

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2017 SPECIAL PROJECTS AND FACILITIES
COMMITTEE MEETING
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. and roll was called.

Committee Members present:

Lisa Brooks, Chair/Vice President
Stefanie Boron, Commissioner
Steve Gaines, Commissioner

Staff present:

Lisa Sheppard, Executive Director/Secretary
Chris Leiner, Director of Parks/Maintenance
Bobby Collins, Director of Recreation/Facilities
Erin Maassen, Manager of Marketing/Comm.

Commissioners present:

Dudley Onderdonk, President
Josh Lutton, Treasurer

Members of the Public in attendance who signed in or spoke: Anais Boury, Dan Dorfman, Bella Lenderman-Bouvy, John Collins, Ryan Culp, Barb Padiak

Review of Playground Designs for Vernon-Jefferson, Old Elm, and Woodlawn Parks:

Executive Director Sheppard introduced Josephine Bellalta and John McManus of Altamanu who presented the preliminary playground designs for Vernon-Jefferson, Old Elm, and Woodlawn Parks attached to these minutes. Discussion on each playground commenced after the presentation.

Board comments on Old Elm Park designs included thrilled with the imaginative scope of the designs, happy that the adult seating is close to the youngest children and that area is furthest from the road, the design looks larger than the actual space which is in reality is a reasonable area to watch a child, experienced that the big group swing style shown is not used at other parks however there is another merry-go-round/tire swing style with three seats, likes musical theme although might be limiting, liked stone seating, would like to remove big space with rock and replace with equipment, a playground can also be a place to sit. Board comment included that the equipment needs to be less modern. When asked Altamanu stated the design will not prevent a possible trail from Takiff to Old Elm and then to the forest preserve in the future.

Public comments on Old Elm designs included: would like a zip line the longer the better, a variety of swings like at Millennial Park, worried about the xylophone music playing so close to neighbors' homes, varied size slides, sidewalks are important for neighbors, camps, increased traffic, keep multigenerational pieces, several trees in the park are currently memorial trees, like space to gather for neighborhood parties and open space for free play, water fountain and understand neighborhood architecture.

Director Leiner explained safety zones and that they have grown by 30% from the current playground. The shaded areas in the design include required safety zones.

Discussion with Commissioners and public ensued. Final takeaways were:

Budget for the project is \$197,000 including survey, fees, and signage

- Public liked net swings at Maggie Daley, but probably custom and very expensive
- Path good, but may reduce extent of path
- Keep rumple strips on path
- Liked tire swings
- Keep sand and gathering bowl
- Include bike racks and stroller parking
- Fossil dig is out
- Doty pebbles are out
- Musical Theme is out
- Cavatina and music book are out (like it but use at a different site)
- Find equipment that has levels and landings and more fitting with “Modern Movement” architecture
- Public liked zip lines but staff explained budget and that they will be in another site

Board and public discussion ensued on Vernon-Jefferson Park. Budgets are distributed by park size, proximity to other playgrounds, and if close to a school.

Members of the public commented on the designs including Ryan Culp who asked for a dog park, pool, splash pad, basketball court, asphalt open play area, climbing wall, zip line, spinner, and a fence. Executive Director Sheppard explained that this project entails replacement of neighborhood playground and those items suggested are not in the budget. The budget is determined on park size, proximity to other playgrounds and park amenities. A basketball court can be found a couple blocks away at Watts Park.

John Collins shared that the design based on size is fantastic, embellish the central picnic area for parents who congregate there, sandboxes mean cleanup for parents, love the rock/boulder theme, but could look dated in a few years use colors like Phil Thomas playground.

Concern was shared by an unknown member of the public regarding falling backward off the climbing wall at the slide transition and that it is too tall for toddlers. Connectivity of the pieces is missing. The neighbors do not want a sandbox.

Commissioner Gaines indicated that donations would be considered if neighbors wished to include a feature not within the budget set for the park.

When asked when construction would start, Sheppard shared that staff is hoping for approval on conceptual designs in January so that final designs can be completed and bids sent out so that construction can begin in spring.

Commissioners commented that they like the boulders/climbing wall, do not want a water feature, as a community park would like a more subtle/traditional piece, keep the climbing feature, but take out the rocket which they feel is inconsistent with the feel of a park with Oak trees.

Discussion with Commissioners and public ensued. Final takeaways were:

- Budget \$197,000 includes survey, fees and signage
- Rocket ship is out
- Sand box is out
- Liked Moonscape theme, rocks etc. including web/netting
- Unusual path out or minimized
- Add concrete oval with 4 square painted on it
- Add spinners
- Add climbing to rocks
- Add slide to rocks
- Chris will add planting over time
- Check out other manufacturer for play equipment

Board and public discussion ensued on Woodlawn Park designs. The Board indicated that they like the creativity of this design and it is different from other parks in the area. Board commented that this park retains a lot of water and has very squishy ground with current foot traffic going west to northeast. The designs that keep children away from Green Bay Road are better – change gathering space location, the number of paths look very expensive so look to reduce. Other feedback included Zip lines are great, more bike racks needed closer to the bus stop there, move gathering space to near where the picnic tables are located, move the zip line where it was in one of the other designs, loves the savannah grasses, loves the grasses as a buffer from the road, put a zip line at the north part of Old Elm, sandboxes not needed at every park, swings at Millennial Park are amazing, keep support on the ramp warm matching the savannah grass theme. Chair Brooks gave direction to staff based on Board discussion, to keep the zip lines.

Discussion with Commissioners and public ensued. Final takeaways were:

- Project budget: \$450,000
- Reduce height and length of pathways to save costs
- Keep open underneath the ramp/decking
- Add stairs at lower level to shorten run if necessary
- No path on north side
- Keep two zip lines
- Possibly add Rope Bridge
- Possibly add play panels to railing on ramp
- Sand box out
- Liked idea of mass planting of grasses but can only afford strip along Green Bay
- Liked the long line of swings

- Have to have bucket swings put near main gathering space. Possibly install where sand box is shown now.
- Keep bike racks in NE
- Eliminate bike racks at west side of park
- Northern gathering pods moved to the SW
- Like Globe spinner but staff indicated it is most likely out of budget. Possible look at other spinner that is more affordable.

The Park Board discussed and were in agreement that the agreed upon projects budgets would not be increased.

Matters from the Public: There were no matters from the public.

Other Business: There was no other business.

Adjourn: Commissioner Gaines moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Commissioner Boron seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa M. Sheppard
Secretary

Old Elm, Vernon and Jefferson and Woodlawn Playground Renovations

Presentation December 5th, 2017





Delighted to be Here!!!

Tonight

- Review Concepts for Old Elm, Vernon and Jefferson and Multiple Concepts for Woodlawn
- Please note: Playground Recommendations & Concepts from Board/Staff have been included in the Schemes
- Staff have reviewed the Concepts and requested that we Merge some of the Schemes



Old Elm

Old Elm Playground Context



Old Elm Playground Context



Existing Site Aerial



Existing Drainage
Structure & Swale

Existing Playground

Old Elm Ln & Park Pl



Photos Existing



Photos Existing





Note: Sand Box covered in mulch

Site Drops Down to Ditch and Tracks



Dense Vegetation to the North



Kids Use the Spaces



Drainage Structure and Swale to the North



View from the North



HOW TO SOUND LIKE A TRAIN IN NINE LANGUAGES

BY JAMES CHAPMAN CHAPMANGAMO.TUMBLR.COM

CHOO
CHOO

ENGLISH

TUFF
TUFF

SWEDISH

PUN
PUN

THAI

CIUF
CIUF

ITALIAN

PIUÍ
PIUÍ

PORTUGUESE

TSUHH
TSUHH

ESTONIAN

SHUPPO
SHUPPO

JAPANESE

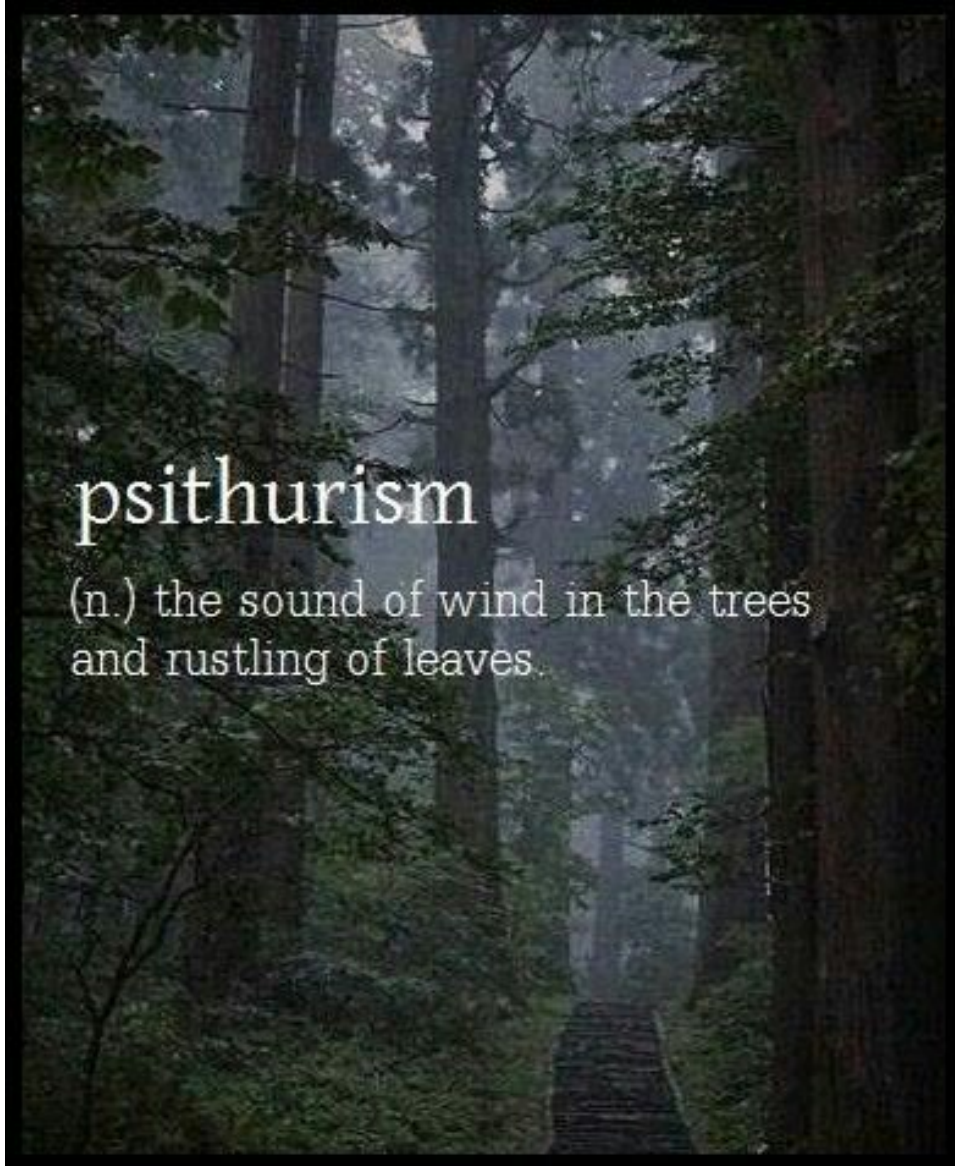
TU
TU

POLISH

CHIK CHIK
POK POK

KOREAN

Concepts : Sound of Trees



Trees continue with their endless discussion... listen to the noise of the trees, emulate their movement, sway back and forth and pull on your “roots” on the ground.

Concept Plan



Divided into 2 Areas

Next Phase or Alternate

Main Playground

SCALE: 1"=30'-0"

Concepts : Sound



Concepts : Sound



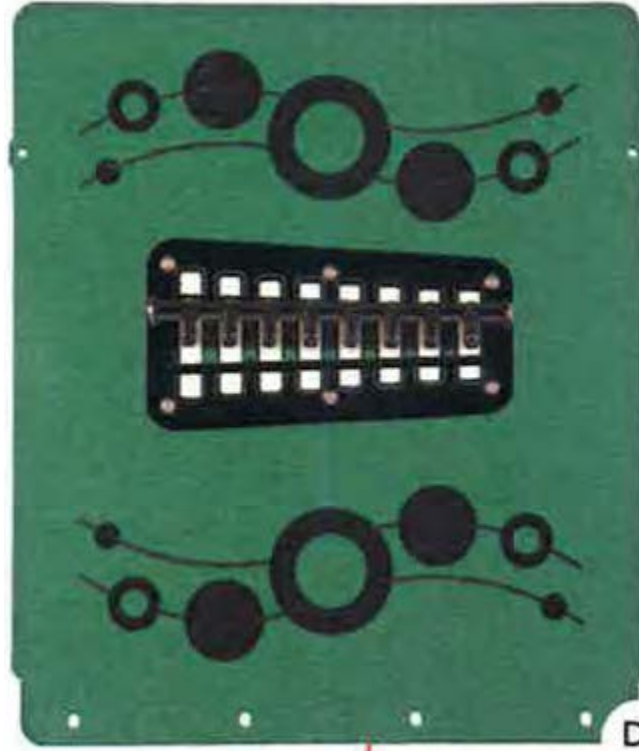
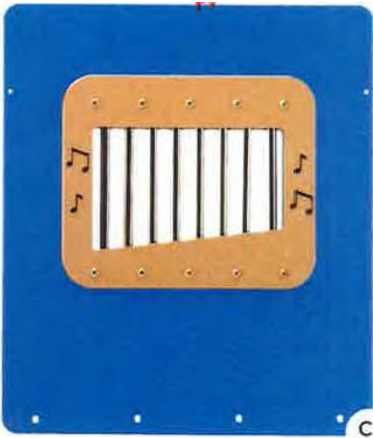
Concepts : Song Book

Page Number	Side A	Side B
Page 1	Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring	Ode To Joy
Page 2	Old MacDonald Had A Farm	Twinkle Twinkle
Page 3	Oh! Susanna	She'll Be Comin' Round The Mountain
Page 4	Frere Jacques	Row, Row, Row Your Boat
Page 5	Amazing Grace	When The Saints Go Marching In
Page 6	Swing Low, Sweet Chariot	Yankee Doodle
Page 7	He's Got the Whole World	Kum Ba Yah
Page 8	Itsy Bitsy Spider	It's Raining, It's Pouring
Page 9	Skye Boat Song	My Bonnie Lies Over The Ocean

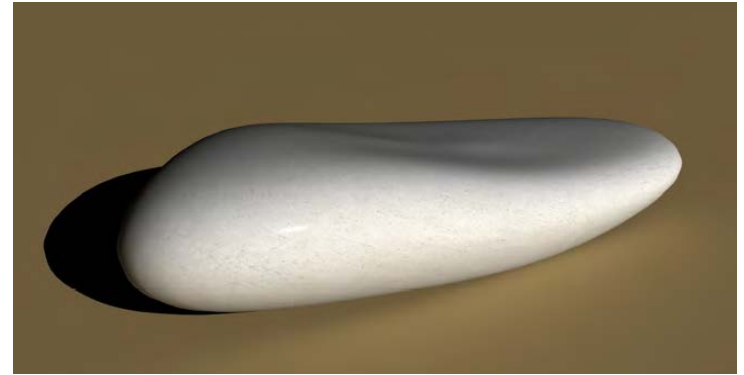
Concepts : Rumble Strips in the Pavement



Concepts : Sounds and Discovery



Concepts : Pebble Seats



Concepts : Gathering Bowls



Main Playground



Path is a circuit for Trikes & Running
Rumble Strips Typical

Mounds with Gathering Bowls
Bench Typical

Sand Box with Pebbles w Fossil Dig

Major Equipment Elements
2-5 & 5-12 Alternate

Pebble Seating, Picnic

Swings
Mounds

Picnic

Stripped Crosswalk

Equipment



Equipment



Equipment



Concept : Tunnel - Next Phase or Alternate



A woman in a white dress stands in a lush garden filled with various plants and flowers. The scene is slightly blurred, creating a dreamy atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the image in a handwritten style.

The Secret Garden
Beads, Bells
and
Butterflies



Looking for this Feeling





Butterflies & Digital Fireflies

Natural Inspiration



Old Elm Playground : Existing Site Aerial



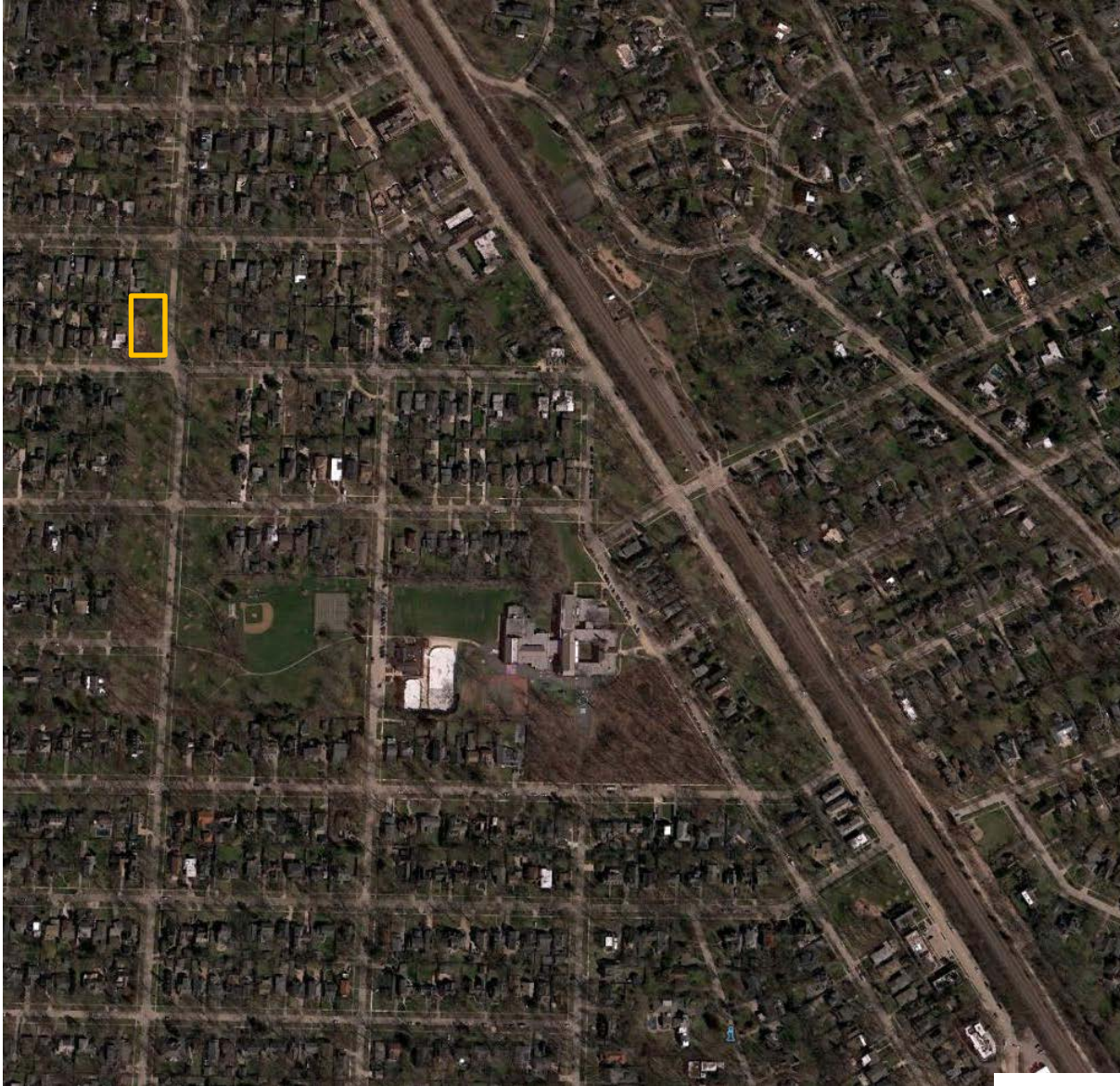
Old Elm Playground : Phasing Plan



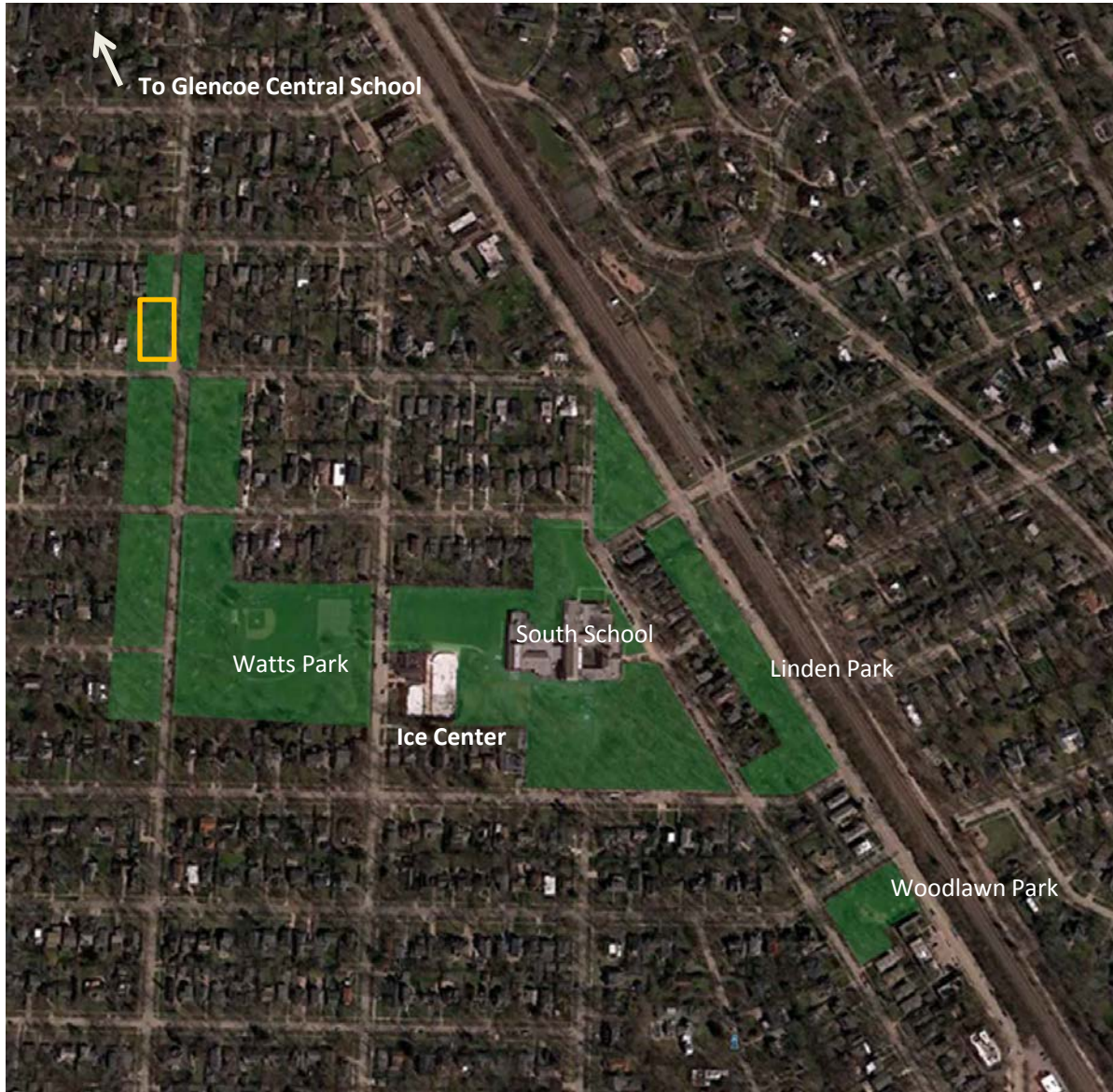


Vernon and Jefferson

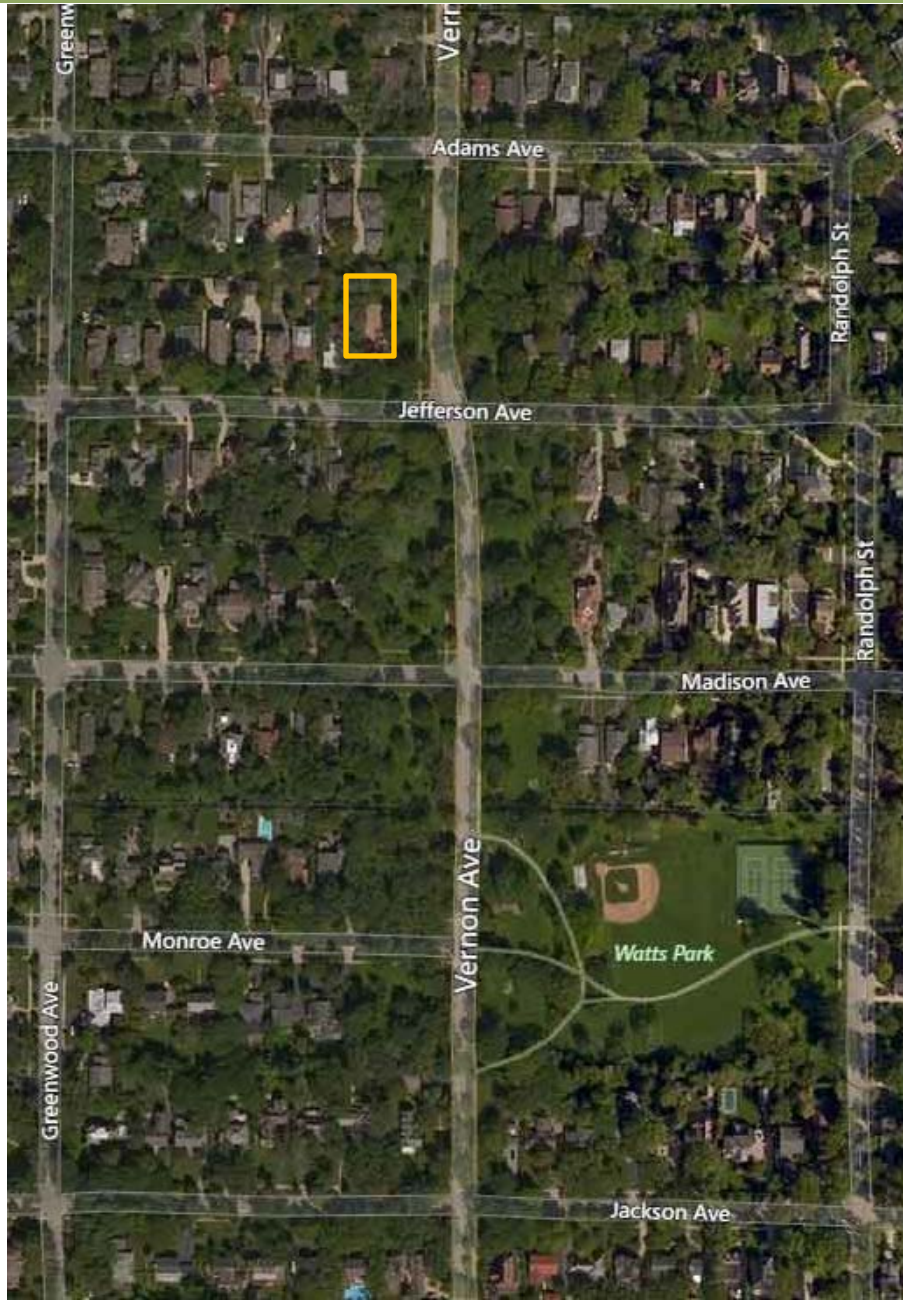
Vernon and Jefferson: Context



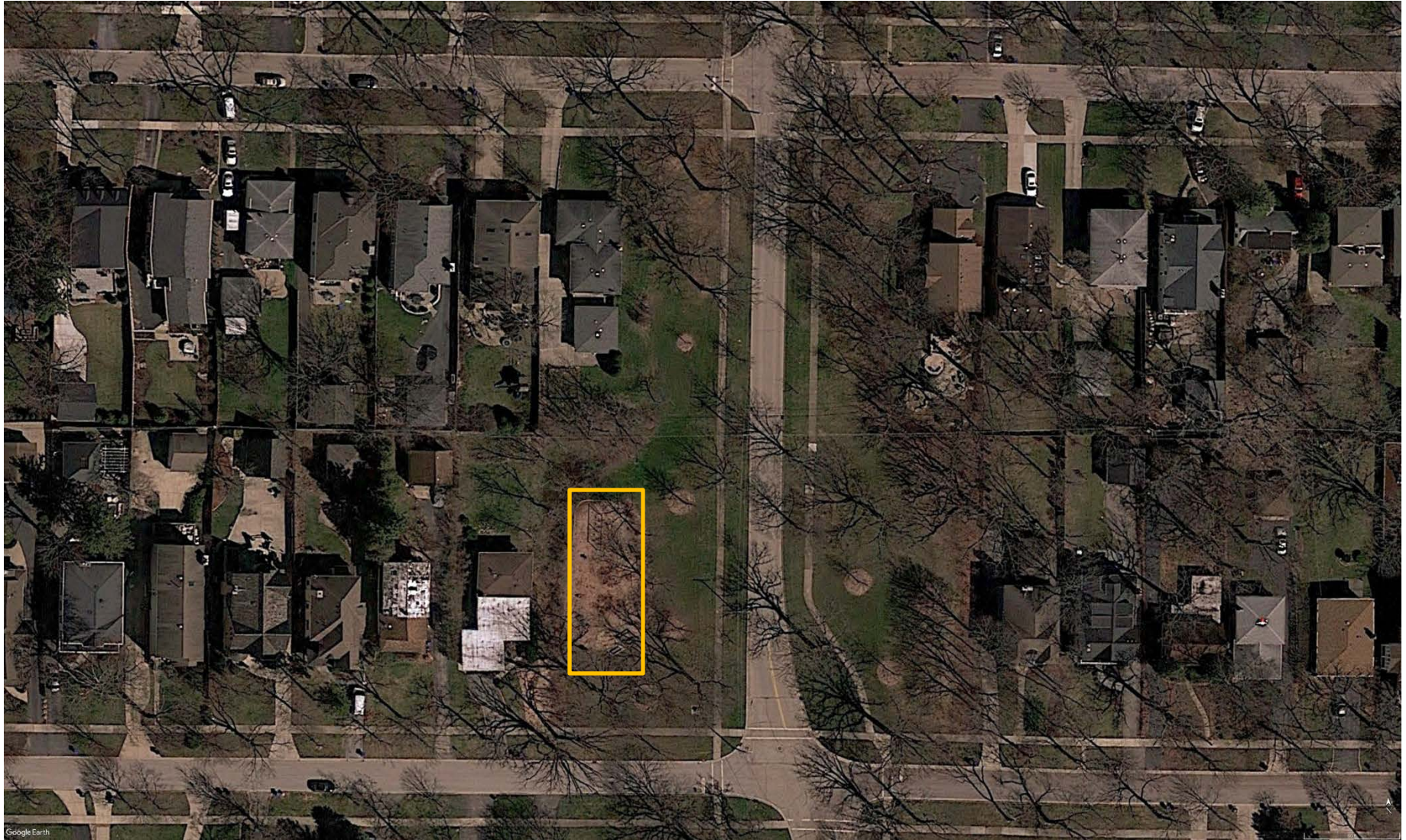
Context : Greenway



Vernon and Jefferson: Local Context



Vernon and Jefferson: Local Context



Google Earth

Site Photos : Looking West



Playground located close to the property line

Site Photos



Trees, Shrubs and Volunteer Growth
between Playground and Neighbor

Majority of Equipment has already
been removed

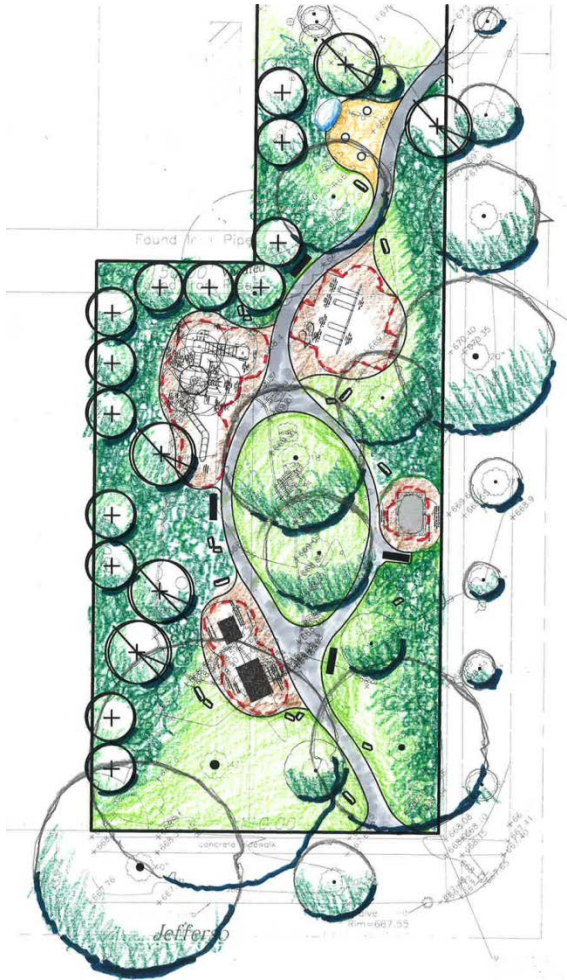




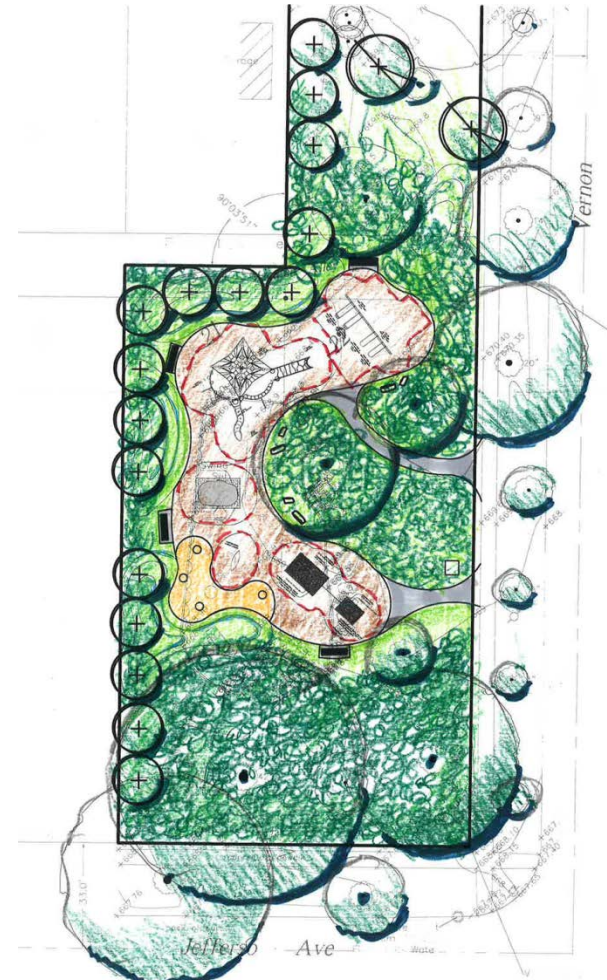
Beautiful Mature trees at South End of Site. Intend to Save Trees. Limits Layouts



Drinking Fountain at SE Corner of Site



Theme : Moonscape with equipment spread out through the landscape



Theme : Topography, evergreens, and compact use of site

Staff suggested merging these two concepts

Concepts : Topography & Evergreens



Concepts : Unique Paving



Concepts : Use of Groundcovers



Swings and Sand



Concepts : Moonscape, Climbing Boulders (Alternates)



Concepts : Moonscape, Climbing Boulders (Alternates)

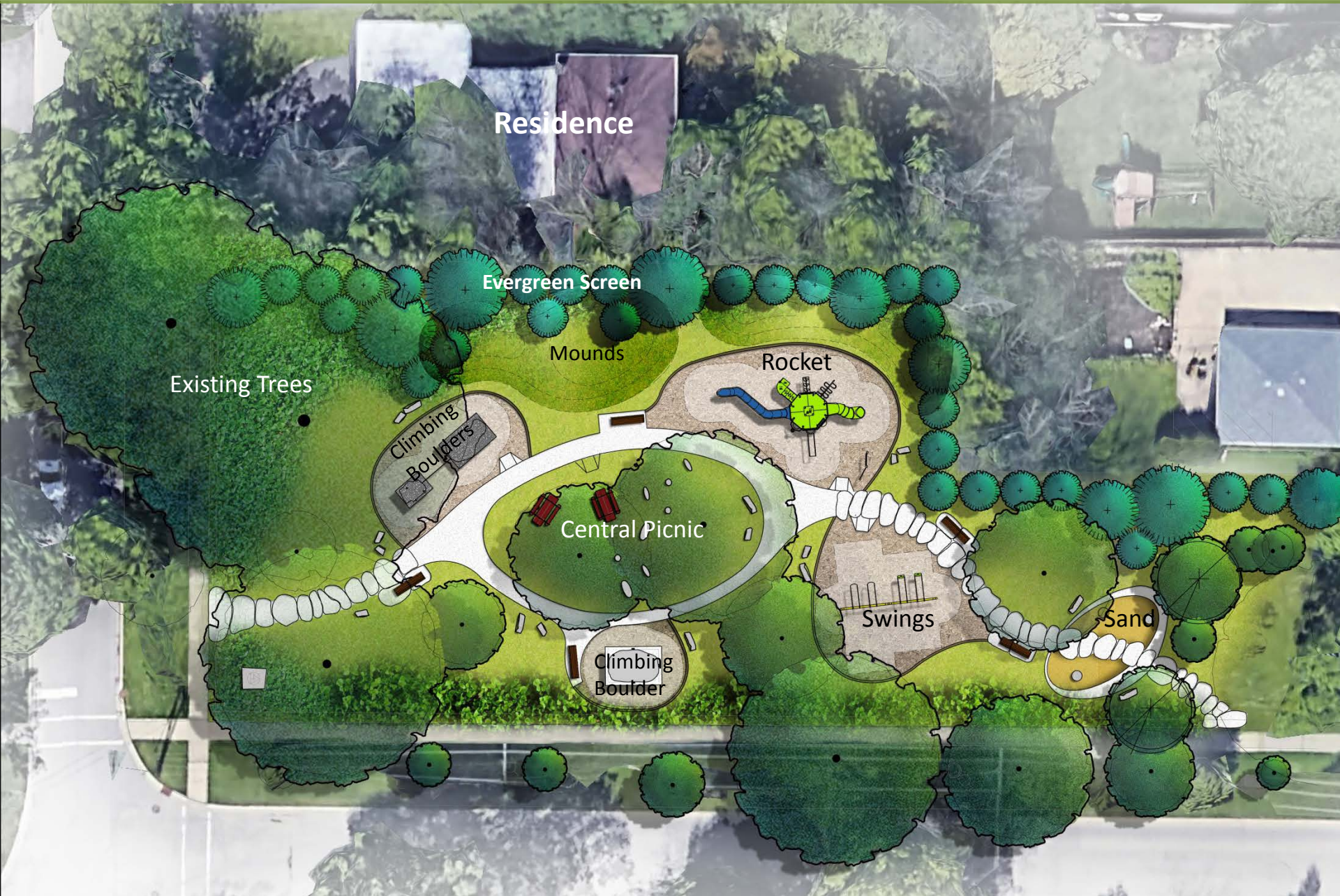


Concepts : Moon Rocket



“Rocket Ship has “*retro chic*” look. Brings back memories. The design has survived the passage of time”.

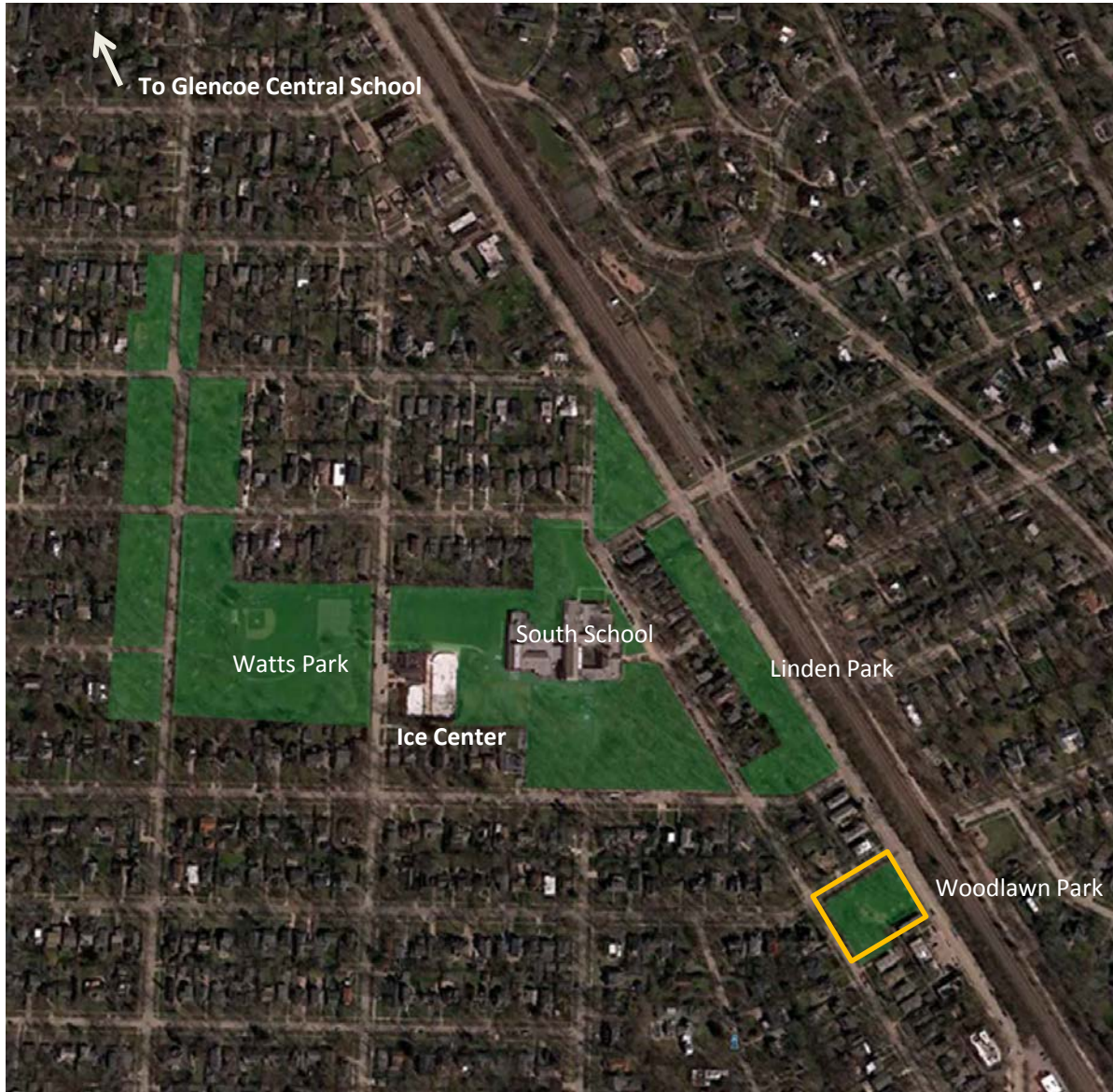
Concept Plan





Woodlawn

Woodlawn Context : Greenway

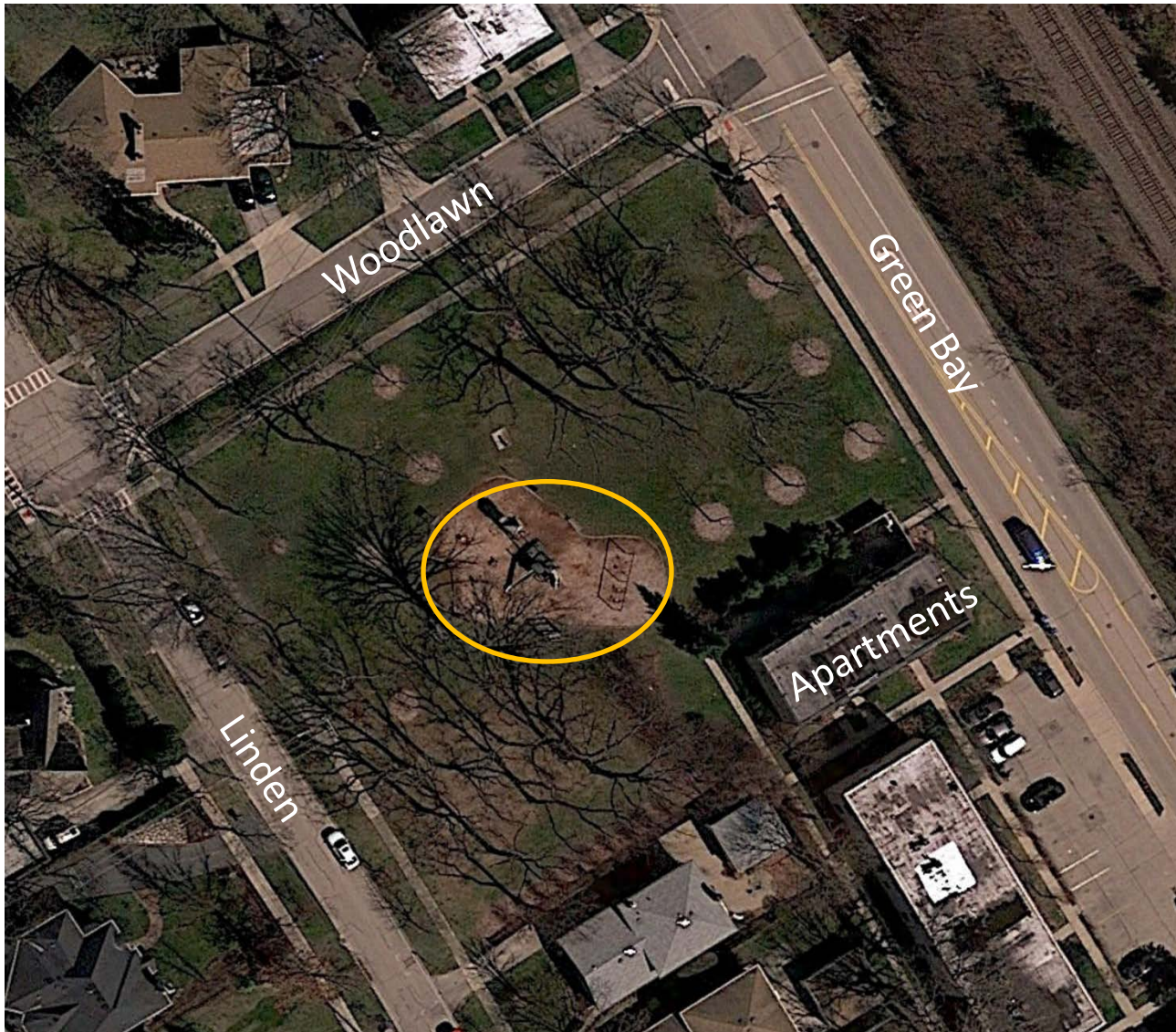


Local Context



Google Earth

Existing Playground



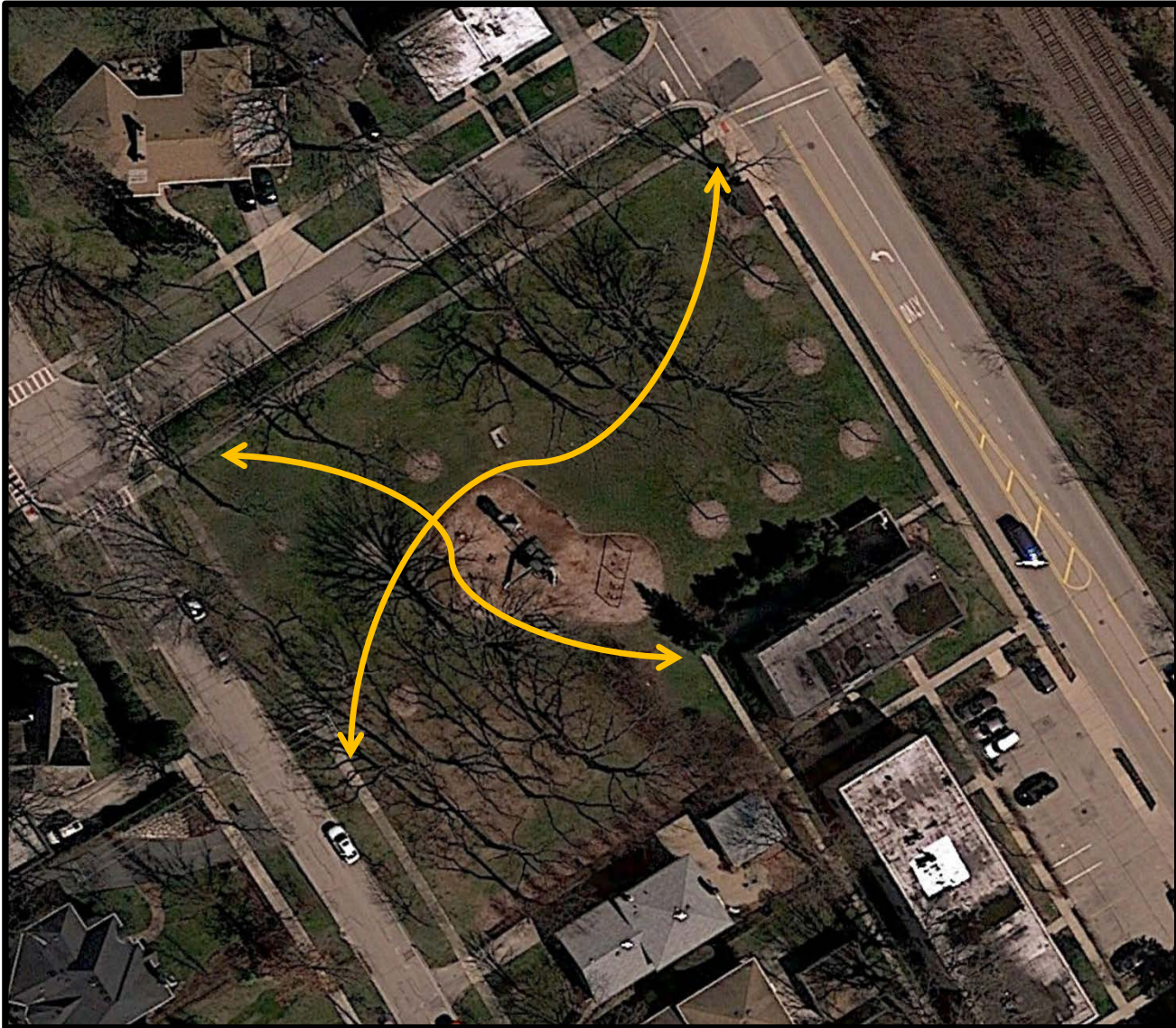
Noise from Green Bay



Major Stands of Mature Oaks



Desire Lines



Photos of Existing : Looking from NW Corner



Photos of Existing : Stands of Oaks



Photos of Existing : Looking East along Woodlawn



Stand of Oaks

Photos of Existing : Bus Stop NE Corner



Photos of Existing : SW Corner on Linden



Photos of Existing : View from SW Corner



Superb Stand of Oaks on Slight Rise

Photos of Existing : Looking at Oaks in SW Corner



Photos of Existing : Looking at Oaks in SW Corner



Photos of Existing : Apartments South Side





Striking Features of Site for Us

Stands of Historic Oaks

Space

Sound from Green Bay

More than 80% of Oak Savanna lost

Supports **600 species**, rare and endangered species
butterflies & moths, nesting birds and bats, mushrooms & microorganisms

1 large oak reduces stormwater runoff by **5,400 gallons**

Oak ecosystems provide over **\$2 billion worth of flood control**

Removes more than **1,000 lbs./year** of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.



Planting an oak is an **act of faith in the future**

Planting Oak Savanna will revivify a forgotten
Glencoe landscape

Iconic and majestic, oaks and their ecosystems instill a sense of place and regional identity and link us with our natural heritage

Glencoe could Join

Oak Eco-System Recovery Plan



Chicago Wilderness

Oak Ecosystems Recovery Plan

SUSTAINING OAKS



Oak Ecosystems Recovery Plan

SUSTAINING OAKS IN THE CHICAGO WILDERNESS REGION

Funded by USDA Forest Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service

Lead collaborators: Lake County Forest Preserve District • The Morton Arboretum

Chicago Wilderness

Oak Ecosystems Recovery Working Group

Preserve, Restore, and Expand oak ecosystems across the region.

Partners Indiana and Wisconsin

Supports more than **600 species**, rare, threatened, and endangered species

BOX 2 CRITICAL WILDLIFE SPECIES IN OAK ECOSYSTEMS

Species included here are among those identified by the Illinois State Wildlife Action Plan as “critical” wildlife species in the Northeastern Morainal Division of Illinois and can be associated with oak ecosystems. Many species that are commonly associated with prairies and open wetlands may also utilize oak savannas or flatwoods as habitat, especially if these ecosystems are restored to more open conditions.

Wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*)—Solitary inhabitant of mature, moist forests. May wander far from breeding habitats of shallow vernal pools and forest ponds.

Blue-spotted salamander (*Ambystoma laterale*)—Most common in moist hardwood forests and northern Illinois swamp white oak flatwoods. Burrows under logs, rocks, and mats of moss and vegetation. Greatest threat is urban sprawl, according to the Illinois Natural History Survey.

Black-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*)—Found in woodlands with moderate understory. Listed as threatened in a number of northern Illinois counties, including DuPage, Lake, Lee and McHenry counties.

Red-headed woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)—Open woodlands are important habitat, but numbers have declined as standing snags or large, dead trees have become less common.

Northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*)—Open woodlands, forest edges, and open fields with scattered trees, as well as city parks and suburbs.





Grasses

Sound and Movement : Grasses up Against Green Bay



Sound and Movement : Grasses up Against Green Bay





What are the most popular pieces of equipment in a Playground?

Most Popular Feature : Swings : Movement



A Meta Swing with multiple swings of different types:

Regular Single
Group
Expression Swing

Most Popular Feature : Swings : Movement



A Meta Swing with multiple swings of different types

Single Swings

Group

Expression Swing



Spinning : Movement



Movement

Ages 5-12



Play Tower and Slides

AGES 5-10

Wildwood Park
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
PlayBooster® Netplex®
Minimum area 29' x 27' (8,84 m x 8,23 m) CSA



Movement : Climbing



Zip Lines: Movement



Something Mysterious in the Landscape?



Woodlawn Concept Plans, 7 Plans Created, 3 Selected

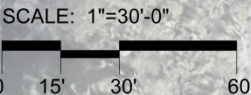


Woodlawn Concept C Plan



- Bike Racks at entries
- Accommodates Desire Lines
- Equipment in bubbles
(Rubber Surface to add color)
- Circular Path for Exercise within park
- Protects Oak Tree Roots w/ Boardwalk
- Grasses against Green Bay
- Complete evergreen screening

Green Bay Road

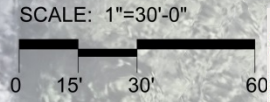


Woodlawn Concept C Plan



- Accommodates Desire Lines
- Circular form
- Circular Path for Exercise uses path along Woodlawn
- Protects Oak Tree Roots w/Boardwalk
- Boardwalk rises up to central platform
- Central Platform only 32" high
- Boardwalk through Savanna
- Large and Small Gathering Spaces
- Gathering Pods in clearing
- Picnic Spaces
- Grasses against Green Bay
- Complete evergreen screening

Green Bay Road



The “Great” Mitsuru Man Senda Studies on Playgrounds



Most playground games involve some form of chase

Children like playground they can run around but one with shortcut

Some confusion is necessary

"Play structures must be public art just like sculptures."

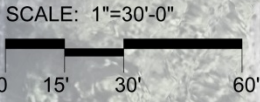
Circular Play Systems

- Play follows a circular route
- Children must be able to experience variation within the circle
- Circle must contain a symbolic high point
- Circle must contain a place where children can experience "dizziness"
- Circle must contain large and small gathering places
- There must be shortcuts
- Circle must be accessible through a number of points so a "porous" space

Woodlawn Concept C Plan



- Accommodates Desire Lines
- Circular form
- Circular inner path to run around
- Multiple Paths and Short cut
- Protects Oak Tree Roots w/ Boardwalk
- Boardwalk rises up to central platform
- Passes by Oak Trunks
- Slides from multiple heights
- Central Platform can be up to 9 feet
- Symbolic high point
- Views to all play Equipment
- Children can experience "dizziness"
- Can run under platform and ramp
- Can enter main circle from 360
- A "porous" space
- Large and small gathering places
- Gathering Pods in clearing
- Grasses against Green Bay
- Complete evergreen screening





Potential Trail Connection



Potential Trail Connection

