

1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1403
Tel: 215.564.6004
Fax: 215.564.1865



February 26, 2025

Via E-mail

Rebuild Project: **Vogt Recreation Center**
4131 Unruh Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19135

Project User: **Community Ventures**

Re: Final Construction Approval from the Art Commission

To the Art Commission Members:

Community Ventures, the project user for the Rebuild Vogt Recreation Center project referenced above, is submitting this letter for your consideration to review the design of the Vogt Recreation Center project during the scheduled Art Commission Meeting on March 12, 2025. This letter is preceding the presentation package which will be submitted on March 05, 2025.

This project was presented for review during the July 2024 Art Commission Meeting and received conceptual approval. The Commission had the following remarks:

- The Commission would like to see a plan with the existing and new trees showing the caliper of those trees.
- Ensure that the shade structures maximize the amount they can cover, consider adding picnic benches under them
- Make sure standards are in place so that no materials contain harmful plastics.

The presentation has been updated to address the Commission's concerns. The updates include the existing tree plan and proposed tree plan including the species and caliper of each tree, the proposed slatted pergola has been changed to a shade structure with solid roof, and included are specifications ensuring the safety surface does not contain harmful plastics. Refinements have been made to both the building and playground to include specific equipment, colors and materials. The building design now also includes a seat wall at the front entrance to help define the space.

Through the Rebuild process, the project includes an allocation for a Percent for Arts intervention. Community Ventures and the Percent for Arts facilitator have been in communication. Currently, the Vogt Playground project is designated as a Category 2 project within the Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy. Category 2 indicates the project is eligible for Percent For Art but due to the volume

of City public arts projects, activities for the Vogt project will not start within the current calendar year.

For all communication regarding decisions by the commission and questions, please contact:

Linda To
Development Project Manager
Community Ventures
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
215.564.6004
lto@community-ventures.org

In addition, please include Morris Zimmerman, the design principal in charge, and Kathy Lent, the project manager/architect, for all communications which include questions about the project:

Morris Zimmerman
Principal in Charge
O Z Collaborative
(215)386-8191 ext. 210
mzimmerman@ozcollaborative.com

Kathy Lent
Project Manager/Architect
OZ Collaborative
(215)386-8191 ext. 208
klent@ozcollaborative.com

We look forward to discussing and receiving your feedback.

Please let us know if you have any questions in the meantime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda L. To". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda L. To
Development Project Manager



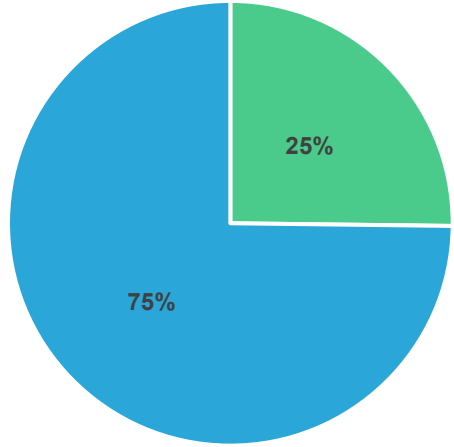
VOGT RECREATION CENTER

ART COMMISSION FINAL REVIEW | MARCH 12, 2025





\$6,250,000 Construction Budget



- Playground
- Building

GENERAL SCOPE OVERVIEW



REC CENTER BUILDING

- New Restrooms
- New Signage
- New Roof
- New Doors
- New Windows
- HVAC Improvements
- Accessibility Improvements



PLAYGROUND AND FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

- New Playground Equipment
- New Safety Surface
- New Seating
- New Trees
- Security Improvements



Note: Designing to LEED Gold certification

VOGT RECREATION CENTER

ART COMMISSION FINAL REVIEW | MARCH 2025

July 9, 2024

Alex Smith
The Philadelphia Art Commission
One Parkway, 1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102



Re: Letter of Intent for Percent for Art at Vogt Recreation Center

Dear Alex:

The Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy (OACCE) would like to inform the Philadelphia Art Commission of our intent to provide a future Percent for Art opportunity at Vogt Recreation Center in collaboration with our partners at Rebuild. Vogt Recreation Center is a Rebuild site at 4131 Unruh Avenue in the Tacony neighborhood in Northeast Philadelphia consisting of interior and exterior building upgrades, new playground equipment and field improvements. Below is an overview of our understanding and anticipated approach for this public art project:

- The Vogt Recreation Center Percent for Art opportunity will create a beautiful and enduring work of public art that is permanent, site-specific, and reflects the culture, values, and diversity of the Tacony community in Northeast Philadelphia. The Art budget will be at least 1% of the total project budget in keeping with the City's Percent for Art guidelines. Due to the City's current Percent for Art projects that are underway, the timeline for the future public art project is still being determined with OACCE and Rebuild and is considered a Category 2 project (see attached Percent for Art/Rebuild Memo).
- A Vogt Recreation Center Percent for Art Committee will be formed to advise the selection of the artist and the art proposal and will include representatives from: the Vogt Design team, community members that utilize the Vogt Recreation Center; public art artists; residents of the Tacony community; representatives from City Council District 6 Office, Parks and Recreation, Rebuild and OACCE.
- The Artist will be selected through a two-part competition, consisting of a Call for Artist Phase 1 where artists submit qualifications, and a subsequent Phase 2 where 3 to 4 semi-finalists will be selected by the Committee to move forward with providing proposals. Community involvement will be a critical component, and artist teams will be encouraged to work with the public to align their proposal with the desires and feedback from the community. Community engagement will occur in virtual and/or in person meetings with community members, and through online public surveys.
- OACCE will provide oversight for the Percent for Art process from concept to installation and will work with the artist and project team to ensure the technical details for the artwork are coordinated with the site. Once a Finalist is selected and the artwork has been developed, OACCE will initiate a separate review process with the Philadelphia Art Commission for approving the artwork.

We look forward to working with the project team and all community stakeholders to realize a beautiful public artwork that will be an enduring contribution to the Tacony community and the City's renowned collection of public art. Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to call me at 215.686.4596.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Anglin, RA, NOMA
Public Art Director
Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy

116 City Hall • Philadelphia, PA 19107 • www.creativeph.org • 215.686.4596

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Category 2: Future PFA: The Rebuild Project is eligible for PFA, but due to volume of City public art projects, the PFA planning activities for this project will not start within the current calendar year. Projects in this category will commence as soon as the PFA schedule allows.

CE PROCESS

December 2023

Staff Engagement

April 2024

274 Students
Surveyed

May 31 and June 7

~200 Community Members
23 Online Responses

September 14

~50 Community Members
34 Online Responses

February 28

Final Design
Posting

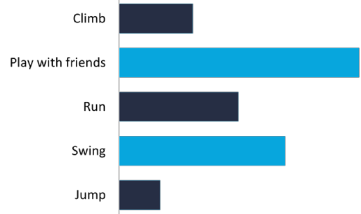


Key Community Findings

- Overwhelmingly positive response to the layout concepts, equipment, and amenities.
- Preference for an organic, circular layout with warm colors and green accents.
- Desire for shaded seating areas designed to foster community and enhance supervision.
- Interest in an active playground with a variety of equipment and amenity options.

Student Survey Data

Students Most Like To...

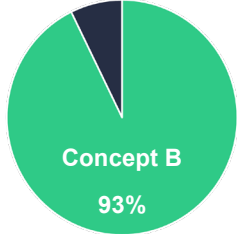
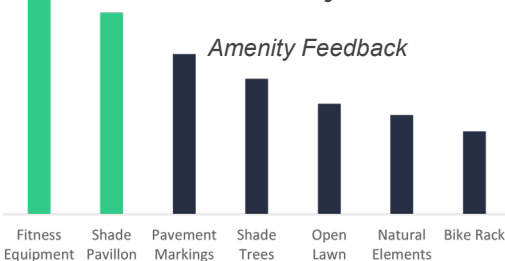


Online Feedback

Additional Comments...

"I would like plenty of shaded areas for the summer."

Community Events Select Data

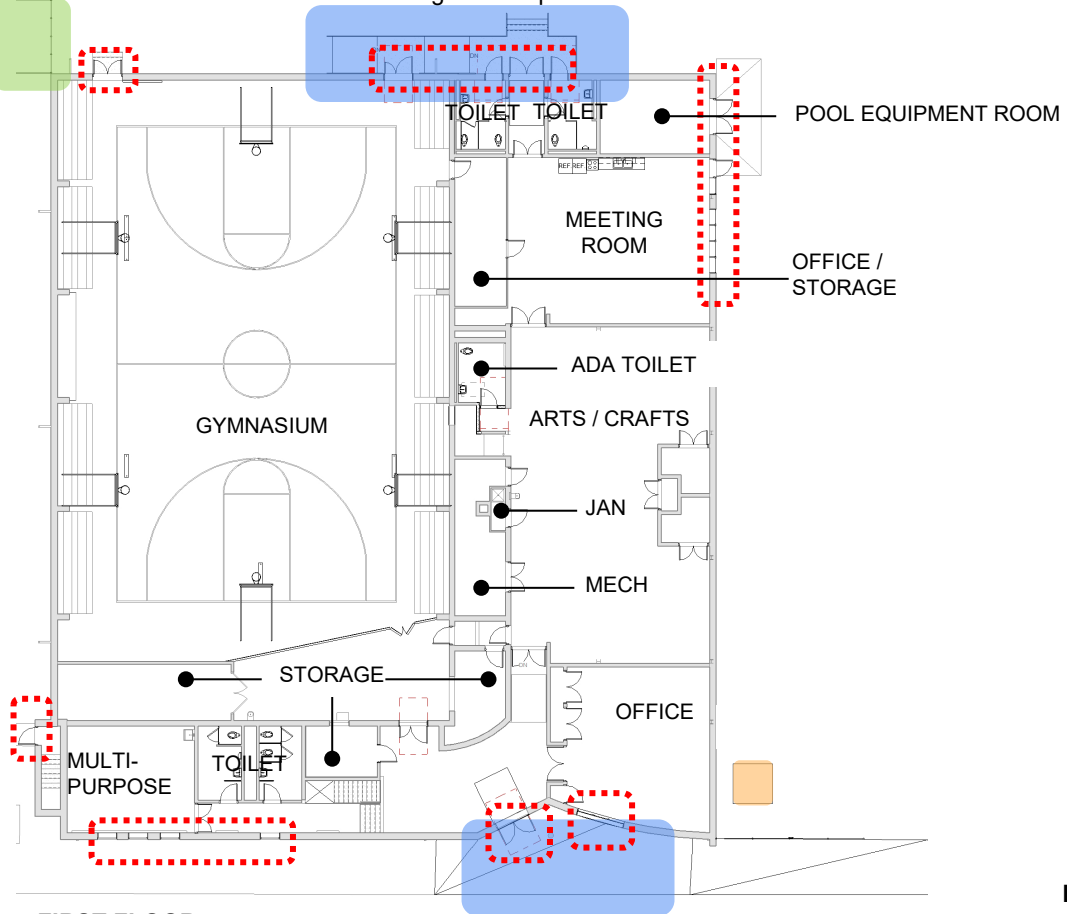


Preferred Layout

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ADA egress ramp



FIRST FLOOR

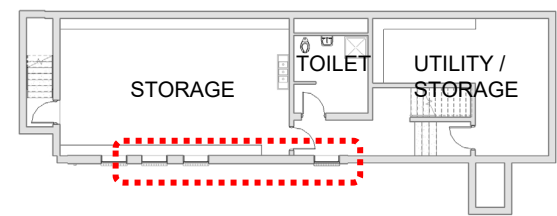
Sloped accessible entrance

Replace windows and exterior doors

New transformer & gate

Modify trash enclosure for security and aesthetics

Accessible entry and exit ramps



BASEMENT

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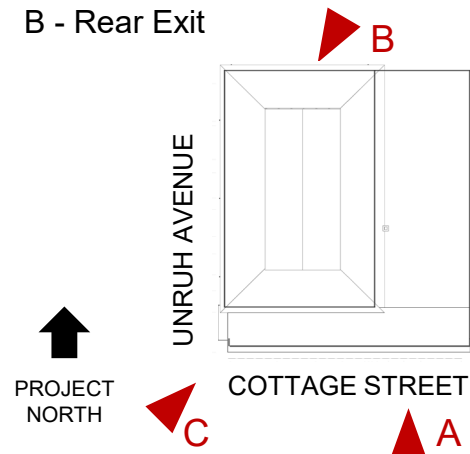
A - Entry

B - Rear Exit



C - Overall Orientation

Existing building images (facades)



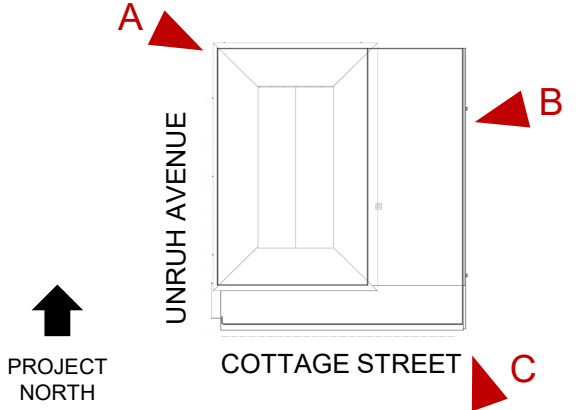
VOGT RECREATION CENTER
ART COMMISSION FINAL REVIEW | MARCH 2025

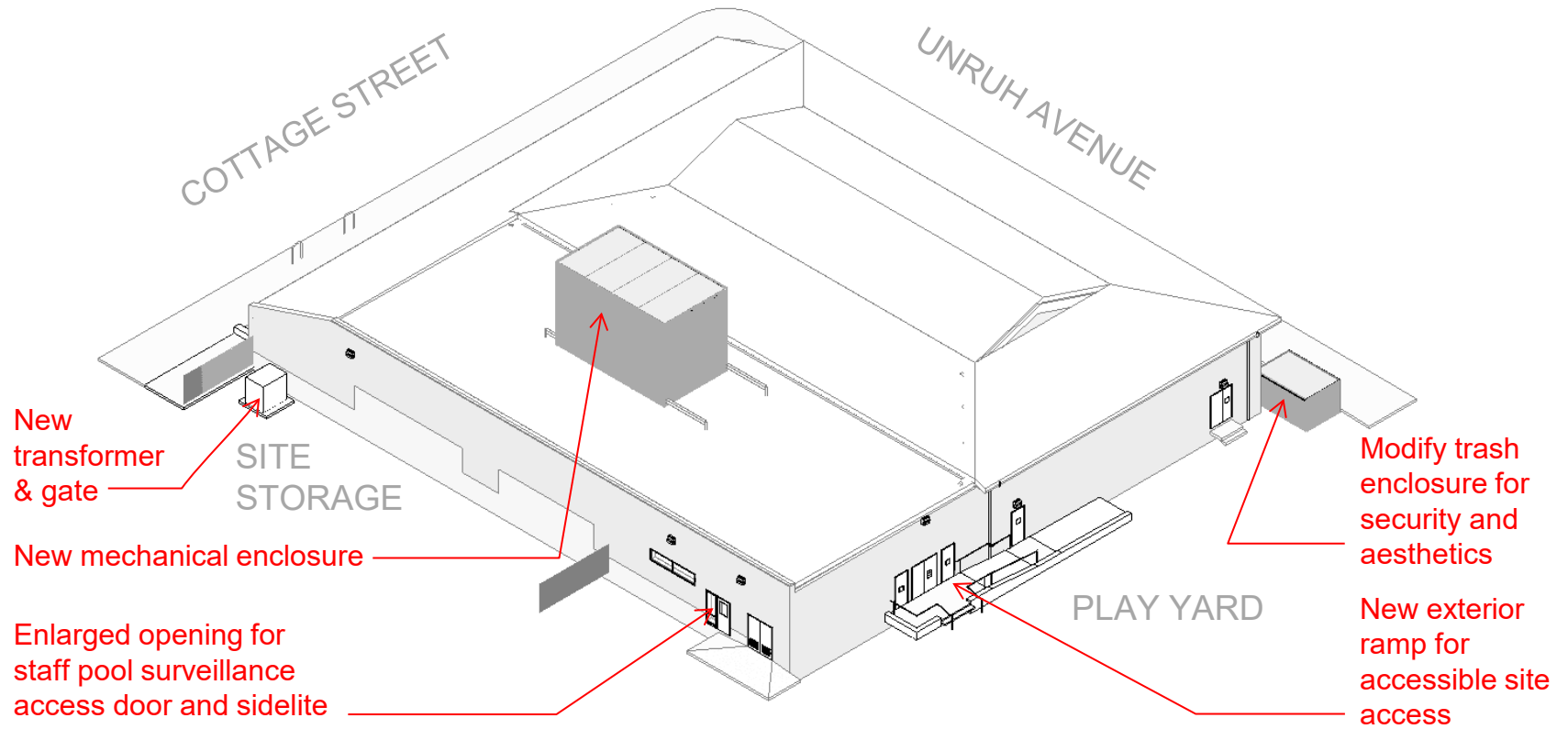


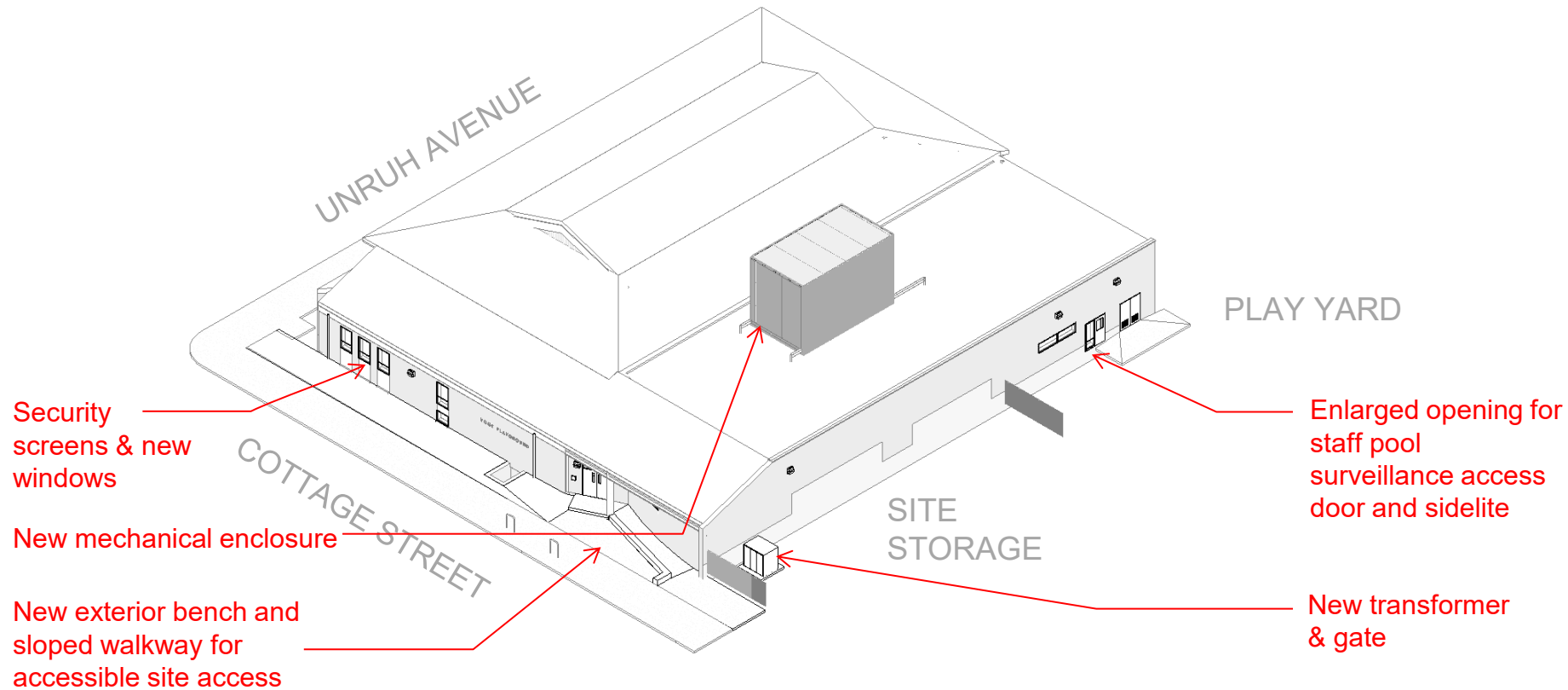
A. Existing Trash Enclosure

B. Existing surveillance opening & masonry damage, building-mounted exterior lights

C. Existing cages





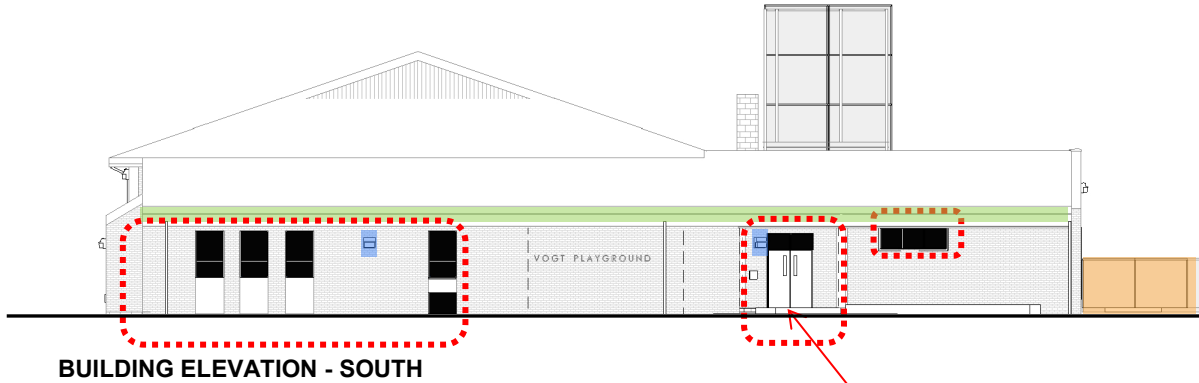





Existing Condition




New exterior bench and sloped walkway for accessible site access
Elevation change 7.32 inches, less than 5% slope




BUILDING ELEVATION - SOUTH

 Replace windows and exterior doors

 New transformer & gate

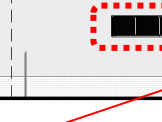
 New roof offset to step down from roof insulation

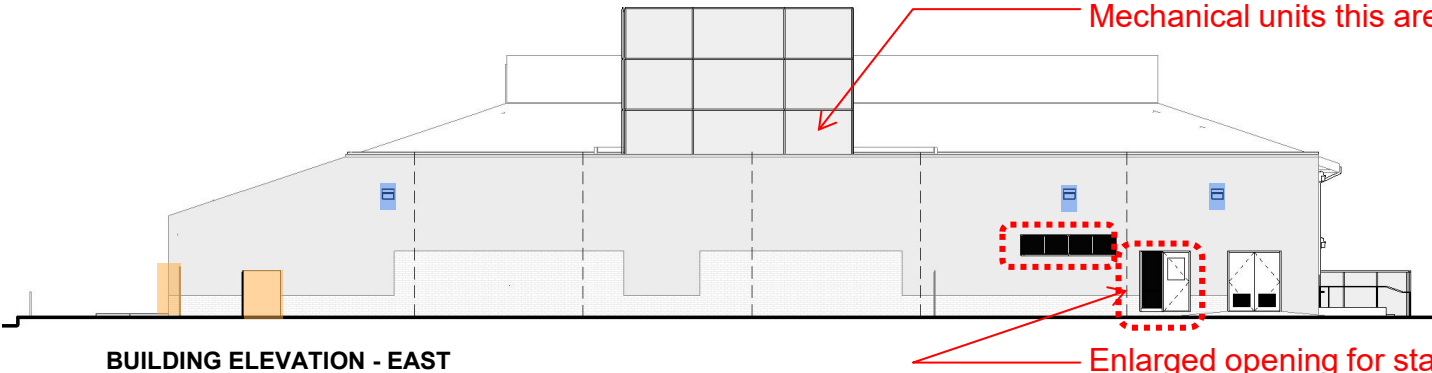
 Replace exterior building-mounted light fixtures

General exterior masonry repairs

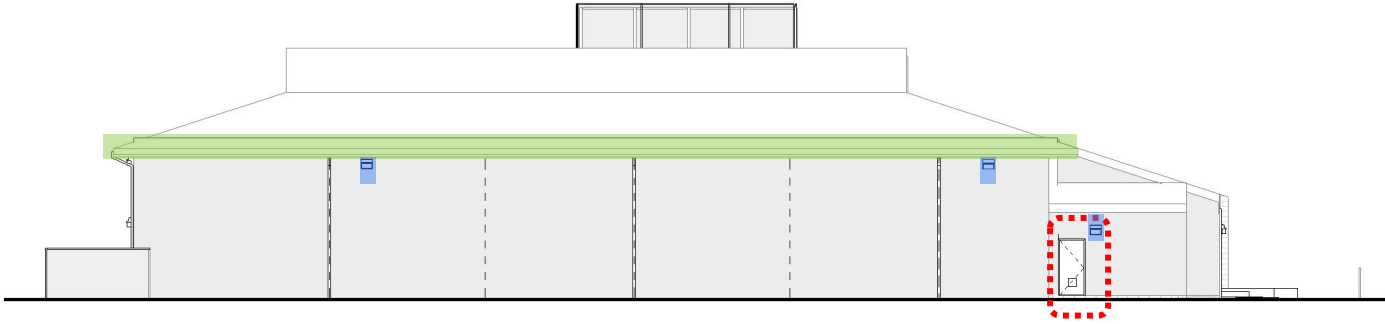
 New sloped entryway

 Mechanical units this area

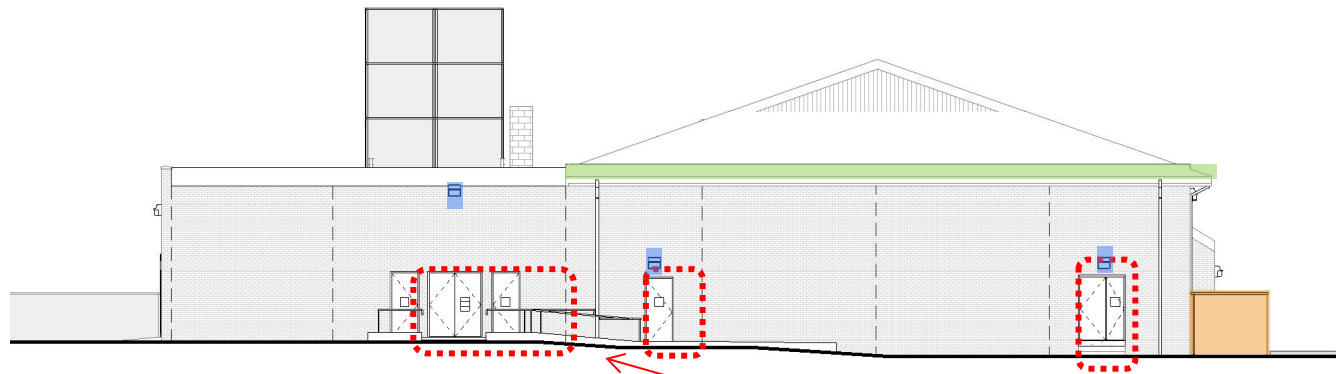
 Enlarged opening for staff pool surveillance access door and sidelite



BUILDING ELEVATION - EAST





BUILDING ELEVATION - WEST





BUILDING ELEVATION - NORTH

New exterior ramp for accessible site access

 Replace windows and exterior doors

 Modify trash enclosure for security and aesthetics

 New roof offset to step down from roof insulation

 Replace exterior building-mounted light fixtures

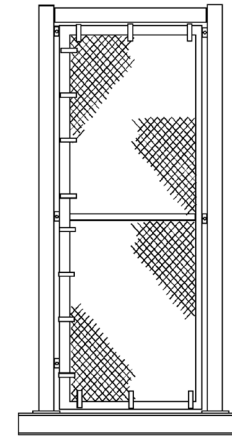
General exterior masonry repairs

- Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Specifications Section 230000 – General Mechanical System Requirements – 1.2-D-2: All RTU's shall be entirely enclosed (sides and top) by a chain-link fence or similar vandal-proof enclosures.
- Due to equipment clearances, overall dimensions of enclosure are approximately 15 ft W x 27 ft D x 16 ft H with a lid and access gate.
- Rebuild / PPR standard 1"x1" chainlink or expanded metal panels

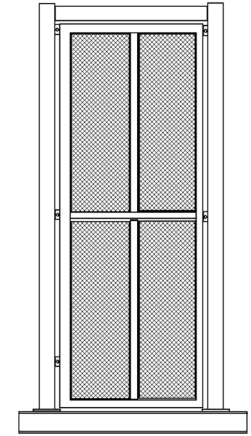
Black coated finish
(Standard)



Galvanized finish
(Powder-coated available)



CHAIN LINK

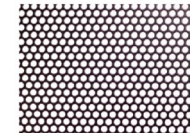
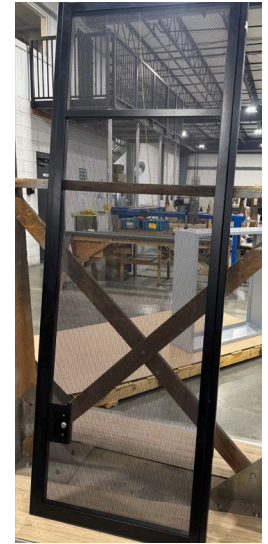


EXPANDED METAL

- Philadelphia Parks & Recreation Specifications Section 085210 – Security Screens – 1.1 Security screens shall conform to the following minimum standards: A. *Basis of Design: Kane Level 5 (heavy vandalism) steel narrowline, operable side-hinged (SNR50) with 16-gauge (63% open) perforated panel. Bonderized with thermoplastic, polyester powder-coat finish, AAMA 2603. Roto-lift emergency egress release. Keyed cam lock to match existing keying, include key number on shop drawing submittal.*



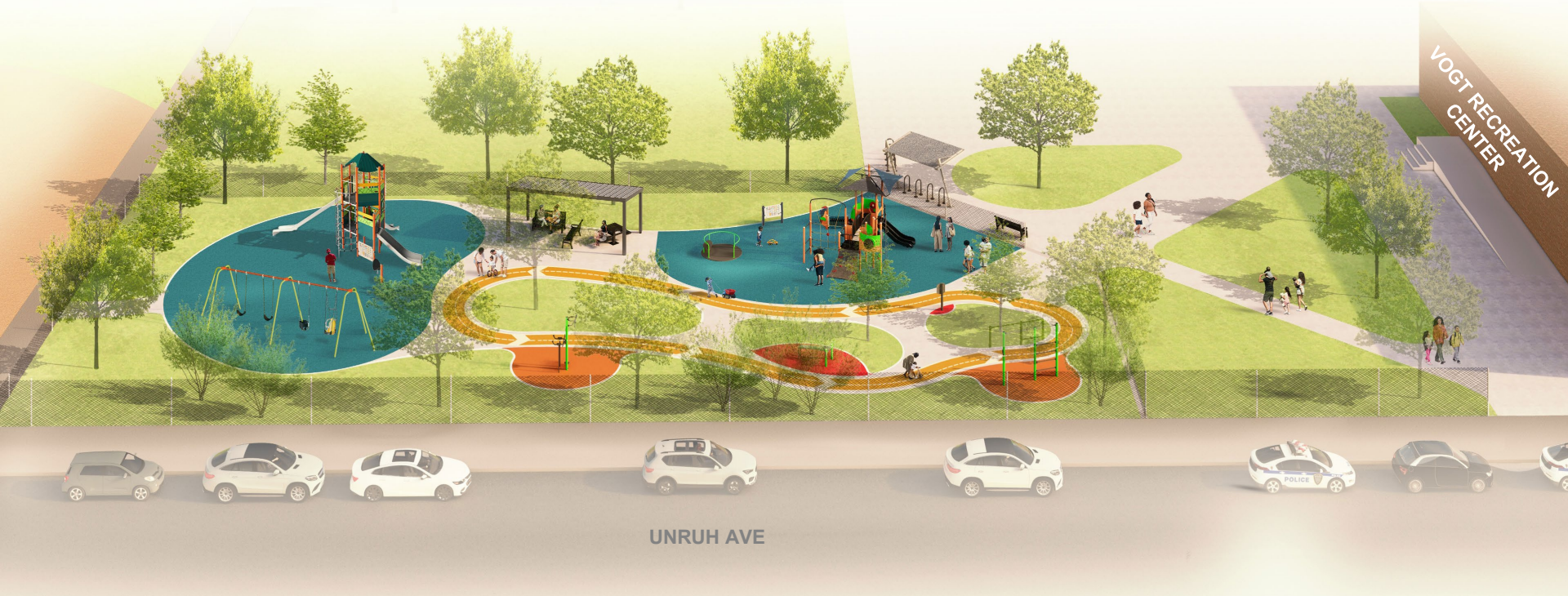
Existing condition



Pattern of proposed window screen

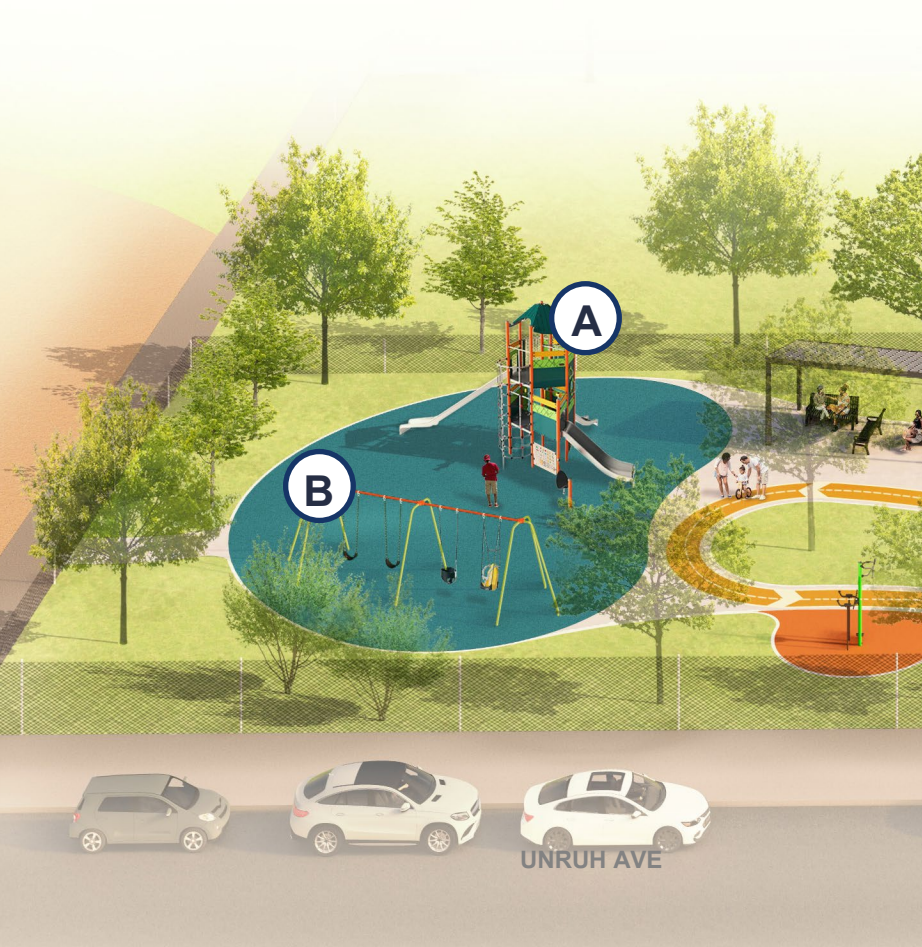






VOGT RECREATION
CENTER

UNRUH AVE



A - 5 to 12 Year Old Play Structure



B - Swing Set

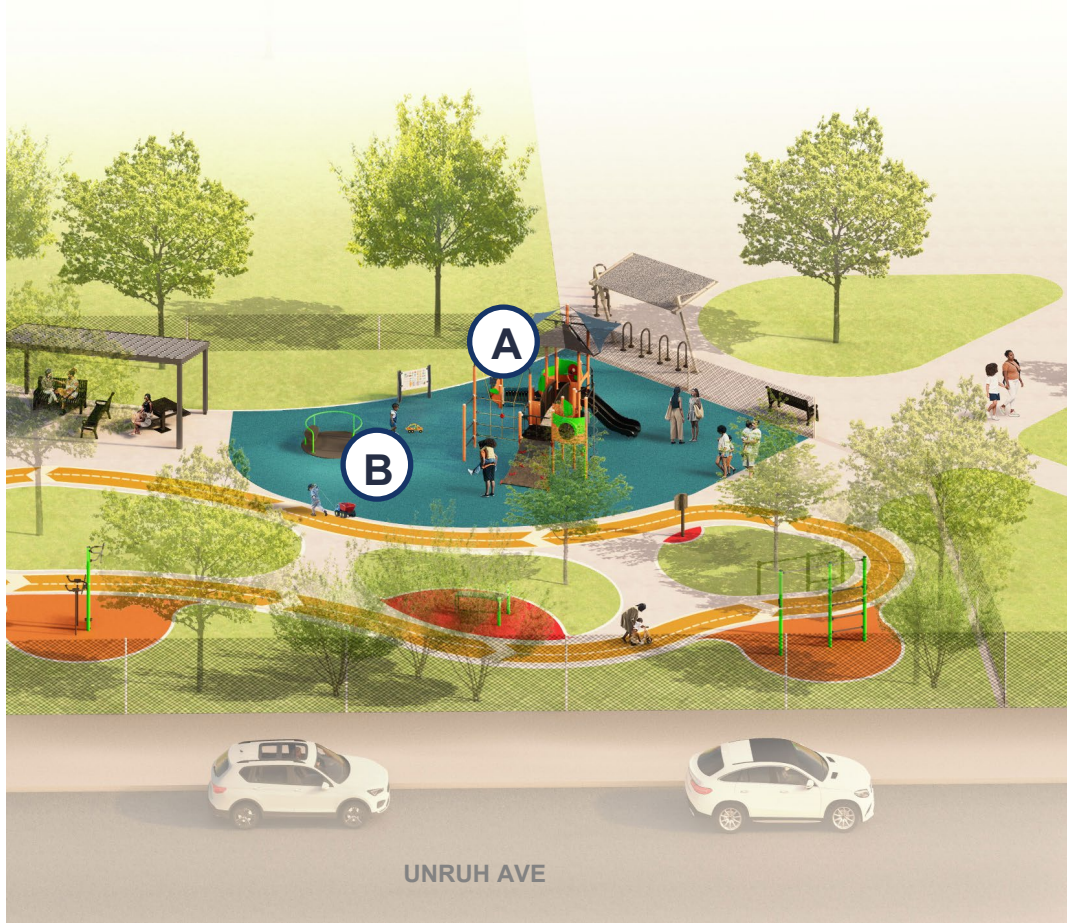




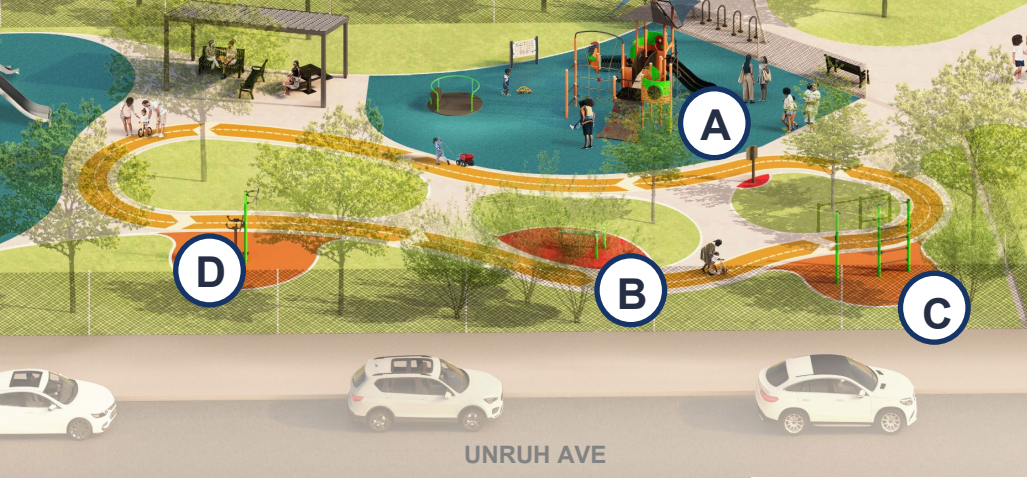
A - 2 to 5 Year Old Play Structure



B – Universal Carousel



UNRUH AVE



A – Outdoor Play Timer



D – Leg Lift & Pull-up Station



C – Pull-up Station



B – Sit-up Bench



PPR Standard Receptacle



PPR Standard Bike Rack



PPR Standard Bench



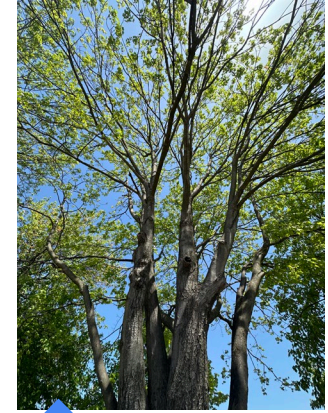
Covered Bike Parking | Vizor Shelter by Dero



Shade Structure with Solid Roof | Monoslope by Poligon



Tree 3; roots heaving asphalt



Tree 4; Weak branch unions, large cavities and scars

1. 8" *Acer rubrum* / Red Maple, Very Poor
2. 16" *Acer rubrum* / Red Maple, Poor
3. 12" *Acer rubrum* / Red Maple, Fair*
4. 20" *Acer rubrum* / Red Maple, Poor
5. 18" *Acer rubrum* / Red Maple, Very Poor

*requires mitigation



Acer rubrum Ht. 40-70'
Red Maple Sp. 30-50'



Nyssa sylvatica Ht. 40-70'
Blackgum Sp. 20-40'



Cercis canadensis Ht. 20-30'
Eastern Redbud Sp. 25-35'



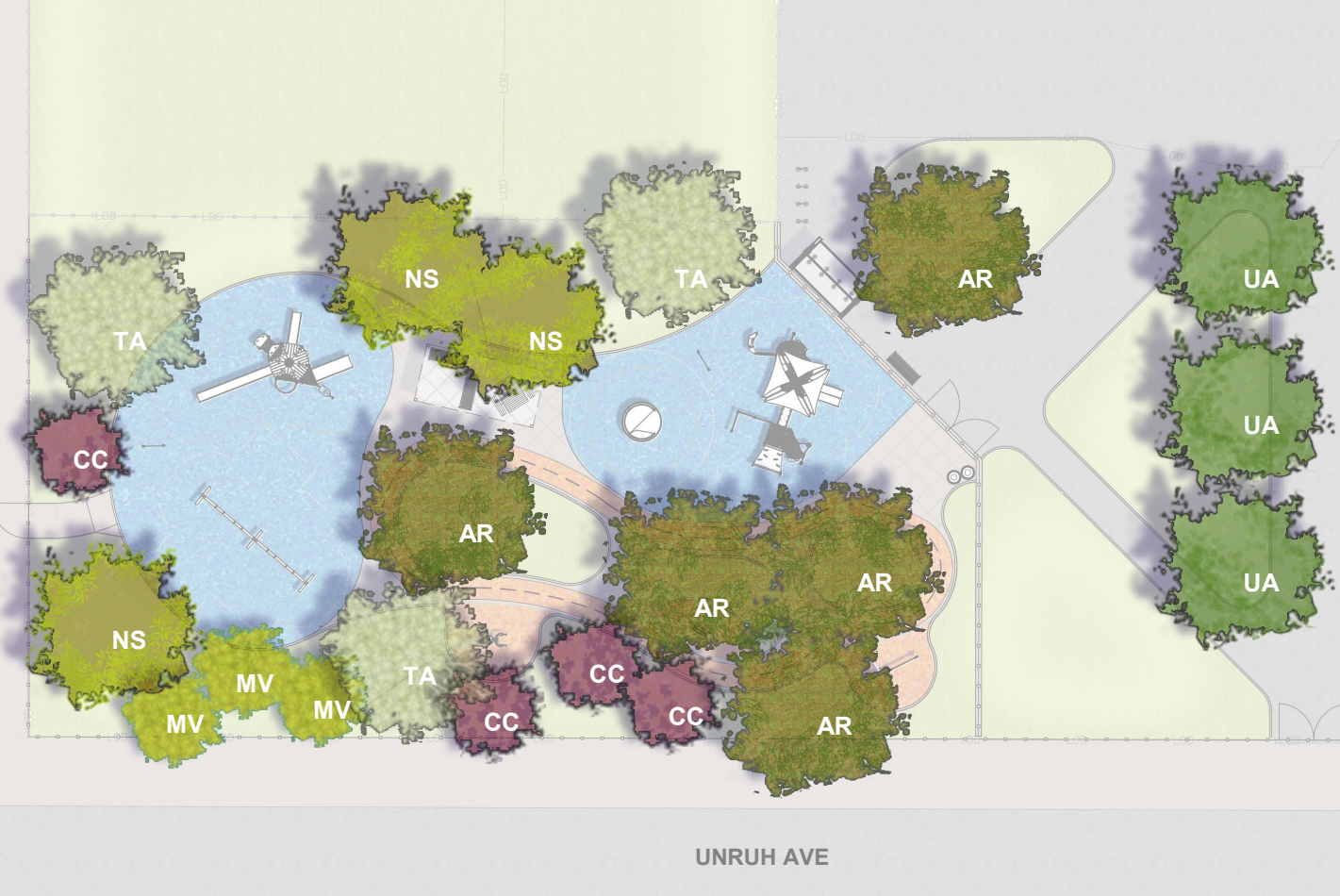
Magnolia virginiana Ht. 15-35'
Sweetbay Magnolia Sp. 10-30'



Ulmus americana Ht. 50-70'
American Elm Sp. 40-60'



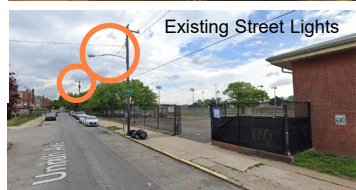
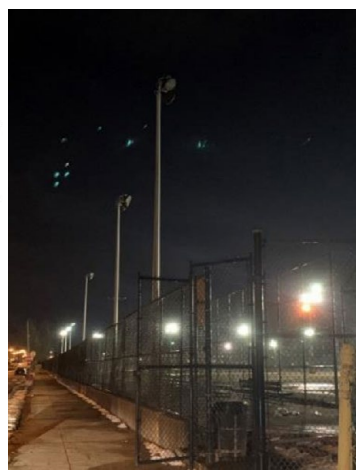
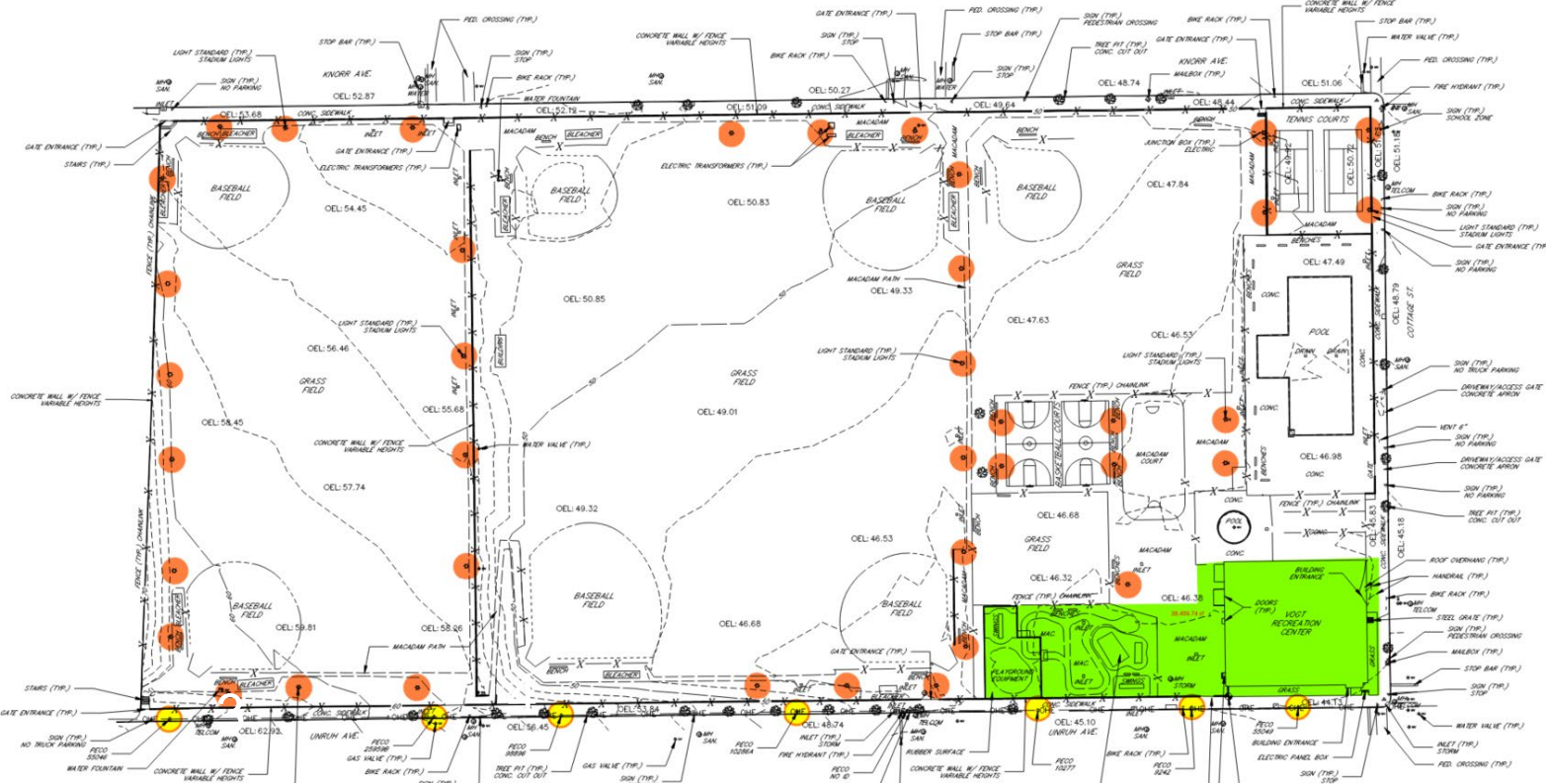
Tilia americana Ht. 50-70'
American Linden Sp. 30-50'



VOGT RECREATION CENTER

- SPECIES KEY**
- AR – Acer rubrum, 2.5" cal.
 - CC – Cercis canadensis, 6' Ht.
 - MV – Magnolia virginiana, 6' Ht.
 - NS – Nyssa sylvatica, 2.5" cal.
 - TA – Tilia americana, 2.5" cal.
 - UA – Ulmus americana, 2.5" cal.

35" provided (12.5" as A. rubrum)



Existing Street Lights

- Existing pole mounted metal halide flood light fixtures to remain. Previous site assessment found several fixtures “off” at night. This may be due to burnt out light bulbs or lighting controls programming.
- Existing street light

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

THANK YOU!