



TRIANGLE PARK MASTER PLAN

BOROUGH OF RUTLEDGE

SUMMER 2021



Above Photo and Cover courtesy of the Borough of Rutledge

TRIANGLE PARK MASTER PLAN

SUMMER 2021

BOROUGH OF RUTLEDGE

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We heal ecosystems while making beautiful places for people



Photo courtesy of the Borough of Rutherford

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to the many people and organizations who contributed to this visioning process with the gracious gift of financial support, time and expertise.

PECO and their Green Region Open Space Grant administered by Natural Lands

Delaware County Green Ways Open Space and Recreation Municipal Grant Program

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and Mayor Kevin Cunningham

The Rutledge Shade Tree Commission

The Rutledge Planning Commission

The Rutledge Girls Club

Charles Catania, Borough Engineer

Jill Brook and her 4th Grade Class at Swarthmore-Rutledge School

Teen/Tween Group: Evan Mickle, Michael Conallen, Sam Sentivan, Ella Liberi, Kay Liberi

The residents of Rutledge who have been integral in providing ideas and feedback



LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS

Dear Neighbors,

We are pleased to present the Master Plan for Triangle Park to the community. This has been over two years in the making, and is the first step in a long-term process to re-envision the park. With investment, our hope is to foster the development of a park that better serves current and future needs, provides diverse recreational use, universal accessibility, flexible community spaces, tree canopy, habitat and stormwater management.

Stormwater management is actually the impetus of this project. The State of Pennsylvania set requirements that municipalities like Rutledge had to comply with environmental regulations for stormwater runoff in the next few years. Since this will require the use of the park land and extensive underground construction, it makes it the perfect time to reconsider what this open space means to our community and how it can be improved.

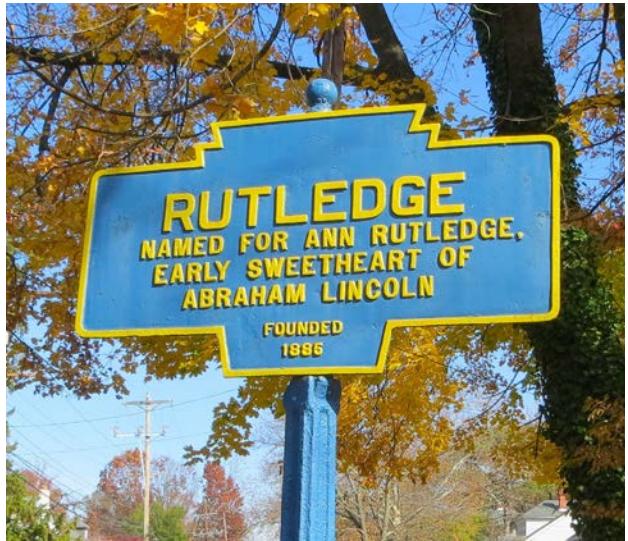
Through the Master Plan process, we have been able to step back and turn this into a great opportunity. We've hired experts, heard from engineering professionals, and most importantly, engaged with the community through interviews, public forums and vision boards, to turn garnered information into the overall framework presented here.

Next, we turn this report into an important tool that will allow the Borough to more effectively pursue grants and other funding sources and make sure that funding is being used in the best way possible. It will help the Borough to prioritize phasing over the coming years as funds become available. It has identified the next steps and what conditions still need to be evaluated further. The park planning, design and construction will continue in the years to come and it will require extensive work to make this a reality.

We are up for that challenge!

Heidi Sentivan,

*Rutledge Borough Council President and the
Triangle Park Master Plan Steering Committee*



Rutledge Borough Sign (Facebook)



2018 Triangle Park Softball Fund-raising, Rutledge Borough (Facebook)

Site Context



Borough and Park History

Rutledge is a borough of approximately 800 residents located in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, about nine miles southwest of Philadelphia. The Borough, which was founded in 1885, occupies an area of four blocks by three blocks. It has one park and a stately old Borough Hall. Many of the homes in the community date to the late 1800s. SEPTA's Regional Rail Media/Elwyn train line serves the Borough with a stop at the Morton-Rutledge Station. Rutledge is part of the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District.

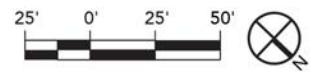
Triangle Park in the Borough of Rutledge is a unique asset to both the Borough and its neighboring municipalities that function as a critical open-space resource, in an otherwise densely developed and established neighborhood. The park was created at the turn of the century, first as a tennis club and later as a municipal park. Triangle Park currently has a softball field used by the Rutledge's Girls Club, a basketball court, rain garden and a young children's playground. The park is also used for community events such as the 4th of July games, Easter Egg Hunt and outdoor movie nights.

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Photo courtesy of the Borough of Rutledge



INTRODUCTION

Overview

Triangle Park is a treasured community asset having served the community for the last 100 years. As the largest contiguous open space in Rutledge Borough, it serves a diverse range of community needs as a park, playground, and recreational site welcoming children and adults from Rutledge and neighboring communities. But it could do more!

The overall goal for this project was to develop an actionable master plan that ensures that current and future use of the park aligns with community needs, vision and values. This will allow the Borough to more fully leverage multi-year efforts to develop, fund and implement park improvement.

The plan is crafted to deliver maximum ecosystem benefit while providing accessible, inclusive, multi-generation play.

The plan incorporates the goals developed and articulated in the Delaware County Open Space, Recreation and Greenway Plan dated April 1, 2015 and supports 2015 Delaware County Council Open Space Task Force recommendations:

- Conserve open space and natural features.
- Enhance environmental and recreational use.
- Connect communities, their cultural resources and natural features.

Triangle Park can and should demonstrate to all who visit how a small park can serve both people and planet in a mighty way.



Triangle Park Softball Field (Google Street View)



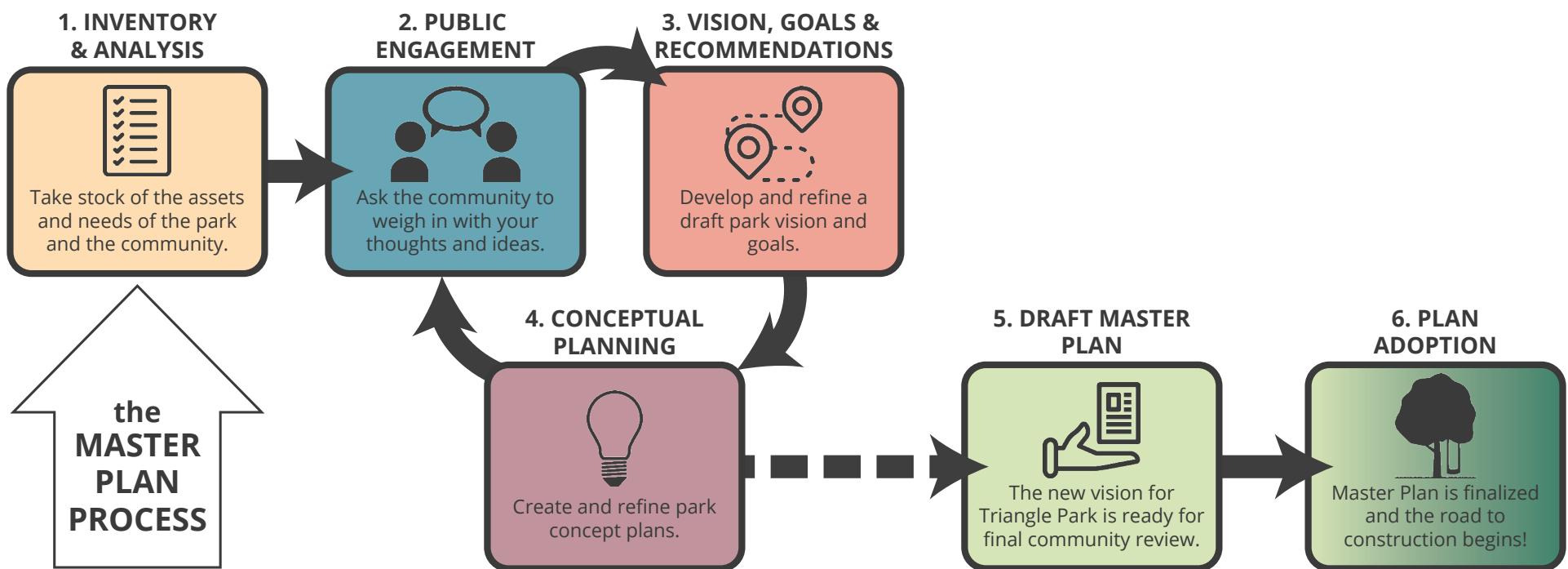
Triangle Park Playground (Google Street View)



Triangle Park Basketball Court (Google Street View)

Specific goals:

- Improve pedestrian accessibility and bicycle access to the site. Focus on creating clear, safe and fully accessible connections from the adjacent neighborhoods, including crossing adjacent streets.
- Create a more usable and safer softball field with space for spectators.
- Consider the playground and how it could be reconfigured and improved.
- Consider the basketball court and how, as the only paved portion of the park, it could be reconsidered or reconfigured for additional uses, while maintaining permeability and the stormwater storage below.
- Consider other recreational uses for the park.
- Create design options that consider narrowing, possibly closing or adjusting the adjacent streets while maintaining parking.
- Consider how the edges of the park could be utilized and offer additional amenities.
- Incorporate best practices for stormwater management.
- Find ways to improve the tree canopy and native planting.
- Ensure community buy-in.
- Consider strategies for implementation, including order of magnitude cost estimates and phasing options.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Overview

Community involvement was incredibly important to the creation of the Triangle Park Master Plan. The planning team, together with the Park Steering Committee, used various community engagement techniques to involve the citizens of Rutledge Borough in the design process. These included:

Vision Boards

The planning process kicked off with an interactive "LOOK-FEEL-DO" exercise provided to any and all borough residents who elected to participate. Residents used the exercise to describe how they wanted the park to look and feel, and what they wanted to do at the park. Participants could use the template's provided pictures and words to create vision boards for their ideal Triangle Park, or were free to include their own images and sketches. Over 30 responses were delivered to the design team for their use in planning.

Interviews

Throughout the planning process, the planning team conducted individual interviews with a wide range of Rutledge citizens and interest groups to understand people's specific needs and concerns. Interviewees included, but were not limited to: the Master Plan Steering Committee, the Borough Engineer, Rutledge softball coaches, the Girl's Club Board, several property owners bordering the park and local Rutledge youth.

The most common comments that were repeated throughout the interviews were the following:

- More recreation opportunities for all ages; Play isn't just for young children
- Softball is very important to the Borough. However, the field needs improvements and



Digital Triangle Park Vision Board



FEEL Word Cloud from "LOOK-FEEL-DO" Community Engagement Exercise



Digital Triangle Park Playground Vision Board

more space for spectators

- More visual/auditory protection from Swarthmore Avenue
- Improve access into and through the park
- More shade, both trees and structures, and seating
- A stage/pavilion would enable a wider range of programming for the community
- Create a more inclusive park, for all generations and abilities
- Park should reflect Rutledge pride

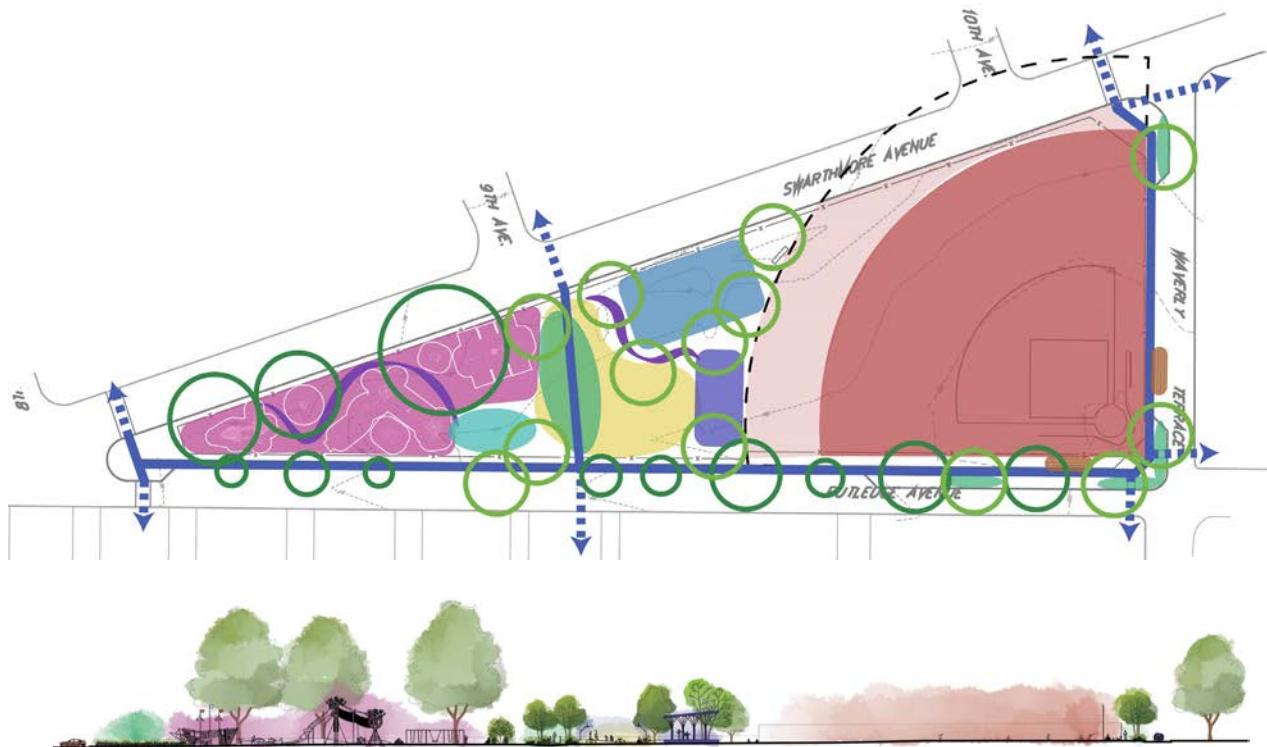
Community Workshops

The planning team hosted a series of three virtual community workshops. Here citizens participated in interactive exercises and spirited discussions throughout the design process.

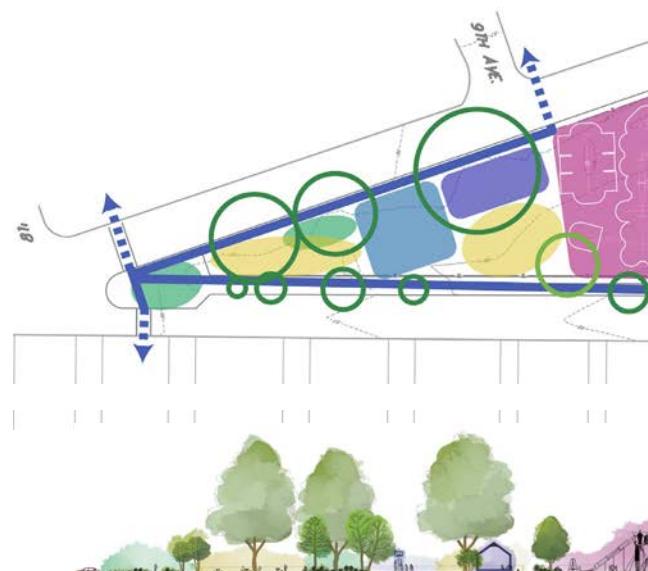
Workshop 1 was used to familiarize participants with the Master Plan process, to share the initial results of the "LOOK-FEEL-DO" exercise, and to conduct the exercise in real time. The workshop capitalized on the virtual setting using polling and word clouds and to gather feedback. The exercise was followed by a discussion period.

The planning team returned to Workshop 2 with three concepts generated from the data gathered to date. Community members attending this meeting were encouraged to voice their likes and dislikes for each concept through polls, word clouds and active discussion.

Workshop 3 centered on the presentation and discussion of the final Master Plan draft. The draft plan incorporated feedback on the previous three and additional notes obtained from ongoing interviews. Like the second workshop, participants were urged to voice their opinions. This resulted in a lively discussion of the plan's pros and cons.



The Green



Central Play

CONCEPTUALIZATION

The conceptualization stage for Triangle Park resulted in three different concepts, consecutively titled "The Green," "Central Play" and "The Icon."

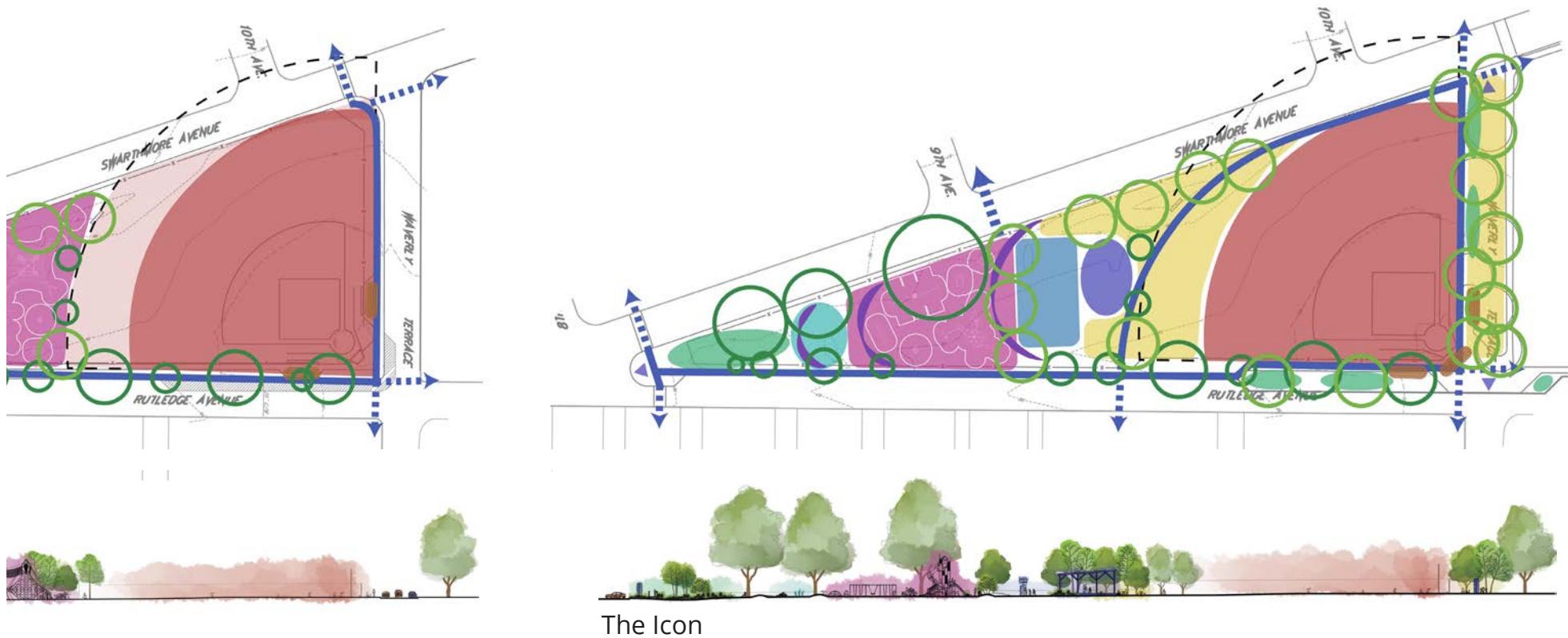
The Green expanded the existing rain garden and interfaced a mid-block connection with a central gathering area.

Central Play's design focused on a large central play area that connected all active recreation while concentrating more passive recreation toward the tip of the park.

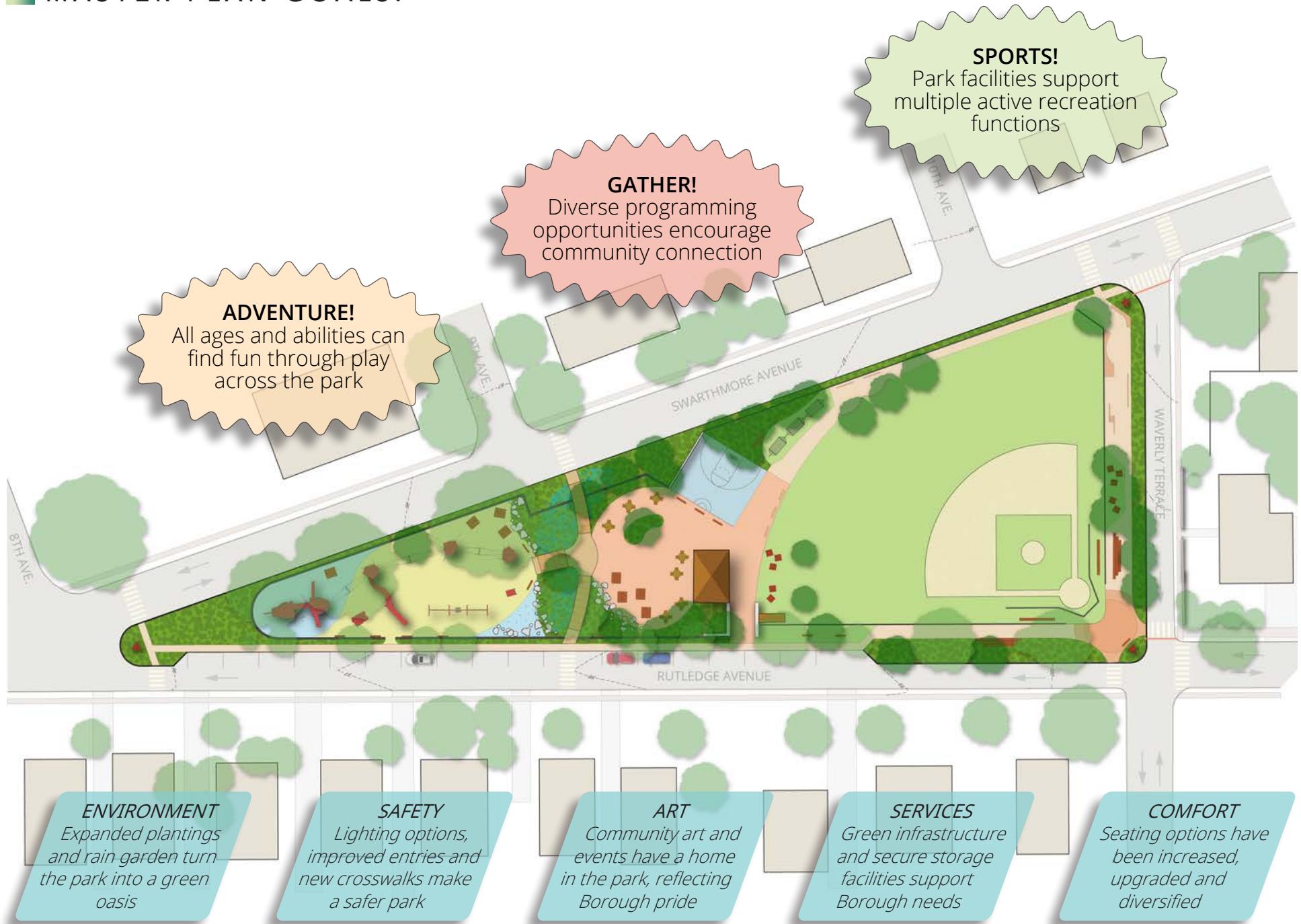
The Icon introduced iconic elements at park entrances to welcome users and act as wayfinding elements while providing unique art to the park. This concept also included a primary path that would allow pedestrians to cross from one corner of the park to another.

All three of these concepts were introduced to Rutledge citizens at community meetings for feedback. Concepts were also available online through the Rutledge Borough Facebook page and in hard copy at the Rutledge Borough Town Hall.

The Green and The Icon were the clear favorites and elements of both were merged to create the final plan. Community members favored the expanded rain garden, boardwalks and central gathering area of The Green, however equally loved The Icon's primary path, event field and icons.



MASTER PLAN GOALS:



■ TRIANGLE PARK: THE HEART OF RUTLEDGE

The new Triangle Park welcomes Rutledge residents of all ages and offers recreation opportunities to park users of all abilities. Whether your idea of a perfect day outside is lazily swinging in a hammock enjoying the sun and shade or sweating it out on the field or court, you will be able to find your space in Triangle Park.

Artist-designed icons at the park's three points both welcome community members and signal that they have arrived. The park's pedestrian network has been enhanced with more direct pathways and improved access points to make circulation through the park easier and more enjoyable. Pathways and open spaces are framed by both canopy and understory trees to provide cozy shaded spaces, while lush plantings accent gathering areas to provide a garden-like atmosphere. These planting beds also offer both auditory and visual protection from the business of Swarthmore Avenue and allow park users to recreate in peace.

The playground's new iconic structures will fire children's imaginations as they find something new and exciting to explore with every visit. The Rutledge softball team has an updated field to play on and enough space and seating for their fans. Best of all, the Rutledge community has a gathering space and pavilion for a wide range of incredible programming like movie nights, festivals, concerts and cook-outs. Neighbors have a place to come together at Triangle Park: The Heart of Rutledge.

PROGRAM GOALS:

Adventure!

A giant climb. Swings for all. Water play. Chess. Checkers. Skateboarding. Bike loop. Softball. Pickleball.

Gather!

Myriad programming opportunities including handball. Basketball. Movie nights. Music. Theater. Story time. Festivals. Chess Tournaments.

Sports!

Improved softball field. Kids bike and trike loop. Skate elements. Pickleball. Handball. Basketball. Open space.

SITE GOALS:

Environment!

140% more shade trees. Increased native shrubs, grasses, and groundcovers. Expanded rain garden.

Safety!

Controllable, ambient lighting throughout. Increased visibility at entrances. Five new pedestrian crosswalks. Traffic calming measures.

Art!

Iconic entry art. Street-side art moments. Opportunities for integrated community art. Pavilion for daily use and special events.

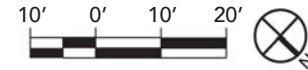
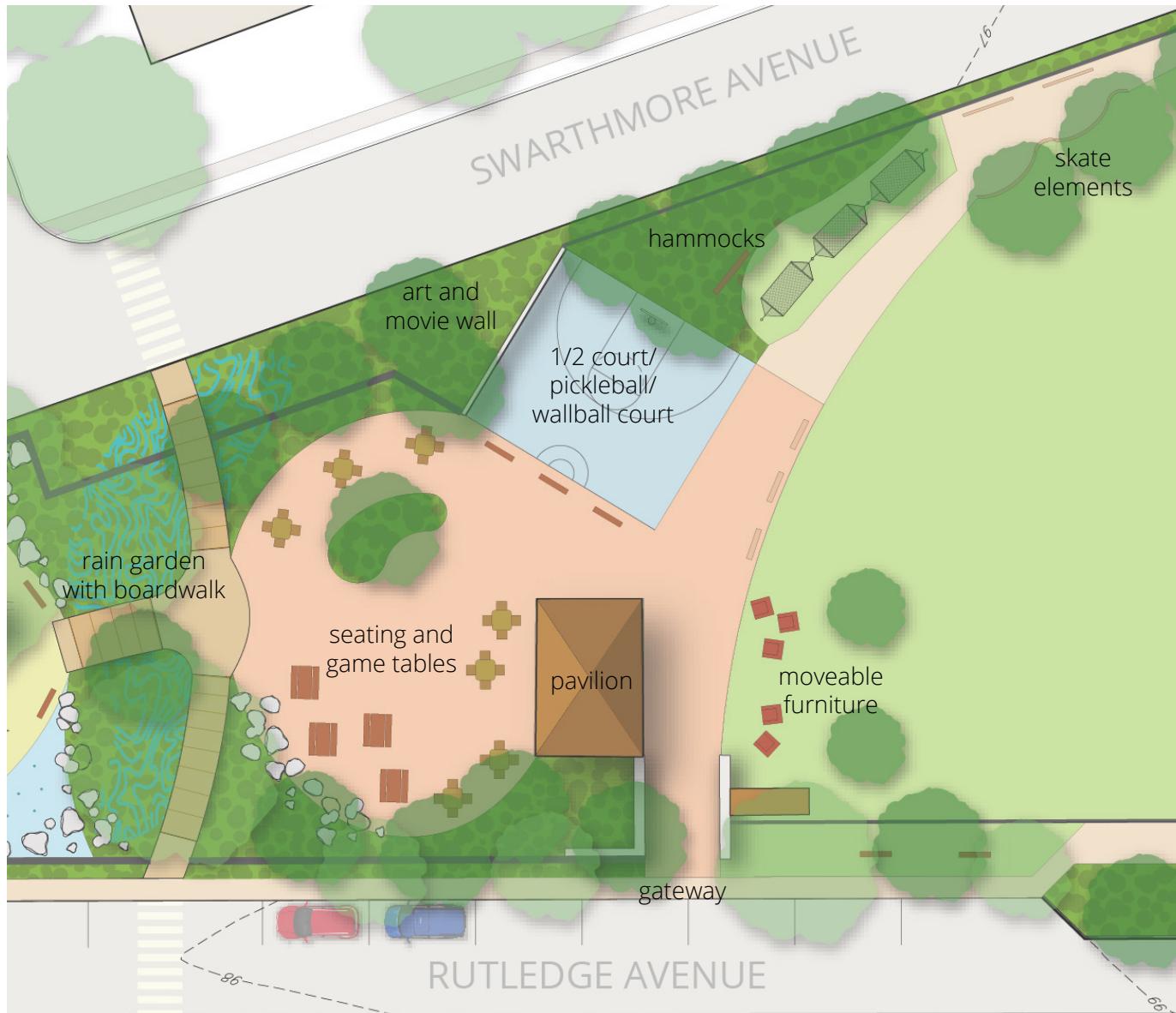
Services!

Secure equipment storage facility. Expanded green infrastructure. Improved supports for integrated comfort facilities.

Comfort!

More seating. Adirondack chairs, benches, hammocks, picnic tables, cafe tables, spectator seating and seating stones.





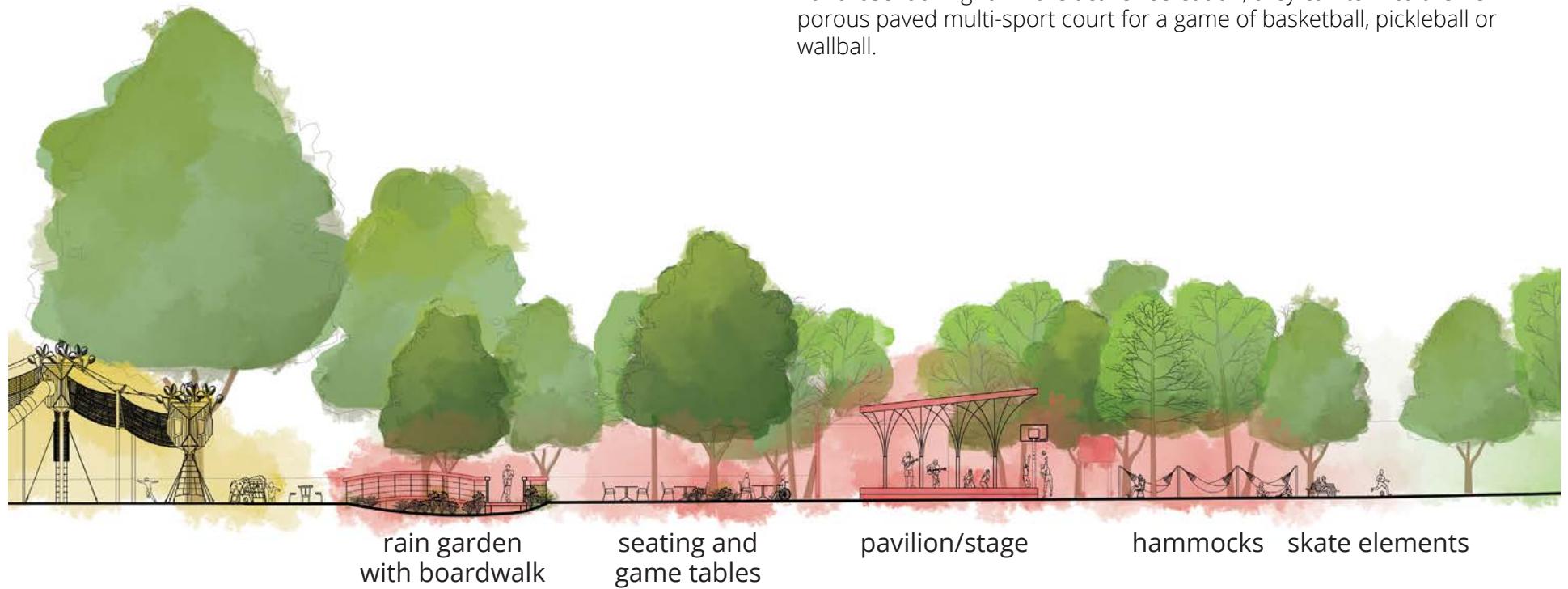
GATHER

Heart of the Park

Designed at the Heart of Triangle Park, the 6500 sf central gathering area is the place for all of Rutledge to come together to enjoy events large and small. With ample shade and beautiful plantings, it is not just a gathering spot, but a place that showcases the borough's commitment to the health of people and planet alike.

Rain Garden with Boardwalk

Enlarged by 75%, Triangle Park's beloved existing rain gardens welcome visitors to the Heart of the Park by way of a simple boardwalk system. Park users are immersed in a lush rain garden habitat of native trees, shrubs and groundcovers. Visitors can learn the story of green stormwater infrastructure, enjoy seasonal changes, and observe the birds and pollinators it attracts. The entry boardwalks converge giving users access to both Adventure Play and the Gathering Area.



The Pavilion/Stage

The pavilion is the anchoring point of the gathering area. It offers picnickers shade and shelter from the rain, as well as a place to host bands and speakers for Rutledge's concerts and festivals. The pavilion also contains basic utilities like electric and water.

Seating and Game Tables

The area offers a variety of seating, including cafe, picnic and game tables. Here neighbors can meet, eat or challenge each other to a game of chess at one of the game tables. Hammocks offer places to unwind while swinging under the trees and Adirondack chairs can be moved to the best location to enjoy the moment.

Art and Movie Wall

The wall serves as a park-side movie-night screen and a street-side art moment.

Sports

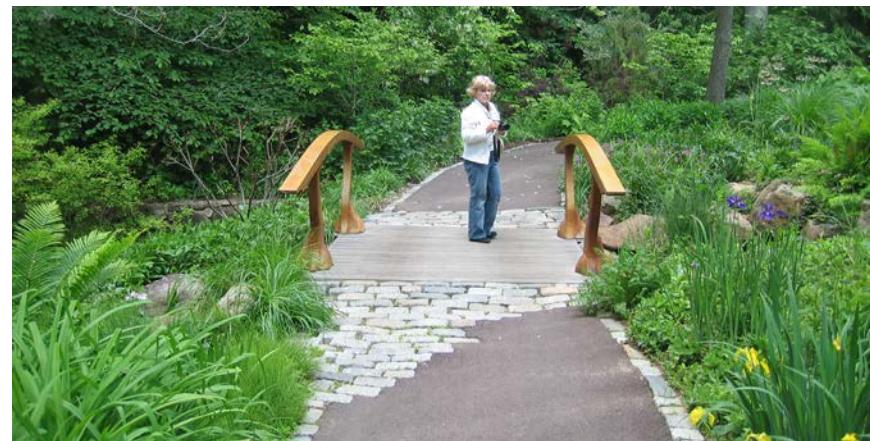
For those looking for more active recreation, they can turn to the new porous paved multi-sport court for a game of basketball, pickleball or wallball.

GATHER: STRUCTURES

The pavilion acts as a combination shade structure, stage and bandstand for the park. When not hosting a band or speaker for concerts and events, the pavilion can be used for picnics and barbecues. The boardwalk immerses people entering the park into the rain garden before guiding them to a central platform that opens onto the main gathering space.



pavilions/stages



boardwalk and bridges



GATHER: SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

The half-court is lined for basketball, pickleball and wallball to create a multi-use sports court that can be utilized by athletes of all ages and abilities. Linear skate elements add dimension along pedestrian paths.



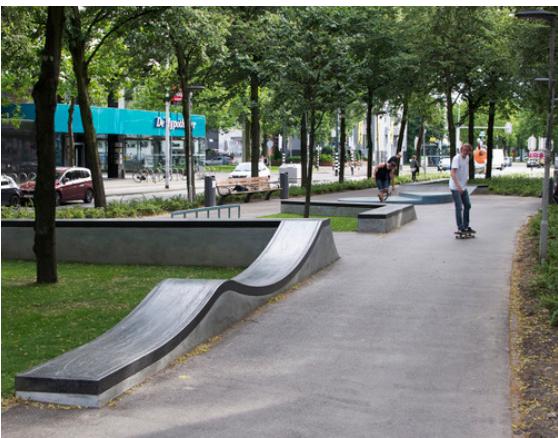
half-court basketball



pickleball



handball



skate elements



seating



accessible activities

GATHER: SHARING SPACE

The gathering space has many customization opportunities. Designers suggested multiple ways to program and personalize the space from memorials celebrating special community members to a Little Free Library that allows easy access to book sharing to community art installations to donor recognition. Over time, we are sure that the citizens of Rutledge Borough will think of more, truly making Triangle Park their place.



sharing library



art



remember and celebrate



lighting



game tables



hammocks

GATHER: LOOK AND FEEL

Surrounded by lush plantings and shaded by understory and canopy trees, the gathering area is designed to feel cozy and neighborly. Seating ranges from traditional elements like Adirondack chairs and picnic tables to local stones set in the landscape. The variety of seating types allows people to manipulate the space and find their own ways to enjoy the park.



garden and natural settings



ADVENTURE

Triangle Park's playground is beloved. The master plan seeks to ensure its longevity for years to come while at the same time diversifying its structures to make the playground a multi-generational space that can be used and enjoyed by all ages. Designers introduced multi-level structures to increase play opportunities and elevate users high into the existing tree canopy. Little kids, big kids and even adult kids will enjoy challenging themselves no matter their abilities or appetite for risk. As they play, they will enhance their gross and fine motor skills without even knowing.

Tree-top Climb

Children are met near the boardwalk entrance with a tower that conveys them to a series of tree-top walks high up in the canopy. Here they can climb from tree house nest to tree house nest and observe the park and surrounding neighborhood from on high. There are multiple opportunities for getting down from climbing to sliding. The tree top-walk terminates at the tip of the park's playground in an iconic play structure: the explorer ship.

Iconic Play

The explorer ship's bow points toward Triangle Park's point and a rolling sea of grasses that roil and toss in the wind. In the autumn as their seed

heads dry, these grasses will even sound like waves breaking as the explorer ship cuts through them on adventures unknown.

Preschool Play

The playground's existing well-loved fire truck and swings are updated and additional toddler play elements are added.

Water Play

A splash pad for Rutledge residents to cool off on hot summer days is placed near the rain garden, as well as seating stones for children to balance on and hop along.

Swings

Swings for all user types from toddler swings to basket swings allow everyone to swing together.

Seating

Seating is located throughout the playground for caregivers and children to rest, as well as in a picnic grove underneath the shade for groups to congregate.



ADVENTURE: ICONIC PLAY

Kids of all ages can enjoy an adventure as they work their way through an elevated rope climb that begins at the boardwalk entrance of the playground and winds its way through the tree tops, terminating at an iconic play structure nestled into Triangle Park's point. For the littlest adventurers and those who prefer to keep their feet closer to the ground, the elevated structure is surrounded by play opportunities to swing, hang and jump. There is even an updated version of the much-beloved fire truck.



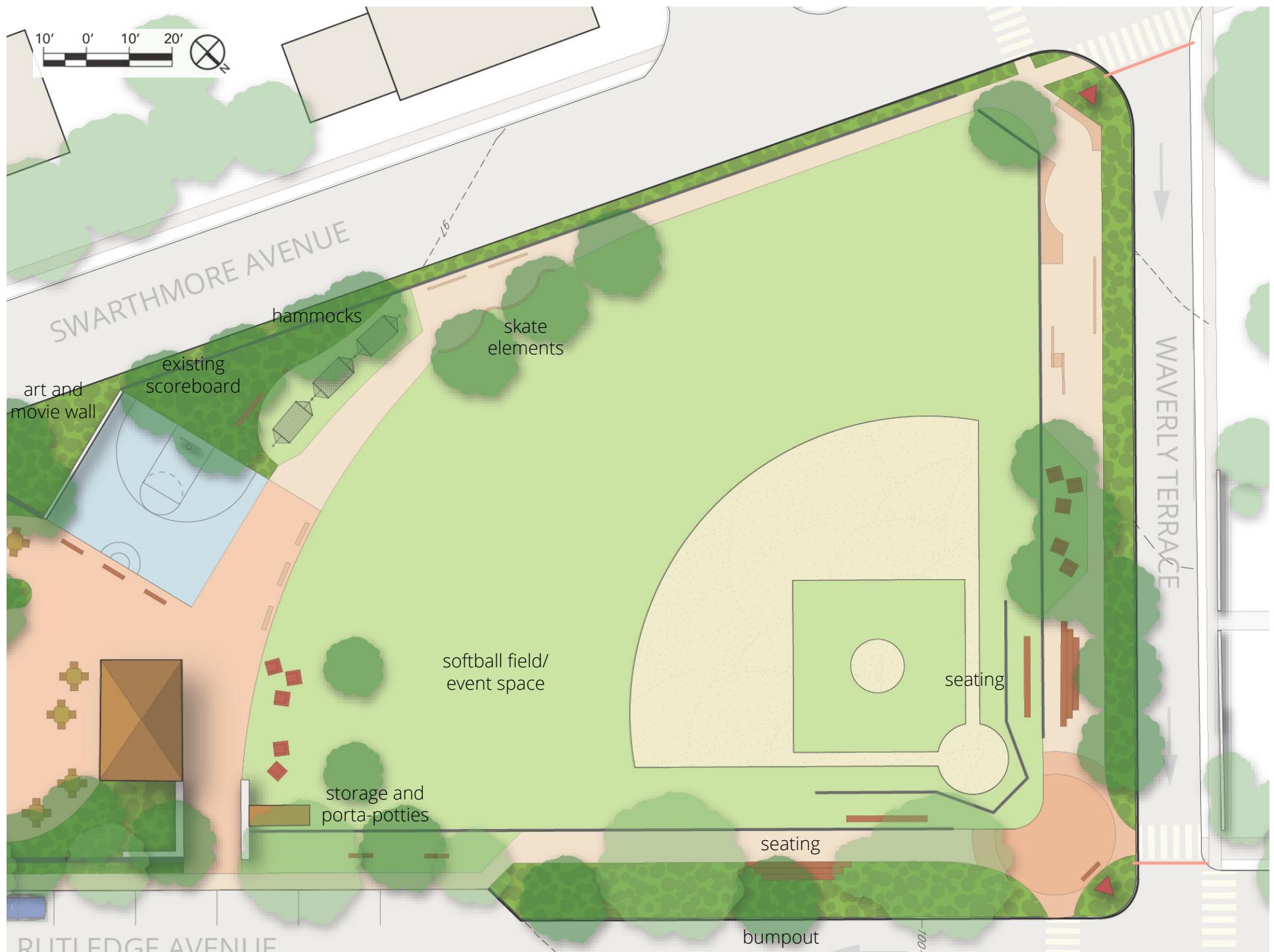
iconic play structure(s) and places to climb, bounce, hang and swing for *all* ages, from big kids...

ADVENTURE: PLAY FOR ALL AGES

Multi-generational play is key to playground success. Opportunities for fun are provided for every stage of development, from toddlers to adolescents to playful caregivers of all ages. Bubblers give people the chance to splash around on hot days and diatonic musical instruments allow them to release their inner Mozart. Each trip to the playground will be a varied and distinct adventure.



to little kids and of course, their caregivers.



■ SOFTBALL AND EVENTS

Softball is incredibly important to the residents of Rutledge, however the coaches and players voiced the need for an update to their facilities. The Master Plan revitalizes the existing softball field and integrates it with the rest of the park, creating a realized and whole Triangle Park.

The Field

To create more room for seating, the softball field itself is shifted into the park 15 feet. This allows room for permanent home and visitor dugouts and bystander seating. The bystander seating is envisioned as artful, multi-level, multi-use seating that can be used by Rutledge residents even on no-game days.

With the pavilion open to both the gathering area and the field, it can host events of various sizes. Intimate events like small speaker events can capitalize on the gathering space pavement. Larger events like festivals can be oriented toward the softball field. It performs double-duty by providing ample space for many people to gather to see the show.

The multi-sport court wall acts as a screen. Residents can bring chairs or gather on picnic blankets to watch their favorite movies for community nights.

Street-side Improvements

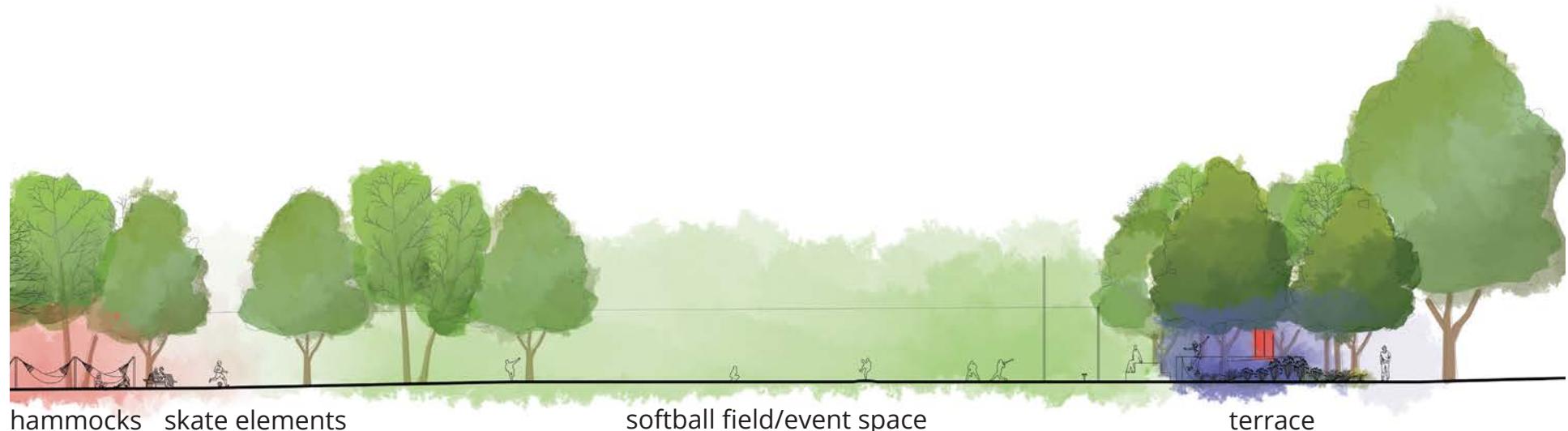
Widened sidewalks, benches and traffic bumpouts provide additional ways for softball enthusiasts to stay safe while watching games.

Skate and Bike Elements

Triangle Park offers a continuous walk/bike/skate element that circumnavigates the softball field. Here kids of all ages can test out their street skills whether they are just learning to ride or want to catch a little air off some jumps.

Storage

Secure storage, located near the park gateway, provides room for the Borough, the softball team and others to meet their storage needs. Our digital age even leaves the possibility for electronic sports equipment check-out from special lockers.



■ SOFTBALL AND EVENTS: MULTI-USE OPEN SPACE

When asked what they loved about the existing park, “open space” was a common answer given by community members. The Master Plan safeguards and frames Triangle Park’s open space so it may be enjoyed by all users in a variety of ways: softball games, picnics, concerts, movie nights, festivals, pick-up games — the sky is the limit.



flexible open space for softball, community events and other recreational sports

■ SOFTBALL AND EVENTS: STORAGE, FURNITURE AND COMFORT FACILITIES

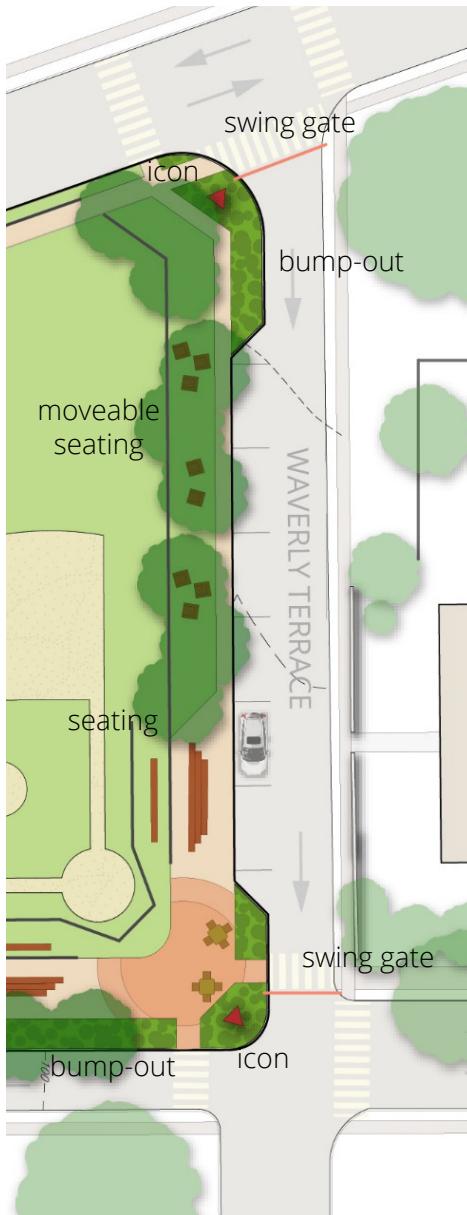
On-site sports storage is provided both for softball and for local sign-out for sports and games played in the park like basketball, wallball and pickleball. Colorful moveable furniture like Adirondack chairs offer park-goers a sense of customizing and ownership of the park. Comfort facilities are upgraded and integrated into the park using park-appropriate structures built to match the park aesthetic.



storage for softball and pick-up games, temporary porta-potties and moveable furniture

TERRACE OPPORTUNITIES

Waverly Terrace provides an interesting opportunity for expanding the park, to provide improved safety, and more recreation opportunities, green space and stormwater infrastructure. Different options are being explored to make the most of this limited space, but a final decision has not been made for Waverly Terrace as of the writing of this report.



Bump-outs with optional gates for road closures

Waverly: One-way

Entry Plaza

A small, paved plaza with benches at the corner of Waverly Terrace and Rutledge Avenue welcomes people to the park.

Seating

Moveable furniture underneath the shade of the canopy trees gives park users a chance to customize their surroundings and a sense of ownership in the park.

Stormwater Management

Street corner bumpouts provide opportunities for street stormwater runoff catchment off the streets while still offering parking.

Temporary Street Closures

For special events and game days, Waverly Terrace can be closed off to vehicular traffic by closing the swing gates.



Expanded park with optional gates for road closures

Waverly: One-way

Entry Plaza

A small, paved plaza with benches at the corner of Waverly Terrace and Rutledge Avenue welcomes people to the park.

Seating

Moveable furniture underneath the shade of the canopy trees gives park users a chance to customize their surroundings and a sense of ownership in the park.

Skate Elements

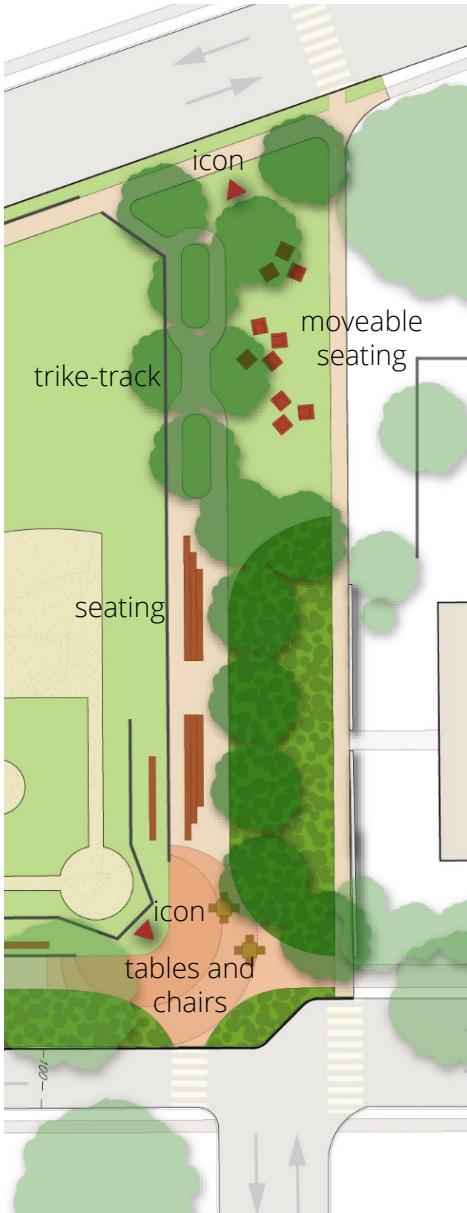
Skateboarders and bicyclists can enjoy skate park elements and hone their skills on grind rails, ramps and bowls.

Stormwater Management

A block-long bumpout along Waverly Terrace provides the maximum opportunity to catch street stormwater runoff while still keeping the street open to one-way traffic.

Temporary Street Closures

For special events and game days, Waverly Terrace can be closed off to vehicular traffic by closing the swing gates.



Park A: Play and picnic area

Waverly: Closed

Entry Plaza

A small, paved plaza with cafe tables and chairs at the corner of Waverly Terrace and Rutledge Avenue welcomes people to the park.

Seating

Moveable furniture underneath the shade of the canopy trees gives park users a chance to customize their surroundings and a sense of ownership in the park.

Trike-Track

A trike-track will give little ones further recreation opportunities and places to stretch their legs.

Plantings

A lush planted bed of trees, shrubs and perennials between the stands and the neighbor's front yard will soften and separate the spaces.

Stormwater Management

With Waverly Terrace closed, the park can grow and add more green and recreational space to Rutledge. Adding more trees and green space will significantly reduce the stormwater runoff and increase the natural slowing and filtration of rainwater for the neighborhood.



Park B: Skate/bike facilities

Waverly: Closed

Entry Plaza

A small, paved plaza with cafe tables and chairs at the corner of Waverly Terrace and Rutledge Avenue welcomes people to the park.

Skate Elements

Skateboarders and bicyclists can enjoy a large concentration of skate park elements and hone their skills on grind rails, ramps and bowls.

Plantings

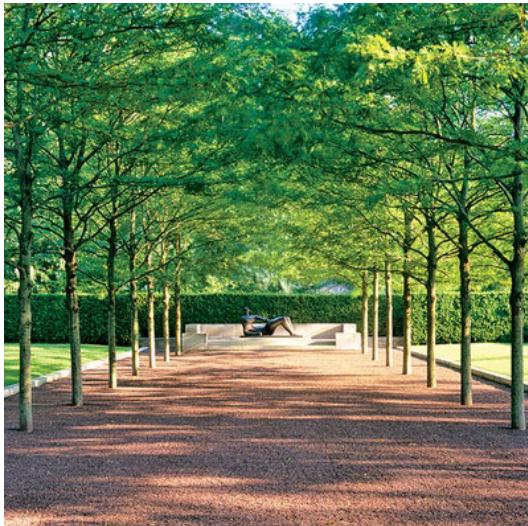
A lush planted bed of trees, shrubs and perennials between the stands and the neighbor's front yard will soften and separate the spaces.

Stormwater Management

With Waverly Terrace closed, the park can grow and add more green and recreational space to Rutledge. Adding more trees and green space will significantly reduce the stormwater runoff and increase the natural slowing and filtration of rainwater for the neighborhood.

TERRACE OPPORTUNITIES: PLAZA AND PLAY

Integrating the softball stands into the landscape and making them a permanent feature opens up opportunities for sculptural and multi-use seating that can be used and enjoyed year-round. Creative bike parking will help the Borough move towards a more a bikeable Rutledge by giving users a place to safely dock their bicycles.



sculptural seating, trees and places to bike

TERRACE OPPORTUNITIES: SKATE ELEMENTS

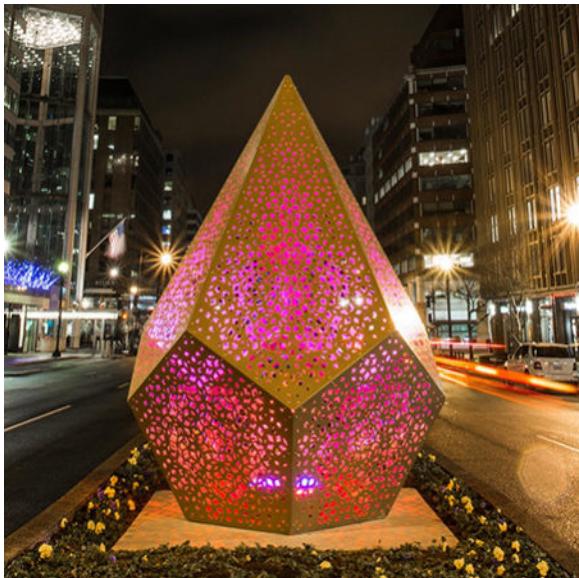
Skate and bike elements such as grind rails, ramps, bowls and the like are incorporated in different sites throughout the park, but can be concentrated in a larger focus along the edge of the softball field and in Park B. Elements are arranged to provide varied skate experiences for multiple ages and to add dimension and interest to pedestrian paths.



skate and bike facilities

ICONIC ART

Art can be incorporated into the park in myriad ways. The three icons positioned at each corner of the park offer an opportunity for local artists to create wayfinding structures that are emblematic of the 'Spirit of Rutledge.'



art can take many forms

SIGNAGE

Creating a linked signage throughout the site develops both the park and Rutledge Borough's wayfinding and site circulation, and improves the sense of place throughout the neighborhood. From the moment you step into Triangle Park, you know you're in Triangle Park.



signage creates sense of place not just for Triangle Park, but for Rutledge Borough as well

LEGEND

- Park Entrance
- Optional Entrance
- Pedestrian Crosswalk
- Optional Crosswalk
- Proposed Fenceline



CROSSINGS AND ACCESS

Crosswalks are introduced in several locations to increase safety and park access. Optional mid-block crossings are shown to increase park access. Crossings are paired with other traffic calming measures like raised crosswalks and speed tables. These measures are recommended by the US Department of Transportation Federal Highway administration. Traffic calming measures will be vetted and finalized through a traffic study to ensure that the appropriate traffic calming measures and crosswalk locations are used.



Figure 3.10.1. Speed Hump with Bicycle Lane and On-Street Parking
(Source: Scott Batson)

speed bump/table

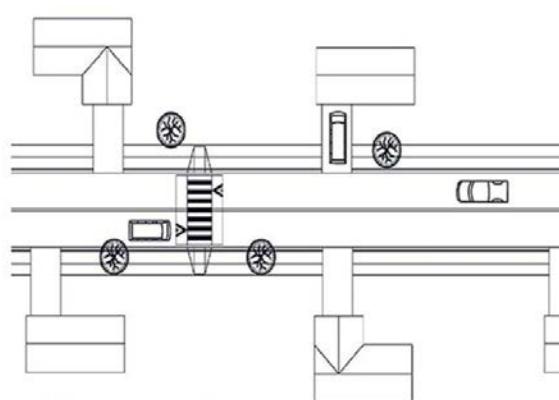


Figure 3.14.1. Raised Crosswalk Schematic
(Source: Delaware Department of Transportation)

raised crosswalk



Figure 3.14.2. Typical Raised Crosswalk Application
(Source: Jeff Gulden)



raised crosswalk



artful crosswalk



lighting and signage



LIGHTING

Community members will be welcomed to the park by the warmly lit icons at each corner. Pedestrian lighting will keep the pathways visible and safe for evening use. Gathering spaces will be softly illuminated with ambient light to not disturb park neighbors. Ambient lighting can additionally be added to the playground if there is a community want. Special temporary event lighting can be built into the pavilion structure to augment holidays, festivals, concerts and cookouts.



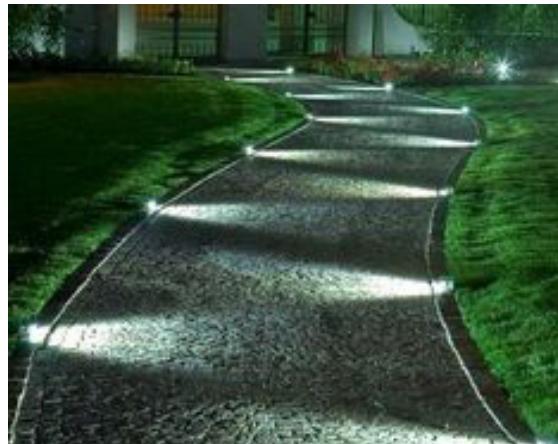
lighting and signage



ambient lighting



landscape lighting



path lighting



shade structure lighting

LEGEND

-  Rain Garden
-  Infiltration Bed



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Stormwater management was the impetus of this project. The State of Pennsylvania set requirements that municipalities like Rutledge had to comply with environmental regulations for stormwater runoff in the next few years. Since it requires the use of the park land and extensive underground construction, it was the perfect time to develop the Master Plan. Park improvements like upgrades to the softball field and safety improvements like street bumpouts coupled with mandated stormwater improvement will yield a high return on investment.

The Master Plan calls for a mixture of stormwater treatment methods: both underground infiltration beds and aboveground rain gardens. Bioretention bumpouts will filter and clean on-street runoff from Waverly Terrace and Rutledge Avenue. Park pavements are envisioned as porous. The park green space and additional tree coverage reduce heat island effect, provide natural catchment and filtration, while providing needed habitat.

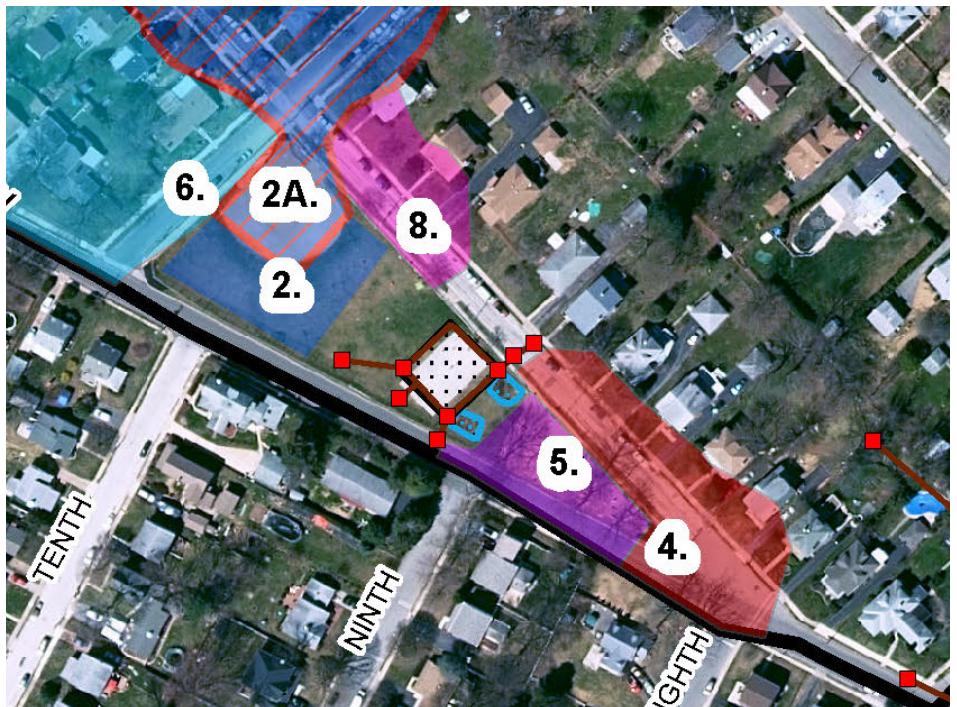
Each intervention provides educational opportunities to demonstrate to citizens and agencies alike Rutledge's commitment to elevating stormwater from a problem to a precious resource. Please refer to Appendix 9 for statement from Borough Engineer.

MS4 Existing and Proposed BMP

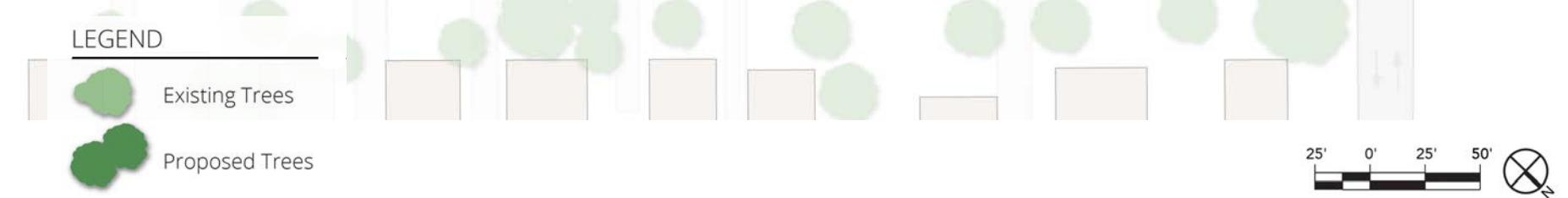
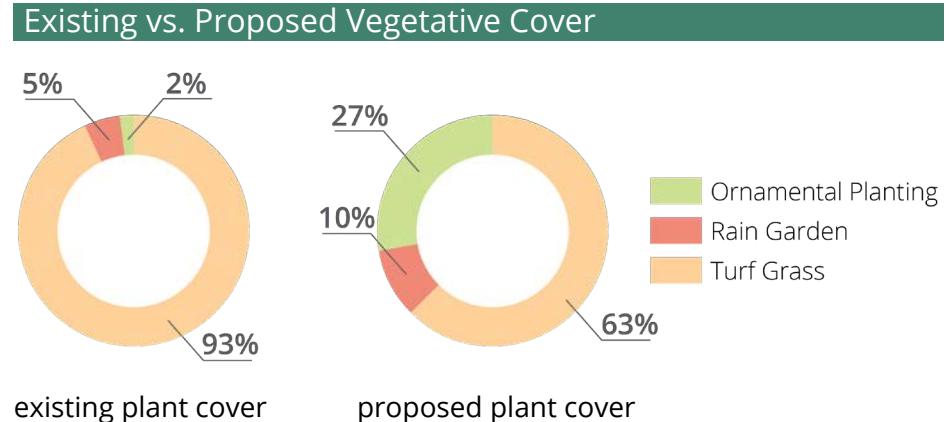
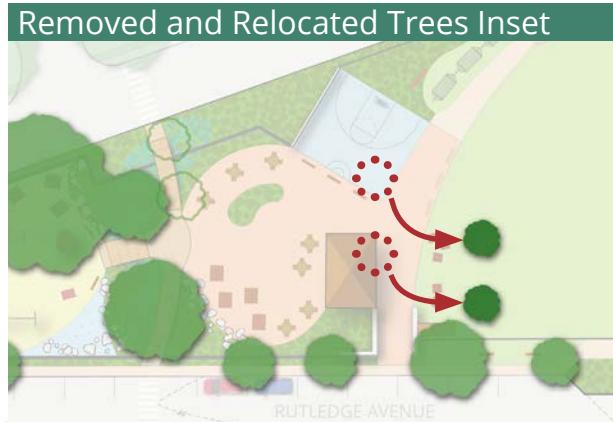


1. Pocket Park - Rain Garden
2. Triangle Park Softball Field (infield and outfield) - Infiltration Bed
- 2A. Triangle Park Softball Field (infield) - Infiltration Bed
- 2B. Triangle Park Softball Field (outfield) - Infiltration Bed
3. Borough Hall - Infiltration Bed
4. Swarthmore and Rutledge Ave (end of Triangle Park) - Rain Garden
5. Triangle Park Playground - Infiltration Bed
6. Waverly Terrace - Infiltration Bed
7. Bump-outs (any street) - Infiltration Bed
8. Rutledge Ave - Infiltration Bed

MS4 Existing and Proposed Best Management Practices Inset



Study by Catania Engineering Associates, Inc.



PLANTING: PROPOSED TREES, SHRUBS AND GROUNDCOVER

Triangle Park has an established canopy of much-beloved shade and street trees concentrated near the existing playground and along Rutledge Avenue. More recently planted specimens include the rain garden thicket and two oaks near the border of the softball field. Moving these two trees to a place of prominence near the pavilion will safeguard their future from construction and create a viewing window from the stage.

Due to many comments from community members about the lack of shade, the Master Plan calls for the addition of over twenty-five canopy and understory trees to the roughly acre and half park. Shrub and understory plantings are called for to increase seasonal interest and provide habitat for birds, butterflies and other pollinators of all kinds. This will transform the parklet to a lush, diversified green space with rolling plantings throughout.



Itea virginica



Fothergilla gardenii



Diervilla lonicera



Rhododendron 'Percy Wiseman'



Ilex verticillata



Rhus aromatica



Amsonia hubrichtii



Rudbeckia fulgida



C. amphibola



Aster cordifolius



Deschampsia cespitosa



Polygonatum odoratum



Athyrium filix



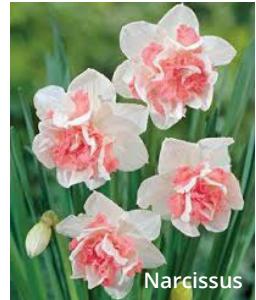
Spring Bulbs



Narcissus



Scilla



Narcissus

shrubs

herbaceous and perennials

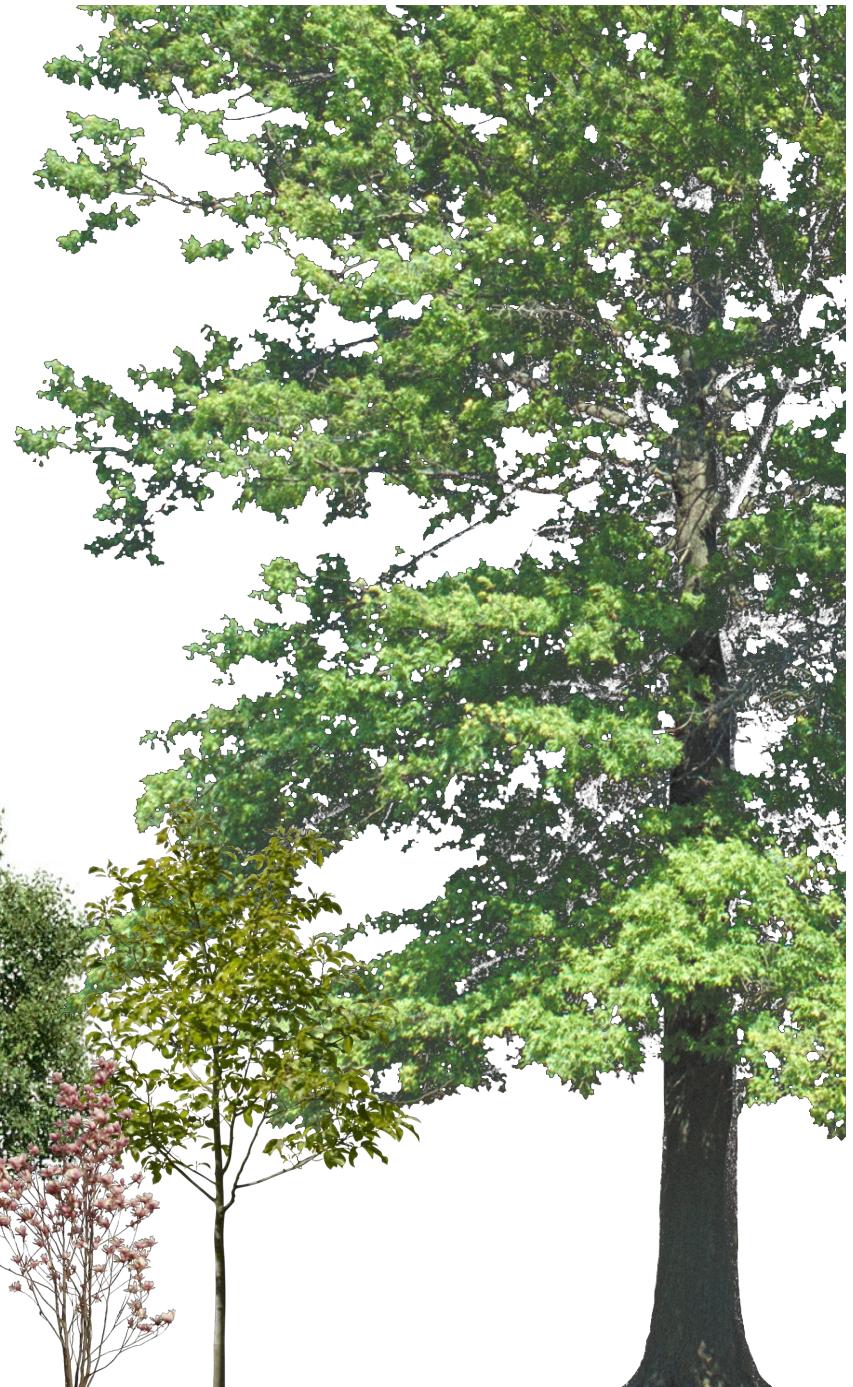


Photo courtesy of the Borough of Rutledge

PLANTING: BUILDING ON YOUR EFFORTS

In addition to new plantings, there are many ways to safeguard the existing canopy:

- Assess and care for trees early
- Minimize impervious cover
- Use pervious materials whenever possible
- Choose your construction materials carefully
- Use helical piles and other methods that minimize soil disturbance
- Spread construction machinery loads with thick layers of mulch and gravel
- Protect to the dripline and trunk
- Control site access
- Minimize damage to roots
 - Air spading
 - Prune roots
 - Use alternatives to root pruning, such as bridging or boring



add new canopy and understory trees

protect existing trees to remain



PROJECT PHASING PLAN

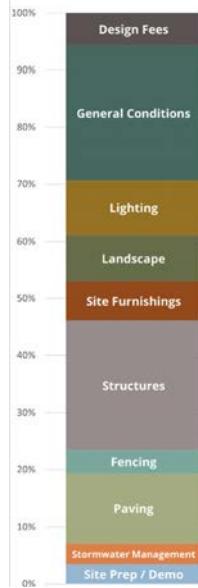
Cost estimation and construction for Triangle Park can be broken down into four phases based on areas of use in the park. Refer to Appendix 1 for more detail, including enlargements of the allocation bar charts.



Softball/Events Phase

Projected Cost: \$985,500

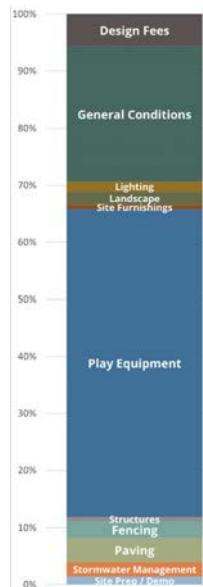
- Installation of infiltration basins for stormwater management
- Adjustment and repair of softball infield, outfield, seating and fencing
- Improved sidewalks and park entries
- New landscape and shade trees



Gather (Park Core) Phase

Projected Cost: \$899,900

- Expanded permeable pavement plaza
- Pavilion structure for performances, covered seating and events
- Existing rain garden expanded with boardwalk pathway
- New site furnishings (benches, tables)
- Park entry signage wall & storage structure
- Ambient and pathway lighting
- Multi-sport court with basketball goal and movie/signage wall



Adventure (Playground) Phase

Projected Cost: \$1,283,500

- Improved and expanded multi-generational playground equipment, including iconic equipment, "treetop" climbing structures, and splash pad for water play
- New site furnishings (benches, tables, etc.) and rubber safety surfacing
- Updated fencing, entries and sidewalks
- Rain garden at corner of park, with trees and landscape throughout playground



Terrace (Waverly & R.O.W.) Phase

Projected Cost: \$485,200

- New crosswalk striping and pedestrian tables/speed humps around park
- Curb bumpouts with green infrastructure landscape beds
- Gateway, paving and landscape improvements along Waverly Terrace adjacent to the park
- Iconic entry artwork elements
- Completion of skate/bike loop play features



NEXT STEPS

The Master Plan report is the first step on the road leading to a new and improved Triangle Park. The next steps outlined here will help push the Borough forward toward realizing its goal — a revitalized, intergenerational asset that delights every Rutledge Borough citizen giving them a beloved place to play, relax and learn.

- Establish a Friends of Triangle Park and Park Fund for capital projects and maintenance
 - Train members of this group in fundraising
- Conduct a traffic study to research traffic and pedestrian patterns around the park
- Apply for both park and stormwater grants including, but not limited to, DCNR, DCED, Delaware County grants
- Begin design and construction documentation
- Implement low-hanging fruit projects
 - Paint the road at the Rutledge Avenue/Waverly Terrace Intersection
 - Mark the "Medical Mile" Course around Rutledge
 - Open up the large gate to the field to create easier access and install a bollard to prevent vehicle access
 - Consider temporary road closures of Waverly Terrace for events



Photo courtesy of the Borough of Rutledge