PARKS & RECREATION

THE CITY OF GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS

Grandview Heights Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Public Meeting #3

November 17, 2026

MKSK pros consulting

Today's Agenda

Public Meeting #3

- Schedule + Process Overview
- Park + Programming Improvements
  - Analysis + Community Input = Recommendations
- Open House
- Next Steps



Project Schedule

Phase 0

LAUNCH
February 2026

February 23 2026
Working Group Kickoff

Phase 1

ANALYSIS
February - May 2026

March 13 2026
Steering Committee Park Tours

April 14 2026
Stakeholder Focus Groups Round 1

May 14 2026
Steering Committee Meeting 1

Phase 2

COMMUNITY VISIONING
June - September 2026

June 4 2026
Community Meeting 1
Online Survey

August 25 2026
Steering Committee Meeting 2

September 1 2026
Stakeholder Focus Groups Round 2
Community Meeting 2

Phase 3

We're here!

PLAN DEVELOPMENT
October 2026 - January 2027

October 20 2026
Steering Committee Meeting 3

November 17 2026
Community Meeting 3 - Open House

January 25 2026
Final Plan Presentation to City Council

Community Input

Engagement Overview

Stakeholder Focus Groups
7 groups / 54 total participants

Public Surveys
>1,000 combined respondents

Public Meeting #1
~80 attendees

Stakeholder Engagement
~30 stakeholders

Public Meeting #2
~100 attendees

Student Engagement
6 middle school groups





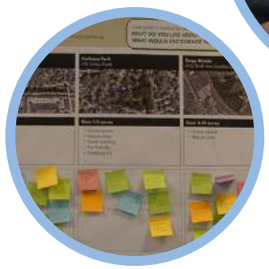




1,200+
voices heard!











Park & Program Improvements

Analysis + Community Input = Recommendations

Improve & Maintain Existing Parks

Feedback



62% of respondents believe the City should prioritize **improving and maintaining existing parks** where possible over system expansion through land acquisition.

Online Survey #1 - June 2026

General Recommendations

- **Leverage partnerships** with external organizations to increase program and spatial capacity
- **Conduct a facility condition assessment** to determine long-term maintenance needs, implement all-weather turf for new high-use sports fields
- Use a **percentage of annual budget to establish an reinvestment target** to fund ongoing asset maintenance and replacement
- **Require lifecycle cost estimates** and long-term funding plans for all new capital investments and improve existing facilities

Addressing Program Barriers

Feedback + Analysis

Timing of programs was highlighted as the number one barrier to participation, followed by **lack of awareness** and **physical accessibility**.

Recommendations

» Align program schedules with residents' availability (e.g. before/after work, weekends, drop-in classes, etc.)

» Utilize partnerships to expand capacity

» Refresh programming to better reflect resident interests

» Strengthen program awareness through targeted marketing

» Create more opportunities for residents to try/learn something new







Heritage Trail & Trailhead

Feedback - Priority #2

Trails and walking/biking paths, along with additional trailhead amenities including a restroom and water station, are **the second-highest priority amenities for residents**.

Public Meeting #1 / Online Survey #1 - June 2026

Recommendation

» Add **trailhead facility at Grandview Avenue** along future Heritage Trail.

» Explore **opportunities for additional connections** into community and parks system from Heritage Trail.



Heritage Trail & Trailhead

Feedback - Priority #2

Trails and walking/biking paths, along with additional trailhead amenities including a restroom and water station, are **the second-highest priority amenities for residents**.

Public Meeting #1 / Online Survey #1 - June 2026

Recommendation - Trailhead Amenities

- Paved plaza with bike parking and repair station
- Restrooms and water fountain
- Seating with shade
- Potential proximity to parking
- Wayfinding/signage


SEATING, BIKE PARKING, WAYFINDING


SEATING, BIKE PARKING, WAYFINDING


COVERED SEATING


BIKE PARKING/BIKE SHARE


RESTROOMS


TRAILHEAD PLAZA

Off-Leash Dog Area

Feedback - Priority #3

Many residents would like a dedicated space for off-leash **dog play.**





Recommendation

- While there are several dog-friendly and dedicated off-leash dog parks within a 15-minute drive, Grandview Heights may consider a dog park at McKinley Greenspace, adequately distanced from existing buildings/playground areas
- For long term resilience and ease of maintenance, a new dog park would require all-weather turf
- While on-site areas for parking are limited, opportunities to expand parking at McKinley Field

Embrace Natural Features

Feedback - Priority #4

Many residents would like to see more passive, open space and accessible natural areas.







Recommendations - Community Parks & Nature Parks

Including: McKinley Greenspace, Parkway Park, Tarpy Woods, McKinley Field, Wallace Gardens, Wyman Woods

- Conduct a Tree Risk Assessment
- Where possible, prioritize healthy, mature tree canopy preservation with new development
- Consider implementing nature play areas
- Conduct existing trail maintenance + add new trail connections within and between parks such as Wyman Woods and Urlin Tennis/McKinley Field/Wallace Gardens

Embrace Natural Features

Feedback - Priority #4

Many residents would like to see more passive, open space and accessible natural areas.

Recommendations - Wyman Woods

» Conduct Tree Risk Assessment, particularly for hillside canopy

» Formalize trails to delineate areas for walking and areas to remain natural, allowing for restoration

» Create natural surface trail connections between existing Wyman Woods and Former City Hall site for additional 1/4 mile of trails

» Implement landscape and/or structural improvements to address stormwater at existing parking



Outdoor Fitness

Feedback + Analysis

Grandview Heights stakeholders and residents have expressed interest in opportunities for **outdoor fitness.**

Recommendations - Wyman Woods

» Implement outdoor fitness nodes along existing loop path





Neighborhood Park Upgrades

Feedback + Analysis

14.6% of residents requested **general upgrades** such as signage, shade, seating and waste receptacles.

Recommendations

» Provide baseline comfort amenities such as seating, waste receptacles and planted or structured shade at each park

» Implement small activiating amentities where feasibile (small play structures, swing benches, chess tables, etc.)

» Consider small class programming opportunities to increase awareness and visitation

» Prioritize and implement native planting opportunities for increased interest and pollinator activation









Maintain & Improve Wallace Gardens

Feedback

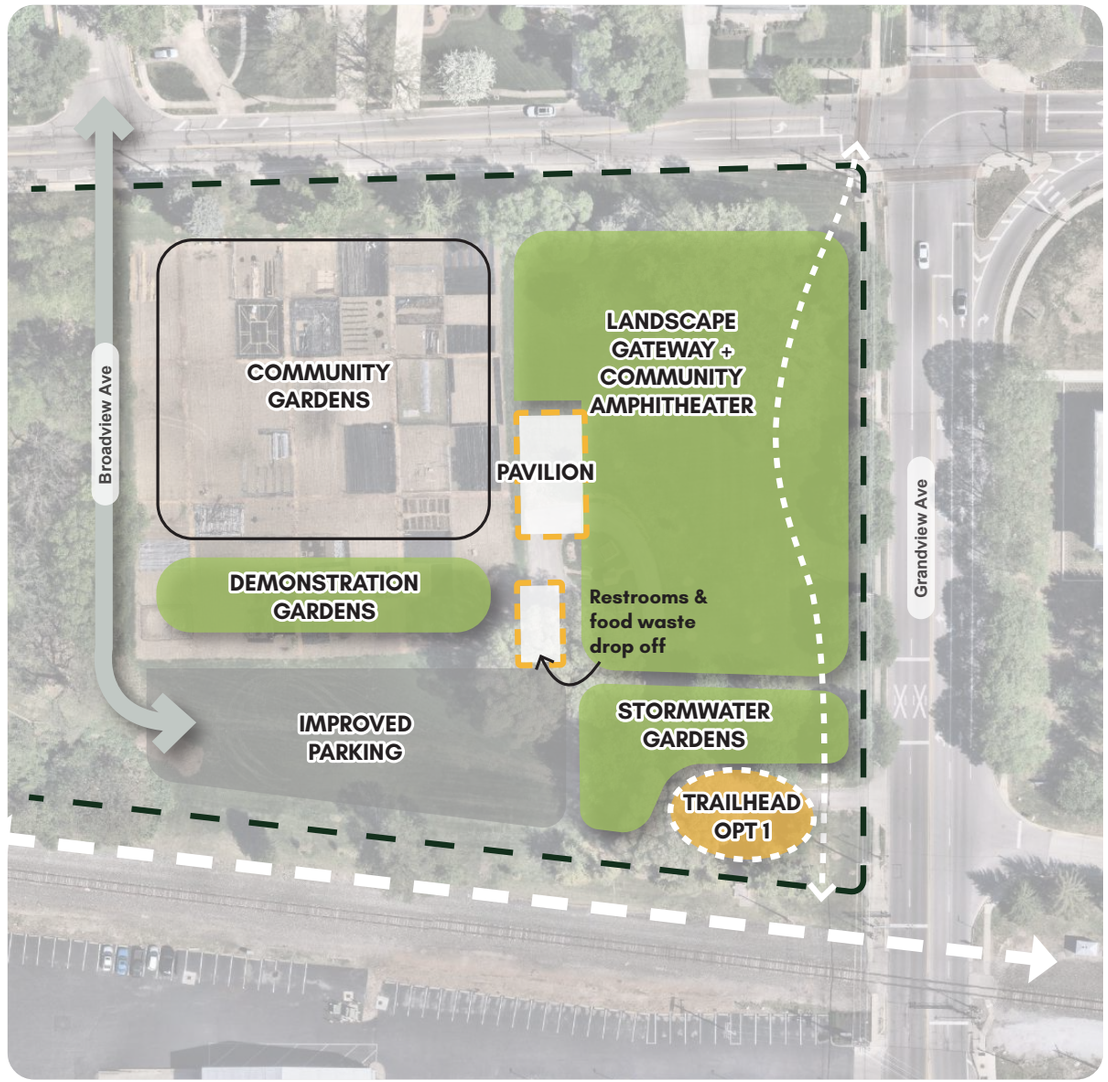
Many residents would like Wallace Gardens to remain a Grandview Heights anchor, with thoughtful improvements to increase ADA accessibility, ease of maintenance, and highlight its Victory Garden heritage.

Recommendations - Wallace Gardens

» Community gardens to remain in place (could require reconfiguration depending on other park improvements)

» Potential improvements include: demonstration gardens, pathways, equipment storage, accessible raised beds, improved parking access, history acknowledgment + celebration and food waste drop-off station

» Landscape gateway and community amphitheater and pavilion



Maintain & Improve Wallace Gardens


DEFINED GARDEN BEDS AND PATHWAYS


RESTROOMS


ACCESSIBLE PATHWAYS


POTENTIAL TRAILHEAD CONNECTION


FLEX COMMUNITY EVENT LAWN


LANDSCAPED PROMENDADE

Field Sports

Feedback + Analysis

Grandview Heights stakeholders and residents have expressed interest in improvements to **sports fields**. Many existing fields show signs of wear or require significant maintenance due to use and drainage challenges. Field turf was requested for high-use fields to allow for greater all-season usability.

Recommendations

» Replace lawns and infield at C. Ray Buck Park & softball field at Pierce Field with heat-resistant all-weather turf for long-term resiliency

» Relocate McKinley youth field to Buck Park - can potentially fit two fields with simultaneous play

» New turf soccer field with softball overlay at Larson Middle School presents a field sports partnership opportunity



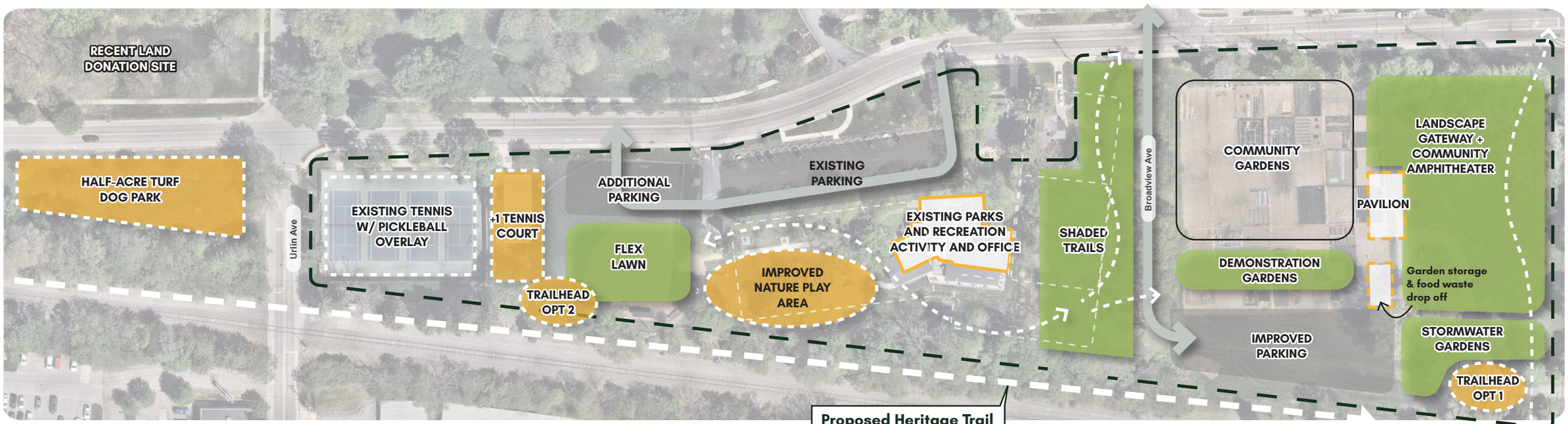
Nature Play + Flex Fields

Feedback + Analysis

At Urlin and McKinley, residents and stakeholders highlighted the need for playground improvements, a fifth tennis court, and for multi-use lawn space to be prioritized over single-use sport fields.

Recommendations - McKinley Field

- » Turf softball fields at Pierce Field, Buck Park, and Larson Middle School allow for removal of softball field
- » Expand tennis with fifth court with pickleball overlay
- » Expand existing parking
- » Update existing nature play area*
- » Shaded trail connections to Wallace Gardens*



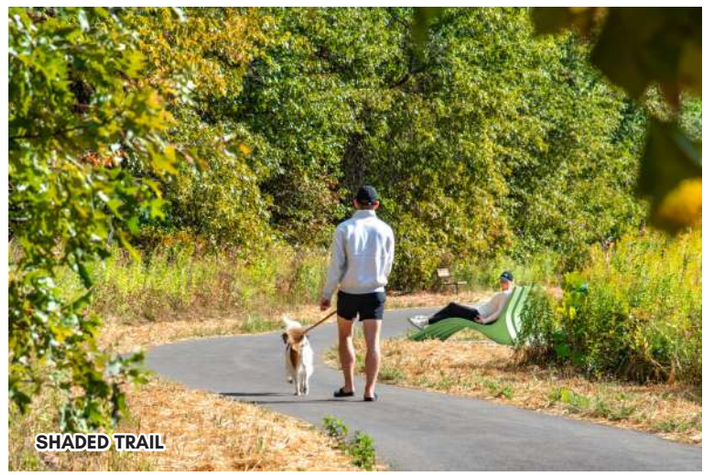
* The Extension indoor recreation scenario may impact nature play and shaded trail areas

Fitness & Outdoor Sports

Recommendations - McKinley Field


NATURE PLAY


ADDITIONAL TENNIS/
PICKLEBALL


SHADED TRAIL


ADDITIONAL TENNIS/
PICKLEBALL


OFF-LEASH
DOG AREA


Credit: City of Evanston, IL
NATURE PLAY

Indoor Recreation

Feedback - Top Community Priority



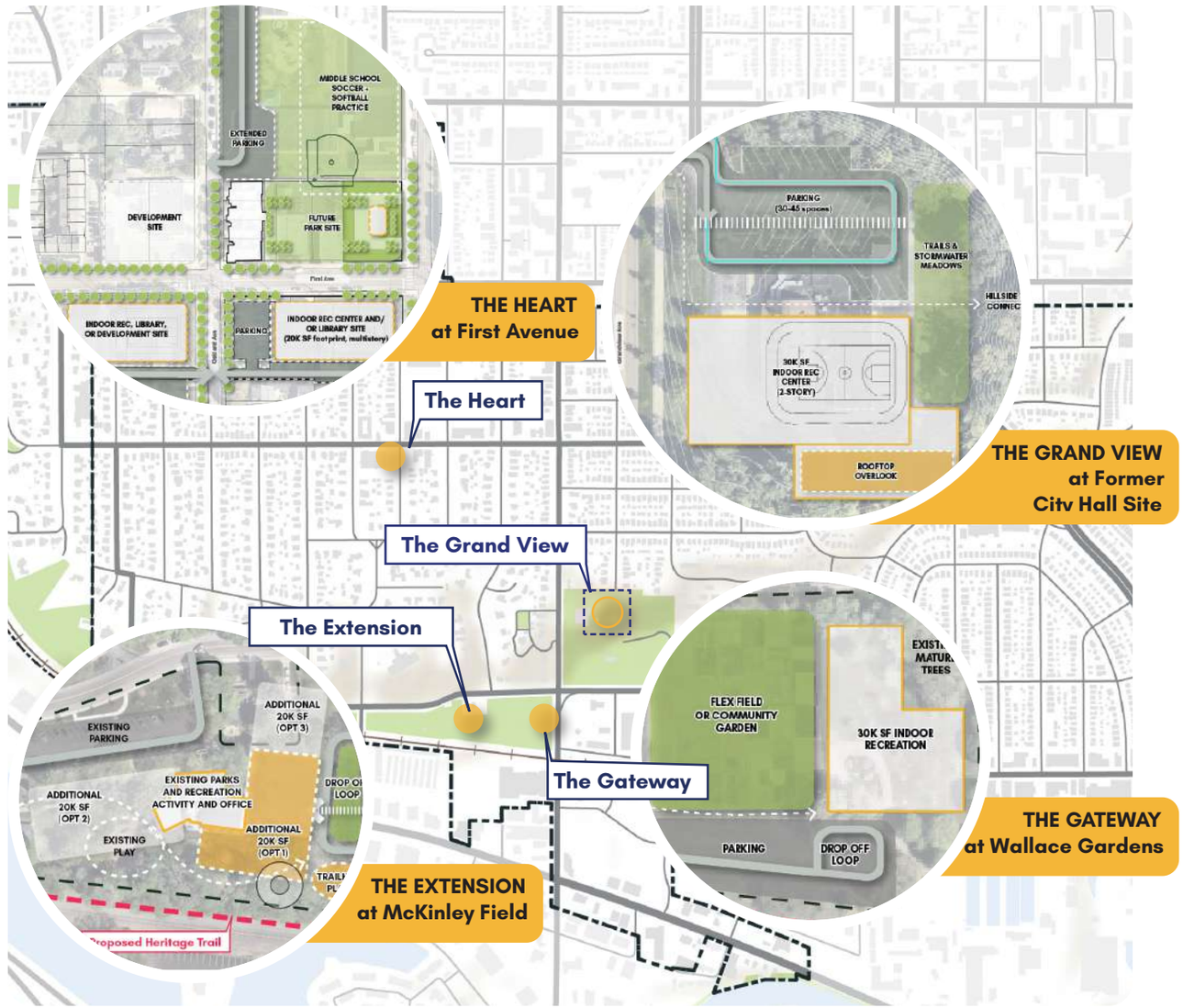
Indoor Recreation was the **number one new amenity** the community would like to see.

Recommendations

» Conduct an Indoor Recreation Feasibility Study

» Similar to local and regional benchmarks, a new recreation facility includes:

- A full-size indoor gymnasium
- Walking track
- Indoor fitness space
- Support space and storage



POSSIBLE INDOOR RECREATION LOCATIONS

Indoor Recreation


DEDICATED
INDOOR FITNESS


100M ELEVATED
INDOOR TRACK

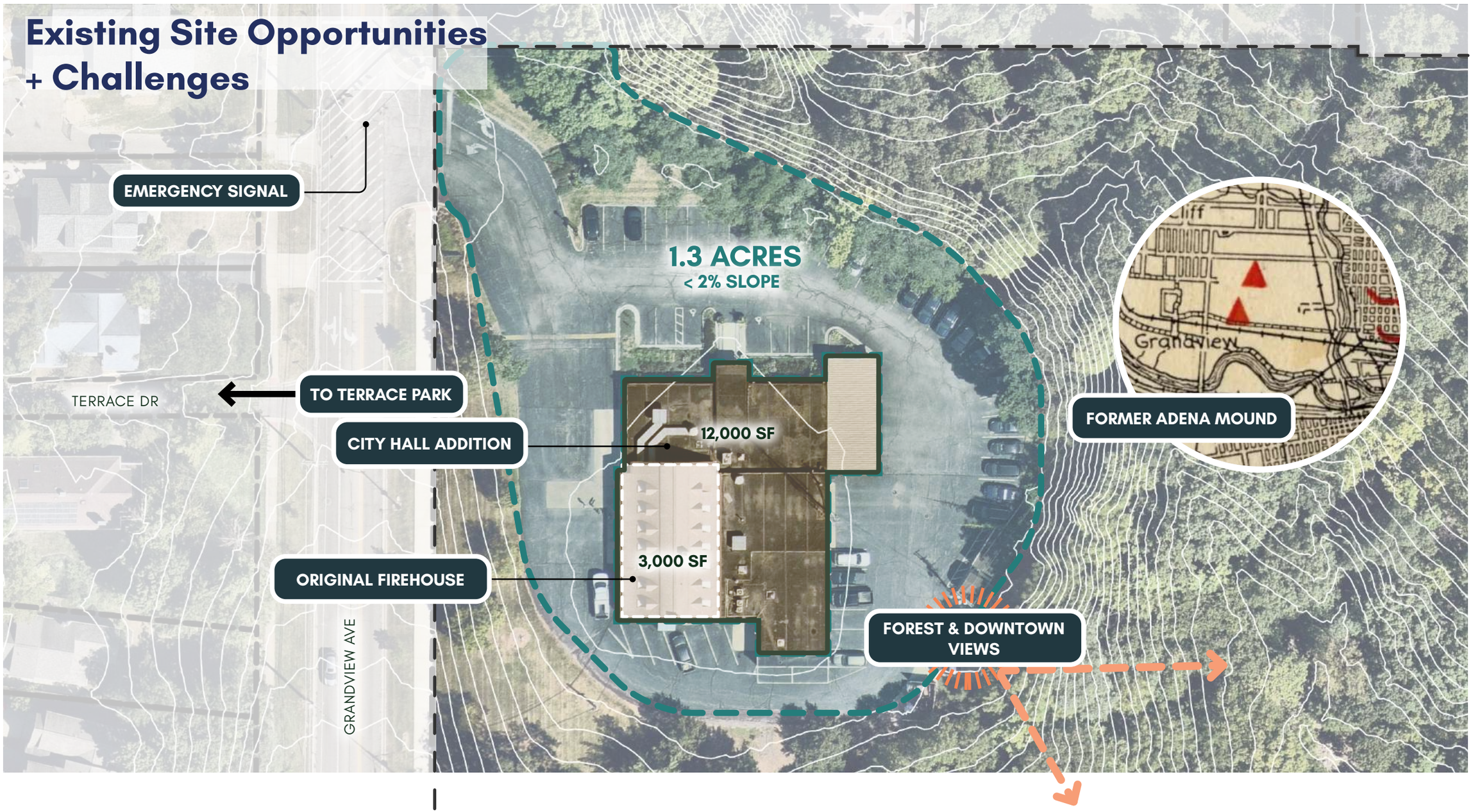

INDOOR
GYMNASIUM




INDOOR FITNESS
EQUIPMENT


FLEXIBLE
INDOOR SPACE

Former City Hall Site



Former City Hall Site

Feedback

Existing Firehouse/City Hall Structure

While there was not a strong desire to save the existing firehouse building as-is, participants highlighted potential opportunities to reuse/repurpose existing building materials on site.

Flex programming + Rentable Space

Many participants indicated a smaller footprint indoor space here, either a classroom and flexible event space. Some suggested a multi-story indoor recreation facility, with a rooftop garden suggested.

Reflective Gardens

Many participants would like to see passive planted areas, with historic designations for the Adena burial site and former firehouse.

52% of residents feel the preservation and reuse of the Former City Hall building is **not a high priority**



Former City Hall Site

Opportunities

- Passive open lawn spaces
- Picnic areas
- Native meadow, stormwater meadows, and reflective gardens
- Connections to hillside hiking trails
- Connection to existing sled hill
- Restrooms and winter warming station
- Parking and drop off loop (30-35 spaces)
- Potential to add event space and overlook in future phase
- **Indigenous site history storytelling:** Engage indigenous groups to inform potential material and interpretive opportunities



Former City Hall Site

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- Parking and drop off loop (30-35 spaces)
- Potential to add event space and overlook in future phase
- **Indigenous site history storytelling:** Engage indigenous groups to inform potential material and interpretive opportunities
- Potential to add 2000 SF event and meeting space in future phase

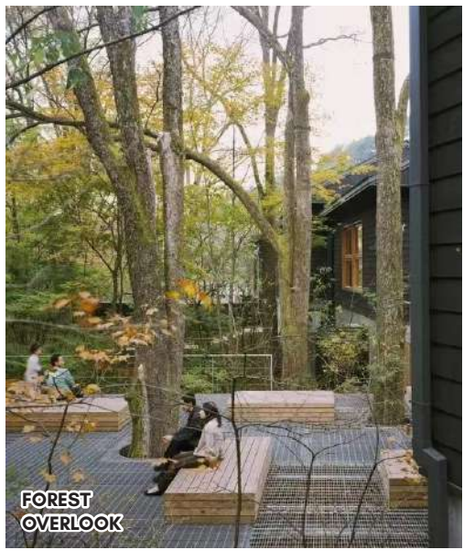


Former City Hall Site


OUTDOOR SEATING


GATHERING NODES


STORMWATER MEADOWS


FOREST OVERLOOK


POTENTIAL FUTURE EVENT PAVILION 2000 SF


PASSIVE SEATING


FOREST OVERLOOK PLATFORM

Park Improvement Summary

Expand Comfort Amenities

Conduct amenity inventory and **provide standard seating, shade, wayfinding & waste amenities for all parks.**

Prioritize Care for Well-Loved Spaces

Conduct conditions and tree risk assessment to **maintain or upgrade existing amenities and natural areas.**

Create Multifunctional Spaces for All

Create **opportunities for new or improved park amenities**.

PARKS & FACILITIES

- 1 Paul J. Falco Park
- 4 Urlin Tennis Courts
- 7 Terrace Park
- 12 Virginia Avenue Park
- 13 Parkway Park
- 16 Parkway Mini Park
- 17 Timberman Copeland Park
- 19 Burr Avenue Park
- 20 Yard Street Greenspace
- 21 Recent Land Donation Site



Open House

Review recommendations and
fill out a comment card!

Today's Open House

1 Sign In
6:00 - 6:15pm

- Project Schedule + Engagement Overview
- Phase 2 Feedback Summary

2 Presentation
6:15 - 6:45pm



3 Open House - Recommendations Review
6:45 - 8pm

- Park Recommendations Summary
- General Program Recommendations
- Heritage Trail & Trailhead
- Nature Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Indoor Recreation Scenarios
- Urlin, McKinley, Wallace Gardens
- Pierce Field, Buck Park
- Wyman Woods
- Former City Hall Site

Grab a comment card to share your feedback!



Let us know if anything is missing from the final recommendations and what you'd like to see first!