



# OPEN HOUSE

Design Advisory Committee

April 6, 2016

5:30-7:00 pm

Saint Paul Parks and Recreation

... **WELCOME!** ...

**PARQUE de CASTILLO**

## Design Advisory Committee Members

- Lolo Castillo, Resident
- Chacho Estrada, Resident
- Milissa Silva-Diaz, Business Representative
- Sarah Foster, West side Transit Team
- Terrence Galbreath, Clinton Homes Representative
- Rick Hernandez, Westside Community Organization and West Side Boosters
- Virginia Hernandez, Resident
- Shad Lukas, Neighborhood House representative
- Gail Merriam, NEDA
- Carol Neumann, Resident
- Mark Thomas, Resident
- Gilbert de la O, Resident
- Jesus Ramirez, Resident

... **THANK YOU!** ...

# Project Overview:

## Project Goal:

Create a concept plan for improvements to Parque Castillo to improve the play area and create a vibrant public space.



<b>Project:</b> Parque Castillo Play Area Improvements <b>Location:</b> 149 Cesar Chavez Street, St. Paul, MN		<b>Log No.:</b> CF-0303143 <b>Activity No.:</b> <b>Department:</b> Parks and Recreation <b>Contact:</b> Jody Martinez		<b>District:</b> 03				
<b>Description:</b> Replacement of the existing play area and park improvements. Update to current CPSC guidelines and ADA standards.		<b>Justification:</b> According to the Parks and Recreation Department's Tot Lot Replacement List, the play area at El Rio Vista (Roosevelt School) is ranked number 4 on the list for replacement. Since the play area at Roosevelt is now maintained by the School District, we propose to replace the Parque Castillo play area directly across the street from El Rio Vista. This project would bring much needed upgrades to Parque Castillo and create a vibrant space able to accommodate kids from El Rio Vista. This plan would build on the Robert/Cesar Chavez Redevelopment Plan recently completed for the area. Parque Castillo bridges the connection between Cesar Chavez Street and El Rio Vista.						
Phase Description	Financing Source	Priors	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total (not including priors)
			Proposed	Tentative	Tentative	Tentative	Tentative	
Const-Plans/Spec's	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	21	0	0	0	0	21
Construction/Rehab	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	137	300	0	0	0	437
	Com Dev. Blk Gmt PY	0	128	0	0	0	0	128
Inspec / Constr Mgmt	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	10	7	0	0	0	17
Design	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	47	0	0	0	0	47
<b>Total Project Cost</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>650</b>

2014 Proposed	2015 Tentative	2016 Tentative	2017 Tentative	2018 Tentative	Total (not including priors)
343	307	0	0	0	650

## Project Schedule:

### August – September 2015

- Internal meetings and Discussion
- Community outreach: Attended National Night out, visited neighboring businesses, assemble Design Advisory Committee, and online survey

### September 23, 2015 – First Design Advisory Committee Meeting

- Introduce the project, review survey results, discuss site organization options and determine main priorities for the site

### November 19 2015 – Second Design Advisory Committee Meeting

- Review concept plan option
- Determine direction for ART, PLAY EQUIPT, and SPLASHPAD

### January 27 2016 – Third Design Advisory Committee Meeting

- Discuss Artist applications
- Discussion of Park safety
- Finalize play equipment and splashpad design

### April 6 2016 – Public Art Workshop & Project Open house

- Artist will work with community for public art input
- Present final concept design for Parque de Castillo

March – June 2016– Develop construction documents

Fall 2016 or Summer 2017 (To be determined)– Construction starts

## SURVEY RESULTS

An online survey was available in August 2015 to September 2015 for community members to give their feedback on the play area and site improvements of Parque Castillo. 73 people participated in the Survey. 51% of them live 5 min walk within the park. 25 % visit the park weekly and 30% less than monthly.

Q: What do you like about the play area and the park?

Ball Fields Proximity Playground  
**Community** Relax Park  
 Close to Home Slides Location Gym  
 Nice History **Street** Gathering Space

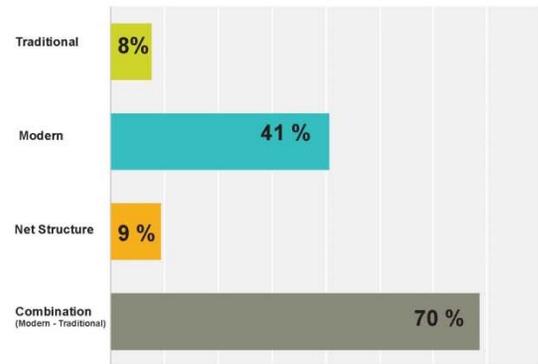
Q: If you were to chose a theme to INSPIRE the park design, what would it be?

Castillo Music Neighborhood  
 Community Cultures Park  
**WestSide** Colors  
 Historical event **Aztec** Mexican  
 Cesar Chavez

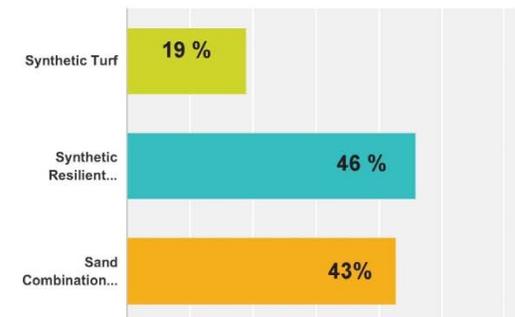
Q: In one word, say what you like best about the neighborhood?

**Community** Park **Fun**  
 Culture **Friendly** Active Great  
 Peace WestSide Nice Everyone  
**Diverse** Multi-generational  
 Creative **Artistic**

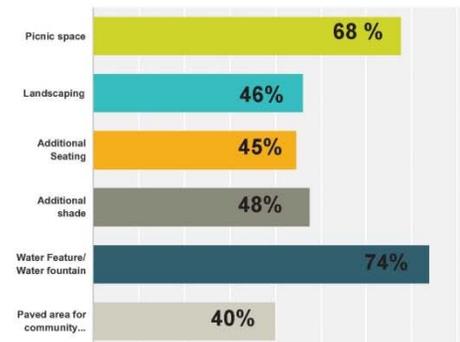
Q: What type of play equipment would you like to see in the new play area?



Q: What type of play surfacing would you like to see in the new play area?



Q: What would you like to see in addition to new play area equipment?



Suggested Additions to the park:

Tribute to veterans  
 Splash pad  
 Concert stage  
 Water fountain

Colorful benches  
 Mural  
 Mosaic

Suggested Artistic Influences:

John Acosta  
 Armando Gutierrez  
 Marina Castillo  
 Paul Basques  
 Aldo Moroni  
 Dim Media

Frida Khalo  
 Diego Rivera  
 Ta-coumba Aiken  
 Caprice Glaser  
 Emily Stover  
 Andrea Steuderl

Jake Keeler  
 Lucas Glusenkamp  
 Hispanic traditions  
 Mexican-American  
 Aztec  
 Monarch Butterflies

# History

## HISTORY & SCULPTURES

*Adios Barrio Viejo  
aunque ya no existes  
dentro de mi pecho no quieres morir  
como dice un dicho  
que lo creo muy cierto  
saber recordar es volver a vivir*



Mexican migrants arrived, many to work in meat packaging, for the railroad and sugar and canning companies. They settled on the Flats of the lower West Side.



Heavy recruitment led to another surge of Mexican migrant workers for sugar and canning industry.

**1952** After heavy flooding, industrial development forced Mexican families off of the Flats, disrupting their social and cultural life.



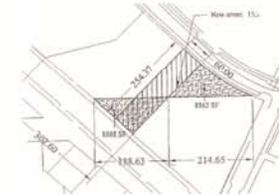
**1972** Community Health Center started as a volunteer clinic. People travel far distances to access the state's largest community clinic.

**1981** The **Cinco de Mayo** Community celebration began. It becomes the largest outdoor Latino Festival in Minnesota.



**1999** The business area on the West Side was named **District del Sol** by the Riverview Economic Development Association.

**2004** In order for both La Clinica and Parque Castillo to have more usable space, a land swap occurred where two triangular parcels of equal size were exchanged. Park planning was conducted to spearhead funding for the park renovations.



**2014** City of Saint Paul granted CIB Funding for \$650,000 for Parque Castillo Improvements.

1940 - 1950

1960 - 1970

1980 - 1990

2000 - 2005

2008 - 2015

### Nicolás Castillo (1911-87)

was a Musician and Composer of Corridos. He was born in Texas into a family of migrant farm workers. He was very generous and always ready to help those in need.

His family settled on St. Paul's Lower West side in 1930s. Upon his return from World War II, Castillo continued his family's tradition of service as community leader and an entertainer.

He worked to establish medical clinics for low-income families and fought to support the newly formed Chicano Studies Department at the U of M.



### Corridos

is a ballad used by Chicano musicians to chronicle the activities of their communities. Castillo's corridos described social and racial injustices.

**1988** - Parque Castillo is dedicated officially in honor of Nicholas Castillo by resolution of the Saint Paul City Council and the first week of May was proclaimed to be "Nicholas Castillo Week".



### Sculptures

"They All Work Together"  
Monument Artist: John Acosta.  
After Castillo's death (1987), he was honored with the name of the park.



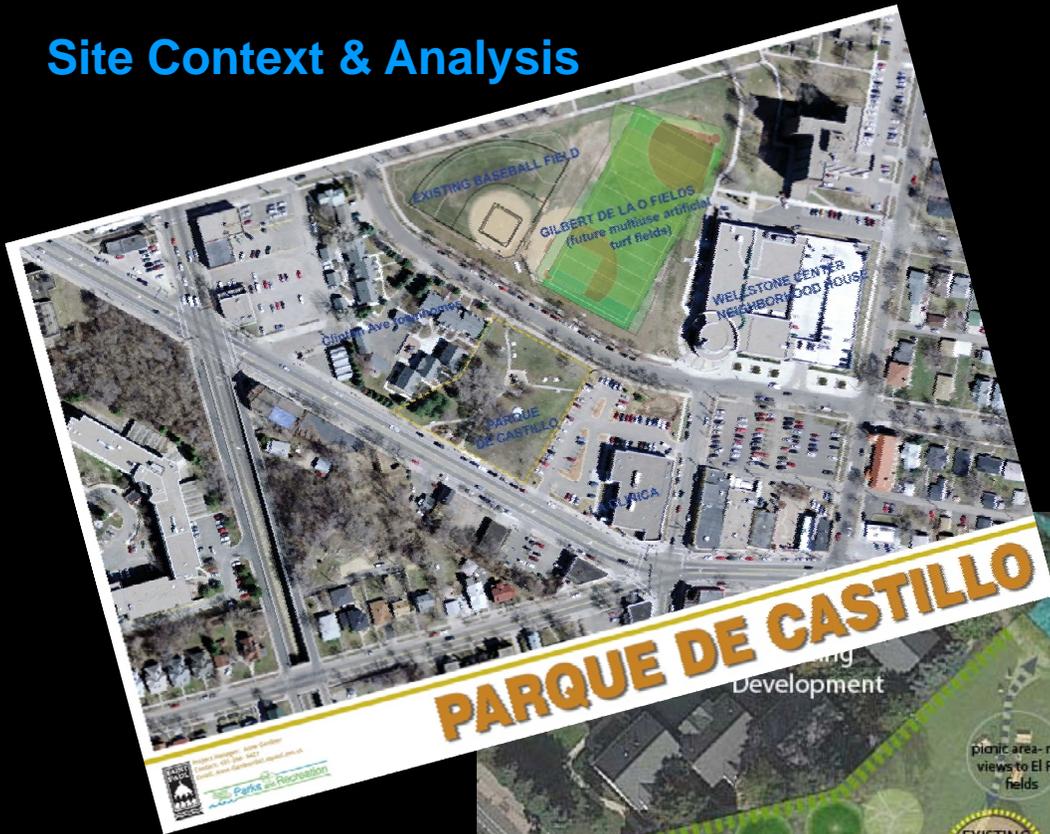
### The Queen of the Wandering Races Artist: Craig David. (2004)

The piece represents a mythological mother or queen to immigrant families of the West Side of St. Paul. The different layers represent the great ethnic diversity of the West Side, from the early Jewish to the present Hispanic community. The mild steel upright was originally a tie beam on the old Wabasha Street Bridge.

David explains, "The concept of 'The Queen of the Wandering Races' came to mind from the poetry of Pablo Neruda. My hopes are that this art work will, over time, become an icon that represents the masses of immigrants and humanity that have moved through our community in the past, present and future."



# Site Context & Analysis

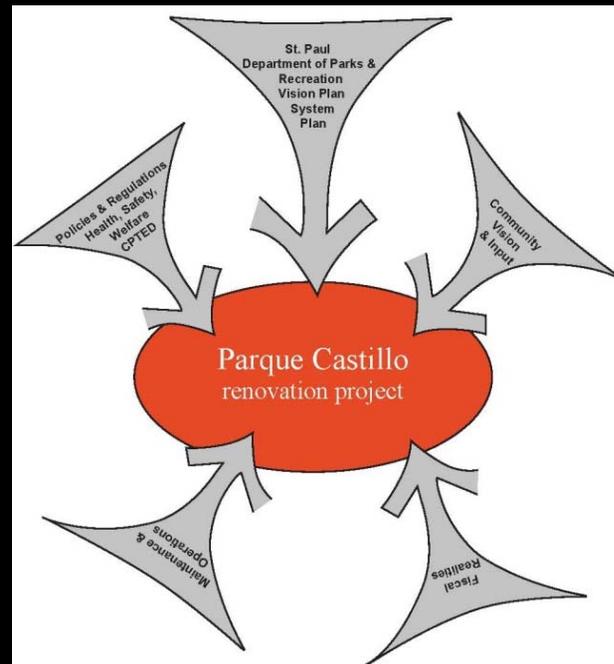


- Establish a presence on Cesar Chavez side that offers sightlines into the park, but enough of a buffer to make it feel comfortable
- Create strong visual connection to Gilbert de la O field and Rec Center
- Widen sidewalks and enhance pathways through the park that are intentional connectors
- Flatten the lawn space to create more useable open areas
- Reduce the strong presence of visible utilities (power pole & light fixtures)
- Trim plantings around the sculpture and/or move memorial
- Create a vibrant, active play area for children
- Create an open plaza space for community events

## Concept Plan Introduction: Conceptual site organization schemes

### Summary of Feedback from Meeting #1

- Curving pathway is preferred
- Play area on the Clinton Ave side of the park
- Smaller play area and a splashpad are preferred
- Create a 'gateway' from Cesar Chavez
- Maintain park as a community gathering space



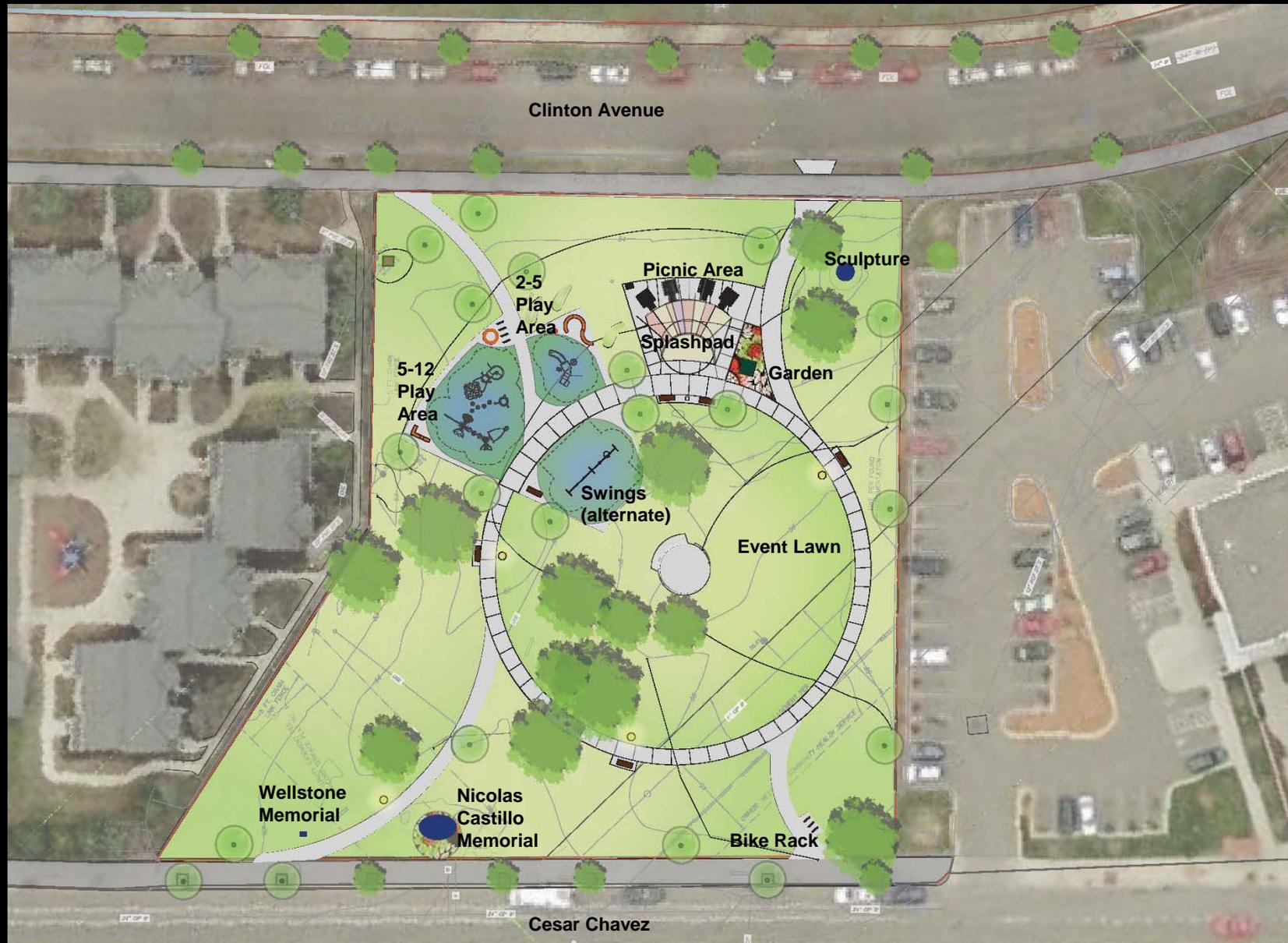
## Concept Plan Introduction: Process - Site Geometry & Themes

**Circle symbol represents:**

**INCLUSION  
WHOLENESS  
UNITY  
CYCLES  
EVERYTHING  
CENTERING  
REVOLUTION  
INFINITY  
COMPLETION  
MOBILITY**

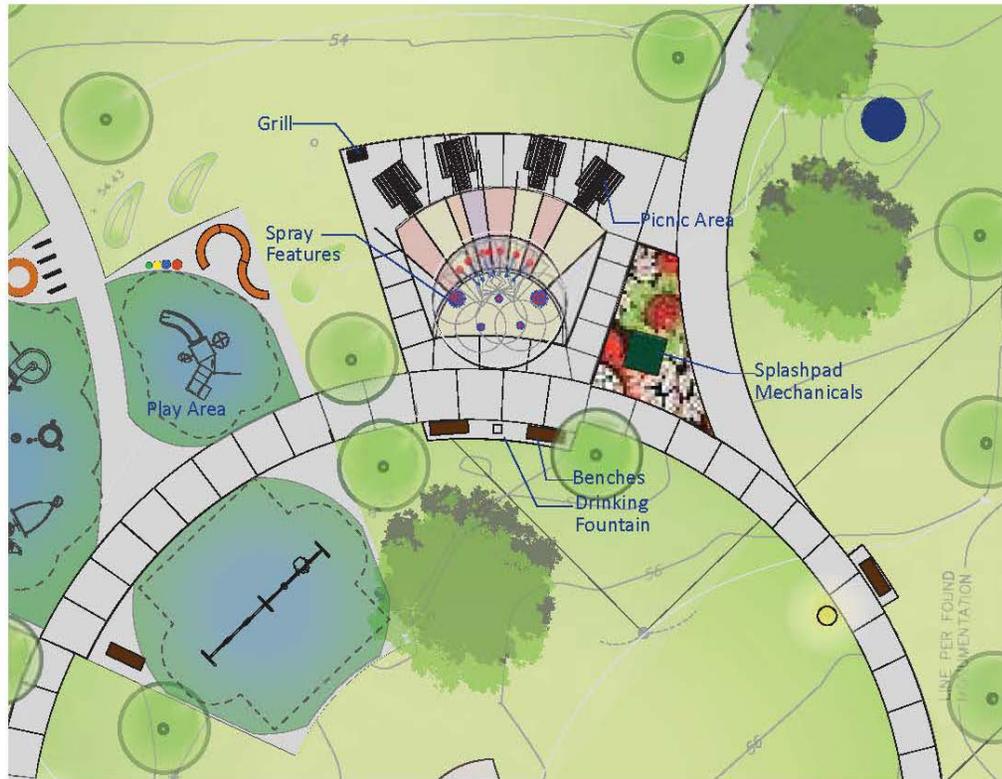
*Circle Symbol: It represents the infinite nature of energy, and the inclusivity of the universe.*

# Concept Plan:



PARQUE CASTILLO  
public open house

# Splashpad:



Detail of Splashpad concept



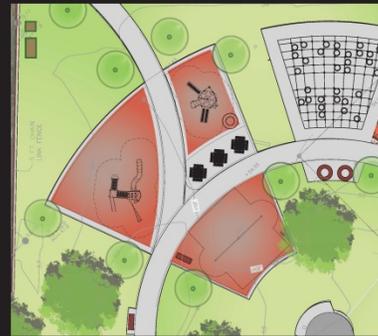
Precedent images of splashpads



## Play Area Process:



**Colorful**



**Traditional**



**Musical**



- **Colorful**
- **Combination of colorful and musical**
- **More picnic tables and seating**
- **Natural turf area for children to play**

# Play Area:

## PARQUE CASTILLO THE COLORFUL PLAY AREA



PLAY AREA PLAN VIEW



Artist : Craig David



PARQUE CASTILLO  
public open house

## Project Funding:

<b>Project:</b> Parque Castillo Play Area Improvements <b>Location:</b> 149 Cesar Chavez Street, St. Paul, MN			<b>Log No.:</b> CF-0303143 <b>Activity No.:</b> <b>Department:</b> Parks and Recreation <b>Contact:</b> Jody Martinez					<b>District:</b> 03					
<b>Description:</b> Replacement of the existing play area and park improvements. Update to current CPSC guidelines and ADA standards.			<b>Justification:</b> According to the Parks and Recreation Department's Tot Lot Replacement List, the play area at El Rio Vista (Roosevelt School) is ranked number 4 on the list for replacement. Since the play area at Roosevelt is now maintained by the School District, we propose to replace the Parque Castillo play area directly across the street from El Rio Vista. This project much needed upgrades to Parque Castillo and create a vibrant space able to accommodate kids from El Rio Vista. This plan would build on the Robert/Cesar Chavez Re-Plan recently completed for the area. Parque Castillo bridges the connection bet Chavez Street and El Rio Vista.										
Phase Description	Financing Source	Priors	2014 Proposed	2015 Tentative	2016 Tentative	2017 Tentative	2018 Tentative	2014 Proposed	2015 Tentative	2016 Tentative	2017 Tentative	2018 Tentative	Total (not including priors)
Const-Plans/Spec's	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	21	0	0	0	0						47
Construction/Rehab	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	137	300	0	0	0	343	307	0	0	0	650
	Com Dev. Blk Grnt PY	0	128	0	0	0	0						
Inspec / Constr Mgmt	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	10	7	0	0	0						
Design	Capital Imp. Bonds	0	47	0	0	0	0						
<b>Total Project Cost</b>			0	343	307	0	0	343	307	0	0	0	650

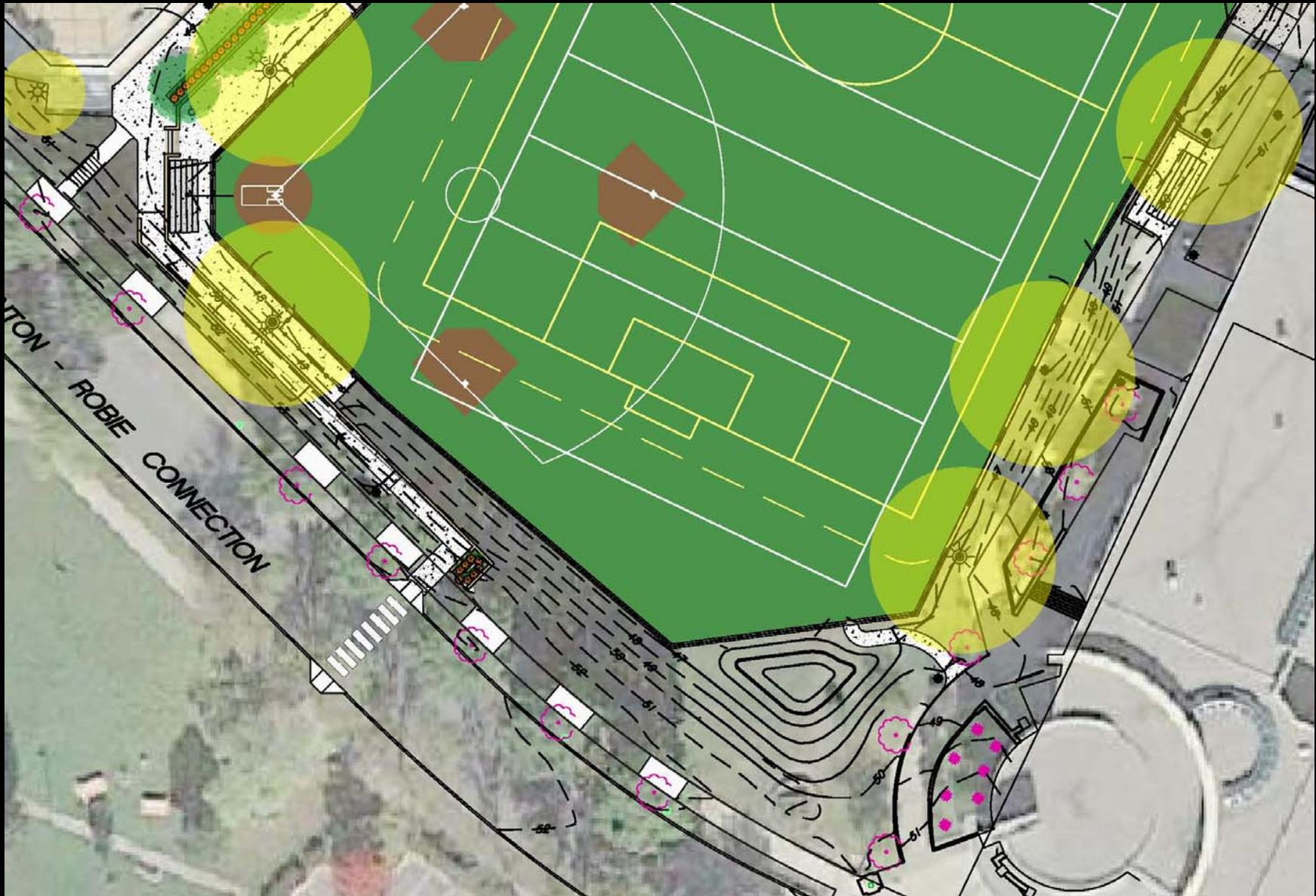
### Anticipated Budget Breakdown:

<b>Play Area</b> . . . . .	<b>\$125,000</b>
<b>Splashpad</b> . . . . .	<b>\$220,000</b>
<b>Site Features</b> (Walks, Furnishings, Lighting, Landscaping) . . . .	<b>\$152,000</b>
<b>Public Art</b> (DNI Field Project Funds) . . . . .	<b>\$ 6,000</b>
<b>Design &amp; Construction Fees</b> . . . . .	<b>\$ 98,000</b>
<b>10% Contingency</b> . . . . .	<b>\$ 49,000</b>

# Project update: Gilbert de la O Field Project:



## Project update: Gilbert de la O Field Project:



PARQUE CASTILLO  
public open house

# Moving Forward....

**Next step: Complete Construction Documents and Bid Project**

**Project information (including Construction schedule) will be available to the public on the city website:**

[www.stpaul.gov/parquecastillo](http://www.stpaul.gov/parquecastillo)

Or

<https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/parks-recreation/design-construction/current-projects/el-rio-vista-gilbert-de-la-o>

**... THANK YOU! ...**