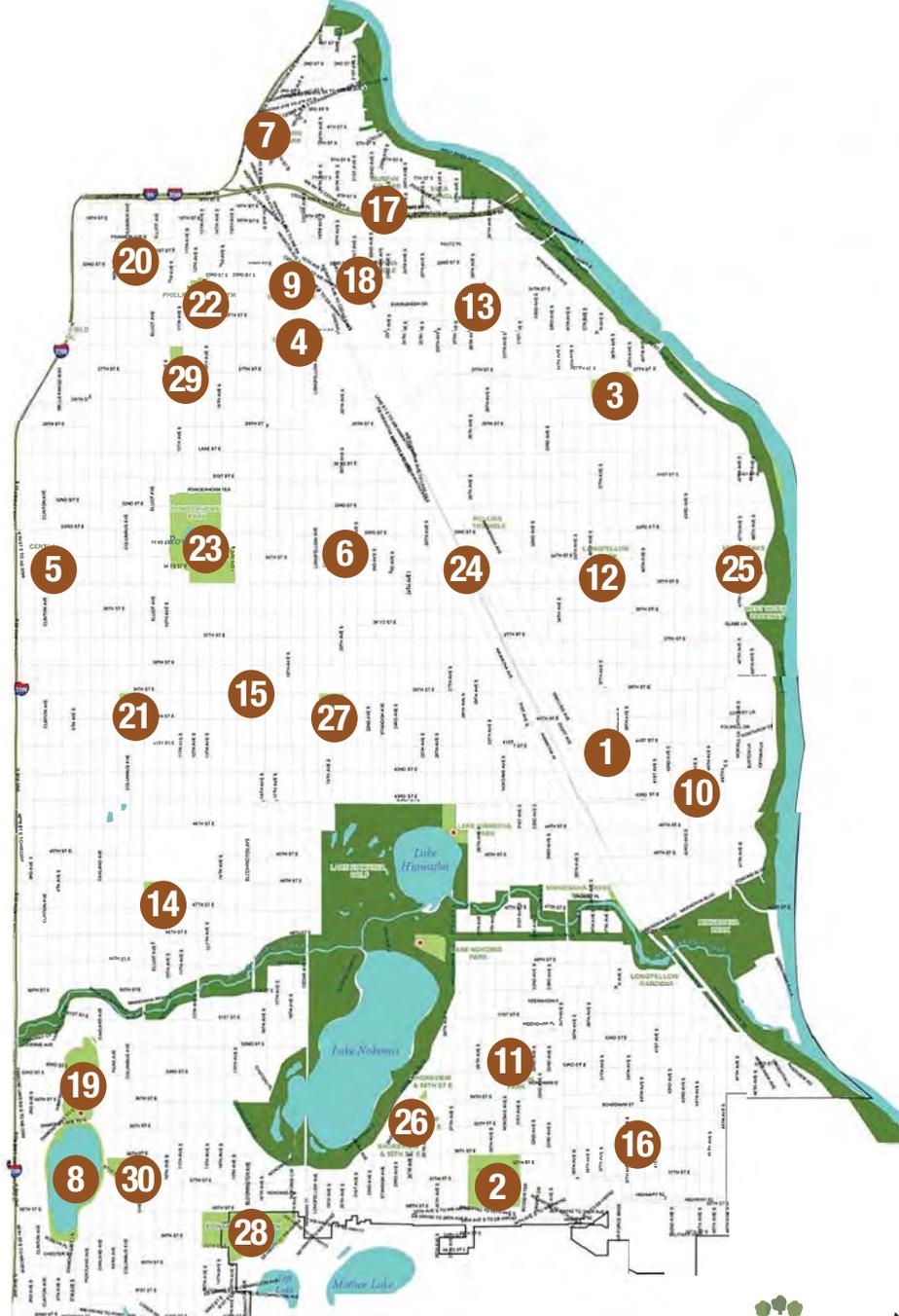
The South Service Area Master Plan creates unique new designs for 27 of the 32 neighborhood park properties in the service area (the remaining 5 are “special consideration” parks as described on the following page). Those designs appear on the following pages, arranged alphabetically. The plan for each park is displayed as a 6 or 8 page “packet” of information that includes the following:

- A description of the history and current character of the park, along with a location map.
- An aerial photograph of existing conditions at the park, for reference
- A written description of the proposed plan for the park, including some overview of public sentiment during the planning process
- The park plan drawing and key
- A matrix showing general input themes and how they led to the final design
- A cost and operations estimate (see chapter 6 for detailed information on cost estimates). The operations estimate reflects the difference between the existing operational costs and the estimated operational cost .

The neighborhood park plans are concepts. That means they do not finalize every detail in the park. Subsequent capital improvement projects will require detailed design processes, and additional community engagement will be performed at that time, per MPRB policy and ACTION 3. The park plans do not specifically locate small features in the park, like benches and signs. Instead, they are a guide to the overall layout of the park and what will be included in the park in the future.

NOKOMIS/HIAWATHA

The parks surrounding the two recreation centers at Lakes Nokomis and Hiawatha are not included in the South Service Area Master Plan. Though they host neighborhood-type facilities, they are both officially within the boundary of Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park, for which there is an approved master plan. That Regional Park Master Plan is the guiding document for these park areas.



= Regional Parks (not included in South Service Area Master Plan)
 = Recreation Center



Figure 4.1 - Park Location Key

* SPECIAL CONSIDERATION PARKS

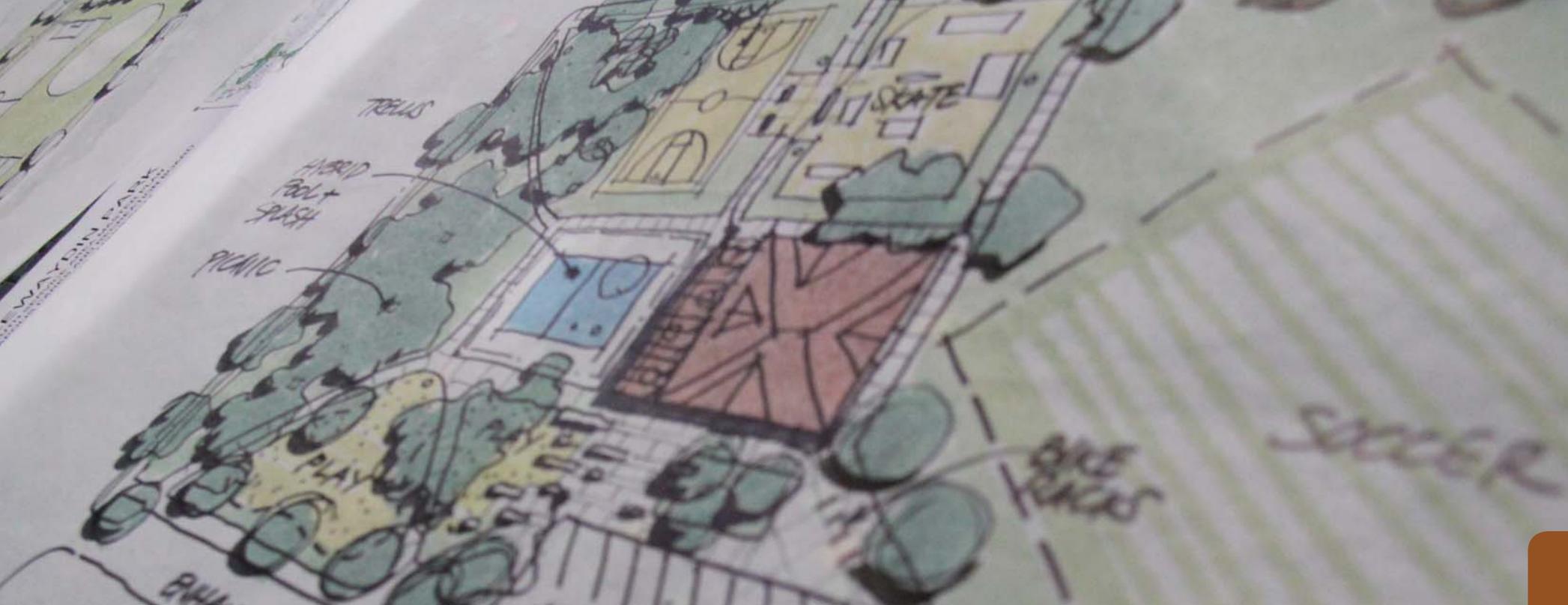
Several park properties do not have full packets of information included in the SSAMP document at this time. The reasons for this vary by park and are described in abbreviated park packets appearing in alphabetical sequence with the other parks. Those park properties and the basic reasons for special consideration are:

- Bossen Field: recently master planned independently of the SSAMP.
- Cedar Avenue Field: insufficient community engagement prevented final design.
- East Phillips: community decision to not master plan at this time
- Meridian Garden: managed by community group
- Rollins Triangle: tiny park triangle impacted by Minnehaha Avenue reconstruction

PARKS INCLUDED

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adams Triangle 2. Bossen Field* 3. Brackett Field 4. Cedar Avenue Field* 5. Central Gym Park 6. Corcoran Park 7. Currie Park 8. Diamond Lake 9. East Phillips Park* 10. Hiawatha School Park 11. Keewaydin Park 12. Longfellow Park 13. Matthews Park 14. McRae Park 15. Meridian Garden* 16. Morris Park 17. Murphy Square 18. Normanna Triangle 19. Pearl Park | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Peavey Field Park 21. Phelps Field Park 22. Phillips Community Center 23. Powderhorn Park 24. Rollins Triangle* 25. Seven Oaks Oval 26. Shoreview Triangles (3 park properties) 27. Sibley Park 28. Solomon Park 29. Stewart Park 30. Todd Park |
|---|---|

* These parks are considered as a part of the overall service area master plan but are considered "special consideration" parks.



A PARK PLAN DOES DETERMINE

- The types and locations of facilities
- The general areas of mown and naturalized landscapes and the general location of trees
- The extent and general location of pathways

A PARK PLAN DOES NOT DETERMINE

- The specific design of facilities
- The location of minor amenities such as benches, drinking fountains, and signs

EXAMPLE:

A park plan DOES determine:

- That there will be a traditional play area in a certain location in the park (as opposed to a nature play area in a different location)

A park plan DOES NOT determine:

- The exact equipment, layout, color, surfacing

Future capital projects will have their own community engagement processes at the time of implementation.

KEY/LEGEND

AQUATICS

Places to play in the water
(swimming, splash pads)

- 

Wading Pool (small, shallow pool for children)
- 

Indoor Swimming Pool
- 

Beach Access
- 

Splash Pad (water play area with sprayers and fountains, with no standing water)
- 

Interactive Water Play (small stream/fountains for kids to play in)

PLAY

Places for youth to play (swings, slides, vertical climbing walls)

- 

Traditional Play Structure (swings, slides, climbers)
- 

Adventure Play (place for challenging play for older youth and teens including climbing walls, zip line, obstacle course)
- 

Nature play area (play area for children that encourages creative play with natural materials)

ATHLETICS

Sports on turf fields

- 

Multi-use Field (open turf that may be used for soccer or other sports)
- 

Multi-use Diamond (field for baseball or softball but the outfield may be used for soccer or other sports)
- 

Premier Field (High quality field for soccer or other sports, often with permanent stripes)
- 

Premier Diamond (High quality field for baseball or softball, usually with a fence around the outfield)
- 

Sports Dome (may be put up in winter to allow sports to be played year round)

COURTS

Sports on hard surface courts

- 

Tennis Court
- 

Basketball Court
- 

Volleyball Court
- 

Multi-sport Court (court striped to allow many different sports such as pickleball, bike polo)

WINTER USE

Places to play in winter (ice skating, sledding)

-   Designated Sledding Hill
-   Skating Rink
-   Broomball Rink
-   Hockey Rink
-   Year-round Rink (*Hard-surface rink for hockey all year or bike polo in summer*)
-   Warming House

LANDSCAPE

-   Outdoor Gathering Space (*Open area for community gathering/picnics*)
-   Designated Urban Agriculture Area
-  Mown Turf Grass
-  Naturalized Area (*native vegetation areas,*

OTHER

Other types of recreation in outdoor parks

-   Group Shelter
-   Stage / Bandshell (for outdoor plays, music, or classes)
-   Adult Fitness (area with machines to work out in)
-   Walking Loop Trail (walking path that loops around the park, includes signs and seating)
-   Lawn/Court Games (small open lawn or court for games)
-   Dog Park
-   Disc Golf
-   Archery (archery course)
-   Skate Park
-   Canoe/Kayak Launch
-   Community Oven
-   Restroom/Storage Building

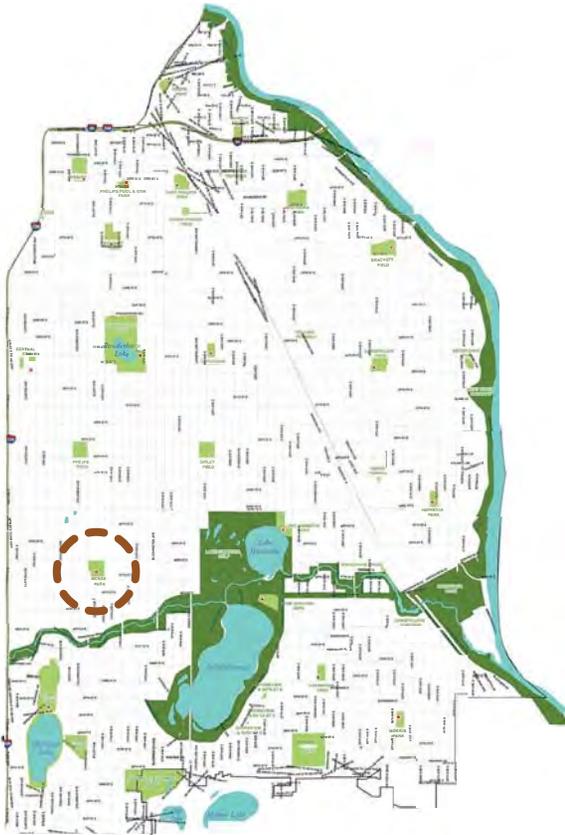
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MCRAE

LOCATION AND HISTORY

McRae Park occupies most of a large block bounded by 46th Street, 47th Street, Chicago Avenue, and the Hope Street for Runaway and Homeless Youth. The busy streets on the north and west make this a prominently situated park just north of Minnehaha Creek. Unlike many parks, it is not surrounded by neighborhoods, but rather the semi-commercial avenues of Chicago and 46th, the forested campus of the Children's Home, and the large St. Mary's Cemetery across 46th to the north.

The land for McRae Park was obtained partly through purchase by condemnation and partly from the state



of Minnesota. A 1944 study of the city's park needs recommended that two playground parks be added to this southern section of the city, but no sites were available or affordable at the time. In 1946, however, a neighborhood group, the Shenandoah Playground Association, asked the park board to consider a site at 46th and Elliot for a park. Several parcels of land were on the state's tax-forfeiture list. The park board asked the state to withhold those lots from its land sale and added to them by purchasing adjoining land.

Plans to develop the park into a playground and athletic fields were completed in 1953, as were special assessment procedures to bill area property owners for the costs of developing the park. Construction of the park began in late 1954 and was completed in 1956. The new park had baseball, softball, and football fields, a hard-surface area for basketball and volleyball, two tennis courts, a concrete wading pool, a small playground shelter and warming house, playground equipment, sidewalks, and picnic tables. The park was named in 1955 for Alexander A. McRae, a banker who served as a park commissioner for 18 years and was the board's president 1919-1921. He died during his second stint on the park board in 1944 at age 74.

New playground equipment was installed at McRae in 1969 at the beginning of a cycle of major improvements to park facilities throughout the city in the 1970s. Seven years later, the original small park shelter was expanded into a recreation center. A new play area for small children was added in 1996, and in 1998 a permanent hard-surface skating rink was constructed that permits year-round skating, in winter on blades and in summer on wheels.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND CHARACTER

As a fairly recent addition to the Minneapolis park system, McRae Park today is not much different than it was after its original implementation. It features three multi-use diamonds and a year-round rink (ice in winter, paved in summer) on its four main corners, with a

football field—complete with goalposts—in the center. Near the recreation center are two playgrounds and a wading pool, with a picnic area and sand volleyball court just to the east. A small parking lot is accessible from 47th Street on the southern edge of the park.

The southwest corner of the McRae block is occupied by several commercial businesses, this land having never been purchased by MPRB. North of these businesses along Chicago Avenue are horseshoe courts, a full court basketball court, a hard-court volleyball court, two tennis courts, and a half-court tennis bang-board.

The fringes of the sports areas are pleasantly shaded by large conifer and deciduous trees, but few walking paths allow for accessible strolls through the park.

McRae Park has been known for its year-round sports programs. In winter, two broomball rinks are erected here in addition to the permanent hockey rink. In summer softball, football, and soccer use the fields most nights and weekend days. A capital improvement project underway at the time of the SSAMP process is improving the multi-use fields with new soil, grass, irrigation, and improved drainage.

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PARKS

Wayfinding and connections from McRae Park should focus on:

- The Southside Greenway, which is planned to run one block west of the park on Columbus Avenue. An obvious connection to this proposed City of Minneapolis facility would connect McRae to Minnehaha Creek, Pearl Park, Phelps Field, and Powderhorn Park.
- A proposed pedestrian and/or bicycle route along 47th Street eastward to Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park and to Minnehaha Creek via 17th Avenue.



Existing Conditions: McRae



Proposed Plan: McRae

THE PROPOSED DESIGN

The design for McRae Park recognizes the community desire for an active, sports-oriented park with improved amenities. The plan follows the capital project’s recommendation for an improved multi-use field in the center of the park (with removal of the football goalposts), and relocation of broomball rinks off that field in the winter. The SSAMP plan also reduces the number of multi-use diamonds from three to two, on the northwest and southeast corners, to allow more space for broomball and other field sports.

The parking lot is extended eastward to nearly double its size, to accommodate the sports use and the fact that parking along Chicago and 46th is sometimes unavailable (unlike in other parks where on-street parking is easy to come by). To accommodate this move, the wading pool and play areas are relocated slightly, to the northeast of the proposed lot extension. A picnic area and sand volleyball court are retained at the southeastern-most edge of the park. The parking lot, upon its expansion, should consider sustainable construction methods and stormwater management, per the recommendations in this plan.

The court sports area along Chicago Avenue is modified. The horseshoe, hard volleyball, and tennis bang-board courts are eliminated in favor of two full-court basketball courts and several shoot-hoops of varying heights, to allow for play by younger children or

general basketball practice. The two tennis courts are reconstructed as multi-use courts focusing on tennis, pickleball, and volleyball.

Naturalized areas with pollinator-friendly plantings trace the outer edges of the park, while new pathways allow for walking loops around the park and improved accessible connections to surrounding streets.

McRae Park has a lot of sporting activities packed in, and this active focus will continue in the future. In addition to football, baseball, basketball, soccer, hockey, broomball, and other sports, McRae visitors will now be able to stroll around the park from activity to activity—even finding more safe places to park when they come.

KNOWN LAND USE AND COORDINATION ISSUES

There are no known land use or coordination issues with McRae Park.

During the planning process, some community members suggested that MPRB should complete the square and acquire the properties on the southwestern corner. This was not adopted into the final plan, however, as acquisition priorities lie elsewhere and the park design was able to incorporate most desires into its existing extents.

OPERATION ESTIMATE

| FACILITIES | Total Per Unit Operations Cost | △ Qty | △ Cost |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Tennis Court | \$ 1,500 | -2 | \$ (3,000) |
| Full Court Basketball | \$ 1,500 | 2 | \$ 3,000 |
| Half Court Basketball | \$ 1,000 | 4 | \$ 4,000 |
| Volleyball | \$ 1,500 | -1 | \$ (1,500) |
| Multi-Sport Court | \$ 1,500 | 2 | \$ 3,000 |
| Walking Loop Trail | \$ 5,000 | 1 | \$ 5,000 |
| Difference | | | \$ 10,500 |

UPDATE EXISTING

-  Traditional Play Structure
-  Wading Pool
-  Volleyball Court
-  Basketball Court
-  Broomball Rink
-  Year-round Rink
-  Multi-use Field
-  Multi-use Diamond

NEW/ ADDED

-  Multi-sport Court
-  Basketball Court
-  Walking Loop Trail

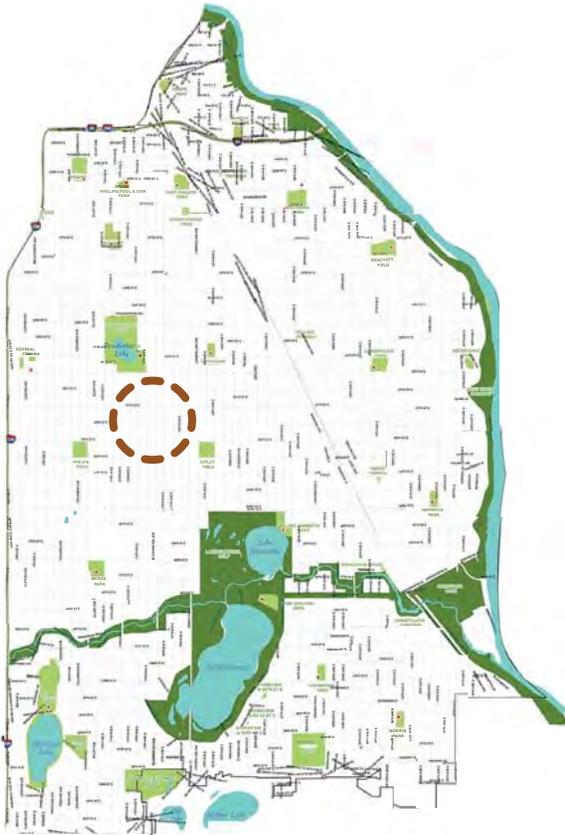
PROCESSES

| | 1: General Input Spring-Fall 2015 <i>Input themes prior to initial concepts</i> | 2: Initial Concepts Fall-Winter 2015/2016 <i>Input themes on initial concepts</i> | 3: The Preferred Concept Now <i>Key elements of the concept</i> |
|-----------|--|---|---|
| aquatics | Wading pool generally disliked → | Provide shade at pool → | Splash pad with shade structure instead of wading pool, closer to fields than existing, to allow room for expanded parking |
| play | Play equipment is in poor condition → | no comments → | Traditional play equipment relocated closer to fields than existing, to allow room for expanded parking |
| athletics | Multi-use diamonds generally disliked; field quality is seen as poor overall → | no comments → | Removal of one multi-use diamond to create larger multi-use field space and to prevent overlap with broomball rink |
| courts | Tennis courts are well used Basketball courts need improvement, but this use is desired in the park → | Basketball, tennis both popular Sand volleyball is heavily used by Latino population → | Tennis courts retained in same number and location Replacement of basketball and horseshoe area with two full-court basketball, four shoot hoops at varying heights, and seating area under shade for courts area Sand volleyball court retained in same general location, near picnic area in southeast corner |
| winter | Hockey and broomball rinks are heavily used in this park → | no comments → | Permanent ice rink retained in same location. Two broomball rinks relocated to eliminate overlap with football field |
| landscape | no comments specific to McRae; many comments want more natural areas in parks → | no comments specific to McRae; many comments want more natural areas in parks → | Addition of naturalized areas around perimeters of park |
| other | no comments → | Like expanded parking Need on-site storage for sports and maintenance equipment Provide picnic area → | Parking expanded to the east Addition of walking trails throughout the park Enhanced picnic area near play area in southeast corner of park |

COST ESTIMATE

| Asset Type | Project | 2017 ESTIMATED COST/PROJECT | Implementation Sequence | Prioritization Category | Applicable SSAMP Actions |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aquatics | Wading Pool, incl. playground demolition and existing pool demolition | \$ 911,712 | before parking lot, after/with playground | PLANNED | 16 |
| Play | Traditional Play Structures (2) in new container | \$ 698,158 | before wading pool | FUNDED | 16, 23b, 23d |
| Athletics | Athletic field renovation, incl. demolition of 1 diamond, renovation of 2 diamonds, renovation of fields | \$ 1,162,228 | stand-alone | FUNDED/PLANNED | 16, 21a, 21b, 21d |
| Courts | Multi-use Court (2) | \$ 213,554 | stand-alone | PLANNED | 16, 18, 22c |
| Courts | Basketball Court (2) + shoot hoops | \$ 344,972 | stand-alone | PLANNED | 16, 22a |
| Courts | Volleyball Court | \$ 57,495 | before/with playground | PLANNED | 16 |
| Winter | Hockey/Inline Skate Rink | \$ 246,409 | stand-alone | PLANNED | 16, 18 |
| Landscape | Naturalized areas | \$ 42,136 | stand-alone or with other projects, as appropriate | PLANNED | 26, 29 |
| Landscape | Parking Lot Renovation and expansion | \$ 331,899 | after/with wading pool and playgrounds | PLANNED | 28 |
| Other | Gathering Space/Plazas near building and near courts | \$ 133,882 | with associated projects | PLANNED | 16 |
| Other | Renovate walking paths | \$ 174,786 | with other projects, as appropriate | PLANNED | 16, 17 |
| Other | Miscl. signs, trees, furniture | \$ 77,873 | with other projects, as appropriate | PLANNED | 9, 10, 17 |
| TOTAL | | \$ 4,395,104 | | | |

MERIDIAN GARDEN



ABOUT

Meridian Garden is considered a “special case” in the SSAMP process. It is a community garden operated by the Bancroft Neighborhood and community volunteers. It was not master planned during the SSAMP process because it has a special use that MPRB does not intend to change. In fact, the parcel is parkland only as a way to ensure no other use can be built there. MPRB has no management responsibility for the land, and acts essentially as a title-holder for the community-driven work that happens there.

The garden began in 1996 on a foreclosed lot on the corner of 38th Street and 12th Avenue in the Bancroft Neighborhood (which, incidentally, is one of very few neighborhoods in Minneapolis without a park). In 2006, at the request of the neighborhood, MPRB became owner of the land to preserve its use as a garden.

KNOWN LAND USE AND COORDINATION ISSUES

No known land use and coordination issues exist, though the site is managed by an outside organization.

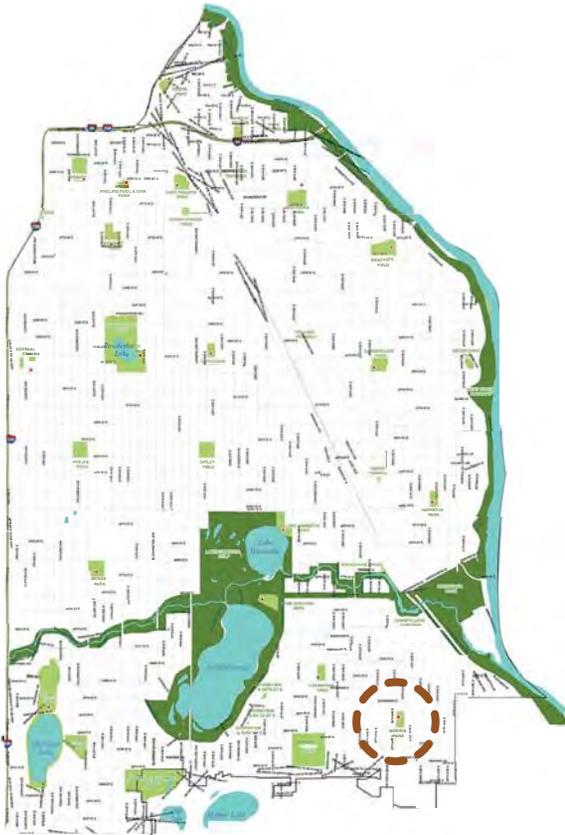
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MORRIS

LOCATION AND HISTORY

Morris Park occupies a single city block bounded by 55th Street, 40th Avenue, 56th Street, and 39th Avenue in the far southeastern corner of Minneapolis. The southernmost portion of the park sits across a vacated portion of 39th Avenue from an elementary school currently operated by the Hiawatha Leadership Academy. The former public elementary school—Morris Elementary—figures prominently in the park’s history.

Morris Park was purchased by condemnation in 1956, but it appeared long before then in park board deliberations. A potential Morris Park first appeared in the form of a protest from the Morris School PTA against a resolution by the park board to acquire



three park sites in the portion of Minneapolis that was annexed from Richfield in 1926. One site the park board considered was at 59th Street and 27th Avenue, southwest of the present Bossen Field, land that is now owned by the airport. The Morris Park PTA wanted a park nearer the school. After much debate over the location of a park in the vicinity, the issue was rendered moot by the park board’s abandonment in 1931 of all efforts to acquire any parks in the newest section of the city that was annexed from Richfield. Property owners were not willing to be assessed for the acquisition or improvement of any of the proposed sites, perhaps understandable given the onset of the depression.

Later, in 1938, an internal park board survey of neighborhoods that needed playgrounds identified the Morris Park neighborhood as one where a playground was recommended for future development. During the economic recovery of the 1950s, and after successful collaboration by the park board and school board in building parks and schools jointly at Waite Park and Armatage Park, the two boards considered another cooperative venture at Morris School in 1954. The addition of a park to the school grounds got a green light in 1955 as a special assessment project, meaning that property owners in the neighborhood would be assessed the costs of acquiring and improving the land for a park.

The land was acquired in 1956 and work began on the park. The park acreage was augmented by 1.7 acres of land owned by the school board adjacent to the school. The land acquired was not vacant land, so homes had to be moved before construction could begin. A shelter was built at the park in 1957 similar to the design pioneered at Franklin Steele Square with garage-door like exterior walls that could be raised in summer and lowered in winter to provide a warming house. In addition to the shelter, the park board installed ball fields, a hard-surfaced play area, a wading pool, and playground equipment.

Morris Park was the subject of political wrangling in 1979. The park board added an expansion of the Morris Park shelter to its 1980 bond program request. The mayor vetoed the expenditure, but the park board voted unanimously to override the veto. Despite the assertion of its independence from the mayor, the park board did not get its way when the city council did not approve the bond request.

The park board did obtain city bond funds, as well as grants from the state, to renovate the park in 1985 and 1986. Finally in 1993 and 1994, the funds were provided for the expansion of the old portable-wall shelter at Morris Park into a small, modern recreation center. One of six skate parks in city parks was installed in 2005 and new playground equipment was installed in 2009.

Morris School, for which the park is named, closed as a public school in 2007. The building reopened in 2009 as the Hiawatha Leadership Academy, a public charter school.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND CHARACTER

The Morris Park Recreation Center sits in the center of the park. A small circular parking lot with somewhat steep and awkward grades connects from 39th Avenue to the west of the building. To the north is a wading pool flanked on both sides by playgrounds. A small but lovely picnic area under mature trees fronts 55th Street.

To the east of the building are a horseshoe court and a skatepark, which was constructed over the top of a former basketball court. The athletic fields to the south of the building are small, featuring just one multi-use Diamond with multi-use field space available in the outfield.

The school lies to the west of the athletic fields and fronts just the southern portion of the park (the northern portion of the block has single-family residences). Dividing the park and school is a vestige of 39th Avenue. The useable part of the road stretches southward from 55th Street and ends at a fence near the southern entrance to the park parking lot. The road pavement, however, continues all the way through to 56th Street, where it also fenced. A portion of this pavement is used for school parking and also for recess games. This portion of 39th Avenue has been vacated, meaning the park/school property line runs down its middle. Needless to say, an old road is probably not a desirable park feature.

With the reestablishment of a school adjacent to Morris Park, the site is again active during the day. Otherwise, it serves as a peaceful through well used neighborhood center. The skatepark attracts users, though many feel it’s quality could be improved.



Existing Conditions: Morris



Proposed Plan: Morris

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PARKS

Wayfinding and connections from Morris Park should focus on:

- The existing City of Minneapolis bicycle/ pedestrian route along 56th Street, which connects to the west to Bossen Field and Nokomis-Hiawatha Regional Park. Because Morris Park is relatively small and does not have extensive athletic facilities, a connection to Bossen Field could help fill this need.

THE PROPOSED DESIGN

In coordination with the Hiawatha Leadership Academy, the master planning process considered all the land between the school and the park, disregarding the school/park property line for planning purposes. More green space and an improved connection to the park are desired by the school, which is also not enamored with the leftover road. The road is removed in the plan, and new trail connections link the eastern school entrance and the recreation center and playgrounds. A small court games area (four square, hopscotch, etc.) is located along the path near the school entrance.

The athletic fields are largely unchanged, except that the removal of the road allows for a youth-size soccer field to fit in the multi-use diamond's outfield. Small picnic and gathering areas fill the corners of the sports area, offering options for community members and teachers with their students to be outside under trees.

Nearer the recreation center, the parking lot and entry area is revised to create a more compact and welcoming building access. Between the parking lot and building is a plaza with seating to allow for community gathering and conversation. The seating could be movable or custom built, creating interesting spaces amongst new and existing trees. The wading pool is reconstructed in the same place, with a new shade arbor reaching north from the recreation building. The play areas are moved to the western side of the wading pool, to bring them closer together and make

room for other amenities to the east. The skatepark remains but is improved, and a new multi-use court sits just to the north. This court would be primarily used for basketball, but could also be designed with removable standards for tennis, pickleball, volleyball, and/or badminton

At the far northern end of the park, the picnic area in the woods remains, but new pollinator-friendly landscaping along 55th Street further enhances the sense of enclosure and calm. Morris Park is a little gem in far southeastern Minneapolis, unsung city-wide but so important to the neighborhood. The basic bones of the park are as before, but a more efficient use of space allows for additional amenities for both neighborhood children and school children.

KNOWN LAND USE AND COORDINATION ISSUES

Some planned amenities cross the property line between school and park property. Coordination with Hiawatha Leadership Academy will be necessary to implement certain improvements in partnership. Based on discussions with HLA, it seems that MPRB and HLA goals are in alignment. Discussions about implementation should commence when feasible.

OPERATIONS ESTIMATE

| FACILITIES | Total Per Unit Operations Cost | △ Qty | △ Cost |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|
| Multi-Sport Court | \$ 1,500 | 1 | \$ 1,500 |
| Outdoor Gathering Space | \$ 10,000 | 1 | \$ 10,000 |
| Lawn/Court Games | \$ 5,000 | 1 | \$ 5,000 |
| Difference | | | \$ 16,500 |

UPDATE EXISTING



Traditional Play Structure



Wading Pool



Multi-use Field



Multi-use Diamond



Skate Park

NEW/ ADDED



Outdoor Gathering Space



Multi-sport Court



Lawn/Court Games

PROCESSES

| | 1: General Input Spring-Fall 2015 <i>Input themes prior to initial concepts</i> | 2: Initial Concepts Fall-Winter 2015/2016 <i>Input themes on initial concepts</i> | 3: The Preferred Concept Now <i>Key elements of the concept</i> |
|-----------|---|--|--|
| aquatics | wading pool is used often → | no comments → | Wading pool with shade structure in generally the same location |
| play | no comments → | Two separate play areas is desired Like two play areas on same side of building, for easy monitoring and access to school. → | Traditional play areas relocated to west side of park. |
| athletics | no comments → | Preference for multi-use field: more flexibility of use, especially for the school. → | Multi-use diamond retained in existing location. Paved area between park and school removed to create space for multi-use field. |
| courts | no comments → | Like bringing back basketball Would be nice to have a small paved area near the school for court games, especially in winter. → | Skate park retained and enhanced in existing location. Addition of full court basketball/multi-use court adjacent to skate park. Addition of court games area between park and school. |
| winter | no comments → | no comments → | No formal winter facilities planned for this park. |
| landscape | no comments specific to McRae; many comments want more natural areas in parks → | no comments specific to McRae; many comments want more natural areas in parks → | Addition of naturalized area at northeast corner near basketball court. |
| other | no comments → | The skate park needs improvement, and a surface other than asphalt. Mixed comments on removal of horseshoe pit → | Improved walking connection between park and school. Addition of picnic areas at edges of multi-use field. Modification of parking lot and building entry to create gathering space. |

COST ESTIMATE

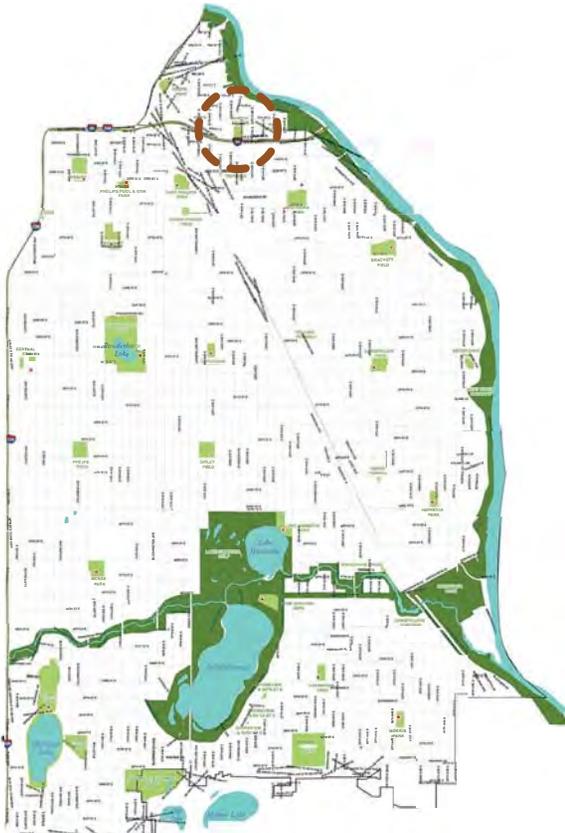
| Asset Type | Project | 2017 ESTIMATED COST/PROJECT | Implementation Sequence | Prioritization Category | Applicable SSAMP Actions |
|--------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aquatics | Wading Pool, incl. demolition of existing wading pool | \$ 739,226 | stand-alone | PLANNED | 16 |
| Play | Traditional Play Structures (2) in new container | \$ 698,158 | before basketball court | PLANNED | 16, 23b, 23d |
| Athletics | Athletic field renovation, incl. renovation of 1 diamond, renovation of field, demolition of roadway | \$ 593,024 | stand-alone (after agreement with school) | PLANNED | 16, 21b, 21d |
| Courts | Basketball Court | \$ 106,777 | after play areas | PLANNED | 16, 22a |
| Landscape | Naturalized areas | \$ 9,980 | stand-alone or with other projects as appropriate | PLANNED | 26, 29 |
| Landscape | Parking Lot Renovation | \$ 66,490 | with building plaza | PLANNED | 28 |
| Other | Skate Park | \$ 410,681 | stand-alone | PLANNED | 16, 18 |
| Other | Court Games | \$ 81,808 | with/after athletic fields (after agreement with school) | PLANNED | 16 |
| Other | Building Plaza | \$ 140,617 | with parking lot | PLANNED | 16 |
| Other | Skatepark / Basketball Plaza | \$ 25,462 | after play areas | PLANNED | 16 |
| Other | Renovate walking paths | \$ 145,361 | with other projects, as appropriate | PLANNED | 16 |
| Other | Misc. signs, trees, furniture | \$ 53,586 | with other projects, as appropriate | PLANNED | 9 |
| n/a | Agreement with school for collaboration on capital improvements | \$ - | before athletic fields and court games | PLANNED | 15 |
| TOTAL | | \$ 3,071,170 | | | |

MURPHY SQUARE

LOCATION AND HISTORY

Murphy Square is, yes, a square completely surrounded by the Augsburg University Campus in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood just north of I-94. It is bounded by 7 ½ Street, 23rd Avenue, Butler Place, and 22nd Avenue. It sits just west of the Augsburg football stadium and just north of a pedestrian bridge across I-94 that connects to the Seward Neighborhood.

Murphy Square is Minneapolis's first park. It's was named for Edward Murphy, who donated the land for a park when he platted Murphy's Addition in 1857. (The name was officially changed from Murphy Park



to Murphy Square in 1890.) Parks were in the news in 1857: New York City conducted a competition to design its vast Central Park, one of the most important developments in the creation of urban parks in the country's history. That event may have influenced Murphy's establishment of a park on land he was developing. Murphy Park was a long way from the center of the small towns of Minneapolis and St. Anthony at the time and the land served as little more than a cow pasture for twenty years. In 1873 Murphy attempted to get the city council to pay to improve the land. Trees were planted in the park, perhaps under the direction of Charles Loring, who is said to have planted the first trees in Minneapolis and was a city council member at the time.

The park was transferred from the city council to the new park board shortly after the park board was created in April 1883. The park board hired Landscape architect Horace Cleveland to create a plan for the park in late 1884. Murphy Square was one of several parks immediately improved by Theodore Wirth when he was hired in 1906. He implemented additional plantings and changed some of the paths in the park. An artesian well was also dug at Murphy Park that year, but the city condemned as unfit the water produced by the well.

Murphy Square was one of the parks recommended as a playground in 1906, when the park board installed its first playground equipment, and a merry-go-round was installed in 1907. A tennis court was built at Murphy Square in 1917, but it was removed in 1919 with the explanation that there wasn't sufficient space for it. Some residents of the neighborhood petitioned the park board to install a kittenball (softball) field in the park in 1922, but opposition from other property owners led the park board to reject the idea.

With the growth of Augsburg College, Murphy Square became, in essence, a central square for the college. The park board entered into serious negotiations with

the school to sell the square to the college in 1957. When those negotiations were unsuccessful, the park board included Murphy Square on a list of properties it could part with, for housing purposes, in 1960. In 1975, the park board considered a land swap with Augsburg College that would have transferred the park to the college, but once again the city's oldest park remained a park.

Ultimately, only a small piece of Murphy Square was lost, and that was due to the construction of the I-94 freeway, which nipped off a bit of the park in the 1960s.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND CHARACTER

Today, Murphy Square is, essentially, Augsburg's central quad. Most park users are students, and many students move through the park from one class to another. Picnic tables are scattered throughout and are used for individual and group studying. There are no active recreation facilities in the park.

MPRB currently has an operating agreement with Augsburg University that tasks the college with maintenance and allows it to program the park. MPRB has little responsibility for the park other than ownership and potentially capital investment. Augsburg has prepared a long-term master plan that it is implementing over time. The master plan envisions improvements to Murphy Square.

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PARKS

Wayfinding and connections from Murphy Square should focus on:

- A connection through the college campus to the City of Minneapolis bicycle/pedestrian route on Riverside Avenue



Existing Conditions: Murphy Square



Proposed Plan: Murphy Square

NEW/ ADDED



Group Shelter



Outdoor Gathering Space

THE PROPOSED DESIGN

The plan for Murphy Square reinforces the current pathway layout, but makes some modifications based on both the Augsburg Master Plan and discussions with Augsburg facilities staff. East-west circulation in the park is simplified with a linear double walkway, to allow easy transit from one side of campus to the other. This walkway is lined with small shelters, study kiosks and nooks, and outdoor desks potentially equipped with charging stations and wi-fi. This pathway becomes a study corridor, offering varied opportunities for college students to get outdoors and learn.

Several smaller paths are added to improve circulation within the park, and two central paths reaching south from the center of the park are removed. This creates a larger open space without trees, to allow for impromptu games of frisbee, football, soccer, and whatever else.

The center of the park would be a great location for a significant public artwork.

As Minneapolis's first park, Murphy Square should remain a park and be available to the general public. The fact is, however, that it will mostly be used by the college. The plan therefore, improves its function as a quad, with unique study areas, easy circulation, and open space for games.

KNOWN LAND USE AND COORDINATION ISSUES

At the time of the SSAMP process, the agreement with Augsburg University was about to expire. MPRB and Augsburg should renew the agreement with an eye to capital improvement associated with the campus master plan.

PROCESSES

| | 1: General Input Spring-Fall 2015 <i>Input themes prior to initial concepts</i> | 2: Initial Concepts Fall-Winter 2015/2016 <i>Input themes on initial concepts</i> | 3: The Preferred Concept Now <i>Key elements of the concept</i> |
|-----------|---|--|--|
| aquatics | no comments → | no comments → | No aquatic facilities planned for this park |
| play | no comments → | no comments → | No formal play facilities planned for this park |
| athletics | no comments → | no comments → | No formal athletic facilities planned for this park |
| courts | no comments → | no comments → | No courts planned for this park |
| winter | no comments → | no comments → | No formal winter facilities planned for this park |
| landscape | Augsburg College has a long-term master plan that shows some changes to Murhpy Square → | Like opening up of southern green space for impromptu games and gathering Augsburg design shows a major east-west pathway to connect the campus | Addition of east-west pathway, in consideration of campus master plan, and several other paths to improve circulation within and through park Removal of some paths in the southern half of the park to create open gathering / play area |
| other | no comments → | Like inclusion of study areas for students, consider internet access, good work tables, etc. → | Addition of study shelters along main east-west pathway |

COST ESTIMATE

| Asset Type | Project | 2017 ESTIMATED COST/PROJECT | Implementation Sequence | Prioritization Category | Applicable SSAMP Actions |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Other | Study shelters | \$ 361,400 | with some path renovation | CONTINGENT | 16, 17 |
| Other | Public Art | \$ - | stand-alone | CONTINGENT | 16 |
| Other | Renovate walking paths | \$ 274,821 | stand-alone | CONTINGENT | 16, 17 |
| Other | Miscl. signs, trees, furniture | \$ 11,025 | with other projects, as appropriate | CONTINGENT | 9 |
| n/a | Agreement with Augsburg that addresses capital improvements | \$ - | stand-alone | PLANNED | 15 |
| TOTAL | | \$ 647,246 | | | |

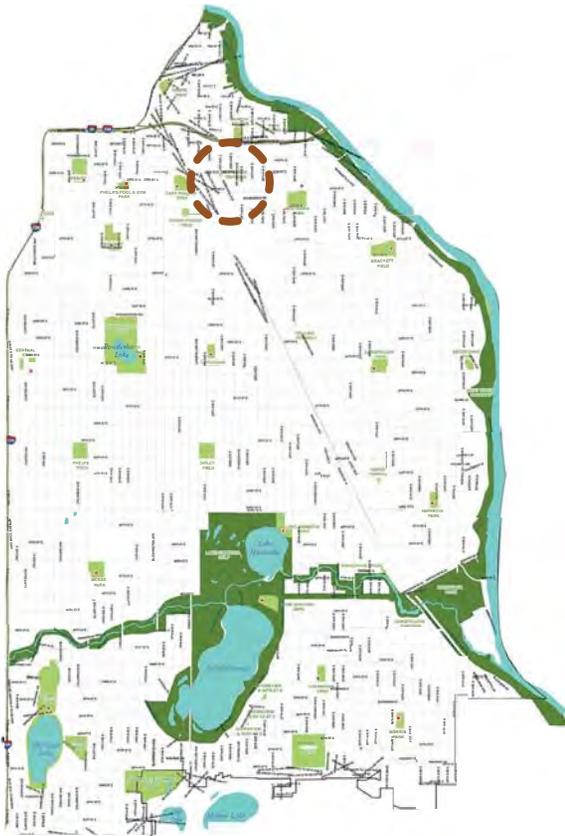
NOTE: Implementation of the study shelter and public art is dependent on leadership by Augsburg.

OPERATIONS ESTIMATE

| FACILITIES | Total Per Unit Operations Cost | △ Qty | △ Cost |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Outdoor Gathering Space | \$ 10,000 | 1 | \$ 10,000 |
| Group Shelter | \$ 4,000 | 1 | \$ 4,000 |
| Difference | | | \$ 14,000 |

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NORMANNA TRIANGLE



LOCATION AND HISTORY

Normanna Triangle is a sliver of land bounded on two sides by Minnehaha Avenue and 21st Avenue and on the north by a multi-family housing complex. It is one of several oddly shaped parcels of land that occur where the diagonal of Minnehaha Avenue intersects the regular city grid (the other two are Adams and Rollins Triangles). The park board asked the city council to turn over the triangle to the park board in 1889. In the following year the park board approved unspecified improvements for the triangle.

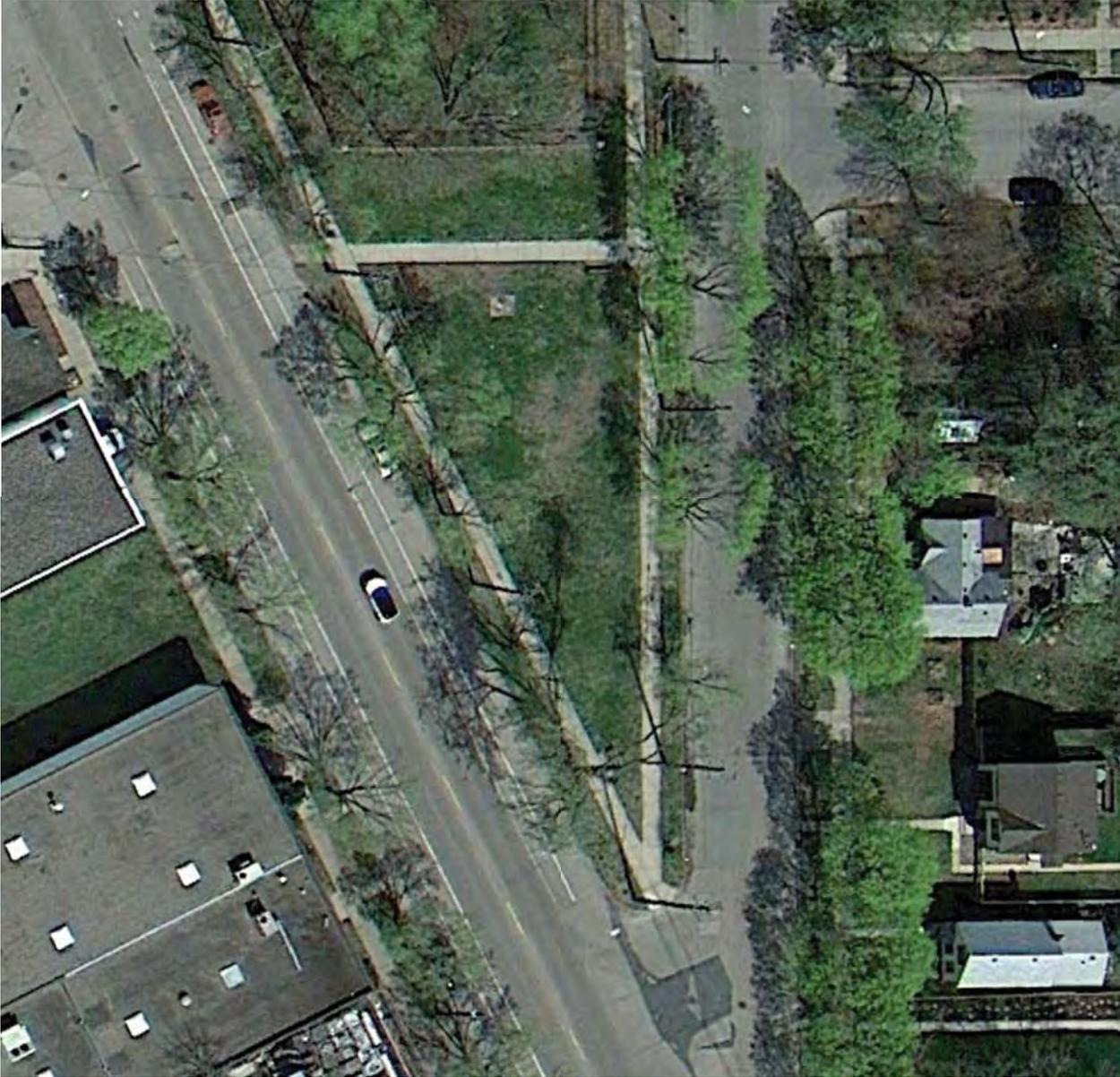
Its name was suggested to honor the Norwegian ancestry of many residents of the neighborhood. The name was officially adopted on December 27, 1893. It had previously been referred to as Minnehaha Avenue Triangle.

Though there is not much history that can be associated with such a small parcel, Normanna Triangle nevertheless was involved in an interesting discussion over drinking water wells on park property. Residents of the area had requested a well in the triangle, and the request was approved in 1912. However, the well must not have been installed because residents asked for a well again in 1914. On November 18, 1914 the Committee on Improvements reported in regard to that

request that “since the Board is not permitted under the State Law to have drinking cups for the use of the patrons of the parks and the city water is now suitable for drinking purposes it seems unwise to continue the placing of wells where the city water is available.” Curiously, given that apparently sound logic, the park board responded favorably to another request for a well at Normanna Triangle the following year and in February 1916 went a step further, authorizing wells for not only Normanna Triangle, but also Bryant Square and Lovell Square.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND CHARACTER

There is no well at Normanna Triangle. The park is a swath of mown turfgrass with a sidewalk near its northern end and a few benches and a sign. A fence separates the park property from the housing to the north.



Existing Conditions: Normanna Triangle



Proposed Plan: Normanna Triangle

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PARKS

Wayfinding and connections from Normanna Triangle should focus on:

- The City of Minneapolis bicycle and pedestrian route being implemented on Minnehaha Avenue
- A community-desired trail connection along 22nd Street, which would pass through the park and connect to the Hiawatha Trail to the west and through the neighborhood to Matthews Park to the east.

THE PROPOSED DESIGN

Appropriate to the park's small size, few improvements are planned at Normanna Triangle. The main change is a bicycle trail crossing the northern edge of the park and functioning as an extension of 22nd Street. This path is separated from the pedestrian sidewalk to increase safety. Additional benches, trees, and pollinator-friendly plantings in the northern portion of the park will encourage users to linger for a moment. Public art could be incorporated into this area, as well.

KNOWN LAND USE AND COORDINATION ISSUES

Hennepin County, in its examination of roadways around the intersection of Franklin Avenue, Cedar Avenue, and Minnehaha Avenue just to the north, has envisioned modifying 21st Avenue so that it curves across the southern tip of Normanna Triangle and enters Minnehaha Avenue at a right angle. This idea is also supported by the neighborhood. At the time of the SSAMP planning process, no definitive County project was planned. However, the concept street design would not affect planned improvements at Normanna Triangle. Coordination with the County may allow for some improvements to be made in exchange for land, if needed.

PROCESSES

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| courts | no comments → | no comments → | No courts planned for this park |
| winter | no comments → | no comments → | No formal winter facilities planned for this park |
| landscape | no comments → | Pollinator garden and fruit trees → | Addition of naturalized area or garden at northern edge along pathways |
| other | no comments → | Ped/bike path across triangle aligned on 22nd Street Picnic gathering area Public art would be a good addition here | Addition of separate bike and pedestrian paths across northern edge, including seating along pedestrian path |

COST ESTIMATE

| Asset Type | Project | 2017 ESTIMATED COST/PROJECT | Implementation Sequence | Prioritization Category | Applicable SSAMP Actions |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Landscape | Naturalized areas | \$ 1,207 | with walking/bicycle paths | PLANNED | 26, 29 |
| Other | Walking and bicycle paths | \$ 15,770 | stand-alone | PLANNED | 8 |
| Other | Miscl. signs, trees, furniture | \$ 5,405 | with walking/bicycle paths | PLANNED | 9 |
| TOTAL | | \$ 22,383 | | | |

OPERATIONS ESTIMATE

There will be NO maintenance change at this Park.

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