

Duluth Wolfpack Youth Lacrosse

dwylax.com

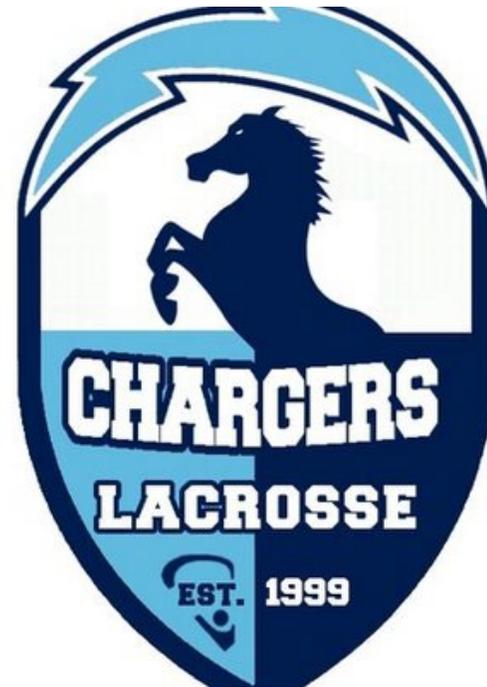


Who is Duluth Youth Wolfpack Lacrosse?

- We are a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota. Also referred to in short as DWYLax.
- Purpose of our program is to grow the game of lacrosse for youth.
- Provided quality instruction and coaching of lacrosse:
 - fundamentals,
 - skills,
 - techniques and strategies
- Serving youth ages 6-14 residing in Duluth and the surrounding area.

Where did we start?

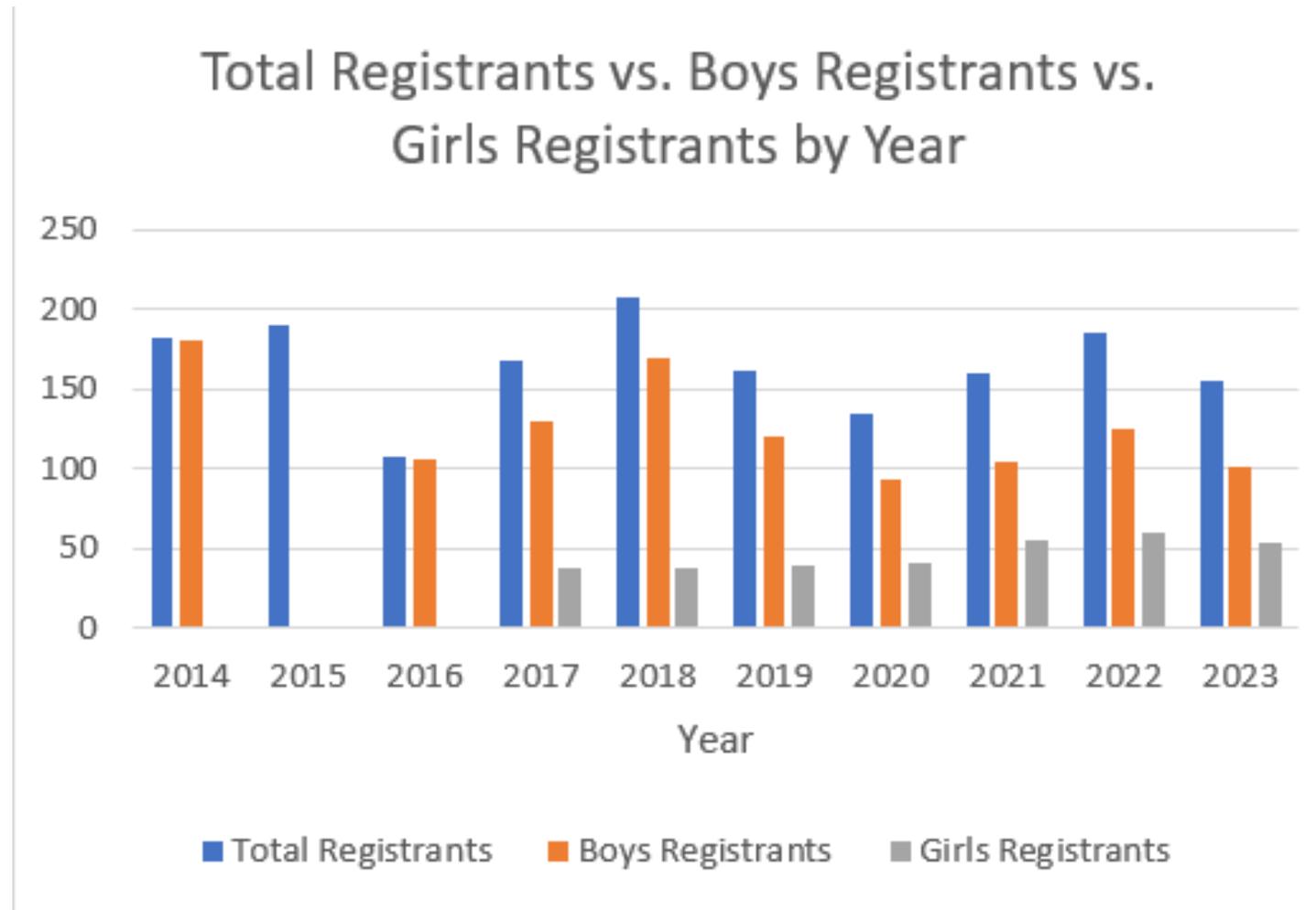
- 1999 started as Duluth Chargers Lacrosse
- Included:
 - Duluth
 - Two Harbors
 - Superior
 - Proctor
 - Hermantown
 - Cloquet/Esko/Carlton



How we got here?

- 1999 Duluth Chargers began as a youth sport.
- 2015 Arrowhead Titans (Proctor/Hermantown, and included Cloquet/Esko/Carlton) broke off from the Chargers.
- 2019 season Superior broke off from the Chargers.
- 2019 was also a good time to change from Duluth Chargers and mirror our high school program and take on the Duluth YOUTH Wolfpack Lacrosse Association (DWYLax) name.

Our Numbers



What we do for Duluth?

- Average 165 youth players/members per year
- Give opportunity to be part of a youth activity as well as a team.
- Develop youth athletes in the sport of lacrosse
- Give the opportunity to play a 'new' sport.
- We offer scholarships on an as needed basis, allowing ALL that want to play and learn.
- Host multiple out of town teams and families to the City of Duluth on weekends during the Spring months.

Our plan for future:

- Growth!!! Both girls and boys!
 - Additional field space would be required
- Fall/Winter program opportunities
 - Additional field space would be required.
- Working with ISD 709 to bring lacrosse into the schools
 - Grow the program at the younger level
 - Night options for LEARN TO LACROSSE at elementary schools.



Our Mission & Purpose

Mission Statement:

The name of the organization shall be Duluth Wolfpack Youth Lacrosse Association. It shall be a nonprofit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota. For purposes of abbreviation, “DWYLAX” and “Wolfpack Youth” shall be acceptable names herein and externally.

Our Purpose:

DWYLAX is organized by member volunteers, exclusively for charitable, scientific and education purposes. The purpose of this corporation is to grow the game of lacrosse by providing quality instruction and coaching of lacrosse fundamentals, skills, techniques, and strategies, for youth ages 6-14 residing in Duluth and the surrounding area.



HILLSIDE SPORT COURT PARK PLAN

Duluth, Minnesota

June 14, 2023

Draft Plan for Public Comment



Presented to Parks and Recreation Commission

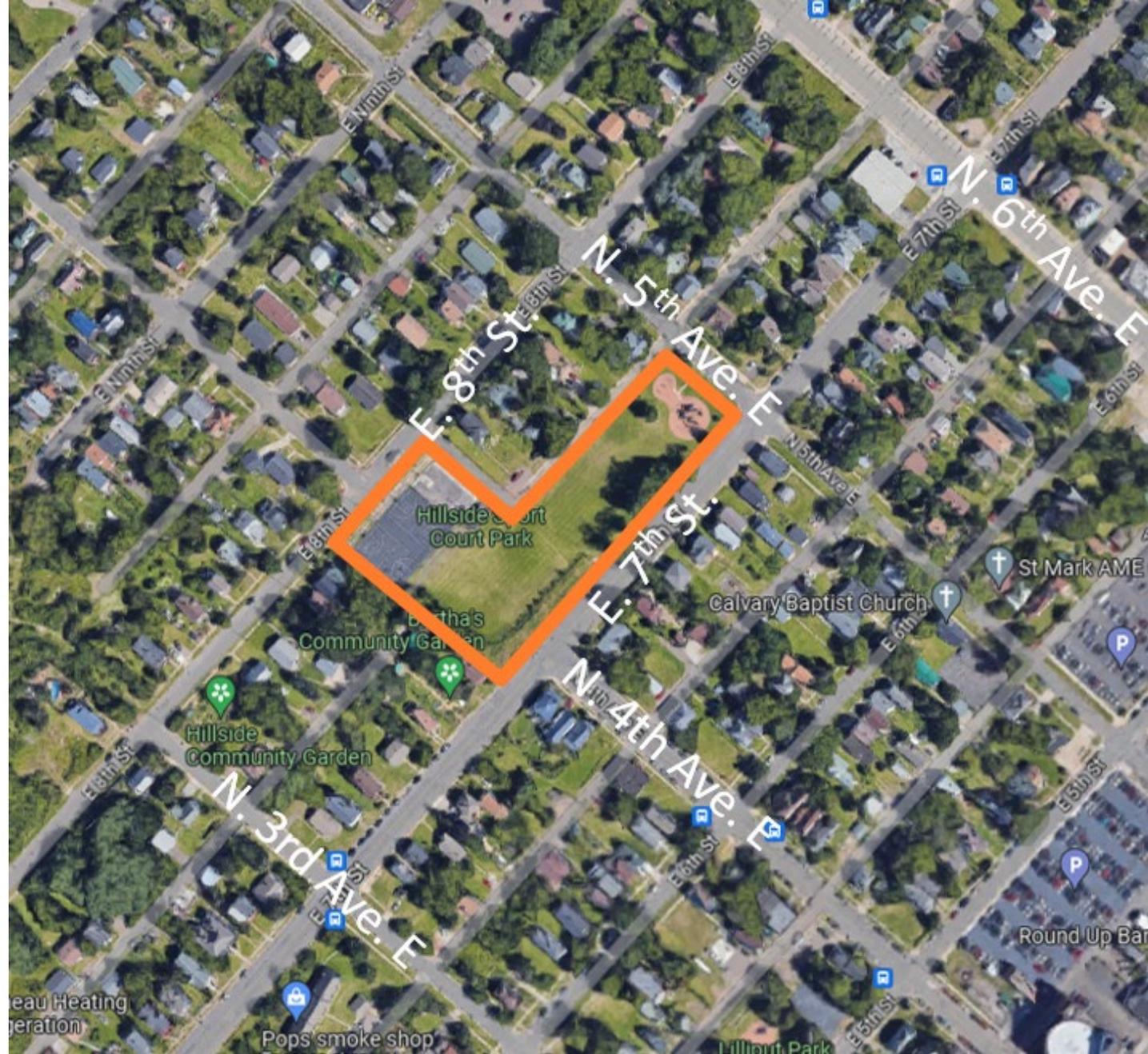
by Katie Bennett, Senior Parks Planner

June 14, 2023

Plan Overview

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Sport Court



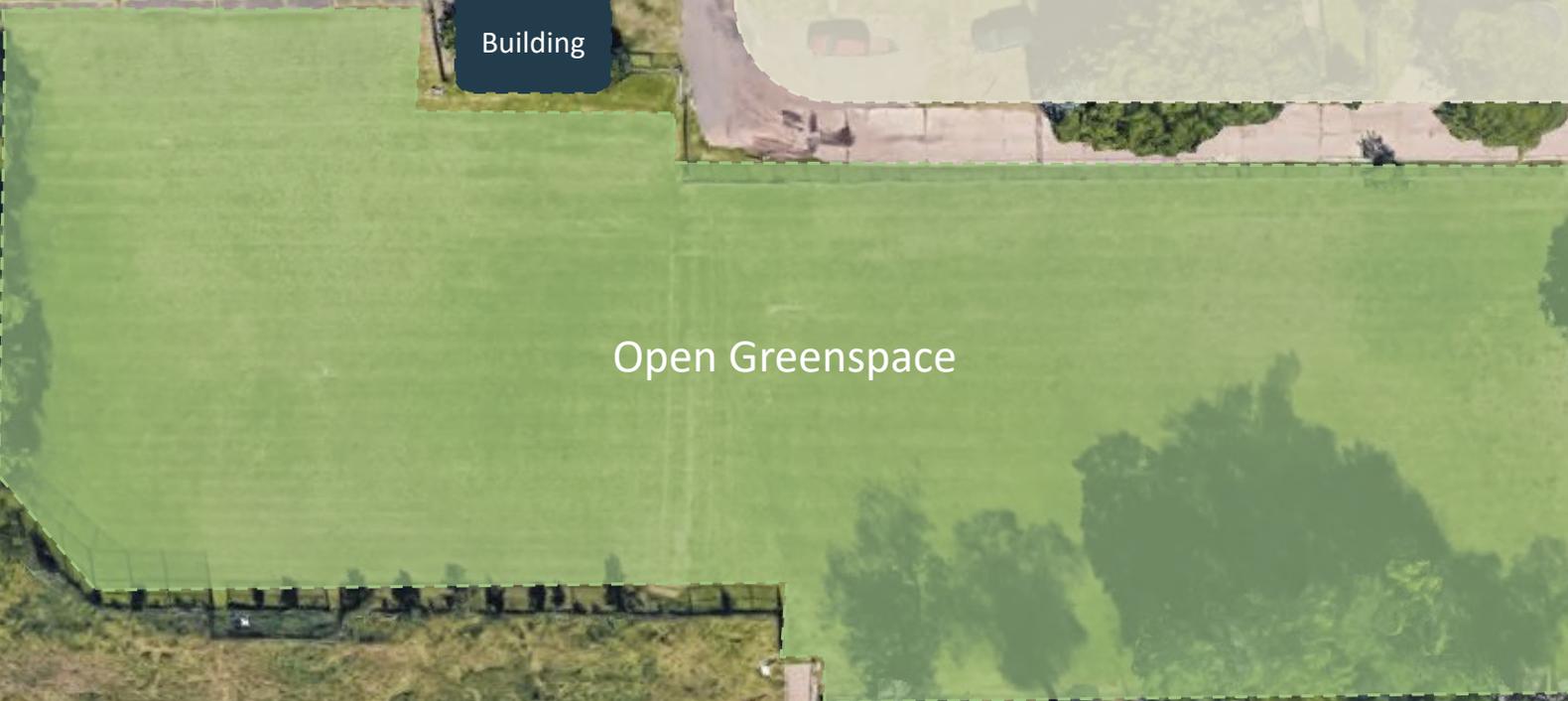
Parking



Building



Residential



Open Greenspace



Playground

Historical Context

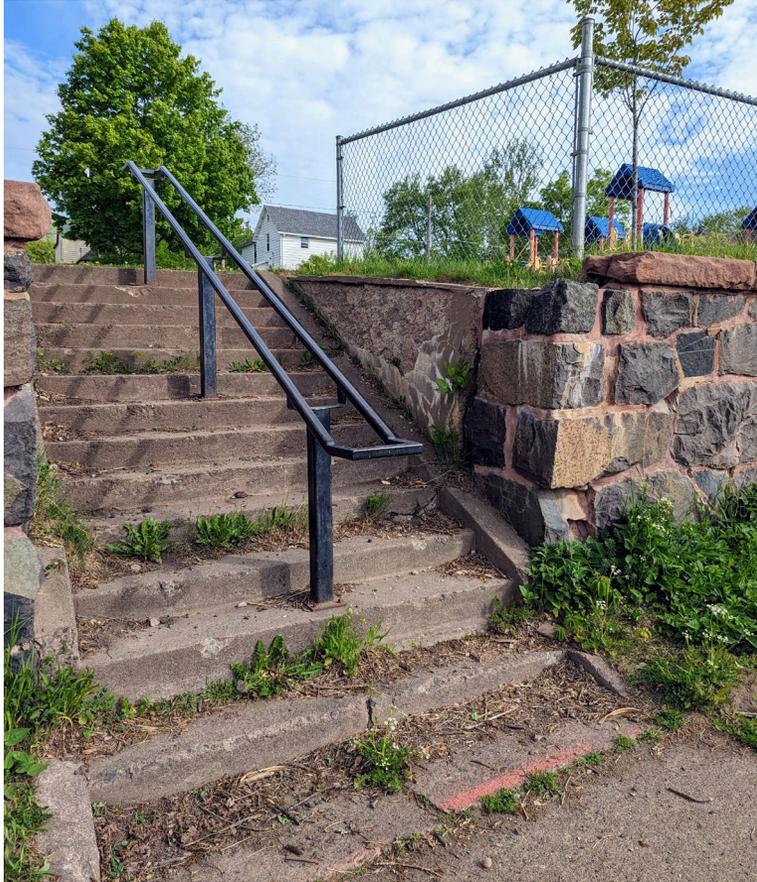
- Formerly Franklin School
 - Operated from 1889 – 1977
- City acquired portion of property in 1973
- Built community center in 1974
- Current sport court area held a hockey rink
- Rezoned to Park and Open Space in 2015



Source: Hugh McKenzie, 1914, "Franklin School, Duluth, Minnesota."

University of Minnesota Duluth, Kathryn A. Martin Library, Northeast Minnesota Historical Collections

Connectivity & Accessibility



Stairs along E. 7th Street



Connection to accessible swing from N. 5th Avenue E.



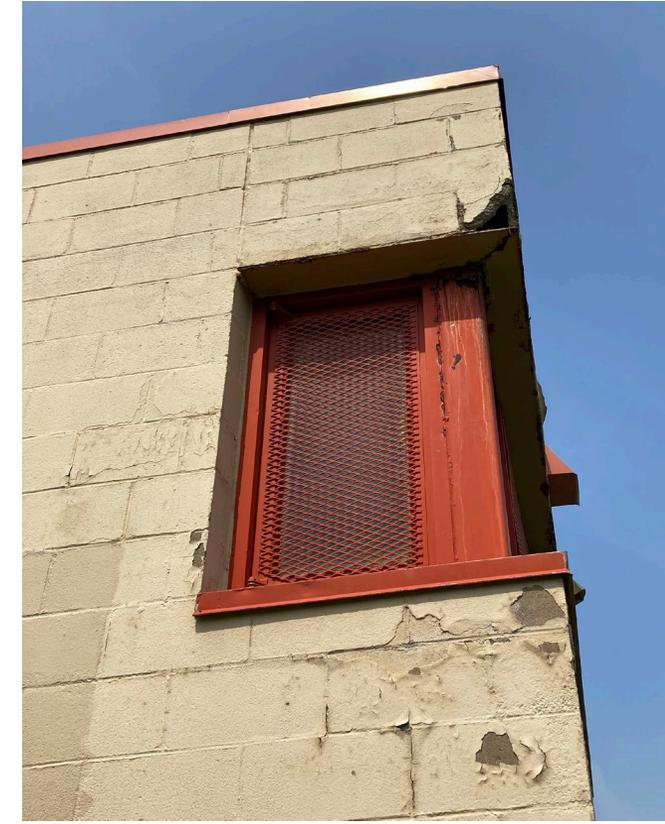
E. 8th Street entryway

Connectivity & Accessibility



The park lacks formalized connections and accessible pathways into the park, between park amenities, and between the upper and lower areas of the park.

Community Center Building



The 930 square foot building has been permanently closed due to concerns of public safety. The small size and deteriorated condition of the building make it incompatible with modern community center needs.

Sport Court

The sport court was installed in 1998, and crack-sealed and seal-coated in 2021. Underlying foundational issues call for a fully renewed court.



Playground



At 25 years old, the existing playground equipment has surpassed its recommended lifespan and is due for replacement.

Open Greenspace

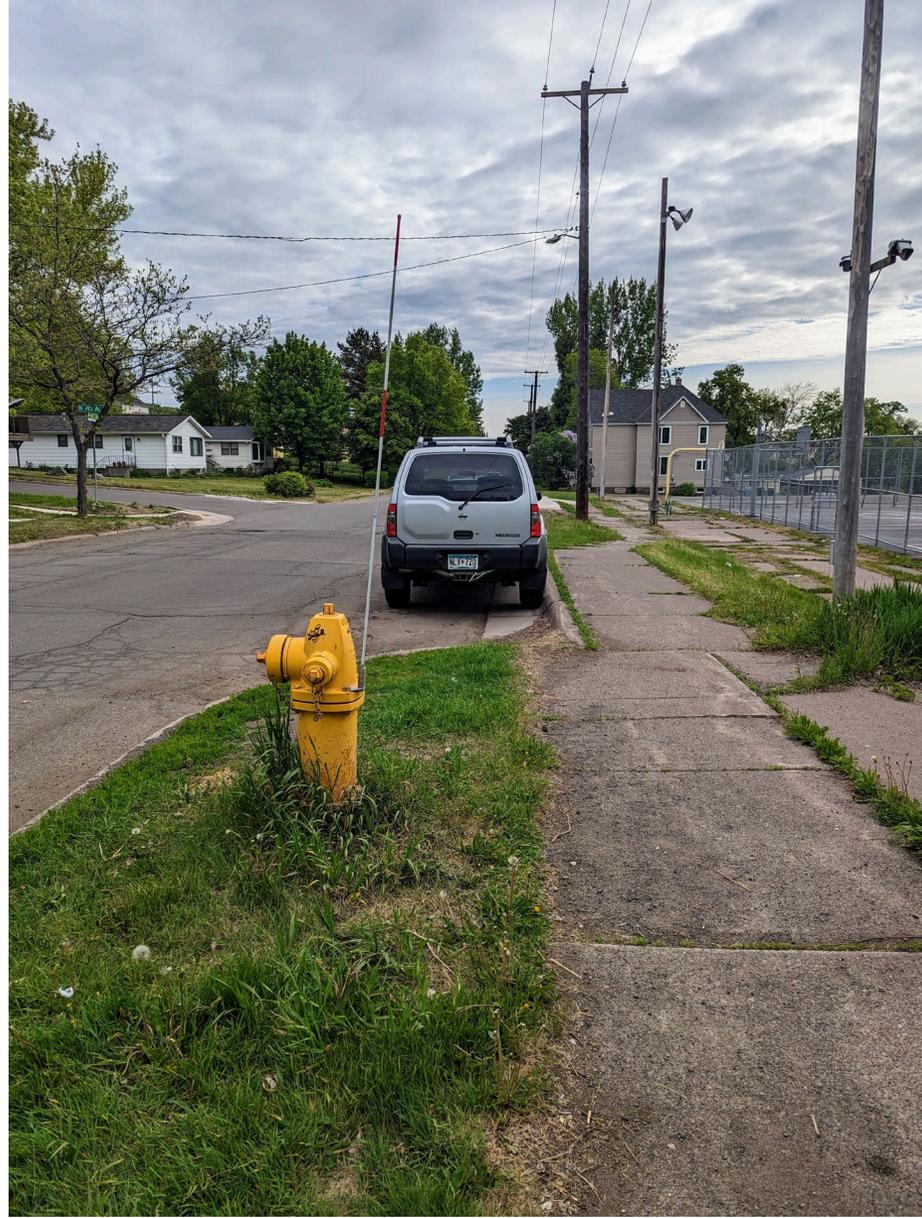


The park's large open greenspace is important for recreational opportunities, community health, and climate resiliency, but is under programmed and not activated to its full potential.

Parking



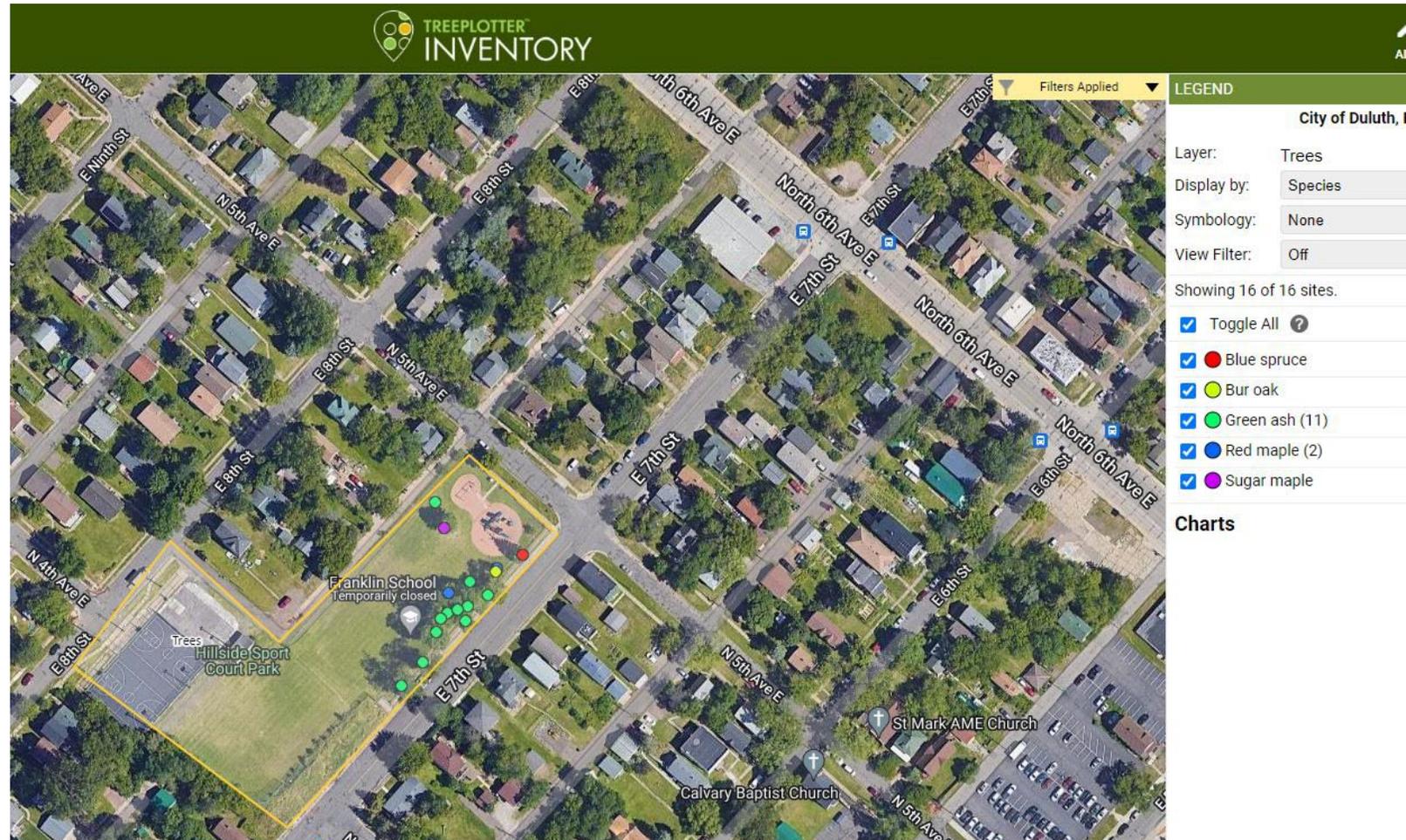
Informal parking lot



Street parking along 8th



Trees



Neighborhood Context

- Census Tract 9
 - Hillside Sport Court Park location
 - Central Hillside neighborhood
 - Duluth Heights neighborhood
- Census Tract 16
 - Directly across street from Hillside Sport Court Park
 - Central Hillside neighborhood



Neighborhood Context

Population

2020 CENSUS DATA

Duluth
86,697



Census Tract 9
3,598



Census Tract 16
1,446



Population Density

PEOPLE PER SQUARE MILE - 2020 CENSUS DATA

Duluth
1,209



Census Tract 9
3,618



Census Tract 16
8,407



Neighborhood Context

Race & Ethnicity

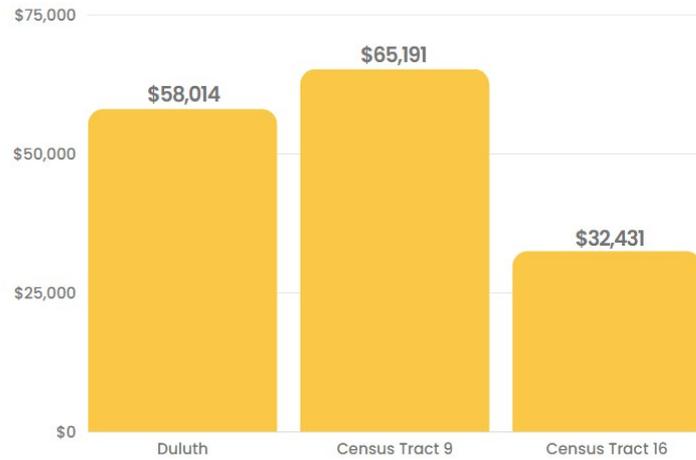
BY PERCENT OF POPULATION - 2020 CENSUS DATA

RACE & ETHNICITY	DULUTH	CENSUS TRACT 9	CENSUS TRACT 16
White	88.6%	87.0%	68.9%
Black or African American	2.6%	1.7%	11.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.7%	2.3%	7.4%
Asian	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Other	0.0%	0.5%	1.0%
Two or More Races	4.8%	6.8%	9.8%
Hispanic or Latino	2.7%	1.8%	3.4%

Neighborhood Context

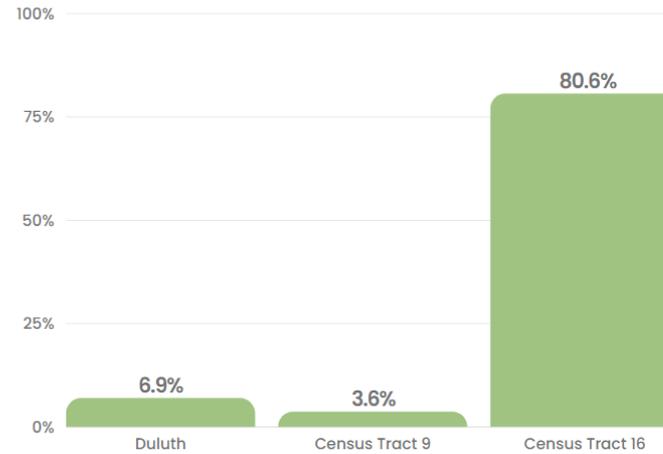
Median Household Income

2017 - 2021 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5-YEAR ESTIMATES



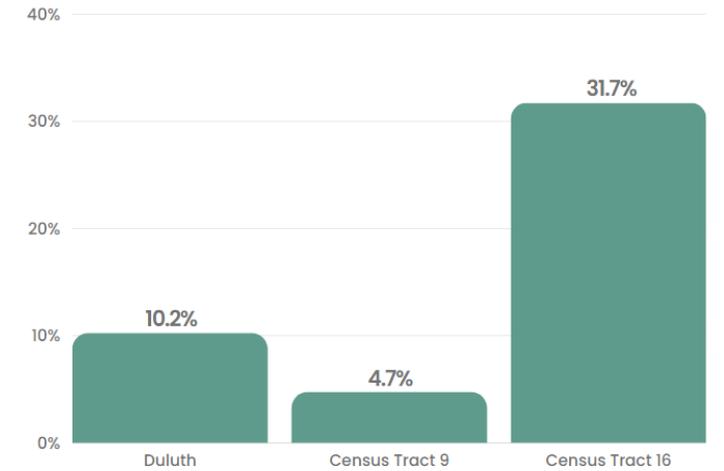
Percent of Households Earning Less Than \$10K

2017 - 2021 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5-YEAR ESTIMATES



Percent of Households Without Vehicles

2017 - 2021 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 5-YEAR ESTIMATES



Plan Process



**Project proposals are submitted by individuals or organizations wishing to make improvements on City property, typically funded through fundraising efforts organized by the applicant.*

Community Input Session

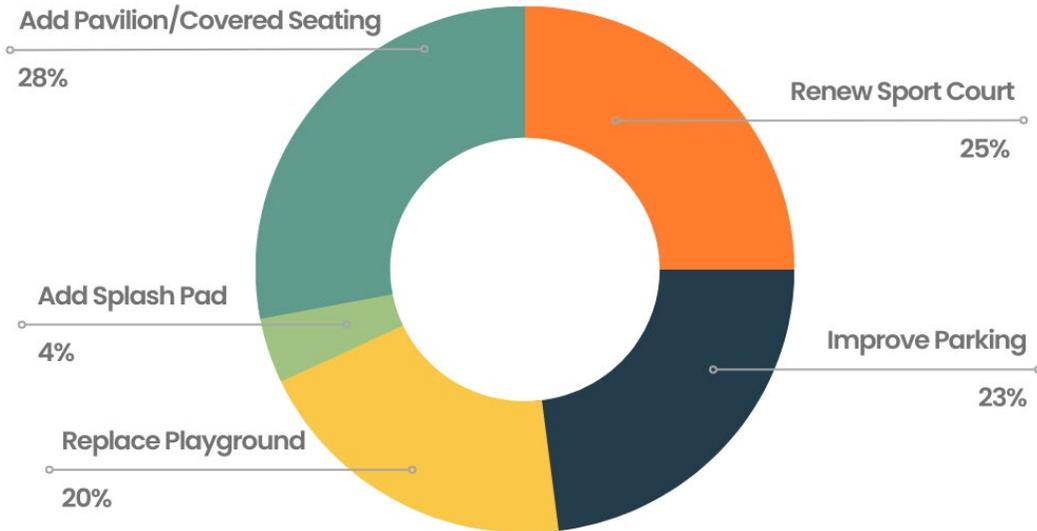
- May 17, 2023
- Central Hillside Community Center
- 24 participants
- Brief staff presentation
- Small group discussions and prioritization activities



Community Input Session

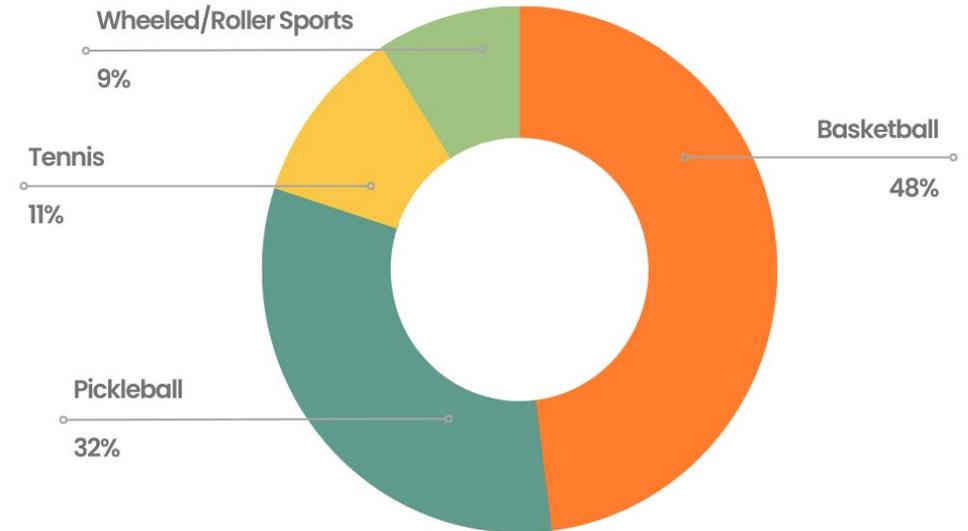
Park Improvement Priorities

BASED ON WEIGHTED SCORES FROM COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION



Sport Court Use Priorities

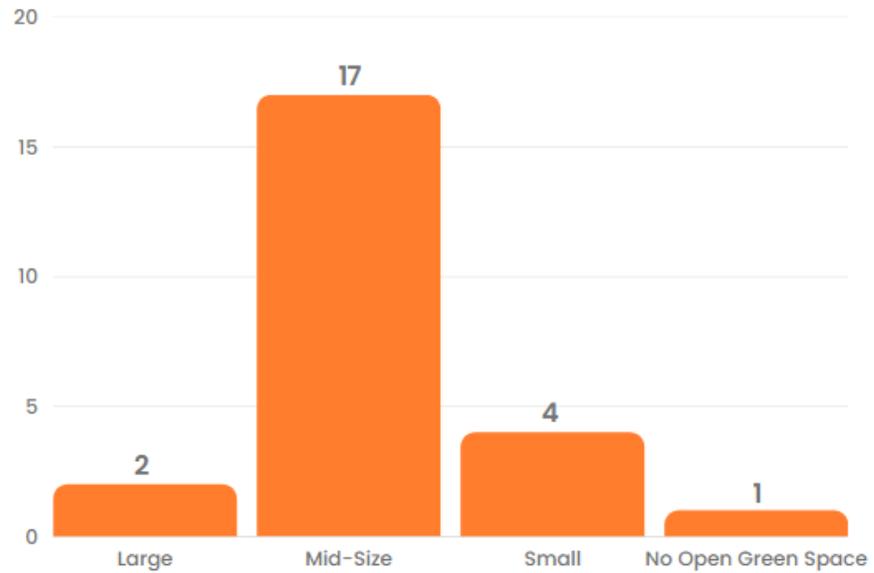
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Community Input Session

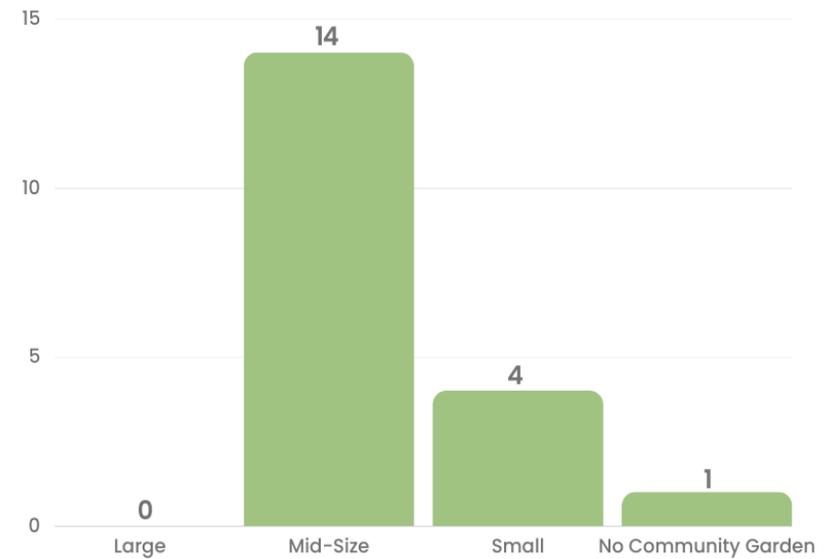
Preferred Size of Open Greenspace

BASED ON VOTES FROM COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION



Preferred Size of Community Garden

BASED ON VOTES FROM COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION



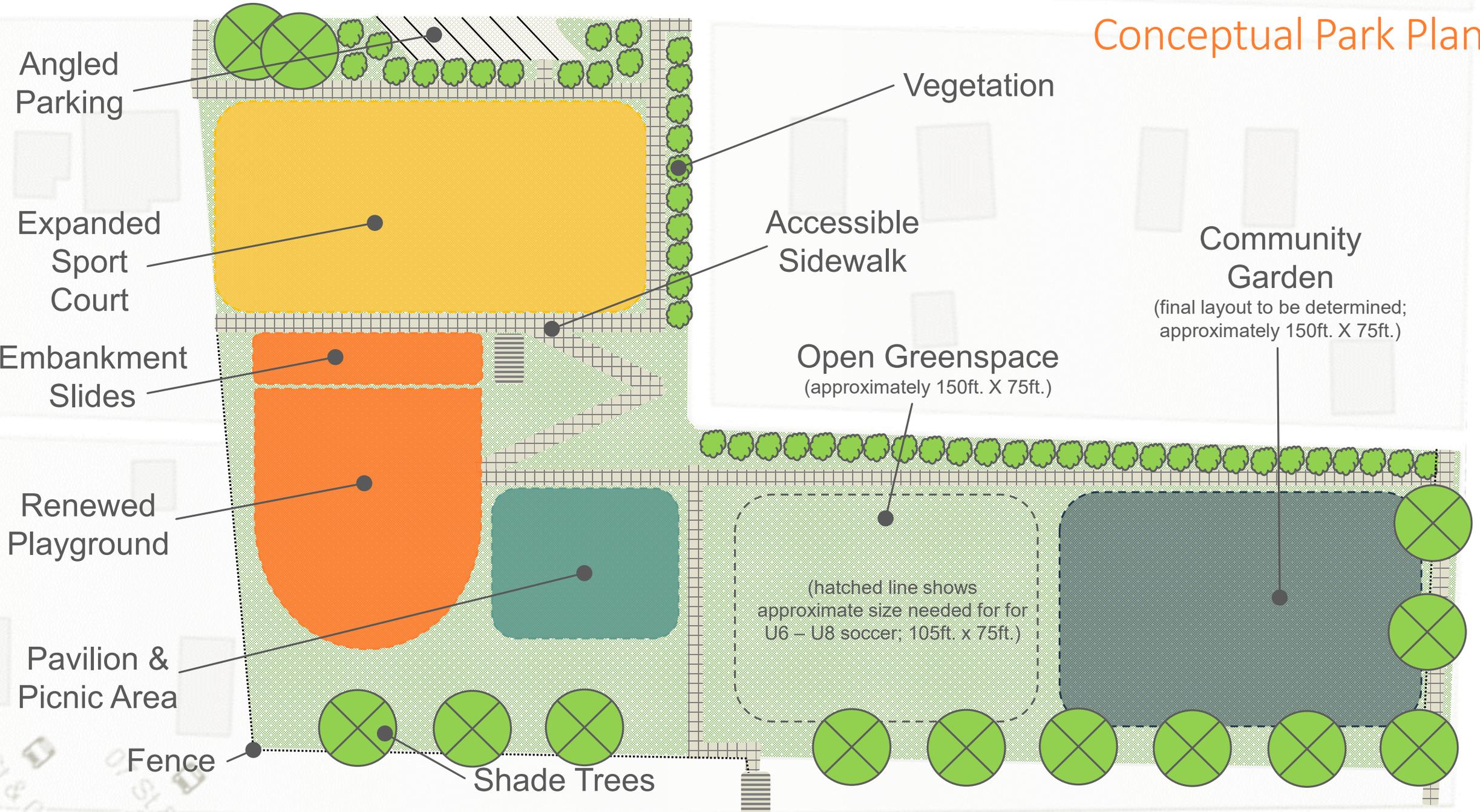
Community Input Session

Preferred Parking Area Improvements

BASED ON VOTES FROM COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION



Conceptual Park Plan



Embankment Slides



Reconstruction of existing sidewalk adjacent to sport court is recommended for playground accessibility



Recommended location of embankment slides and new playground



Example of embankment slides (Source: A Park A Day Bay Area)

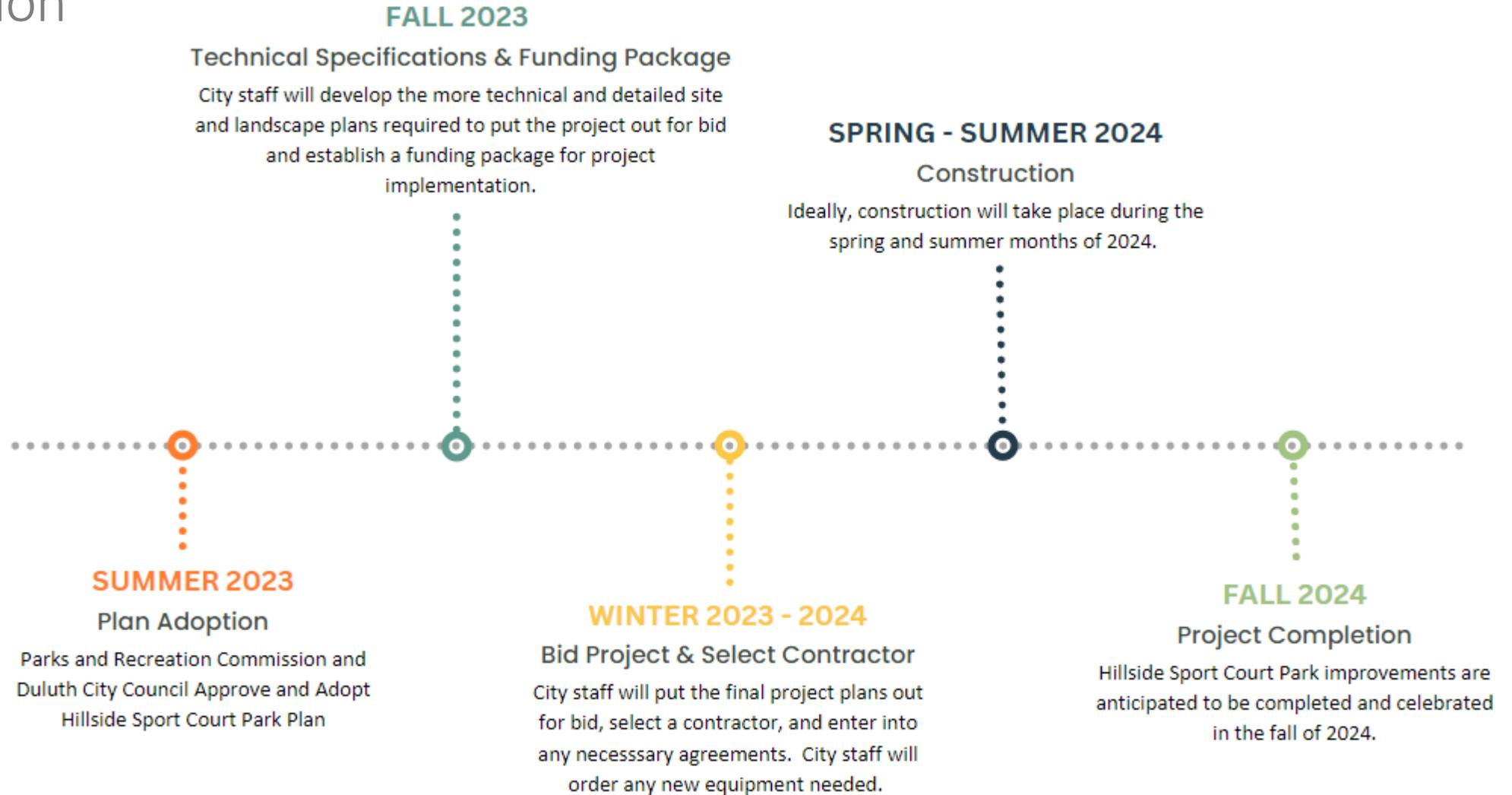
Prioritized Park Improvements for Hillside Sport Court Park

	With Limited Funding	Where Additional Funding Allows
1. Site Connectivity and Accessibility	Improve accessibility to existing park amenities	Expand connections throughout site and provide accessible pathways to all park amenities, including any new amenities
2. Community Gathering Spaces	Remove community building	Remove community building and add a pavilion and picnic area
3. Sport Court	Resurface existing sport court	Fully replace and, if possible, expand sport court
4. Playground	Replace end-of-life playground in existing location	Replace and relocate playground to western side of park and add embankment slides
5. Parking	Resurface existing parking area or convert parking area to greenspace	Formalize existing parking area or relocate parking to angled street parking
6. Trees and Vegetation	Do not remove or add any trees or vegetation	Remove and replace all ash trees and add new vegetation

*Addresses existing park elements first;
Balances park system goals, community input, and maintenance needs*

Preferred park improvements as shown in Conceptual Park Plan

Implementation Timeline



Thank you!

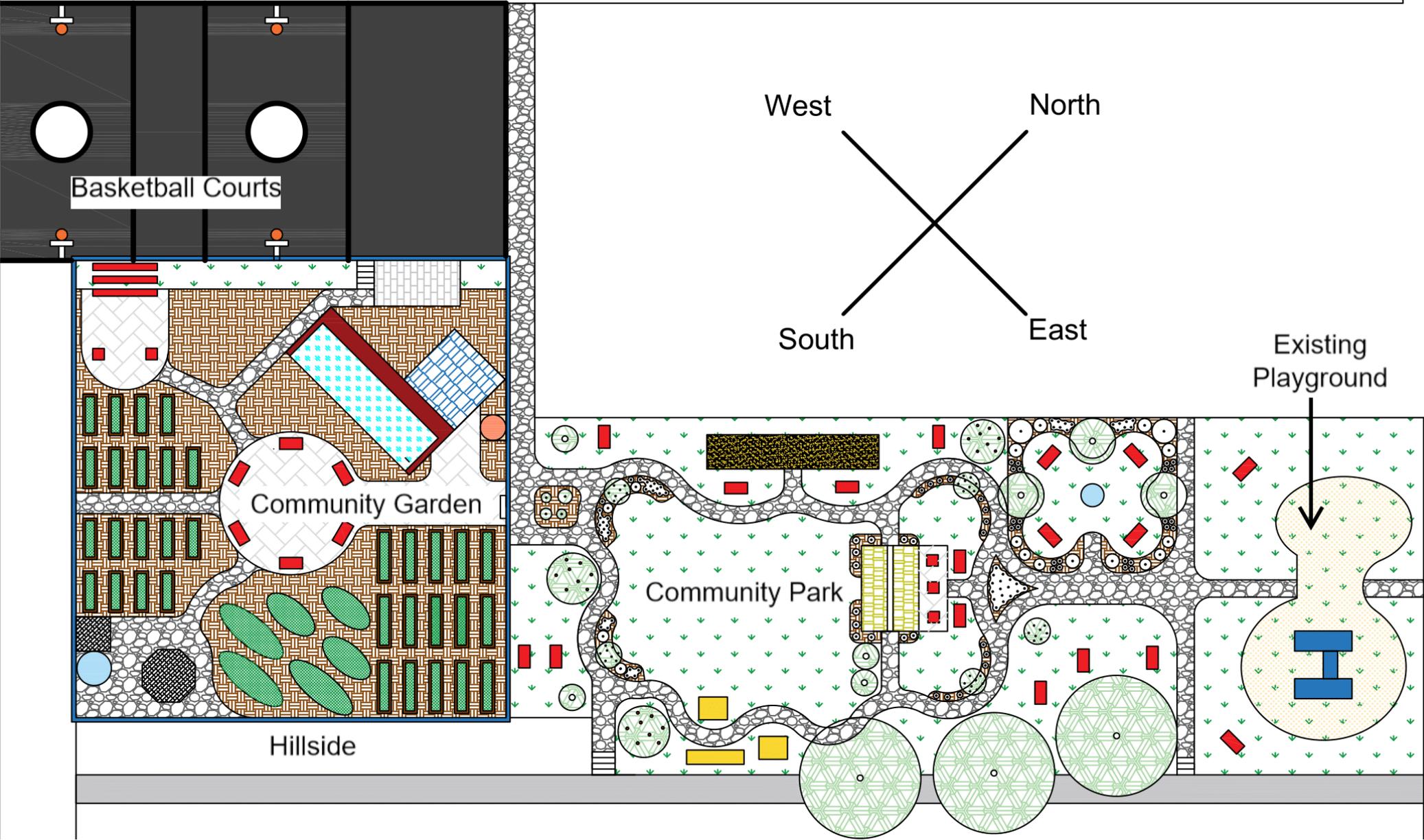
Katie Bennett, Senior Parks Planner

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Project Proposal



Existing Conditions

“Fair” condition assessment as of 2021-22

Park space has deficiencies and park facilities should be replaced in the near future, but those deficiencies do not affect functionality or cause safety concerns

