



9/22/2025 | 7:00 PM

**Municipal Services Center, Council Chamber
3600 Tremont Road**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance Led By Brownie Troop 6870

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve September 8, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes
- b. Ordinance No. 35-2025 - An ordinance authorizing the continuation of the City's membership in the Central Ohio Risk Management Association (CORMA) self-insurance pool and to authorize expenditures thereto

4. Reports/Presentations

- a. Resolution of Commendation for National Service Dog Month
- b. Cultural Arts Update, Presented by Arts Manager Jodi Hatfield
- c. Community Relations Committee Annual Update, Presented by Chair Jason Sayat

5. Legislative Items for First Reading/Public Hearing

- a. Ordinance No. 36-2025 - An ordinance amending § 160.02 - Membership and Terms of Chapter 160 - Community Relations Committee of the Upper Arlington Code of Ordinances
- b. Resolution No. 10-2025 - A resolution to adopt the Fancyburg Park Master Plan

6. City Manager Update

7. Council Liaison Report

8. Adjournment

September 8, 2025

City Council met in regular session in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road, and the meeting was called to order by President Awakessien Jeter at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: President Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, Vice President Brian Close, Kathy Adams, John Kulewicz, Jim Lynch, and Todd Walter

Staff Present: City Manager Steven Schoeny, City Attorney Darren Shulman, Assistant City Manager Jackie Thiel, City Clerk Krystal Gonchar, Finance Director Brent Lewis, IT Director Jeff Kasson, Community Development Director Chad Gibson, Parks & Recreation Director Debbie McLaughlin, HR Director Don Essex, Community Affairs Director Emma Speight, Public Service Director Gary Wilfong, City Engineer Aaron Scott, Police Chief Keith Hall, Fire Chief Chris Zimmer, Senior Planner Justin Milam, and Economic Analyst James Russell

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Finn, Troop 417 member.

Consent Agenda

- a. **Approve City Council Meeting Minutes for August 25, 2025**
- b. **Ordinance No. 32-2025- An ordinance amending the 2025-2026 Municipal Program of Services (Employee Strength Table)**
- c. **Ordinance No. 33-2025- An ordinance authorizing the appropriation and transfer of funds**
- d. **Ordinance No. 34-2025- An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into contract with JCORR, LLC for office renovations at Fire Station 72 and the Municipal Services Center**

Mr. Kulewicz moved, seconded by Mr. Walter, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Adams, Close, Kulewicz, Lynch, Walter, and President Awakessien Jeter

Absent: Munc

Reports/Presentations

a. 2025 Community Survey Results, Presented by Orie Kristel of Illuminology

City Manager Steven Schoeny introduced Orie Kristel to present a summary of the 2025 Community Survey findings. Mr. Kristel presented the results of the survey (attached as Exhibit A), which was conducted with a random representative sample of 2,000 UA households, resulting in 674 completed responses, a 34% response rate. The survey revealed that 98% of residents rated Upper Arlington as an excellent or good place to live, with more individuals now rating it as "excellent" compared to 2022. The top-liked aspects of living in UA included feeling of safety/security, location/proximity to Columbus, quality of schools, and community pride/spirit. However, concerns centered around high taxes, an expensive housing market, lack of diversity, and managing growth. Municipal services received high ratings with 95% rating them as excellent or good, up from 93% in 2022 and 89% in 2017, with stormwater drainage services showing notable improvement, increasing from 67% excellent/good in 2022 to 79% in 2025. Around 65% of residents trust UA government officials "a lot" or "a fair amount." Nearly half have visited the new Bob Crane Community Center since its April 2025 opening, with visitors tending to have more positive opinions about it. Many residents were open to different housing types, with 60% supporting accessory dwelling units, slightly less than 50% supporting duplexes along major streets, and somewhat less support for townhouses. About 65% of residents felt they "belong" in Upper Arlington, marking a 13-percentage point increase in those saying the statement describes them "extremely well" compared to 2022. Council Members asked questions concerning the rise in positive ratings, differences by age group, and housing preference demographics. Mr. Schoeny noted the surprise in finding that residents' sense of belonging did not vary significantly by age or tenure in the community. Mr. Kristel noted that data from the survey may be used for future policy decisions.

b. Zollinger Road Public Outreach Overview, Presented by Public Service Director Gary Wilfong and City Engineer Aaron Scott

City Engineer Aaron Scott presented a summary of the Zollinger Road Mobility and Safety Improvements Project, scheduled for construction in 2027 (presentation attached as Exhibit B). The project will span from North Star Road to Riverside Drive, with an estimated construction cost of \$4.8 million and \$3.3 million secured in grant funding. A public open house took place on July 10, 2025, attracting over 70 attendees who contributed 253 responses on information boards and completed 62 exit surveys. Additionally, an online feedback platform garnered 406 comments from 134 unique visitors, along with 73 exit surveys. The corridor under review was

divided into three sections for analysis: the eastern high school area, the central Kingsdale area, and the western section. Common issues pointed out across all sections included the need to improve safety, address dangerous drivers, and enhance the pedestrian experience. There were 54 comments regarding roundabouts in the western section, particularly at the Kioka and Zollinger intersection. Future steps involve developing alternative designs in collaboration with MKSK by Q1 2026, conducting public outreach, completing detailed designs by the end of 2026, and presenting final plans to the public by Q1 2027. Council Members raised questions about communication strategies, possible conflicts with the Lane Avenue project also slated for 2027, and pedestrian improvements. Mr. Scott clarified that the project would focus on a mill and overlay with specific improvements rather than a full reconstruction like Fishinger Road. Assistant City Manager Jackie Thiel also noted that the City is considering traffic patterns and community feedback regarding potential road closures during the construction phase.

Legislative Items for Third Reading/Public Hearing/Council Action

a. Ordinance No. 28-2025 - An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a development agreement with National Church Residences and Upper Arlington Schools

Mr. Kulewicz recused himself and left the Council Chamber at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Schoeny and Economic Analyst James Russell provided an overview of the development agreement between the City, Upper Arlington Schools, and National Church Residences (NCR). The agreement includes:

- NCR's commitment to retain \$21.2 million in gross annual payroll for 12 years, increasing by \$5.25 million in year 5
- NCR will grade property adjacent to the retention pond for a potential shared-use path
- NCR will replat to create a separate parcel with the northern portion of the retention pond and transfer it to the City
- NCR will enter into a 30-year lease with a third-party developer for the office building
- NCR will record a 90% age-restriction (55+) for residential uses
- The City will implement a 30-year TIF district with approximately 55% of property taxes staying with the schools
- The City will provide a \$1 million grant from the economic development fund upon completion of Phase 1
- The total ROI is projected at 642% based on the agreement alone, or 2,686% if NCR stays for the 30-year lease term

Before public comments, President Awakessien Jeter and staff addressed ten recurring topics from resident emails:

1. Utility easements – Ms. Thiel explained that relocating the 15-foot utility easement containing fiber, sanitary, gas, and electric services would be extremely difficult in an already developed area.

2. Deed restrictions - City Attorney Darren Shulman clarified that deed restrictions on Concord Village properties cannot control what happens on NCR's property, and that the 15-foot reserve maintenance easement for the retention pond does not prevent the proposed development.
3. Retention Pond maintenance – Mr. Schoeny explained that NCR and Concord Village Association currently share maintenance costs, and the City would assume NCR's obligations upon property transfer.
4. Shared-use path design – Mr. Schoeny outlined the public engagement process that would occur for path design, with guardrails including no water recreation facilities and consideration of where the path should terminate.
5. Construction traffic – Mr. Scott confirmed that Arlington Center Boulevard could accommodate construction traffic.
6. Potential road closure – Ms. Thiel noted that survey feedback could be gathered about potentially closing Arlington Center Boulevard and connecting to Concord Village Drive.
7. Building heights - Senior Planner Justin Milam confirmed the office building would be 53 feet tall (within the 64-foot zoning limit), with revised balcony designs following community feedback.
8. Landscaping and privacy - Matt Rule from NCR described plans to preserve mature trees, add landscaping, offer financial assistance for off-site landscaping to the four most affected homes, remove balconies from certain building sides, and add parking garage screening.
9. Parking – Mr. Rule explained that each phase would include adequate parking, with podium parking in all buildings.
10. Crime concerns - Police Chief Keith Hall confirmed that data shows no increase in residential crime around parks in Upper Arlington.

In response to President Awakessien Jeter's invitation to speak, the following members of the public came forward:

- Tricia Merenda – expressed concerns about the redevelopment process with National Church Residences, citing insufficient community engagement, delayed information, and lack of trust in the zoning process. They requested clearer documentation of public input and raised questions about the ambiguity of age-restricted housing in Phase 3, urging the City to improve transparency and establish higher standards for future development.
- Edwina Thrush – asked Council to personally view the property under consideration from neighboring backyards to better understand the long-term impact on residents, noting this as an important consideration in the decision.
- Diane Cotrim – raised concerns about unresolved issues with the redevelopment plans, including building placement due to utility easements, unclear use of “nodes” within the retention pond maintenance easement, and the lack of a maintenance agreement for the shared pond. They also expressed opposition to a proposed shared path near their property, citing privacy, safety, and quality-of-life impacts, and emphasized the need for clearer agreements before the project proceeds.
- Daniella Hendrickson – submitted written materials and requested traffic and safety measures related to Concord Village. They asked Council to install a “No Outlet” sign

at the north entrance, permanently close the north entrance of Arlington Center Boulevard, and create a new south entrance/exit to improve safety, reduce traffic impacts, and provide green space and community connectivity.

- Jim Fisher – reiterated concerns about unresolved issues such as retention pond maintenance and the shared path, urging Council to address them now rather than defer. They supported closing the north end of Arlington Center Boulevard and opening a southern access to reduce long-term construction impacts and improve emergency response times, and suggested Council meet with residents on-site before the upcoming vote to better understand community concerns.
- Goyal – emphasized that Concord Village already functions as a natural senior community with many multigenerational families, and expressed frustration that the NCR project is being framed as meeting senior housing needs while negatively impacting existing seniors. They described the community feedback process as flawed and ineffective, noting that changes to the project have been minimal and difficult to discern, and urged Council to engage directly with residents on-site to better understand the unique impacts of the redevelopment.
- Karen Byre – requested access to deed restrictions and raised questions about liability for retention pond maintenance, enforcement if issues arise, and the long-term impact of rental housing under NCR's ownership model. They suggested design alternatives such as relocating the building, reconsidering balconies, adding benches, and revising the shared path, while urging Council to extend the timeline to allow further review of deed restrictions and project details.
- Kat Cochrane-Yamaguchi - spoke in strong support of the proposed National Church Residences development, praising the addition of senior housing, expanded green space, and modern building design. They emphasized the growing need for senior housing in Upper Arlington, noting personal family ties to the community, and commended NCR's efforts to engage with residents while balancing affordability and feasibility.

Council noted that while they acknowledged the burden borne by those residing in proximity to the development, they also highlighted the substantial advantages the project would yield for the City as a whole. Mr. Walter pointed out the difficulty of such decisions and recognized the need to balance individual burdens against broader community benefits. The project was seen as a vital economic development opportunity, with Mr. Lynch mentioning that the development agreement was sensible and aligned with other agreements seen in recent years. Vice President Close emphasized that having a strong employer like National Church Residences remain in Upper Arlington provided economic stability and growth, which was crucial for the City's long-term viability.

Ms. Adams expressed understanding for the diverse needs within the community, emphasizing her personal discussions with older residents who expressed a strong desire for accessible housing options that would allow them to stay in Upper Arlington, close to family and friends. The development, which introduces senior housing options, was considered an exciting opportunity by several Council Members, addressing a pressing need communicated by many constituents.

President Awakessien Jeter acknowledged the sincerity and passion in the concerns raised by residents but reiterated the importance of viewing the proposal through the lens of what was best for the entire City. Like other colleagues, she expressed commitment to ongoing community dialogue and emphasized the essential nature of civic engagement in shaping the development process, noting that this was not the final opportunity for resident input. She assured residents that their feedback would continue to be valued as the planning for the shared-use path and other project elements moved forward.

Mr. Lynch moved, seconded by Ms. Adams to adopt Ordinance No. 28-2025. The motion carried with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Adams, Close, Lynch, Walter, and President Awakessien Jeter

Absent: Munc

Abstain: Kulewicz

Mr. Kulewicz returned to the Council Chamber at 9:08 p.m., following the vote on Ordinance No. 28-2025.

Legislative Items for First Reading/Public Hearing/Council Action

- a. Resolution No. 9-2025- A resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Franklin County Budget Commission, authorizing the necessary tax levies, and certifying them to the Franklin County Auditor**

Finance Director Brent Lewis explained this was the annual approval of tax rates through the accounting process.

In response to President Awakessien Jeter's invitation to speak, there were no questions or comments from the public relative to Resolution No. 9-2025.

Ms. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Lynch, to pass Resolution No. 9-2025. The motion carried with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Adams, Close, Kulewicz, Lynch, Walter and President Awakessien Jeter

Absent: Munc

Legislative Items for First Reading/Public Hearing

- a. Ordinance No. 35-2025- An ordinance authorizing the continuation of the City's membership in the Central Ohio Risk Management Association (CORMA) self-insurance pool and to authorize expenditures thereto**

Mr. Lewis noted that despite an increase in the City's asset values, there was a decrease in insurance costs due to post-COVID pricing trends. The Community Center had been added to the City's assets last year.

President Awakessien Jeter advised that the Second Reading/Public Hearing/Council Action will occur on September 22, 2025.

City Manager Update

No update provided.

Recognition of Council Member Kathy Adams

President Awakessien Jeter announced that this was Ms. Adams' last meeting, due to her resignation, effective September 9, 2025. City Council recognized Ms. Adams with a Resolution of Commendation (attached as Exhibit C). Several speakers offered tributes:

School Board Member Nihdi Satiani praised Ms. Adams' sincerity, courage, and actions, highlighting her work on the source of income non-discrimination ordinance, modernizing swim dress codes, advocating for the Unified Development Ordinance, establishing the food waste collection program, initiating electric aggregation, championing a City Social Worker position, and organizing the City's first AAPI event.

Catherine Kennedy commended Ms. Adams for her role in establishing Rainbow UA and UA Pride, creating a more welcoming community, and approaching issues with curiosity, compassion, and determination.

Maisha Jones expressed pride in her service and predicted this would not be the end of her time in politics.

Council colleagues praised Ms. Adams for her dedication to seniors, commitment to equality, attention to budget issues, passionate advocacy, detailed note-taking, and collaborative approach. President Awakessien Jeter presented Ms. Adams with a City of Upper Arlington flag commemorating her years of service.

In her remarks, Ms. Adams expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve, noting the meaningful work with City staff and her efforts related to sustainability, women's representation, and LGBTQ representation.

* * *

There being no further business to come before City Council, President Awakessien Jeter called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kulewicz moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Adams. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.



Key Findings from the City's 2025 Community Survey September 8, 2025



PRIMARY OBJECTIVE

Measure resident opinions on a wide range of topics, including:

- Quality of life
- Ratings of the municipal services that the City provides, and
- Various other issues facing the City.

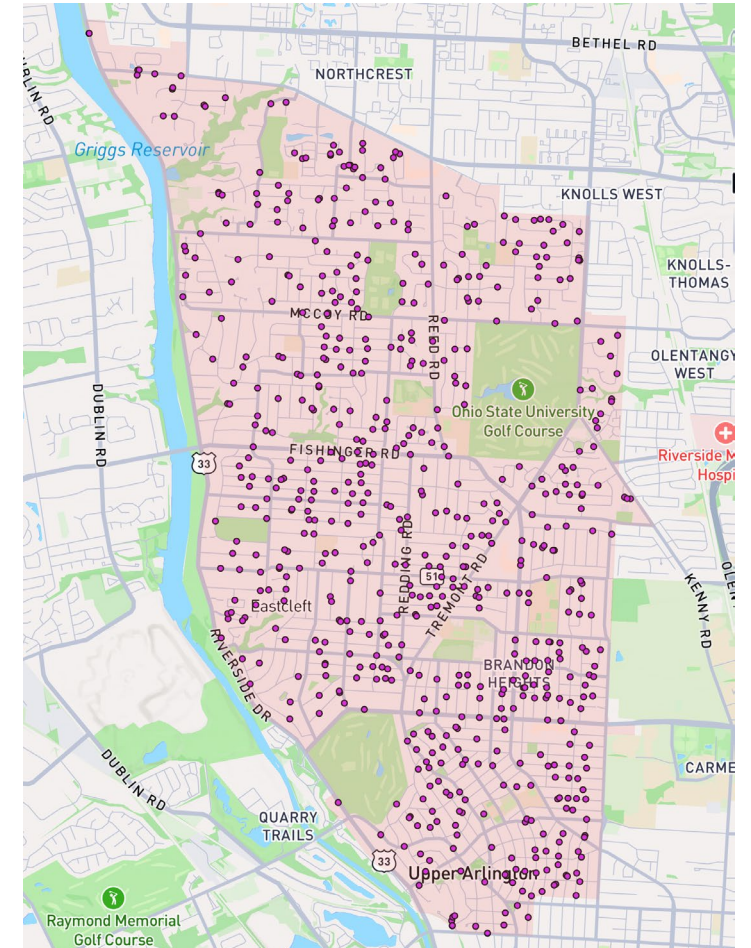
METHODOLOGY

~2,000 UA residential addresses were ***randomly selected*** to participate. Residents could share their opinions either by answering questions online or by returning a paper copy of the survey via pre-addressed, prepaid envelope.

Overall, **674 residents** completed the questionnaire (34% response rate).

Responses were weighted to reflect the demographics of the City's adult population as measured by the US Census Bureau.

Map Of Participating Households



Residents feel Upper Arlington is a great place to live.

Nearly all residents continue to rate Upper Arlington very positively, both overall and as a place to raise children.

Most residents rate the quality of the municipal services provided by the City as “excellent” or “good.”

And most residents report they are likely to remain in Upper Arlington over the next five years.

Most residents trust their City officials.

Most Upper Arlington residents...

- Think City government officials try to do the right thing most of the time.
- Trust City government officials "a lot" or "a fair amount."
- Believe City government officials welcome citizen input either "a lot" or "a fair amount."

Residents provided helpful feedback regarding several high-profile topics.

Most Upper Arlington residents...

- Have a positive opinion towards the new Community Center.
- Are open to the idea of different types of housing in the City.
- Feel like they belong in Upper Arlington.

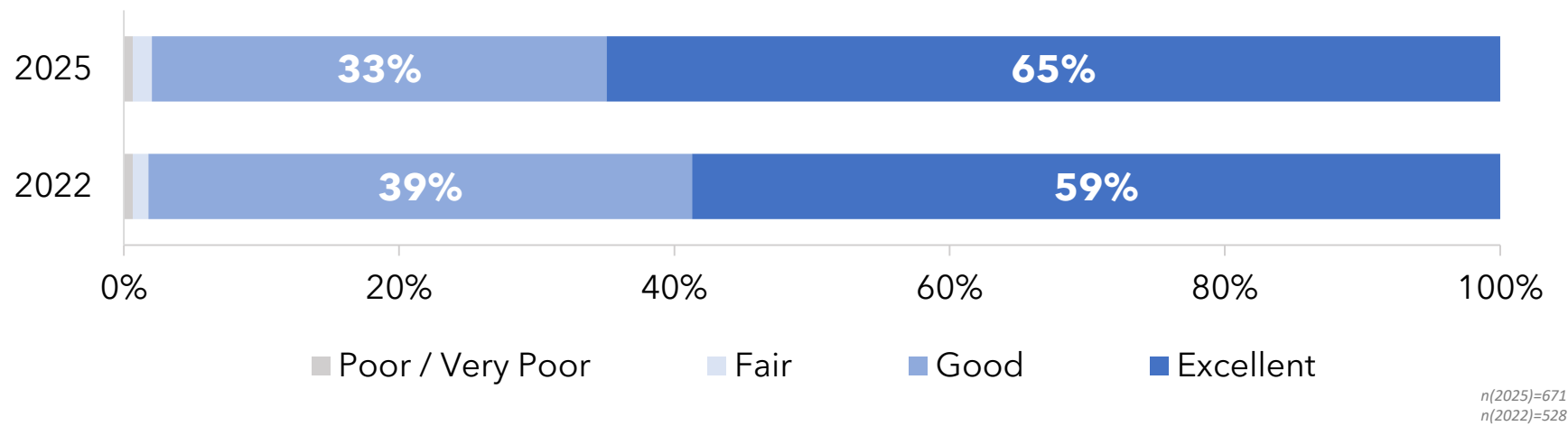


QUALITY OF LIFE & MUNICIPAL SERVICE RATINGS



Nearly all of those surveyed (98%!) said Upper Arlington was an “excellent” or “good” place to live.

In your opinion, how is Upper Arlington as a place to live?



UA'S BIGGEST STRENGTHS AND MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS

Early in the questionnaire, residents were asked two-open ended questions:

What do you like most about living in UA?

- A feeling of safety/security (38%)*
- Its location/proximity to Columbus (28%)*
- Good schools (23%)*
- Community pride/spirit (24%)

** Notable change from 2022*

What do you think is the most important problem facing UA?

- High taxes (23%)*
- Housing market / homes too expensive (16%)*
- Lack of diversity (12%)*
- Concerns about managing growth (11%)*

** Notable change from 2022*

One of the central purposes of the 2025 Community Survey is to understand resident perceptions of the quality of City services that are provided to them and to track change in these perceptions over time.

Looking at the percentage of residents who provided a rating of “excellent” or “good”:

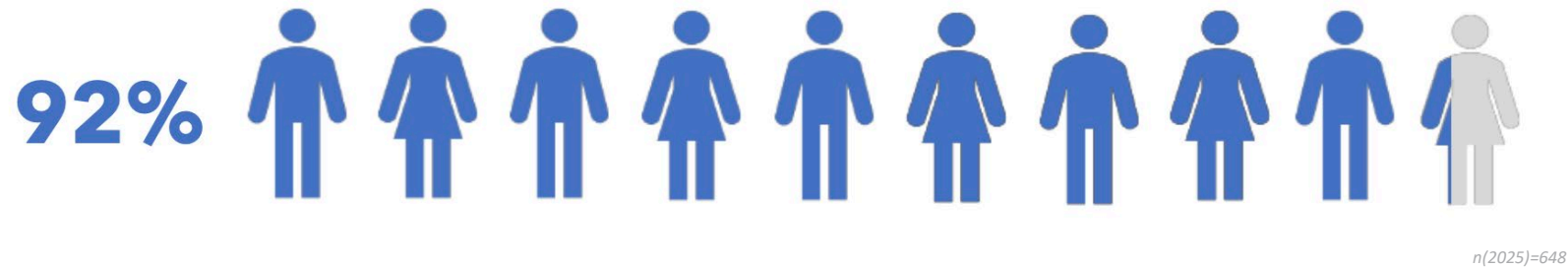
- The City’s **overall quality rating** (across all services provided by the City) increased from 89% in 2017, to 93% in 2022, and to 95% in 2025.
- The City’s **public safety services** were also rated highly, as were the City’s **parks** and **recreation programming/classes**.
- An interesting pattern was observed in residents’ ratings of the City’s **stormwater drainage** services, which increased from 67% in 2022 to 79% in 2025.



TRUST IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

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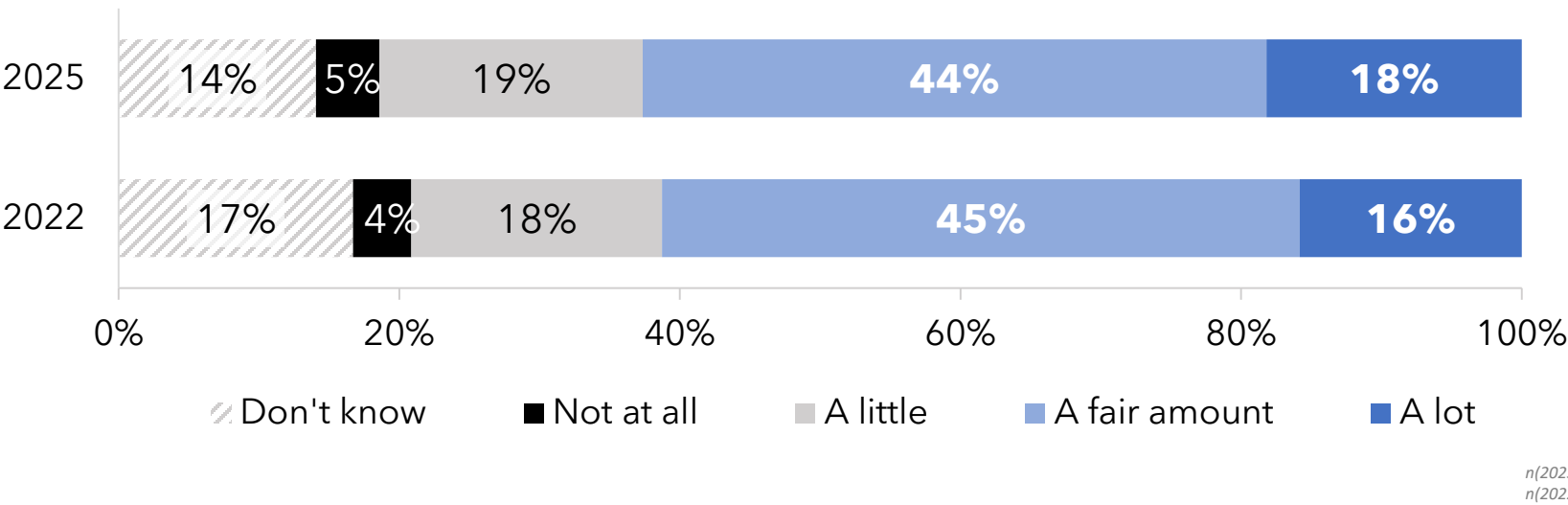
A large majority of survey respondents think Upper Arlington's government officials try to do the right thing most of the time.



TRUST IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

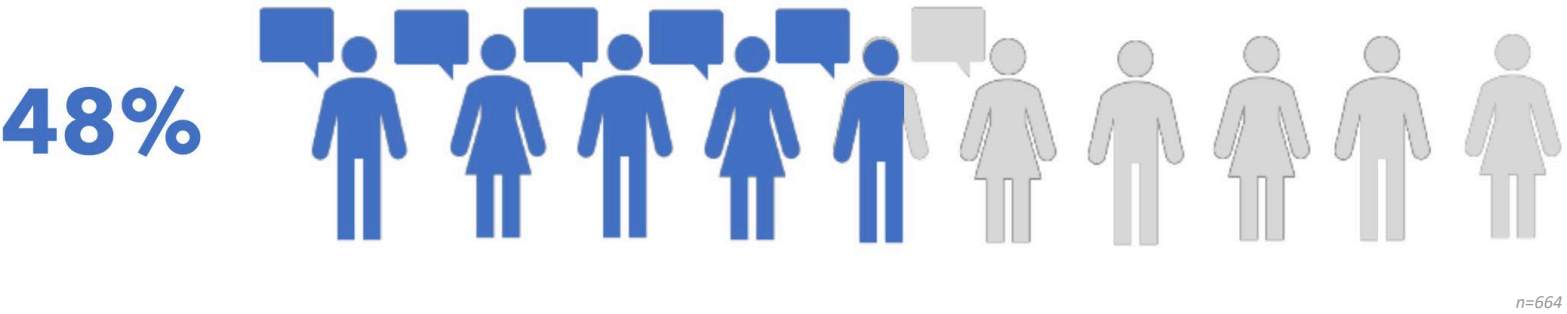


Most residents said they trust UA’s government officials “a lot” or “a fair amount.”



CONTACT WITH CITY EMPLOYEES

Almost half of residents surveyed in 2025 reported talking with a City of Upper Arlington employee in person, by phone, by email, or in some other way in the past year.



Most of those who interacted with an Upper Arlington City employee in the past year said they were “very” or “extremely satisfied” with that interaction; this percentage is substantially greater than what was observed in 2022 (78%).





CURRENT TOPICS OF INTEREST

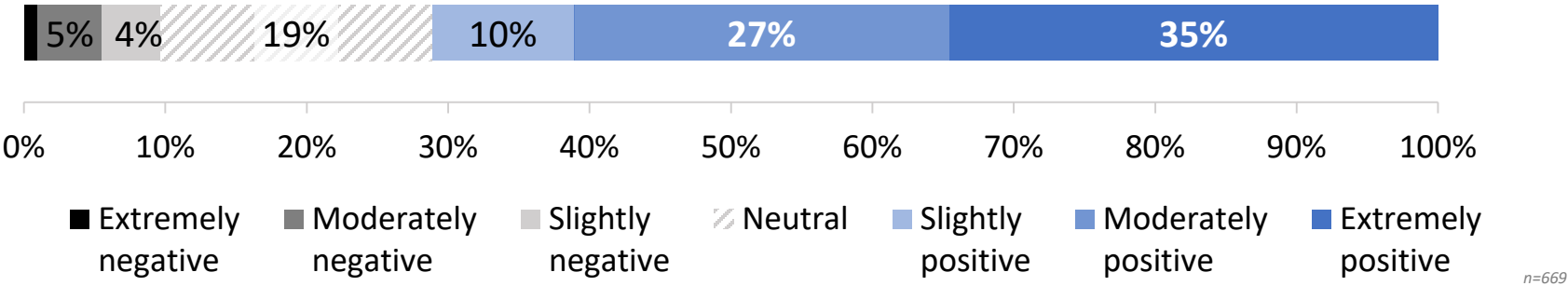
THE CITY'S NEW COMMUNITY CENTER



Nearly half of Upper Arlington residents (48%) reported that they had been inside the Bob Crane Community Center since it opened in April 2025.



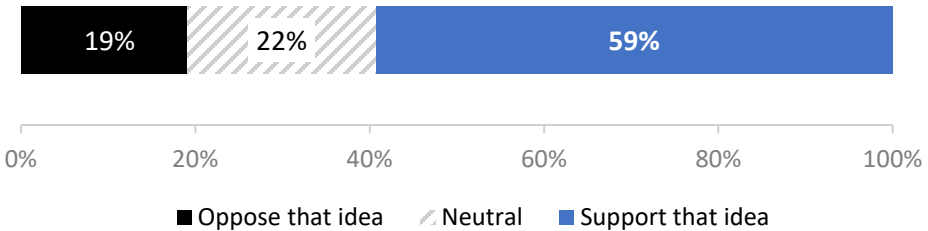
Most residents have a positive opinion towards the new Community Center.



OPINIONS ABOUT HOUSING

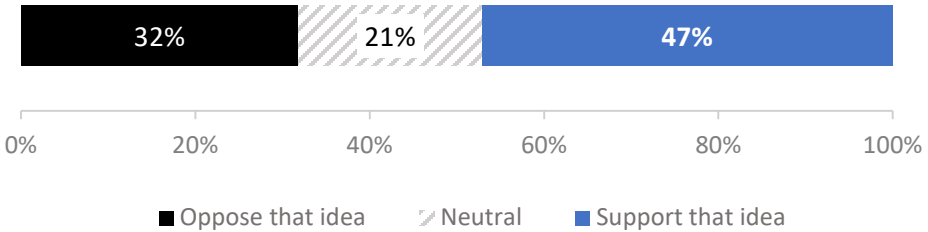
Many Upper Arlington residents are open to the idea of different types of housing in the City.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)



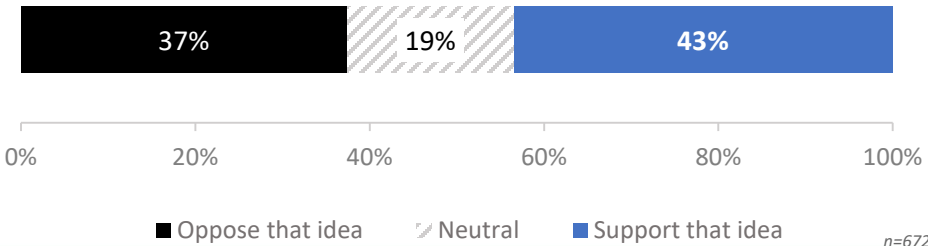
n=671

Duplexes



n=673

Townhouses

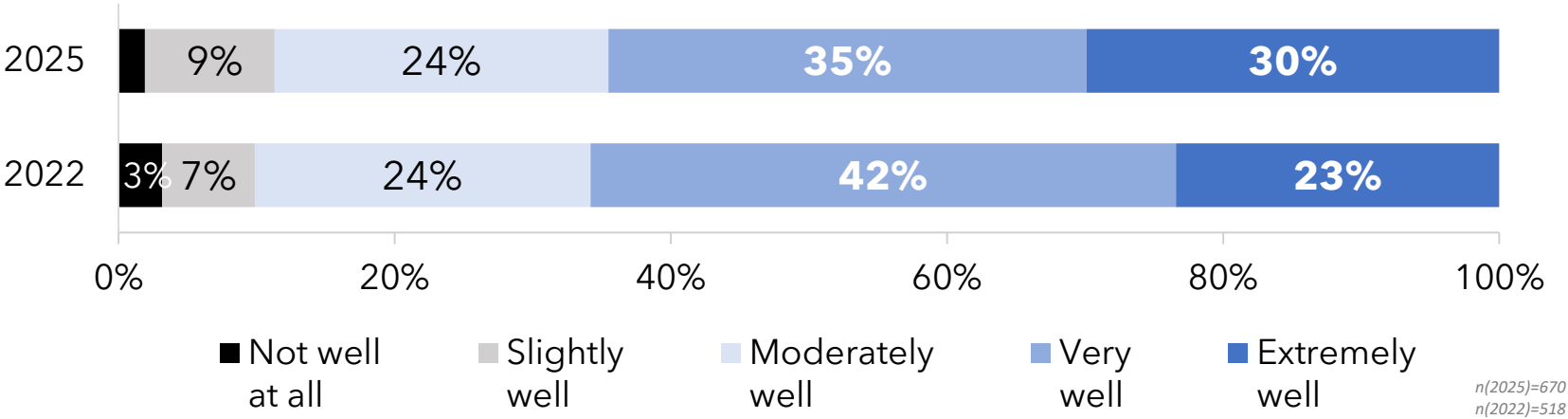


n=672



Many residents think the following statement describes them “very” or “extremely well”:
I feel like I belong in Upper Arlington.

How well does this statement describe you: "I feel like I belong in Upper Arlington."

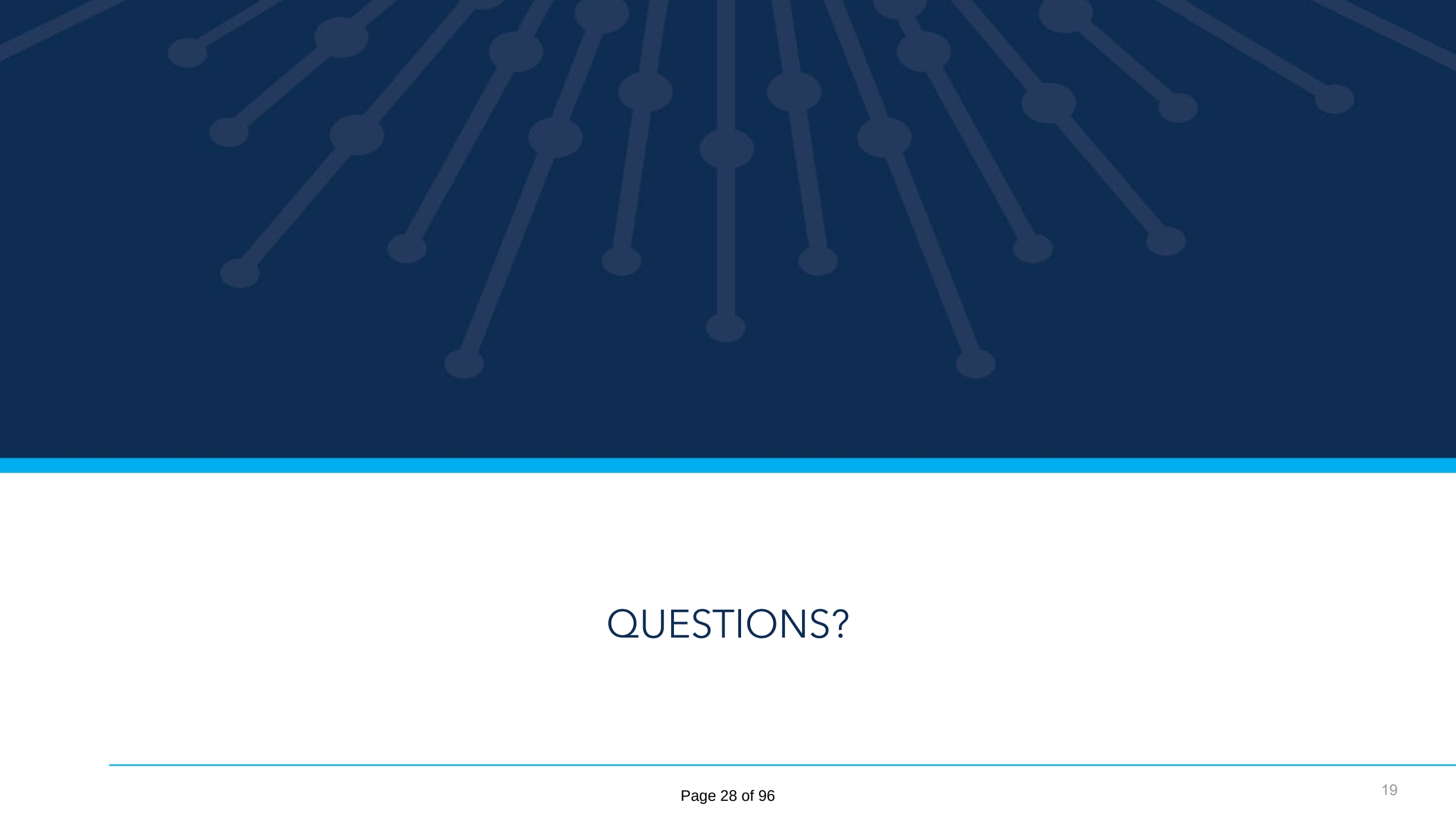




**Residents feel
Upper Arlington is a
great place to live.**

**Most residents
trust their City
officials.**

**Residents provided
helpful feedback
regarding several
high-profile topics.**



QUESTIONS?

Project Update

Zollinger Road Mobility and Safety Improvements

Aaron Scott, PE – City Engineer

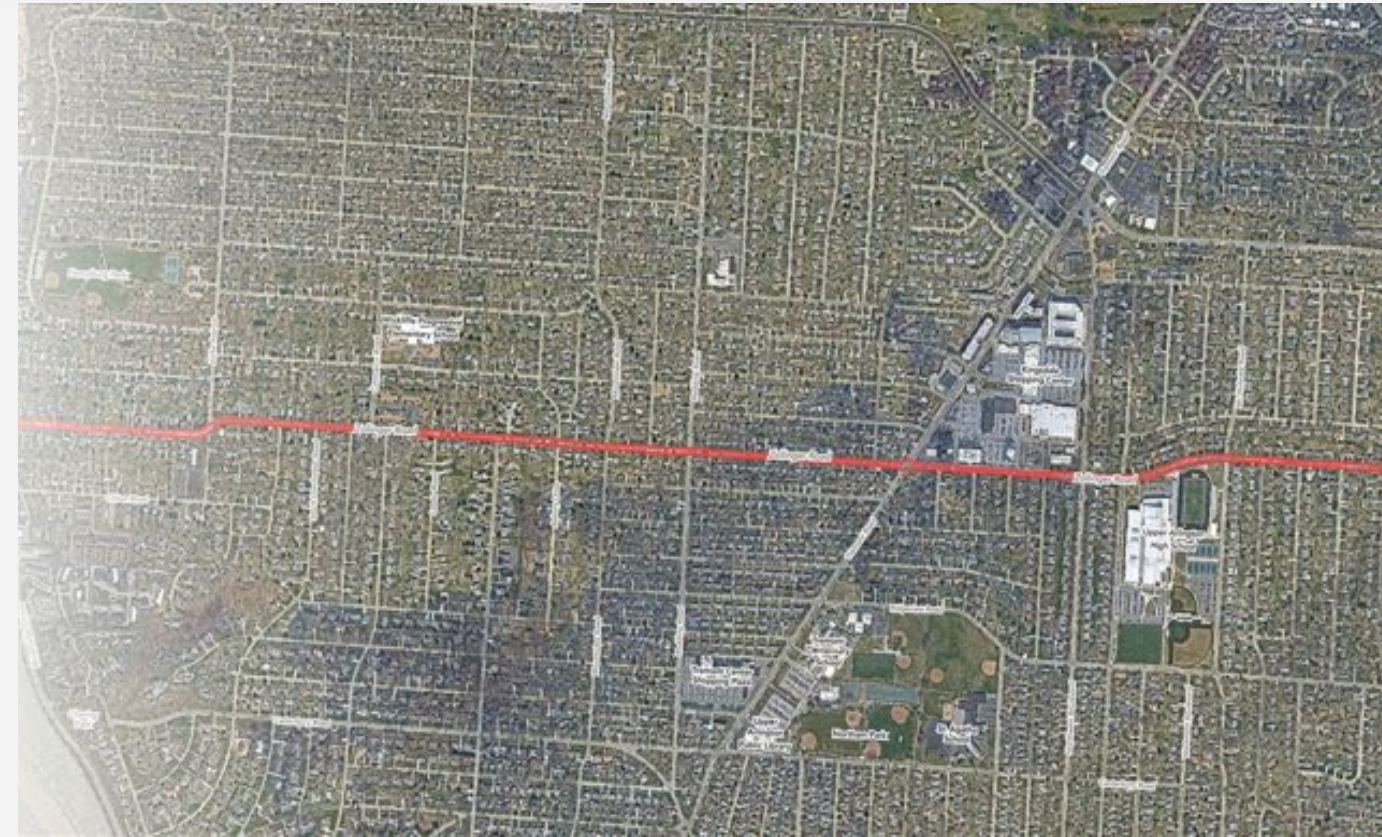
September 8, 2025

Project Numbers & History

2

Project Numbers

- Construction Year – 2027
- Construction Cost - \$4.8M
- Grant Funds - \$3.3M



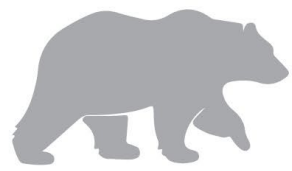
Project History

- 2022 –Council approval to apply for funding, Res. 15-2022
- 2023 – Project is awarded \$3.3M in grant funds
- 2024 – Council reaffirms support of project, Res. 5-2024
- February 2025 – Design proposals received & scored
- May 2025 – EMH&T under contract for design
- July 2025 – Community Open House to hear resident's thoughts on the corridor

Community Open House Results

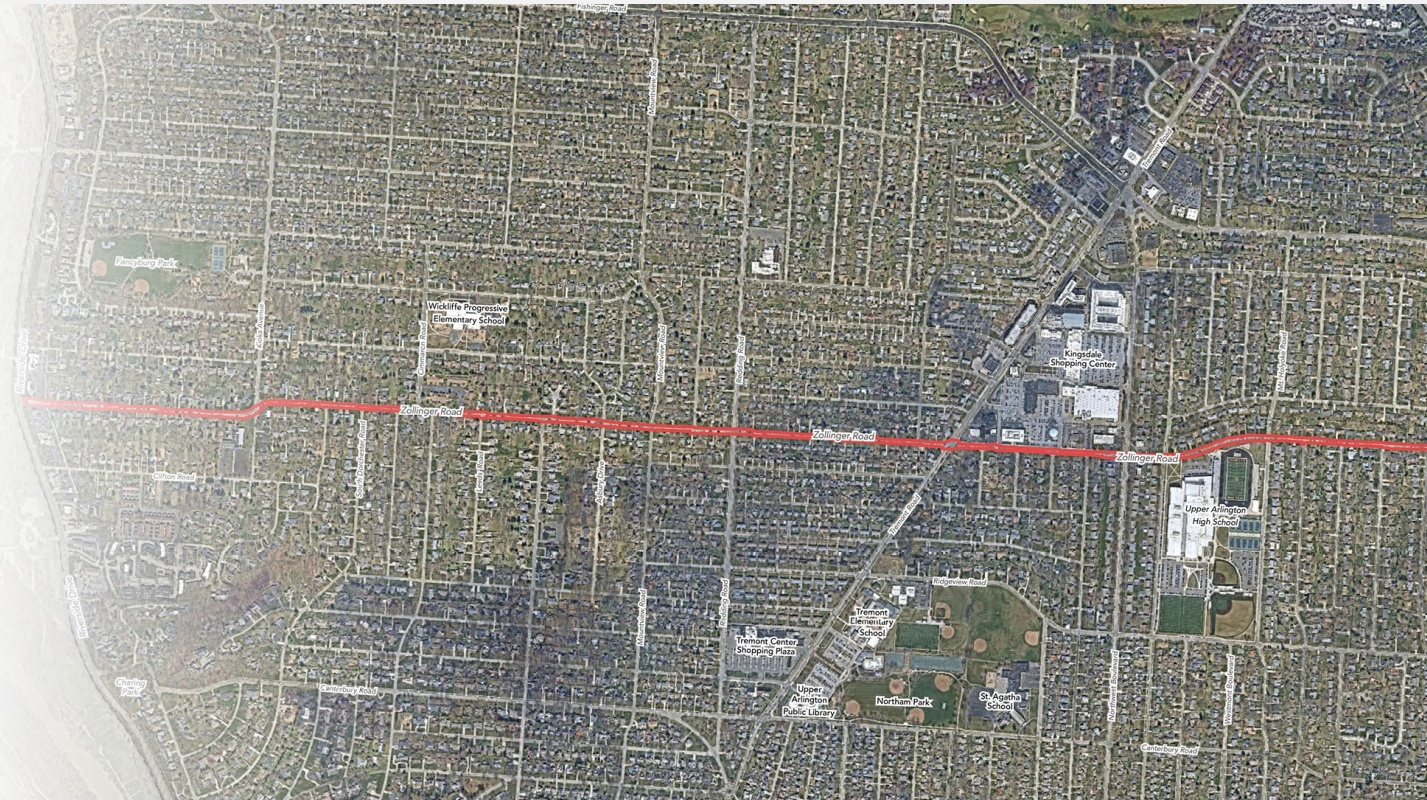
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ZOLLINGER ROAD



Mobility & Safety
Improvement Project

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE



THURSDAY, JULY 10, 6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

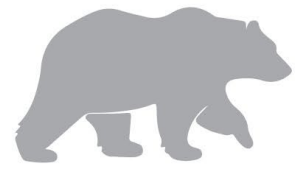
BOB CRANE COMMUNITY CENTER (LEVEL 5)

- Learn more about the Zollinger Road Corridor
- Share your thoughts in an activity
- Talk with representatives from the City of Upper Arlington and the Project Planning Team

- **70+ Attendees**
- **253 Board Responses**
- **62 Exit Surveys**

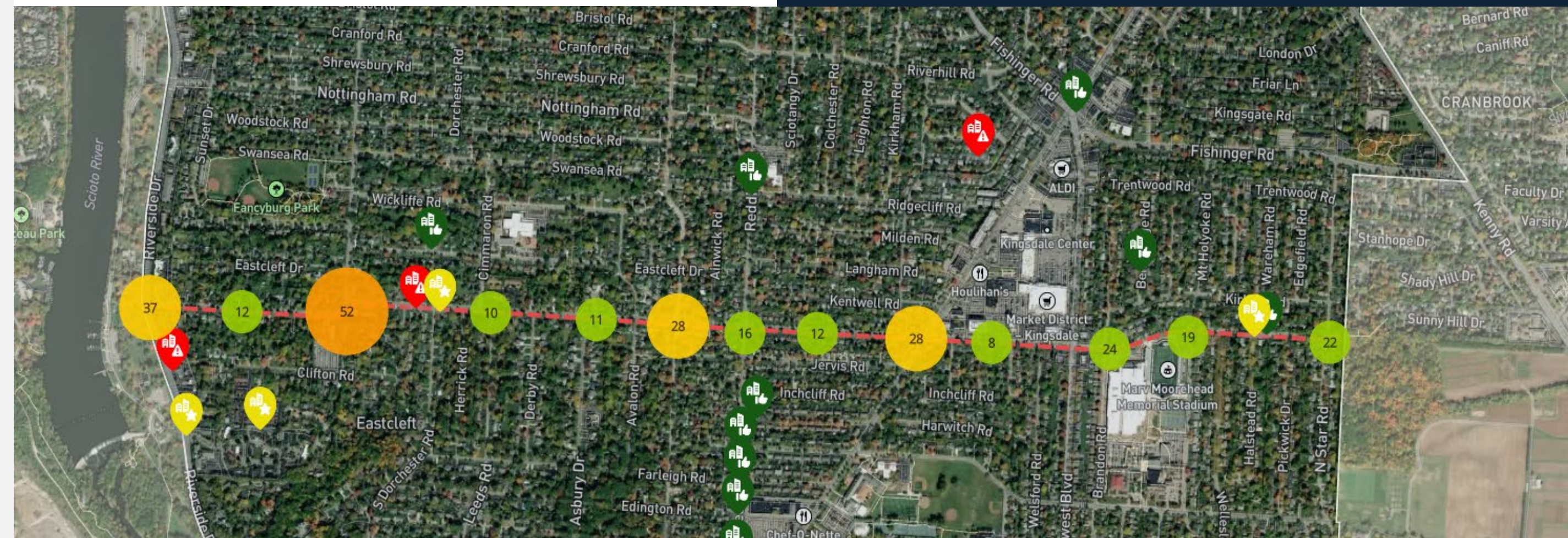


ZOLLINGER ROAD



Mobility & Safety Improvement Project

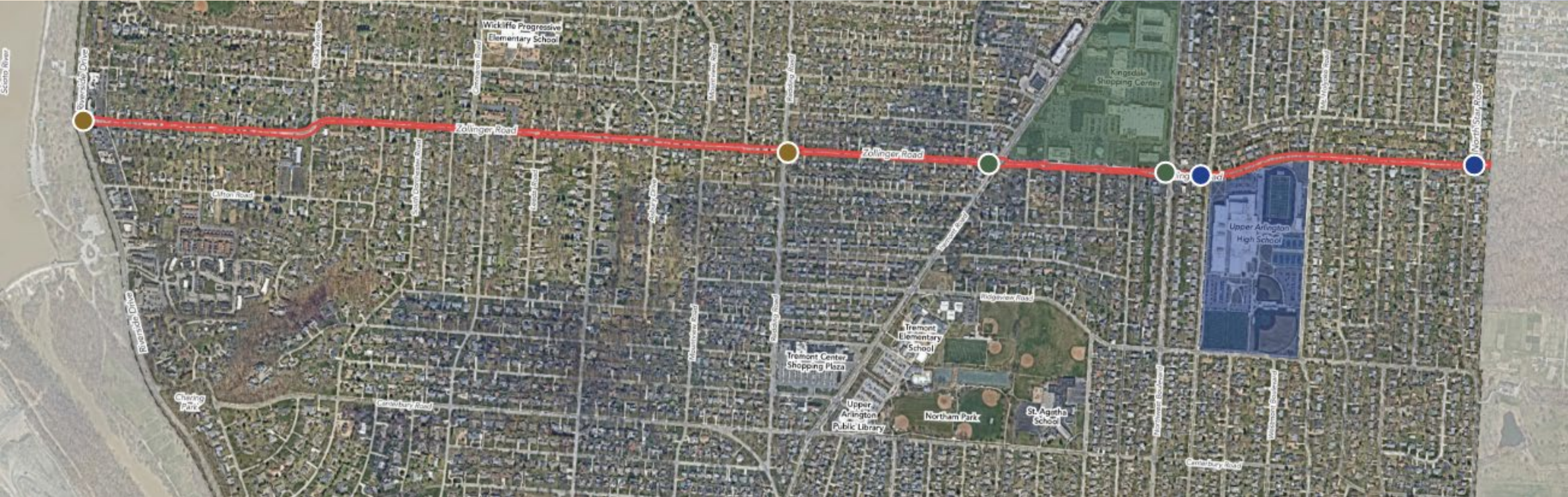
- 134 Unique visitors
- 406 Board Comments
- 73 Exit Surveys



General Takeaways

5

Top 10 Responses	Votes	Top 10 Responses	Votes	Top 10 Responses	Votes
Improve Park Access	76	Improve Pedestrian Experience	20	Improve School Traffic	23
Improve Pedestrian Experience	71	Better Traffic Light Timing	17	Improve Pedestrian Experience	17
Add Traffic Light	61	Issues with Dangerous Drivers	15	Better Signage	15
Roundabout	54*	Improve Safety	15	Improve Safety	11
Issues with Dangerous Drivers	43	Create Dedicated Turn Lanes	12	Add Bike Lanes	9
Improve Visibility	38	Improve Visibility	8	Issues with Dangerous Drivers	8
Dangerous Turn	30	Improve Street Parking	8	Improve Bike Lanes	8
Improve Safety	20	Expressed Concern with Accidents	7	Do Not Implement A to Z Connector	8
Better Signage	20	Remove Street Parking	7	Implement A to Z Connector	6
Suggested Changes to Road Configuration	14	No Roundabout	7	Improve School Parking	5



ZOLLINGER ROAD



Mobility & Safety Improvement Project



- Q4 2025 - Staff & EMH&T develops alternatives based on feedback from residents
- Q1 2026 – Alternatives presented to residents for feedback
- Q2 – Q4 2026 – Detailed design
- Q1 2027 – Final plans presented at public pre-construction meeting
- Q2 2027 – Construction begins

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON
RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION

Kathy Adams
City Council Member 2022-2025

WHEREAS, Kathy Adams has faithfully served the City of Upper Arlington as a valued member of City Council since January 2022; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure, Council Member Adams provided thoughtful leadership and a strong voice that elevated the work of her colleagues and strengthened our community; and

WHEREAS, she has been a steadfast advocate for our senior residents, working to expand programs such as CARES by supporting the addition of a social worker and exploring city-funded transportation options to provide mobility for those who may not otherwise have the ability to travel throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Adams has advanced innovative initiatives, including electric aggregation, that will continue to benefit residents for years to come; and

WHEREAS, she has championed modernizing the City’s procurement processes, including ensuring greater opportunities for minority-owned vendors; and

WHEREAS, since January 2024, Council Member Adams has served as Council’s liaison to the Community Relations Committee, helping to foster inclusivity and strengthen connections across our City; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Adams assisted in organizing the inaugural UA Cherry Blossom Festival, honoring and recognizing AAPI residents, which has since become an annual CRC event since 2023; and

WHEREAS, as the first openly LGBTQ+ member of City Council in Upper Arlington’s history, Council Member Adams marked a historic milestone for the community; and

WHEREAS, Council Member Adams’ time, care, and thoughtfulness have left a lasting legacy, and she departs Council knowing her contributions have made Upper Arlington a stronger, more inclusive, and forward-thinking community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that City Council does hereby extend its deepest gratitude to Council Member Kathy Adams for her distinguished service and leadership, and wishes her every success and fulfillment in the next chapter of her life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution of Commendation be spread upon the minutes of Council on this 8th day of September 2025.

Ukeme Awakessien Jeter, President

Brian C. Close, Vice President

John J. Kulewicz

Jim Lynch

Heidi Munc

Todd Walter

Attest: Krystal Gonchar



Authors:	Suzanne Beach, Executive Assistant Brent Lewis, Finance Department Director
Council Meeting Date:	September 22, 2025
Subject/Legislative Item:	Ordinance No. 35-2025 - An ordinance authorizing the continuation of the City's membership in the Central Ohio Risk Management Association (CORMA) self-insurance pool and to authorize expenditures thereto
Purpose:	To renew the City's property and casualty insurance plan and to authorize the necessary expenditure related to the program.
Executive Summary:	This is the annual legislation to approve the City's participation in CORMA and to authorize the expenditure for the renewal of the property and casualty insurance plan.

Purpose and Impact

Staff requests approval of the ordinance authorizing the City's membership in Central Ohio Risk Management Agency (CORMA) Self-Insurance Pool, Inc. and authorizing the necessary expenditures in an amount not to exceed **\$450,000 for the annual contribution** related to such (property and liability insurance premiums, admin fees, etc.).

Insurance maintained through CORMA:

Property

Commercial Property
Terrorism
Excess Property
Boiler and Machine
Inland Marine
Bridge

Casualty

Automobile Liability and Physical Damage
General Liability
Law Enforcement Liability
Public Officials/Employment Practice Liability

The **participation costs** for 2025/2026 represent a **2.98% decrease** from the prior year. The decrease can be attributed to updated values and allocations, offset by a lower insurance quote.

Several proposed changes to the plan were discussed by the CORMA, including the addition of one new member, but it was ultimately decided that the current coverage is adequate, and no changes to the plan were needed for the upcoming plan year.



It should also be noted that the City does maintain a cyber insurance policy. This policy is outside the scope of CORMA.

History

On October 1, 1997, the City established membership in the Central Ohio Risk Management Agency (CORMA) Self-Insurance Pool, Inc. CORMA was formed pursuant to ORC Section 2744.081. Members consist of the cities of Upper Arlington, Westerville, Pickerington, Dublin, Powell, Grove City, Groveport, Canal Winchester, Grandview Heights, Gahanna, and Hilliard. Each member has two representatives on the Board of Trustees. This Board establishes its own budget, determines its annual rates for its members, and hires its own legal counsel (Isaac Wiles) and third-party administrator/consultant (Wichert Insurance).

Membership in CORMA enables the City to take advantage of any economies to be realized from an insurance pool with other cities and also provides the City with more control over claims than what is normally available with traditional liability insurance coverage. Each year, CORMA's third-party administrator/consultant issues proposals for the upcoming year. The proposals are then presented to the CORMA Board for review, discussion, and a vote.

Each year, as part of the October 1st renewal of CORMA's insurance coverage, the City Council authorizes the expenditures necessary to pay for the City's share of CORMA's expenses for the coming fiscal year. Those expenses include premiums for insurance coverage, contributions to the loss fund, and administrative expenses. Each city's proportionate share is based upon several factors including population, size of safety forces, property values, titled vehicles, ratable expenditures, and four-plus years of claims history.

Alternatives

Attachments

1.	Ordinance No. 35-2025
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RECORD OF ORDINANCES

CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON
STATE OF OHIO

ORDINANCE NO. 35-2025

TO AUTHORIZE THE CONTINUATION OF THE CITY'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE CENTRAL OHIO RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (CORMA) SELF-INSURANCE POOL AND TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES THERETO

- WHEREAS,** the Central Ohio Risk Management Association Self-Insurance Pool (CORMA) was formed, pursuant to Section 2744.081 of the Ohio Revised Code for the purpose of pooling risk and insurance coverage; and
- WHEREAS,** the City has been a member of CORMA since its inception in 1997; and
- WHEREAS,** participating member cities include Upper Arlington, Westerville, Pickerington, Dublin, Powell, Grove City, Groveport, Canal Winchester, Grandview Heights, Gahanna, and Hilliard; and
- WHEREAS,** membership in CORMA enables the City to take advantage of any economies to be realized from an insurance pool with other cities and also provides the City with more control over claims than is normally available; and
- WHEREAS,** participation will be effective October 1, 2025, and expire on September 30, 2026; and
- WHEREAS,** participation costs for 2026 have been reduced by 2.98% from the prior year, due to updated values and allocations, offset by a lower insurance quote; and
- WHEREAS,** staff recommends that City Council approve participation in the self-insurance pool and approve an amount not to exceed \$450,000 for the annual contribution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Upper Arlington, Ohio:

SECTION 1. City Council hereby approves the City of Upper Arlington's continued participation in the Central Ohio Risk Management Association (CORMA) Self-Insurance Pool through September 30, 2026, and hereby authorizes an expenditure for the annual contribution in an amount not to exceed \$450,000.

SECTION 2. The City Manager, City Attorney, and Finance Director are hereby authorized to take all actions necessary for the City's continued

participation in CORMA that are not substantially inconsistent with this ordinance.

SECTION 3.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.



Authors:	Steven Schoeny, City Manager Emma Speight, Community Affairs Director
Council Meeting Date:	September 22, 2025
Subject/Legislative Item:	Ordinance No. 36-2025 - An ordinance amending § 160.02 - Membership and Terms of Chapter 160 - Community Relations Committee of the Upper Arlington Code of Ordinances
Purpose:	To establish the Community Relations Committee as an ongoing Committee of City Council, and to transition the selection of the Chair and Vice Chair to members of the Committee.
Executive Summary:	The Upper Arlington Community Relations Committee (CRC) was formed by City Council in the Fall of 2020 to advance Upper Arlington as a welcoming community that promotes a sense of belonging among all residents. The Ordinance forming the CRC, Ordinance No. 39-2020, later amended by Ordinance No. 55-2020, included a provision requiring a review of the CRC by Council after five years, with the Committee to continue as created unless Council chooses otherwise. Staff and the CRC are pleased with the progress made by this Committee, as it has worked to build a presence in the community and provide meaningful programs that advance its mission, such as the Welcome Series and the Innovation Small Grant Program. Results from the 2025 Community Survey indicate that these efforts are contributing to an increased sense of belonging, connection with others in the community, and overall positive opinions about Upper Arlington. With the Committee's momentum continuing to build, Staff is recommending that the CRC transition to an ongoing Committee. Ordinance #55-2020 also stated that the selection of a Chair and Vice Chair would be determined by the President of Council, with Council's approval. Typically, the City's Boards and Commissions have provisions within their bylaws relative to members selecting their own leadership. The CRC members work closely together and Staff believes they are best suited to determine who from among their ranks should lead their efforts. Therefore, Staff is requesting an amendment to section



Purpose and Impact

To establish the Community Relations Committee as an ongoing Committee of City Council, and to transition the selection of the Chair and Vice Chair to members of the Committee.

History

In 2019, City Council initiated a community workshop and survey addressing community inclusion and cohesiveness, from which came recommendations for advancing Upper Arlington as a welcoming community. Top recommendations included the need for a community center and the formation of an advisory board that would work to foster a culture of shared community through various programs and partnerships with other community organizations with similar goals. A temporary committee was formed in the fall of 2019 to develop a proposed purpose and structure for this new entity. After some delay due to COVID-19, the Community Relations Committee was formed by City Council in the fall of 2020, with the Committee holding its first meeting in October.

The CRC is comprised of nine community members who reflect a mix of community demographics. The Committee is supported by the City Manager and Community Affairs Director, with ex officio representation from the Upper Arlington City Schools, Upper Arlington Library, and Tri-Village Area Chamber of Commerce, a City Council Liaison, and close affiliation with numerous community entities, such as Equal UA, Rainbow UA, Leadership UA, Asian American Community Services, faith leaders, Upper Arlington Civic Association, and more. The CRC's role does not include forming policy or engaging in dispute resolution.

The CRC has established a series of programs and initiatives that align with its goals, including:

- **CRC Innovation Small Grant Program** – established in 2022, this annual program recommends grants from the City of up to \$5,000 to support new initiatives and enhancements to existing programs and events that advance the welcoming goals of the CRC. Recipients have included the UA Culture & Artisans Fair at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Equal UA's Porch Parties, the UA Historical Society's History Speaks series, and the UA Civic Association's Neighbors Night Out event.
- **CRC Welcome Series** – an annual series of events and programs that are either directly organized through the CRC or that add a new resident welcoming component to the programs led by other community organizations. This has included Black History Month programming, a Cherry Blossom Celebration, the Pride Month and Juneteenth flag-raising ceremonies, an Iftar Dinner, UA history programming, UA Schools programming, Police and Community Relations presentations, a CRC welcome booth at key City events, and the most recent addition of a Navratri/Diwali Celebration this October.
- **Annual Observances Calendar** – a listing of notable national and religious holidays and observances for reference by community members when planning special events or community meetings.



- **CRC Resources Section on Website** – housed within a “New to UA?” section, in addition to information about the above-referenced programs, residents can find links to regional resources and connections with community organizations.
- **Liaison Program** – CRC members work to strengthen ties with community organizations that share similar goals.

The CRC provides a report to City Council annually to share updates on its accomplishments and upcoming projects.

Awareness of the work of the CRC is growing, and the Committee has undertaken a strategic planning process and has developed draft bylaws that provide a strong guiding framework for identifying achievable programs and events that align with the Committee’s goals, facilitate productive CRC meetings, and welcome public input at CRC meetings while affirming the purpose and parameters of the Committee. Results from the 2025 Community Survey indicate that the Committee’s efforts are contributing to an increased sense of belonging, connection with others in the community, and overall positive opinions about Upper Arlington.

Alternatives

Council could choose to incorporate another time period for revisiting the CRC, or it could choose to dissolve the Committee, essentially reducing or ending the City’s proactive efforts to advance Upper Arlington as a welcoming community. Both options would require legislative action. If no legislative action is taken, the CRC would continue as is.

Regarding the requested code change, the Council President could choose to continue selecting the Chair and Vice Chair for the CRC, subject to Council’s approval, as part of the annual selection of Board and Commission members.

Attachments

1.	Ordinance No. 55-2020
2.	Ordinance No. 36-2025



RECORD OF ORDINANCES

CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON
STATE OF OHIO

ORDINANCE NO. 55-2020

AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 39-2020 CHAPTER 160 - COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE; RELATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE

- WHEREAS,** Council enacted Ordinance No. 39-2020 on July 13, 2020 and the Whereas clauses are incorporated into this amendment; and
- WHEREAS,** Council received a high level of interest for the Committee and finds increasing the number of members is in the best interest of the City; and
- WHEREAS,** increase the number of committee members requires amendments to the terms as set forth in Chapter 160 of the Upper Arlington Codified Ordinances; and
- WHEREAS,** after a review of applicants, the President is prepared to appoint members with the consent of Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Upper Arlington, Ohio:

SECTION 1: That C.O. Chapter 160 is amended to read, as follows:

CHAPTER 160

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

§ 160.01 - ESTABLISHMENT.

Pursuant to its authority under the Charter of the City of Upper Arlington, Ohio and Council Rules, City Council hereby establishes and creates a body which shall hereafter be referred to as the Community Relations Committee.

§ 160.02 - MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS.

- (A) The Community Relations Committee shall be composed of nine ~~seven~~ (7 9) residents of this City, who shall be appointed by the President of Council subject to the approval of Council. The President of Council shall appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair subject to the approval of Council. All Committee members shall be residents of the City of Upper Arlington. Appointments shall commence on the date the appointment is approved by Council or such other date provided by Council.
- (B) The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the Committee and act as parliamentarian in the absence of the City Attorney. The Vice Chair shall assume

the duties of the Chair in his or her absence. Any permanent vacancy of the Chair position or Vice-Chair shall require the President of Council to appoint the replacement subject to the approval of Council.

(C) ~~The nine seven (7 9) members shall be appointed for four year terms ending on the last day of August of the term's final year. The terms will be staggered so that three (3) members will be appointed every other odd-numbered year, and four (4) members will be appointed every other even-numbered year. Terms shall commence on the first day of October and expire on the last day of September of the even-numbered years. The initial term for five (5) members will expire on September 30, 2024 and the initial term for four (4) members will expire on September 30, 2022. After the initial terms, every term shall be for four (4) years.~~

(D) Appointments for the purpose of filling vacancies occurring otherwise than by expiration of terms shall be made for the unexpired term by the President of Council and confirmed by Council. Appointments shall commence on the date the appointment is approved by Council or such other date provided by Council.

§ 160.03 - ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES.

- (A) The Community Relations Committee establish its own rules of procedure for the conduct of its business that shall not conflict with the Charter, Rules of Council, state law or this chapter. The City Manager or designee[s] shall serve as the staff member[s] assigned to this Committee. It shall have such assistance and such other employees as the Council may from time to time authorize. All Rules shall be submitted to the City Clerk and kept on file.
- (B) The Community Relations Committee shall provide an annual update to City Council to report on its accomplishments and discuss its goals and any funding requests for the coming year.

§ 160.04 - POWERS AND DUTIES.

- (A) The Community Relations Committee shall exercise all powers and perform all duties or as hereafter may be invested by ordinance, resolution or other action of Council.
- (B) The purpose of the Community Relations Committee is to continue to support Upper Arlington as a welcoming community and to promote understanding, mutual respect and a sense of belonging among all residents to affirm the value of each individual and foster a continued culture of shared community.
- (C) The Community Relations Committee shall work to nurture Upper Arlington's continued deep sense of community and neighborliness through activities designed to further enhance understanding, appreciation, communication and mutual respect for all members of our community.
- (D) The Community Relations Committee shall work to enhance the vision of Upper Arlington as a community that continues to actively welcome, support and treat all people with integrity, fairness and respect.
- (E) The Community Relations Committee shall not serve as a policy forming entity, a dispute resolution body, or serve as an ombudsman.

- (F) The Community Relations Committee shall serve as a recommending body and have no independent authority to act without approval of City Council or the City Manager. Any approval by the City Manager shall be reported to City Council prior to action being taken.
- (G) The Community Relations Committee shall work to identify, encourage and facilitate the implementation of programs and activities that support the following primary goals and objectives:

Welcome | Connect | Belong

- Recommend programs to welcome new and existing community members
- Recommend community initiatives to promote belonging and connections
- Facilitate creation of an online “one stop” tool for connecting residents with desired resources

Educate | Inform | Enlighten

- Recommend new and support existing programs designed to educate, inform and raise awareness
- Recommend initiatives to promote UA regionally and establishing UA as a welcoming environment
- Recommend training opportunities for community organizations

Gather | Share | Celebrate

- Facilitate activities and events that provide opportunities to gather in support of the mission
- Provide opportunities for community members to gather and share experiences and ideas
- Build on existing community events and programs to create invitations, connections and opportunities to celebrate
- Celebrate and share stories about UA’s diverse residents and groups

(H) ~~Four~~ Five (4 5) members of the Community Relations Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No action may be taken by the Committee without the concurrence of a majority of the members present and voting. The foregoing notwithstanding, a minimum of ~~four~~ five(4 5) affirmative votes shall be required to pass or approve any recommendation from the Committee

(I) Vacancies, absence from three (3) consecutive regular meetings shall operate to vacate the term of the member, unless such absence is authorized or excused by vote of the Committee. Any term thus vacated, or vacated by resignation, shall be filled by appointment by the President of Council subject to the approval of Council for the remainder of the unexpired term.

SECTION 2. Section 2 of ordinance 39-2020 is amended to read: After the Community Relations Committee has been in existence for a period of five years, City Council shall undertake a review of the Committee’s accomplishments and purpose, with the Committee continuing as created unless Council chooses to make adjustments at that time.

SECTION 3. Except as amended by this ordinance, all terms, covenants and conditions of Ord. No. 39-2020 as heretofore in effect shall remain in full force and effect, and as amended and modified hereby, all of the terms, covenants and conditions of Ord. No. 39-2020 are hereby ratified and affirmed in all respects

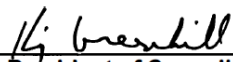
SECTION 4. The President of Council hereby appoints and Council confirms the following members:

1. Floyd Akins as Chair with a term expiring on September 30, 2024
2. Farida El-Hennawy as Vice-Chair a term expiring on September 30, 2024
3. Hana Abdelbaki a term expiring on September 30, 2024
4. Ukeme Awakessien Jeter a term expiring on September 30, 2024
5. Howard Warner a term expiring on September 30, 2024
6. Jean-Philippe Dorval a term expiring on September 30, 2022
7. Karen Heiser a term expiring on September 30, 2022
8. Judy Kase a term expiring on September 30, 2022
9. Jason Sayat a term expiring on September 30, 2022

SECTION 5. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 Council Rules.

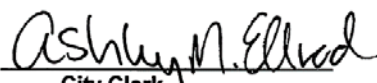
SECTION 6. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, or safety of the City and its inhabitants for the reason that this Ordinance must be immediately effective so that the Committee may begin the necessary planning.

PASSED: September 14, 2020



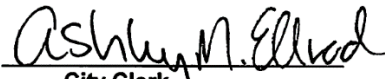
President of Council

ATTEST:



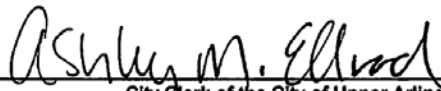
City Clerk

I, Ashley Ellrod, City Clerk of Upper Arlington, Ohio,
do hereby certify that the above is a true and
correct copy.


City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

I, Ashley Ellrod, City Clerk of the City of Upper Arlington,
Ohio, do hereby certify that publication of the foregoing
was made by posting a true copy of Ordinance No. 55-2020
at the most public place in said corporation as determined
by the Council, the Municipal Building, 3600 Tremont Road,
for a period of ten (10) days commencing September 15,
2020.


City Clerk of the City of Upper Arlington

Vote Slip

Date Introduced: September 14, 2020

Reading Date(s): September 14, 2020

Voting Aye: Burriss, Close, Hoyle, King,
Kulewicz, Lynch, Greenhill

Voting Nay:
Abstain:
Absent:

Date of Passage: September 14, 2020

City Council Conference Session/Other Review: September 8,
2020

Other: Emergency Clause

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON
STATE OF OHIO

ORDINANCE NO. 36-2025

TO AMEND §160.02 – MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF CHAPTER 160 – COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE UPPER ARLINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the City Council of Upper Arlington recognizes the importance of consistent and equitable leadership structures across its boards and commissions; and

WHEREAS, the current code requires the President of Council to appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Relations Committee, subject to Council approval; and

WHEREAS, the Community Relations Committee has recommended that the Committee be permitted to elect its own Chair and Vice Chair from among its membership, consistent with the practice of other City boards and commissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Upper Arlington, Ohio:

SECTION 1. Section 160.02 – Membership and Terms of Chapter 160 – Community Relations Committee of the Upper Arlington Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 160.02 MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS.

(A) The community relations committee shall be composed of nine (9) residents of this city, who shall be appointed by the president of council subject to the approval of council. ~~The president of council shall appoint the chair and vice chair or co-chairs subject to the approval of council.~~ All committee members shall be residents of the City of Upper Arlington. Appointments shall commence on the date the appointment is approved by council or such other date provided by council.

(B) ~~The committee shall elect from among its members a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for a one-year term.~~ The chair shall preside over all meetings of the committee and act as parliamentarian in the absence of the city attorney. The vice chair shall assume the duties of the chair in his or her absence. ~~In the event of a permanent vacancy in the office of Chair or Vice Chair, the committee shall elect a replacement from among its members to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. Any permanent vacancy of the chair position or vice chair shall require the president of council to appoint the replacement subject to the approval of council.~~

(C) Terms shall commence on the first day of October and expire on the last day of September of the even-numbered years. The initial term for five (5) members will expire on September 30, 2024, and the initial term for four (4) members will expire on September 30, 2022. After the initial terms, every term shall be for four (4) years and shall expire on the last day of June. Appointments shall commence on the date the appointment is approved by council or such other date provided by council. Council may shorten or lengthen a particular term at the time of appointment to maintain a staggered rotation so that not more than three (3) members' terms expire in the same year or extend a term until a replacement is appointed.

(D) Appointments for the purpose of filling vacancies occurring otherwise than by expiration of terms shall be made for the unexpired term by the president of council and confirmed by council. Appointments shall commence on the date the appointment is approved by council or such other date provided by council.

SECTION 2. Any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect 30 days after passage.



Authors:	Jeff Anderson, Parks Development & Arts Superintendent Debbie McLaughlin, Parks & Recreation Director
Council Meeting Date:	September 22, 2025
Subject/Legislative Item:	Resolution No. 10-2025 - A resolution to adopt the Fancyburg Park Master Plan
Purpose:	To guide future improvements and provide a long term vision for Fancyburg Park
Executive Summary:	Resolution will support the Fancyburg Master Plan dated August 13, 2025

Purpose and Impact

This is a resolution to support the Fancyburg Park Master Plan dated August 13, 2025. The concepts provided in the Master Plan will be used to develop schedules and budgets for future renovations which will be included as part of the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

A resolution of support for the master plan will assist in long term planning by providing a guide for future improvements based on extensive community engagement. It will ensure that future projects in the park are consistent with the collective vision and will meet the recreational needs of the community.

History

With the assistance of planning consultant EDGE, the master plan process began in the fall of 2024. The first phase included a detailed study of existing conditions and uses in the park, accompanied by a community engagement process that measured residents' thoughts on the current facilities and gathered ideas for potential improvements. The next phase of planning took place in spring and summer 2025 and focused on gathering additional community input to help refine the master plan. EDGE then developed concepts for park improvements that were shared with the community before proceeding to the final master plan. Collectively, this process represents an extensive community engagement effort with 905 individuals participating in the first online survey and 602 in the second. Additionally, the planning team had the opportunity to meet with many residents in person at public meetings in the parks and at community events.

The final version of the master plan was presented to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) at the August 13, 2025 meeting. At that time, PRAB unanimously voted on a motion to support the plan and the Department's implementation of it.



Throughout the visioning process, the plan focused on improving the park's amenities while still preserving the unique character of this popular destination for residents and neighbors. It closely followed the 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan that was adopted to serve as a guide on future decision-making on how to get the most value from the City's limited park land and the facilities within them, while fulfilling residents' recreational wants and needs.

The goal of the park master plan is to enhance Fancyburg's versatility and appeal, ensuring it remains a welcoming space for all community members by blending recreational opportunities with the beauty of its natural surroundings.

Alternatives

An alternative to supporting the Fancyburg Park Master Plan would be proceed with improvements in the park on an ad-hoc basis. This approach could potentially result in fragmented and inefficient renovation efforts. Each project would necessitate new rounds of community engagement. Without a cohesive plan, the improvements might not integrate seamlessly, potentially compromising the overall functionality and aesthetics of the park. Supporting the master plan ensures a strategic, unified approach to enhancing Fancyburg Park, aligning with the community's vision and providing consistent recreational benefits.

It is also recommended this resolution not be delayed as proceeding with adopting the master plan at this time will allow it to be utilized in updating 10 year Capital Improvement Plan.

Attachments

1.	Fancyburg Park Site Plan
2.	Resolution No. 10-2025
3.	Exhibit A - Fancyburg Park Master Plan Report 8.13.25



Site Plan Enlargement
June 2025 Plan



RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON

STATE OF OHIO

RESOLUTION NO. 10-2025

TO ADOPT THE FANCYBURG PARK MASTER PLAN

- WHEREAS,** the City of Upper Arlington recognizes the importance of providing high-quality recreational facilities and park amenities that meet the evolving needs of its residents; and
- WHEREAS,** with the assistance of planning consultant EDGE, the Department of Parks and Recreation initiated the Fancyburg Park Master Plan process in the fall of 2024; and
- WHEREAS,** the planning process included a detailed study of existing park conditions and extensive community engagement, with more than 1,500 individuals participating through surveys, public meetings, and community events; and
- WHEREAS,** the Fancyburg Park Master Plan process was guided by resident feedback and refined over multiple phases to ensure the plan reflects the community's collective vision for the park; and
- WHEREAS,** the final Fancyburg Park Master Plan, dated August 13, 2025, was presented to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB), which unanimously voted to support the plan and its implementation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Fancyburg Park Master Plan aligns with the City's 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan by guiding long-term decision-making on improvements, reinvestment, and preservation of limited parkland; and
- WHEREAS,** adoption of the Master Plan will provide a framework for scheduling and budgeting future improvements in the City's Capital Improvement Plan, ensuring projects are consistent with the vision developed through extensive public input; and
- WHEREAS,** the goal of the Fancyburg Master Plan is to enhance Fancyburg Park's versatility and appeal, blending recreational opportunities with preservation of its natural character to serve as a welcoming destination for all members of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Upper Arlington, Ohio:

SECTION 1.

City Council hereby adopts the Fancyburg Master Plan, dated August 13, 2025, as the guiding document for future improvements to Fancyburg Park (attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A).

SECTION 2.

The Parks and Recreation Department is hereby authorized to use the Fancyburg Master Plan, dated August 13, 2025, to guide scheduling, budgeting, and implementation of improvements within the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

SECTION 3.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.



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Introduction

Why a Master Plan for Fancyburg Park?

- Renovation of Northam Park completed in 2025 and Devon Pool in 2026 after multiple phases of construction
- Fancyburg will be the next capital focus after these facilities
- Several amenities in Fancyburg are nearing the end of their service life including the playground, shelter, shuffleboard courts, and maintenance yard
- Fancyburg is loved for its open spaces and natural areas, but there is a need to bring amenities up to current standards (year round restrooms, safe paths, functional parking)
- City recognizes the importance of having consensus on necessary improvements and a clear plan for implementation



Master Plan

EDGE, a Columbus-based landscape architecture and urban design firm, has been contracted by Upper Arlington Parks & Recreation to undertake the master planning process for Fancyburg Park.

Throughout the visioning process, Upper Arlington Parks & Recreation will be focused on improving the park’s amenities while still preserving the unique character of this popular destination for residents and neighbors. The City of Upper Arlington will be closely following the 2018 Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan that was adopted to serve as a guide on future decision-making on how to get the most value from the City’s limited park land and the facilities within them, while fulfilling residents’ recreational wants and needs.

The Process

Launched in the fall of 2024, the first phase included a detailed study of existing conditions and uses in the park, accompanied by a community engagement process that measured residents’ thoughts on the current facilities and gathered ideas for potential improvements. The next phase of planning, taking place in spring and summer 2025, will focus on gathering additional community input to help refine the Master Plan for the park.

EDGE will then develop concepts for park improvements that will be shared with the community before proceeding to the final design. Funding for improvements to the park are scheduled within the 2027 and 2028 Parks Capital Improvements Program.

The Goal

The goal of the park master plan is to enhance Fancyburg’s versatility and appeal, ensuring it remains a welcoming space for all community members by blending recreational opportunities with the beauty of its natural surroundings.

Planning will continue in 2025, as more detailed concepts are developed, along with additional opportunities for public input. The park is scheduled for renovation in 2027 and 2028.



Existing Conditions



Location



Existing Infrastructure



Existing Satellite Maintenance Area
Equipment Storage Lot



Parking Lot
49 Spaces in East Lot / 43 Spaces in West Lot



Shelter & Seasonal Restrooms
Garage Door Openings / Two (2) Single Use Restrooms



On Site Well
West of Soccer Fields



Bus Stop
Kioka Avenue



Community Compost Drop-off
East Parking Lot

Existing Site Elements



Park Signage
Sunset Drive



Bicycle Parking
West of Soccer Fields



Flag Pole



Litter / Recycling Receptacles



Various Benches / Picnic Tables



Drinking Fountain

Existing Passive Recreation



Internal Walking Paths



Exterior Multiuse Path



Small Seating Areas



Woodland Area



Nature Paths



Storybook Walk

Existing Active Recreation



Playground
9,900 S.F: 2-5 Zone, 5-12 Tower, Mixed Ground Play, 4 Swings



Nature Play Area



Shuffle Board Courts



Baseball / Softball Fields



Pickleball / Tennis Courts



Boulder Wall

Community Engagement



Community Engagement

Process

Phase I

The first phase of community outreach for the renovation of Fancyburg Park returned valuable insights and countless thoughtful neighborly conversations.

Step One consisted of two open houses: one at the August 6th National Night Out in Fancyburg Park and a second at the August 7th Upper Arlington Farmer’s Market at the Tremont Center. Visitors were asked to vote on their preferred park amenities as well as provide any additional thoughts and ideas on how to improve Fancyburg Park.

Step Two consisted of an online survey, compiled by EDGE and Upper Arlington Parks & Recreation staff and distributed via their email database. Similar questions to the open houses were posed, gathering feedback on amenities and preferences. Over 900 survey responses were recorded.

Phase I Outreach

- National Night Out
- Farmer’s Market
- Online Survey
- PRAB Meeting
- City Council

Phase II

Phase II of the master planning process engaged residents via additional open houses and a second survey. Upper Arlington Parks & Recreation staff as well as members of the design team held an open house at the Fancyburg Park shelter on May 7, and Parks and Recreation Staff also displayed project boards and answered questions at the Spring Fling at Sunny 95 Park. Residents were asked to assist with design decisions regarding the playground and park pavilion, in addition to gather their general thoughts and input on the overall park master plan. A second online survey was also released, garnering over 600 responses.

Phase II Outreach

- Spring Fling
- Fancyburg Park Open House
- Online Survey
- PRAB Meeting
- City Council



Community Engagement - Fall 2024 (Phase 1)

In Person Feedback

Play Character



THEMED PLAY STRUCTURES



ROPE STRUCTURES



PLAY TOWERS



MUSICAL PLAY EQUIPMENT



LOG CLIMBERS



TREE HOUSE

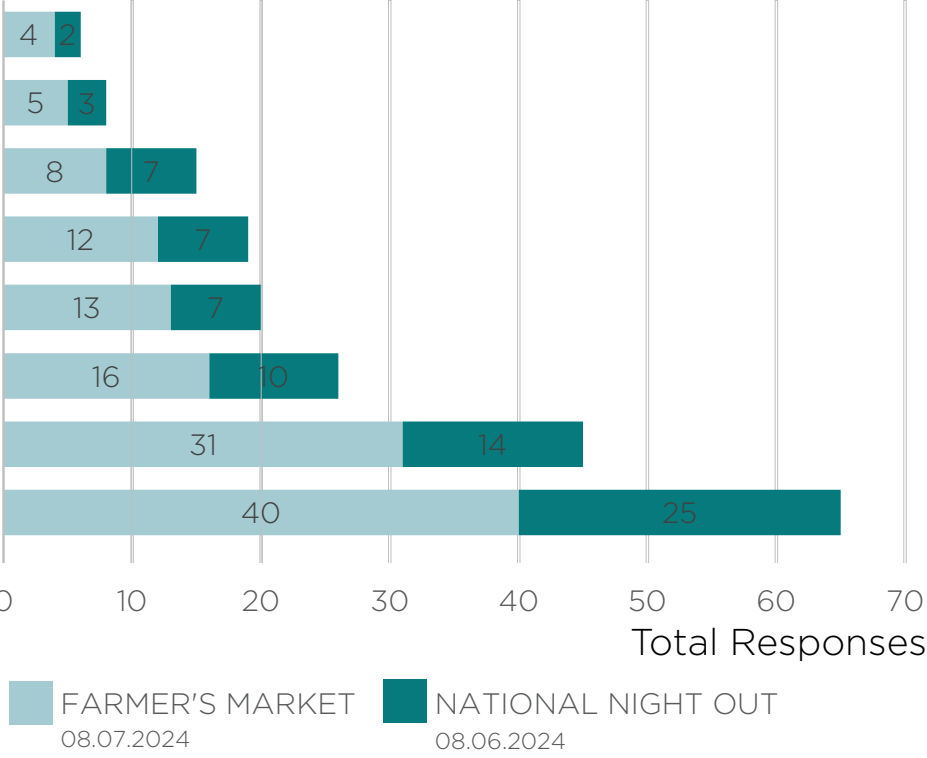


GROUND / ACCESSIBLE PLAY



NATURE PLAY

- MUSICAL PLAY EQUIPMENT
- GROUND / ACCESSIBLE PLAY
- ROPE STRUCTURES
- LOG CLIMBERS
- PLAY TOWERS
- THEMED PLAY STRUCTURES
- NATURE PLAY
- TREE HOUSE



Architecture Character



OPEN AIR SHELTER (TRADITIONAL)



SHADE STRUCTURES



OPEN AIR SHELTER (GEOMETRIC)



FOUR SEASON PAVILION (MODERN)

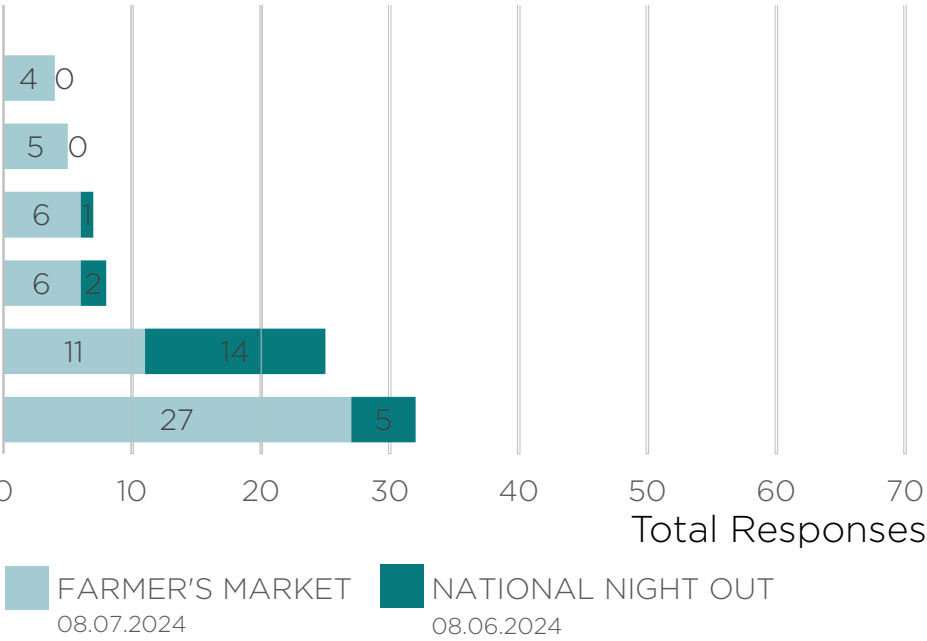


FOUR SEASON PAVILION (TRADITIONAL)



PUBLIC MURALS

- OPEN AIR SHELTER (GEOMETRIC)
- SHADE STRUCTURES
- PUBLIC MURALS
- OPEN AIR SHELTER (TRADITIONAL)
- FOUR SEASON PAVILION (TRADITIONAL)
- FOUR SEASON PAVILION (MODERN)



Community Engagement - Fall 2024 (Phase 1)

In Person Feedback

Passive Recreation Activities



NATURE PATH / BOARDWALK



WOODLAND PATH



POLLINATOR MEADOW



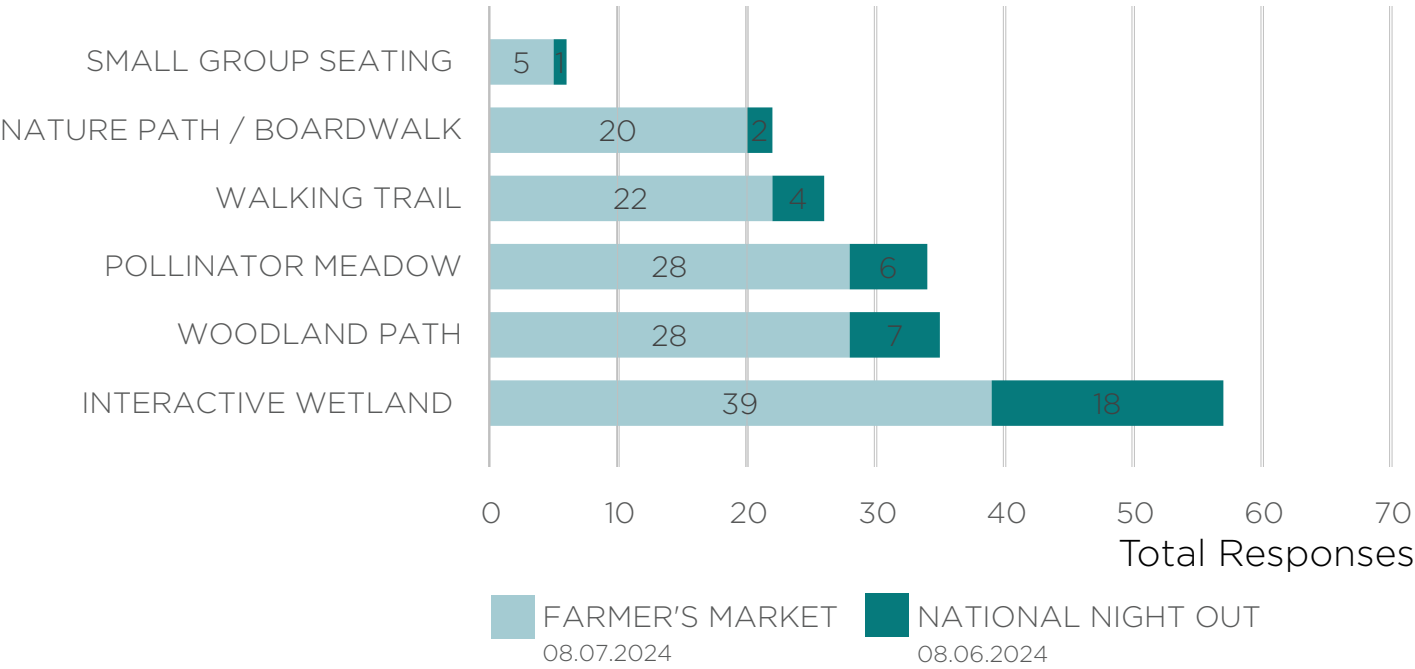
WALKING TRAIL



INTERACTIVE WETLAND



SMALL GROUP SEATING



Active Recreation Activities



BASEBALL / SOFTBALL



TENNIS



MEASURED RUN / WALK ROUTES



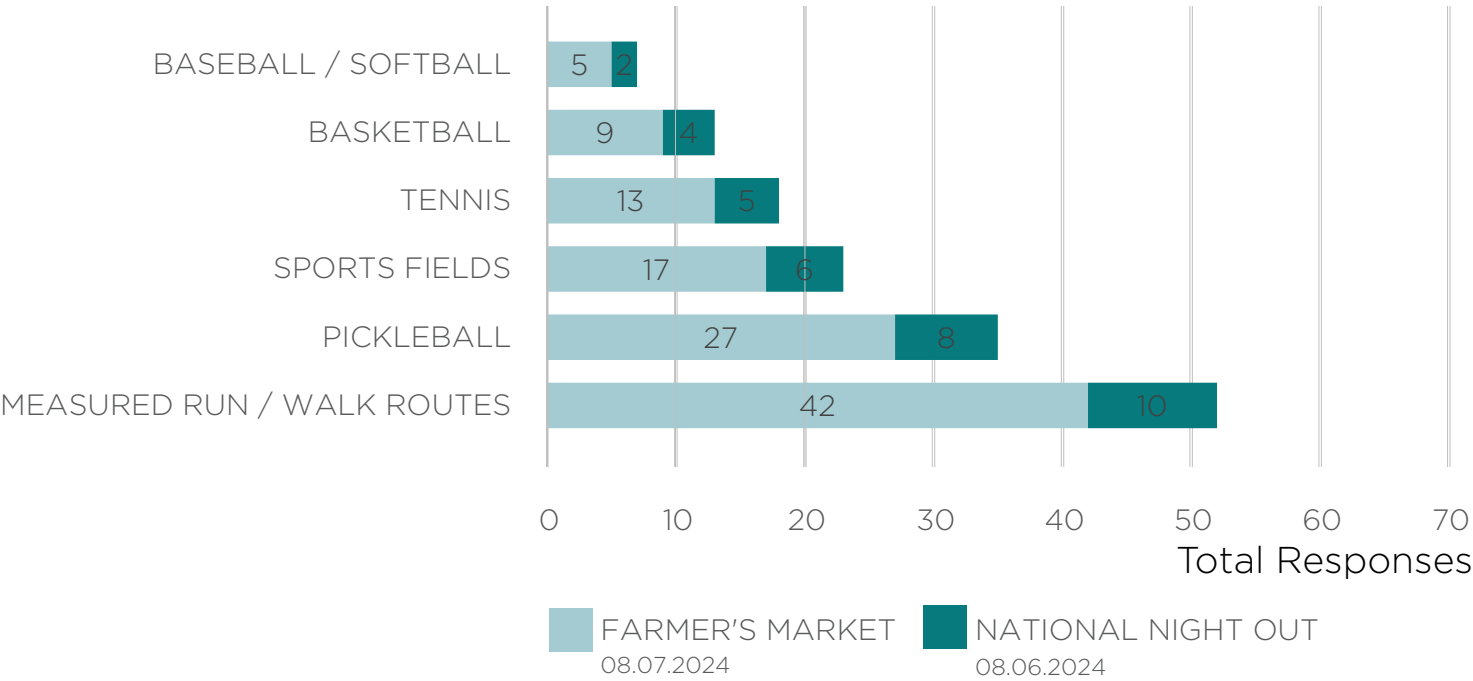
BASKETBALL



SPORTS FIELDS



PICKLEBALL



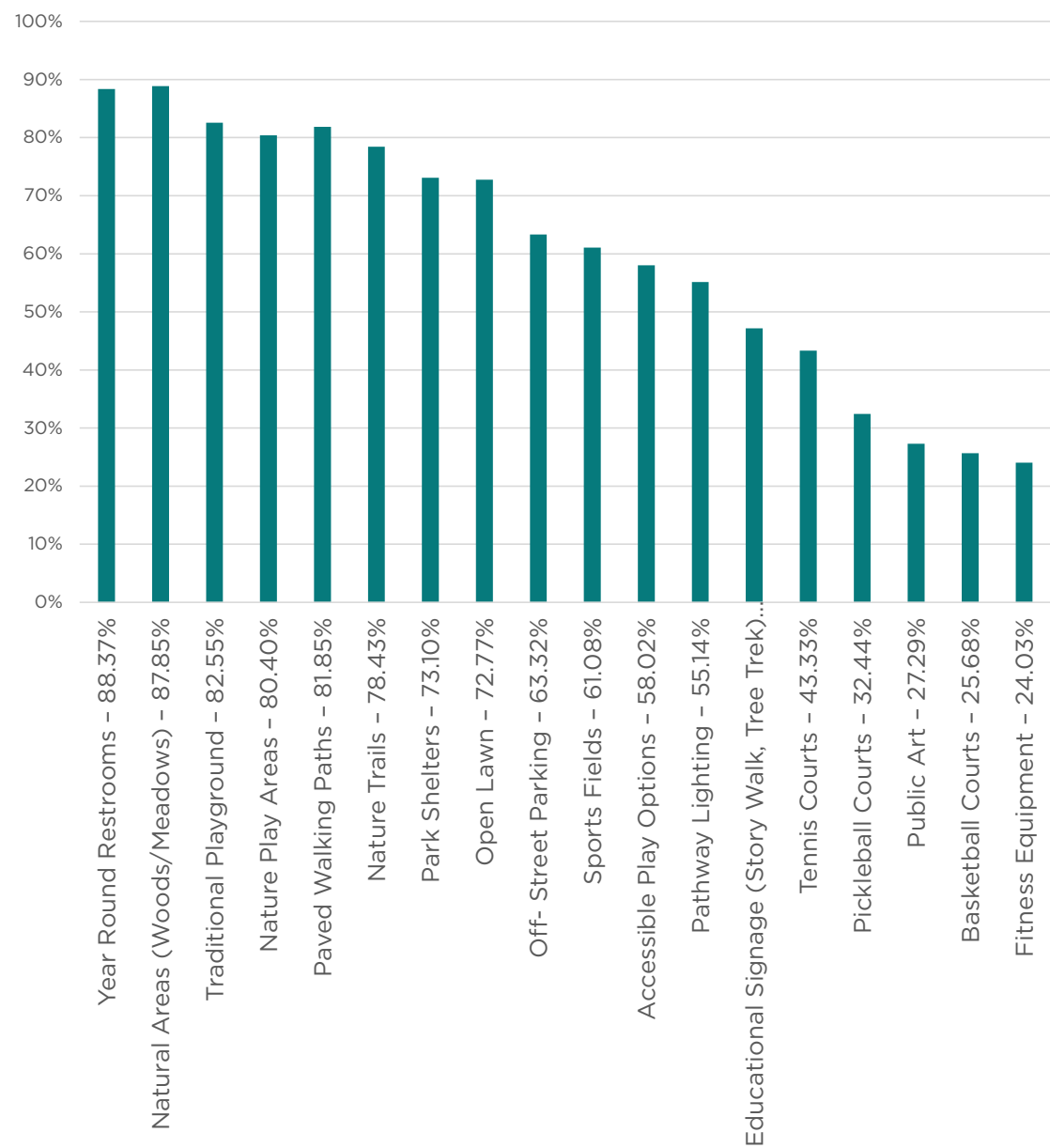
*Tell us what you would like to see at
Fancyburg Park*



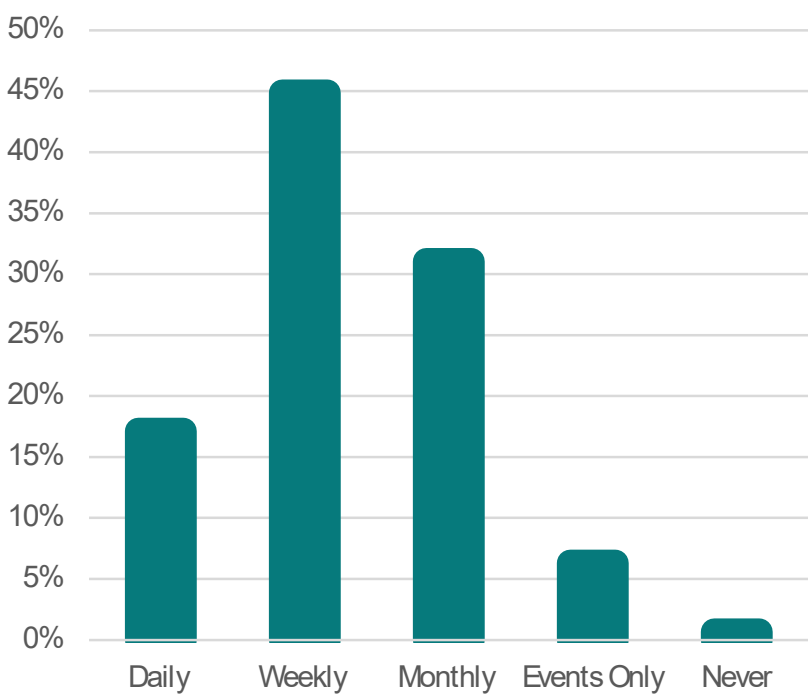
Community Engagement - Fall 2024 (Phase 1)
Online Survey Results

905 total responses 97% of responses were UA residents

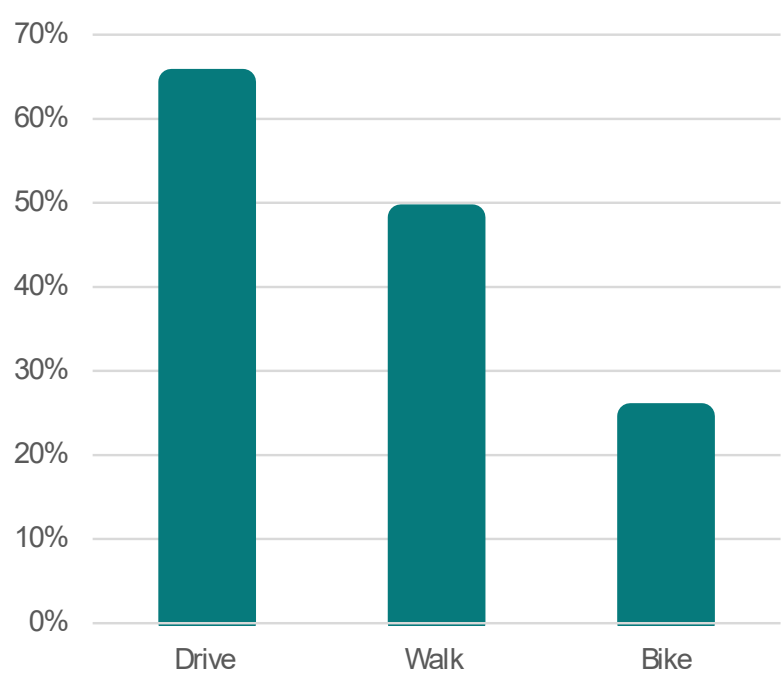
Please share your level of interest in each of these possible amenities:



How often do you visit Fancyburg Park?



How do you and/or your family typically get to Fancyburg Park?
(Select all that apply)



Community Engagement - Fall 2024 (Phase 1)

Top Takeaways

Public Input

- More restrooms
- Maintain green space - don't overload it with amenities
- More native trees and pollinator plants
- Dog water fountains and waste bag stations
- Natural play elements
- Expanded playground, with plenty of shade, more swings, and accessible play features
- Strong demand for dedicated pickleball courts, separate from Tennis
- More benches, picnic tables, and covered shelters for shade
- More nature trails - maintain the forested area
- More parking to reduce demand for on-street parking
- More community gathering spaces, such as an amphitheater and picnic areas
- Maintain and improve the StoryWalk and Tree Trek

Functional Requirements

- Improved Maintenance Facility to support existing park uses
- Simplified truck access for plant deliveries
- Improved athletic field drainage
- Additional location for Day Camp
- Analyze functionality and capacity of current parking layout



Community Engagement - Spring 2025 (Phase 2)

In Person Feedback

Let us know your thoughts!

Green Dot indicates a person's vote

Aerial Looking Southwest



Play Areas



Nature Stage and Four-Season Shelter



Expanded Nature Play



Community Engagement - Spring 2025 (Phase 2)

In Person Feedback

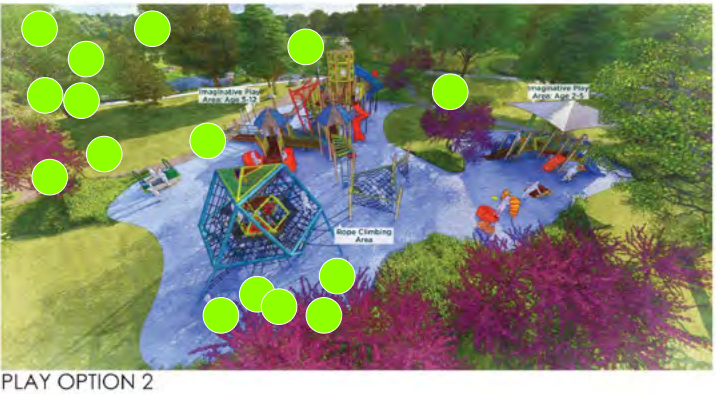
Let us know your thoughts!

Green Dot indicates a person’s vote

Playground Option 1



Playground Option 2



Community Engagement - Spring 2025 (Phase 2)

In Person Feedback

Let us know your thoughts!

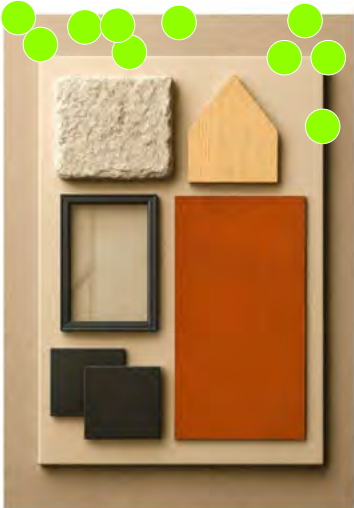
Green Dot indicates a person’s vote

Shelter Materials Options



1. Clean & Traditional

A balanced mix of gray brick, dark metals, and cool horizontal siding - inspired by existing neighborhood park structures - creates a familiar palette. Storefront glass adds openness, blending durability with inviting warmth.



2. Stones & Steel

This palette pairs rugged split-face limestone with warm wood, sleek storefront glass, and durable weathered steel, balancing natural texture and industrial strength for a grounded, enduring material expression.



3. Sleek & Modern

This palette combines clean-lined materials, smooth concrete, warm-toned wood, and dark metal, with storefront glazing to create a contemporary, refined aesthetic rooted in simplicity and contrast.

Shelter A



Shelter B



Shelter C



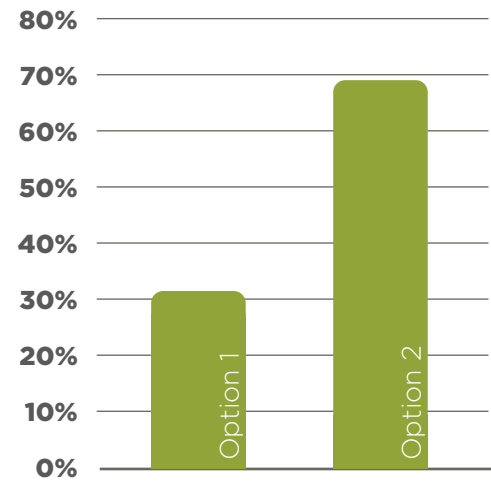
Let us know your thoughts!

Have additional comments? Grab a sticky note



Community Engagement - Spring 2025 (Phase 2)

Online Survey Results



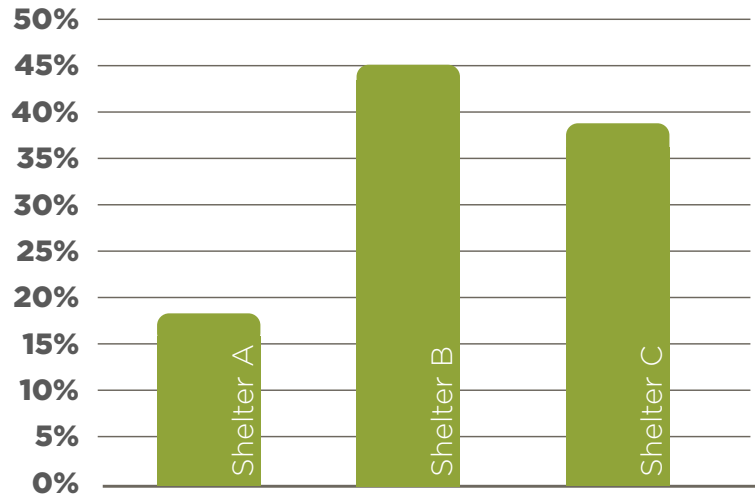
Please select your preferred design between the following two playground alternatives:



Option 1
Timber Play Structures



Option 2
Steel & Fabric Play Structures



Please rank the following park shelter designs:



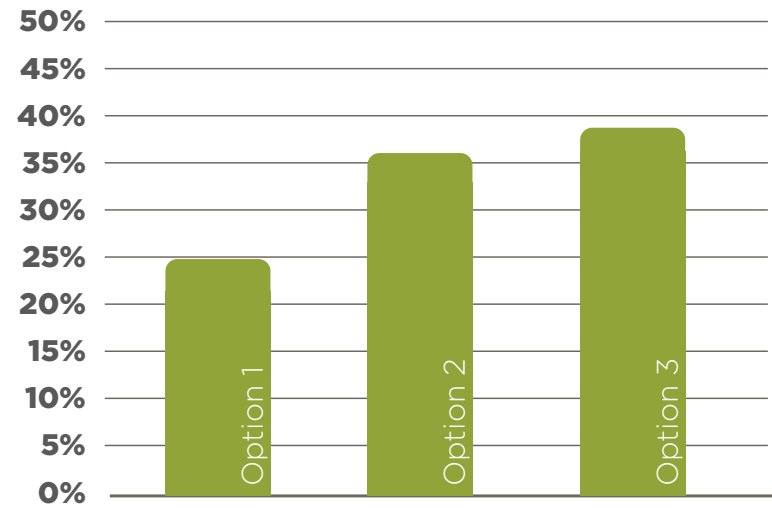
Shelter A
Tall Hip Roof



Shelter B
Craftsman Roof



Shelter C
Single Pitch Roof



Please rank the following shelter materials:



Option 1
Clean & Traditional



Option 2
Stones & Steel



Option 3
Sleek & Modern



Community Engagement - Spring 2025 (Phase 2)

Online Survey Results

602 total responses 96% of responses were UA residents

Please share your thoughts on the following overall park master plan:

- Many respondents appreciate the inclusion of natural play areas, an amphitheater, and a four-season pavilion.
- Concerns were raised about the interactive wetland, with some fearing it could attract mosquitoes or pose a safety risk for children.
- Several commenters suggested adding more pickleball courts and basketball courts.
- There were mixed feelings about the amphitheater, with some questioning its necessity and potential noise impact on neighbors.
- Many emphasized the importance of maintaining green space and preserving existing trees.
- Suggestions included adding a splash pad instead of wetlands, ensuring ample parking, and improving pedestrian safety with better crosswalks and sidewalks.
- Some commenters expressed the need for more shaded areas, especially over play structures, and more accessible playground equipment for children with disabilities.
- Additional amenities like dog parks, water features, and picnic areas were also suggested by several respondents.

Please share your thoughts on these park pavilion designs and materials.

- Many respondents prefer a design that blends with the natural surroundings and maintains a traditional, classic appearance.
- There is a significant preference for natural and earthy materials, such as wood and stone, which are perceived as warm and inviting.
- Several participants expressed concerns that sleek and modern designs may look dated over time.
- Option 3, with its lower roof profile and natural wood aesthetic, received positive feedback for its ability to blend into the park environment.
- Options 2 and 3 were favored for their modern design elements and extensive use of glass, providing a bright and open feel.
- Some respondents disliked the use of gray tones and excessive modernity, associating these with trends that might quickly become outdated.
- Participants appreciated designs that are functional, sustainable, and provide ample natural light
- There were also specific preferences for the durability and maintenance requirements of the materials used.

Please share your thoughts on why you selected one versus the other and provide any other input on desired playground elements.

- Preference for natural look: Many respondents preferred the timber structures for their natural appearance and ability to blend with the park’s surroundings.
- Concerns about durability: There were worries about the longevity and maintenance of timber structures, including potential issues with splinters and weather damage.
- Variety and engagement: Option 2, the steel and fabric structures, was favored for its variety of play elements, perceived durability, and shaded areas.
- Safety considerations: Some respondents mentioned the importance of safety features, such as avoiding splinters and providing shaded areas to prevent equipment from getting too hot.
- Inclusive play: There was an emphasis on the importance of inclusive play options, ensuring that children of all abilities can enjoy the playground.
- Preference for existing features: Several respondents expressed a preference for maintaining the current playground features, which they found to be excellent and well-suited for a wide age range.
- Mixed feelings about both options: Some respondents had mixed feelings, appreciating aspects of both options, but also expressing concerns about each.

Community Engagement - Spring 2025 (Phase 2)

Online Survey Results - Top Takeaways

Public Input

- More parking to reduce demand for on-street parking
- Maintain green space and preserve mature trees
- More native trees and pollinator plants
- Steel and fabric play structures are preferred for their durability and shade
- Four-Season Shelter and nature stage were generally supported but concerns were raised about ensuring that the design is appropriate for the neighborhood
- Expanded nature play was appreciated, but concern was expressed about safety and mosquitos
- Separated pickleball courts are appreciated, but concern was expressed about sound
- Craftsman-style was the preferred Four-Season Shelter design
- Sleek & Modern was the preferred materials palette, although many also appreciated the warmth and durability of wood and stone over more modern elements



Park Master Plan



Existing Conditions



PARK ELEMENTS LEGEND

- 1 Existing Parking Lot (49 Spaces)
- 2 Seasonal Shelter
- 3 Shuffleboard Courts
- 4 Satellite Maintenance Area
- 5 Playground
- 6 Story Book Walk
- 7 Nature Play Area
- 8 Woodland Path
- 9 Existing Athletic Fields
- 10 Fitness Equipment
- 11 Park Plaza
- 12 Tennis & Pickleball Courts
- 13 Trash / Recycling Enclosure
- 14 Compost Drop-off

Site Plan Enlargement
September 2024 Plan

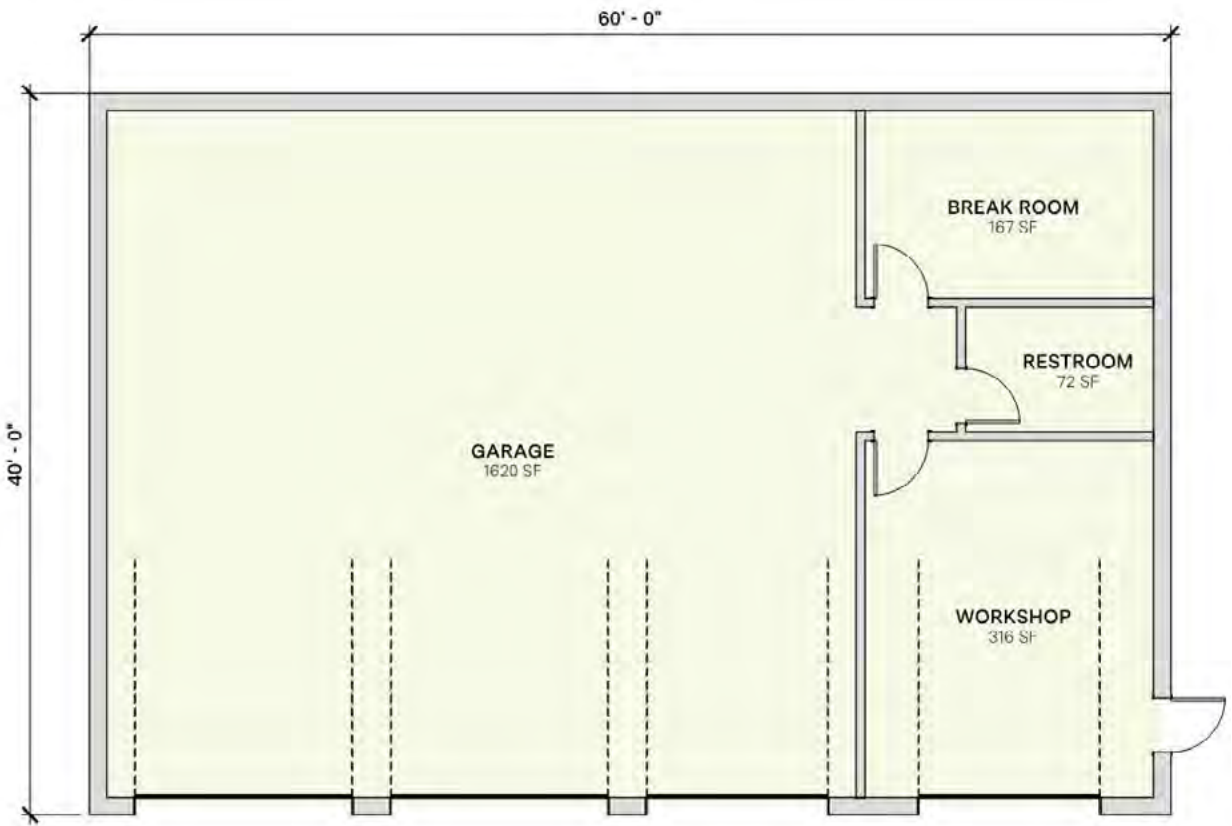
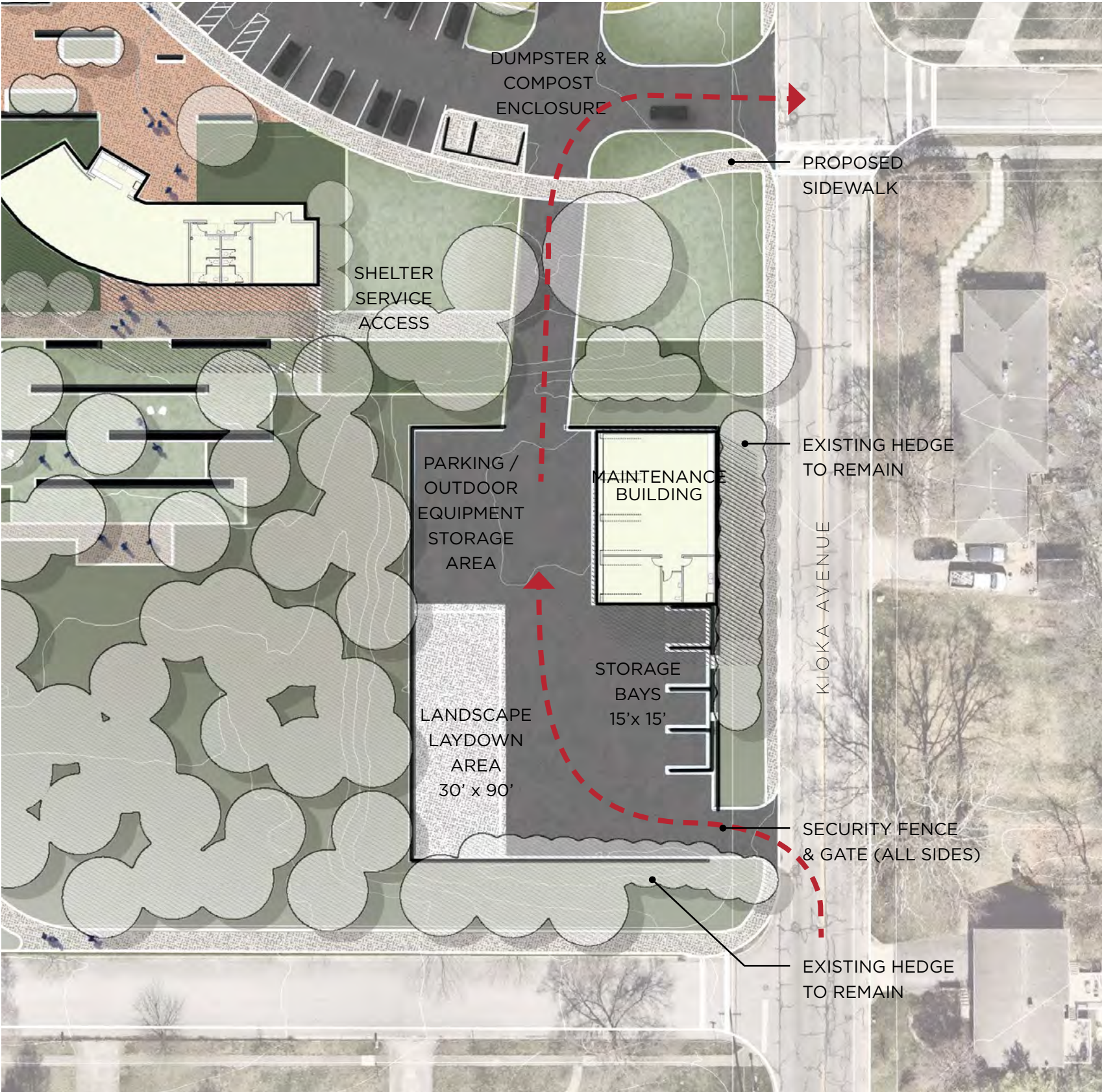


Site Plan Enlargement

June 2025 Plan



Satellite Maintenance Area (Phase I)
Relocation of Existing in Park Maintenance

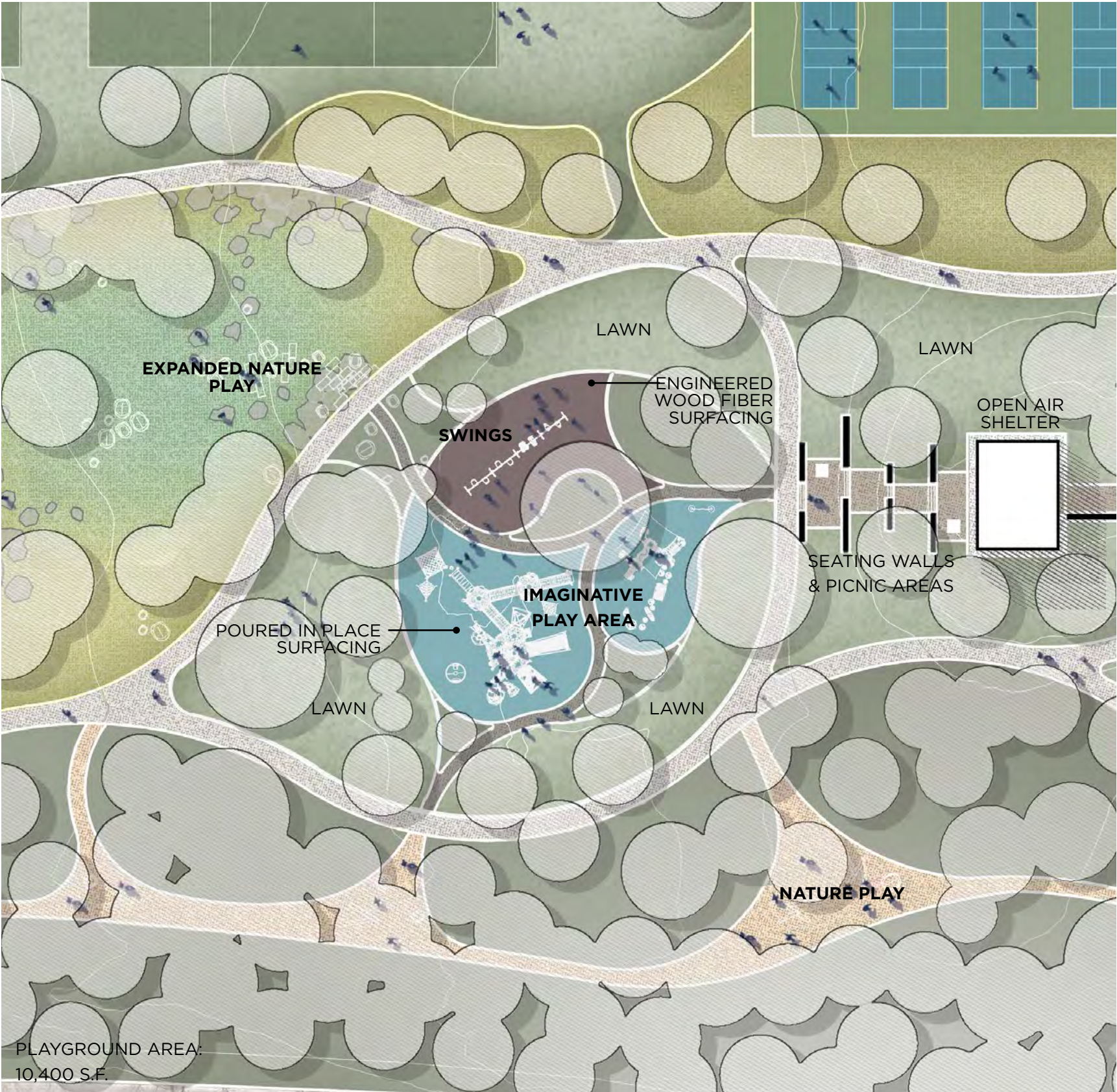


Service Building Concept Plan



Satellite Maintenance Area (Wickliffe / Kioka)

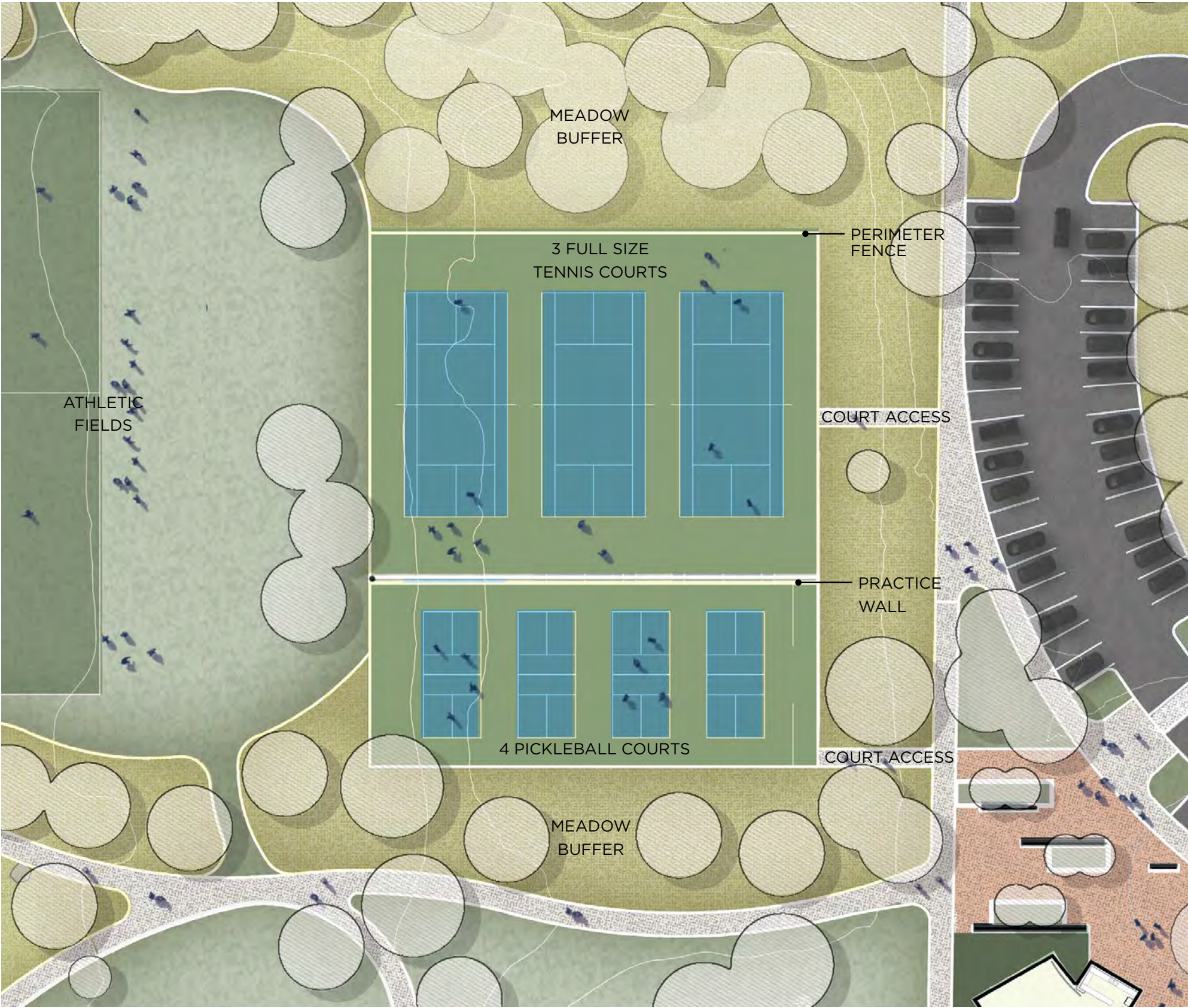
Playground



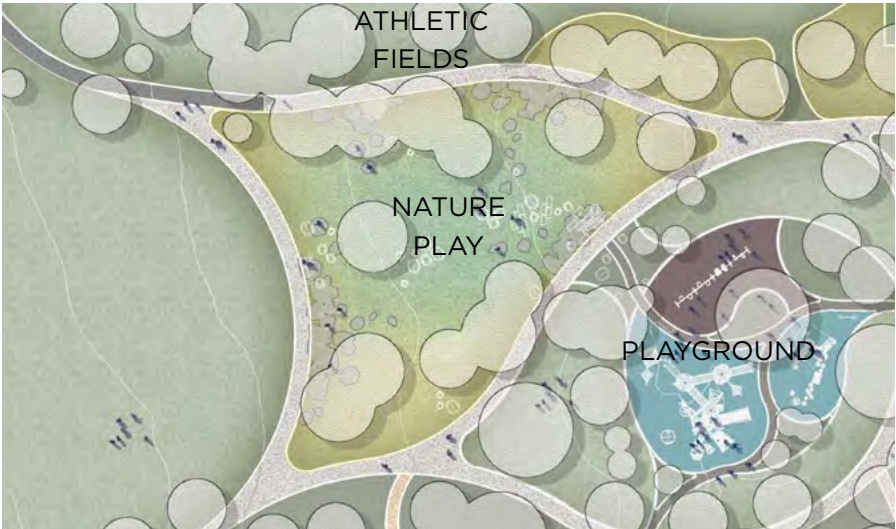
Playground



Tennis & Pickleball



Expanded Nature Play

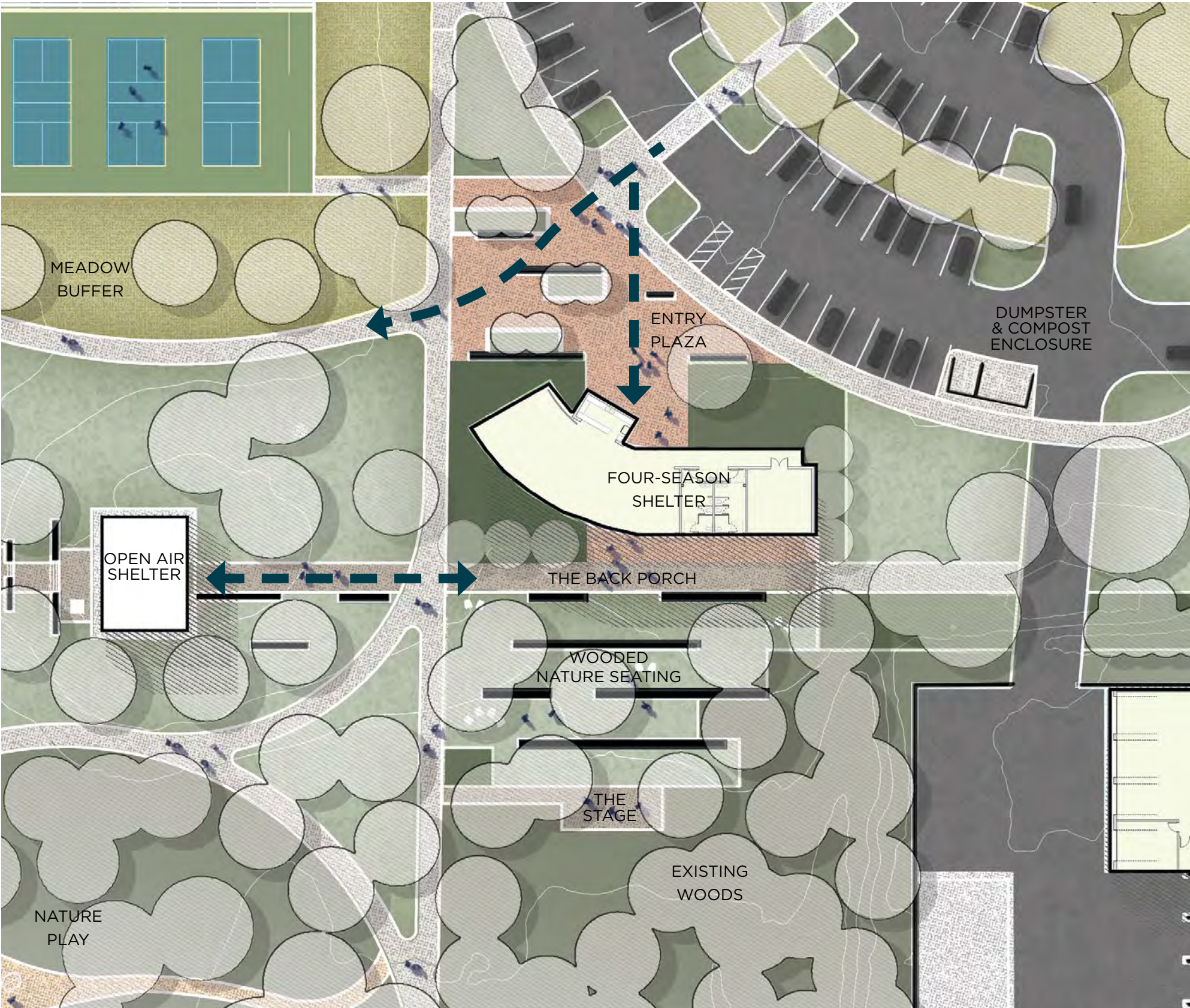


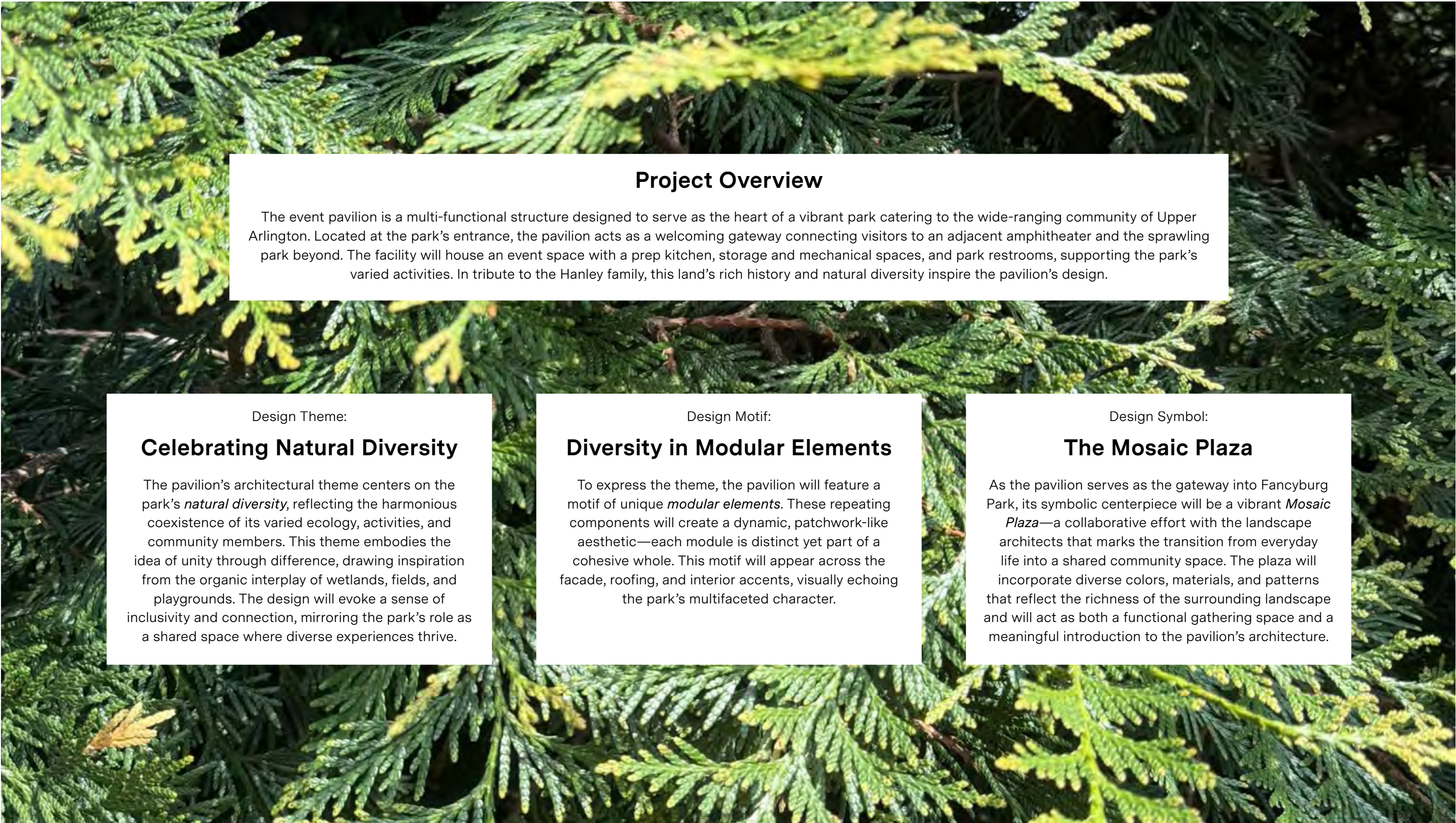
Expanded Parking

EXISTING SPACES: 49
PROPOSED SPACES: 88



Four Season Shelter





Project Overview

The event pavilion is a multi-functional structure designed to serve as the heart of a vibrant park catering to the wide-ranging community of Upper Arlington. Located at the park’s entrance, the pavilion acts as a welcoming gateway connecting visitors to an adjacent amphitheater and the sprawling park beyond. The facility will house an event space with a prep kitchen, storage and mechanical spaces, and park restrooms, supporting the park’s varied activities. In tribute to the Hanley family, this land’s rich history and natural diversity inspire the pavilion’s design.

Design Theme:

Celebrating Natural Diversity

The pavilion’s architectural theme centers on the park’s *natural diversity*, reflecting the harmonious coexistence of its varied ecology, activities, and community members. This theme embodies the idea of unity through difference, drawing inspiration from the organic interplay of wetlands, fields, and playgrounds. The design will evoke a sense of inclusivity and connection, mirroring the park’s role as a shared space where diverse experiences thrive.

Design Motif:

Diversity in Modular Elements

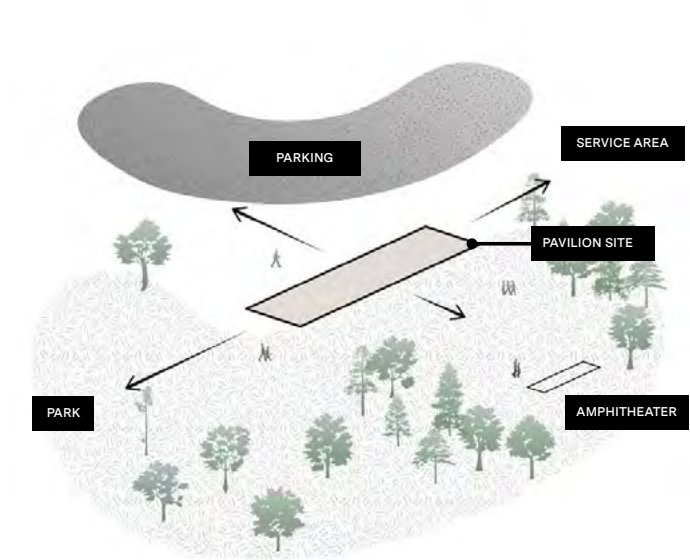
To express the theme, the pavilion will feature a motif of unique *modular elements*. These repeating components will create a dynamic, patchwork-like aesthetic—each module is distinct yet part of a cohesive whole. This motif will appear across the facade, roofing, and interior accents, visually echoing the park’s multifaceted character.

Design Symbol:

The Mosaic Plaza

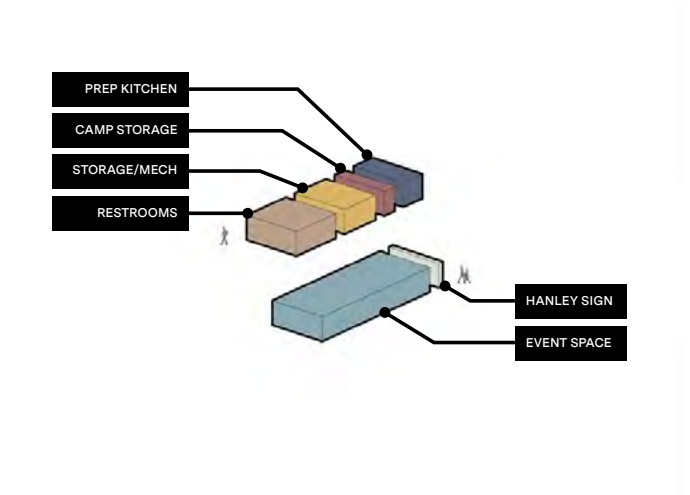
As the pavilion serves as the gateway into Fancyburg Park, its symbolic centerpiece will be a vibrant *Mosaic Plaza*—a collaborative effort with the landscape architects that marks the transition from everyday life into a shared community space. The plaza will incorporate diverse colors, materials, and patterns that reflect the richness of the surrounding landscape and will act as both a functional gathering space and a meaningful introduction to the pavilion’s architecture.

Four Season Shelter
Concept Diagrams



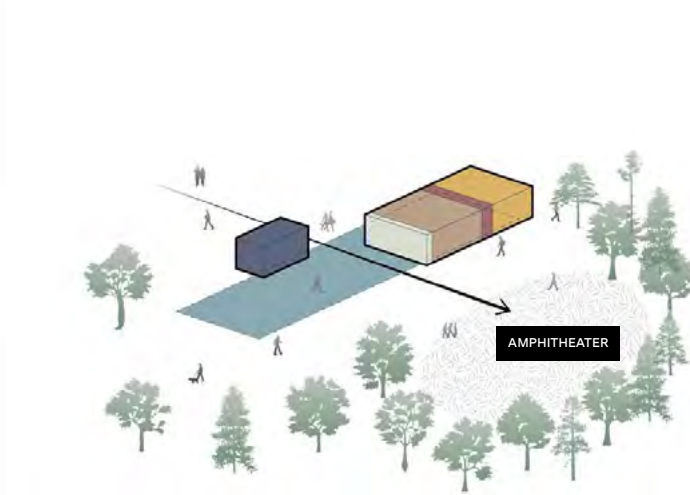
Orientation

The event pavilion is perfectly located at the entry to the park. The pavilion site sits at the center of the activity, acting as a hub to help visitors and park staff transition from parking to amphitheater, or service area to the greater park beyond.



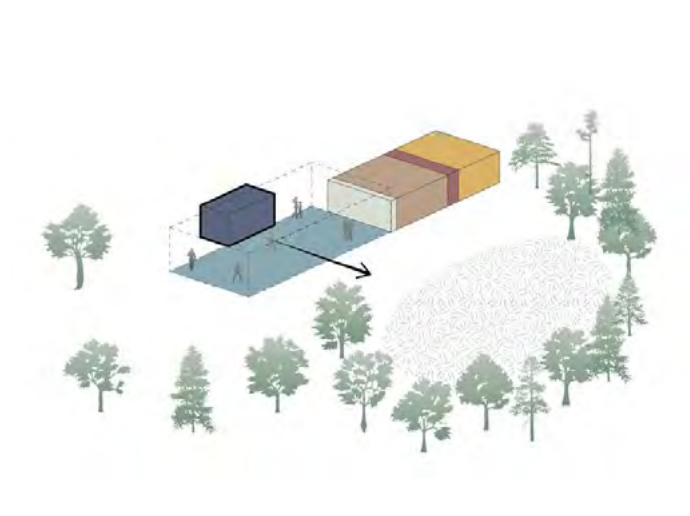
Program

The event pavilion will be an efficient structure housing program spaces to support the greater park including public restrooms, storage and mechanical space, camp storage space, a prep kitch, a large event space, and signage in tribute to the Hanley family.



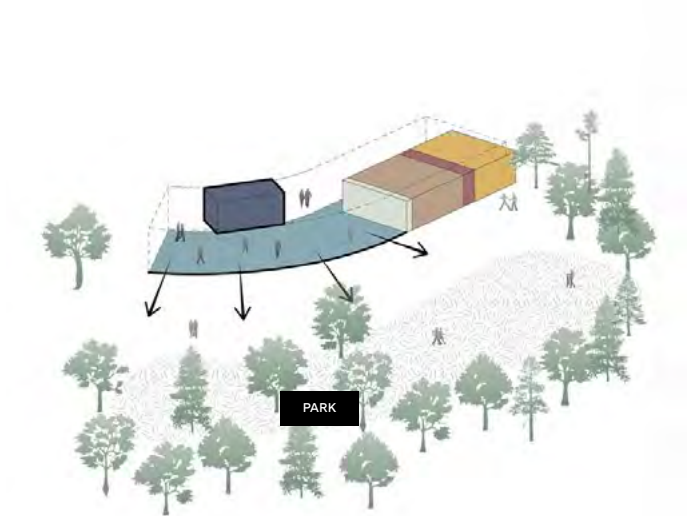
Gateway

The program spaces are combined into blocks and positioned in such a way to create a gateway that frames the amphitheater and park space beyond the pavilion. The gateway creates clear entry and guides the primary circulation route through the pavilion.



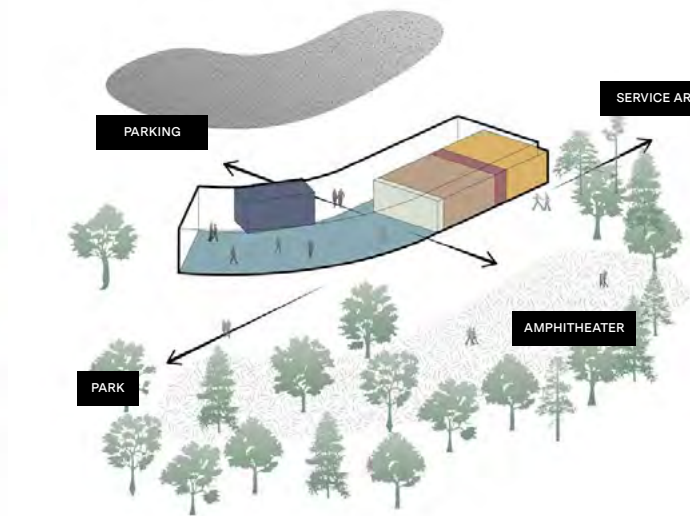
Events

The prep kitchen acts as both the edge of the gateway and the anchor for the event space. The kitchen massing is centered on the event space and acts as a back-drop providing support for camps, community events, and various rental programming within the space.



Panorama

In concert with the dynamic nature of the park, the event space bends to provide a wider panorama for viewing the park from the event space. Leaving the event space open and surrounded by glass, the interior of the pavilion becomes part of the park itself.

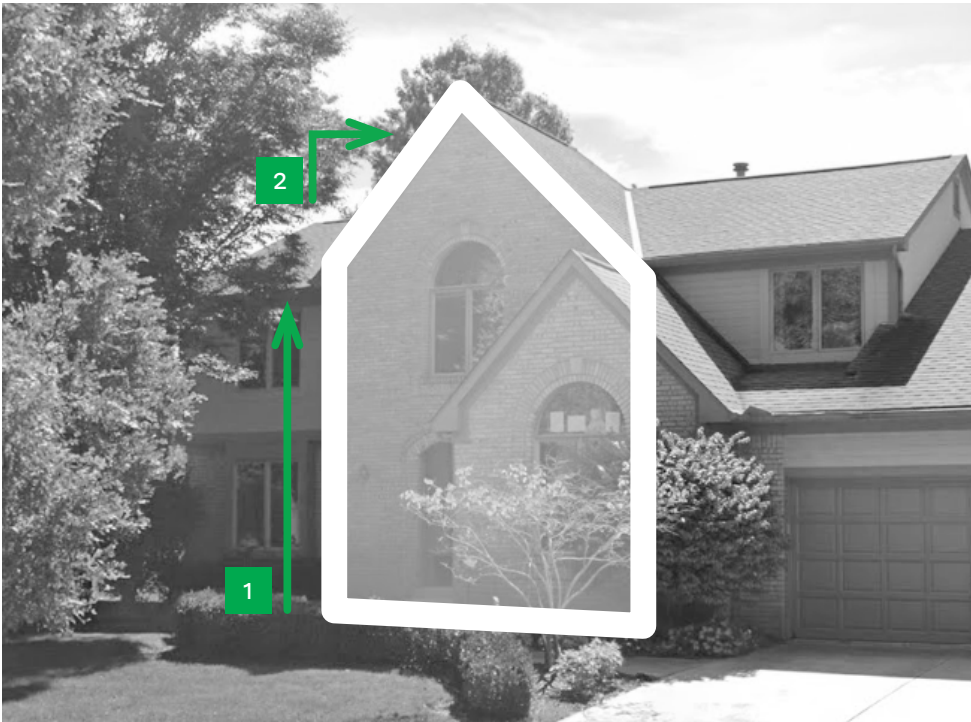


Connections

The pavilion becomes a space where the natural diversity of the park and the community takes center stage. With direct connections to parking, service areas, the adjacent amphitheater, and the park beyond, the pavilion provides the flexibility to serve the community for any occasion.

Four Season Shelter

Massing Development



Traditional

One formal language observed repeatedly throughout the community is the traditional english style residence. This form features tall elevations and steeply pitched roofs that can accommodate more active spaces within where higher ceilings are favored.



Craftsman

A second formal language observed throughout the community is the craftsman style residence. This form features long elevations with shallow roof pitches that create a more comfortable interior environment and help blend the building more seamlessly into the landscape.



Modern

A third formal language not observed throughout the community is the modern style residence. This form features a simple single pitched roof that can accommodate flexible spaces with higher and lower ceilings where the roof pitch can help focus views to the surrounding landscape.



Pavilion A - Tall Hip Roof

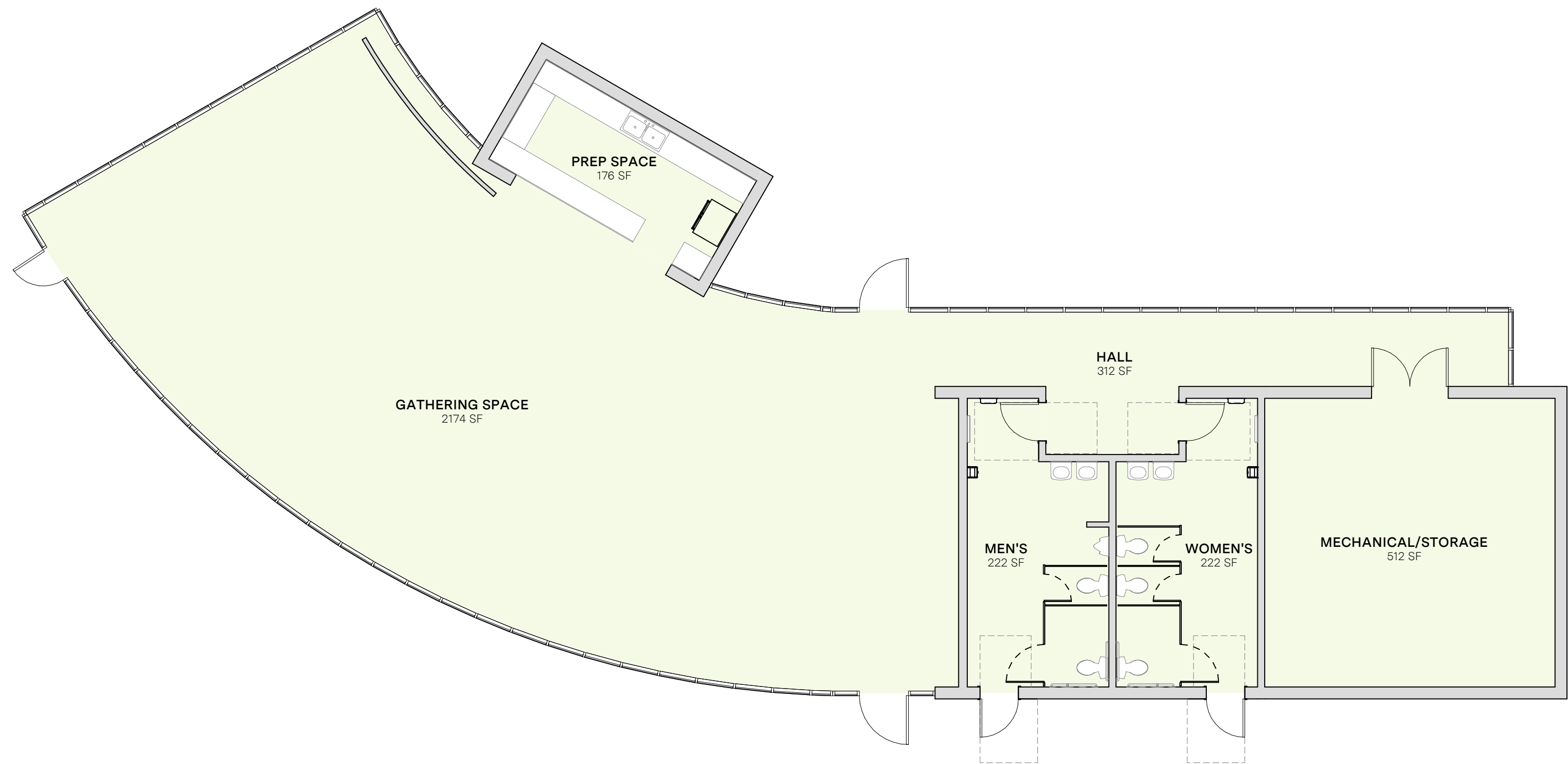


Pavilion B - Craftsman Roof



Pavilion C - Single Pitch Roof

Four Season Shelter
Floorplan



Four Season Shelter



3. Sleek & Modern

This palette combines clean-lined materials, smooth concrete, warm-toned wood, and dark metal, with storefront glazing to create a contemporary, refined aesthetic rooted in simplicity and contrast.



Next Steps



Schedule

Public Input and Concept Presented to City Council	June 16, 2025
Final Master Plan Presented to City Council for Motion of Support	Fall 2025
Design of Service Area	Fall 2025
Construction of Service Area	Spring/Summer 2026
Detailed Design of Park Improvements	Early 2026
Construction of Park Improvements	2027

