

CHARLES COUNTY RECREATION, PARKS, & TOURISM

PROJECT PLANNING VOLUNTEER TASK FORCE
MEETING #2- NOVEMBER 14, 2022





CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPT. OF RECREATION, PARKS, & TOURISM



DESIGN CONSULTANTS

- LA PLATA FARM PARK
- POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK

DESIGN CONSULTANTS

- WALDORF PARK



MEETING AGENDA



ONE

- RECAP IDEAS GENERATED BY THE TASK FORCE
- ASSESS COMMON THREADS IN IDEAS DISCUSSED

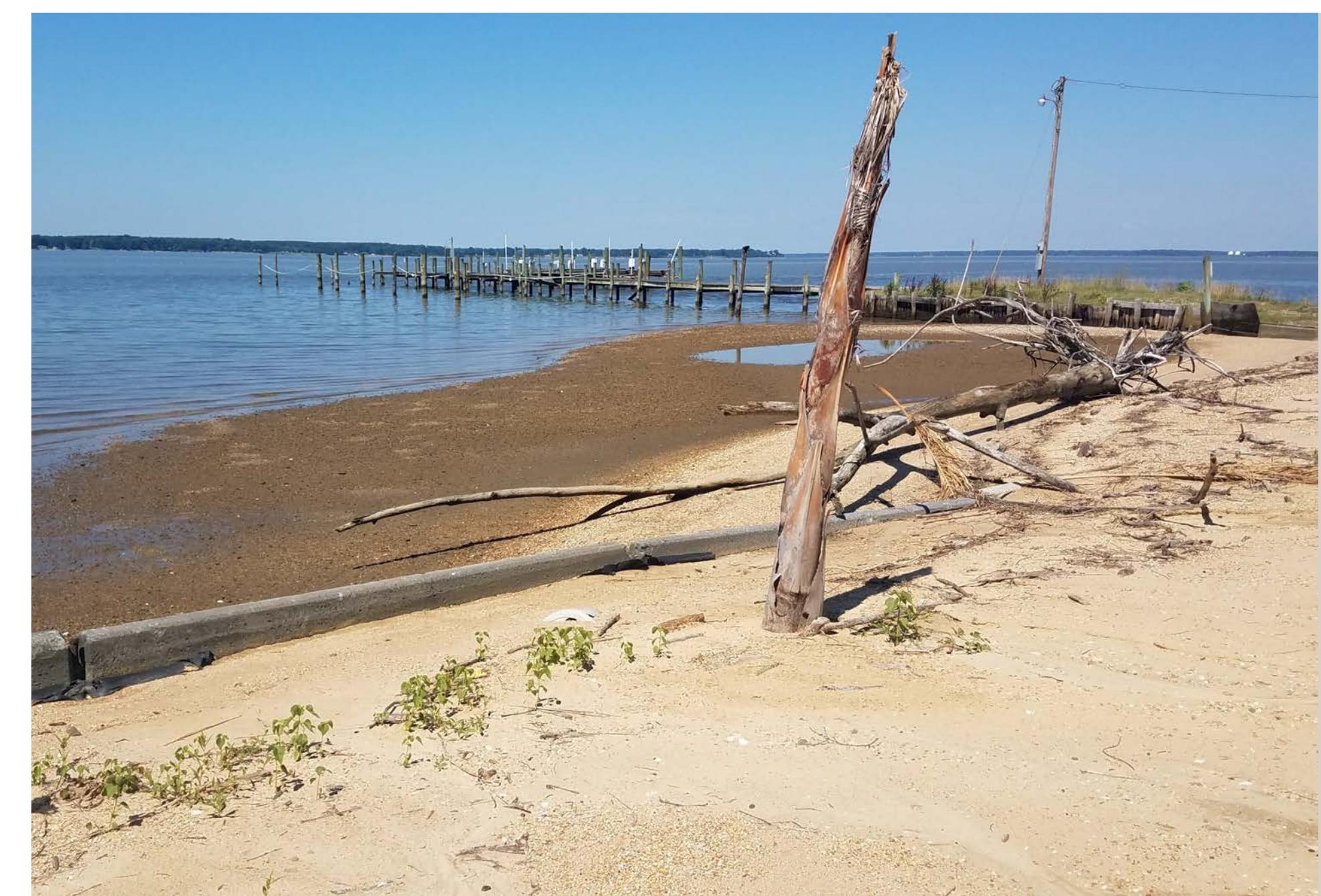
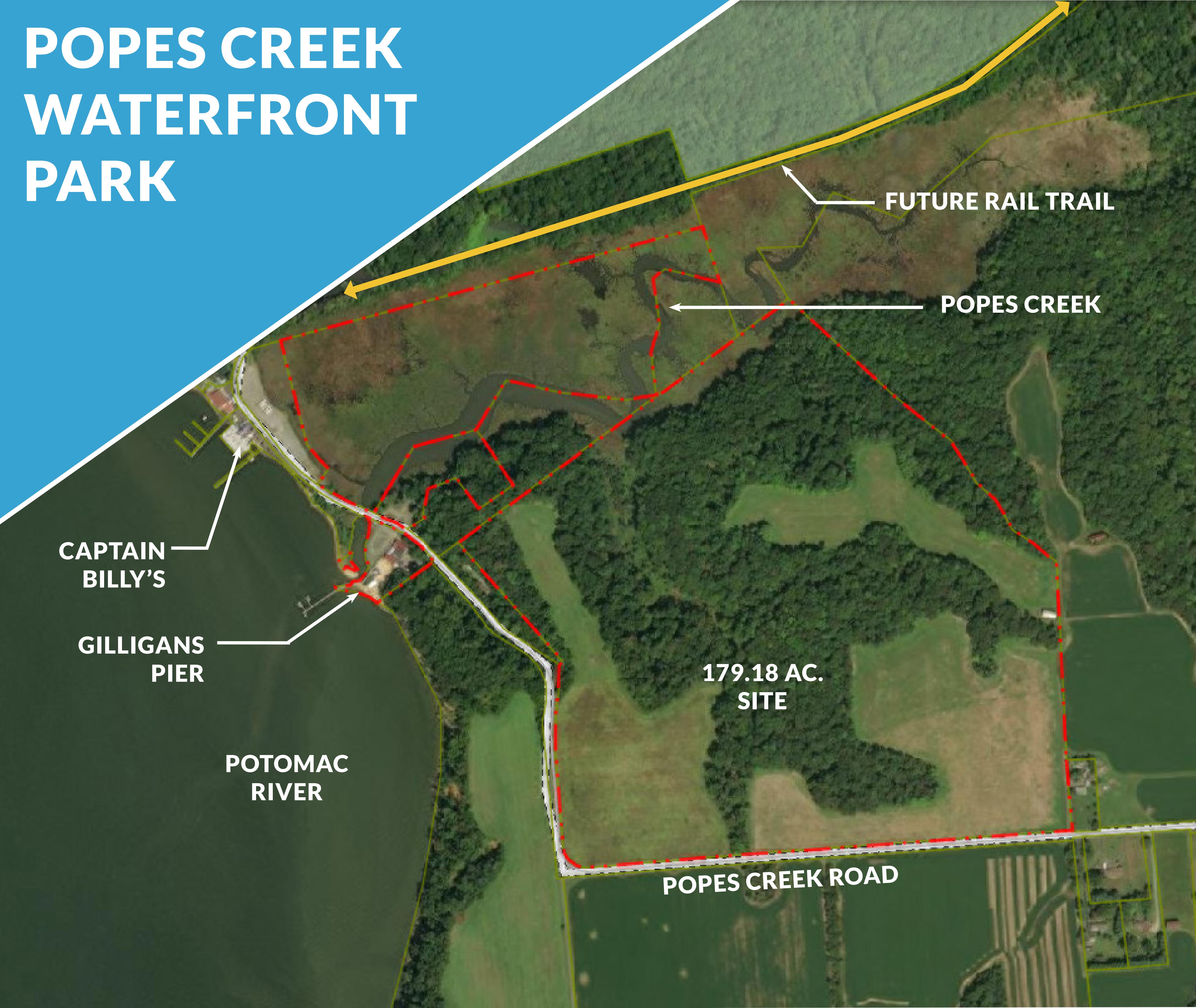
TWO

- DEFINE GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR EACH PARK
- REVIEW CONCEPT PLANS FOR EACH PARK

THREE

- TASK FORCE ACTIVITY

POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK



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TASK FORCE IDEAS

ACTIVE

- Beach/ Water access with other options nearby. Basketball Court, Volleyball, etc.
- Fishing Pier or promenade. Ensure visitors can't be stranded.
- Waterfront promenade or boardwalk pathways
- Slide and Diving Board
- Beach chair and umbrella rentals
- Beach area for swimming and docking for boats
- Splashpad and waterplay area
- Rafting or kayaking; kayak rentals
- Concert Stage or celebration stage
- Bathrooms and concessions
- ADA and Senior accessible spaces and equipment
- Universal design. Access and amenities for all ages and abilities. Handicap and low mobility access. Signage in multiple languages.
- Community table, lost and found, toys, garden/flowers
- Active play at forested area. Playground, nature interpretation (audio, visual)
- Nature play with ground level ropes course
- Treetop walk, zipline.
- Basketball hoops/court, bike racks, swing sets

PASSIVE

- Hiking Trail to link both areas.
- Natural walking trails like Port Tobacco
- Signs with nature education
- Boardwalk, high up like the walk at Indian Head
- Art Installations
- Sunflowers and native plant fields
- Camping Area.
- Treehouse or wooden castle

PROGRAMMING

- Nature Center like Clearwater at Cosca
- Events at the park to draw people in. Buddy walk?
- Location for fireworks
- Wildlife professionals at events
- Nature classes with CCPS, re: env. science
- Wellbeing with equestrian trainers



COMMON THREADS

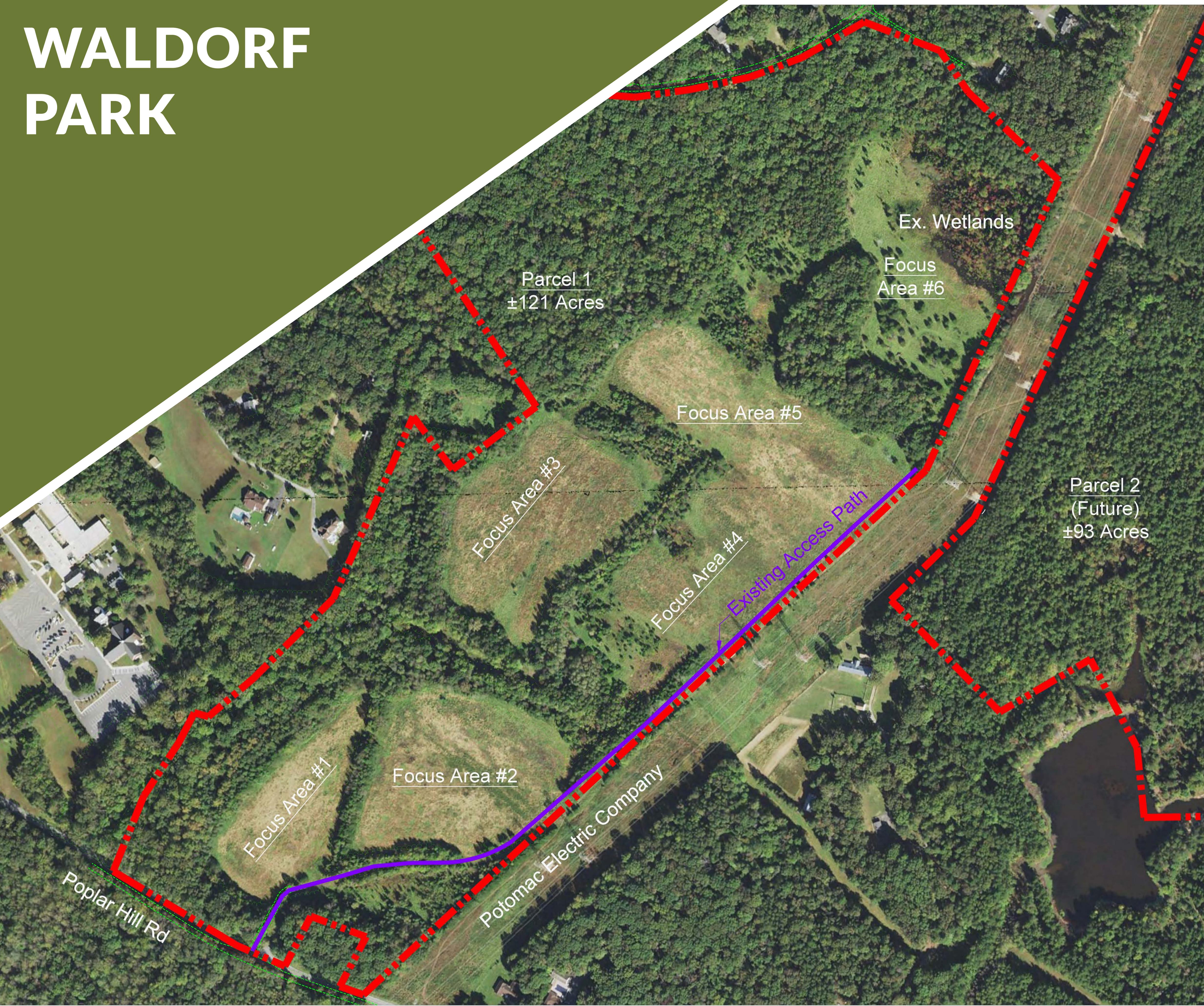
- WATERFRONT SHOULD BE THE GEM OF THE PARK
- PRIMARY FOCUS = ACTIVE WATER BASED RECREATION
- SECONDARY FOCUS = NATURE BASED PLAY & PROGRAMMING



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WALDORF PARK



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TASK FORCE IDEAS

ACTIVE

- Indoor sport bubble for tennis and more
- Cloverleaf softball field with R/R building in middle
- Canopy shade for field; field misters
- Multi-use sports turf fields and outdoor track
- Ample parking with lighting
- Pavilions; community tables for sports teams
- Aquatics
- Playgrounds; age leveled playgrounds
- Lights throughout park, esp. in sports fields and basketball courts
- Reference of Howard County Troy Park
- Food truck parking
- Concession and bathroom
- Disc golf
- Pickleball and tennis court
- Splash pad or water park like Cove Point or Our Special Harbor
- Mini golf
- Involve the local carousel committee
- Bike and skateboard park, BMX park
- Zipline in tree area towards wetlands, ropes course
- Ninja Warrior course like Blandair Regional Park Columbia

PASSIVE

- Hiking trails
- Nature trail and interpretive signs
- Bird watchingpPlatform
- Family picnic area
- Pavilions for picnics and events
- Picnic table with built in highchair, see Walkers Mill Park
- Low impact senior friendly park activities
- Health and wellness open grass area
- Bike trail around park
- Walking/hiking trail
- Community garden

PROGRAMMING

- Agricultural history center
- Classroom field trips for environmental education
- Events and family friendly festivals like kite flying
- Educational trails with storyboards along stream
- Nature activity center

COMMON THREADS

- HUB FOR ORGANIZED SPORTS AND SUPPORTING USES
- FAMILY ORIENTED INCLUDING RECREATION OPTIONS FOR VISITORS NOT PARTICIPATING IN SPORTS
- PASSIVE RECREATION THAT COMPLEMENT NATURAL RESOURCES



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LA PLATA FARM PARK



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TASK FORCE IDEAS

ACTIVE

- 5k / 10k walking and running trails
- Activities and facilities for all seasons
- Tractor and imaginative play elements
- Petting zoo
- Working barn / farm display
- Year-round soccer field
- Community garden
- Farm themed splash pad
- Rock climbing walls
- Zip lines or bike course like Horse Pen Park in PG County
- Ropes Course
- Disc Golf
- Natural Playground or tire playground
- Treehouse or wooden castle
- Tandem swings for parent/child
- Outdoor skating rink
- Dog park
- Parking
- Bathrooms

PASSIVE

- Open grass / picnic area
- Picnic table with baby seats
- Connection to adjacent Wills Memorial Park
- Looping pathways and running trail
- Art installations of local artists, sculpture etc.
- Elevated boardwalk
- Feature bridge over the ravine
- More passive than active, quiet for neighborhood
- Sunflower or vegetable/fruit fields
- Shade
- Note existing animals, birds, and habitat on site; observed foxes and snapping turtles in the park area.

PROGRAMMING

- Greenhouse with farming and gardening learning opportunities
- Therapeutic gardens
- Community garden and classes
- Focal areas for 4H and boy/girl scouts
- Open Air Theater – see Tilghman Lake for example
- Open amphitheater for concerts
- Music garden like Wiek Park in Leonardtown
- Activities at night – bikes, hayrides, bonfires, movie night
- Rental event venues or facilities
- New site for the farmers' market

COMMON THREADS

- A BALANCE OF ACTIVE & PASSIVE RECREATION
- EMPHASIS ON PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES
- INTEGRATE OPTIONS FOR REVENUE GENERATING ACTIVITIES
- SOCIAL CONNECTIONS WITH GARDENING & FARM BASED ORGANIZATIONS
- PHYSICAL CONNECTIONS TO WILLS MEMORIAL PARK



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CONCEPT PLANS



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POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK - GUIDING PRINCIPLES



1. MAXIMIZE THE WATERFRONT FOR AQUATIC RECREATION ACTIVITIES, AND VIEWS.
2. CONSIDER PARK FEATURES AS A LIVING CLASSROOM FOR ECOSYSTEM EDUCATION AND NATURE IMMERSION.
3. PLAN FOR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THAT DEFINE THIS PARK AS A DESTINATION AND PROMOTE TOURISM.
4. CONNECT TO, RATHER THAN DUPLICATE, SURROUNDING ATTRACTIONS.
5. PRESERVE AND ENHANCE NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS; PLAN FOR RESILIENCY AND A PARK THAT CAN ADAPT TO POTENTIAL IMPACTS CAUSED BY A CHANGING CLIMATE.

POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK - CONCEPT PLAN



KEY ELEMENTS

- 1 BOARDWALK CONNECTION TO BIKE TRAIL
- 2 SWITCHBACK TRAIL
- 3 WILDERNESS CLASSROOM
- 4 NATURE CENTER, OUTDOOR CLASSROOM, AND BATHROOMS
- 5 DESTINATION PLAYGROUND WITH OBSERVATION TOWER
- 6 STAGE
- 7 PARKING
- 8 SHUTTLE STOP
- 9 SOLAR MEADOW
- 10 VEHICLE AND ON-FOOT CAMPSITES
- 11 BATHROOMS AND FIRE PIT
- 12 ROPES COURSE

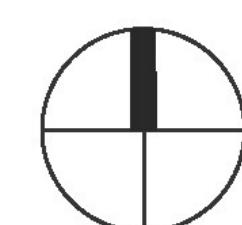
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ACCESS & CIRCULATION



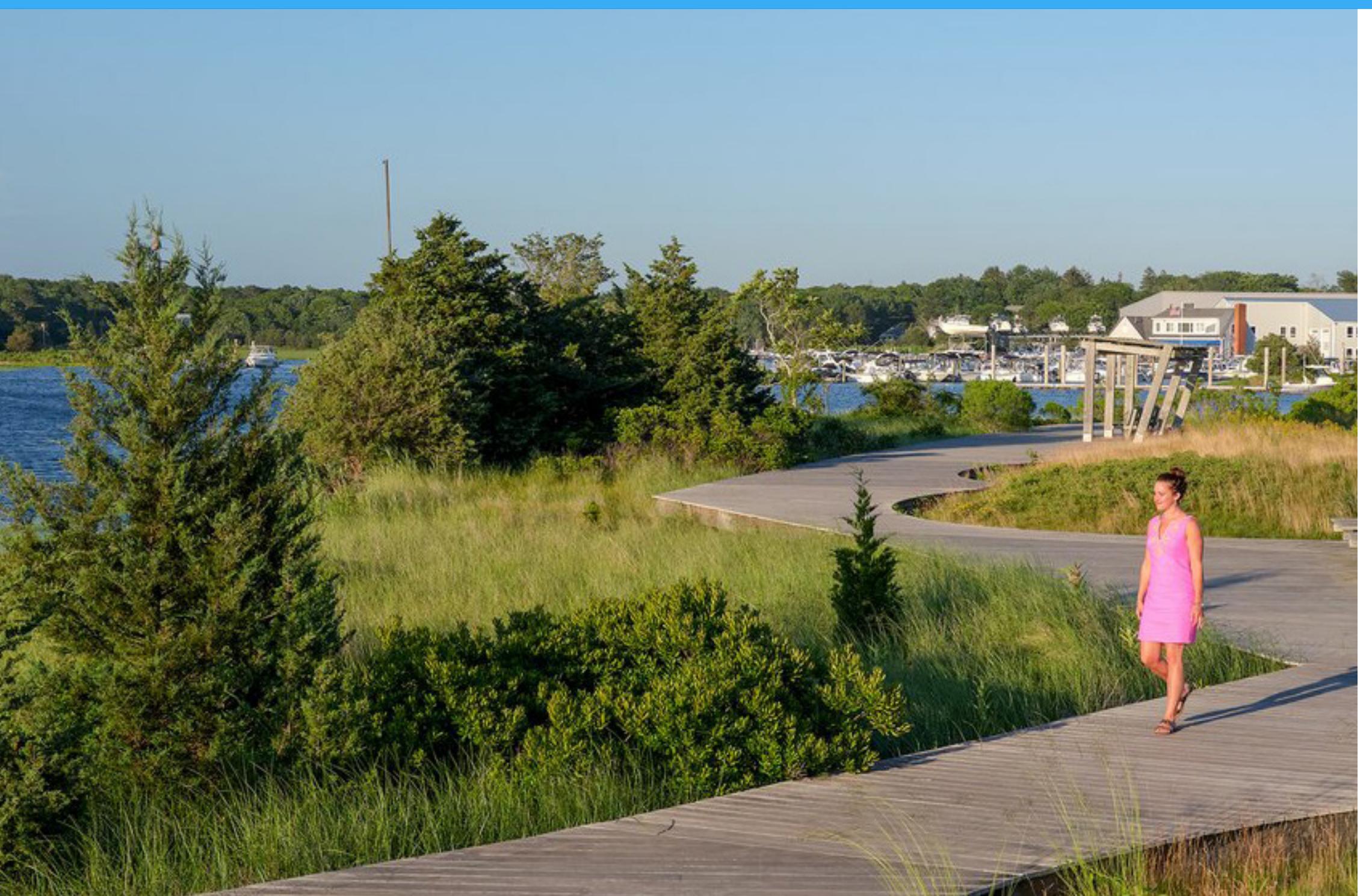
CIRCULATION

- ← → PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
- ↔ PEDESTRIAN BOARDWALK
- VEHICULAR ACCESS
- P PARKING 297 TOTAL SPACES



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POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



BOARDWALK TRAIL

BOARDWALK TRAIL WITH RAILING

SWITCHBACK TRAIL



WILDERNESS CLASSROOM



OBSERVATION TOWER



DESTINATION PLAYGROUND

POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



CONCERT STAGE



SOLAR MEADOW



PRIMITIVE CAMPSITES



CAMPGROUND BATHHOUSE



FIRE PIT



ROPE COURSE

GILLIGAN'S PIER - GILLIGAN'S LOOKOUT



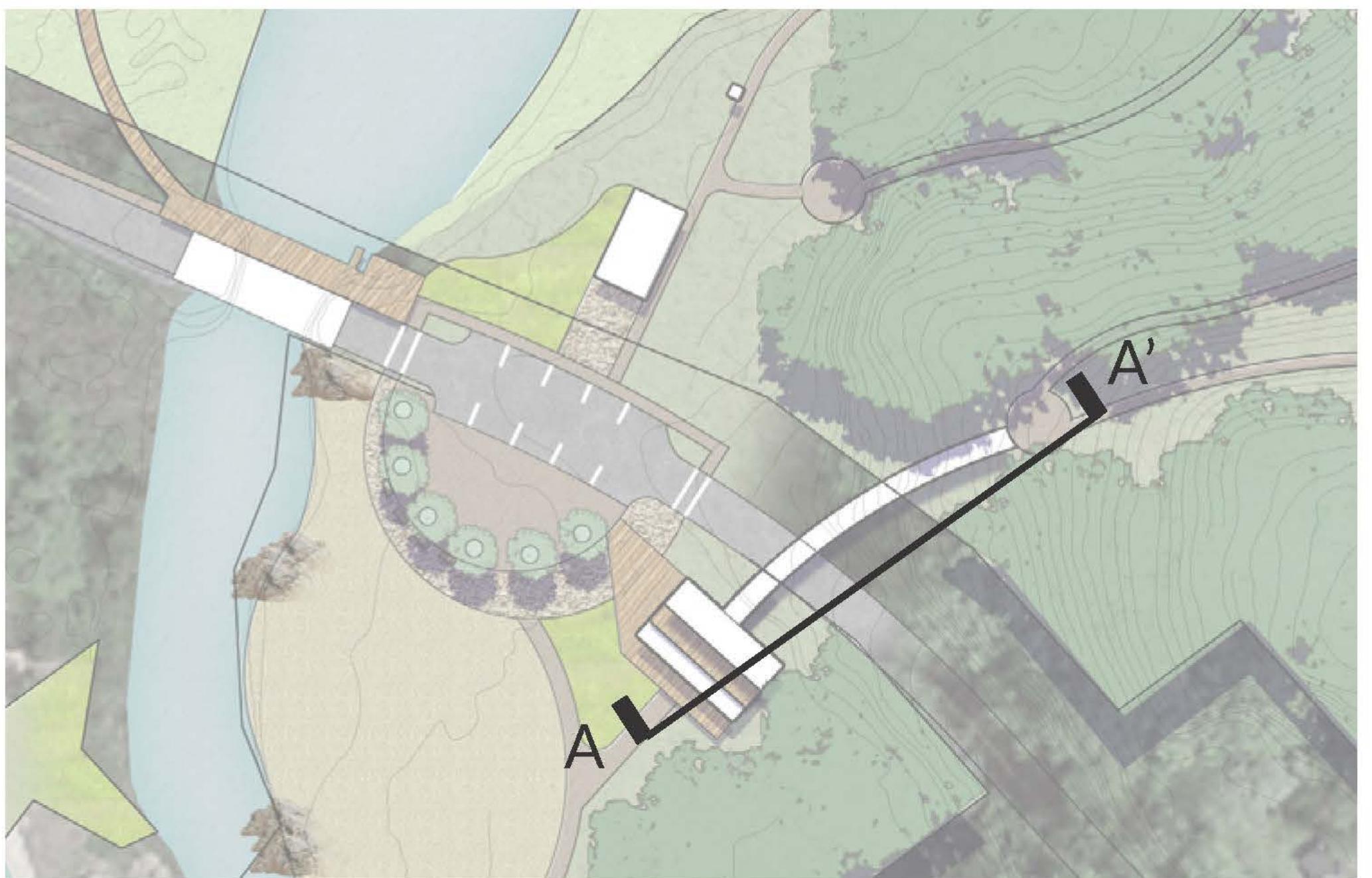
KEY ELEMENTS

1	BOARDWALK CONNECTION TO BIKE TRAIL	EXISTING - +/- 35,000 S.F. Impervious Surface
2	RAISED BRIDGE WITH KAYAK LAUNCH DECK	PROPOSED-
3	SCREENED PAVILION	+/- 20,000 S.F. Impervious Surface
4	WETLAND OBSERVATION BLINDS	
5	ADA AND SERVICE PARKING AND DROP-OFF	
6	PLAZA WITH SEATING	
7	DECK AND TREE HOUSE	
8	CANOPY WALK	
9	MAXIMIZED BEACH	
10	PIER RECONSTRUCTION	
11	SHORELINE HABITAT RESTORATION	

7

- Kayak Rental and Stage
- Deck and Bathrooms
- Exhibits
- Overlook and Connection to Canopy Walk
- Elevator

TREE HOUSE & CANOPY WALK



BEACH

"TREE HOUSE"

- Kayak Rental and Stage
- Deck and Bathrooms
- Exhibits
- Overlook and Connection to Canopy Walk
- Elevator

CANOPY WALK

WILDERNESS CLASSROOM

0 20 40 80

POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



ACCESSIBLE FLOATING KAYAK LAUNCH



SCREENED PAVILION



PLAZA WITH SEATING



TREE HOUSE + DECK



CANOPY WALK



MAXIMIZED BEACH



SHORELINE HABITAT + RESTORATION

GILLIGAN'S PIER - SHORELINE CELEBRATION



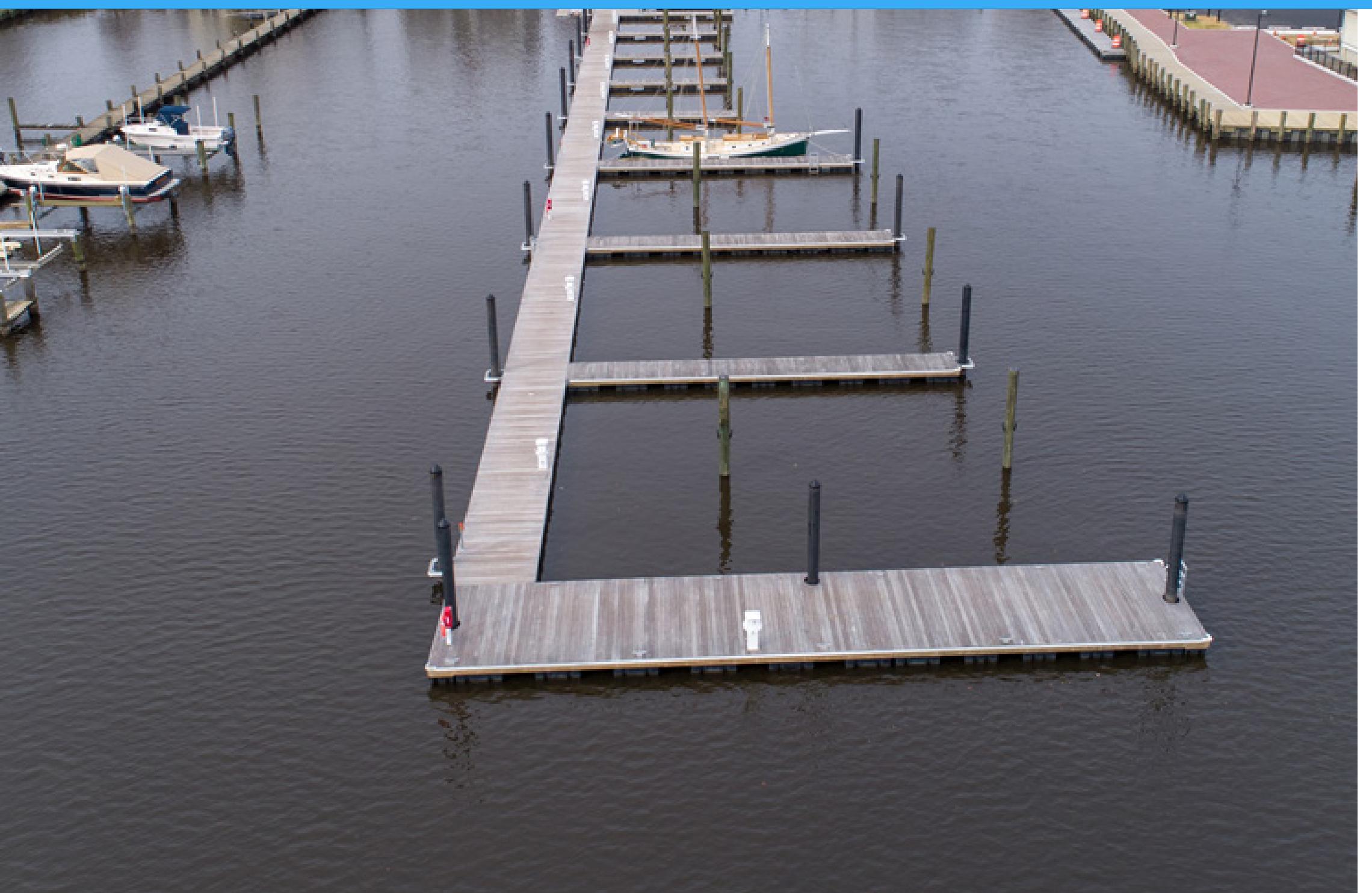
KEY ELEMENTS

- 1 BOARDWALK CONNECTION TO BIKE TRAIL
- 2 WIDENED BRIDGE WITH PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
- 3 VISITOR'S CENTER WITH DECK AND KAYAK LAUNCH
- 4 ADA AND SERVICE PARKING AND DROP-OFF
- 5 STAGE AND SHADE SAIL
- 6 AMPHITHEATER SEATING
- 7 LIVING SHORELINE WITH RAMP OR STAIR TO WATER
- 8 POPES CREEK ALIGNMENT SHIFTED TO MAXIMIZE USABLE SPACE
- 9 TRAIL CONNECTION TO CLIFF SIDE
- 10 PIER RECONSTRUCTION

EXISTING -
+/- 35,000 S.F. Impervious Surface

PROPOSED-
+/- 15,000 S.F. Impervious Surface

POPES CREEK WATERFRONT PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



RECONSTRUCTED PIER



AMPHITHEATER SEATING

ACCESSIBLE WALK TO BEACH + CLIFFS

LIVING SHORELINE + WATER ACCESS

WALDORF PARK - GUIDING PRINCIPLES



1. ESTABLISH THE PARK AS A DESTINATION FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY.
2. MAXIMIZE INTERCONNECTIVITY BETWEEN VARIOUS PARK ELEMENTS. (E.G. - SPORTS FIELDS, PLAYGROUNDS, TRAILS, ETC.)
3. OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF AMENITIES THAT APPEAL TO ALL FAMILY MEMBERS ENCOURAGE CROSS-USE OF AMENITIES BY PATRONS.
4. DISTRIBUTE PLAYGROUND AMENITIES THROUGHOUT THE PARK.
5. PRESERVE AND ENHANCE NATURAL AREAS WHILE PRESENTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AS WELL AS PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES IN A NATURAL SETTING.

WALDORF PARK CONCEPT PLAN



KEY ELEMENTS

- 1** WAYPOINT SIGNAGE / ART WORK
- 2** FULL COURT BASKETBALL COURTS
- 3** FOOD TRUCK AREAS
- 4** PICKLE BALL COURTS
- 5** PLAYGROUND
- 6** CHILDREN'S HALF COURT BASKETBALL
- 7** 3v3 BASKETBALL COURTS
- 8** MAINTENANCE BUILDING
- 9** MULTI-USE FIELDS
- 10** PLAYGROUND WITH ADA ACCESSIBILITY
- 11** LARGE DOG PARK
- 12** PLAYGROUND
- 13** SMALL DOG PARK
- 14** ADULT NINJA COURSE WITH ROCK WALL
- 15** ALL BREEDS DOG PARK
- 16** WALKING / HIKING TRAILS WITH POSSIBLE EXERCISE STATIONS
- 17** EXISTING REGULATED WETLAND AREAS
- 18** RESTROOM FACILITIES
- 19** PAVILLION / SHADE STRUCTURES
- 20** PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CROSSINGS

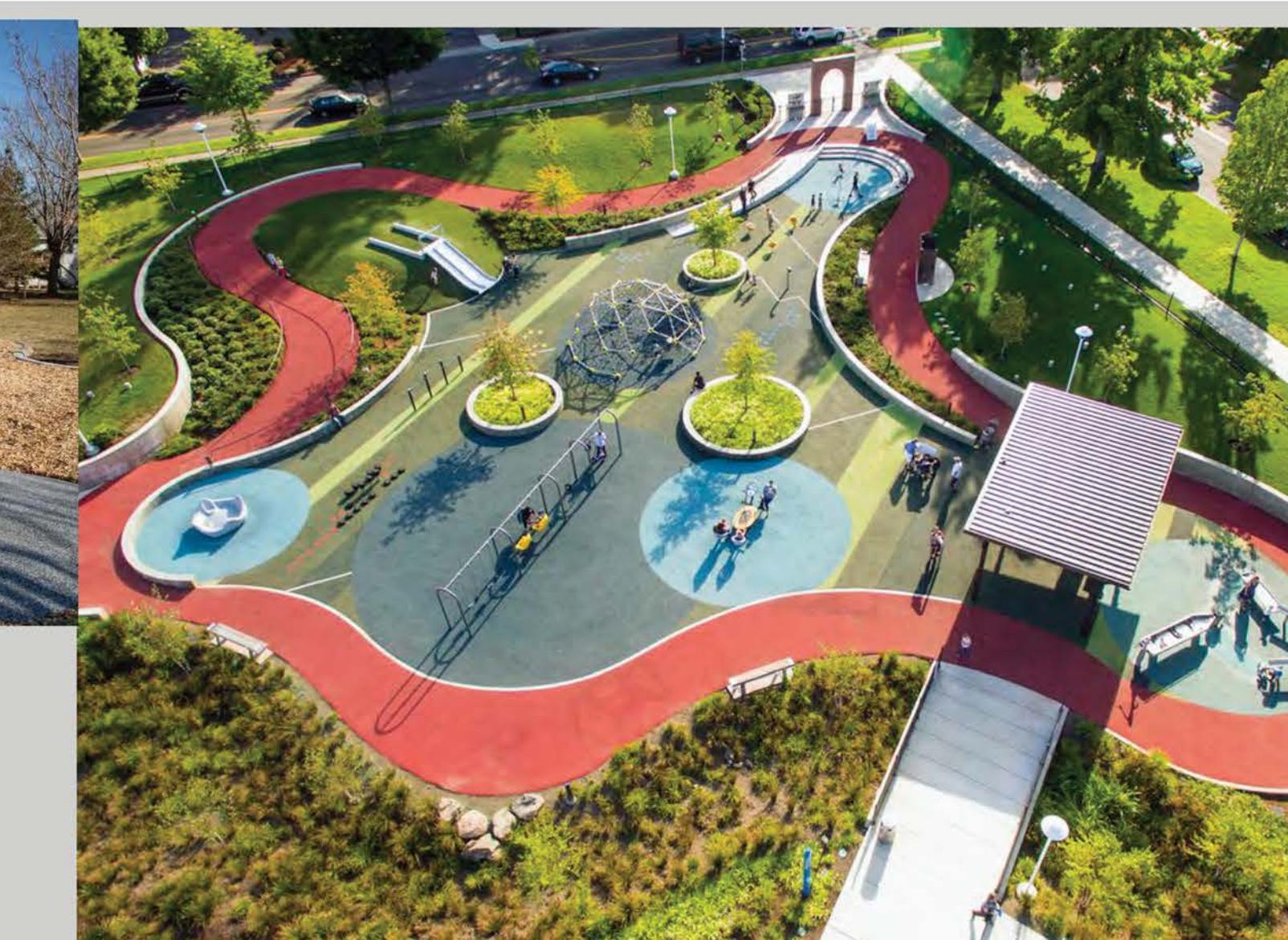
WALDORF PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



WAYPOINT SIGNAGE / ART WORK

FULL COURT BASKETBALL

FOOD TRUCK AREAS



PICKLEBALL COMPLEX

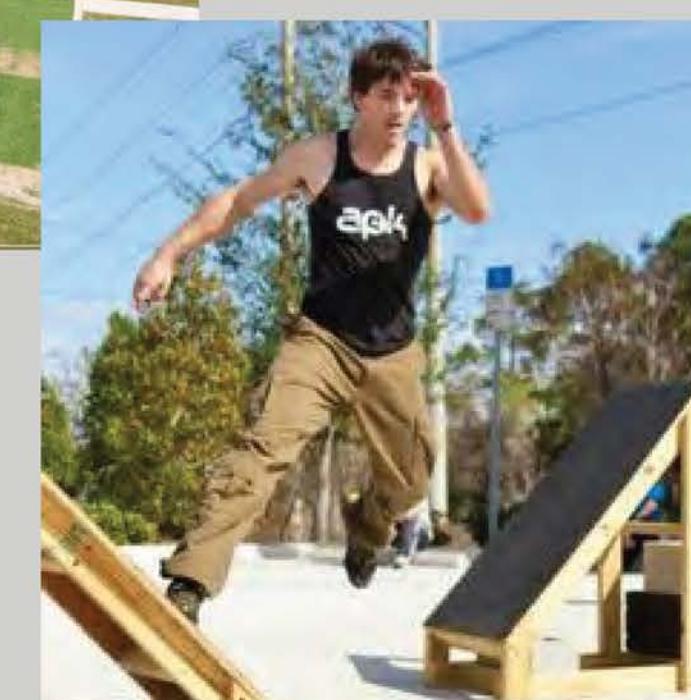
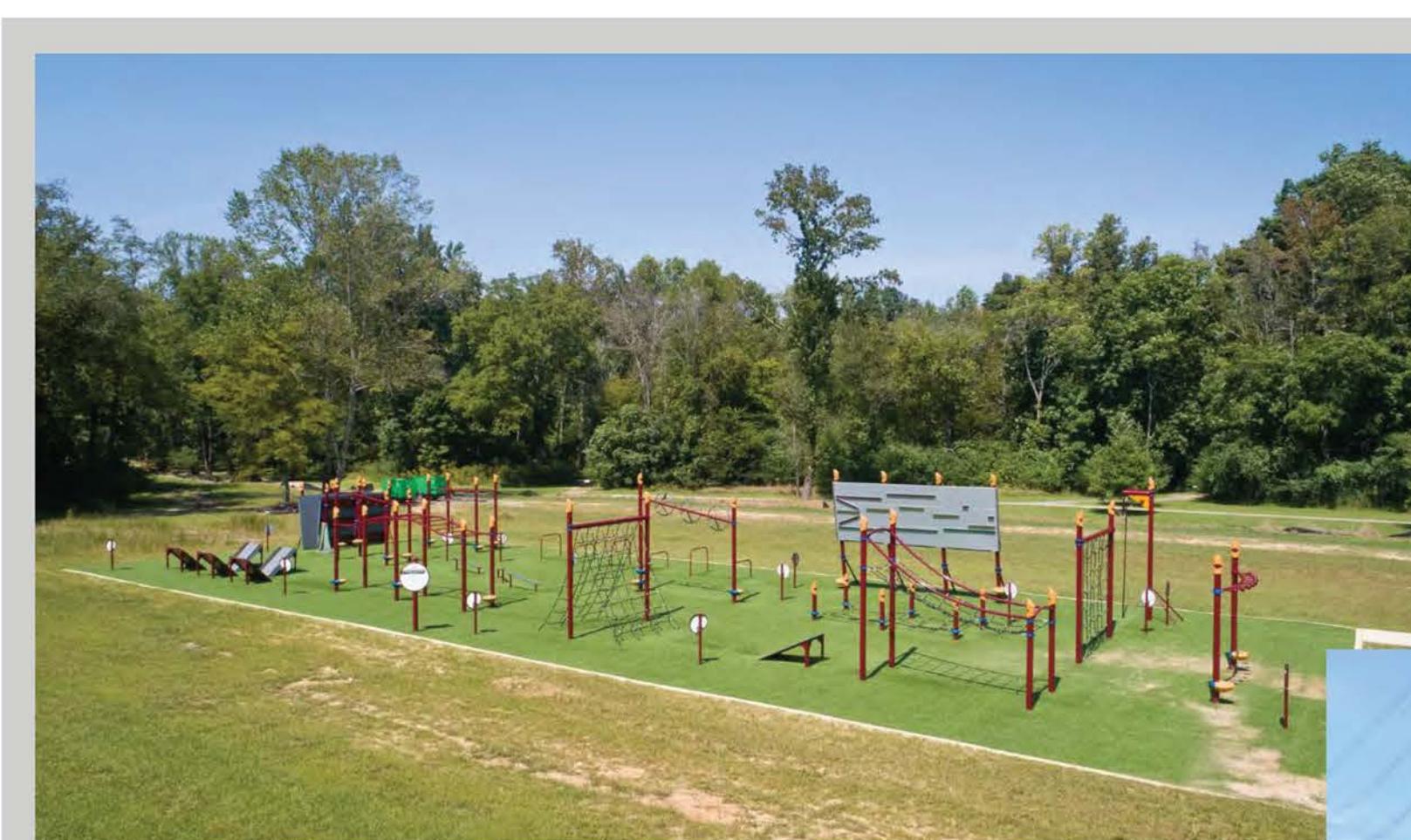
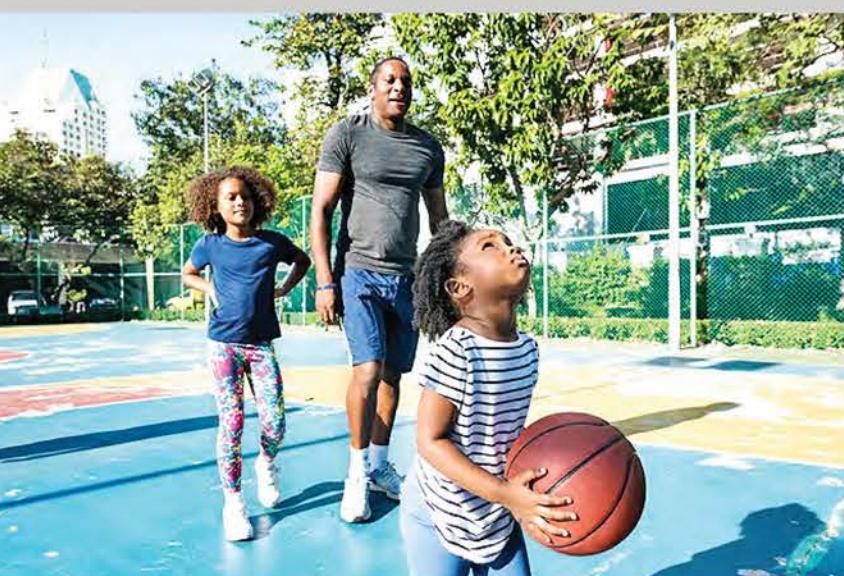
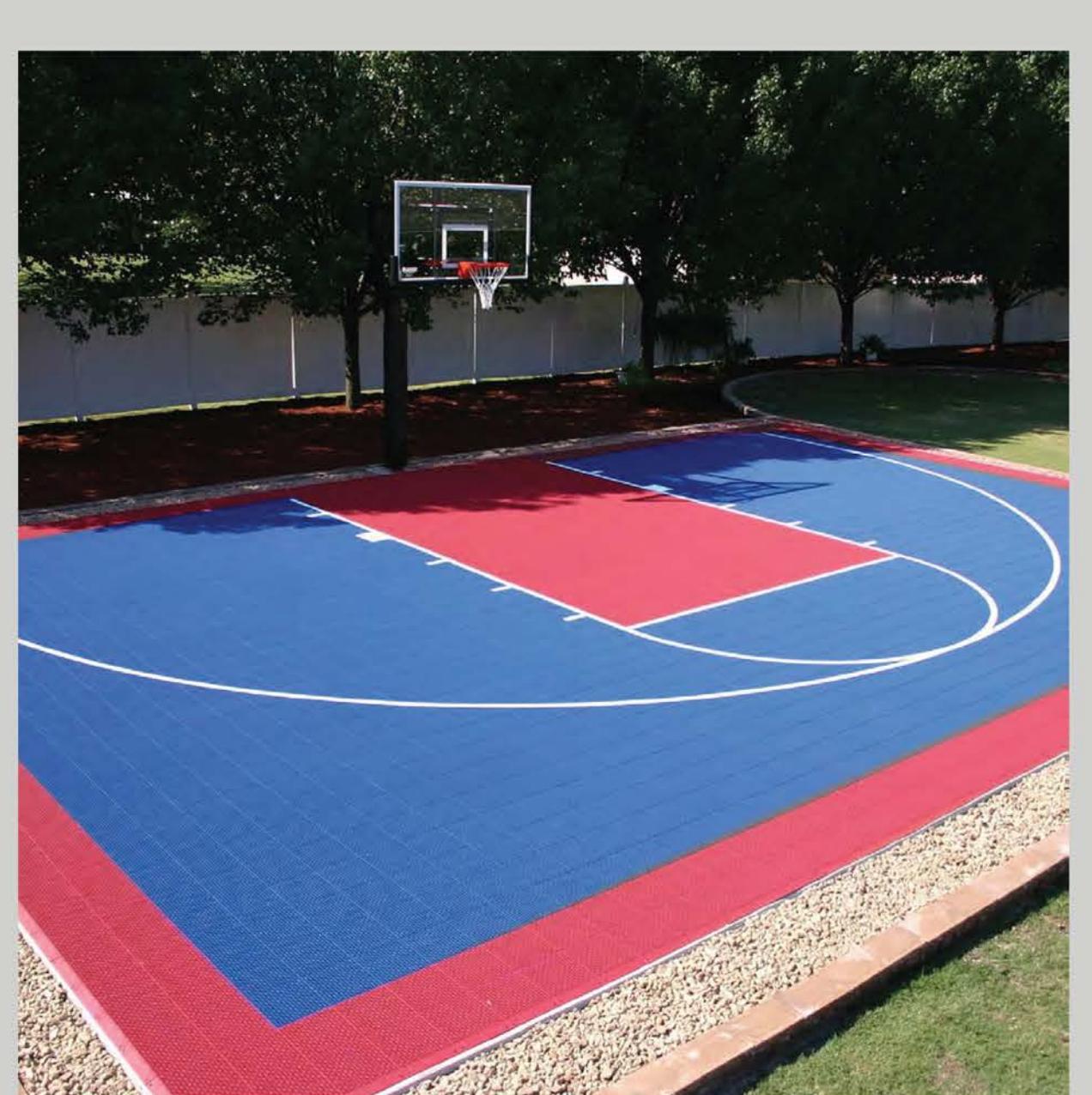
PLAYGROUND AREAS

WALDORF PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



3v3 BASKETBALL COURTS

MULTI-USE FIELDS

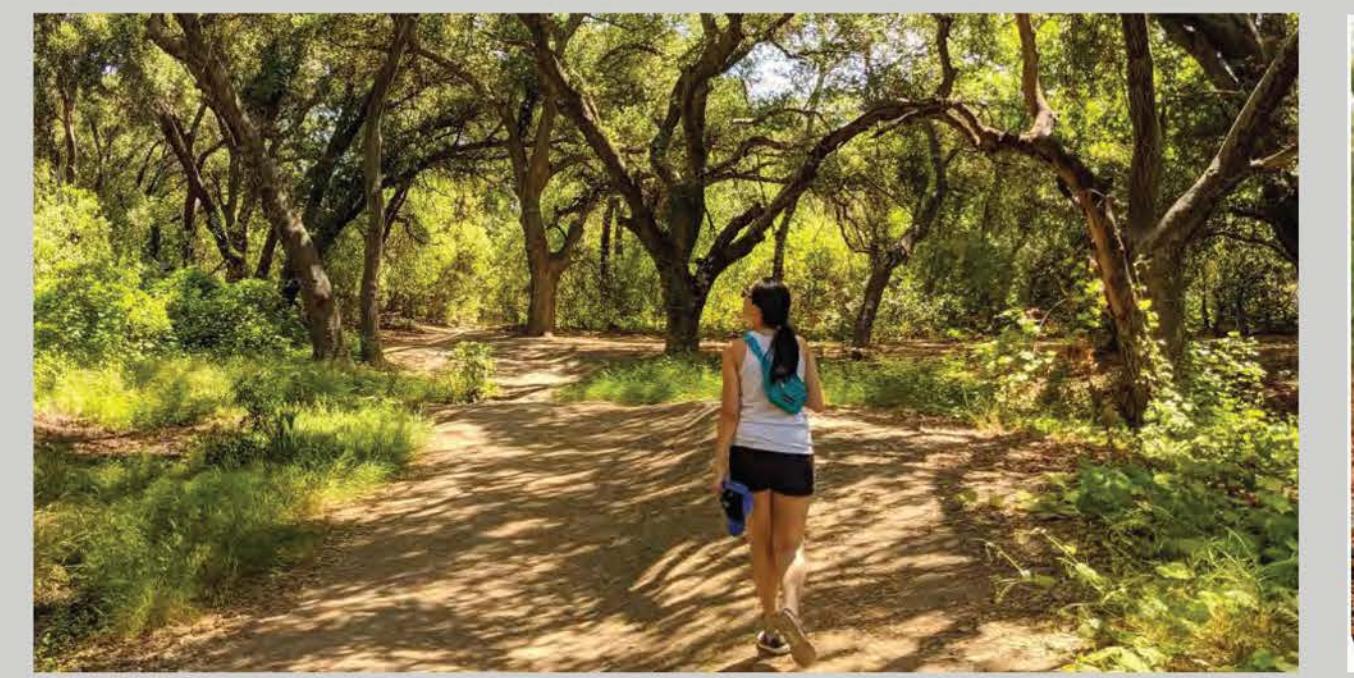


CHILDREN'S HALF COURT BASKETBALL

ADULT NINJA COURSE

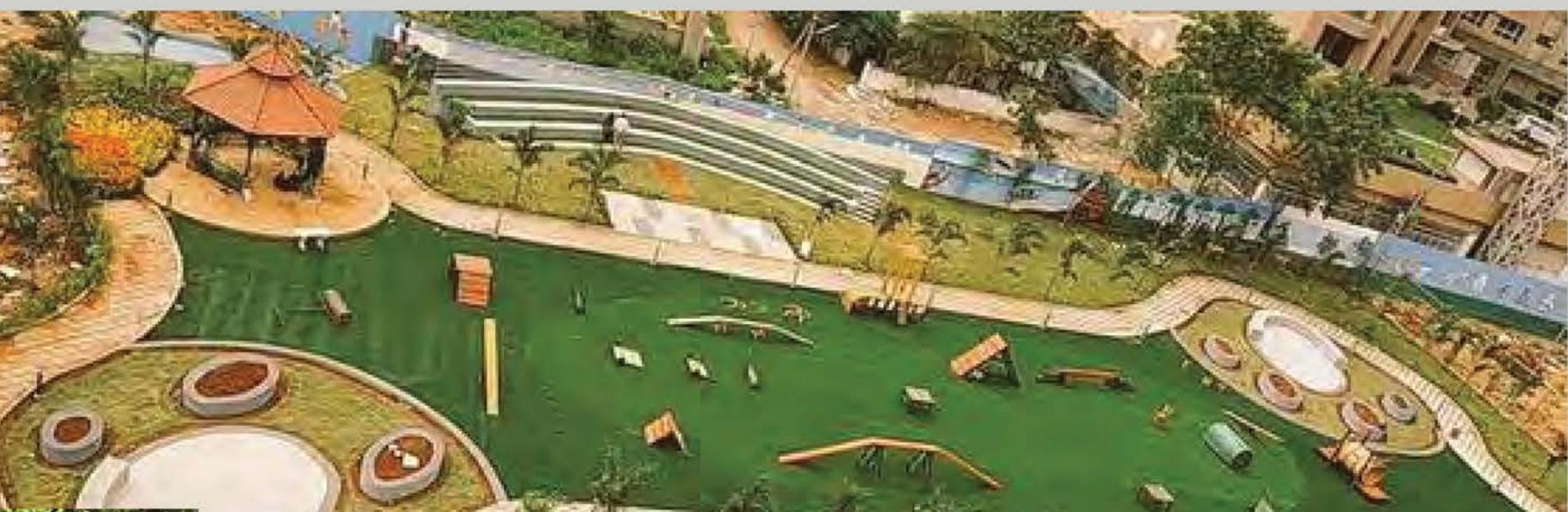
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CROSSINGS

WALDORF PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



WALKING/HIKING WITH POSSIBLE EXERCISE STATIONS

PAVILLIONS / SHADE STRUCTURES



SMALL, LARGE AND ALL BREED DOG PARKS

RESTROOM FACILITIES

LA PLATA FARM PARK - GUIDING PRINCIPLES

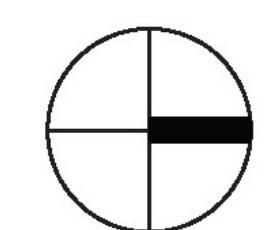


1. PLAN FOR PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS TO PROMOTE DISCOVERY OF THE AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE OF CHARLES COUNTY AND SIGNIFICANCE TO EVERYDAY LIFE.
2. PROMOTE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS, BOTH PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL; CONNECT TO:
 - WILLS MEMORIAL PARK
 - EDUCATION SYSTEM
 - GREATER AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY
 - TOWN OF LA PLATA
 - TOURISM
3. INTEGRATE A VARIETY OF ACTIVE AND PASSIVE USES FOR YEAR-ROUND USE AND SEASONAL EVENTS.
4. PROVIDE MULTI-FUNCTIONAL PARK FEATURES AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR REVENUE GENERATION.

LA PLATA FARM PARK CULTIVATING HERITAGE



ACCESS & CIRCULATION



NOT TO SCALE

LA PLATA FARM PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



DEMONSTRATION GARDEN



FARM THEMED DESTINATION PLAYGROUND



PICNIC GROVE + CAFE



EVENT LAWN



ORCHARD



COMMUNITY TABLE

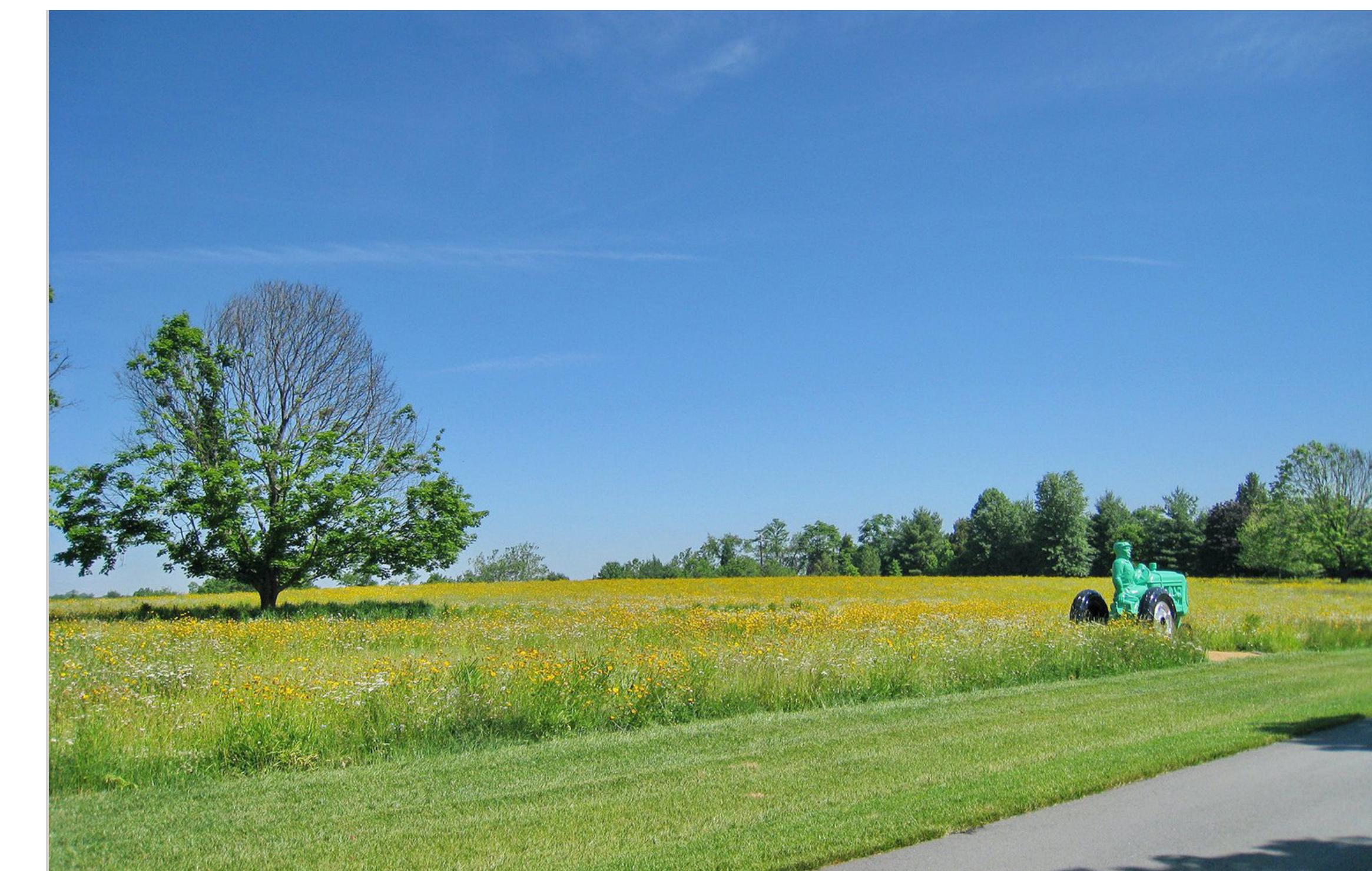
LA PLATA FARM PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



SUNFLOWER FIELDS

RESTORED BARN

GREENHOUSE + CULINARY GARDEN



PAVILION

DOG PARK

MEADOW + APIARY

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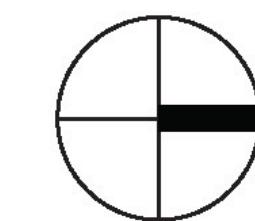


LA PLATA FARM PARK - EXPLORATION MEADOWS



KEY ELEMENTS

- 1 SUNFLOWER GARDEN
- 2 RENOVATED BARN + VISITORS CENTER
- 3 COMMUNITY GARDEN
- 4 LABYRINTH
- 5 GREENHOUSE + CLASSROOM
- 6 PARKING
- 7 HOLIDAY TREE GROVE
- 8 EVENT LAWN
- 9 STAGE
- 10 DESTINATION PLAYGROUND
- 11 FARM-THEMED SPLASH PAD
- 12 MEADOW MOUND
- 13 BIKE PUMP TRACK
- 14 DISC GOLF COURSE
- 15 ROTATING OUTDOOR EXHIBIT
- 16 PAVILION



NOT TO SCALE

ACCESS & CIRCULATION



LA PLATA FARM PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



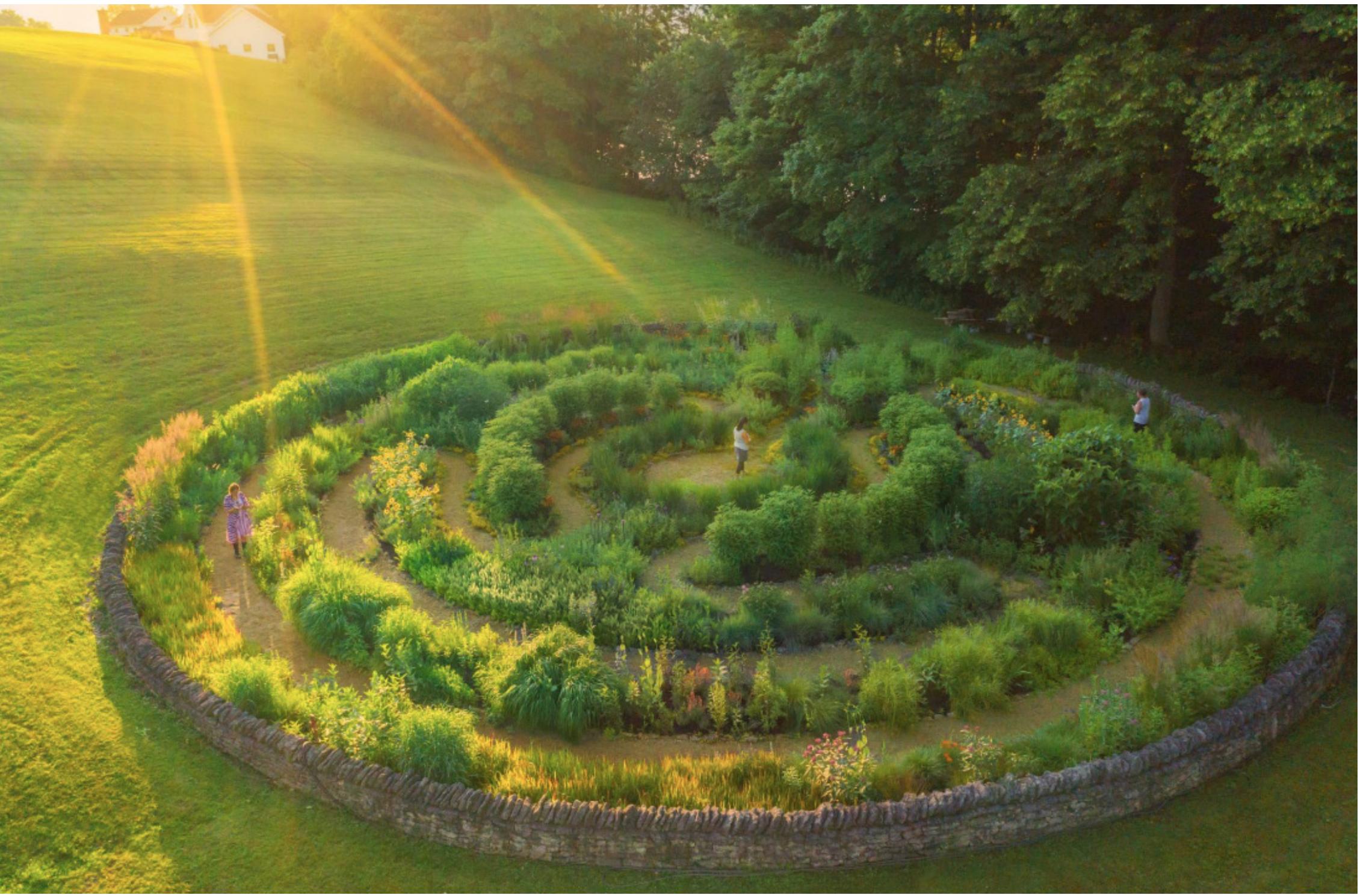
COMMUNITY GARDEN



RAISED GARDEN BEDS



GREENHOUSE + CLASSROOM



LABYRINTH



DESTINATION PLAYGROUND



FARM THEMED SPLASH PAD

LA PLATA FARM PARK - PRECEDENT IMAGES



RENOVATED BARN + VISITOR CENTER



HOLIDAY TREE WALK



STAGE + EVENT LAWN



MEADOW MOUNDS + TRAILS



BIKE PUMP TRACK



DISC GOLF

TASK FORCE ACTIVITY



A DAY AT THE PARK

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- ARRIVAL EXPERIENCE
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- RECREATION ACTIVITIES
- IS THIS A FAMILY OUTING, SOLO OUTING, OR GROUP MEET-UP?
- DOES THE PARK HAVE ACTIVITIES THAT APPEAL TO EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP?
- ARE THERE MISSING FEATURES THAT WOULD IMPROVE YOUR EXPERIENCE?

NEXT STEPS



- COMPLETED PROGRESS:
 - INVENTORY, DATA COLLECTION, & SITE ANALYSIS
 - TASK FORCE MEETING #1
 - PRELIMINARY RECREATION PRIORITIES LIST
 - THEMES & GUIDING PRINCIPLES
 - CONCEPT PLAN OPTIONS
 - TASK FORCE MEETING #2
- NEXT STEPS
 - ASSESS TASK FORCE INPUT
 - DRAFT MASTER PLAN
 - FACILITATE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE - FEB
 - TASK FORCE MEETING #3 - FEB