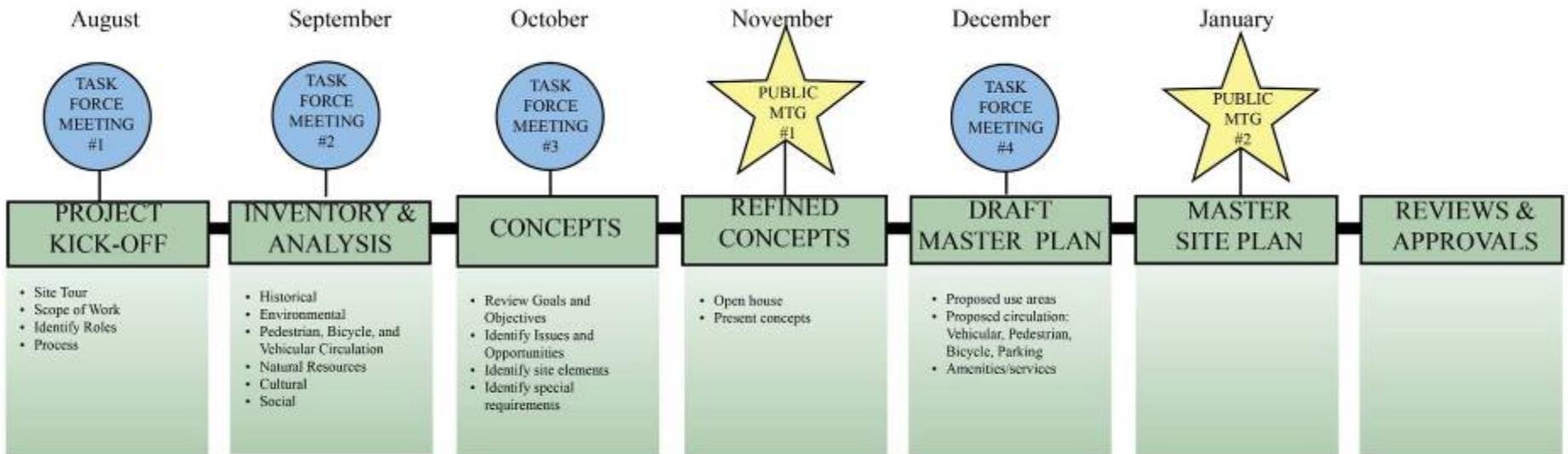




## Indian Mounds Regional Park Master Plan





Intro - Recap



## PRESERVE

### THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE PARK

- Take steps to eliminate/reduce destructive uses near historical or cultural features
- Provide interpretation/historical photos of park features
- ★ Recognize, Celebrate, Interpret and Seek to Preserve the Historic and cultural elements of the park that make it a special place

### VIEWSHED

- Maintain existing overlooks and view corridors through vegetation management and development oversight
- Explore the opportunities for new views
- Protect the view of the bluff and park from other viewsheds

### VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCES

- Remove invasive species
- Take steps to protect natural resources from new development
- Protect the bluff face from erosion, human intrusion

★ = added during discussion at last meeting

## RESTORE

### NATIVE VEGETATION

- Continue invasive species removal
- Replant with appropriate native plants
- Improve wildlife corridors

### RESTORE EXISTING RESOURCES

- Improve appearance of dated park facilities
- Replace damaged park amenities with durable products
- Upgrades to Pavilion
- Accessibility to under-utilized areas of the park
- Determine best programmed uses for under-utilized spaces
- Promote safety and volunteer activities
- ★ Improve appearance of dated park facilities

## IMPROVE

### CONNECTIONS TO ADJACENT PARKS, TRAILS, AND NEIGHBORHOODS

- Emphasize connections to local, regional, and state trails
- Identify and improve gateways to surrounding neighborhoods
- Improve safety at trail crossings
- Utilize Grand Rounds trail planning
- Create nature trails, loop trails
- 

### SAFETY

- Pedestrian safety - Traffic Calming, Medians, Crosswalks
- Lighting Study
- Bluff edge treatment options
- Update site amenities to be ADA compliant
- ★ Winter conditions of roadways and walks
- 

### PARK AMENITIES

- Provide new park facilities which meet the needs of a changing demographic of park users
- Improve appearance of dated park facilities
- Update site amenities to be ADA compliant
- 

### SIGNAGE

- Entry/Identity, Interpretive, Wayfinding and Program
- 

### PROGRAMMING

- Determine best use of space to draw users given the regional park status and assessment of nearby facilities

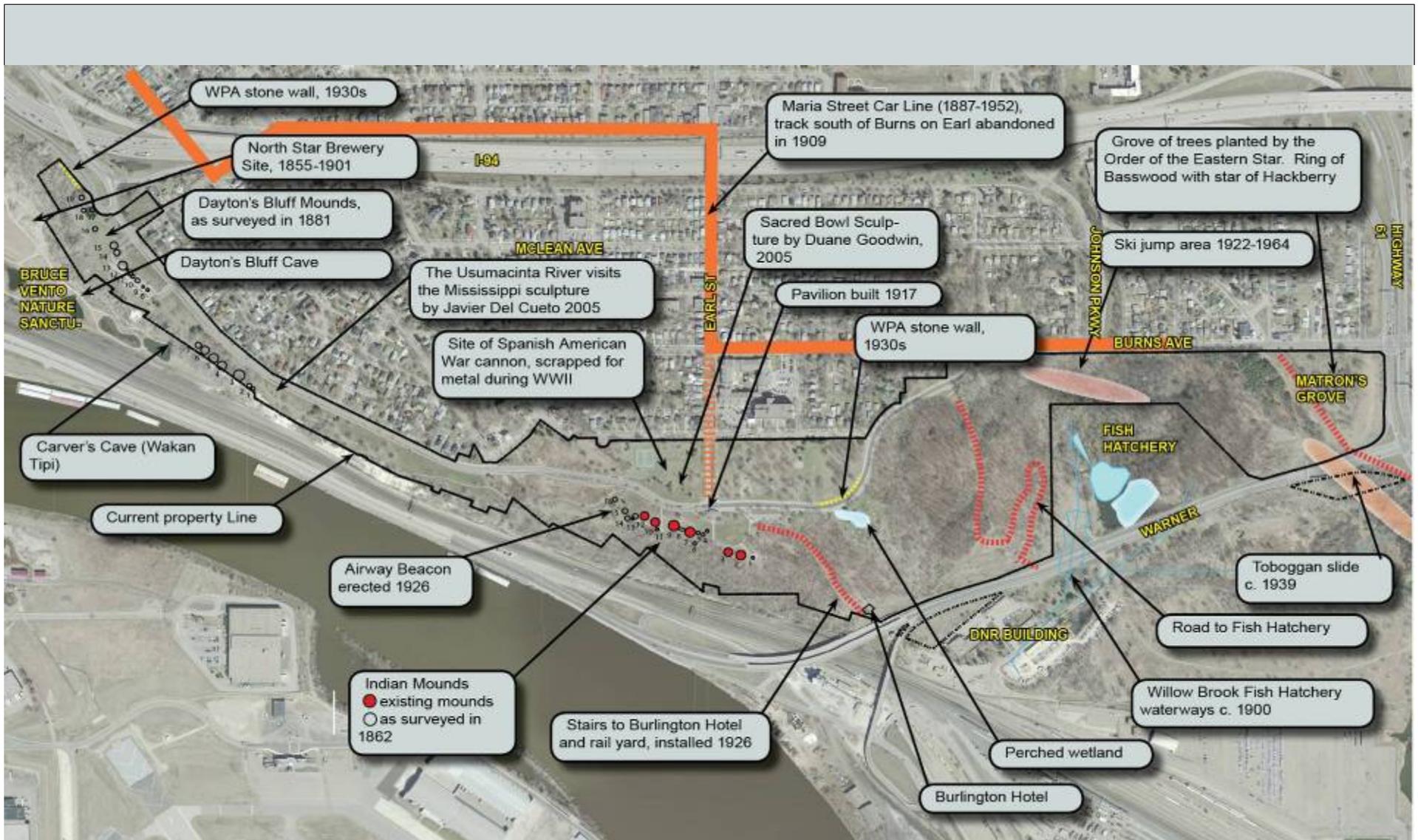
## Goals & Objectives



Recognize, Celebrate, Interpret and Seek to Preserve the Historic, Cultural and Natural Resources in a way that fosters stewardship while providing recreational amenities appropriate for a Regional Park.

**Guiding Principle**





## Cultural & Historic Inventory





# Cultural & Historic Resources 1900 Map

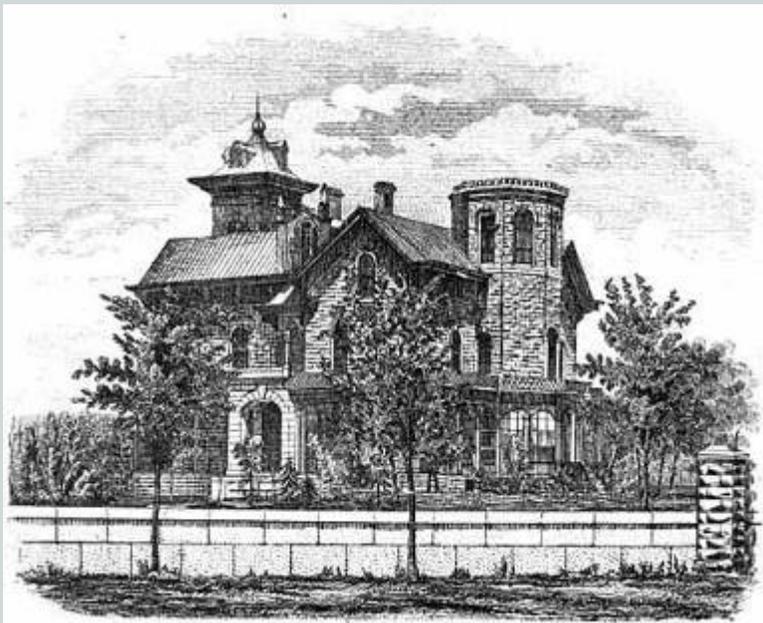




Spanish American War Cannon, 1905



View to downtown, 1900

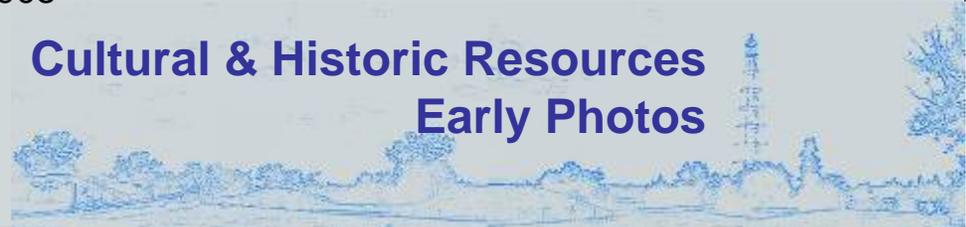


James E. Thompson Residence, later the Tuxedo Club, 230 Mounds Blvd.



1905

## Cultural & Historic Resources Early Photos





1898



1911

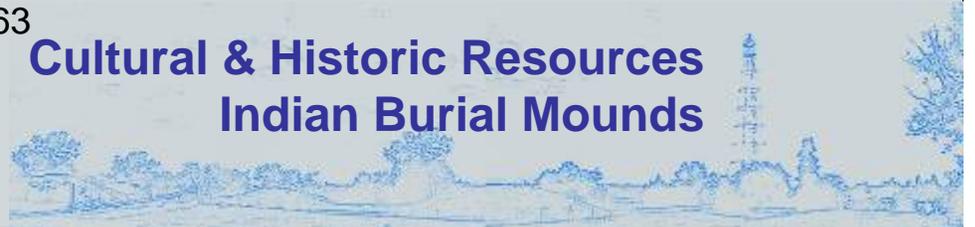


1935



1963

## Cultural & Historic Resources Indian Burial Mounds



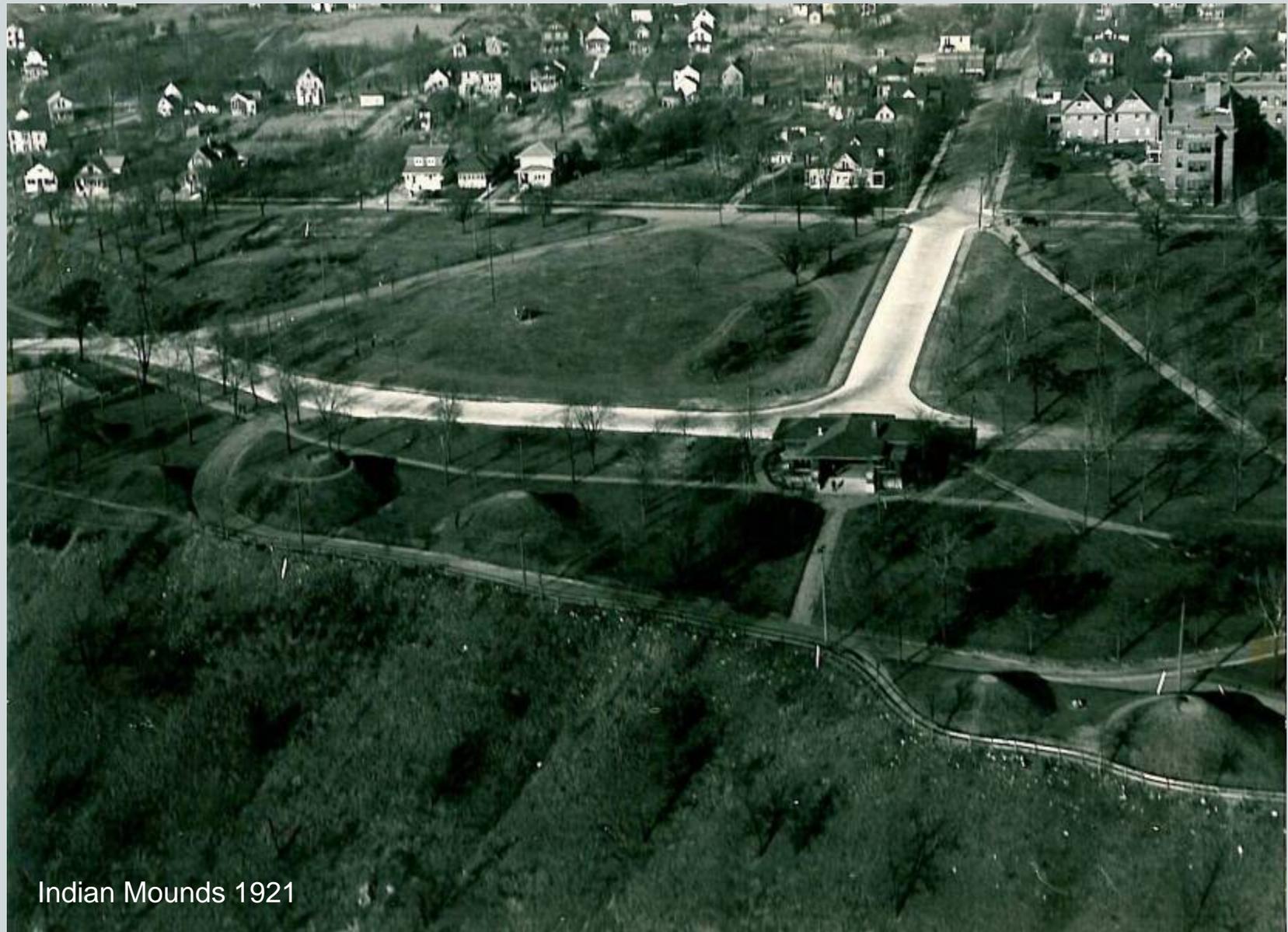


Willow Brook Fish Hatchery 1908



## Cultural & Historic Resources Fish Hatchery





Indian Mounds 1921

## Cultural & Historic Resources





Twin Cities Street Car 1911



Overlook 1935

## Cultural & Historic Resources Regional Attractions





**Cultural & Historic Resources**  
**Ski Jump**





**Cultural & Historic Resources  
Toboggan Run**

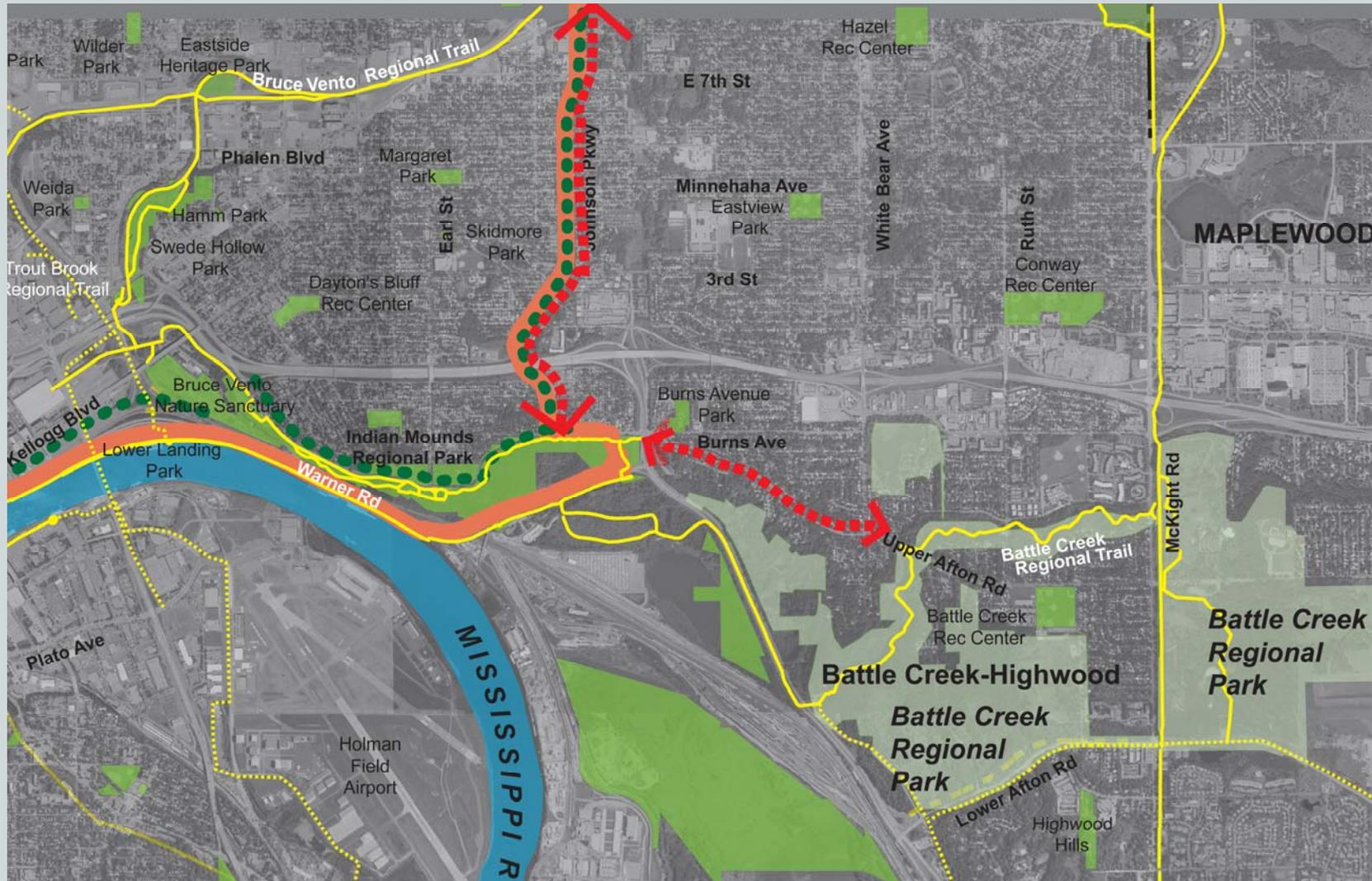




Burlington Hotel 1921

## Cultural & Historic Resources 1940 Aerial





**Parks and Recreation**

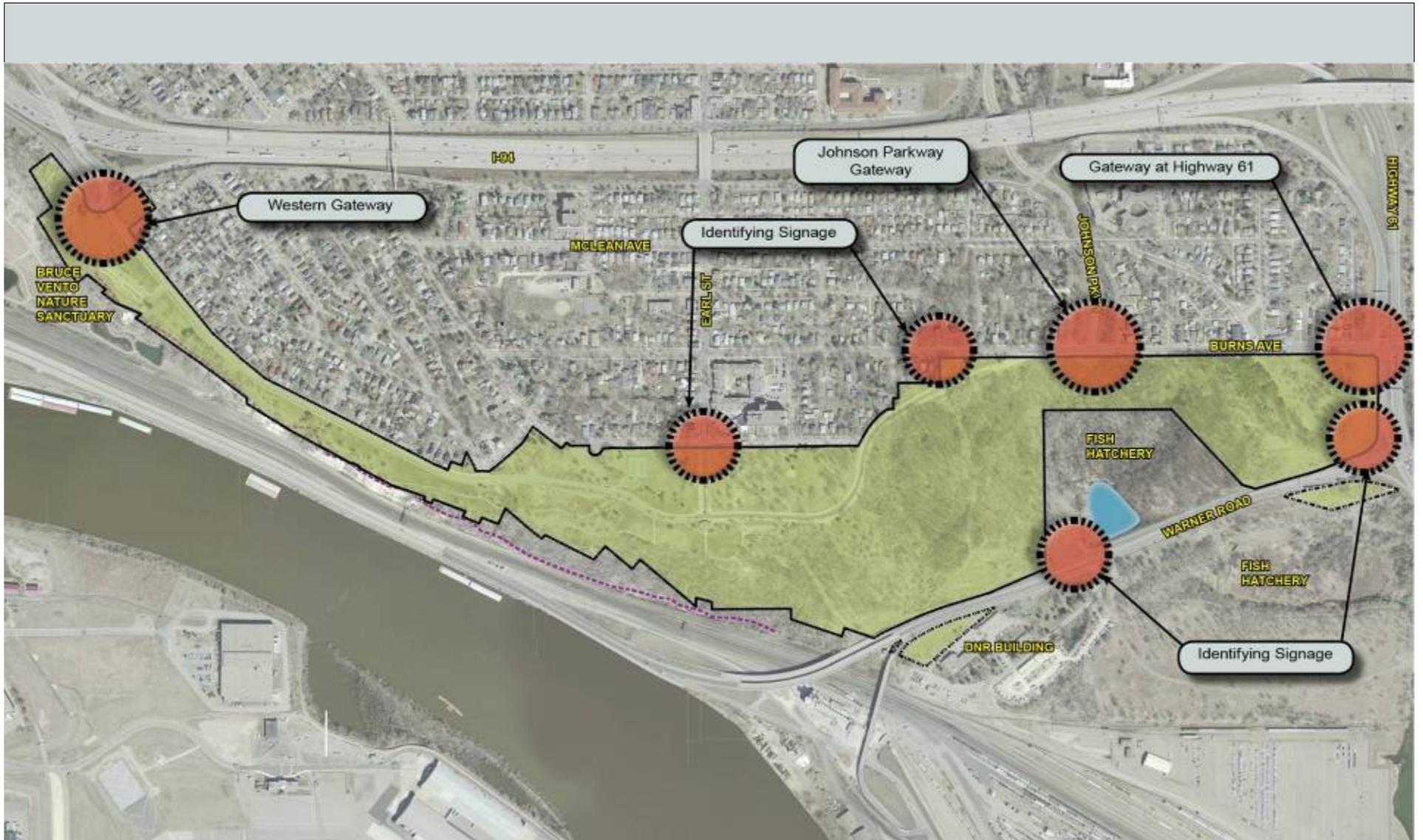
- St. Paul Parks and Open Space
- Ramsey County Parks and Open Space
- Other Jurisdictional Parks and Open Space

**Trails**

- Existing Major Trails
  - Proposed Major Trails
- Roads**
- Parkway
  - Grand Rounds
  - Suggested Additional Trails

## Suggested Connections



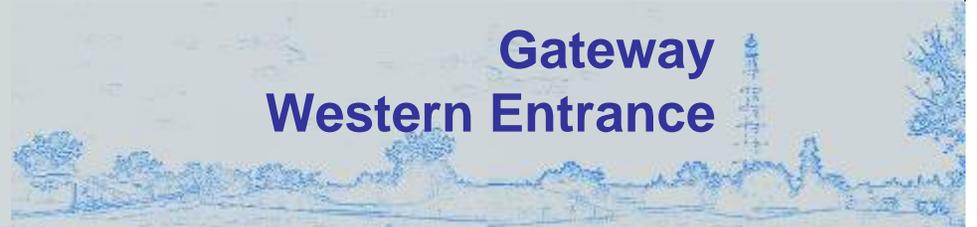


## Gateways





# Gateway Western Entrance





### 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 underpinning of its prosperity, but it is the object of vital interest and the source of attraction of intelligent visitors from every quarter of the globe."*

St. Paul occupies a geologically complex setting on the Mississippi River. Its very surroundings are a mosaic of glacial till, glacial sandstones 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 modern-day Dayton, and deep cut river valleys.

At Dayton's Bluff, layers of sandstone, limestone, and shale rest on a Precambrian granite base. The sedimentary rocks of each stratum represent a different time period. The layers of sandstone and limestone are of Ordovician and Cambrian age, a geologic period dating to the early and middle Paleozoic Era (ca. 480 to 250 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 inhabited by shellfish and other animals such as corals and sponges. Fossils of these animals and the plant life of the Paleozoic era have been exposed out of the rock along the St. Paul riverfront by generations of visitors.

Deep 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 nickname given the St. Paul, "Sandstone City," "White Rock," and "White City." Just above the St. Peter Sandstone is a narrow band of soft, gray Cleveland Shale. It was deposited when the Paul was completely covered with water. 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 Cleveland Shale is also exposed in a few locations and often has very dense fossil concentrations.

In 1838 Sandstone could be easily carved into natural caves by natural springs, and named 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 veteran who was part of a party searching for a northern passage on November 14, 1836. The cave was important to Dakota tradition and culture, and is an excellent example of what he called "megaliths." His published account attracted other 19th and 20th century explorers, geologists, and tourists. The cave changed in size and appearance through weathering, rock collapse and mining of sand, and cultural connections, but remained a source of much curiosity and legend. The exact entrance was lost more than a decade.

**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 early white settlers. A group of at least thirty-seven mounds in the Mounds Park area were placed by Indians of the Hopewell culture about 2,000 years ago along the shore behind the remains. 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.



ca. 1910





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



## Gateway at Johnson Parkway and Burns Ave





## Gateway at Highway 61





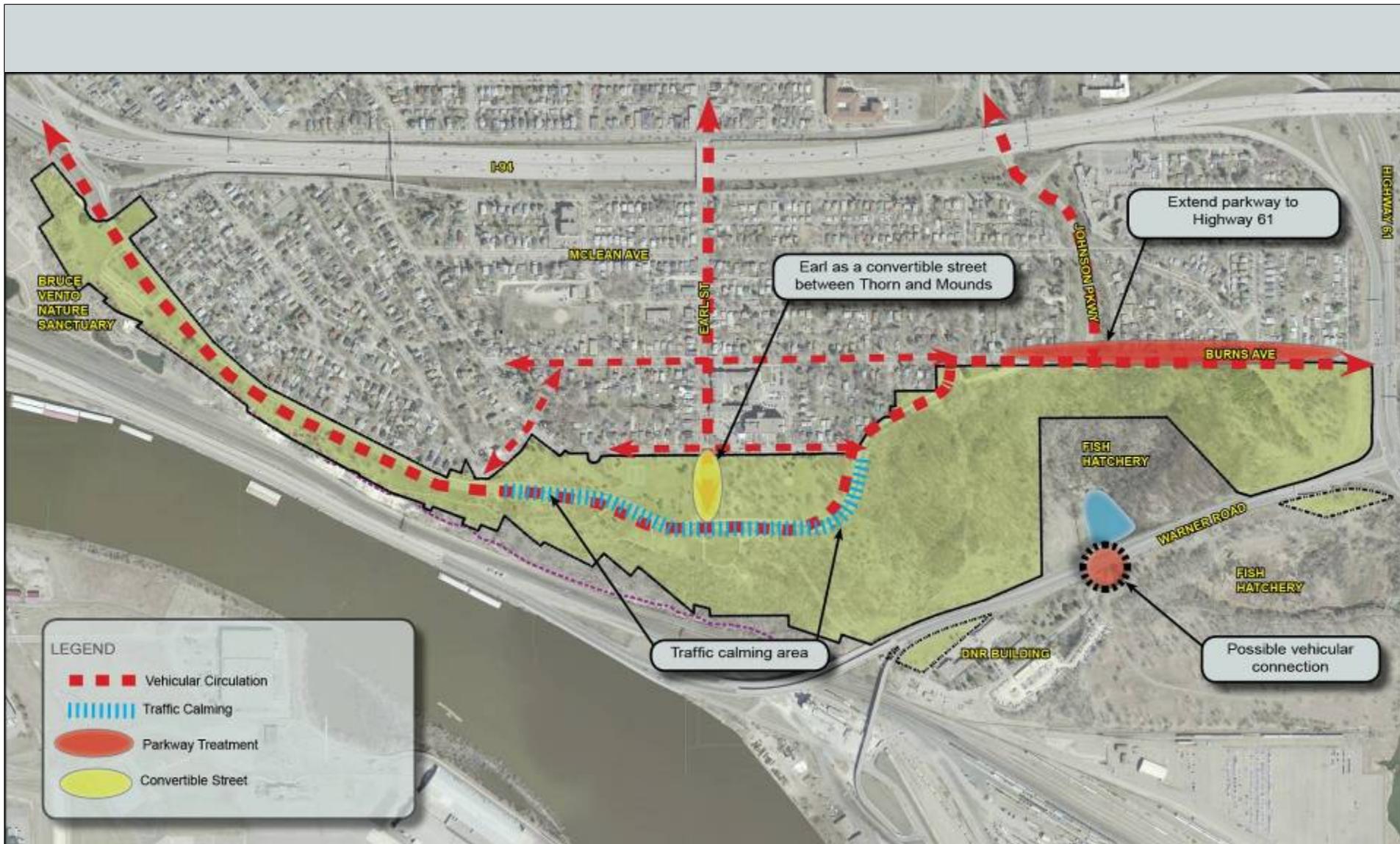
## Interpretive Opportunities





## Pavilion Reuse





## Vehicular Connections within the Park





## Parkways, Traffic Calming & Convertible Streets





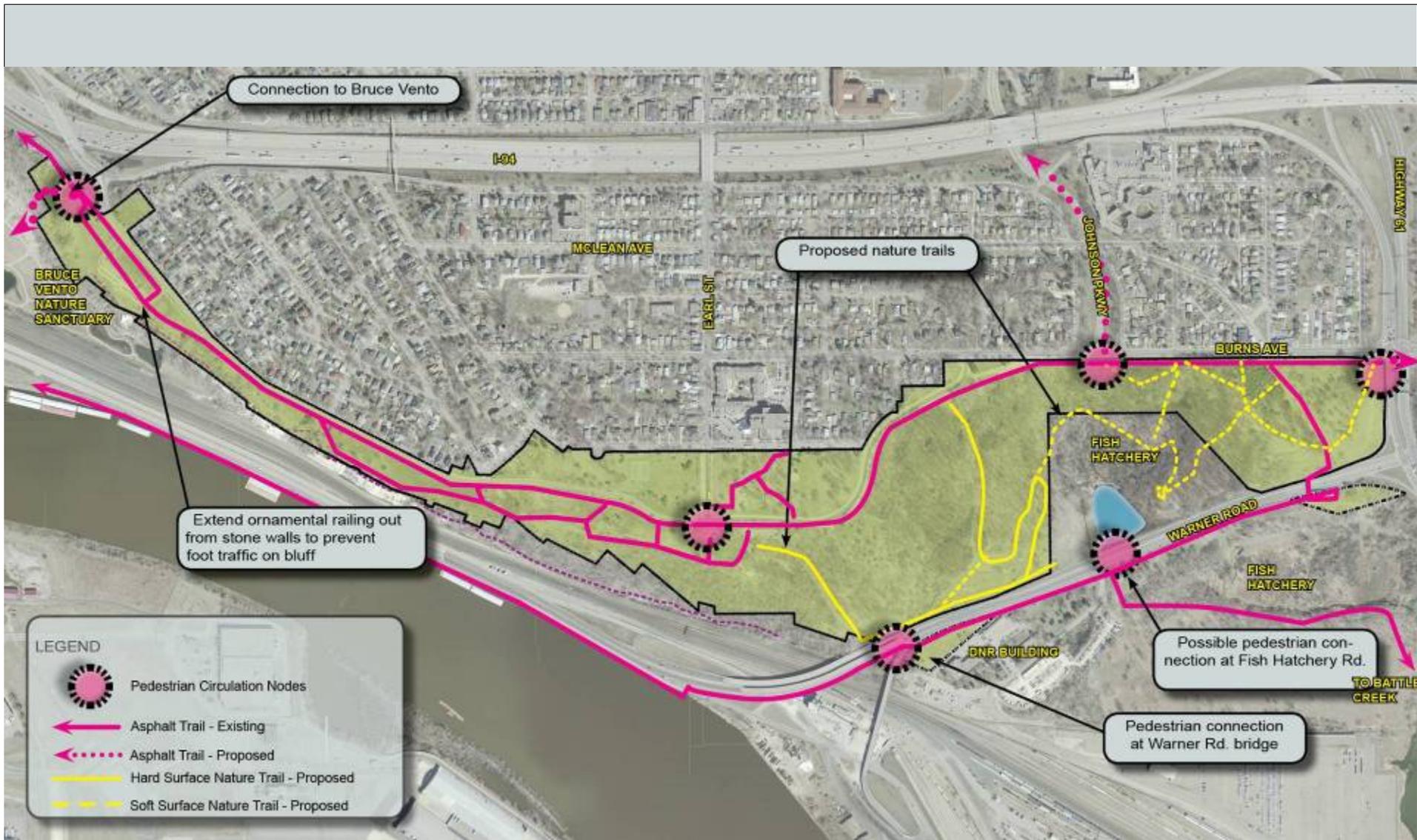
## Parkways, Traffic Calming & Convertible Streets





## Parkways, Traffic Calming & Convertible Streets





## Pedestrian Connections within the Park





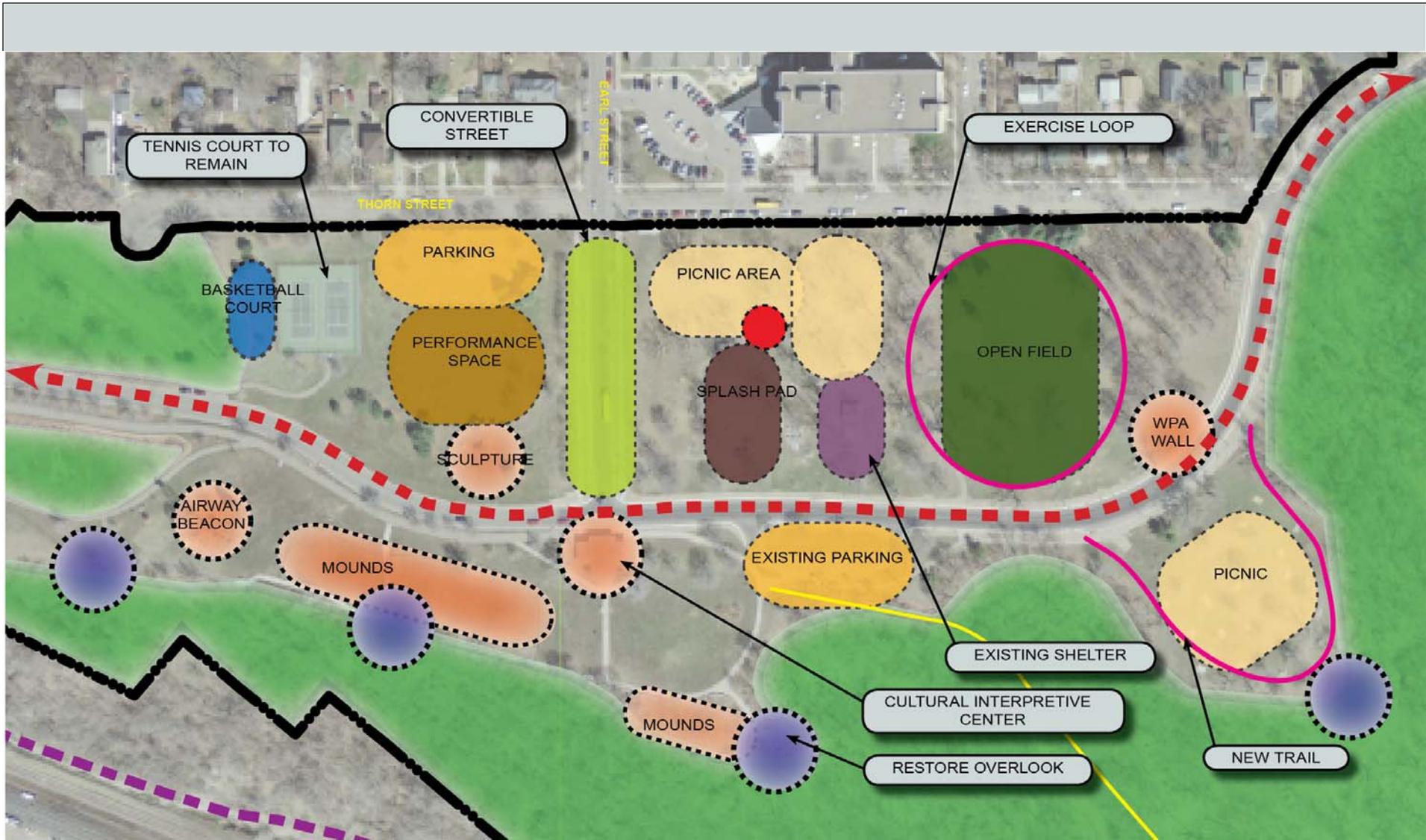
## Land Use Recommendations

## Concept A - Recreation

- Maintain/improve existing picnic areas and shelters
- Replace existing play area with splash pad
- Improve existing field space
- Additional parking for picnicking, performance and court activities
- South picnic area to remain
- Add basketball court next to tennis courts
- Rebuild tennis courts
- Exercise loop around picnic and field areas



**Focus Area  
Concept A**



## Focus Area Concept A- Recreation

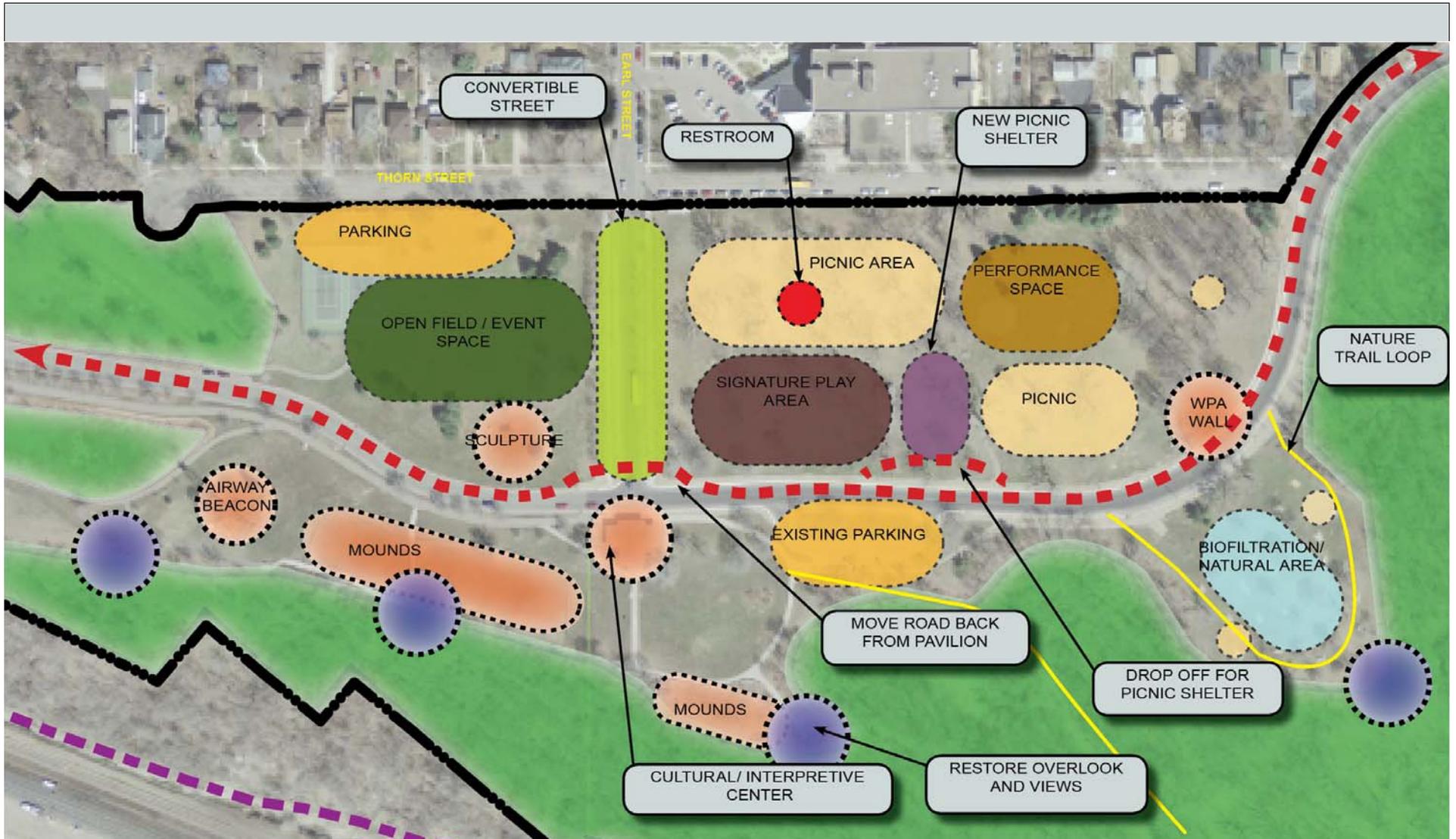


## Concept B - Events

- Flexible space for large events and programs
- “Signature Play Area”
- Move and enlarge open field space to the west of Earl
- Additional parking for picnicking, performance or field activities
- Restore South Picnic Area to biofiltration swale with picnic nodes
- Add new picnic shelter

**Focus Area  
Concept B**

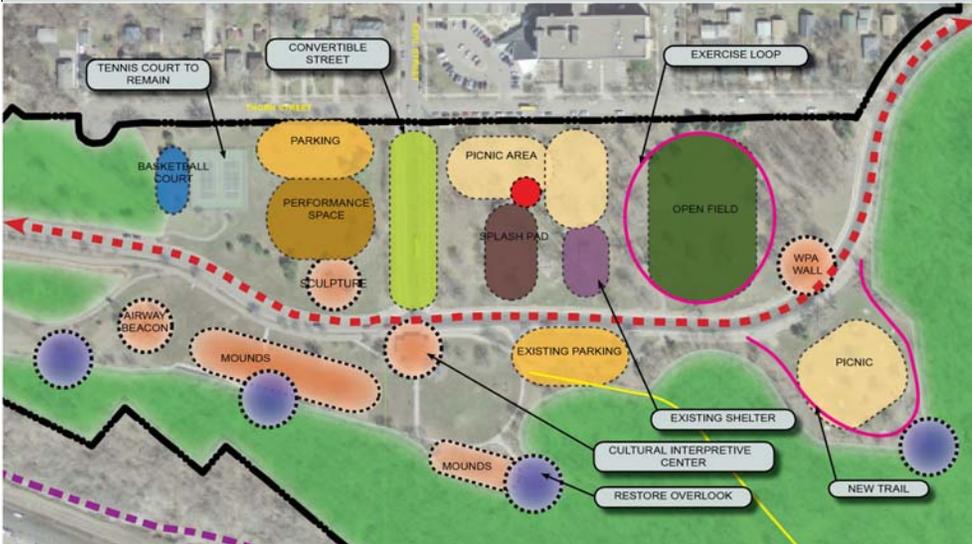




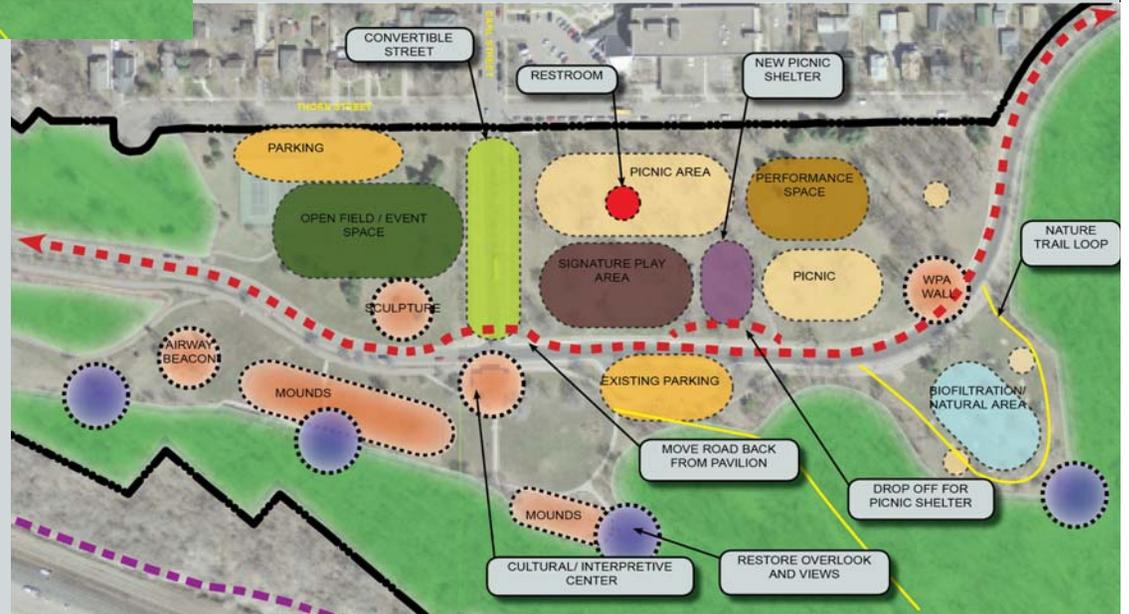
## Focus Area Concept B- Events



# Discussion



Concept A



Concept B

