SEPTEMBER 2019

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

STATE PROJECT NO. H.004100/FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004100

SECTION 4(F) *DE MINIMIS* FINDING – PARKS

I-10: LA 415 TO ESSEN LANE ON I-10 AND I-12 ROUTE I-10 AND I-12 WEST AND EAST BATON ROUGE PARISHES

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Project Number 040-012-001

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- **Attachment 7 – City-Parish Correspondence**

Signature Page

SECTION I

EAST POLK STREET PARK

Section 4f Evaluation

Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination for the use of East Polk Street Park property located at 1700 East Polk Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802.

The I-10 LA 415 to Essen Lane project (State Project Number H.004100) proposes a new ramp on Interstate 10 (I-10) in Baton Rouge that consolidates the Washington Street and Dalrymple Drive ramps. The consolidated interchange requires additional right-of-way (ROW) along the existing Dalrymple off ramp from eastbound I-10. As conceptually designed, the project will require acquisition of a linear section of property, approximately 0.04 acres, from the eastern property boundary adjacent to LA DOTD's existing ROW (Attachment 1). This section of the property is green space and does not support any playground equipment, the basketball court, or ball fields. All efforts were made to minimize the amount of additional ROW required; however, the new ramps would not meet the design criteria required without affecting this small portion of the park property.

LA DOTD is proposing to install a multiuse trail adjacent to the new ROW that would run from Expressway Park to Dalrymple Drive and provide a connection into East Polk Street Park. The new trail would create a signed, safe linkage between the park and the bike trails and boat launch along the University/City Park Lakes as well as the Knock Knock Children's Museum located on the opposite side of the I-10 ramps. As mitigation, LA DOTD has also committed to assisting Recreation and Park Commission of East Baton Rouge (BREC), the entity with jurisdiction over East Polk Street Park, with the installation of plant material to restore the plant buffer that will be removed as a result of the reconfigured interchange as well as an internal trail. Students at LSU developed multiple concepts for a renewed East Polk Street Park for BREC including the connection to the proposed Expressway to Dalrymple multiuse path and restoration of the vegetation buffer. A few of these concepts are included in Attachment 2.

East Polk Street Park is a three-acre park located at the terminus of a neighborhood road and provides recreational opportunities for the residents of the immediate neighborhood. The larger City-Brooks Park is located across the ramps to the east of this park and cannot be accessed by park goers due to the presence of interstate ramps with controlled access. The park property does not extend the full distance to Dalrymple Drive, and; therefore, affords no access from East Polk Street Park to the trails along the lakefront. LA DOTD will provide the connection to the lakefront that is currently missing.

The public was informed of the *de minimis* impact during the public meetings held August 28-30, 2018. A summary of comments related to the park and multiuse path is included as Attachment 3. Generally, the public is in favor of more connections between the parks and the lakefront. The public will have another opportunity to comment at the upcoming public hearing.

Coordination with BREC and the Office of State Parks has been ongoing throughout the planning and development of the I-10 project. Coordination with BREC specific to East Polk Park related to the *de minimis* impact on the park and proposed mitigation can be found in Attachment 4. BREC concurred with the *de minimis* determination.

Attached are:

1. A map of East Polk Street Park with the existing and proposed ROW depicted
2. A conceptual drawing of the proposed trail along with a sampling of East Polk Street Park designs developed by LSU Landscape Architecture students
3. A summary of comments received as a result of public meeting
4. Correspondence with BREC relative to the *de minimis* finding

ATTACHMENT 1

EAST POLK STREET PARK MAP

LEGEND:

- TO BE ACQUIRED ACREAGE
- APPARENT REQ'D RIGHT OF WAY
- APPARENT RIGHT OF WAY
- BREC PROPERTY LINE

I10 BR - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT STUDY - SECTION 4(F) CONSIDERATION

EAST POLK STREET PARK

DOTD LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

INTERSTATE 10

STATE PROJECT NO. H.004100.2
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004100

ATTACHMENT 2

CONCEPTUAL DRAWING OF TRAILS AND LSU SCHOOL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE RENDERING SAMPLES

I10 BR - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT STUDY - SECTION 4(F)

EXPRESSWAY TO DALRYMPLE MULTIUSE TRAIL

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

STATE PROJECT NO. H.004100.2
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004100

EXISTING ROW

PROPOSED GREENWAY TRAIL

PROPOSED SIDEWALK

GREENWAY

EAST POLK PARK

EXISTING ROW

PROPOSED SIDEWALK

GREENWAY UNDER INTERSTATE

SIDEWALK

EXISTING ROW

PROPOSED GREENWAY TRAIL

EXPRESSWAY PARK

EXISTING ROW

Schematic Design - Site Plan

DESIGN NARRATIVE

In this design, this East Polk Park street Park features many geometric features and many other modern features. Growing itself from the angles of the existing interstate, this design was able to flourish. The juxtaposition of the interstate and the modern park seamlessly coincide together to form a union between the battling greenway and interstate 10. This design first features way finding from East Polk Street, connecting into livable streets. After the user walks, bikes, or blades across the livable street they will encounter a new round-about looking into the park avenue. New plating with vertical elements, are designed to attract people into the park, and they can physically interact with the vision with more livable programming. With the new playground equipment, walking, and sport courts, this park is made to play. The existing greenway will feature a trialhead connecting the greenway into the park for a scenic ride. Viewers of the park can relax on the raised turf mounds, and can enjoy watching people, traffic, or a local music concert. As the people move throughout the park, they will eventually walk into the wildflower walk. This walk will feature native wildflowers and plant identification.

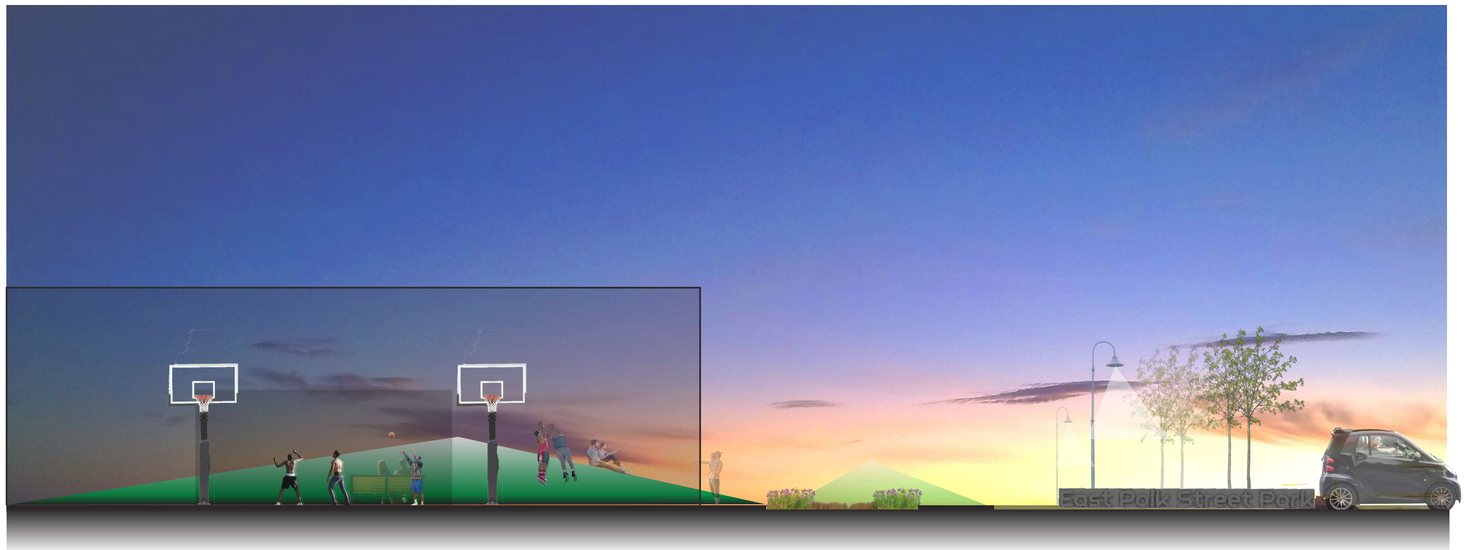
All in all, this park is a park for the future and should be treated as such. With thoughtfulness and care, this park should last a lifetime and could bring many joys and memories to its users in the local neighborhood.

East Polk Street Park

J. Boudreaux

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Sections and Perspectives



88'
BASKETBALL COURTS

28'
SIDEWALK / ENTRY

60'
ROUNDABOUT WITH PARK SIGN

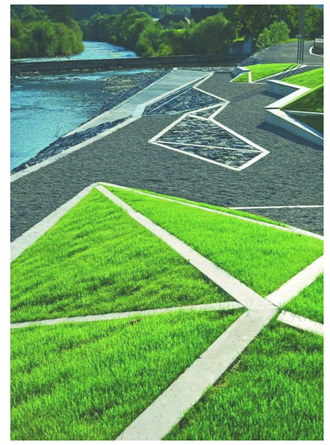
SECTION C-C' VIEW: EAST
LOOKING AT BASKETBALL COURTS SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"

SMART PARK APPLICATIONS

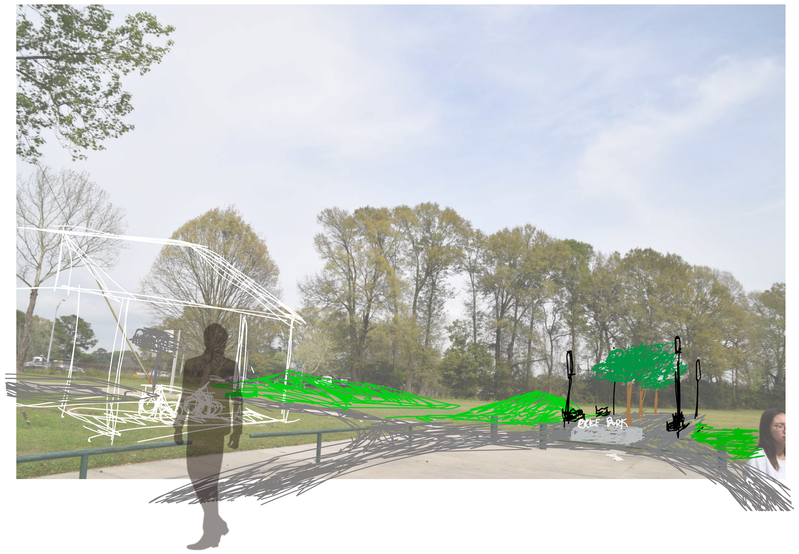
London-based startup, Pavegen to produce kinetic energy when stepped on.

QR Code signs located at trail heads and park Components, use for education and health.

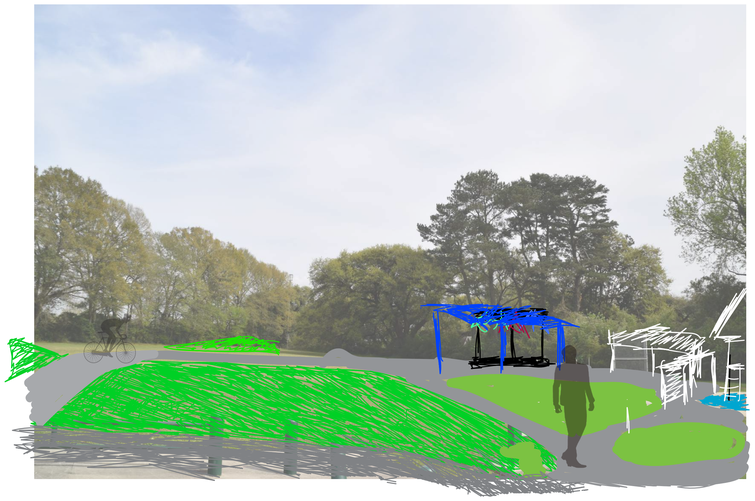
PRECEDENTS



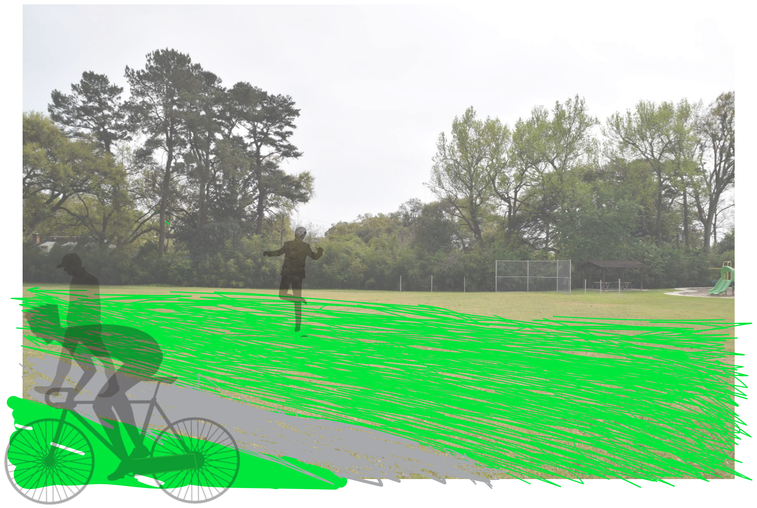
General Maister Memorial Park



1 SKETCH: VIEW - EAST



2 SKETCH: VIEW - EAST



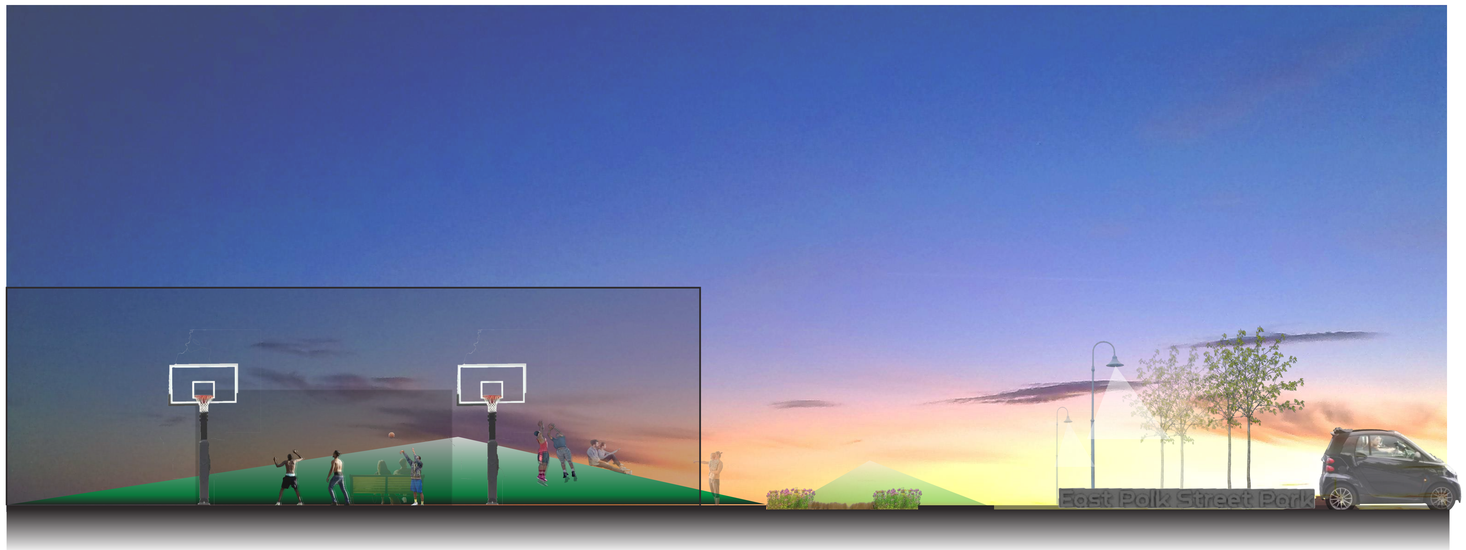
3 SKETCH: VIEW - SOUTH

East Polk Street Park

J. Boudreaux

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Sections and Perspectives



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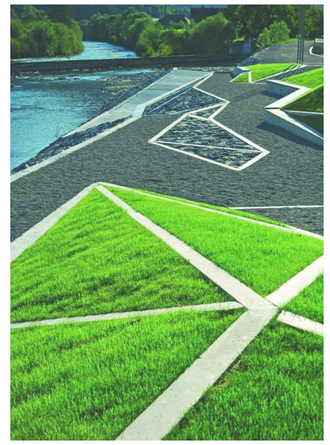
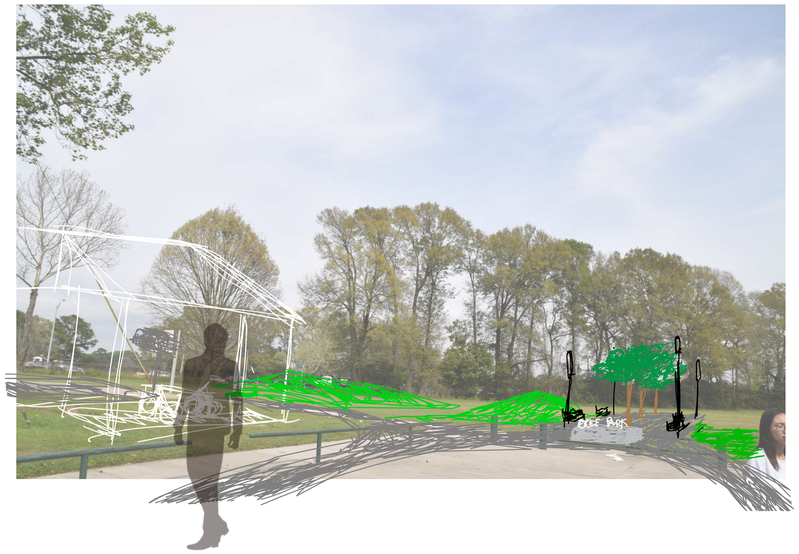
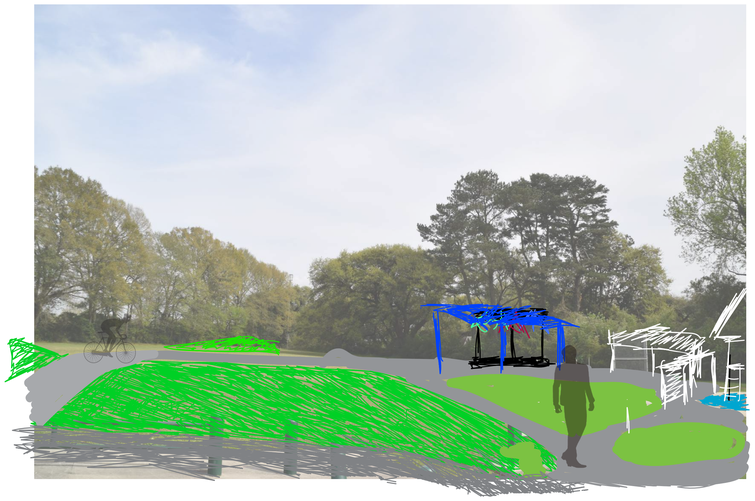


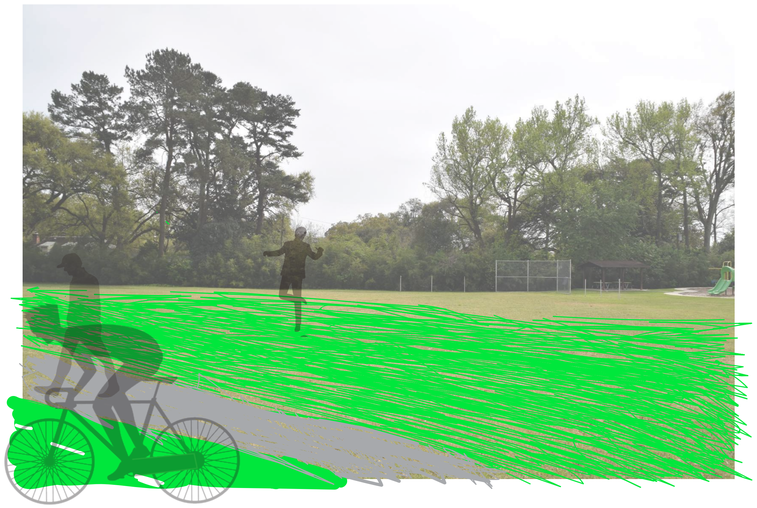
General Maister Memorial Park



1 SKETCH: VIEW - EAST



2 SKETCH: VIEW - EAST



3 SKETCH: VIEW - SOUTH

East Polk Street Park

J. Boudreaux

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Section Elavations

5’ RUN TRACK
15’ GREENWAY
68’ SLOPED TURF AREA
24’ MAIN PATHWAY
25’ SLOPED TURF AREA
64’ EVENT AREA / GATHERING SPACE
5’ RUN TRACK

SECTION A-A’

SCALE 1/8”=1’-0”

104’ SMART PARK PLAYGROUND
80’ BBQ AREA
56’ EVENT AREA / GATHERING SPACE
56’ WILDFLOWER WALK / PLANT ID WALK

SECTION B-B’

SCALE 1/8”=1’-0”

East Polk Street Park

J. Boudreaux

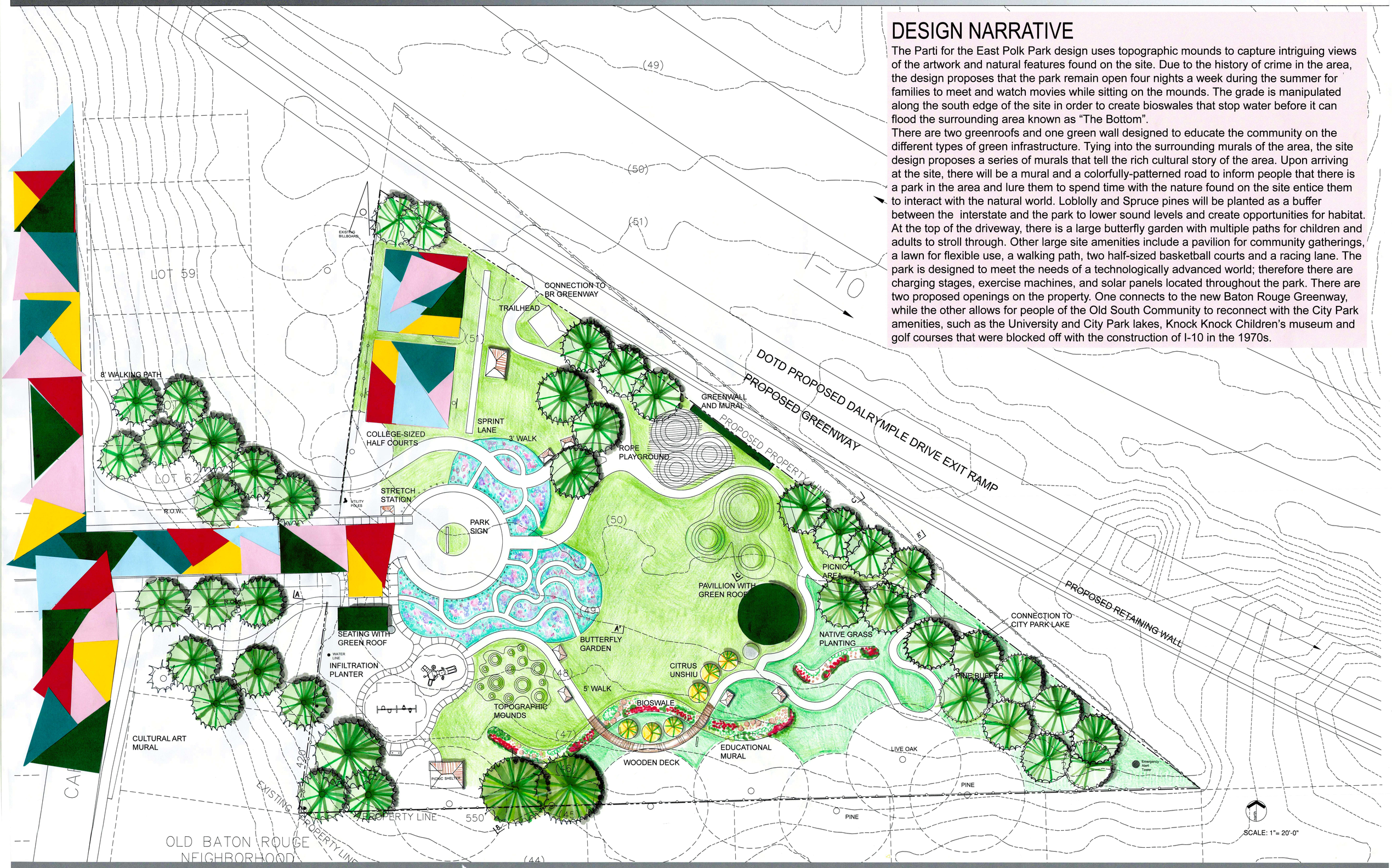
LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Plan

DESIGN NARRATIVE

The Parti for the East Polk Park design uses topographic mounds to capture intriguing views of the artwork and natural features found on the site. Due to the history of crime in the area, the design proposes that the park remain open four nights a week during the summer for families to meet and watch movies while sitting on the mounds. The grade is manipulated along the south edge of the site in order to create bioswales that stop water before it can flood the surrounding area known as “The Bottom”.

There are two greenroofs and one green wall designed to educate the community on the different types of green infrastructure. Tying into the surrounding murals of the area, the site design proposes a series of murals that tell the rich cultural story of the area. Upon arriving at the site, there will be a mural and a colorfully-patterned road to inform people that there is a park in the area and lure them to spend time with the nature found on the site entice them to interact with the natural world. Loblolly and Spruce pines will be planted as a buffer between the interstate and the park to lower sound levels and create opportunities for habitat. At the top of the driveway, there is a large butterfly garden with multiple paths for children and adults to stroll through. Other large site amenities include a pavilion for community gatherings, a lawn for flexible use, a walking path, two half-sized basketball courts and a racing lane. The park is designed to meet the needs of a technologically advanced world; therefore there are charging stages, exercise machines, and solar panels located throughout the park. There are two proposed openings on the property. One connects to the new Baton Rouge Greenway, while the other allows for people of the Old South Community to reconnect with the City Park amenities, such as the University and City Park lakes, Knock Knock Children’s museum and golf courses that were blocked off with the construction of I-10 in the 1970s.

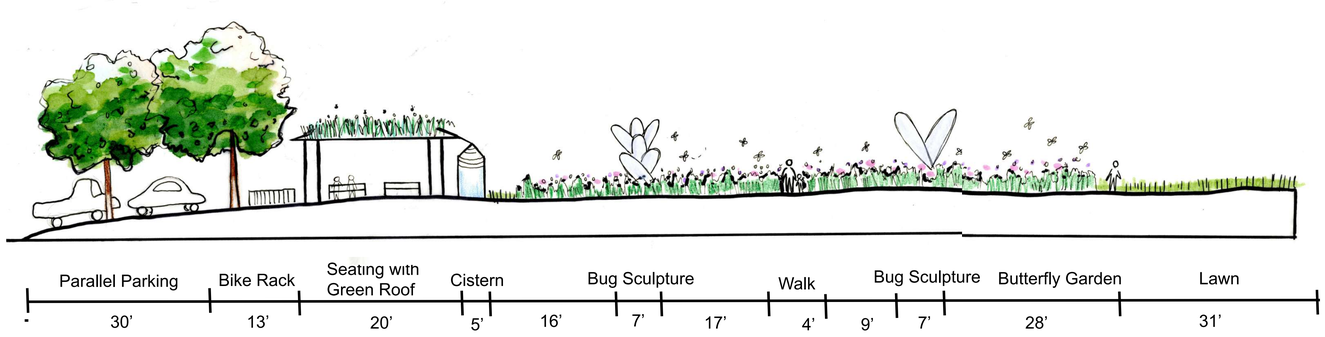


East Polk Street Park

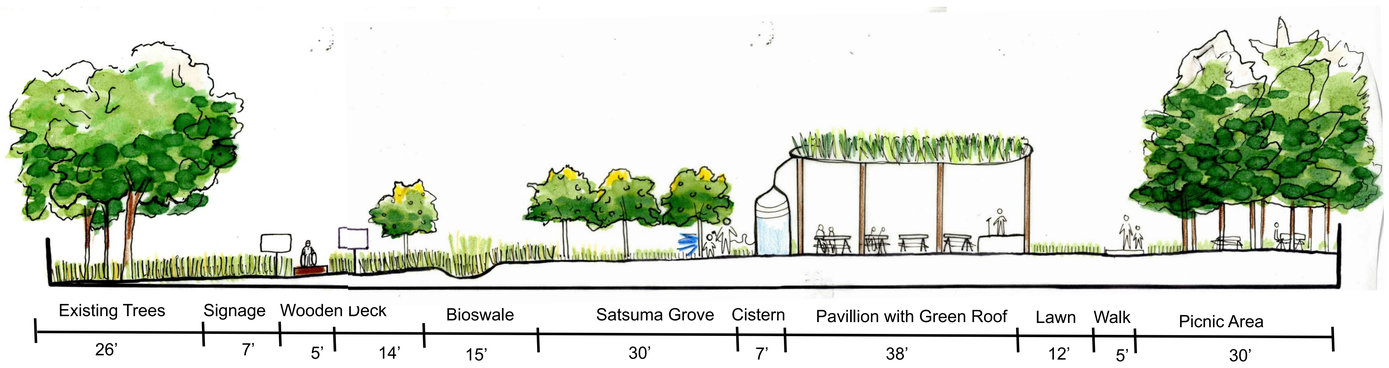
LSU Spring 2019
M. Kirschner LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Sections, Perspectives and Precedents

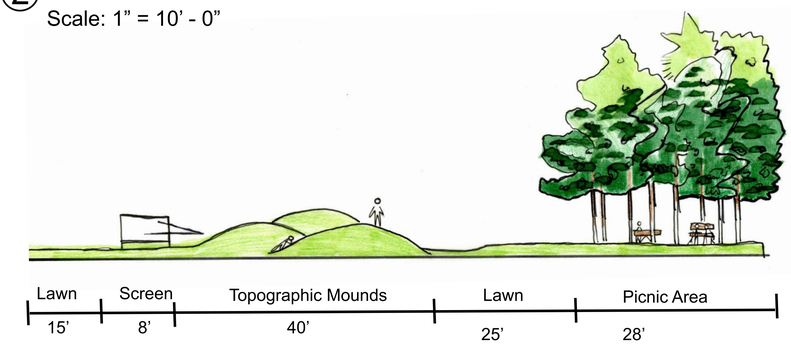
SECTIONS



① View of Entrance and Butterfly Garden- Section A - A ‘
Scale: 1” = 10’ - 0”



② View of Bioswale and Community Pavillion- Section B - B’
Scale: 1” = 10’ - 0”



③ Movie Viewing Area - Section C - C ‘
Scale: 1” = 10’ - 0”

PERSPECTIVES

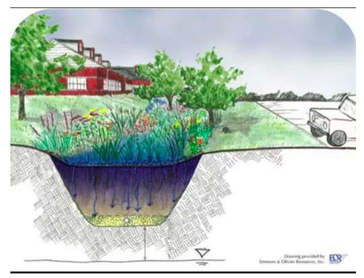
① Artful Entrance with Path and Bike Lane

② Boardwalk Along Citrus Grove and Bioswale

PRECEDENTS

Ⓐ Green Wall and Baton Rouge Mural above Kids Net Playground

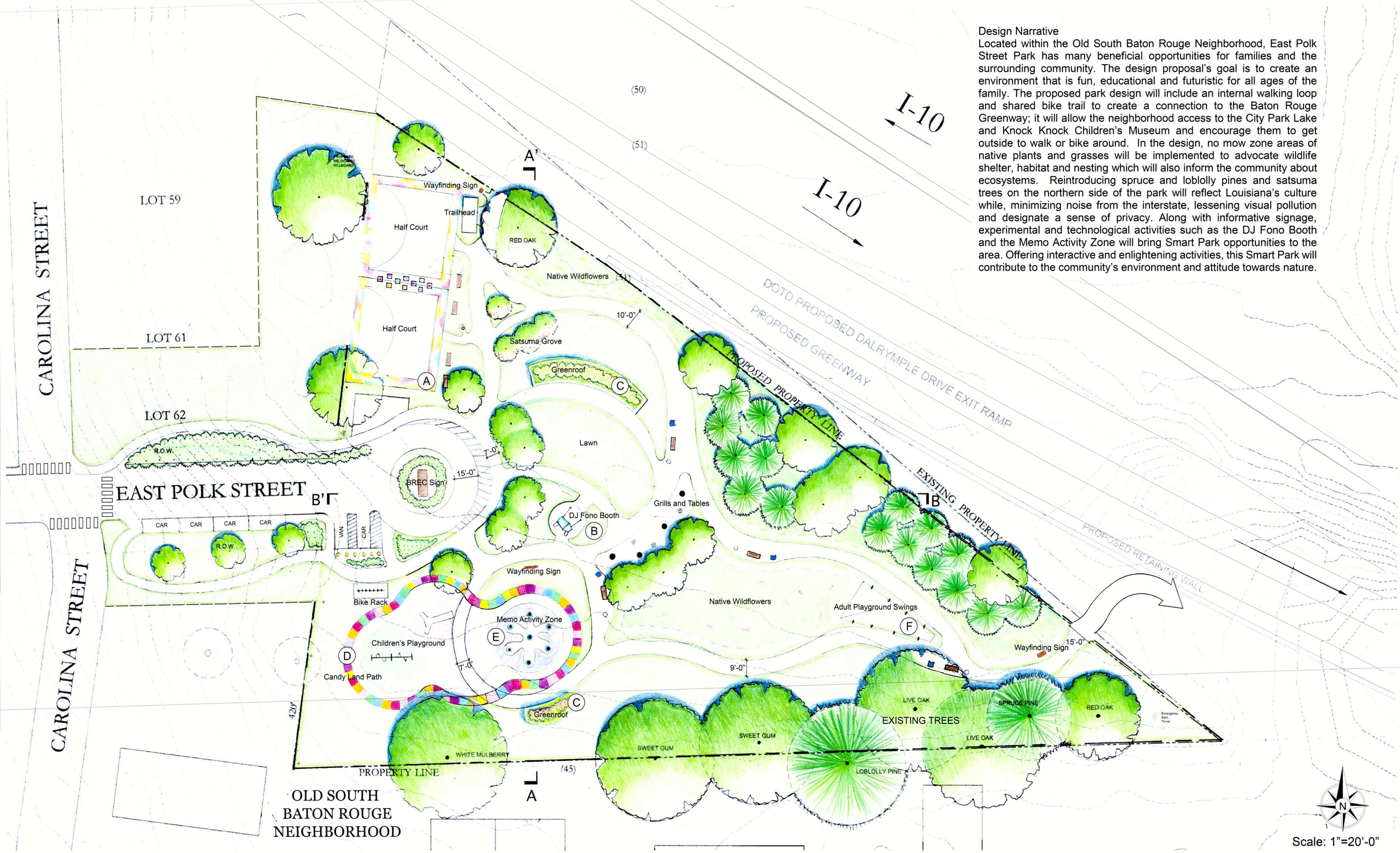
Ⓑ Black Light Sculpture for Bugs to Mate



Ⓒ Bioswale

Ⓓ Historical Sign for Placemaking

Schematic Design - Plan



Design Narrative

Located within the Old South Baton Rouge Neighborhood, East Polk Street Park has many beneficial opportunities for families and the surrounding community. The design proposal's goal is to create an environment that is fun, educational and futuristic for all ages of the family. The proposed park design will include an internal walking loop and shared bike trail to create a connection to the Baton Rouge Greenway; it will allow the neighborhood access to the City Park Lake and Knock Knock Children's Museum and encourage them to get outside to walk or bike around. In the design, no mow zone areas of native plants and grasses will be implemented to advocate wildlife shelter, habitat and nesting which will also inform the community about ecosystems. Reintroducing spruce and loblolly pines and satsuma trees on the northern side of the park will reflect Louisiana's culture while, minimizing noise from the interstate, lessening visual pollution and designate a sense of privacy. Along with informative signage, experimental and technological activities such as the DJ Fono Booth and the Memo Activity Zone will bring Smart Park opportunities to the area. Offering interactive and enlightening activities, this Smart Park will contribute to the community's environment and attitude towards nature.

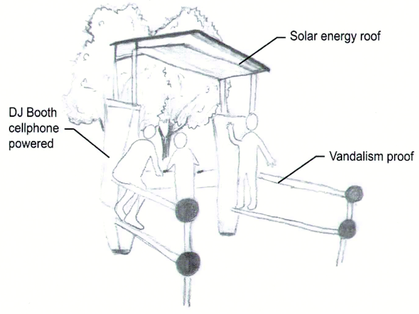
East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
A. Catanese LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Site Sections and Perspectives

Perspectives

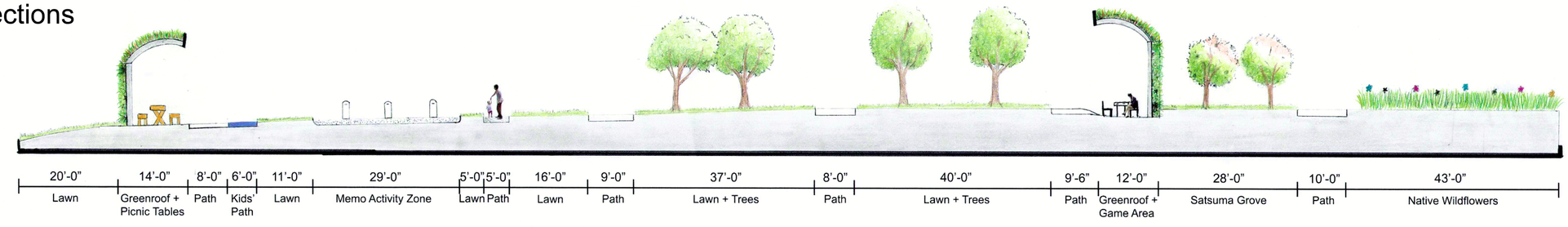
1 Perspective looking Northwest



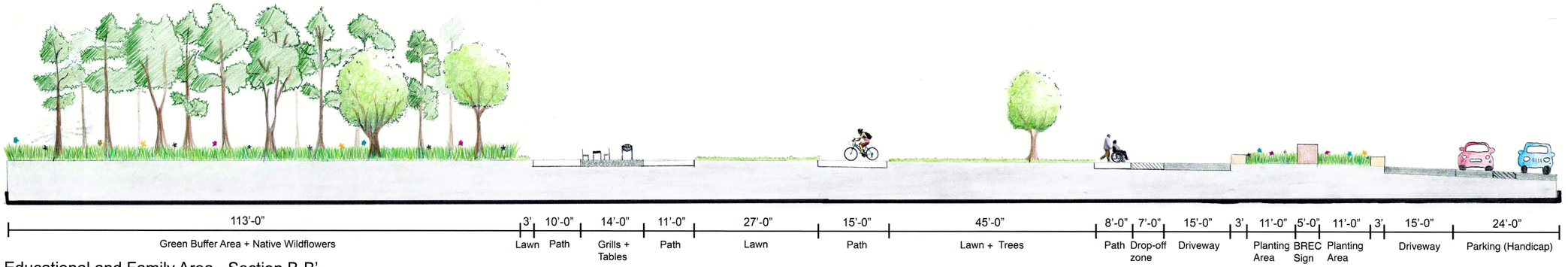
2 Perspective of DJ Fono Booth

3 Perspective of Entrance

Sections



4 Recreational Area - Section A-A'
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"



5 Educational and Family Area - Section B-B'
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

Precedents

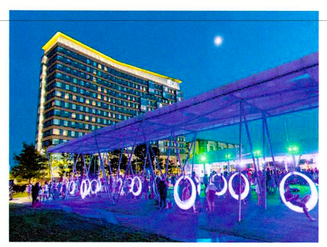
A Mural border on ½ courts

B DJ Fono Booth

C Greenroof/greenwall

D Candy Land path

E Memo Activity Zone



F Adult playground swings

East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
A. Catanese LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Site Plan

Design Narrative:

My parti for East Polk Street smart park is to create a space that can engage the community through active recreation. Expanding the basketball and playground areas will allow for more users than the current arrangement. Creating a walking path that engages the users with wildflower and turfgrass landforms, while providing Satsuma citrus trees during the winter months that people could partake in. Along with the landforms there will be opportunities for education about storm water management through a series of rain collection towers, which will tie into a cistern to water the citrus trees, as well as the proposed bioswales along the path will provide an opportunity to educate about ways to deal with storm water to help reduce flooding.

Throughout the park, lights, benches, trash cans, and BBQ grills will be solar powered reducing the use of electricity on site. Cardio equipment inside the playground area will be power generating, allowing users to exercise and charge their phones while watching their kids play. Wi-Fi hotspots throughout the park will provide high speed internet access to users as well as an opportunity for BREC to monitor the amount of traffic through the park.

Critical connections to the new greenway will be created to give speedier access to the north side of the interstate as well as City Park Lake reducing the amount of travel time for members of the community cutting through the park.

Precedent Images

A ADA accessible workout equipment

B Electric BBQ Grill

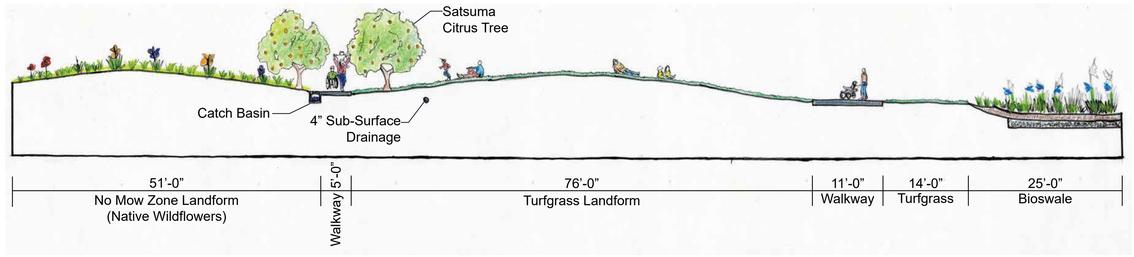
C Rain Collection Tower

D Energy Producing Cardio Equipment

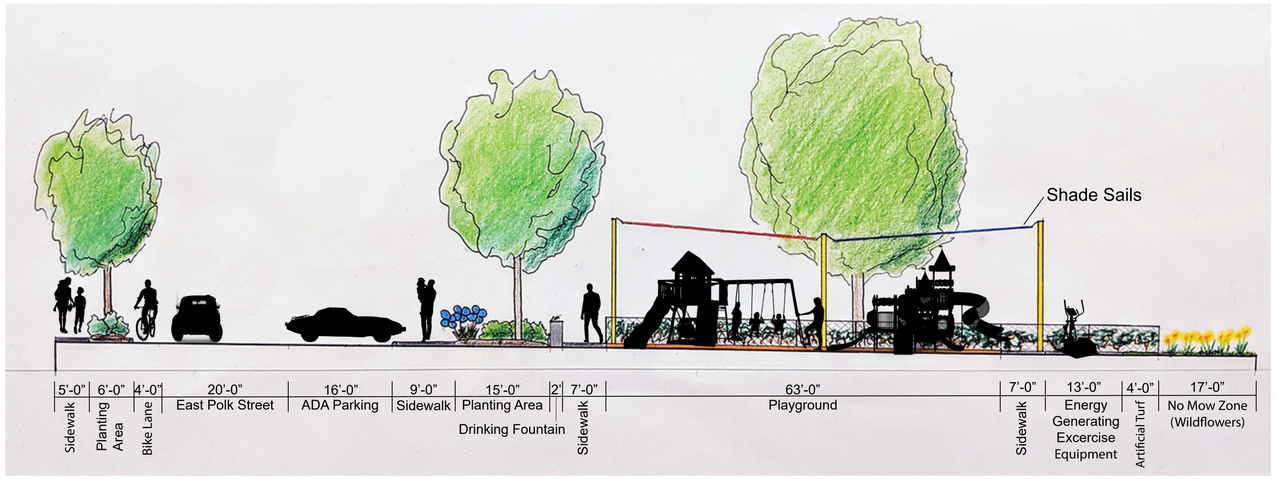
East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
C.Wilkins LA 2002 Site Design Studio

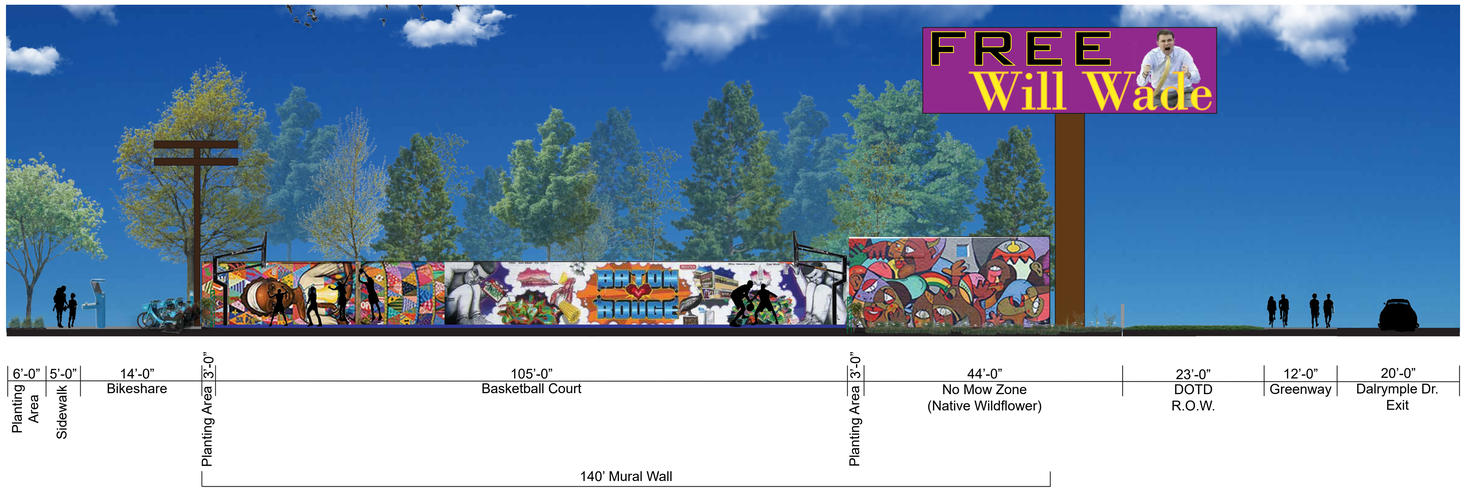
Schematic Design - Sections/Elevations and Sketches



1 Views Facing Southeast Toward Landforms
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0" Section A - A'

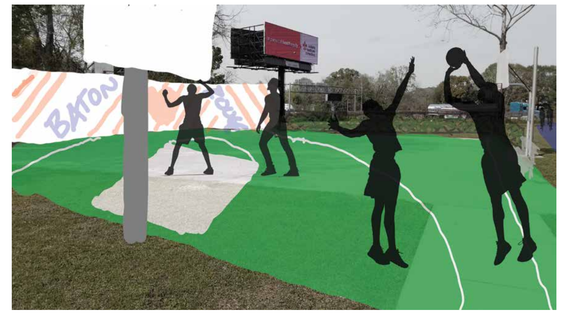


2 Views Facing West Toward Playground
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0" Section B - B'

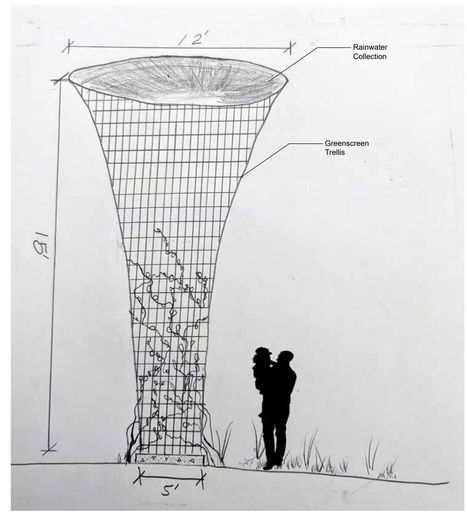


3 Views Looking South at Basketball Court and Mural Wall
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0" Section/Elevation C - C'

4 Sketch of Playground



5 Sketch of Basketball Court



6 Rain Collection Tower

East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
C.Wilkins LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Inclusive Site Design

Narrative

The vision of East Polk Street Park is to create a safe and neutral space for the surrounding community to congregate today and in the future. The main goal for the design of this park was to make it inclusive and accessible for everyone. The children's area and exercise area will have accessible equipment and ADA accessible paving. Users will be drawn into the park with large and engaging art sculptor's and smart technology features like charging stations. New recreational activities will be added to entertain teens and adults like a multi-purpose sports court, times racing track, table games, and adult swings. The large gathering gazebos which are fully equipped with outdoor cooking equipment can provide picnic access as well as potentially be a safe haven for the community if the neighborhood floods again as the park is the highest elevation.

The mix of lawn area and wildflower meadows will give users the choice of being out in the open or having privacy and create new habitats for wildlife. An educational nature path through the meadows wills give visitors a calming scenery and gives users the opportunity to learn about storm water management through the rain gardens and green roofs. The focal piece of the park is the large rain catchers that also act as an art piece. A native mix of evergreens and deciduous trees will be planted to replace the ones being taken away in the I-10 greenway expansion. These trees will help with the noise pollution from the neighboring interstate and give the park character.

CAROLINA STREET

LOT 59

LOT 61

LOT 62

R.O.W.

EAST POLK STREET

R.O.W.

CAROLINA STREET

OLD BATON ROUGE NEIGHBORHOOD

PROPERTY LINE

550'

420'

PROPOSED RELOCATED BILLBOARD

ADA Accessible

RED OAK

Multi Purpose Sports Court

Track

Four Square

Hopscotch

Bike Share

ADA Accessible

Utility Poles

Entrance Sign

Cul de Sac

Map

Planter/Barrier

Multi-Use Lawn

HC Van

WATER LINE

Rain Garden

Children's Play Area

Gazebo

Rain Garden

Rain Garden

Gazebo with Green Roof

Butterfly Garden

Pathway

Lawn

Orange Tree Grove

ADA Accessible

Picnic Tables

Solar Panel Steps

Lawn

Private Seating/ Accessible

Air Pump

Bike Rack

LIVE OAK

SPRUCE PINE

RED OAK

Emergency Alert Tower

LIVE OAK

SWEET GUM

SWEET GUM

WHITE MULBERRY

LOBLOLLY PINE

Rainwater Catcher/ Art Piece

I-10

I-10

DOTD PROPOSED DALRYMPLE DRIVE EXIT RAMP

PROPOSED GREENWAY

PROPOSED PROPERTY LINE

EXISTING PROPERTY LINE

PROPOSED RETAINING WALL

(43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51)

A1 A' B1 B'

North

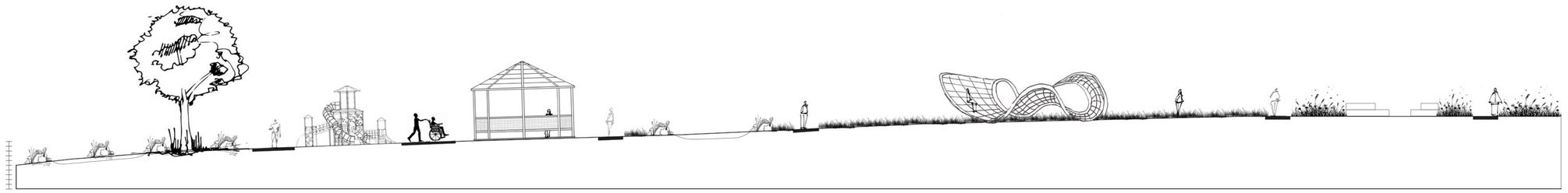
Scale" 1" = 20'-0"

East Polk Street Park

A. Breeding

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

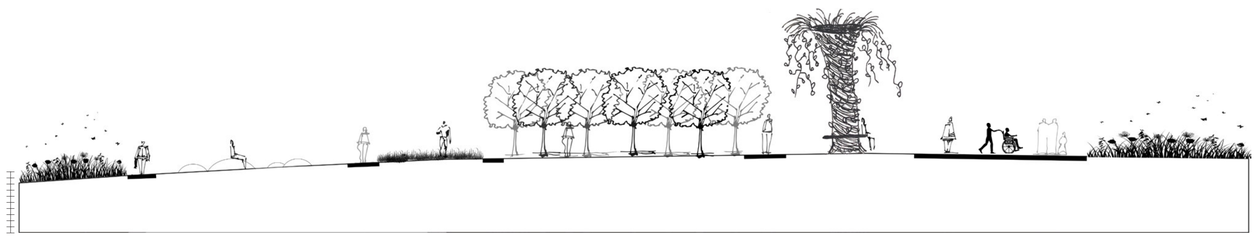
Schematic Design - Sections and Perspectives



1 Northwest Section of Park

Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

Section A-A'



2 East Section of Park

Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

Section B-B'

Precedent Images

A Net Climber

B Inclusive Exercise

C Adult Swings

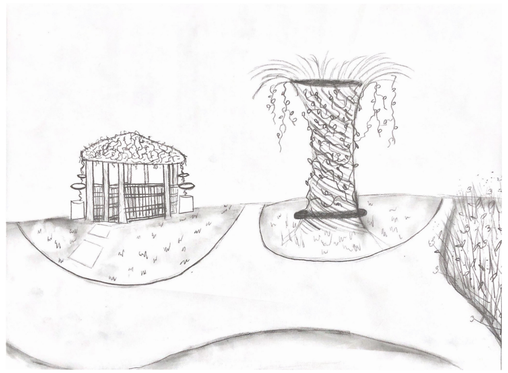
D Smart Furnishing

E Inclusive Playground

F Rolling Hills

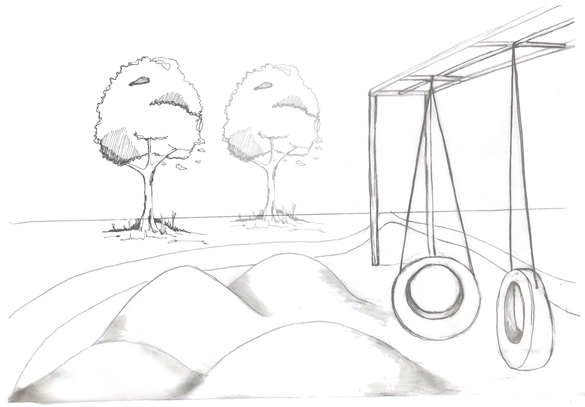
G Artful Water Storage

H Wildflower Meadow



3 Storm Water Management

Sketch



4 Adult Activity Area

Sketch

5 Wildflower Meadow Perspective

East Polk Street Park

A. Breeding

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design- Plan

While visiting East Polk Street Park, a lack of community engagement as well as a disconnection between the neighborhood and surrounding areas were observed. The disconnection happened in the 1970's when I-10 was constructed. There are currently new plans for an expansion of the I-10 off ramp exit for Dalrymple Drive. With the implementation of these plans, it would impede on the current property line of the park as well as remove the existing set of trees that acts as sound buffer from the noises of the interstate. However, with DOTD's plans comes the proposal of implementing a retaining wall and a new connection to the Baton Rouge Greenway. The proposed design will take advantage of the greenway access and create connections through the site to the neighboring community. People in the Old South Baton Rouge community will have an opportunity to reconnect to the City Park area, City Park lake, and surrounding amenities.

Community engagement and educational opportunities are the driving force for this design. Educational opportunities in the park will include the City Citrus Project, sensory playgrounds, and smart park technology. With the implementation of The City Citrus project, the community will have access to fresh citrus, fragrant smells, and experiences with growing their own produce. The design allows for the community to have a safe, accessible, and engaging place that allows for various recreational activities. As visitors walk through the site, they will have the chance to see different sculptures made by local students. This will allow students to feel a sense of connection and responsibility with the new design of the park. Solar panels and regenerative exercise equipment allow for visitors to learn about the importance of sustainability and clean energy.

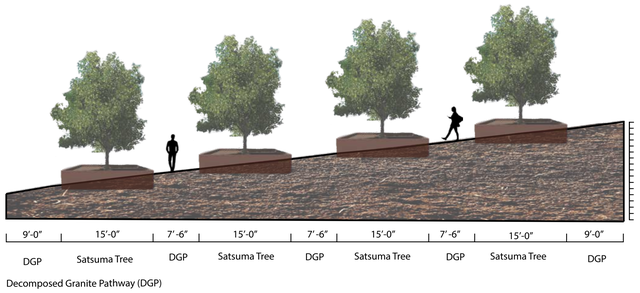
East Polk Street Park

A. Carbo

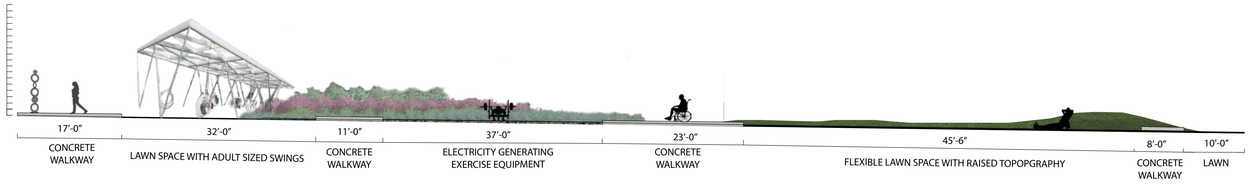
LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design- Sections and Perspectives

SECTIONS



1 View North Facing Terraced Planters
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"
Section A-A'



2 View North Facing Swings and Raised Topography
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"
Section B-B'

PRECEDENT IMAGES

A Swings in "Lawn on D", Boston

B Singapore Solar Rainwater Collection

C Maryville University Sign

D Pavilion with Solar Panels

E Checker Board Tables

F Electric Barbecue Grill

G Electricity Generating Equipment

H Serpent Mounds Park, Ontario

PERSPECTIVES

View of Adult Swings and Butterfly Garden

View of Butterfly Garden and Workout Area

View of Front Entrance

View looking at Rear of Front Entrance

View of Half Court Extenension, Rain Water Collection System, and Bike Share System

View of Raised Mounds

East Polk Street Park

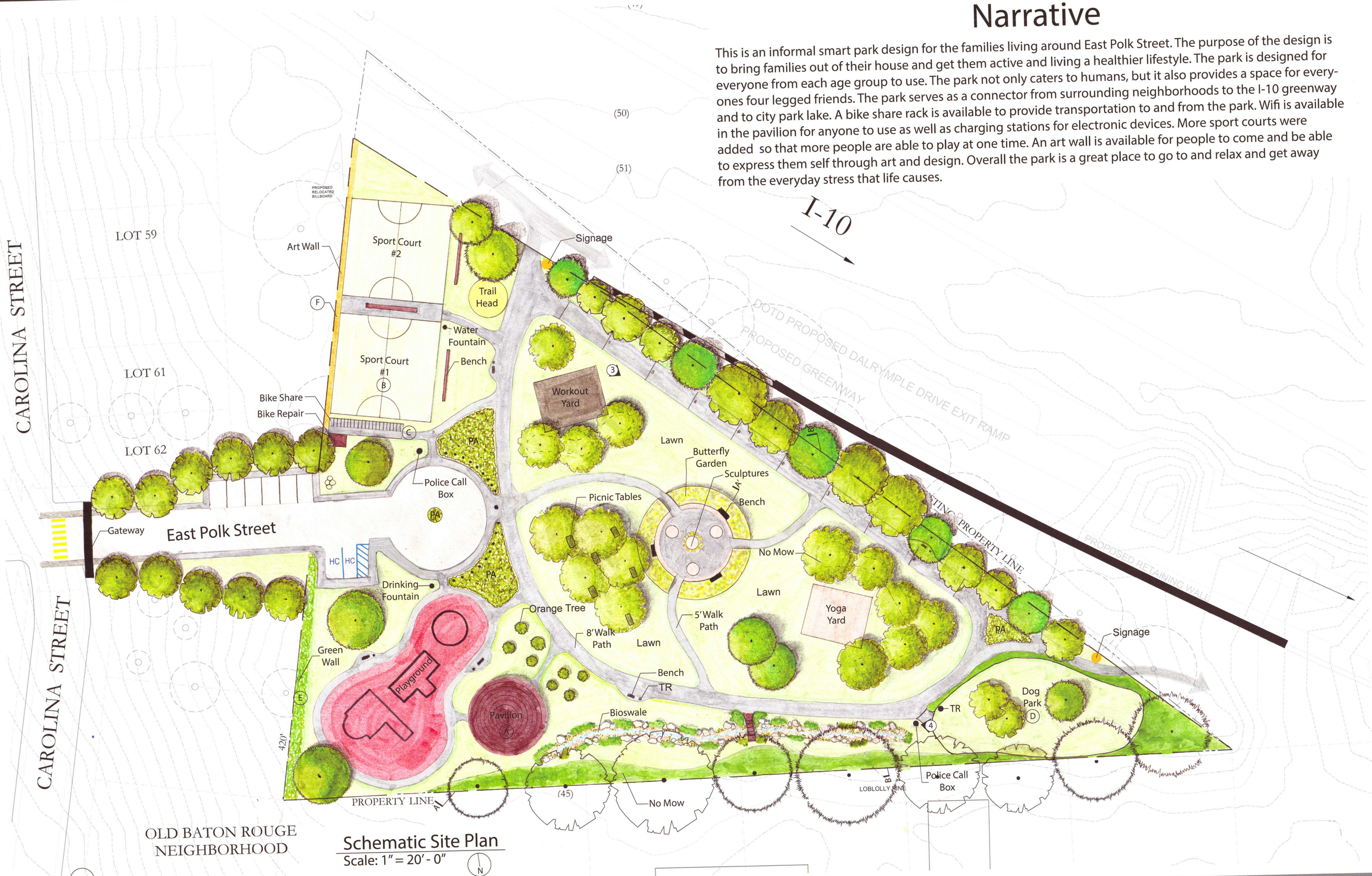
A. Carbo

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design

Narrative

This is an informal smart park design for the families living around East Polk Street. The purpose of the design is to bring families out of their house and get them active and living a healthier lifestyle. The park is designed for everyone from each age group to use. The park not only caters to humans, but it also provides a space for every-ones four legged friends. The park serves as a connector from surrounding neighborhoods to the I-10 greenway and to city park lake. A bike share rack is available to provide transportation to and from the park. Wifi is available in the pavilion for anyone to use as well as charging stations for electronic devices. More sport courts were added so that more people are able to play at one time. An art wall is available for people to come and be able to express them self through art and design. Overall the park is a great place to go to and relax and get away from the everyday stress that life causes.



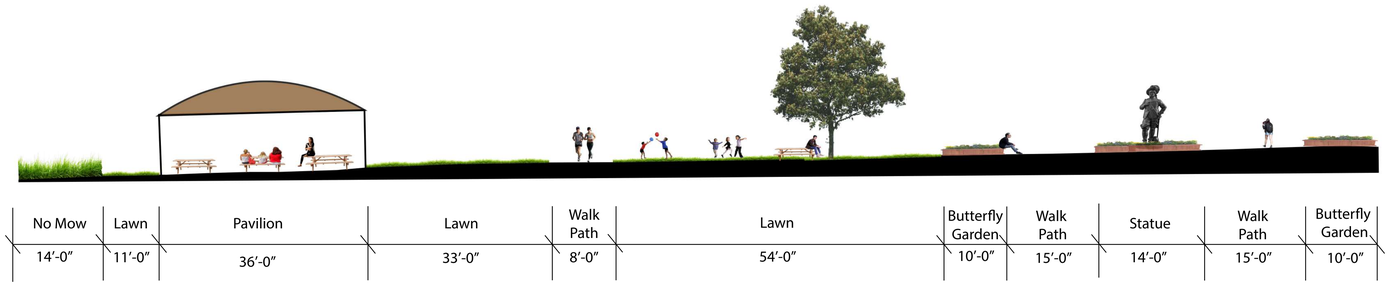
Schematic Site Plan
Scale: 1" = 20' - 0"

East Polk Street Park

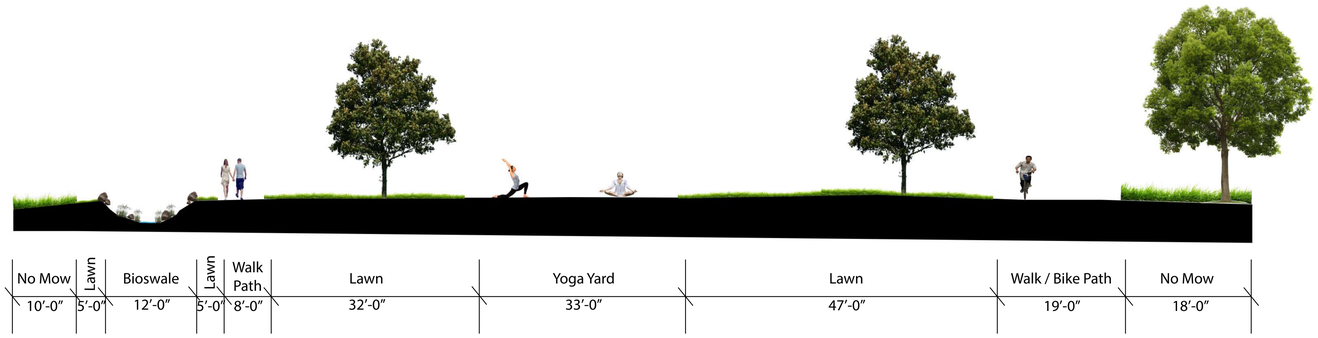
LSU Spring 2019
C. Merrill LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Section And Perspectives

Sections



1 View Facing North West - Section A-A′
Scale: 1″ = 10′ - 0″



2 View Facing West- Section B-B′
Scale: 1″ = 10′ - 0″

Perspectives

3 View Facing Southeast of Walk/Bike Path
Perspective

4 View Facing Northwest of Bioswale
Perspective

Precedent Images

A Round Pavilion

B Sports Courts

C Bike Share

D Dog Park

E Green Wall

F Art Wall

East Polk Street Park

C. Merrill
LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Plan

NARRATIVE

The purpose of the redesign of East Polk Park was to use innovation and technology to create a welcoming smart park for a community that is in dire need of a sense of place. A community with a rich cultural history needs a space to define it. Historical signage is used throughtout the park to highlight the history of the community with a monumental dripwall layed with engraved bricks with names of people in the community. Colored turf is used to brighten the site and give a warm welcoming to anyone entering. Shade structures that capture water double as pavillions to create gathering areas for things such as community outreach programs. Furthermore, the redesign of East Polk Park is meant to bring life back to a community that needs it.

LEGEND

Ⓐ		East Polk Park Sign	Ⓖ		Rainbow Bike Share	Ⓝ		Kids Chalk Board
Ⓑ		No-Mow Zone	Ⓗ		Drinking Fountain	Ⓞ		Kids Swing Set
Ⓒ		Play Mound	Ⓘ		Trash Receptacle	Ⓟ		Colored Turf
Ⓓ		Shade Structure (Capture Rain)	Ⓙ		Street Lights	Ⓠ		Bench
Ⓔ		Paint Stained Concrete	Ⓚ		Water Feature (Dog Park)	Ⓡ		Kids Play Equipment
Ⓕ		Orange Tree (Some boxed)	Ⓛ		Historical Signage	Ⓢ		Colorful Hopscotch
			Ⓜ		Climbing Dome	Ⓣ		Charging Station

CAROLINA STREET

LOT 59

LOT 61

B'

A

Large Pavillion (Made out of Shade Structures)

Tri-Court

Seating Area

I-10

I-10

DOTD PROPOSED DALRYMPLE DRIVE EXIT RAMP

PROPOSED GREENWAY

EXISTING PROPERTY LINE

B

Dog Park

Turn-Around

Lawn

Drip Wall (Back of Stadium Seating)

Mural Stage

PROPOSED RETAINING WALL

R.O.W.

No-Mow Zone

Seating Area

Playground

No-Mow Zone

PROPERTY LINE

550'

Running Track

Seating Area

LOBLOLLY PINE

A'

SCALE: 1"= 20'-0"

OLD BATON ROUGE NEIGHBORHOOD

(50)

(45)

(44)

(43)

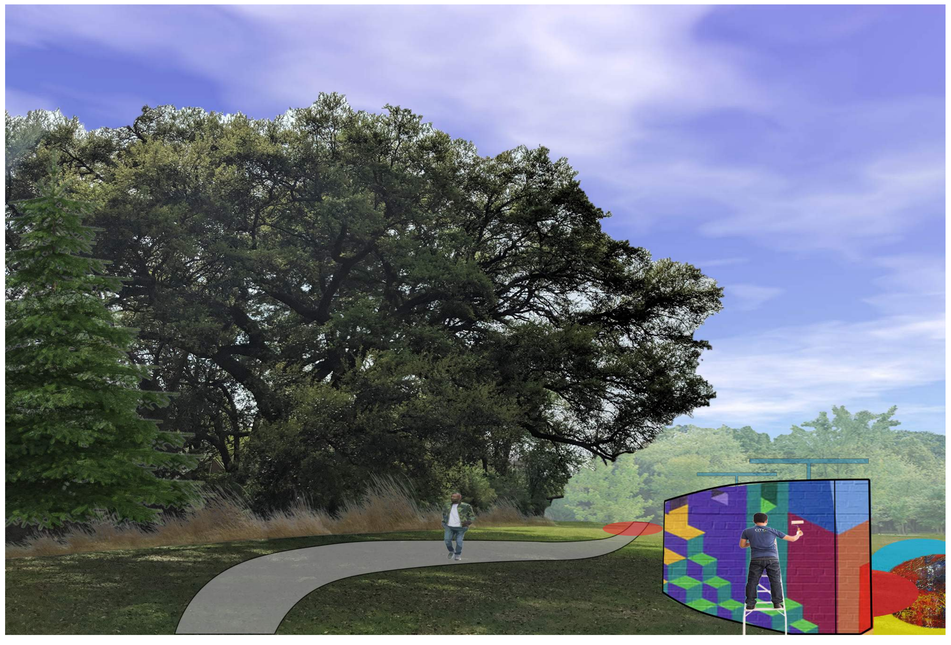
LOT

East Polk Street Park

C. Burgess

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Perspectives



1 Perspective facing West towards Mural Stage

2 Perspective facing West towards Dog Park

3 Perspective facing North/West towards Orange Tree Grove

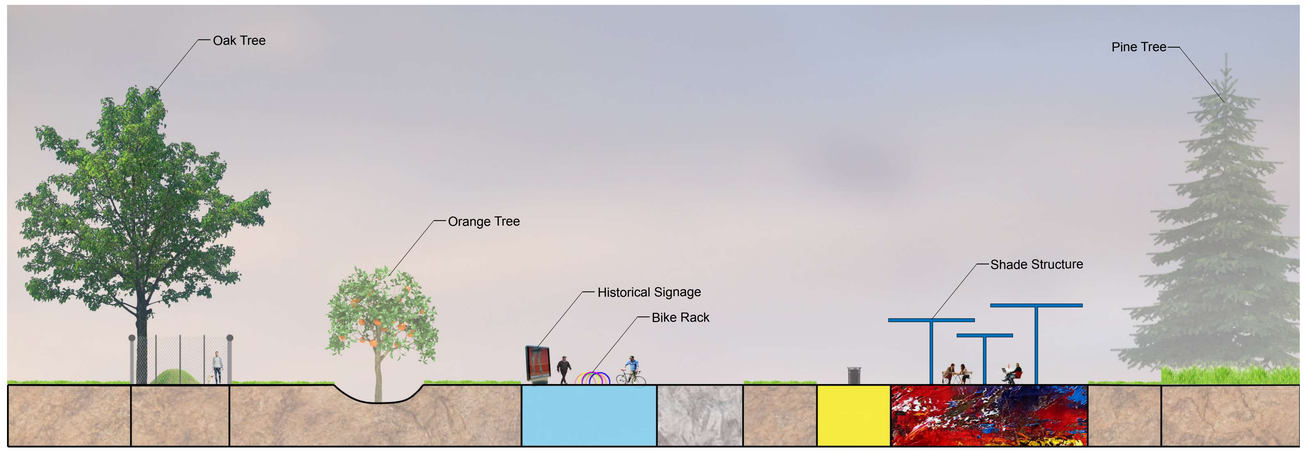
3 Perspective facing West towards Playground

Schematic Design - Sections & Precedents

A	18’ Lawn	17’ Ditch	6’ Lawn	45’ Dog Park (small dogs)	28’ Dog Park (entrance)	55’ Dog Park (large dogs)	12’ Lawn	6’ Path	35’ Lawn	15’ Stained Concrete	15’ Colorful Turf	8’ Stadium Seating	18’ Colorful Turf	25’ Stage	4’ Mural	10’ Lawn	6’ Path	8’ Lawn	32’ No-Mow Zone	A’

1 Section/Elevation facing North/East A-A’

Scale: 1” = 10’-0”



B	18’ Lawn	16’ Dog Park (small dogs)	16’ Lawn	17’ Ditch	16’ Lawn	22’ Colorful Turf	16’ Path	14’ Lawn	14’ Colorful Turf	31’ Stained Concrete	14’ Lawn	23’ No-Mow Zone	B’

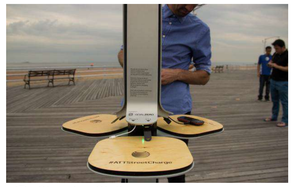
2 Section facing South B-B’

Scale: 1” = 10’-0”

A Shade Structure

B Waterwall Monument

C Mural Stage



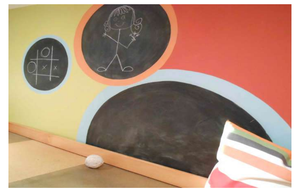
D Charging Station

E Tri-Court

F Kids Running Track

G Bike Share

H Play Dome



I Circular Chalk Boards

East Polk Street Park

C. Burgess

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

DESIGN NARRATIVE

The goal of this design is for the park to better engage the community, by creating more recreational areas where visitors can get together and enjoy being out in nature and being more active. The design will also provide access to the proposed Greenway/Bike trail and City Park Lake. This design concerns the common good of the neighborhood and the opportunity to provide a safe and comfortable space for all people.

The goal of the smart park design is to attract visitors of all ages to enjoy the different active and passive recreation areas, such as the sports court, children and adult playground and BBQ areas. Families that have pets can also come and enjoy the facilities. This smart park design provides shade areas with solar benches and lighting posts, green roof, and Wi-Fi from all areas inside the park. A bioswale was added to reduce stormwater runoff into neighborhood properties.

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

SCALE: 1"= 20'-0" PLAN

East Polk Street Park

D. Martinez

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

SCHEMATIC DESIGN ILLUSTRATIVES

PRECEDENTS MATERIALS

A Bike Parking

B Spun Chair

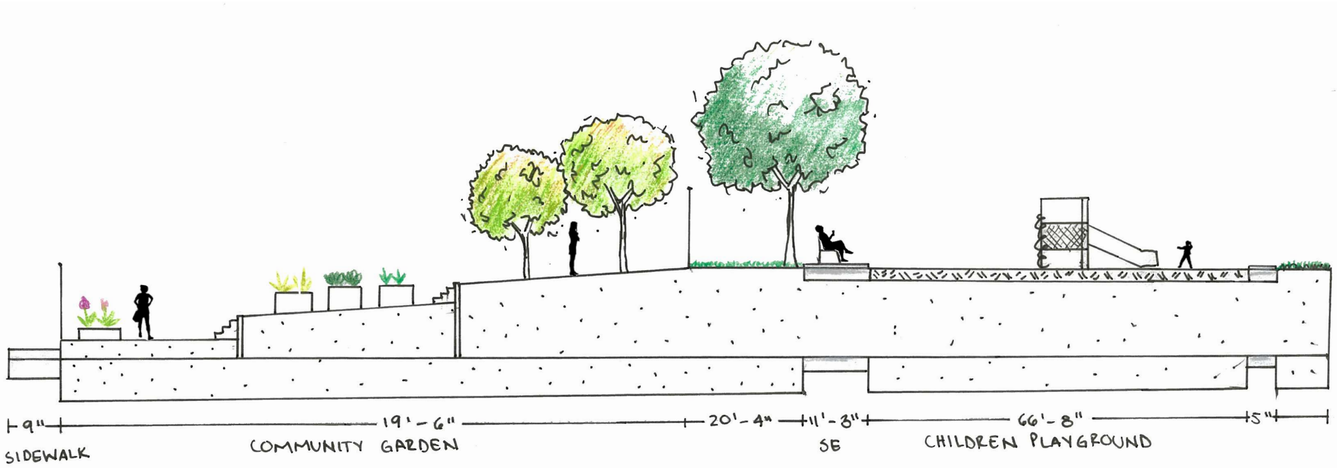
C Green Roof

D Solar Street Lights

E Solar Benches

F Sensory Playground

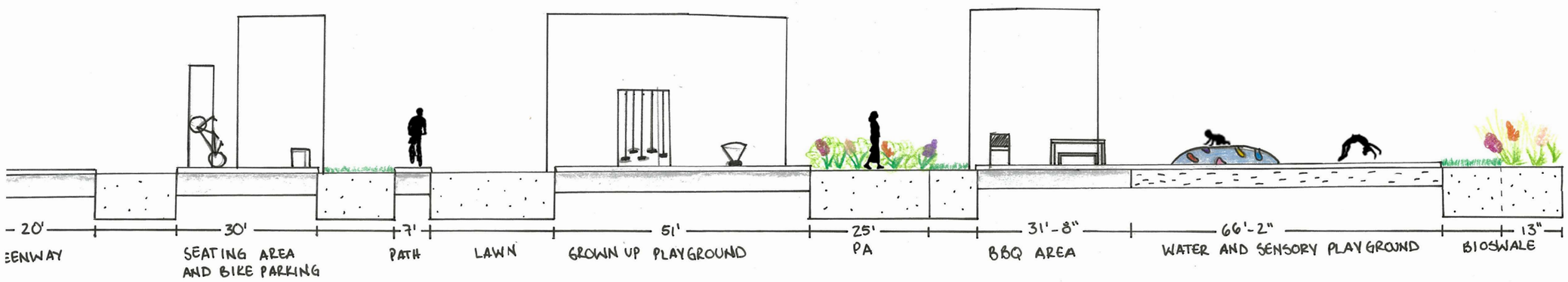
G Piano Path



1 COMMUNITY GARDEN SECTION A - A'

SCALE: 1"= 10'-0"

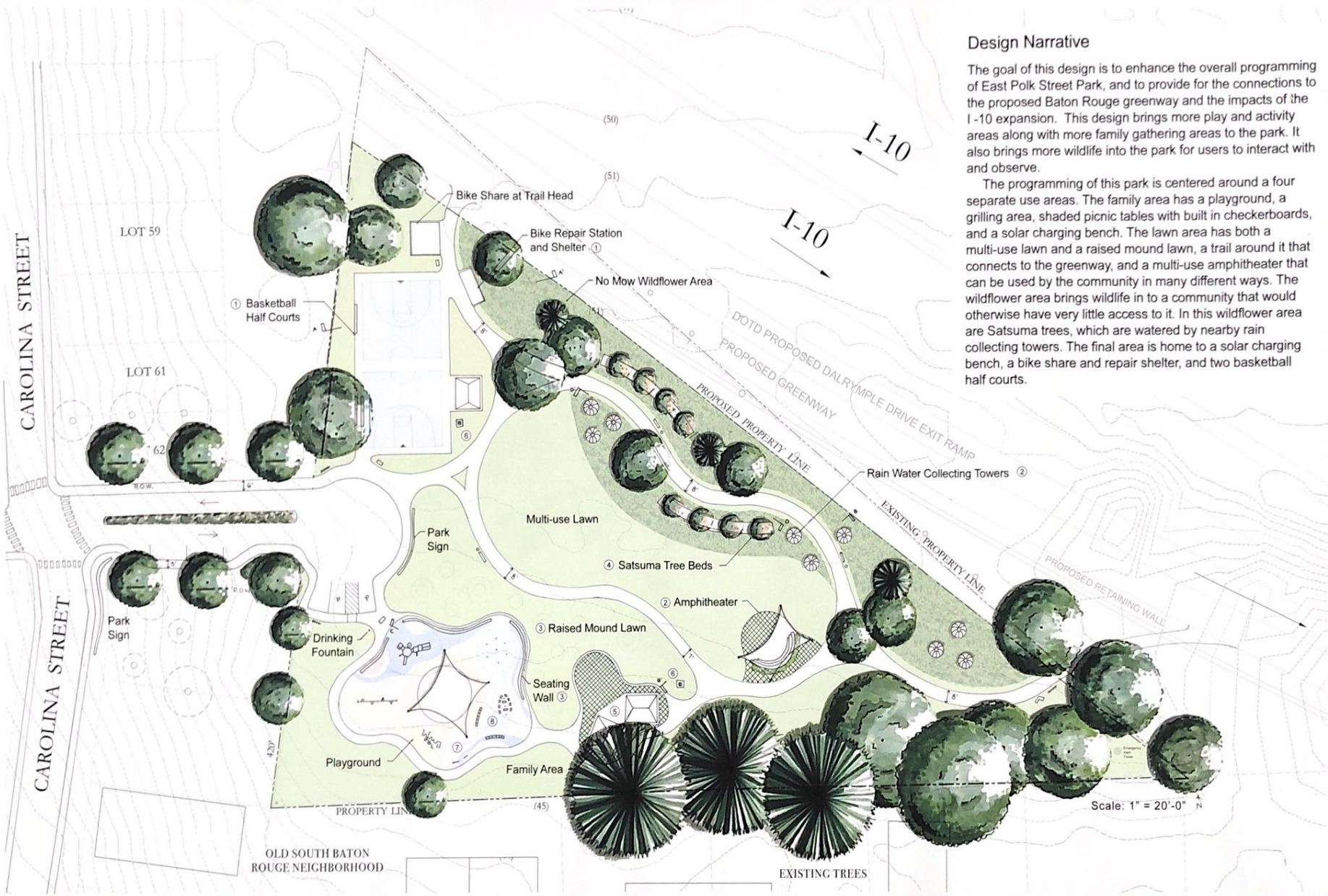
BIOSWALE PERSPECTIVE



2 RECREATION SECTION B - B'

SCALE: 1"= 10'-0"

Schematic Design



Design Narrative

The goal of this design is to enhance the overall programming of East Polk Street Park, and to provide for the connections to the proposed Baton Rouge greenway and the impacts of the I -10 expansion. This design brings more play and activity areas along with more family gathering areas to the park. It also brings more wildlife into the park for users to interact with and observe.

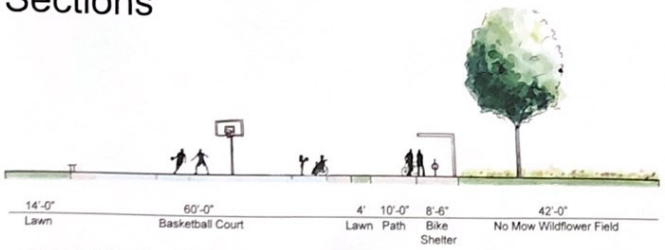
The programming of this park is centered around a four separate use areas. The family area has a playground, a grilling area, shaded picnic tables with built in checkerboards, and a solar charging bench. The lawn area has both a multi-use lawn and a raised mound lawn, a trail around it that connects to the greenway, and a multi-use amphitheater that can be used by the community in many different ways. The wildflower area brings wildlife in to a community that would otherwise have very little access to it. In this wildflower area are Satsuma trees, which are watered by nearby rain collecting towers. The final area is home to a solar charging bench, a bike share and repair shelter, and two basketball half courts.

East Polk Street Park

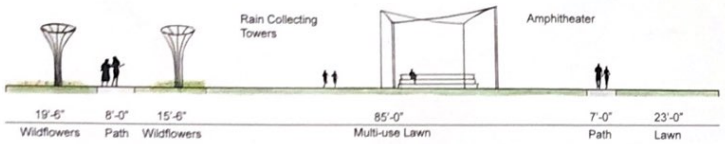
LSU Spring 2019
E.Volden LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design

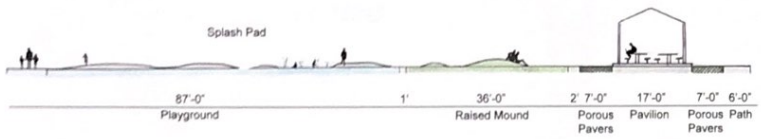
Sections



1 Basketball Court and Bike Shelter Section A-A'
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0"



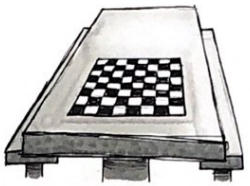
2 Rain Collecting Towers and Amphitheater Section B-B'
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0"



3 Splash Pad, Raised Mounds, and Pavilion Section C-C'
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0"

4 Satsuma Beds and Rain Collecting Towers Section D-D'
Scale: 1" = 10' - 0"

Sketches



5 Picnic Table with Tile Checkerboard
Not to Scale

6 Solar Powered Charging Bench
Not to Scale

7 Sound and Music Play Equipment
Not to Scale

8 Recycled Tire Play Equipment
Not to Scale

Schematic Design - Plan

Design Narrative:

The design intent for the BREC East Polk Street Park is to create a sustainable "smart" park that is programmed to meet the needs and desires of the Old South Baton Rouge (OSBR) neighborhood. This has been accomplished by adding additional active and passive recreation programming elements as well as incorporating technological design elements to mitigate existing issues and provide opportunities for the future.

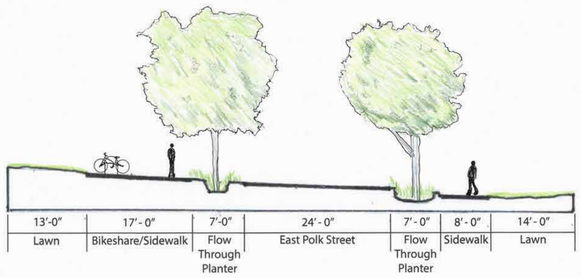
The design features a series of looping walking/running paths, an expanded children's playground that includes accessible play equipment, a multi-use sports court, and an additional basketball half-court. The design is intended to have all permeable pavement to minimize stormwater runoff. It will also feature additional stormwater management systems such as a large bioswale to clean and return water to the ground, and cisterns to collect rainwater from pavilion roofs for gravity-fed irrigation systems.

Stormwater management systems and native plantings around the park will provide an excellent educational opportunity for students of the nearby Buchanan Elementary School and for other visitors as well, while helping to restore wildlife corridors through Baton Rouge. The park will serve as a connector between the OSBR neighborhood and the proposed greenway that will run past the park towards Dalrymple Drive and City Park, with a bikeshare station within the park to provide bicycles to the OSBR neighborhood residents. Through these interventions, the park will become a popular and exciting destination for people to visit.

East Polk Street Park

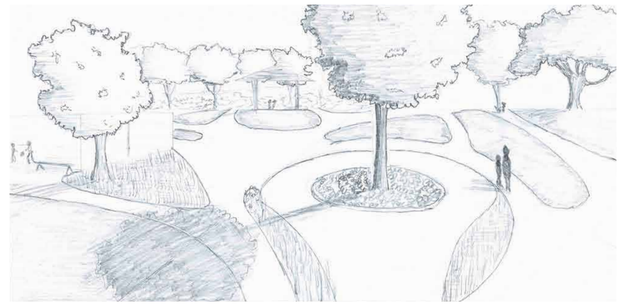
LSU Spring 2019
H. Moser LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Illustratives

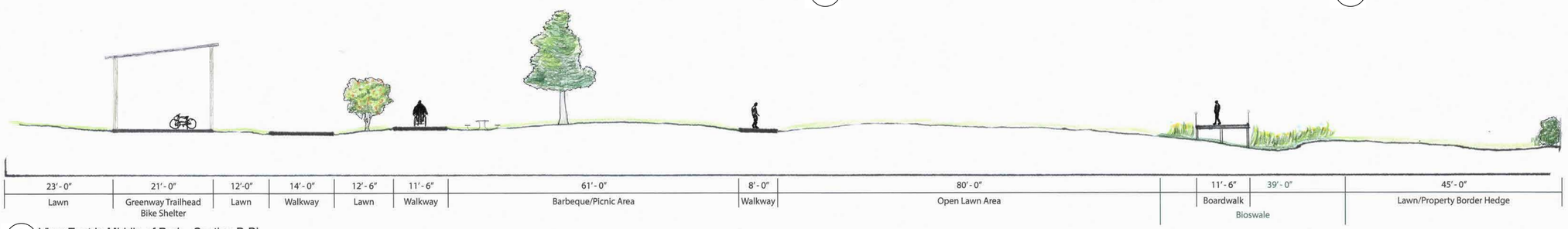


1 Looking East at Carolina Street - Section A-A'
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

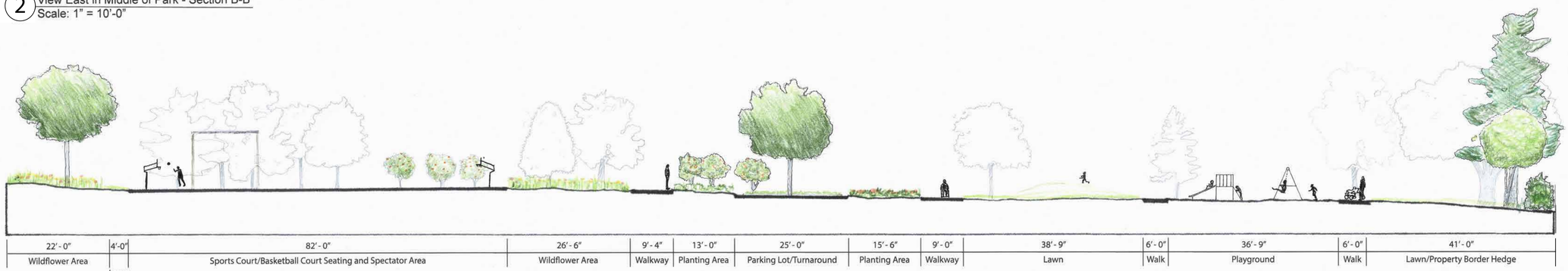
4 Perspective 1: Barbeque Area



5 Perspective 2: Entry Near Cul de Sac



2 View East in Middle of Park - Section B-B'
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"



3 View into Park from Cul de Sac - Elevation A
Scale: 1" = 10'-0"

Precedent Images

A Accessible Play Equipment
Sway Fun Glider

B Stormwater Management
Bioswale

C Stormwater Management
Rainwater Collection

D Ecological Education/Restoration
Wildflower Meadow

E Community Interaction/Connectivity
Bikeshare Station

East Polk Street Park

H. Moser

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Plan

Design Narrative

The East Polk Street Park is located in the Old South Baton Rouge Neighborhood near the City Park Lake. The goal of the design is to create safety, playful and educational space that connect the proposed Baton Rouge Greenway and allowed the surrounding community to use and enjoy.

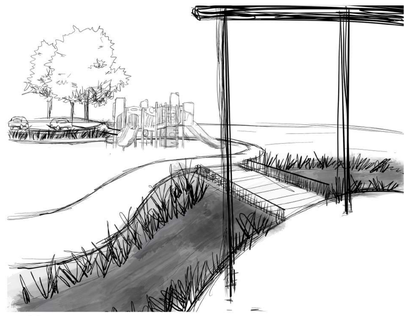
To achieve this goal, the proposed design will have high-branch trees and native low plants to make sure every corner in this park have open views for safety and also provide food, habitat and shelter for wildlife. Parking lots and children's playground has been expanded. There is a new entrance garden designed to attract visitors to come to the park. Also smart park elements are incorporated to offer comforts and convenience, such as bike share station and solar charging bench. Furthermore, this design is trying to balance the human demands and environment-friendly, the green roof and bioswale are provided for sustainable uses.

East Polk Street Park

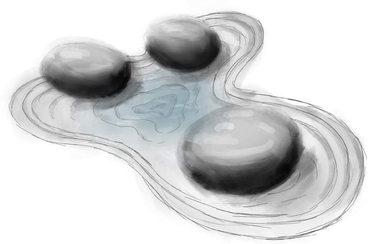
LSU Spring 2019
J. Zheng LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design

SKETCHES



1 BIOSWALE



2 RAINWATER PLAYGROUND

PRECEDENTS

Ⓐ SHELTER

Ⓑ WINDMILL

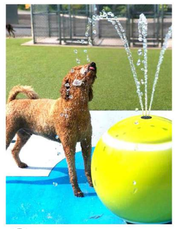
Ⓒ SOLAR GROUND LIGHT

Ⓓ PIANO GROUND

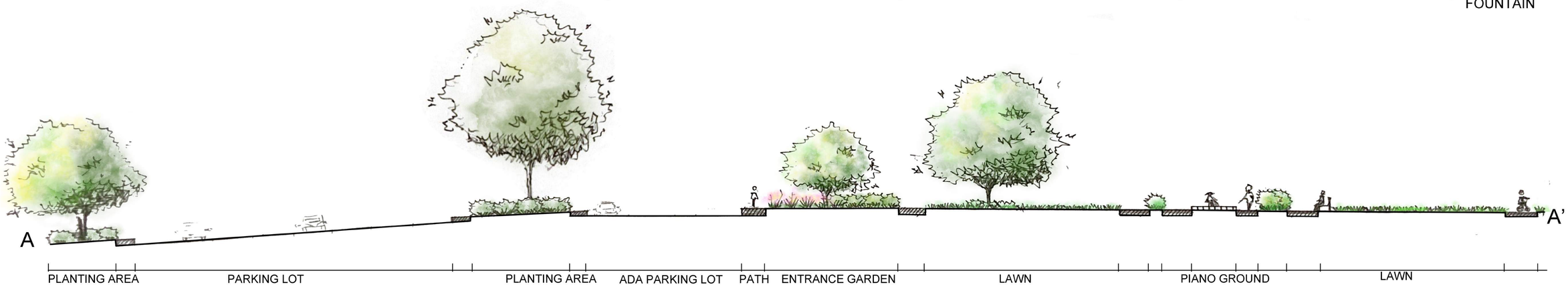
Ⓔ CHESS GROUND

Ⓕ RAINWATER CREEK

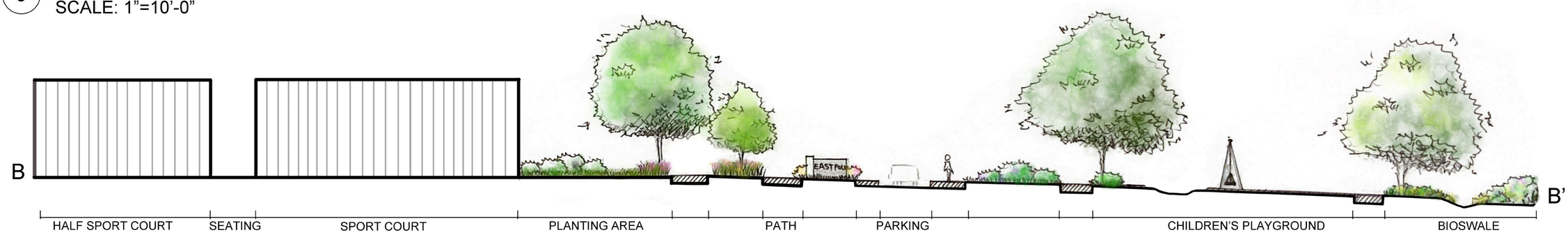
Ⓖ GREEN ROOF BIKE PARKING



Ⓗ DOG DRINKING FOUNDATION



3 SECTION A-A' FROM PARKING LOT TO PIANO GROUND
SCALE: 1"=10'-0"



4 SECTION B-B' FROM SPORTS COURT TO BIOSWALE
SCALE: 1"=10'-0"

East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
J. Zheng LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design Plan

Design Narrative

This design for East Polk Street Park puts emphasis on providing plenty of flexible open space for visitors, especially for the many local churches in the neighborhood to hold outdoor events. The design includes an expansion of parking and a drop-off circle for easy circulation. The sports amenities are expanded to include a sport court, providing a full basketball court as well as the possibility for other sports. Both courts have been re-oriented in a North-South direction to keep the sun from players' eyes. The existing children's playground has been expanded with an ADA-accessible addition, and an area for stationary adult exercise is placed nearby for parents. To add interest to the trail within the park, a section of the trail has a skating amenity sized to also allow bicycle usage.

A few areas are designated as native planting areas to be beautifying elements and to reduce maintenance costs for BREC. The Southern edge of the park has a proposed rain garden to help prevent water from flowing into neighboring properties. Excess water will be able to drain to a proposed retention pond in one of the adjacent adjudicated properties, allowing the water more time to evaporate or infiltrate.

Pavilions are placed in sunny areas to facilitate solar energy generation to allow users to charge their mobile devices, and the stationary exercise machines will generate electricity for the same purpose. Both pavilions will have semi-public WiFi access points. Bike share and bike service stations are located near the entrance of the park for users of the Greenway. Park water fountains are also located nearby.

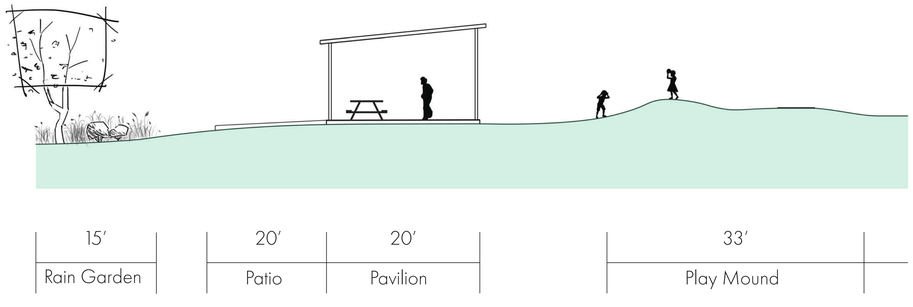
Scale: 1" = 20' - 0"

East Polk Street Park

Justin Malcore

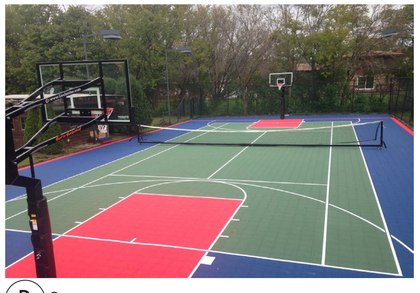
LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design Sections and Sketches



1 Pavilion and Play Mound — Section A - A′ View West
Scale: 1/8″ = 1′ - 0″

A Pavilion with slanted roof

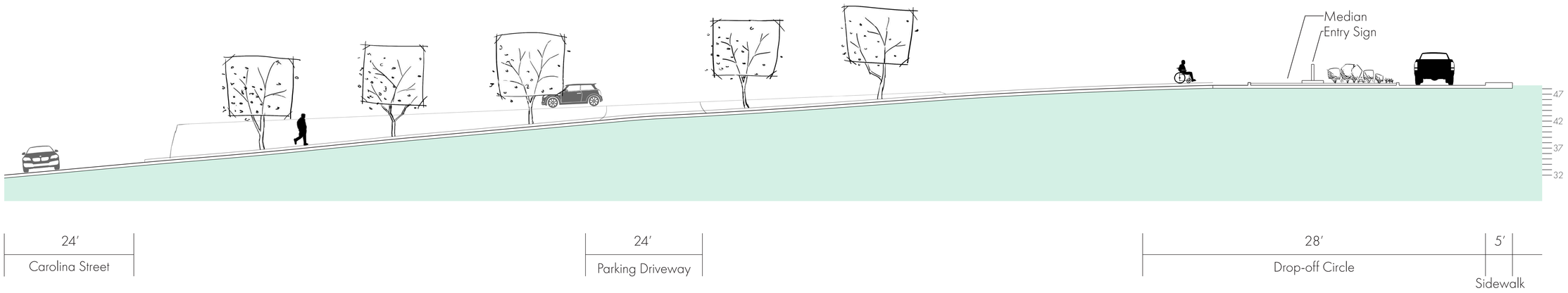


B Sports court

C ADA-accessible playground equip.

3 View of Skating Amenity
Perspective Sketch

4 View of Connection to Greenway
Perspective Sketch



2 Entry Drive and Approach — Section B - B′ View North
Scale: 1/8″ = 1′ - 0″

East Polk Street Park

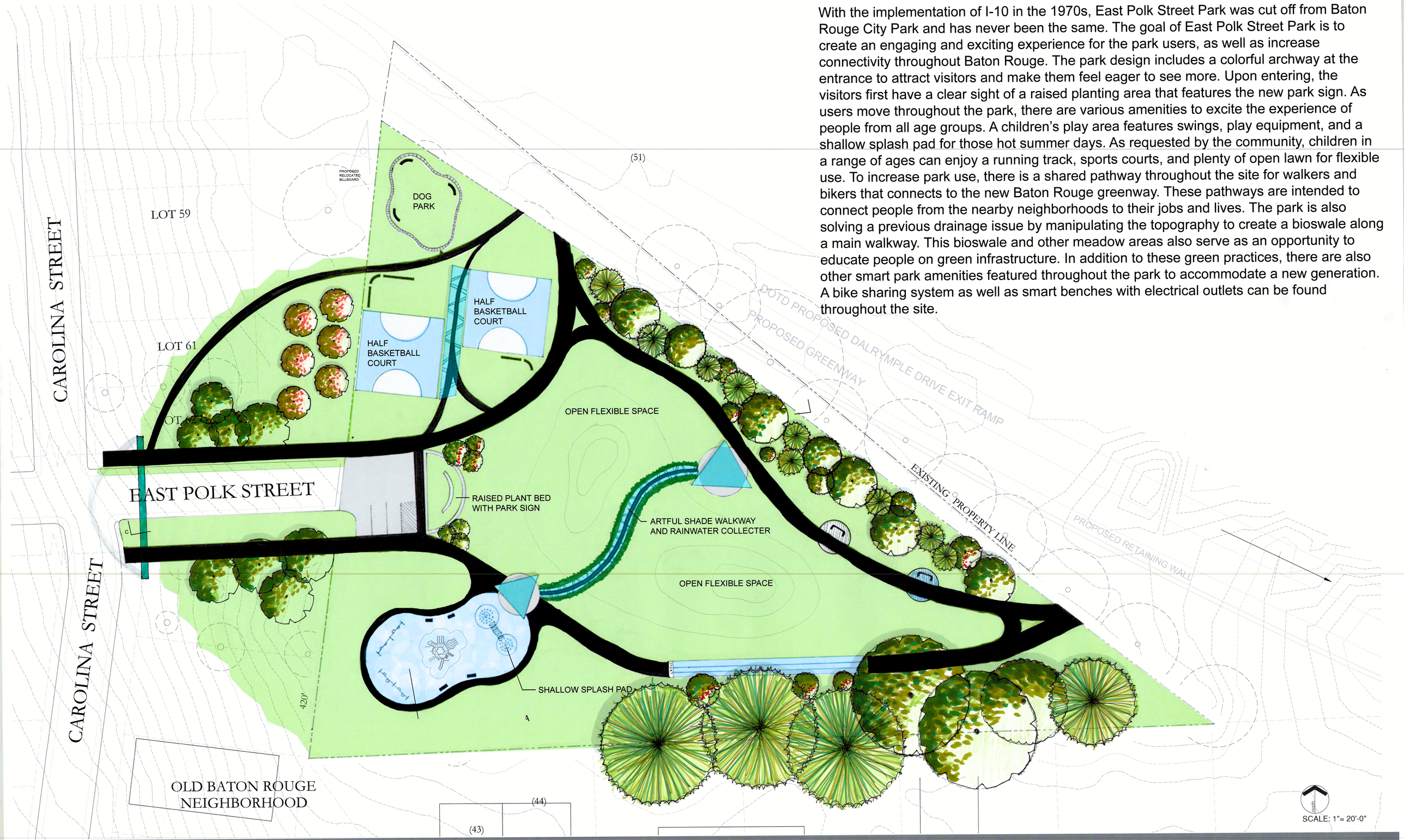
Justin Malcore

LSU Spring 2019
LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Plan

NARRATIVE

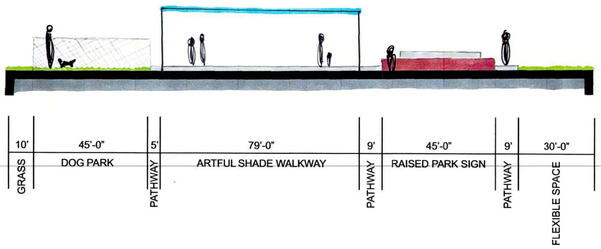
With the implementation of I-10 in the 1970s, East Polk Street Park was cut off from Baton Rouge City Park and has never been the same. The goal of East Polk Street Park is to create an engaging and exciting experience for the park users, as well as increase connectivity throughout Baton Rouge. The park design includes a colorful archway at the entrance to attract visitors and make them feel eager to see more. Upon entering, the visitors first have a clear sight of a raised planting area that features the new park sign. As users move throughout the park, there are various amenities to excite the experience of people from all age groups. A children's play area features swings, play equipment, and a shallow splash pad for those hot summer days. As requested by the community, children in a range of ages can enjoy a running track, sports courts, and plenty of open lawn for flexible use. To increase park use, there is a shared pathway throughout the site for walkers and bikers that connects to the new Baton Rouge greenway. These pathways are intended to connect people from the nearby neighborhoods to their jobs and lives. The park is also solving a previous drainage issue by manipulating the topography to create a bioswale along a main walkway. This bioswale and other meadow areas also serve as an opportunity to educate people on green infrastructure. In addition to these green practices, there are also other smart park amenities featured throughout the park to accommodate a new generation. A bike sharing system as well as smart benches with electrical outlets can be found throughout the site.



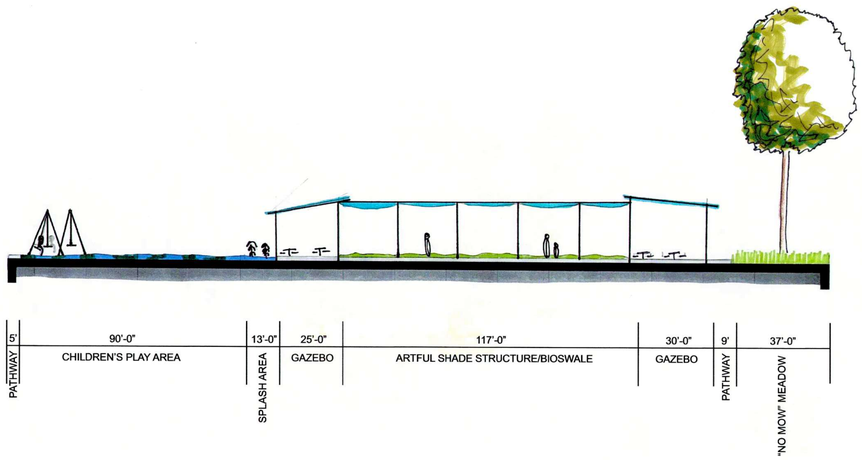
East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
K. Fisk LA 2002 Site Design Studio

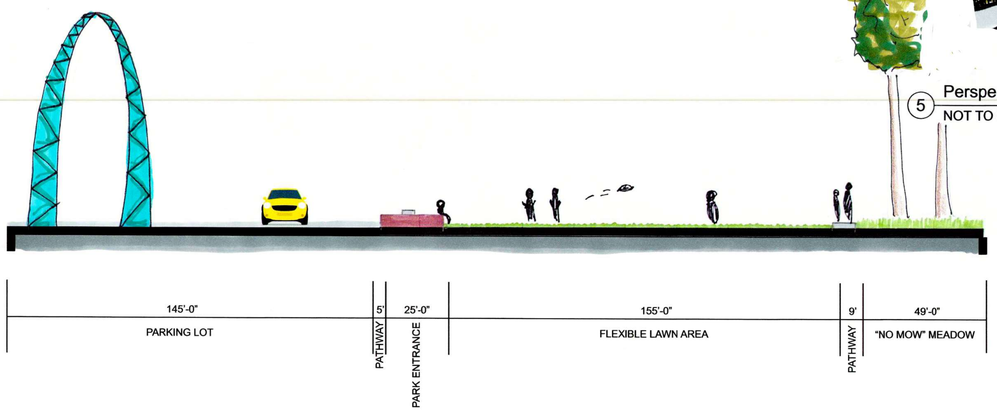
Schematic Design - Sections and Perspectives



1 Section North to South Facing East A-A'
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"



2 Section West to East Facing North B-B'
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"



3 Section West to East Facing North C-C'
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

4 Perspective of Park Entry Archway
NOT TO SCALE

5 Perspective of Artful Shade Structure and Bioswale
NOT TO SCALE

B. BIOSWALE

D. RAISED BRICK PLANTER

F. DOG PARK

A. TRIANGULAR SHADE SAIL

C. SPLASH PAD

E. KIDS PLAYING IN OPEN LAWN

G. LINEAR SHADE CANOPY

East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
K. Fisk LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Plan

Design Narrative

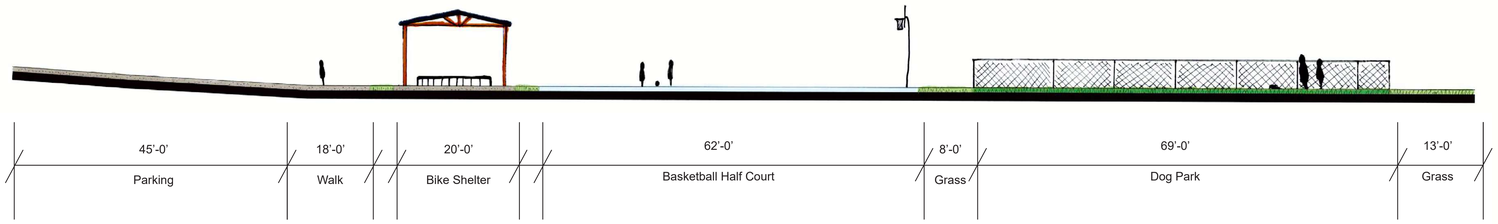
The goal for East Polk Street Park, located within the Old South Baton Rouge Neighborhood, is to create an interactive, smart park, that is educational, safe, and accessible for all. The revitalized park will create access to the proposed greenway and City Park lakefront, as the park is currently disconnected from other parts of the city.

The revitalization begins at the entry of the park. As you approach the park, via East Polk Street, new vegetation is proposed parallel to the sidewalks, and more parking was added by widening the street to the South. Once you enter the park, you are greeted with a new entry sign and a large pavilion for fellowship and gathering. To the right you will see an improved playground with and interactive gaming wall, which leads you to an outdoor learning space intended to help teach the people of the community about rainwater collection systems that are featured near the pavilion and learning area. When you get to the Southeast corner of the site, you have the option to walk through a wildflower garden, or continue around the main pathway. Running parallel with the edge of the property line is the greenway connection bike path, which features bike shelters and seating at both ends of the trail. In the Northwest corner of the site is the new dog park. The last feature on the site is the two basketball half courts, which were a necessity for the site. Overall, the new and revitalized East Polk Street Park is a place for fellowship, education, and recreation for people of all ages.

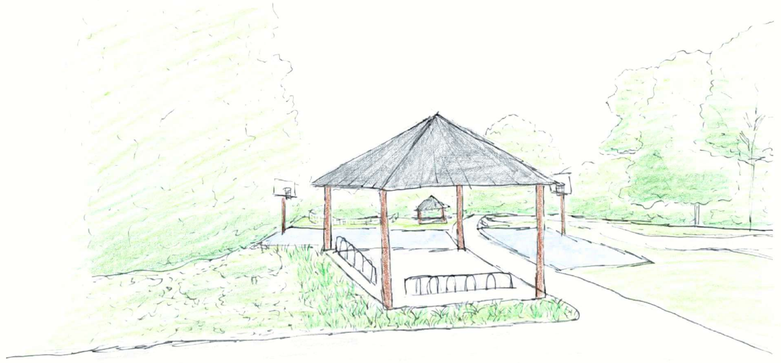
East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
K. McCutcheon LA 2002 Site Design Studio

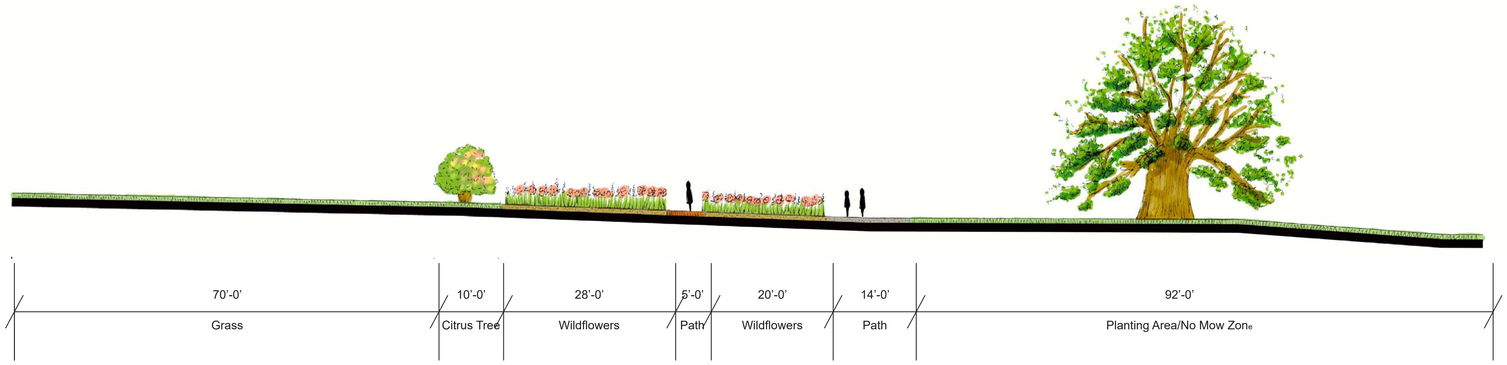
Schematic Design - Sections and Perspectives



1 Section A-A' South to North Facing West
Scale: 1'=10'-0"

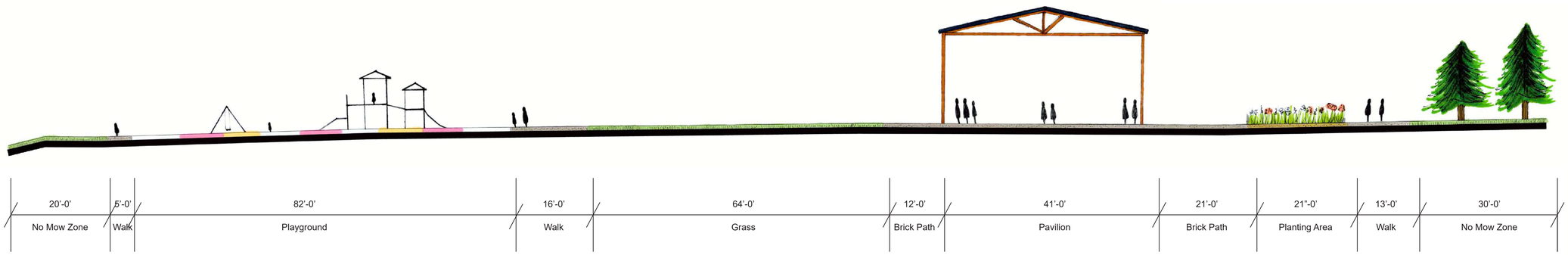


4 Perspective of Bike Shelter
Not to Scale



2 Section B-B' Northwest to Southwest Facing Northeast
Scale: 1'=10'-0"

5 Perspective of Artful Rain Collection
Not to Scale



3 Section C-C' Southwest to Northeast Facing Northwest
Scale: 1'=10'-0"

East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
K. McCutcheon LA 2002 Site Design Studio

Schematic Design - Plan

Design Narrative

In the Old South Baton Rouge neighborhood, there is a concealed track of land called East Polk Street Park, located at the end of the East Polk Street. The park has a peculiar, interesting triangular shape and is located close to the interstate. It's essential to design a park that fits the community and client's desires and needs for now and in the future, for a successful design.

The main objective of the project is to create a smart BREC park that has become a new trend in public space design to accomodate for future generations. Restoring the park is also critical to the neighborhood to give residents more active lifestyle choices and a sense of livelihood in a form of a smart park, that is completely energy efficient and contains innovative park elements that aid people in their experience of the park.

Clusters of trees and other vegetation will provide shade for animal wildlife and people to keep them cool in the hot summer season, especially since Louisiana has a subtropical climate, where there are hot summers. Trees are planted to follow along the pathways to create a framework of spaces. The multi-purpose pavilions will also provide shelter for temporary emergency situations if the community was to ever face another flood as well as being used as a public space for events. Solar tree lamps will include motion lighting sensors for safety as well as having a circular seating bench surrounding them for more active use.

Basketball courts are separated into the adult half court sizes and a junior full court size. The expanded playground area, sitting areas, and recreational games building is more of a family-oriented space for more private gatherings and filled with many smart benches to provide more seating for people. The dog park is located away with a cluster of trees planted right in the middle for a spatial emphasis for dogs and their owners to run around. The grass in the dog park helps dogs avoid ticks and flees and other potential harmful organisms.

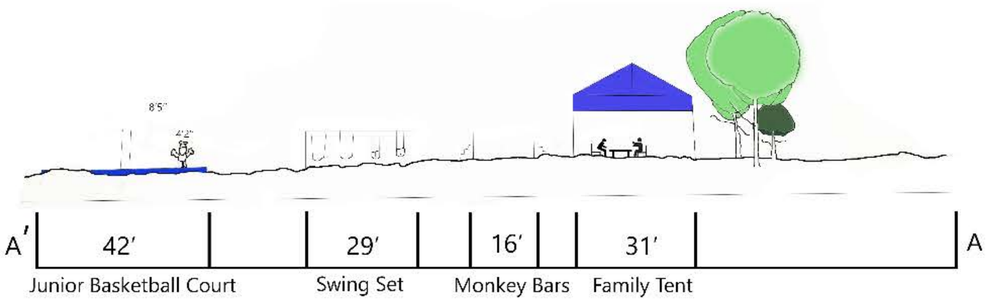
Bike shelter rest area and no mow zone are situatued along the hypotenuse side of the triangle and includes a greenway to connect the lakes and City park to the neighborhood to give community residents access.

East Polk Street Park

LSU Spring 2019
Cana Boudreaux LA 2002 Site Design Studio

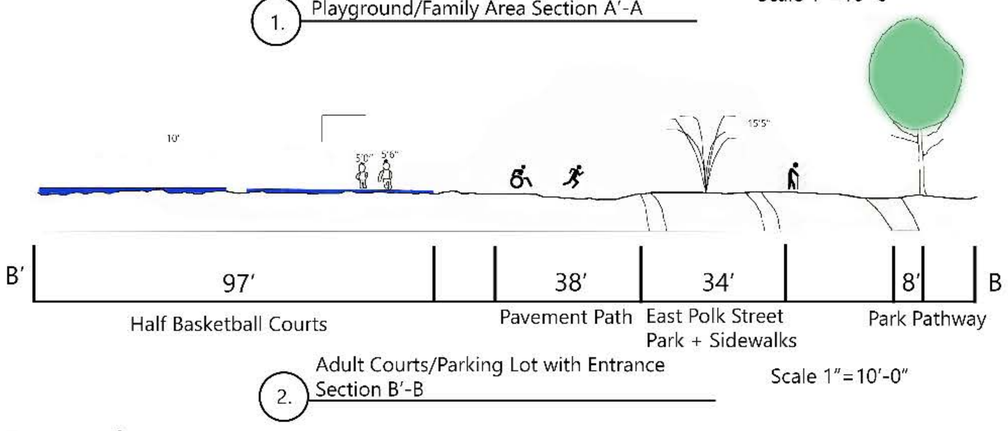
Schematic Design - Sections/Precedents/Perspectives

Sections



Scale 1"=10'-0"

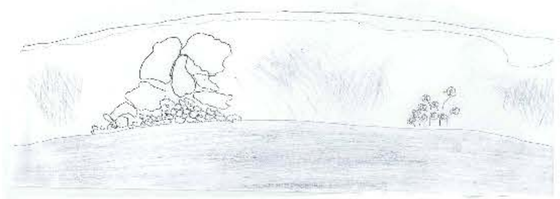
1. Playground/Family Area Section A'-A



Scale 1"=10'-0"

2. Adult Courts/Parking Lot with Entrance Section B'-B

Photo sketches

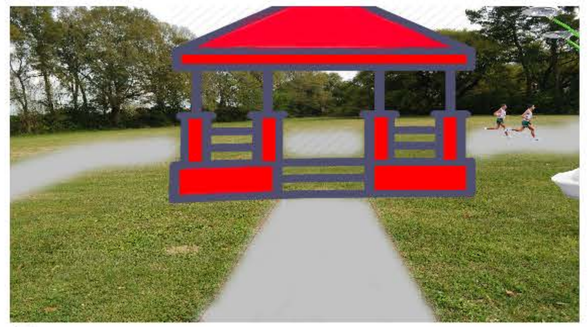


Bioswale

Art Tower

Perspectives

3. Bike lane/ Section of Dog Park



4. Red pavilion with race track

Precedents

A Ligustrum Evergreens

B Southern Sugar Maple

C Sioux Crape Myrtle

D Sweetbay Magnolia

E Red Buckeye

F Solar Tree Lamp

G Smart Park Bench

H Playground

I Slash Pine

J Art Tower Structure

ATTACHMENT 3

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC MEETINGS

COMMENT	RESPONSE
PLEASE keep the bike/pedestrian design elements included thus far. These items have a way of vanishing from the "plans" and are an essential safety feature. THANK YOU.	Thank you for your comments.
The proposed designs for the city lake bridge and proposed walking trail connections looked very enjoyable.	Thank you for your comment.
I support the Expressway Park to Dalrymple initiative. I also strongly support the 'softening' of the I-10 bridge as it crosses over the City Park Lake. While this project (State Project No. H.004100.2) may be needed, Baton Rouge also needs BOTH a North and South loop around Baton Rouge. Had we built true bypasses around Baton Rouge 25 or 30 years ago, we may have avoided a need to consider this project.	Thank you for your comments.
Please try to avoid destroying as many trees as possible. Particularly concerned about section 4-F where the new exit will run.	DOTD will be replacing trees in accordance with their Significant Tree policy and will replant where, possible in coordination with Baton Rouge Green. The 0.04 acre slice of East Polk Street Park has no direct impact on any active or passive park uses. Additionally, the proposed multiuse path may utilize some of this space.
Polk Street Park should be maintained as much as possible. Create safe connection for OSBR to lakes.	East Polk Street Park is part of a concept plan to provide a trail from Expressway Park to the City Park Lake/Dalrymple Drive. No impact to active park uses are anticipated as a result of the acquisition of .04 acres along the existing right-of-way nor from a concept trail.
Will pedestrian access be preserved for those needing to cross under the interstate at Terrace, Louise and Washington streets? We're pleased to see a multi-use path on the west side of Acadian, even though it's merely conceptual at this point, but what about those needing to walk along the east side of Acadian between Perkins Rd. and Bawell?	Pedestrian access under the interstate at Terrace, Louise and Washington will remain. Context sensitive design elements will be identified in the Environmental Assessment. Concepts at Acadian remain under development, it is possible additional sidewalks and crosswalks may be incorporated.
4) Braddock Complete Street Proposal The LADOTD proposed complete street improvements on Braddock Street connecting Expressway Park to Dalrymple Drive provide citizens a safe route to travel as a pedestrian or on a bicycle and should be implemented as part of this project. Expressway Park is a component of the overall Downtown Greenway, a pedestrian and bicycling corridor that links inner city residential neighborhoods to downtown parks, businesses, and cultural attractions. The connection of the Braddock Street Complete Street to the Downtown Greenway at Expressway Park should be thoroughly analyzed and developed to ensure a safe transition between the two bicycle/pedestrian systems. I applaud the project teams' effort to connect and develop safe bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.	Thank you for your comment. We will continue to work with BREC and the DDD to select a route that compliments other routes both existing and planned.
Please keep bike lanes on Dalrymple on lake side rather than crossing streets.	Thank you for your comment, we will take them under advisement while working through potential mitigation and enhancements for the project.
Public bath/showers for homeless/joggers	Thank you for your comment.
to provide lighting and a cement path along the bridge from Government to Washington St. including bike area with park benches	Thank you for your comment.
Include the amenities of this project - parks, bike paths, places, for kids to play	Thank you for your comment.
Improved bike lanes, landscaping, lighting, public art, sidewalks, would be greatly appreciated.	Thank you for your comments.
Why is the downtown greenway proposed trail going thru the graveyard?	The Downtown Greenway trail is a concept, it has not been designed as of yet. The Downtown Development District is aware of the cemetery.
Preserve pedestrian access on Terrace, Louise and Washington Streets, so that people can safely cross under the interstate.	Thank you for your comments. Pedestrian access will be restored where it exists and additional access is included in project concepts.
I'd like to see an open area for outdoor activities such as movie outside area keep an area for bike riding without traveling in the way of traffic.	Thank you for your comments.
The area south of the golf course needs to be converted to parking for the Knock Knock museum. We do not need a boat dock.	Thank you for your comments. The proposed project does not intend to change the uses of existing BREC facilities.
To keep streets open to flow through to the other side of interstate & instead of going around on out of the way to get to certain location.	Thank you for your comments. Due to control of access concerns, several streets will have to close connections to Braddock or Washington; none of the affected streets currently run under I-10.
Definitely want pedestrian and bike pathway!	Thank you for your comments.
I like the designs as proposed for the multiuse trail (Red) paralleling I-10 project. I would prefer the path not underneath the bridge (parallel). This will attract the homeless, creating a trail less likely to be used by commuters.	Thank you for your comments.
I would hope that the trails will be lighted at night for safety. I would like to see something functional placed at the Trail connection at Dalrymple Drive - a waterway station, pumps for bicycles, rest stops, etc.	Thank you for your comments.
Skate Park, Bike Path, Running Path, Water Fountains (Like at the Shaw Center)	Thank you for your comments.
Build an elevated ramp over Dalrymple so we don't have to fight cars to cross the lakes. Thanks. Love this!	Thank you for your comments. An elevated pedestrian bridge over Dalrymple is not under consideration at this time. Additional trail access and a safe, pedestrian signal crossing has been
Well-lit areas are key. Signals and beacons that will help to alert vehicles of peds + cyclists. Connectivity to the greater network of trails.	Thank you for your comments.

ATTACHMENT 4

BREC CORRESPONDENCE

RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION

FOR THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

June 14, 2019

Kerry Oriol, Project Manager
Providence Engineering and Design, LLC
1201 Main St
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: SPN H.004100.2
FAP H004100
I-10 Widening
East Polk Street Park

Kerry,

Based on our previous letter back to you that recommended solutions to the removal of trees and vegetation in the right-of-way and DOTD's acceptance to mitigate these impacts, along with the construction of a new multi-use Bike/Ped path from Expressway Park running along the new Braddock Street service road to Dalrymple Drive, BREC concurs that the impact to East Polk Street Park are de minimis contingent upon the agreed commitments stated below:

1. Replace the existing tree and vegetation line, construct a green buffer that consists of earthen berms and masses of new shade tree and understory plant material. This will help maintain a strong buffer between two incompatible uses, minimize transmission of noise, and lessen visual pollution. It will reestablish a greater sense of privacy from visual and sound intrusion and help retain the park's current qualities as a natural outdoor room.

2. Create an extension of the proposed trail into the park and create an internal walking loop within the park. This will not only activate the park's positive usage but provide a strong connection for the neighborhood to the trails system and greater community context.

We sincerely appreciate the work you have done in the design to incorporate the critically needed trail system to connect the Dalrymple / City Park area to Downtown.

Sincerely,

O. Reed Richard
Asst. superintendent, BREC Planning

CC: Mr. Corey Wilson/BREC Superintendent
Mr. Brian Kendrick/LA DOTD
MS. Noel Ardoin/ LA DOTD

6201 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

225.272.9200 | 225.273.6404 | brec.org

THE RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION
FOR THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

December 2, 2018

Kerry Oriol, Project Manager
Providence Engineering and Design, LLC
1201 Main St
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

RE: SPN H.004100.2
FAP H004100
I-10 Widening
East Polk Street Park

Kerry,

Thank you for reaching out to us on the potential impacts to BREC's E. Polk Street Park under the provisions of Section 4(f). We appreciate the opportunities DOTD has provided for BREC to discuss Community Connections and Context Sensitive Solutions with regard to the I-10 Widening project and its potential impacts to some of our parks. We also appreciate the proposed trail along the proposed ROW to link the park with the lakefront area and hopefully, to the north toward downtown.

We understand that DOTD seeks to reach a finding of de minimus impact on this 4(f) property. BREC, however feels that the potential impacts to the park go beyond the physical footprint of the .04 acres for required right-of-way. The figure attached to your letter indicates a new Washington/Dalrymple Eastbound Connector that will be approximately 35 to 40 ft closer to the park's edge than the current exit lane. The location of the proposed connector combined with the proposed retaining wall would necessitate the removal of about 400 linear feet of mature shade trees and shrubs. This vegetation is a contributing natural resource to the park that provides qualities that make it a special park where people go to nourish themselves by walking, playing sports, resting and relaxation. E. Polk Street Park is a hidden gem and, in a way, an inner sanctum to the surrounding neighborhood. The trees and vegetation provide a visual and sound buffer from the existing interstate and add to its appeal as a special place. Currently, their contribution to the park may seem benign, but they fundamentally contribute to the emotion of the park user.

FHWA's community connections are intended to promote opportunities for connectivity, revitalizing communities, creating community cohesion, and improving public health and safety. One of FHWA's Context Sensitive Solutions Core Principles is "Design outcomes meet or exceed the expectations of both designers and stakeholders, thereby adding lasting value to the community, the environment, and the transportation system."

6201 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70806
225.272.9200 | 225.273.6404 | brec.org

With this in mind, we have identified some mitigation measures and enhancements that we hope you consider that would help mitigate these impacts to E. Polk Street Park:

1. To replace the existing tree and vegetation line, construct a green buffer that consists of earthen berms and masses of new shade tree and understory plant material. This will help maintain a strong buffer between two incompatible uses, minimize transmission of noise, and lessen visual pollution. It will reestablish a greater sense of privacy from visual and sound intrusion and help retain the park's current qualities as a natural outdoor room.

2. Create an extension of the proposed trail into the park and create an internal walking loop within the park. This will not only activate the park's positive usage but provide a strong connection for the neighborhood to the trails system and greater community context.

We sincerely appreciate the work you have done in the design to incorporate the critically needed trail system to connect the Dalrymple / City Park area to Downtown. We will continue to work with you and DOTD in a spirit of partnership during the EA process and toward successful implementation.

Sincerely,

O. Reed Richard
Asst. Superintendent, BREC Planning

CC: Ms. Carolyn McKnight /BREC Superintendent
Mr. Corey Wilson/BREC Chief of Management & Business Services
Mr. Brian Kendrick/LA DOTD
Ms. Noel Ardoin/LA DOTD
Mr. Perry Franklin/Franklin Associates

SECTION II

CITY PARK LAKE TRAIL

Section 4(f) *de minimis* determination for use of the City Park Lake Trail located at Dalrymple Drive and East Lakeshore Drive at City Park Lake, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The I-10 LA 415 to Essen Lane project (State Project Number H.004100) proposes a new ramp that consolidates the Washington Street and Dalrymple ramps as well as replacement of the I-10 bridge over City Park Lake. City Park Lake supports a multiuse trail that links with the multiuse lane on Dalrymple Drive to allow for off-street biking and walking around the City Park and University Lakes (Attachment 5). The trail is under the jurisdiction of and maintained by the City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge (City-Parish).

The impact to the City Park Lake Trail will be in the form of the temporary closure of the trail to pedestrians and cyclists for varying durations during the construction of the new City Park Lake Bridge. There will be times during construction when it will not be safe to pass under the structure, such as during removal of existing bridge sections, installation of beams, and other overhead construction activities. These circumstances will require closing the portion of the trail passing underneath the interstate until it is determined safe to pass under the structure. Construction is proposed to occur overnight as practicable, which will minimize trail closure periods. LA DOTD will also acquire approximately 0.02 acres of the trail as part of the widening project. The trail and its uses will not be affected by this acquisition.

As a benefit, LA DOTD is proposing to install a multiuse trail adjacent to new ROW that would run from Expressway Park to Dalrymple Drive and provide a connection into East Polk Street Park. The new trail would create a signed, safe linkage between the two parks and the bike trails and boat launch along the University/City Park Lakes. Since the East Polk Street Park property does not extend the full distance to Dalrymple Drive, LA DOTD will provide the connection to the lakefront that is currently missing.

The public was informed of the bridge replacement and park impacts during the public meetings held August 28-30, 2018. City Park Lake Trail specific comments were not received, other than an overall theme to provide connectivity to the City Park amenities. Attachment 6 contains public meeting comments. The public will be afforded another comment opportunity during the public hearings to be held in fall 2019.

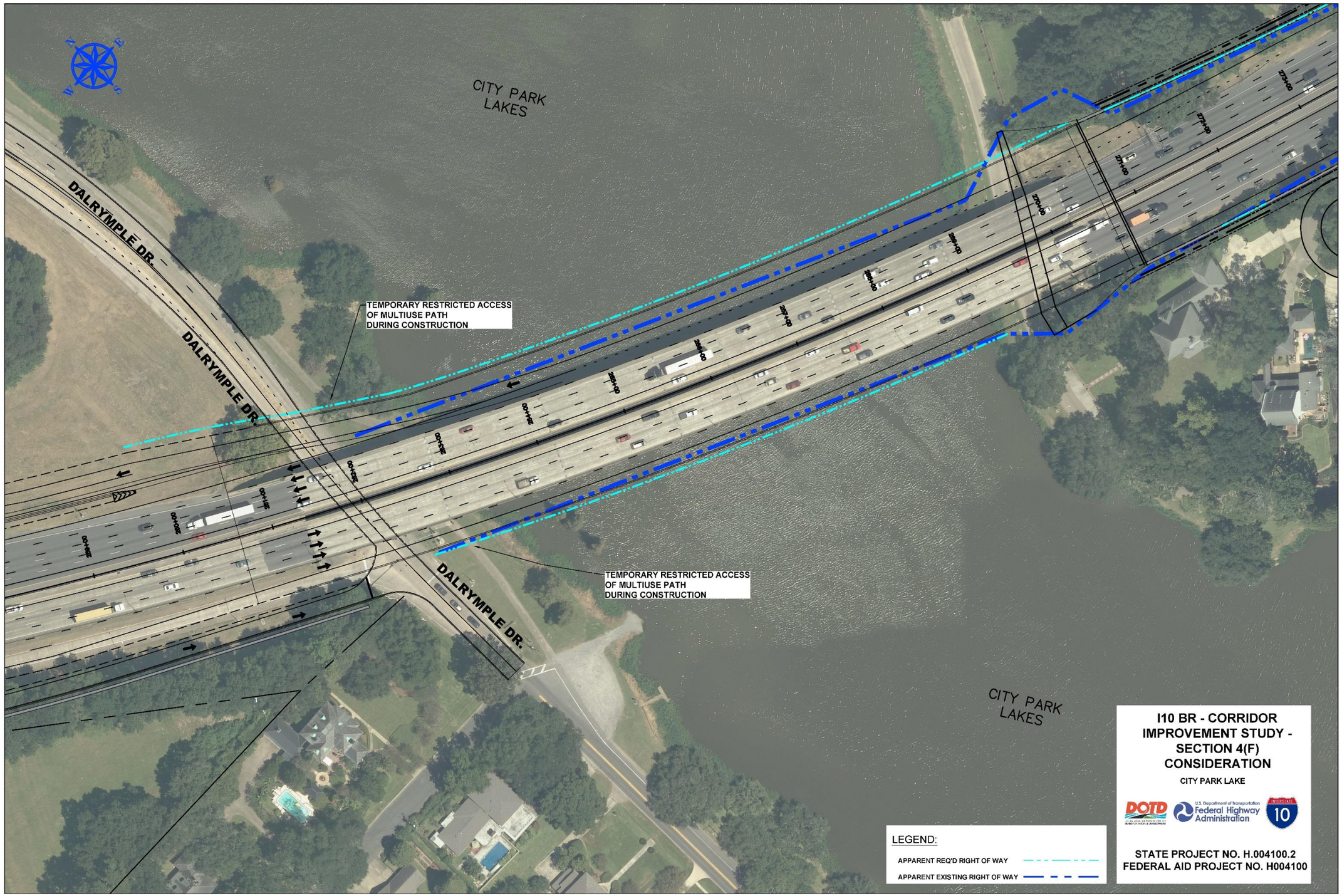
Coordination with the Recreation and Park Commission of East Baton Rouge and the City-Parish has been ongoing throughout the planning and development of this project. Correspondence with the City-Parish relating concurrence with the *de minimis* determination is in Attachment 7.

Attached are:

1. A map of City Park Lake Trail with the existing and proposed ROW depicted
2. A summary of comments received as a result of the public meetings
3. Correspondence with the City-Parish relative to the *de minimis* finding

ATTACHMENT 5

CITY PARK LAKE TRAIL MAP


CITY PARK LAKES
DALRYMPLE DR.
DALRYMPLE DR.
TEMPORARY RESTRICTED ACCESS OF MULTIUSE PATH DURING CONSTRUCTION
TEMPORARY RESTRICTED ACCESS OF MULTIUSE PATH DURING CONSTRUCTION
DALRYMPLE DR.
CITY PARK LAKES
LEGEND:
APPARENT REQ'D RIGHT OF WAY
APPARENT EXISTING RIGHT OF WAY
I10 BR - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT STUDY - SECTION 4(F) CONSIDERATION
CITY PARK LAKE
STATE PROJECT NO. H.004100.2
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004100

ATTACHMENT 6

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC MEETINGS

COMMENT	RESPONSE
PLEASE keep the bike/pedestrian design elements included thus far. These items have a way of vanishing from the "plans" and are an essential safety feature. THANK YOU.	Thank you for your comments.
The proposed designs for the city lake bridge and proposed walking trail connections looked very enjoyable.	Thank you for your comment.
I support the Expressway Park to Dalrymple initiative. I also strongly support the 'softening' of the I-10 bridge as it crosses over the City Park Lake. While this project (State Project No. H.004100.2) may be needed, Baton Rouge also needs BOTH a North and South loop around Baton Rouge. Had we built true bypasses around Baton Rouge 25 or 30 years ago, we may have avoided a need to consider this project.	Thank you for your comments.
4) Braddock Complete Street Proposal The LADOTD proposed complete street improvements on Braddock Street connecting Expressway Park to Dalrymple Drive provide citizens a safe route to travel as a pedestrian or on a bicycle and should be implemented as part of this project. Expressway Park is a component of the overall Downtown Greenway, a pedestrian and bicycling corridor that links inner city residential neighborhoods to downtown parks, businesses, and cultural attractions. The connection of the Braddock Street Complete Street to the Downtown Greenway at Expressway Park should be thoroughly analyzed and developed to ensure a safe transition between the two bicycle/pedestrian systems. I applaud the project teams' effort to connect and develop safe bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.	Thank you for your comment. We will continue to work with BREC and the DDD to select a route that compliments other routes both existing and planned.
Please keep bike lanes on Dalrymple on lake side rather than crossing streets.	Thank you for your comment, we will take them under advisement while working through potential mitigation and enhancements for the project.
Improved bike lanes, landscaping, lighting, public art, sidewalks, would be greatly appreciated.	Thank you for your comments.
The area south of the golf course needs to be converted to parking for the Knock Knock museum. We do not need a boat dock.	Thank you for your comments. The proposed project does not intend to change the uses of existing BREC facilities.
Definitely want pedestrian and bike pathway!	Thank you for your comments.
I like the designs as proposed for the multiuse trail (Red) paralleling I-10 project. I would prefer the path not underneath the bridge (parallel). This will attract the homeless, creating a trail less likely to be used by commuters.	Thank you for your comments.
I would hope that the trails will be lighted at night for safety. I would like to see something functional placed at the Trail connection at Dalrymple Drive - a waterway station, pumps for bicycles, rest stops, etc.	Thank you for your comments.
Well lit areas are key. Signals and beacons that will help to alert vehicles of peds + Cyclists. Connectivity to the greater network of trails.	Thank you for your comments.

ATTACHMENT 7

CITY-PARISH CORRESPONDENCE

PROVIDENCE

May 16, 2019

City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge
Attn: Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome
222 St. Louis, 3rd Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Re: SPN H.004100.2
FAP H004100
I-10 LA 415 to Essen Lane on I-10 and I-12
De Minimis Determination
City Park Lake Trail
Providence Project No. 040-012-001

Dear Mayor-President Broome:

Providence Engineering and Design, LLC (Providence) is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for capacity improvements to Interstate 10 (I-10) from Louisiana Highway 415 (LA 415) in West Baton Rouge Parish to the I-10/Interstate 12 (I-12) split near Essen Lane in East Baton Rouge under the direction of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

City Park Lake supports a multiuse trail that links with the multiuse lane on Dalrymple Drive to allow for off-street biking and walking around City Park and University Lake (Figure 1). The trail is under the jurisdiction of and maintained by the City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge (City-Parish). Since the trail is publicly owned, with the primary purpose of recreation, not transportation, compliance with Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303) is required.

The impact to the City Park Lake Trail will be in the form of the temporary closure of the trail to pedestrians and cyclists for varying durations during the construction of the new City Park Lake Bridge. There will be times during construction when it will not be safe to pass under the structure, such as during removal of existing bridge sections, installation of beams, and other overhead construction activities. These circumstances will require closing the portion of the trail passing underneath the interstate until it is determined safe to pass under the structure. Construction is proposed to occur around the clock, which will minimize trail closure periods.

Due to the short duration and lack of permanency of the impact, we determined that it qualifies as a *de minimis* impact under Section 4(f). A *de minimis* impact is an impact that results in no adverse effect to the activities, features, or attributes qualifying a park or recreation area for protections under Section 4(f).

On behalf of LA DOTD and by this letter, Providence is requesting your concurrence that the impact to the trail along City Park Lake is *de minimis* in nature. If you agree, a written response is required and can be provided in the form of a signature on this letter or by sending a separate letter or email.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 225-766-7400 or via email at kerryoriol@providenceeng.com. We appreciate your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Kerry Oriol
Project Manager

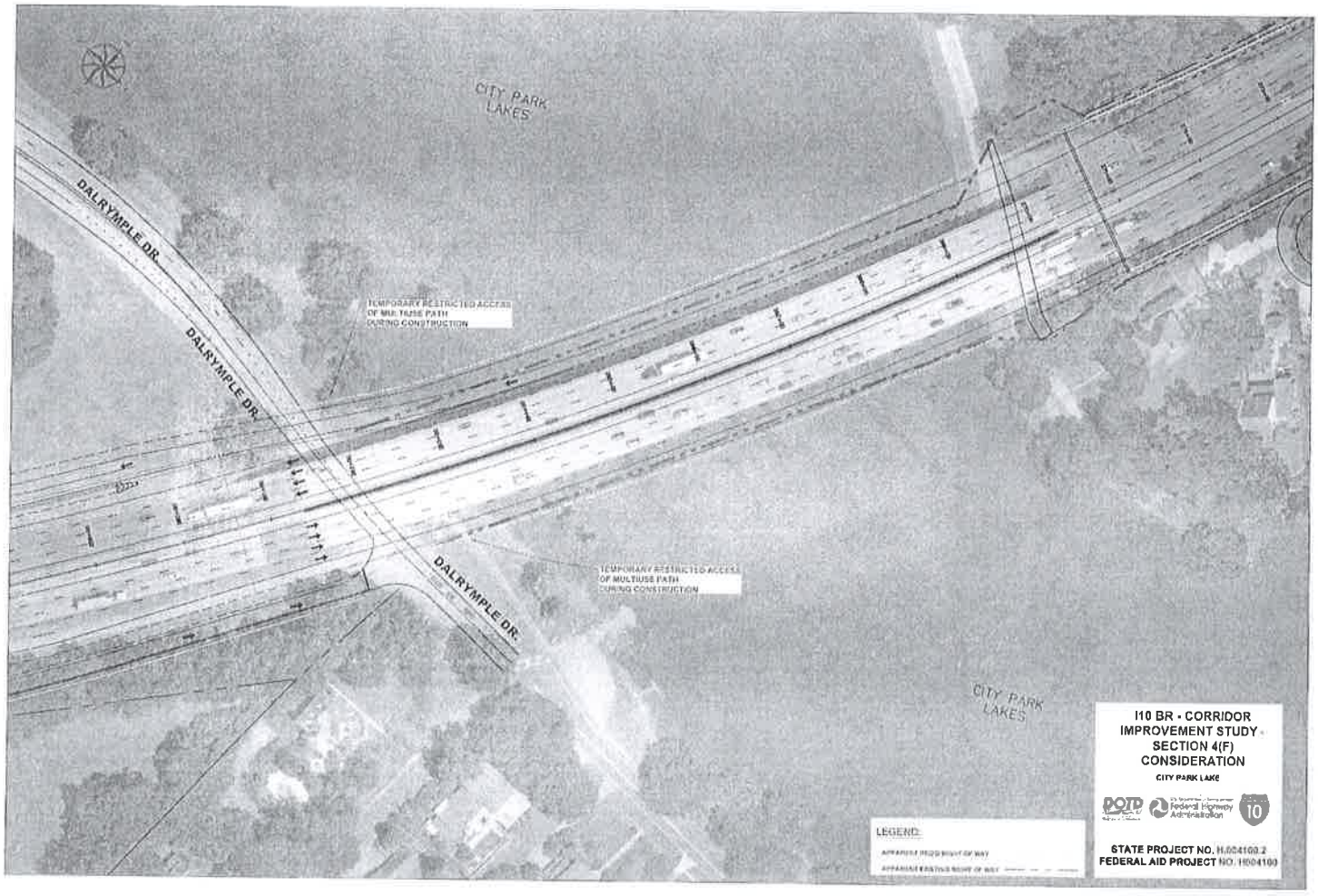
cc: Mr. Fred Raiford, Director/City Parish Department of Transportation and Drainage
Mr. Brian Kendrick/LA DOTD
Ms. Noel Ardoin/LA DOTD
Mr. Perry Franklin/Franklin Associates

Sharon Weston Broome – Mayor President

6-13-19
Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM

PARISH ATTORNEY'S OFFICE


CITY PARK LAKES
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TEMPORARY RESTRICTED ACCESS OF MULTIUSE PATH DURING CONSTRUCTION
TEMPORARY RESTRICTED ACCESS OF MULTIUSE PATH DURING CONSTRUCTION
CITY PARK LAKES
LEGEND:
I10 BR - CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT STUDY - SECTION 4(F) CONSIDERATION
CITY PARK LAKE
Federal Highway Administration
STATE PROJECT NO. H.004100.2
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004100

SIGNATURE PAGE

FHWA has determined the impacts to East Polk Street Park and City Park Lake Trail are consistent with the Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding.

_____ Date:_____

FHWA, LA Division