

ESPRIT PARK

CONTEXT

Esprit Park, a 1.8-acre secluded open space, is located in the central Dogpatch. Being the only sizable green space in the neighborhood, Esprit Park has been serving as the neighborhood's "community center" for community gathering, recreation, and relaxation.

The park is bordered by Indiana Street to the west, Minnesota Street to the east, 20th Street to the south and 19th Street to the north. The 20th Street overpass is one of the major east-west connections between the Potrero Hill and Dogpatch neighborhoods. Both 19th Street and ground-level 20th Street discontinue when they reach the retaining walls of I-280, a block west of the park.

The surrounding areas are becoming predominantly residential. On the west side of Indiana Street to the north and the south, two residential developments are under construction, which will house a sidewalk cafe, a dog play area, and an arts plaza. On the east side of Minnesota Street, a residential project is undergoing its entitlement process. The three new housing developments together will provide over 500 housing units. An administrative office building for UCSF is located across 19th Street from the park.



FIGURE 4-52. ESPRIT PARK CONTEXT MAPS

ESPRIT PARK DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

The conceptual design development for a renovation of Esprit Park as part of the Public Realm Plan required extensive research into the historical development of the Park. For a

detailed history of the Park, please refer to [Appendix B](#).

The conceptual design for the renovation relied on a series of in-depth conversations with user groups to better comprehend its needs and mold its vision for the future. The

following section outlines the process of the community's engagement in chronological order, and how the conversations with the community shaped the design of the future Esprit Park (see [Appendix A](#) of this Public Realm Plan for more detail).

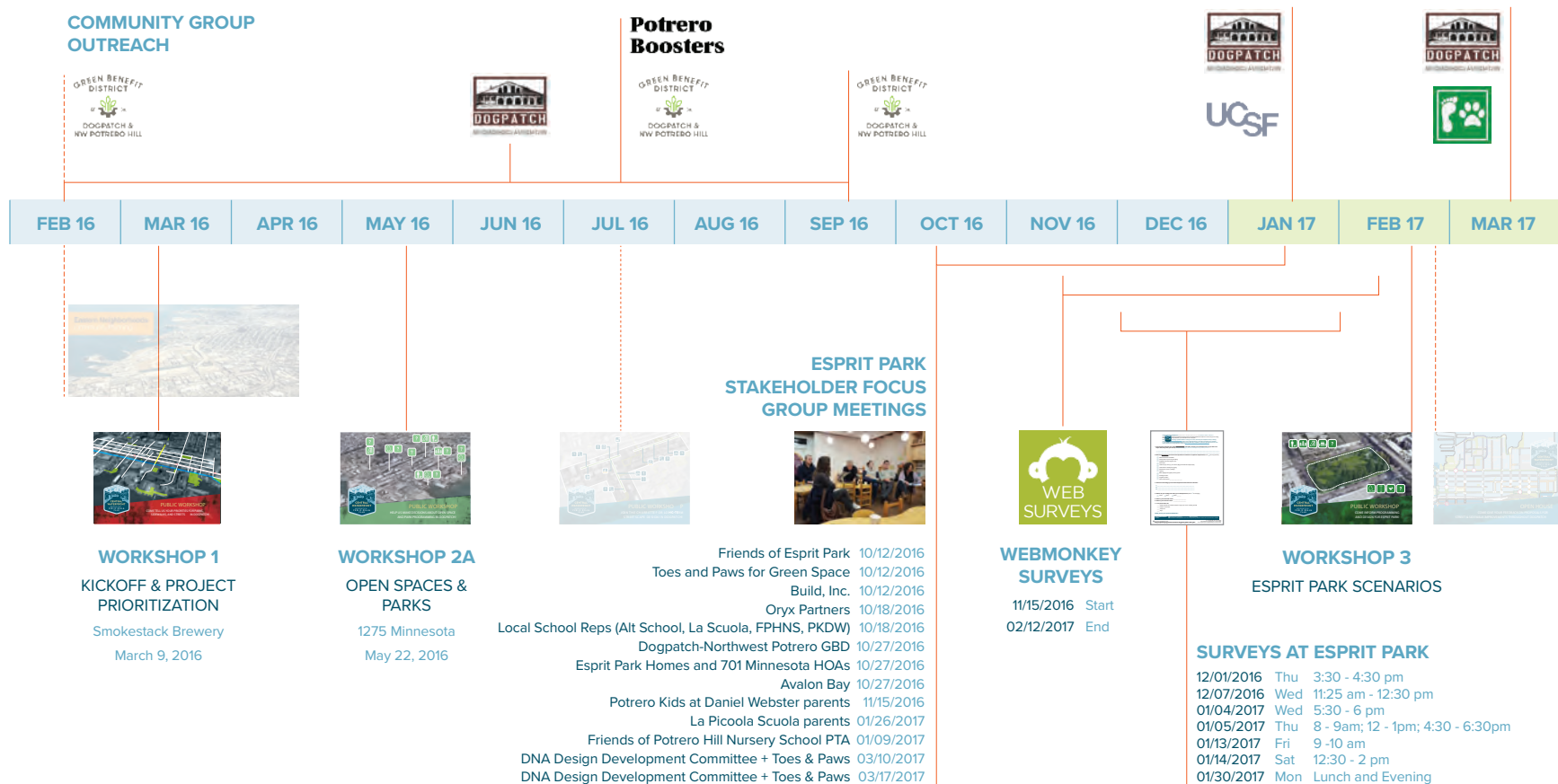


FIGURE 4-53. ESPRIT PARK: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONCEPTUAL DESIGN DEVELOPMENT



FIGURE 4-54. ESPRIT PARK DESIGN PROPOSAL: AERIAL RENDERING

DESIGN PROPOSAL

Design and Programming Theme

The main design principle is to retain the existing urban forest feel; thereby, celebrating the original intent – of the urban oasis. Many existing programs will be intact but enhanced to some degree.

- » Honor the original design concept established by the Esprit Corporation, while re-investing in facilities and amenities to make the park more resilient and serviceable to a growing neighborhood population. Reconfigure the lawn area to increase the square footage of 'usable' space.
- » Address drainage and irrigation issues, entailing the renovation of the existing sitewide sub-grade drainage system and irrigation system.
- » Design and implement better amenities and infrastructure that serve priority needs at the site: passive observation of nature and picnicking; universal play (children's play-scape) and active fitness (parcourse, trail and jogging path); off-leash dog play area for a portion of the site; more ample seating, lighting, and wayfinding signage.
- » Ensure sustainable long-term maintenance, in part by selecting (replacement) resilient materials, plants, and trees.
- » Refine circulation and access to allow for better east-west connections around and through the site, more legible park entrances at each corner, and midblock entrances on the eastern and western edges.
- » Clarify functional use areas for different user groups, including children, adult fitness community, and off-leash dog walkers and players. Use of green buffer areas, raised planted areas, berms, ridges and other landforms to delineate functional areas.

FIGURE 4-55. MEADOW AREA COMPARISON

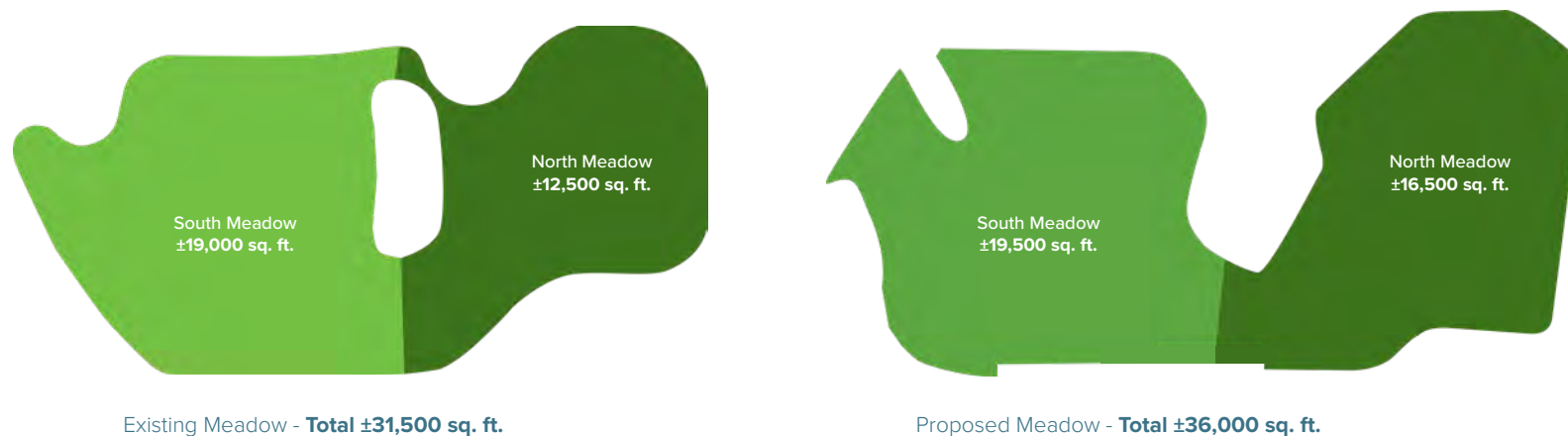
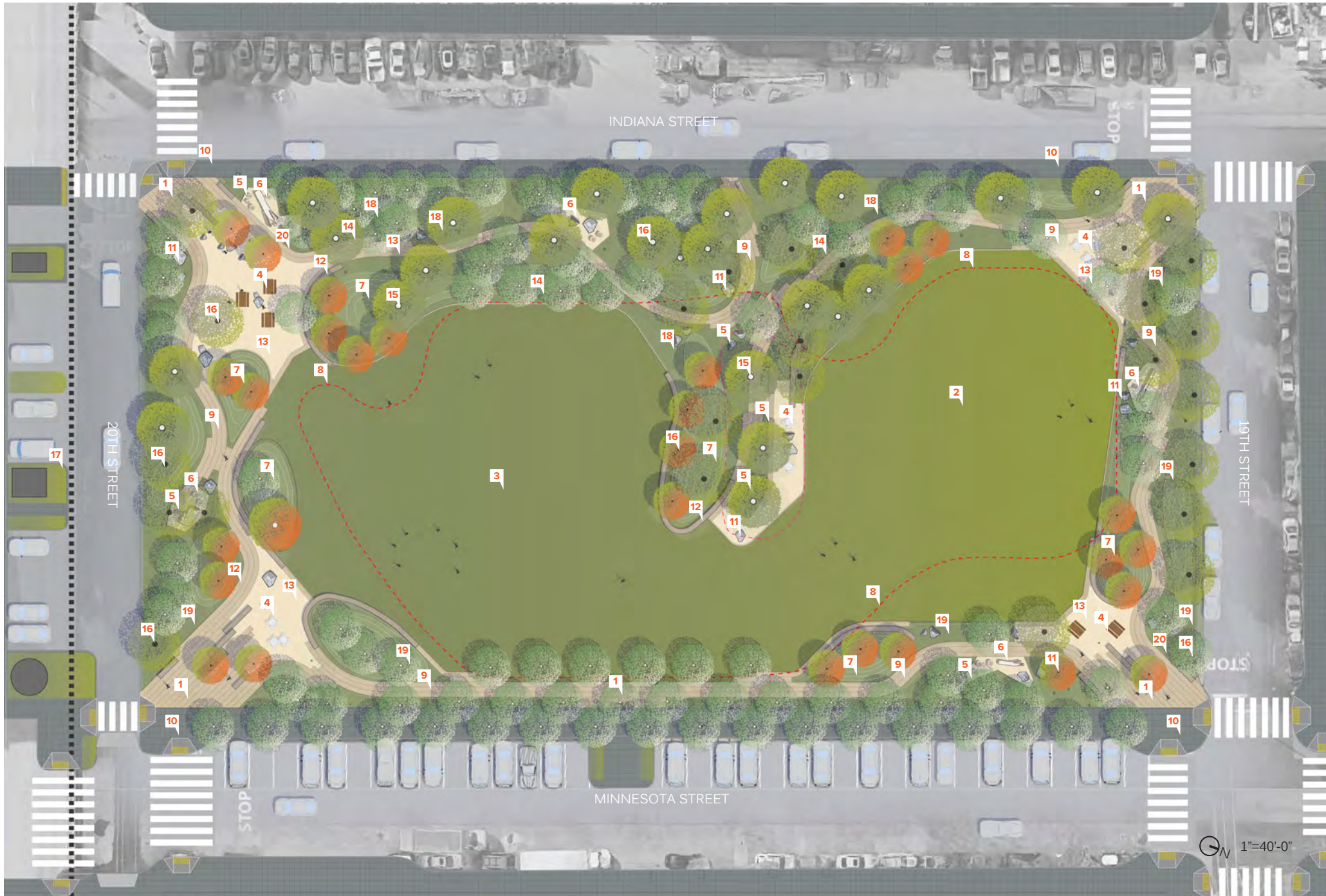


FIGURE 4-56. ESPRIT PARK CONCEPT DESIGN



SCHEMATIC DESIGN FOR ESPRIT PARK KEY

- 1 Park Entry
- 2 North Meadow
- 3 South Meadow
- 4 Potential Benches & Picnic Tables - Wood/Metal
- 5 Children's / Universal Play Area - Natural Play Elements
- 6 Potential Location Of Par Course / Active Exercise Equipment
- 7 Drumlin Landscape Mounds
- 8 Extents of Existing Meadow
- 9 ADA Hardscape Pathway
- 10 City Standard Sidewalk
- 11 Boulders
- 12 Potential Location of Site Furnishings/Seating Elements
- 13 Permeable Pathway
- 14 Existing Forested Grove
- 15 Existing Tree
- 16 Replacement Tree
- 17 20th Street Overpass Shown as Dashed
- 18 Understory Planting Area
- 19 Planting Area
- 20 Potential Location of 3 Tier Drinking Fountain

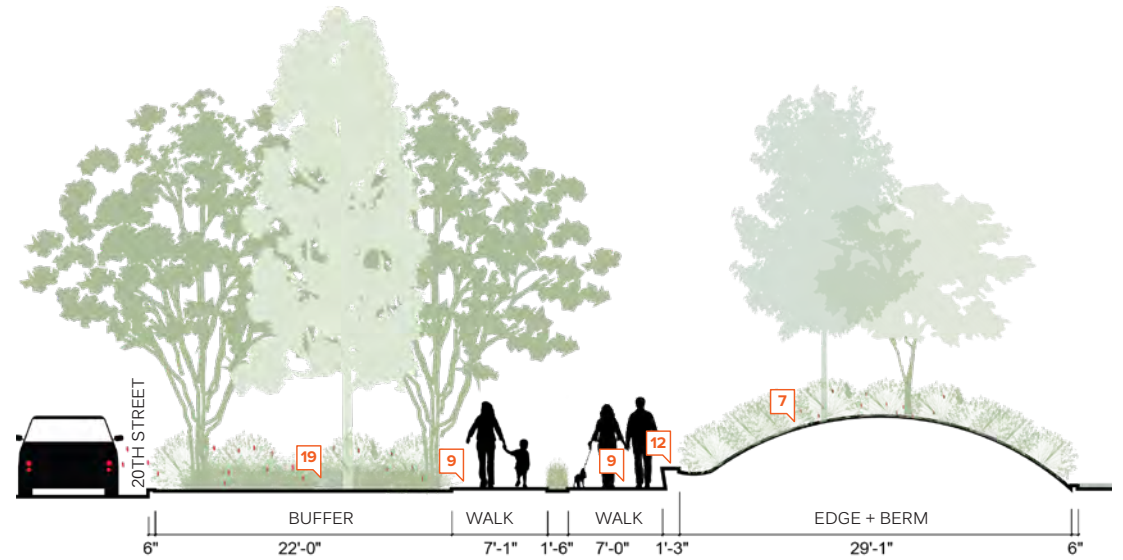


FIGURE 4-57. ESPRIT PARK: SECTION A-A

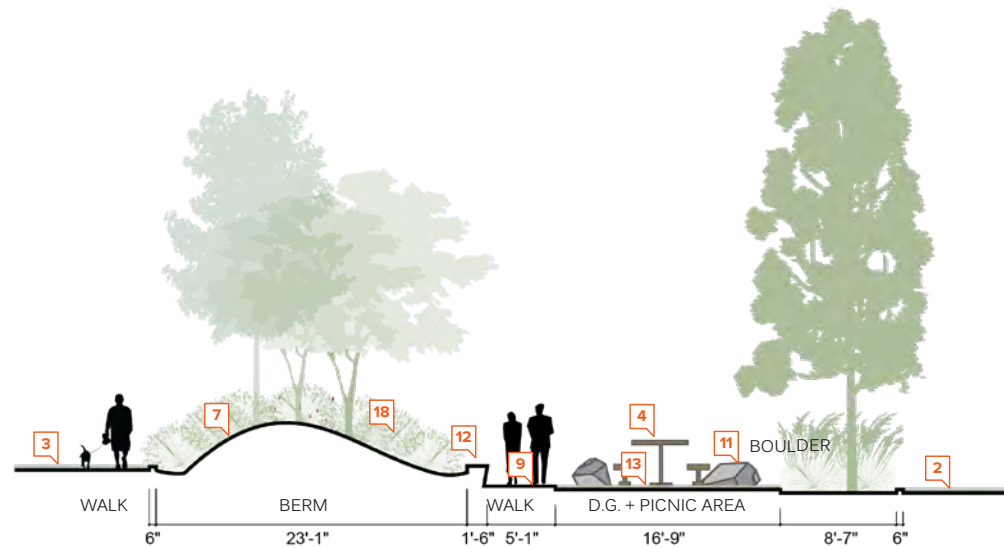


FIGURE 4-58. ESPRIT PARK: SECTION B-B



FIGURE 4-59. ESPRIT PARK PERSPECTIVE, FROM THE CORNER OF MINNESOTA AND 20TH STREETS

Schematic Design Details

Circulation

- » Create more legible park entrances at each corner and midblock entrances on the eastern and western edges. The mid-block entrance on both the Indiana side and the Minnesota side will complement the current use. The mid-block entrance on Minnesota will be combined with mid-block bulb-out to highlight an inviting entryway. The corner entrance will consist of hardscape and seating elements set amongst existing and proposed trees to create the feel of walking through a grove.
- » Redefine primary and secondary circulation paths to allow for better east-west connections around and through the site. Primary circulation paths will be hardscape pathways, meeting ADA standards, and shaped to accentuate existing trees and natural elements. Secondary circulation paths will have permeable surfacing and looser natural materials to reinforce the feeling of a forest pathway.
- » Add corner bulb-outs on Minnesota Street's north and south corners to improve intersection safety and to enlarge the pedestrian realm near the park entrances. No bulb-out is proposed on the western edge as bike lanes are anticipated along Indiana Street.
- » Design one of the entrances to permit vehicle access for maintenance purposes.



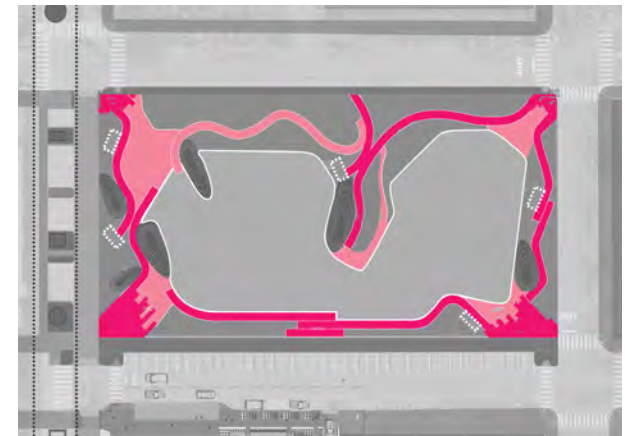
Entry area- urban edge hardscape + seating elements set amongst existing and proposed trees to feel like walking through a grove



Primary circulation path + hardscape pathways responding to existing trees and natural elements to feel as though you are walking through a forest



Secondary circulation path - permeable surfacing and looser natural materials to reinforce the feeling of a forest pathway



Key Map

Potential Paving Palettes

Hardscape Material Options



Unit pavers add diversity in texture and experience and can be used to signify different use areas



Integral color concrete with textural differences to give the feeling of a natural material



Unit pavers add diversity in texture and experience and can be used to signify different use areas



Natural stone paving for a rich and resilient walking surface

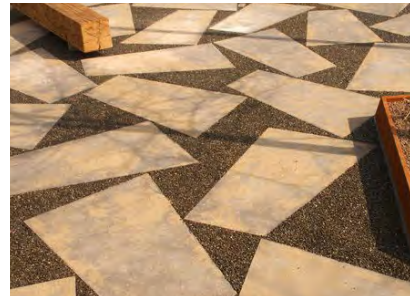
Permeable Pathway Options



Decomposed granite - fine-grained durable natural walking surface



Gravel - larger textural "crunchy" walking surface for a more visceral experience



Stepping stones in gravel - mixture of hardscape and permeable surfaces to add diversity and interest



Vegetation

- » Restore original planting design, including canopy and understory to the extent necessary to revive the original look. Specimens may include flowering bushes - such as rhododendrons and azaleas - as seen in original planting list.
- » Replace lawn with a grass type that will withstand heavy use.
- » Rehabilitate trees in poor condition, especially the Giant Sequoia. Create future tree replacement especially in the case of the dying 3 -5 Giant Sequoia specimens.



Top rendering:

FIGURE 4-60.
ESPRIT PARK PERSPECTIVE, INDIANA AND 20TH
STREETS LOOKING TOWARDS MINNESOTA AND
19TH STREETS

Bottom rendering:

FIGURE 4-61.
ESPRIT PARK PERSPECTIVE WITH PARCOURSE,
MIDWAY ALONG INDIANA STREET LOOKING
SOUTHEAST 20TH STREET

Furnishings and Signage

- » Add watering stations, signs, new trash receptacles and dog waste bag stations.
- » Add boulders and other custom fixtures associated with universal children’s play area at Peninsula complementing the refuge like design. Commercial children’s play equipment is not recommended.
- » Replace 1970s style parcourse equipment with new parcourse naturalistic in form factor.
- » Locations will be determined through subsequent community outreach.



Key Map

Universal Play Ideas



Universal play - materials fitting of the surrounding trees



Natural play elements - materials and arrangements for exploratory interactions



Universal play



Universal play

Par Course Active Exercise Equipment Ideas



Parcourse equipment - materials and arrangements fitting of the natural surroundings they are set amongst



Parcourse naturalistic in form factor



Parcourse naturalistic in form factor



Parcourse naturalistic in form factor

Lighting

» As illustrated in the schematic lighting plan (Figure 4-62), additional lighting should be provided mainly along the pedestrian paths. Consider motion sensed and directional lighting features for dark skies, and the protection of park birds.



FIGURE 4-62. SCHEMATIC LIGHTING PLAN FOR ESPRIT PARK



A Light Type A



B Light Type B



C Light Type C