



Indian Mounds Regional Park Master Plan



Goals for tonight:

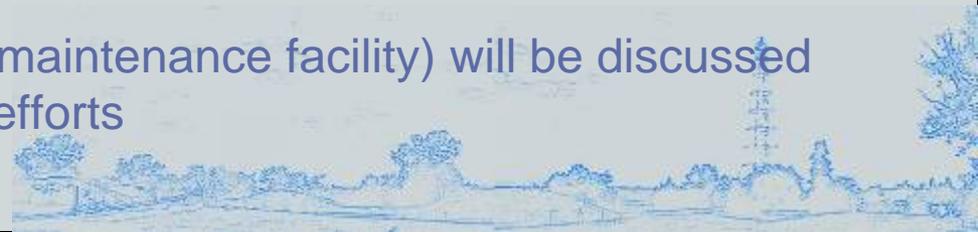
**Consensus on programming
3 Focus Areas
Mounds Maintenance**

**Provide sufficient direction for staff to proceed with two
concepts for refinement and presentation at Public Open
House**



Concurrent Planning Efforts

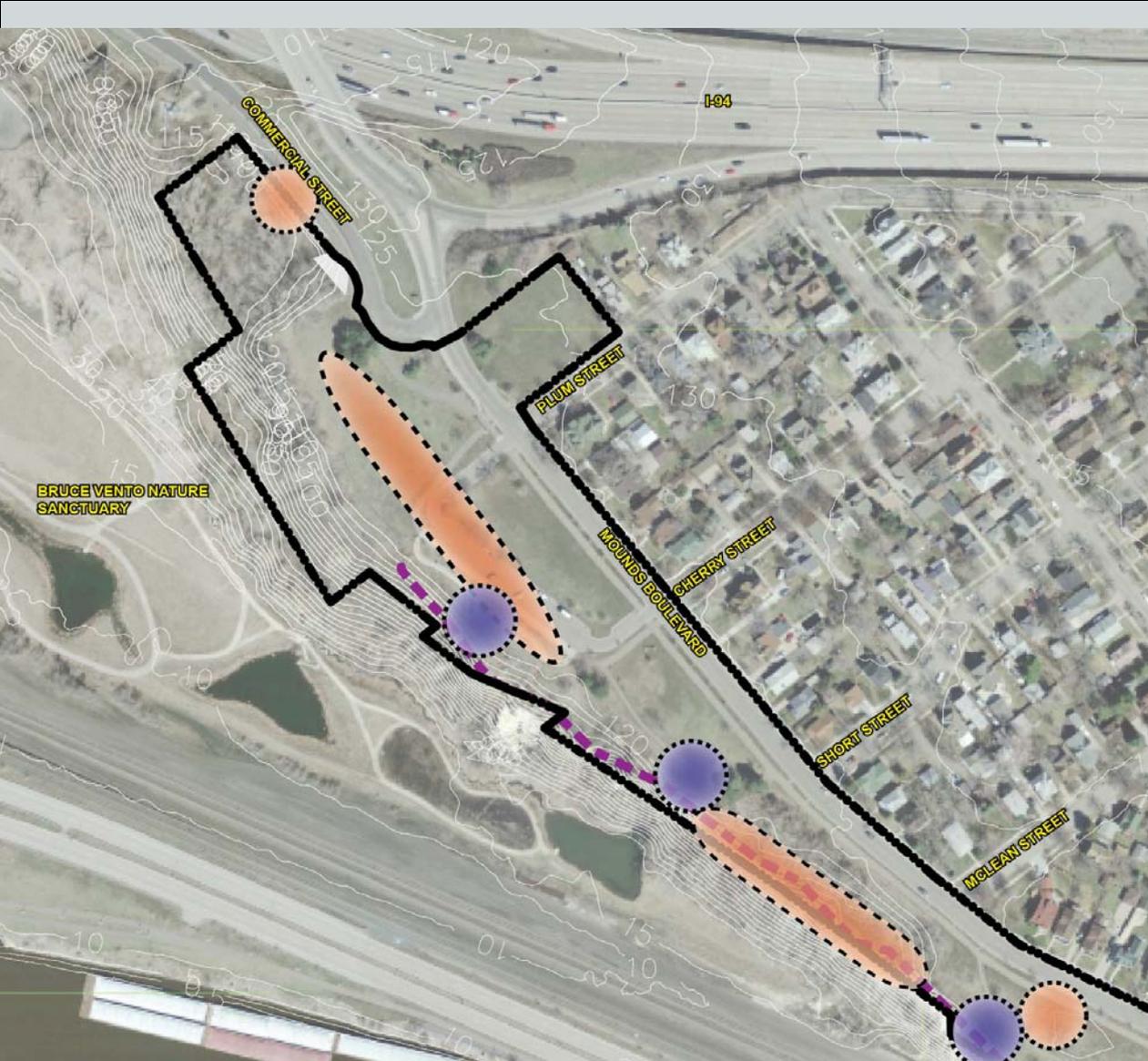
- **Systems Plan – Currently a DRAFT**
 - Program based planning process for city wide facilities
 - weighs community needs and wants with financial realities, to ensure the system remains economically viable, consistent with recreation trends, and responsible with tax dollars.
- **Great River Park – Currently in PRELIMINARY stages**
 - River and parks based planning process which in its final form will set the stage for the manifestation of sustainable parks and open spaces, ecological restoration and economic development, connecting the City, its neighborhoods and people, to Saint Paul's unique Mississippi River resources.
- **Indian Mounds Regional Park Master Plan**
 - develop a master plan to help preserve, restore and improve the amenities within the park and make decisions about existing and potential programming. The Plan will help guide funding requests in the future.
 - Programming for Mounds Park (maintenance facility) will be discussed in tandem with master planning efforts





Land Use and Programming





EXISTING AMENITIES

- Overlook
- Parking: 50 off-street, 185 on-street
- Trails
- Drinking fountain
- Interpretive Signage
- Entry sign
- Open field area

TASK FORCE IDEAS

- Gateway
- Connection to BVNS
- Kiosk
- Rest Area
- Gardens (Formal or Informal)
- Sculpture
- Restrooms
- Shelter (w/ kitchen facility?)
- Wedding Location
- Play Area
- Mini Golf

Focus Area 1

SYSTEM PLAN SUGGESTION

- Dog Park





Gateway Western Entrance





Sculpture Gardens





Restrooms/Kiosk





Traffic Calming





Dog Parks





Focus Area 1 Concept A



Focus Area 1 Concept B

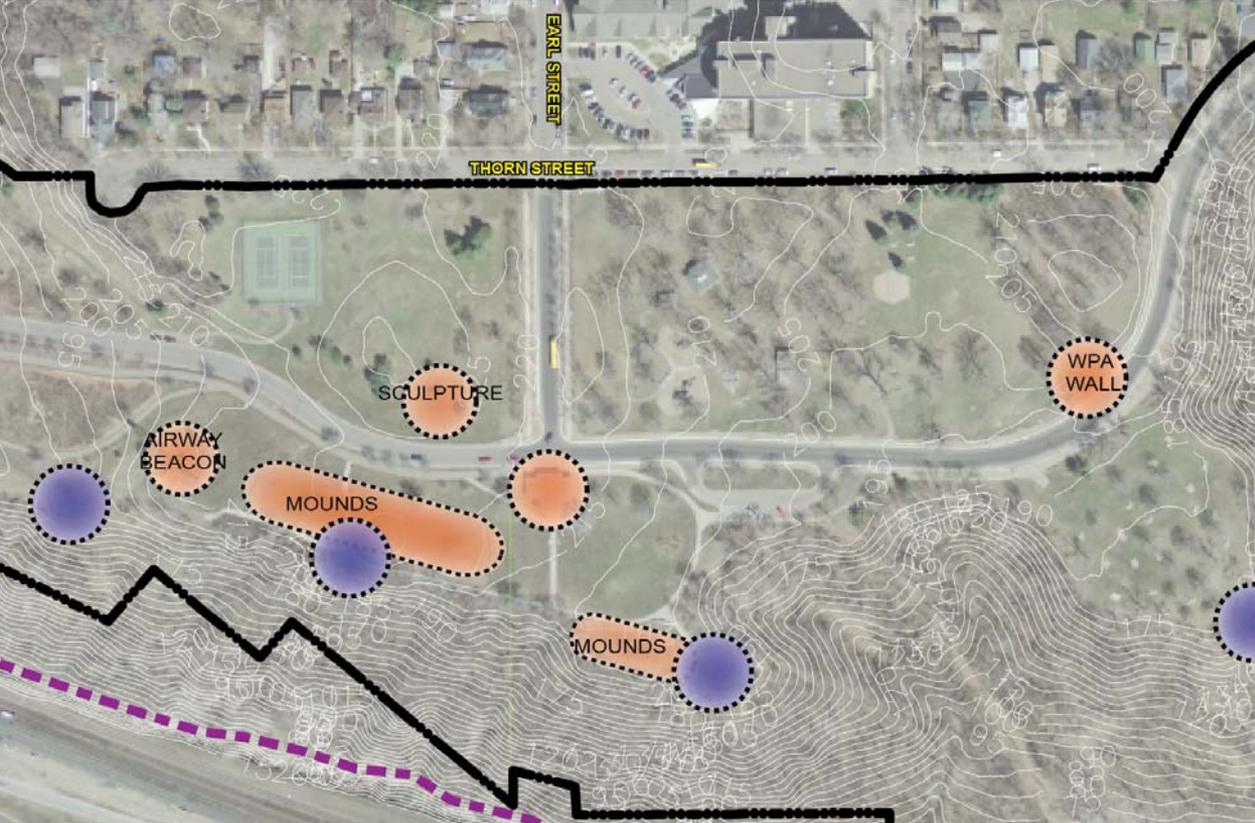


GRP Preliminary Planning



EXISTING AMENITIES

- Picnicking: 24 central area, 15 south area
- Parking: 10 off-street, 215 on-street
- Trails
- Play Area = 6800 sq. ft.
- Shelters: Sm = 30 pp, Lg = 80 pp
- Restroom
- Drinking fountain
- Interpretive Signage
- Open Field Space = .4 acre
- Tennis Courts
- Pavilion
- Overlooks



Task Force Ideas:

- Interpretive Signage within the Pavilion
- New Picnic Shelter
- Event Space
- New Play Area
- Nature Trails
- Amphitheater/ Performance Space
- Exercise Loop
- Shelter with kitchen facilities
- Splash Pad
- Bocce/Horseshoe courts
- Basketball Court

SYSTEM PLAN SUGGESTION

- Signature Play Area

Focus Area 2





Play





Play





Play/Splash Pad





Performance Space





Exercise Loops





Convertible Streets





Picnic Shelters





Picnic Pavilions





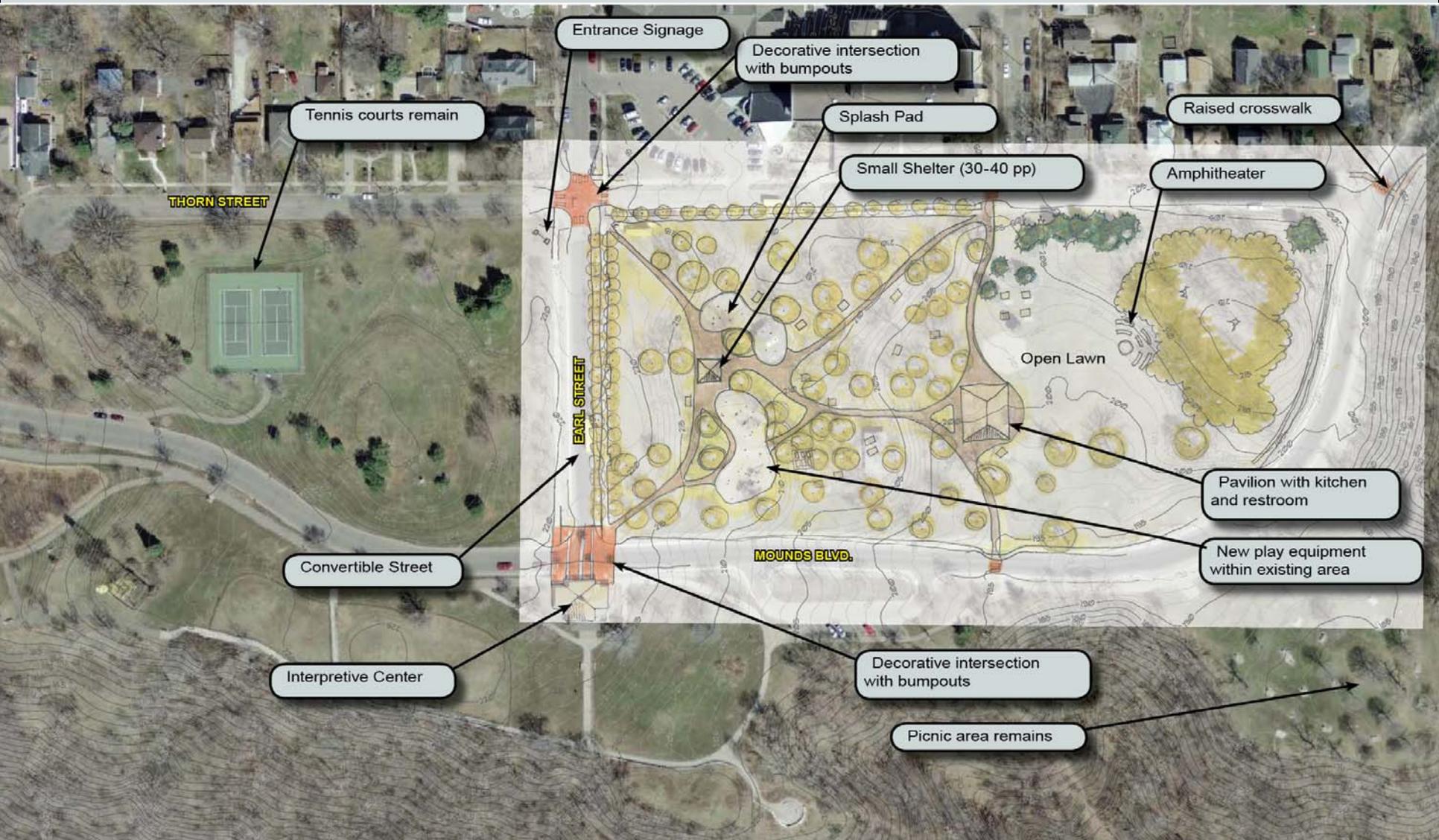
Pavilion Reuse





Trail Types





Tennis courts remain

THORN STREET

Entrance Signage

Decorative intersection with bumpouts

Splash Pad

Raised crosswalk

Small Shelter (30-40 pp)

Amphitheater

Open Lawn

Pavilion with kitchen and restroom

New play equipment within existing area

EARL STREET

MOUNDS BLVD.

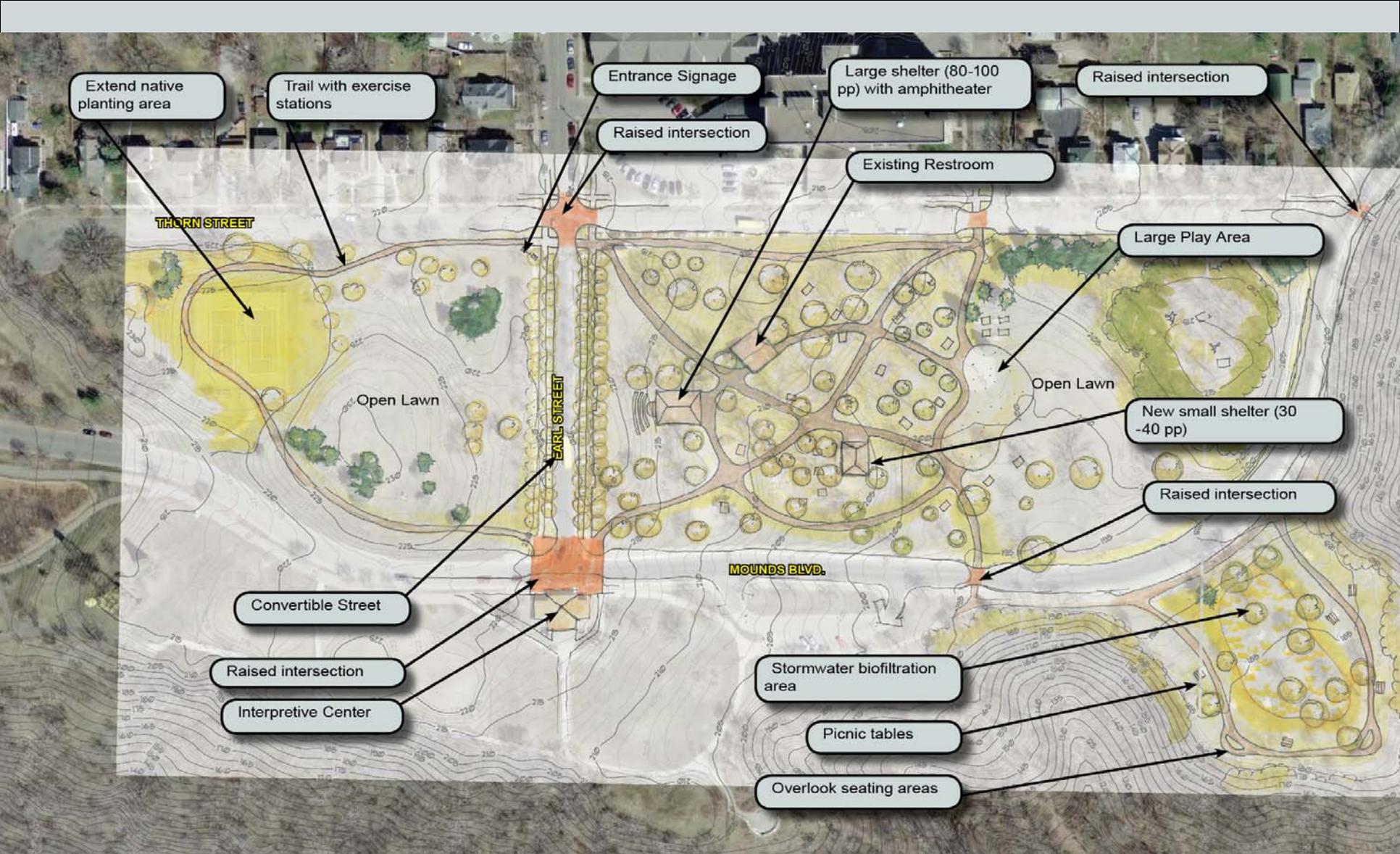
Convertible Street

Interpretive Center

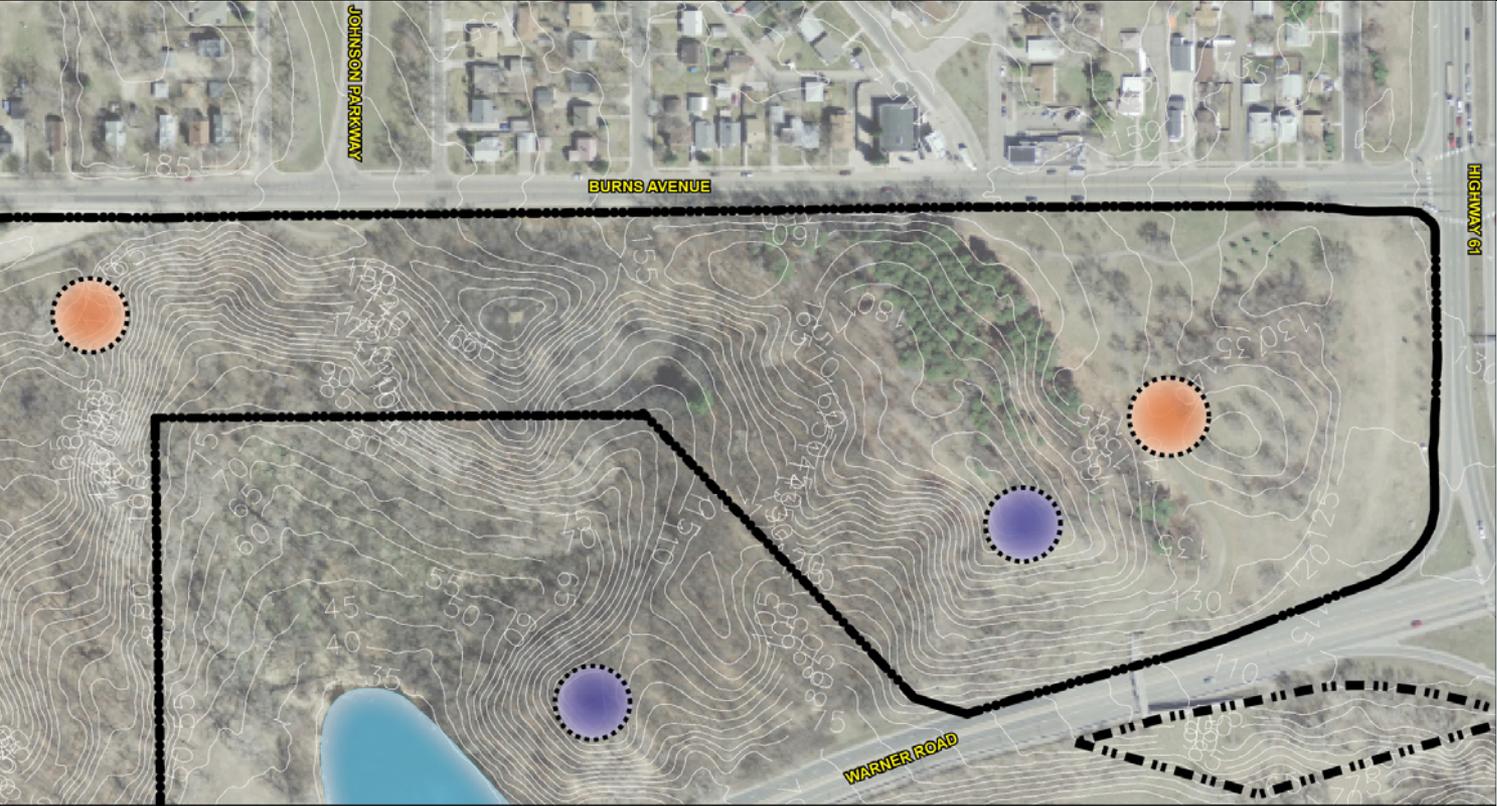
Decorative intersection with bumpouts

Picnic area remains

Focus Area 2 Concept A



Focus Area 2 Concept B



EXISTING AMENITIES:

- Trails
- Pedestrian Bridge

TASK FORCE IDEAS:

- Entry Signage/ Gateways
- Interpretive Signage
- Benches
- Art Opportunities: Pedestrian Bridge
- Tennis Courts
- Traffic Calming
- Parkway

Focus Area 3





PRE-HISTORY AND GEOLOGY OF DAYTON'S BLUFF

"The Mississippi was not only the grand natural feature which gives character to your city and contributes the underpiny of its prosperity, but it is the object of vital interest and the source of attraction of untold millions from every quarter of the globe."

St. Paul occupies a geologically complex setting on the Mississippi River. Its very unique location means viewing with primitive life, glacial landscapes from Canada and powerful rivers with numerous waterfalls. The legacy of these environments can be seen in the bluffs rising out of bedrock exposures, high hills back of multi-colored granite, and deep cut river valleys. At Dayton's Bluff, layers of sandstone, limestone, and shale rest on a Precambrian granite base. The extraordinary beds of each stratum Minnesota are of Ordovician and Cambrian age, a geologic period dating in the early and middle Paleozoic Era (ca. 600 to 430 million years ago). During these periods, Minnesota was very close to the equator so the climate was much warmer than today. The region was covered by a shallow sea lashed by shallow and deep currents such as corals and sponges. Fossils of these animals and the plant life of the Paleozoic ocean have been picked out of the rock along the St. Paul riverfront by generations of collectors.

Large deposits of St. Peter Sandstone are composed of soft, white to yellow quartz sand that was deposited along the beach of an ancient ocean. The exposure of St. Peter Sandstone at Dayton's Bluff on the east side of the city was the basis for the Dakota name for St. Paul, meaning like an "Indian rock." Just above the St. Peter Sandstone is a massive band of soft, gray Cleveland Shale. It was deposited when St. Paul was completely covered with oceanic. Above this shale is the hard, buff or gray Playville Limestone. It is an excellent construction material used in many early St. Paul buildings. The gray-green Geneva Shale is also exposed in a few locations and often has very dense fossil concentrations.

St. Peter Sandstone could be easily carved into natural caves by natural springs, and tunnelled by man. Carter's Cave is one of the best known natural landmarks on the Upper Mississippi River. It was named by Jonathan Carter - a British Army officer who was part of a party searching for a northern passage - on November 14, 1786. The cave was important to Dakota tradition and culture, and he saw evidence of what he called "merry gophers." His published account attracted other 18th and 19th century explorers, geologists, and scientists. The cave changed in size and appearance through weathering, rock collapse and mining of sand, and natural connections, but remained a source of much curiosity and legend. The exact entrance was lost until recent decades.

MOUNDS PARK BURIAL MOUNDS
Native Americans were drawn to this spectacular landscape for its natural resources and views of the surrounding territory. Many burial mounds were identified by white white workers. A group of at least thirty mounds located in the Mounds Park area were placed by Indians of the Hopewell culture about 2,000 years ago along the shore below the rocks. The Dakota, who lived in this area from the early 17th century until 1857, also used this site for burials. Mounds Park was established by the City of St. Paul in 1888.


 State Park
 State Hwy
 National Recreation Area



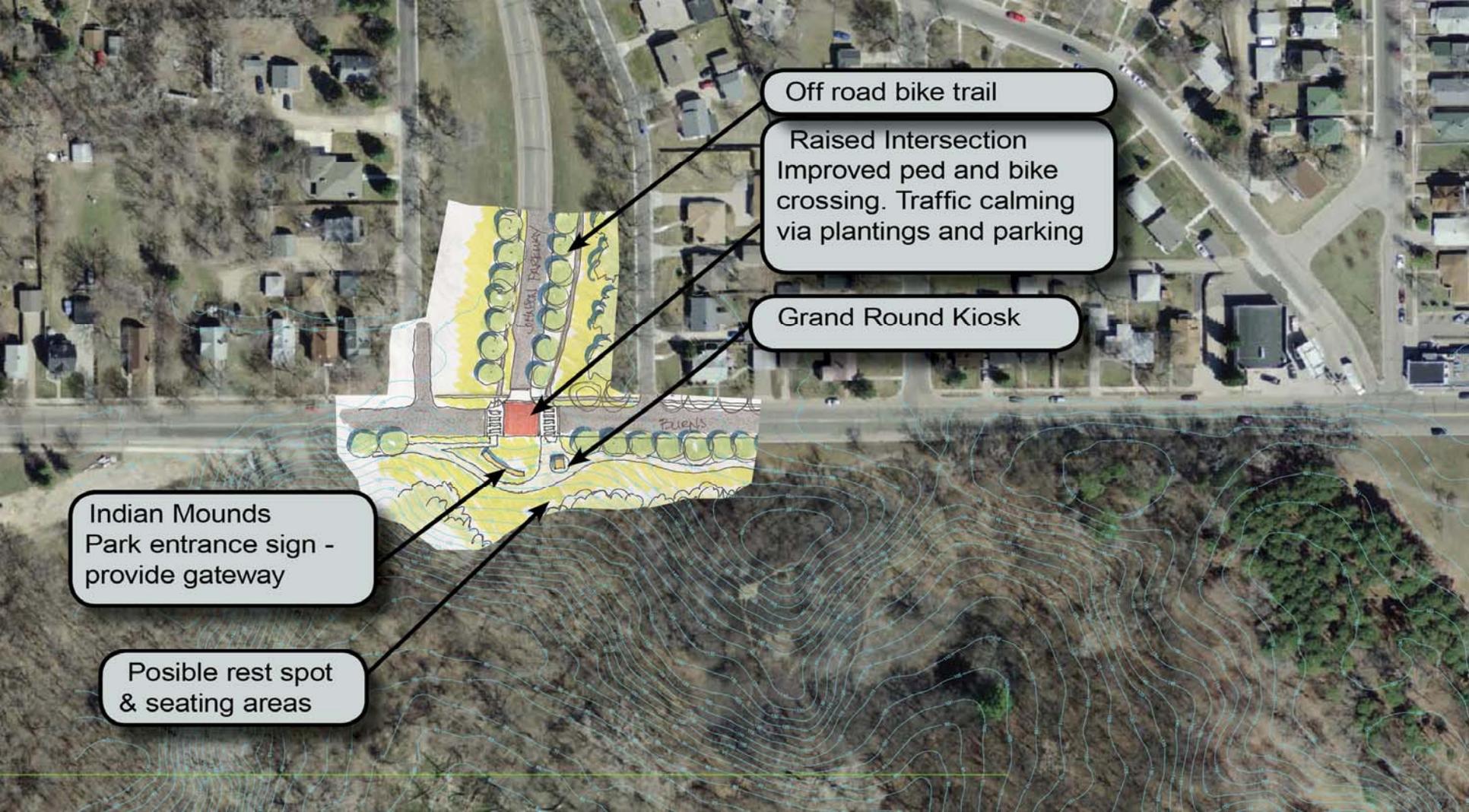


1. View of St. Paul from Dayton's Bluff, 1874. 2. Carter's Cave, 1875. 3. The reopening of Carter's Cave, 1911.



Gateway at Johnson Parkway and Burns Ave





Off road bike trail

Raised Intersection
Improved ped and bike
crossing. Traffic calming
via plantings and parking

Grand Round Kiosk

Indian Mounds
Park entrance sign -
provide gateway

Possible rest spot
& seating areas

Focus Area 3 Concept A





Indian Mounds Park entrance sign

Off road bike trail

Raised Intersection
Improved ped and bike crossing

Grand Round Kiosk

Smooth out road geometry for continuous parkway experience

Possible rest spot & seating areas

Improved pedestrian/
bicycle access to Battle Creek Regional Park

Enhance visibility of park and grand rounds through signage

Increased visibility of park from intersection

Focus Area 3 Concept B



EXISTING AMENITIES:



- Play Area
- Tennis Court
- Basketball Court
- Maintenance Facility

TASK FORCE INPUT:

- Nature Sanctuary
- Community Gardens
- Basketball Court well used
- Open play
- Skate park
- Skating rink
- Consider keeping the building
- Activate for safety
- Extend Suburban & Cypress for eyes on the Park

SYSTEM PLAN:

- Relocate Maintenance
- No neighborhood park

Mounds Maintenance





Skate Park



Bocce and basketball or volleyball

Community garden plots

Parking

Vegetated buffer

Tennis courts

Skate park

Mounds Maintenance Concept A





parking

Community garden plots

Dog runs - large and small dog areas

Extend alleys through

Vegetated buffer

Basketball court(s)

Tennis courts

Mounds Maintenance Concept B

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