





## **2022 Town Centre Schematic Design Master Plan - Design Features Summary**

August 2022

The following is a summary of each primary park element/feature proposed in the updated Schematic Design Master Plan which reflects the proposed improvements/uses originally approved in the 2014 Town Centre Master Plan.

**Overall Intent** | The design intent of the 2022 Master Plan is to mirror the original proposed improvements/uses identified in the 2014 Town Centre Master Plan but to locate on the site that better situates such proposed uses to preserve existing topography, open space and vegetation while improving access throughout the subject realty and adjacent Town Centre properties.

The following narrative corresponds to the legend shown on the 2022 Town Centre Master Plan.

**A | Specialty Paving w/ Monuments & Crosswalks** – it is a best practice to locate vehicular and pedestrian ingress & egress to existing intersections for best traffic & safety management practices. To that end, the primary proposed parking lot and pedestrian crosswalk access points are proposed to intersect at the intersection of 71<sup>st</sup> & Woodridge Drive. To provide a gateway and awareness to the Town Centre property entrance, the design proposes to potentially consider specialty paving opportunities combined with gateway signage/monument additions.

**B | North Parking Lot (70 Spaces)** – The 2014 Master Plan conceptually located several stand-alone separated parking lots some of which impeded on valuable usable open spaces within the site. The revised schematic design creates a continuous drive to interconnect proposed parking lots to provide closer access to proposed park amenities and continuity throughout the park site. This parking lot (similar to the size of the Cypress Cove Family Aquatic Park southwest lot) would also serve special event needs such as the Jubilee carnival and other potential tented special events. In addition to use for special events, the lot would be open for general public use to satisfy parking demand and easy access to the Town Centre property and surrounding park sites (e.g. Hawthorne Hill Woods, Lake Harriet, Bikeway System, etc.).

**C | Trailhead with Digital Kiosk & Small Gazebo** – Due to the proximity and proposed connections to the Woodridge Bikeway System in addition to passive enjoyment of the park site, a trailhead with potential digital kiosk for ease of displaying community information combined with a smaller gazebo for smaller picnicking and shade opportunities. Gazebo structure would be similar in size and quality to one of the District's neighborhood park shelters which can accommodate approximately 4-6 picnic tables.



**D | Woodland/Prairie Restoration** – one of the primary objectives of the proposed park development is to preserve and improve the quality of the existing woodland/wetland natural areas in order to maintain the existing character of the entire Town Centre area in conjunction with the natural features of Hawthorne Hill Woods and the surrounding lakes. Though the woodlands are of secondary succession that includes extensive amount of invasive underbrush (e.g. buckthorn & honey suckle) and trees are not of high quality (e.g. cottonwoods, silver maples, etc.) the management intent is to remove the invasive underbrush, replant native tree saplings and trees, and seed/plant native understory vegetation to improve the over quality of the woodland/wetland areas. The management efforts would mirror the District's efforts to improve the quality of Hawthorne Hill Woods the past several years that will open up site lines to improve access to the natural areas for passive recreation & enjoyment and improve overall safety within the site.

**E | Bench Seating (Typ.)** – as with any proposed park development it is important to install typical park site furnishings of high quality throughout for the overall enjoyment of the park. Site furnishings include park benches, trash receptacles, picnic tables, signage, drinking fountains, etc. Locations shown on the plan are conceptual at this point in time.

**F | Bandshell/Stage Area w/ Specialty Paving** – the other primary design objective of the park master plan is to preserve the existing open space for the Woodridge Jubilee and other potential larger scaled special events and to further support and enhance those opportunities. The conceptual intent is to build a slightly elevated open-air band shell structure with specialty paving to benchmark the area as a focal point within the park and provide ADA accessibility. The orientation is adjusted to maximize use of the existing topography/open space area and direct special event sounds toward the existing adjacent woodland areas further away from the residential neighborhoods. Existing tree stands are proposed to remain to provide continued shade for the events and provide buffer and separation for different uses such as the carnival. Continuous multi-use pathways are planned to further compliment the uses and provide additional opportunities for accessible walking and biking within the park site.

**G | Asphalt Loop Pathway (10' width)** – a comprehensive circuitous asphalt paved looped pathway system is proposed to provide additional accessible walking/biking opportunities within the site as well as connect major destination points within the Town Centre area (e.g. existing bikeway system, Hawthorne Hill Woods, Lake Harriet, Fred C. Hohnke Community Center / Lake Carleton, Jefferson Jr. High School, Village Hall, Kagann Plaza, Woodridge Public Library and the U.S. Post Office. Pathway safety lighting would be considered to match the Lake Harriet pathway lighting to provide extended use and overall safety.

**H | Promenade Pathway (12-16' width)** – the proposed promenade pathway of a wider width would parallel the intent shown in the 2014 Master Plan with connection to the proposed park entrance at 71<sup>st</sup> Street & Woodridge Drive and transect the property to connect to the Town Centre proper area (Village Hall walkway and Kagann Plaza area). Different pavement materials may be considered to create a focal point separate from the



continuous paved asphalt pathway system. Additional enhancements may include locations for the display of art and memorials.

**I | Boardwalk Crossing** – to provide a unique dynamic to the promenade pathway and functionally bridge existing wetland and wetland buffers a proposed low-grade boardwalk is proposed to complement the existing natural use of the site.

**J | Future 9-hole Disc Golf Course (TBD)** – a disc golf course is conceptually proposed to provide additional active recreational use of the site as well as provide an additional complimentary picnicking use. The course would use the existing topography, woodland understory areas and open space similar to the disc course located at Castaldo Park.

**K | Potential Future Parking Lot Expansion (140 spaces)** – the proposed turf maintained open space area adjacent and immediately west of the Town Centre proper area (e.g. Village Hall) would continue as is currently used to include but not limited to additional overflow parking for the Jubilee and potential future larger scale special events. Should there be a demand for additional permanent paved parking in the future, this location identified in the 2014 Master Plan would fulfill that need.

**L | Concrete Carriage Walk (8' width)** – to provide safe and ADA accessible access from the parking lot(s) to connecting paths, carriage walks abutting parking lots are proposed.

**M | South Parking Lot (54 Spaces)** – the proposed paved parking lot is primarily located to serve the proposed picnic grove area and complimentary park amenities as well as additional parking for special events held on the property.

**N | Playground** – playground equipment is a highly desired amenity associated with picnicking functions. Due the community draw and projected high use of the park playground, the safety surface is proposed to use rubberized safety material compared to engineered wood mulch. The size of the playground is not meant to be a destination size playground but rather be sized to compliment the need during a picnic function similar in size designed at Forest Glen, Echo Point and Castaldo Parks.

**O | Picnic Shelter (approximate size 75' x 40')** – the design intent is to install a picnic shelter to accommodate a group size of approximately 200. The design would be a prefab structure with custom elements (e.g. natural stone/brick and wood columns) similar to other District shelters to include electrical service, security lighting and picnic tables.

**P | Picnic Grove** – the proposed picnic grove location is best located at the existing garden plot area to take advantage of the large open space and existing flat topography.

**Q | Sand Volleyball/Game Courts** – court play provides complimentary use for picnics. Court play amenities to be considered are multiple (2) sand volleyball courts or pickleball courts, bocce ball, outdoor table tennis tables, baggo boards, etc.



**R | Restroom/Storage Building (60' x 30) TBD** – should there be a future need for a permanent restroom/equipment storage building, the design incorporates the conceptual location near the highest demand use, which is the picnic grove area and would take advantage of the close proximity of the existing utilities (e.g. water supply, sanitary sewer) adjacent to the Highlands subdivision utility stubs on Sprucewood Avenue.

**S | Garden Plot Driveway w/ Aggregate Paving (30 Spaces)** – the existing garden plots would be moved to the open space area between the church and fire station along Woodridge Drive as designed on the 2014 Master Plan to take advantage of the rectangular shape & parcel size and separation from the main park development. Preservation of existing and enhanced vegetation buffers combined with potential landscape berms are proposed along the residential homes to the east and along Woodridge Drive. The plots would include an aggregate parking area between different plot areas for easy access and proximity to individual plots to be accessed from the main park drive. Raised gardens would be considered for ADA accessibility as well as access to water. Similar example of the design layout is Downers Grove Mar-Duke farm garden plot. Additionally, the community mulch pick-up area would be considered within this location too.

**T | Community Garden Plots** - see above description.

**U | Existing Sledding Hill w/ Shade Canopy Structure** – the design intent is to expand the use of the existing sled hill for year-round use by installing a paved pathway and shaded structure overlook area. The shade structure design intent is similar to sail type structures. Additionally, installation of lights is proposed to illuminate the sled hill for expanded winter use after early winter sunsets.

**V | Connection to Jefferson Junior High (“JJH”) School** – the previous approved walkway extension connection JJH to the Town Centre proper area (e.g. Public Library) would be designed and installed to a layout that is conducive to overall park use and provide the original intended connection to destination facilities as noted.

**PCBMP Detention Basins** – in order to comply with the Village's Stormwater Management Ordinance, BMP detention basins are conceptually proposed along the west side of the proposed driveway and within parallel islands. A detention basin is also conceptually proposed just north of the proposed garden plot area. Final details, size and locations subject to final design and engineering.



