

City of Southfield

Beech Woods Park Master Plan

Virtual Open House

May 2021



Agenda

Introductions & Project Overview

5 Minutes

Community Engagement Results

15 Minutes

Master Plan Concepts

30 Minutes

Discussion

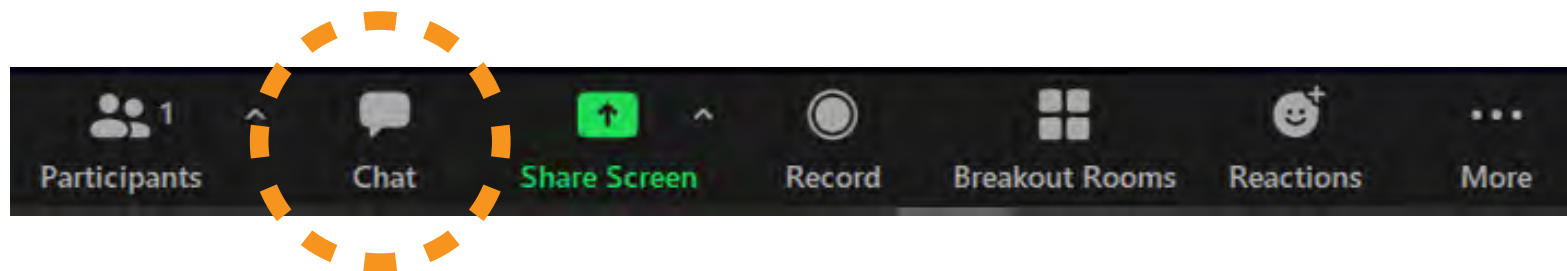
30+ Minutes

How to Participate Today

Zoom Participants

Send questions by using the 'Chat' tool

Participate in the discussion by either using the 'Chat' tool or by raising your hand



Phone Participants

Press *6 to Unmute, then *9 to Raise Hand

Facebook Participants

Write comments under live stream

Team Introduction



Samantha Hall
Community
Engagement Specialist



Chris Riggert
Project Manager



Morgan Mackey
Planner

Meeting Purpose

- Introduce the project to new participants
- Share concepts for Beech Woods Parks' future
- Actively Listen



Project Overview



Project Purpose

Create a master plan for Beech Woods Park that develops park character and vision, and guides immediate and short-term investment.

Project Guiding Principles

- 1 Reflective of Community Desires** Promote and integrate community feedback. Use transparency in project to establish realistic expectations
- 2 Connected** Connect and integrate into surrounding context for elevated impact
- 3 Site-Specific** Capitalize on unique elements of the park, and build on park opportunities
- 4 Sustainable** Not just in environmental impact, but also in terms of maintenance and operations cost
- 5 Exciting and Innovative** Develop energy and excitement within Beech Woods that extends into the “South by 8 Mile” area
- 6 Safe** Ensure plan promotes a real and perceived safety

Schedule

JANUARY



**PROJECT
LAUNCH**

MARCH



**PROJECT
DISCOVERY**

APRIL



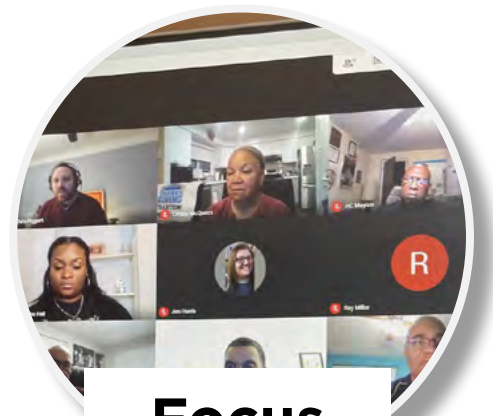
**CONCEPT
DEVELOPMENT**

MAY



**PROJECT
COMPLETION**

Community Engagement Tactics

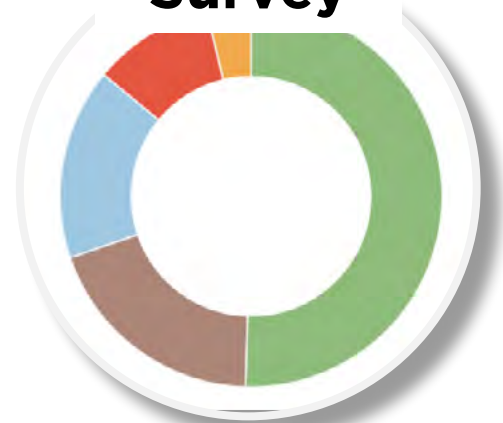


Focus Groups



Engagement Boards

Online Survey



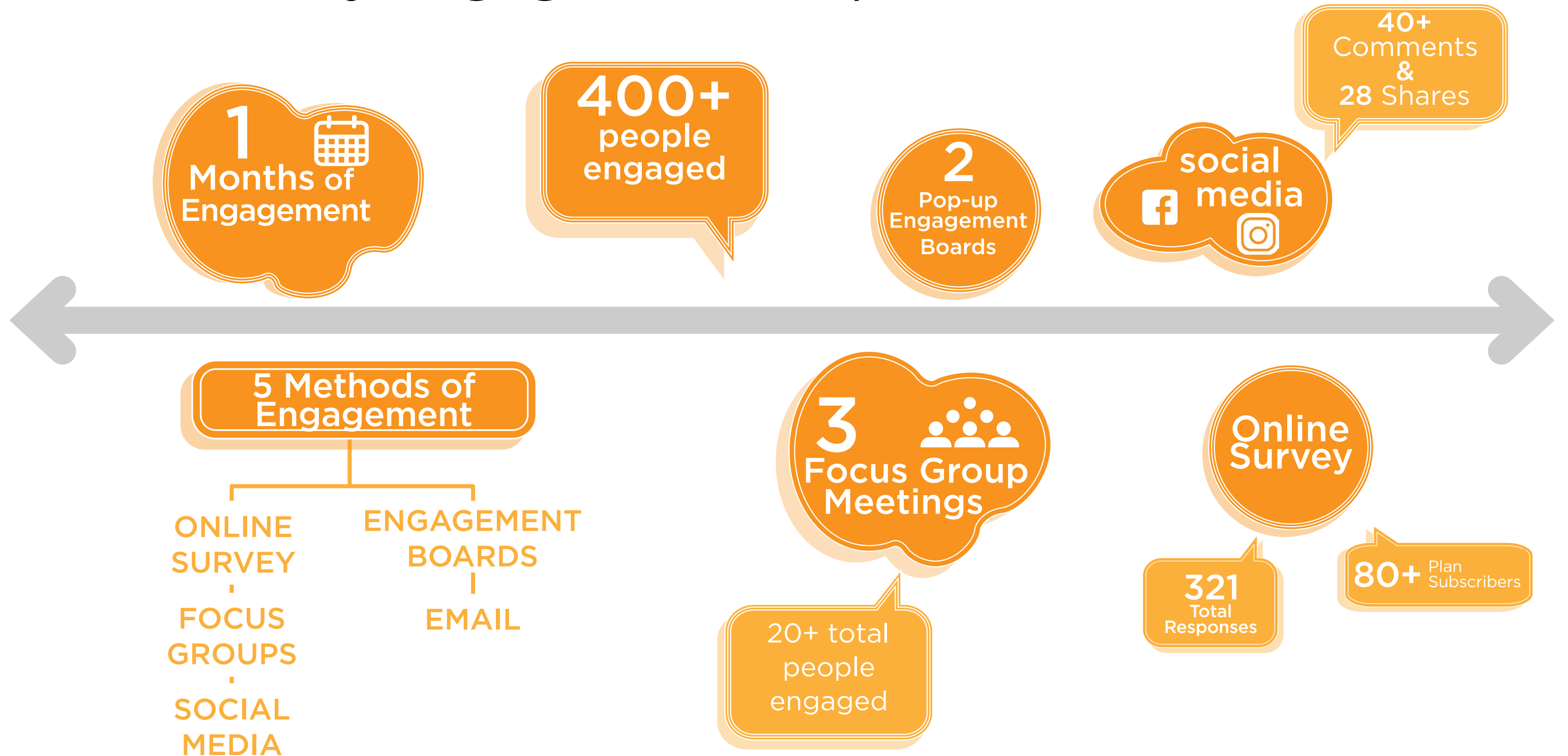
Social Media



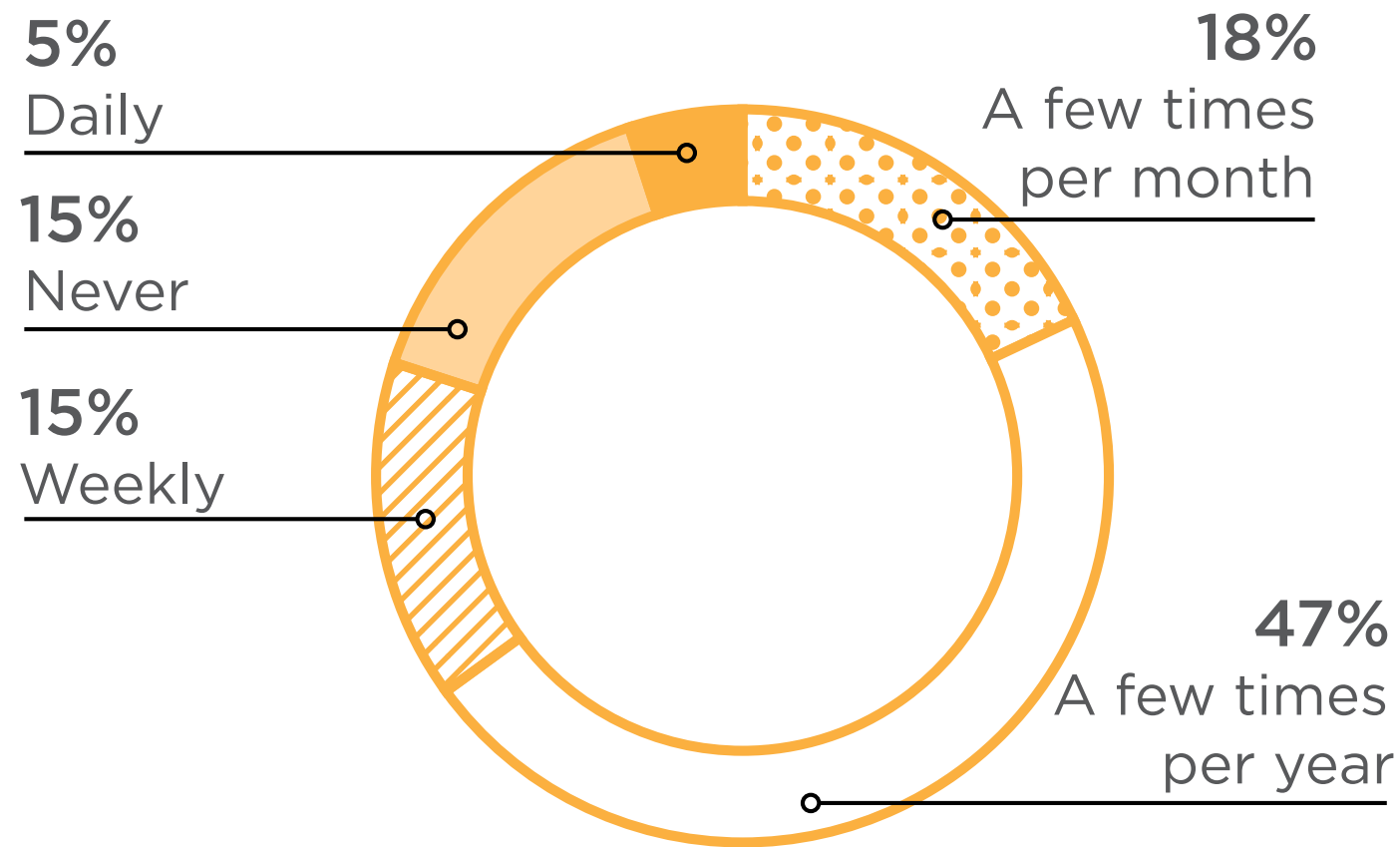
Email Responses



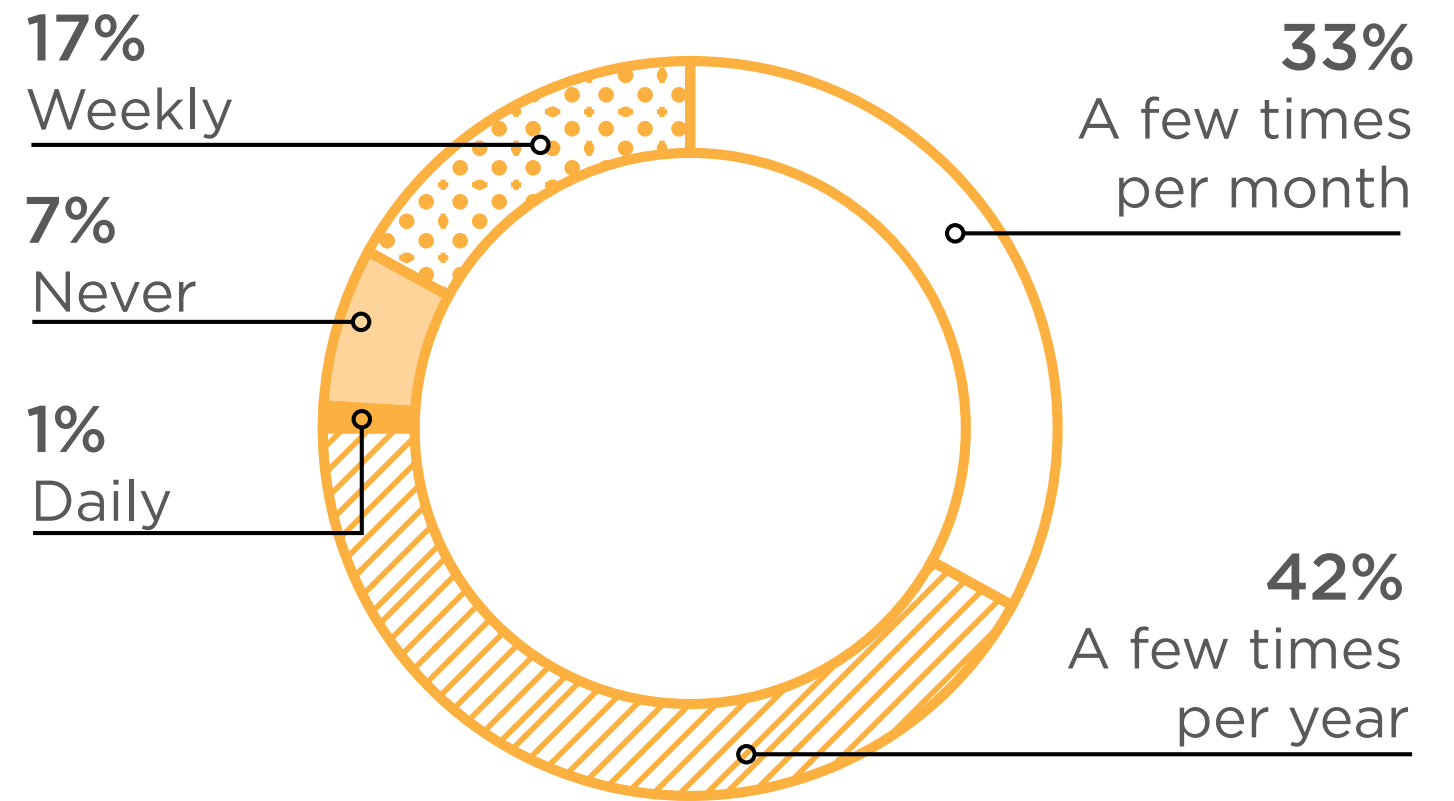
Community Engagement Responses



Community Engagement Park Usage

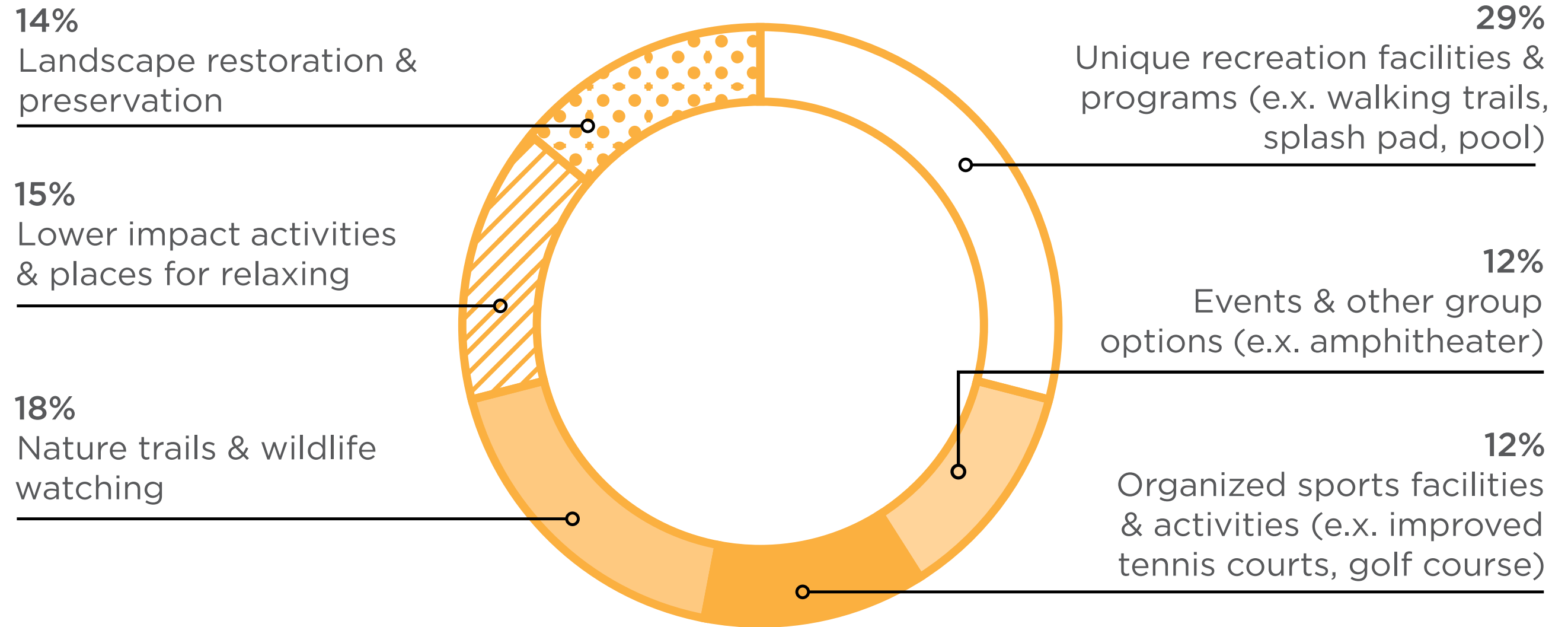


On average, how often do you visit Beech Woods Park?
(350 Responses)



How often do you visit parks outside of Southfield?

Community Engagement Character



What do you think are the most important considerations for the future of Beech Woods Park?

Community Engagement Character

I miss the 9-hole golf course. It was easy to walk, yet challenging

Restrooms need to be accessible year round or at least after the thaw

In the future I imagine the park as... underdeveloped and natural as possible, multi-use, beautiful park indoors and outdoors, a family park

I would like to see more family activities at Beech Woods Park

A dog park would be phenomenal since the City of Southfield doesn't have one...we would visit every week!!!

Make it more comfortable to seniors/disabled citizens. Clean it UP!!!

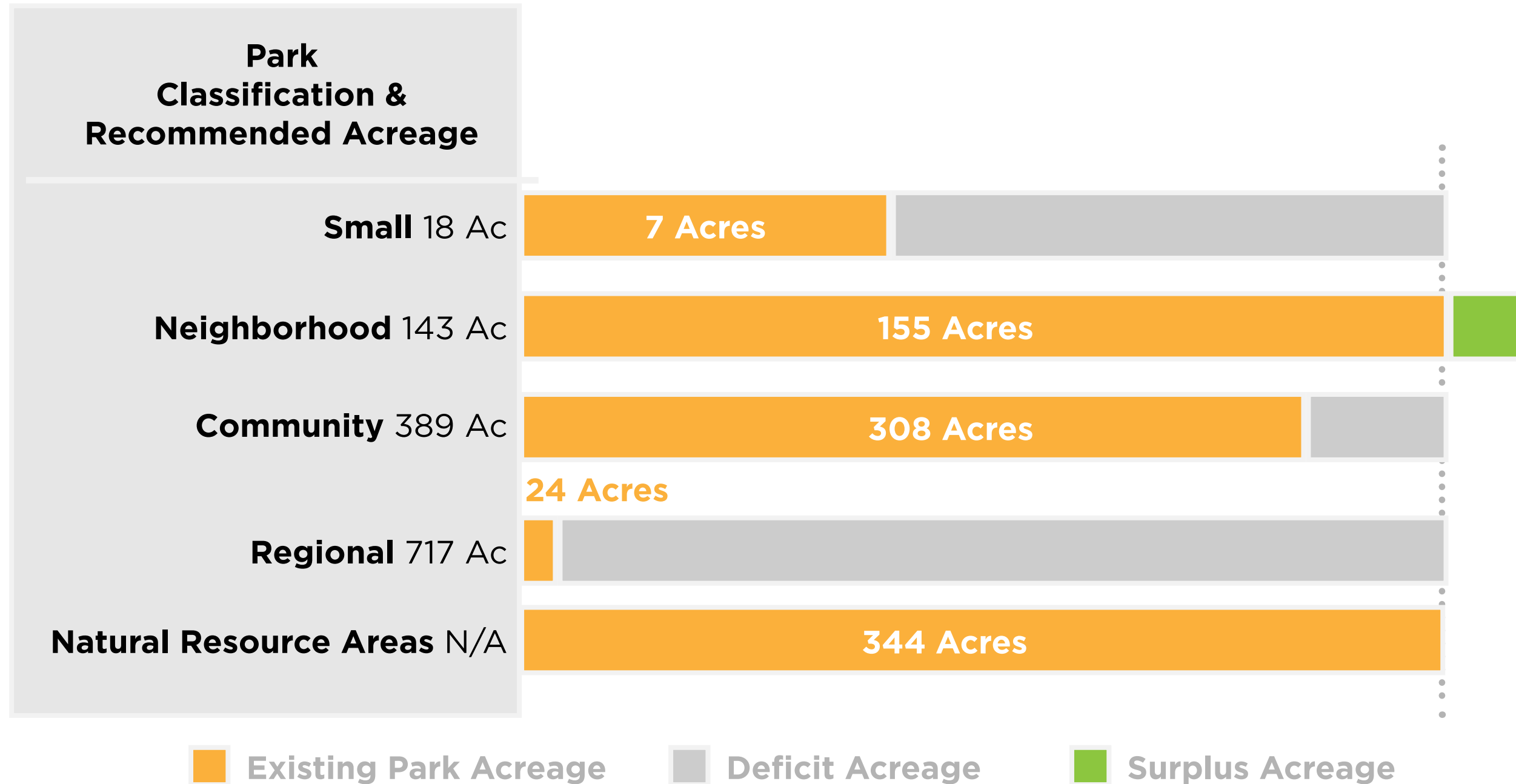
Community Engagement Dog Park

- Both community and city support
- First dog park in Southfield, requires special consideration
- Locate the park in the right location for safety, and park character

Existing Conditions



Park Facilities Park Type Deficiencies and Surplus*



*Compared against MDNR recommendations

Trends and Research

...Recreation centers as trusted community gathering places... expand their role to provide interconnected social, health and counseling services; access to healthcare providers; food and nutrition assistance; educational opportunities and other public services all in one center. Formal agreements among agencies would unify work of providers to achieve a partnership that serves the needs of the entire community

NRPA Top Trends in Parks and Recreation 2020



Wellness Hub



Exercise



Physical Therapy

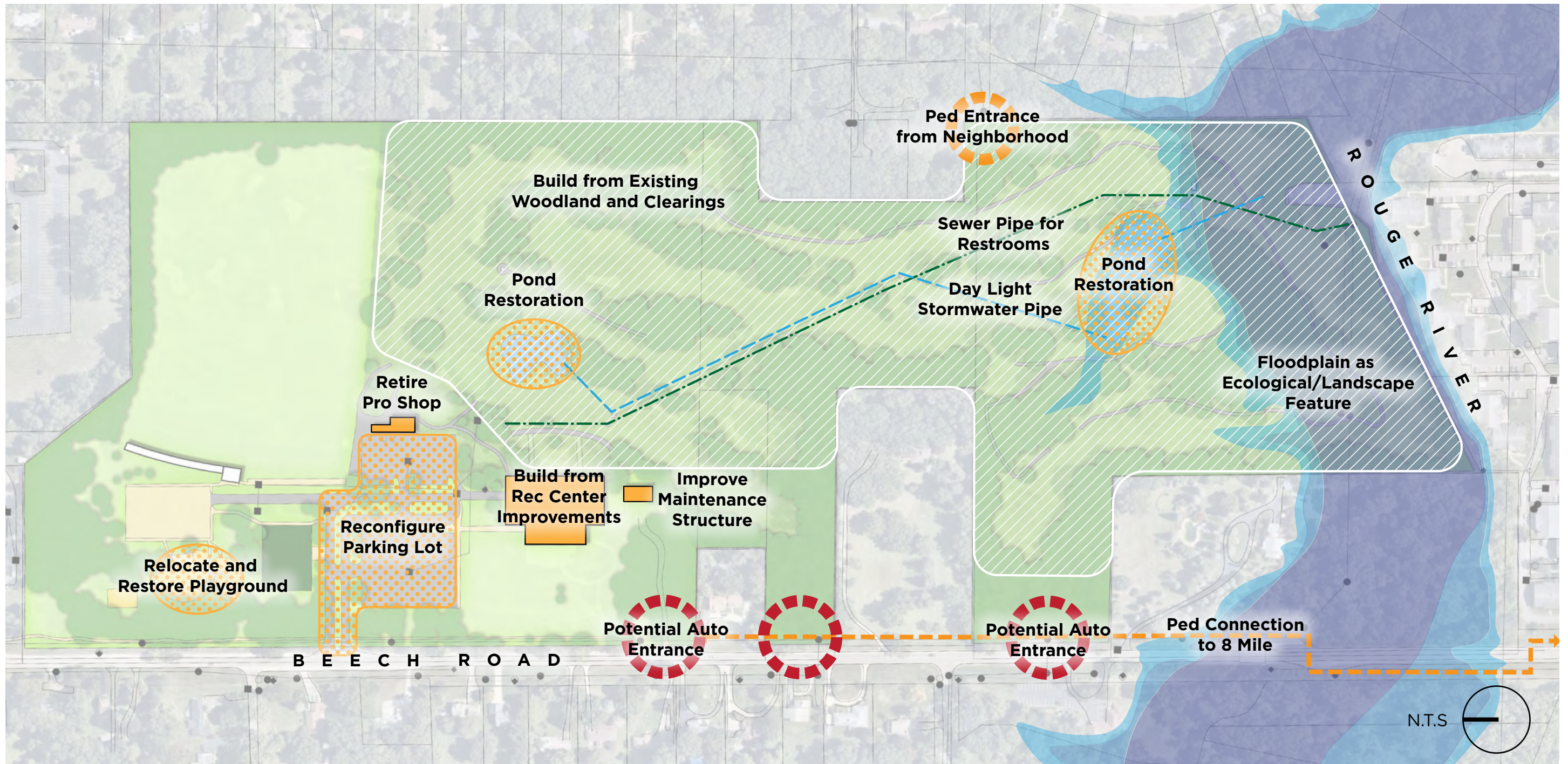


Nutrition Assistance



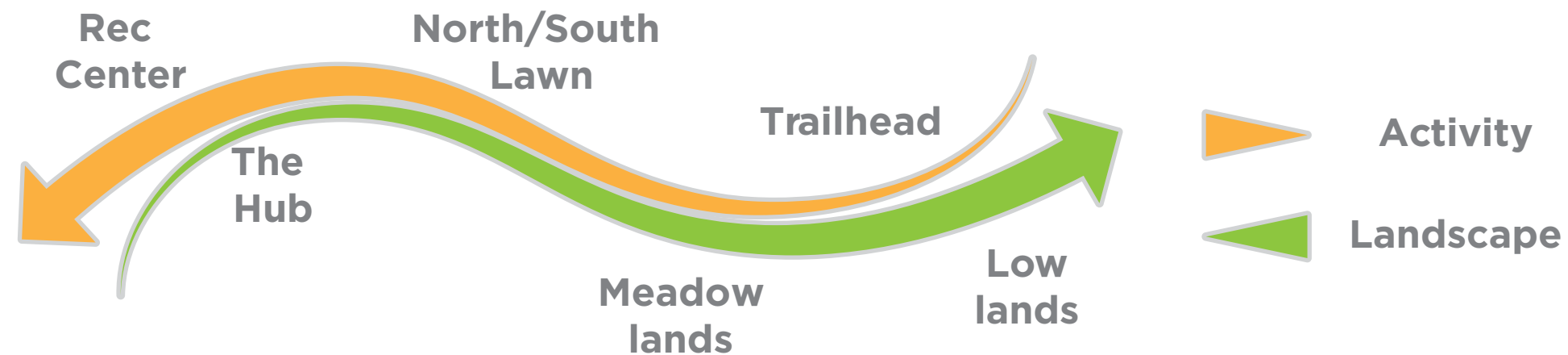
Mentorship

Opportunities

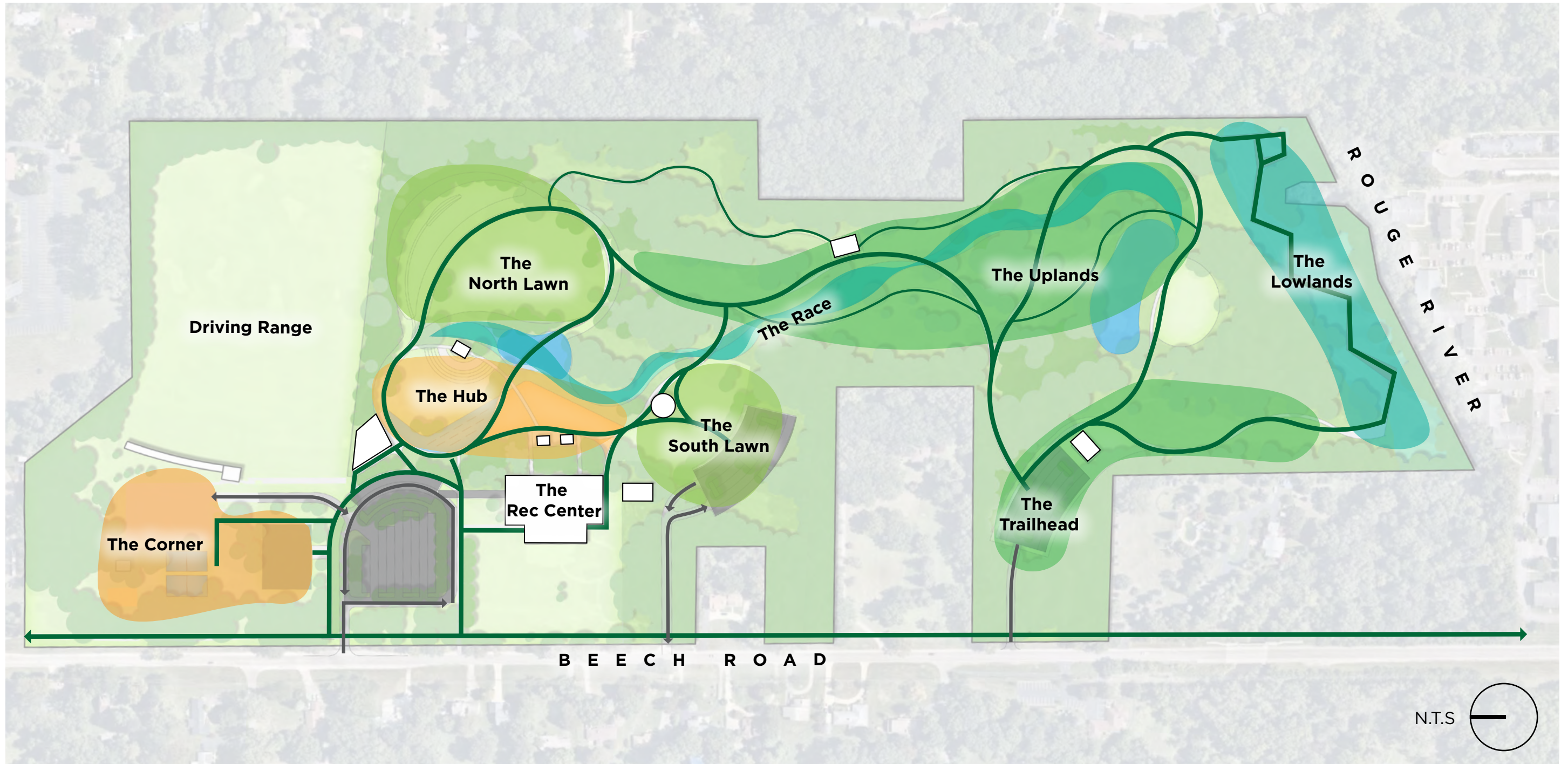


Scheme 1 “Natural Rhythm”

- Park is more active on the north and passive on the south; This scheme creates harmony and interest between the two extremes
- Limit amount of new infrastructure in the park; Three separate park entrances with three distinct characters



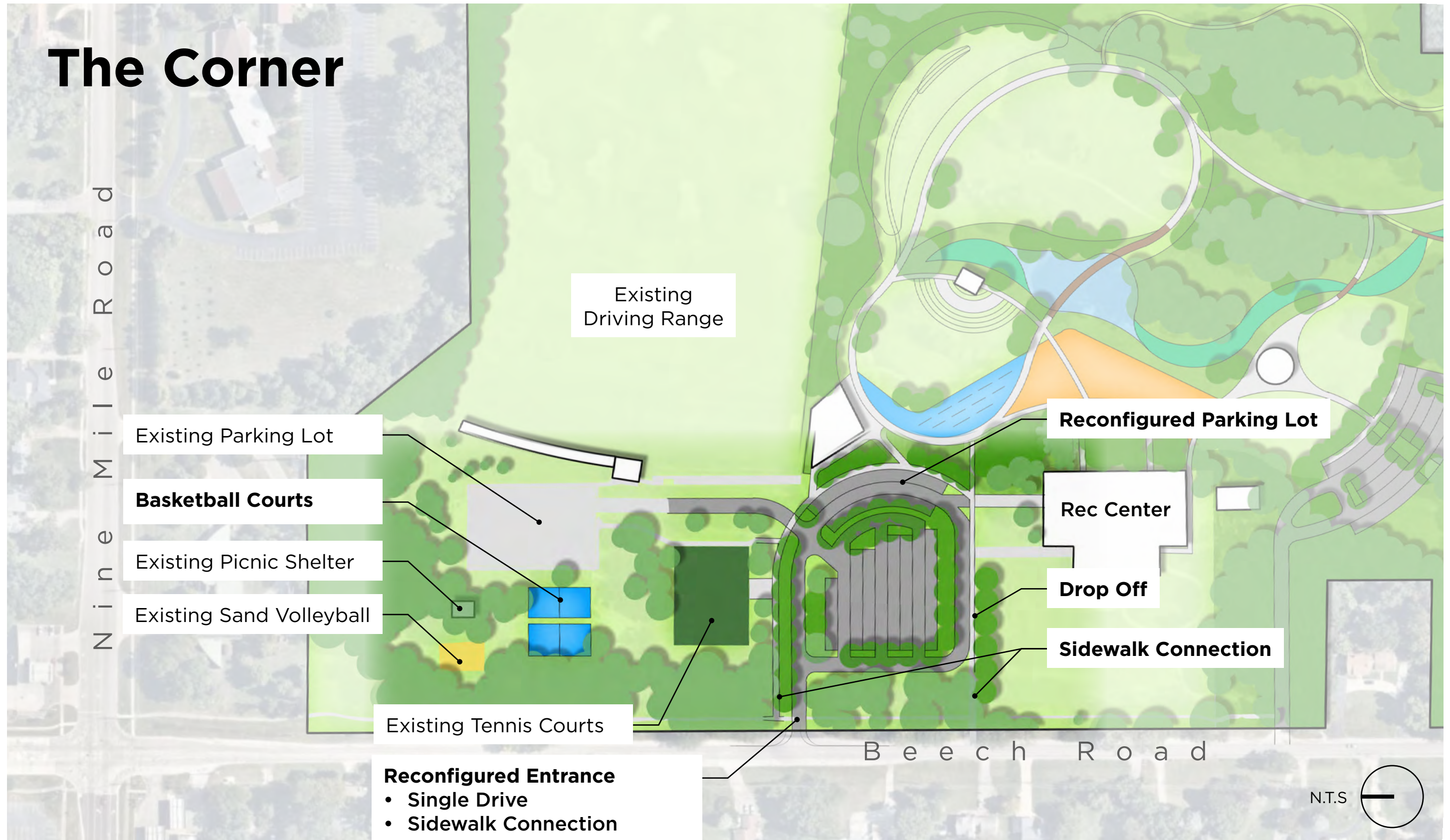
Scheme 1 Plan Elements



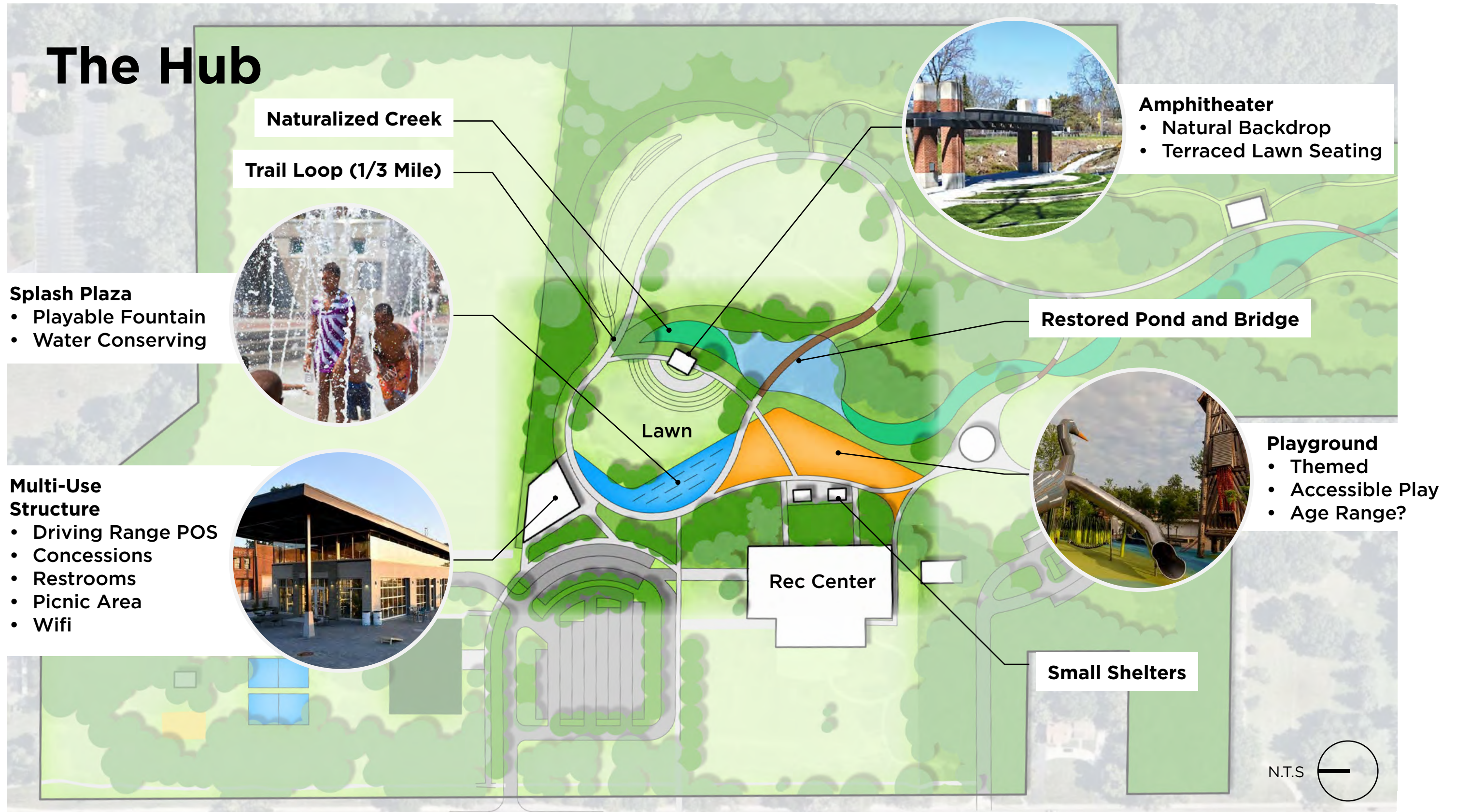
Scheme 1 Concept Plan



The Corner



The Hub



Naturalized Creek

Trail Loop (1/3 Mile)

Splash Plaza

- Playable Fountain
- Water Conserving

Multi-Use Structure

- Driving Range POS
- Concessions
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Wifi

Lawn

Rec Center

Restored Pond and Bridge

Small Shelters

Amphitheater

- Natural Backdrop
- Terraced Lawn Seating

Playground

- Themed
- Accessible Play
- Age Range?

N.T.S.

The North & South Lawn



The Uplands & The Race



Naturalized Plantings



Meadow Pavilion

- Picnic Area
- Wifi



Nature Trails

- ADA Accessible Trails
- Unpaved Exploration Trails



Restored Stormwater Channel

- Manages stormwater
- Ecological and Wildlife Value
- Educational Component



Bridges

The Lowlands & Trailhead

Restored Wetland and Boardwalk

- Scenic Views of Rouge River and Wetland
- Ecological and Wildlife Value
- Educational Component



The Lowlands

R O U G E
R I V E R

Trailhead Pavilion

- Educational Information
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Wifi



The Trailhead

Parking with New South Entrance

Pedestrian Connection to 8 Mile

N.T.S.

B E E C H R O A D

Scheme 1 Concept Plan

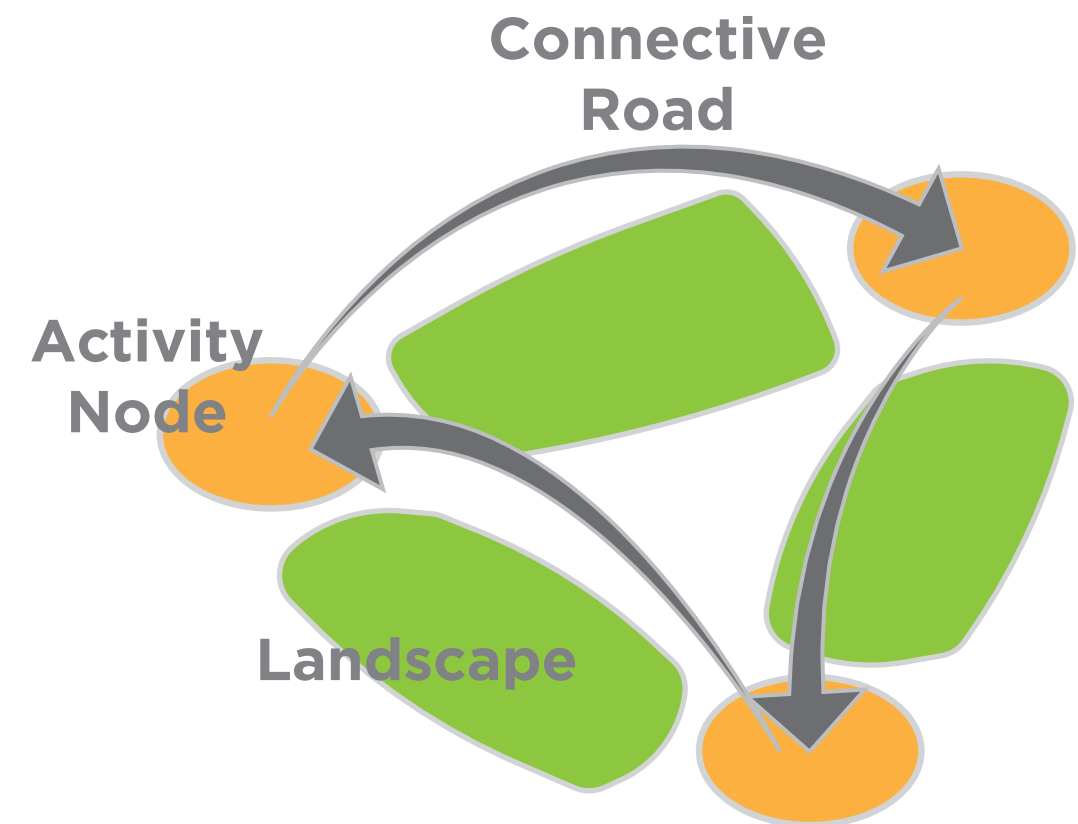


Scheme 1 Structures

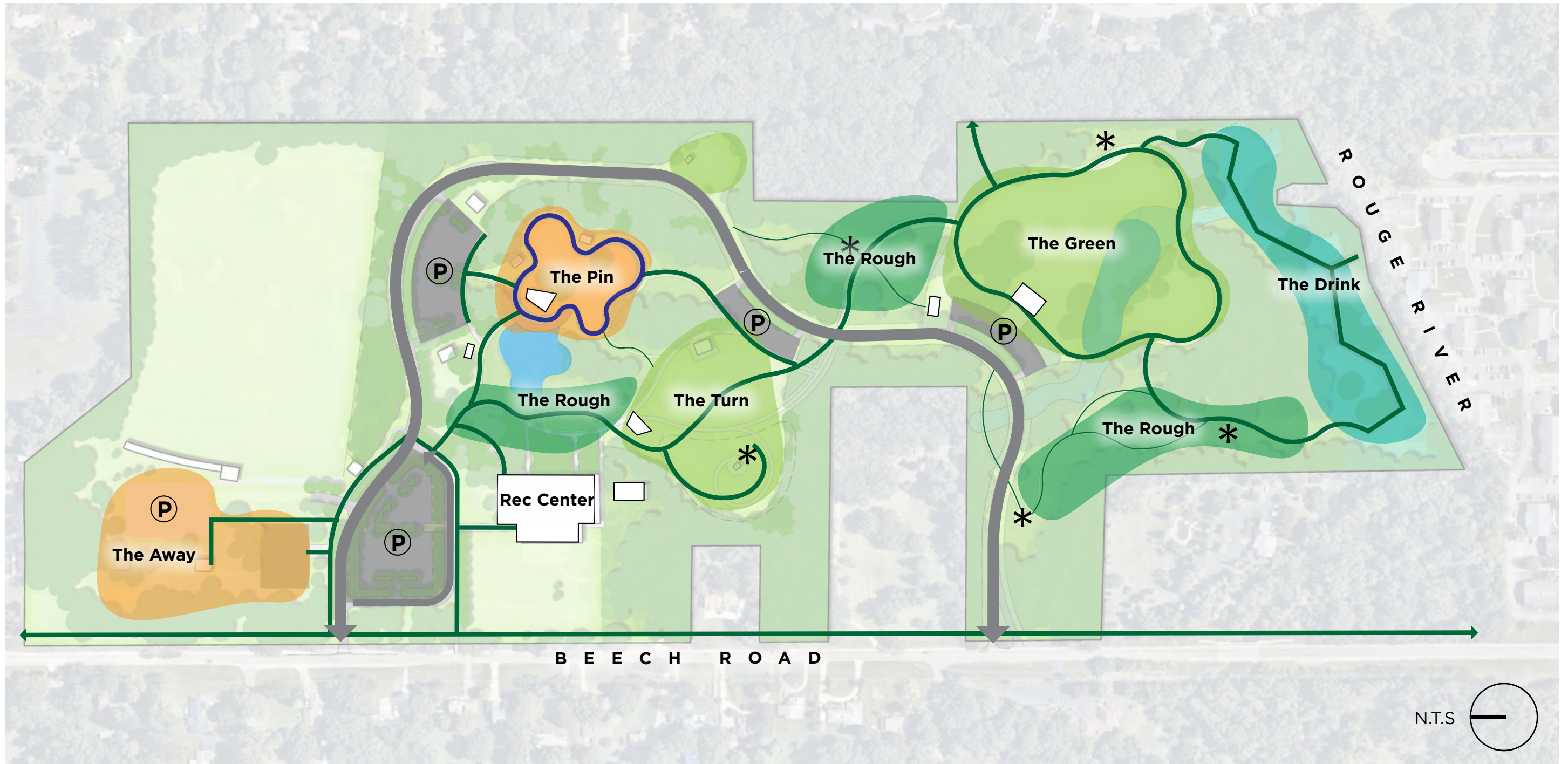


Scheme 2 “Par 3”

- In homage to the golf legacy, this scheme uses a similar organization: nodes of activity, nestled between large areas of landscape and connected by a vehicular path
- Introduces a new roadway which makes deeper parts of the park more accessible



Scheme 2 Plan Elements



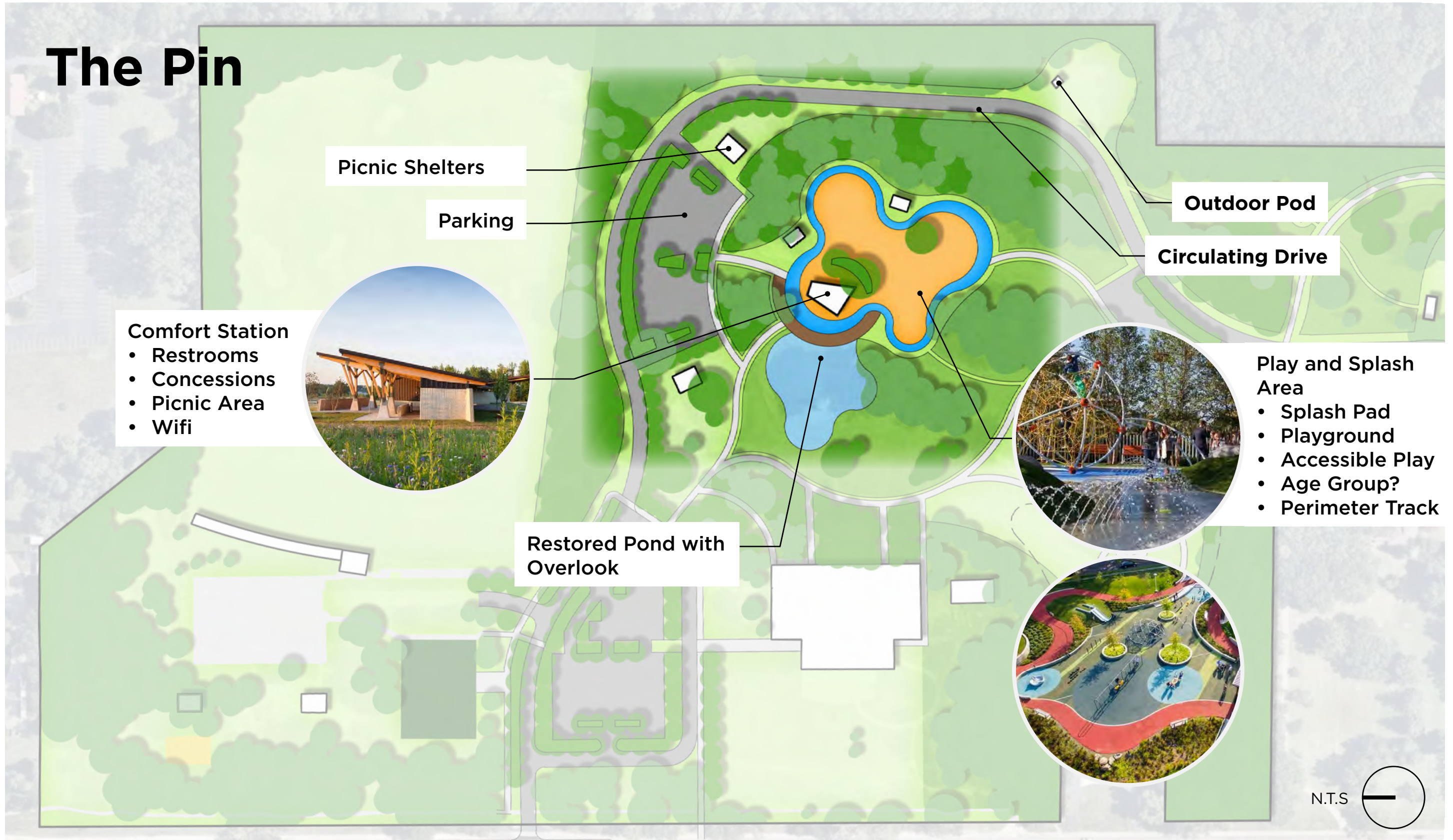
Scheme 2 Concept Plan



The Aways



The Pin



The Turn



The Green

Trail Loop (1/3 Mile)

Parking

Small Picnic Shelter

Lawn

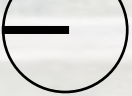
Restored Pond

Connection to Neighborhood

Central Pavilion
• Restrooms
• Fireplace
• Picnic Area
• Wifi

Outdoor Pod
• Small Shelter
• Seating
• Wifi



N.T.S. 

The Rough



The Drink



Boardwalk
• ADA Accessible
• Limited Flooding



Overlook
• Overlooks river and wetlands



South Park Entrance

Pedestrian Connection to 8 Mile

Scheme 2 Concept Plan



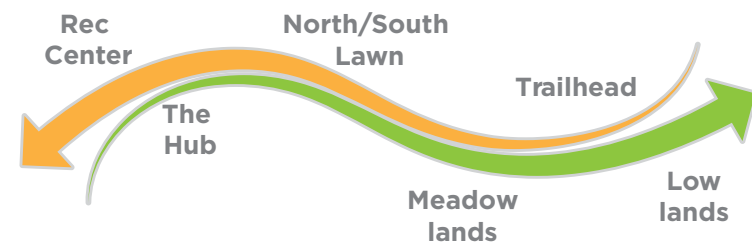
Scheme 2 Structures



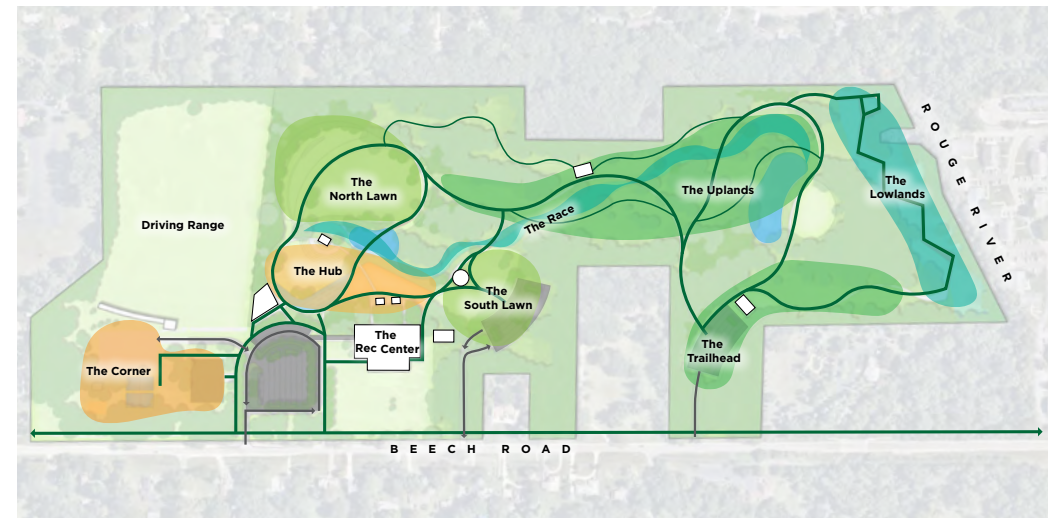
Scheme Comparisons

Concept

Natural Rhythm



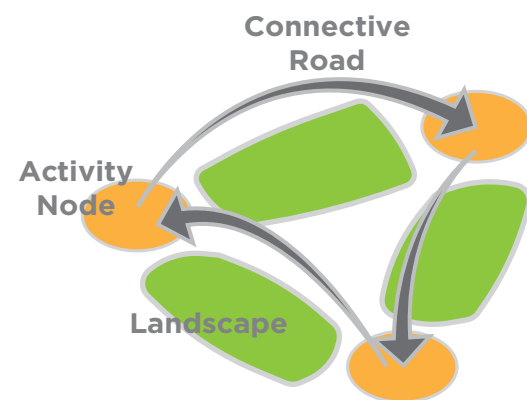
Plan



Notes

- Three Entrance with No Internal Drive
- Splash Plaza and Playground
- Central Natural Feature
- Sledding Hill
- Basketball Courts
- Amphitheater

Par 3



- Internal Drive with Two Entrances
- Large/ Medium Splash Pad and Play Area
- Picnic Pavilion/Performance Space
- Outdoor Meeting Pods

Questions



How Far Do You Live from Beech Woods Park?

- 5 Minutes or Less
- 5 to 15 Minutes
- 15 to 30 Minutes
- 30 Minutes or Greater

Questions



Would These Improvements Encourage You to Visit More Often?

How Often?

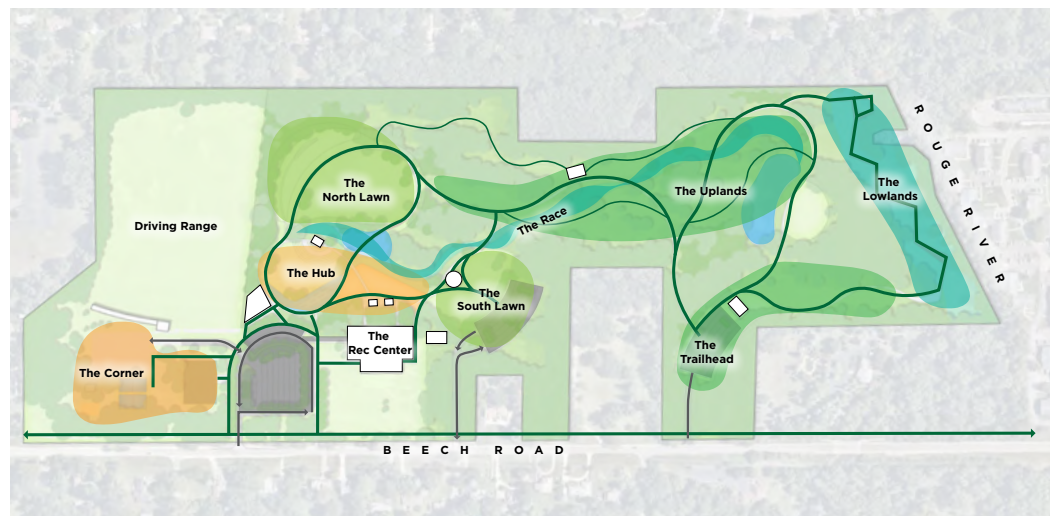
- Yes, Daily
- Yes, Weekly
- Yes, Monthly
- Yes, Yearly
- No

Questions



Which Scheme Do You Prefer?

Scheme 1 'Natural Rhythm'



Scheme 2 'Par 3'



- Both
- Neither

Questions



Which Elements Do You Like Most?

Pick all that apply

- Trails and Pathways
- Picnic Pavilions
- Splash Pad/Splash Plaza
- Playground
- Amphitheater
- Sledding Hill
- Boardwalk
- Naturalized Areas
- Open Lawn
- Other

Questions



Would You Visit For Winter Activities and Events?

- Probably
- Maybe
- Probably Not
- No Way

Questions



Would You Be Willing to Pay a Small Fee to Use Some Park Elements (Splash Pad, Amphitheater)?

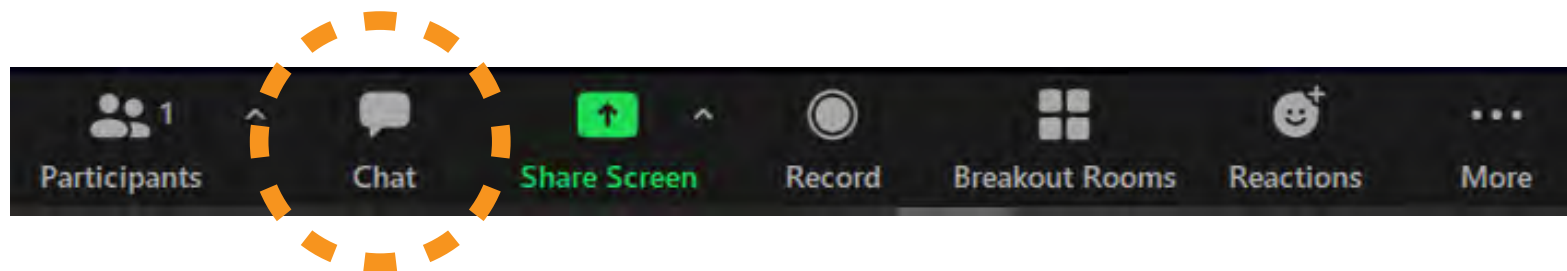
- Probably
- Maybe
- Probably Not
- No Way

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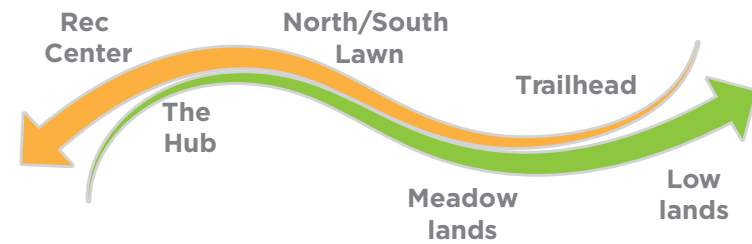
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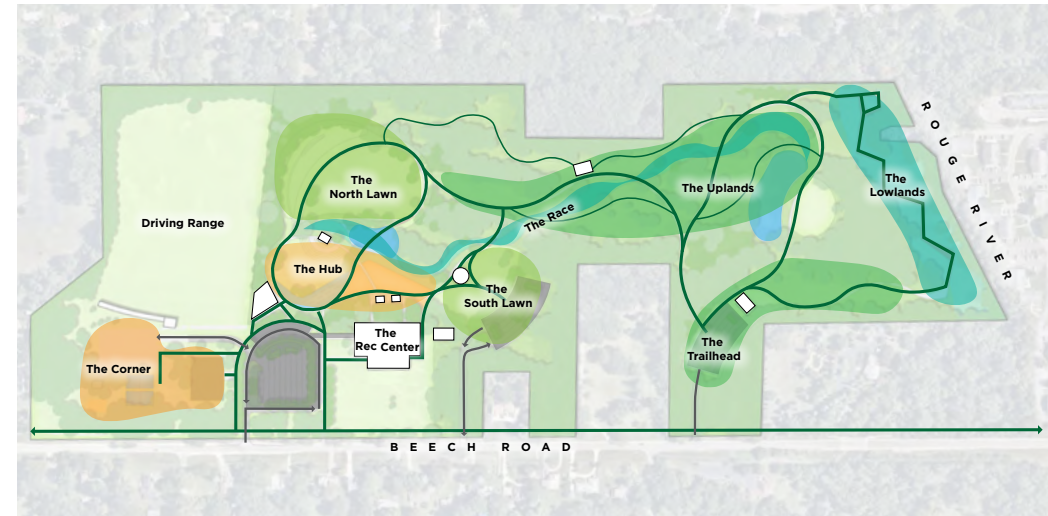
Discussion

Concept

Natural Rhythm



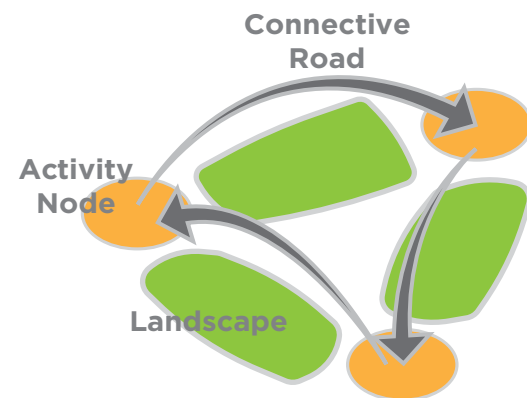
Plan



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Par 3



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Thank you for joining!

Chris Riggert

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