

City of Evanston, IL

# Independence Park Improvements

Community Workshop #2 | Concept Design Alternatives

03/23/2023



# Today's Agenda

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Welcome & Introductions

Approach & Process

Programmatic Priorities

Close & Discussion



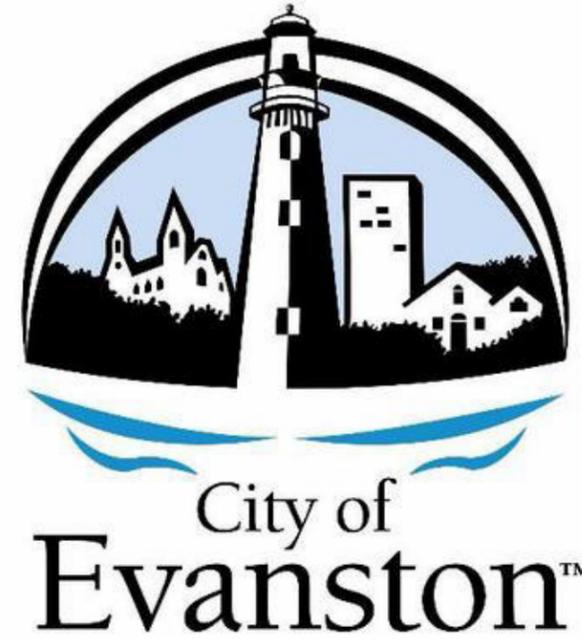
# Project Team

Overview of Consultants & Collaborators

# You!

Neighbors &  
Stakeholders

x



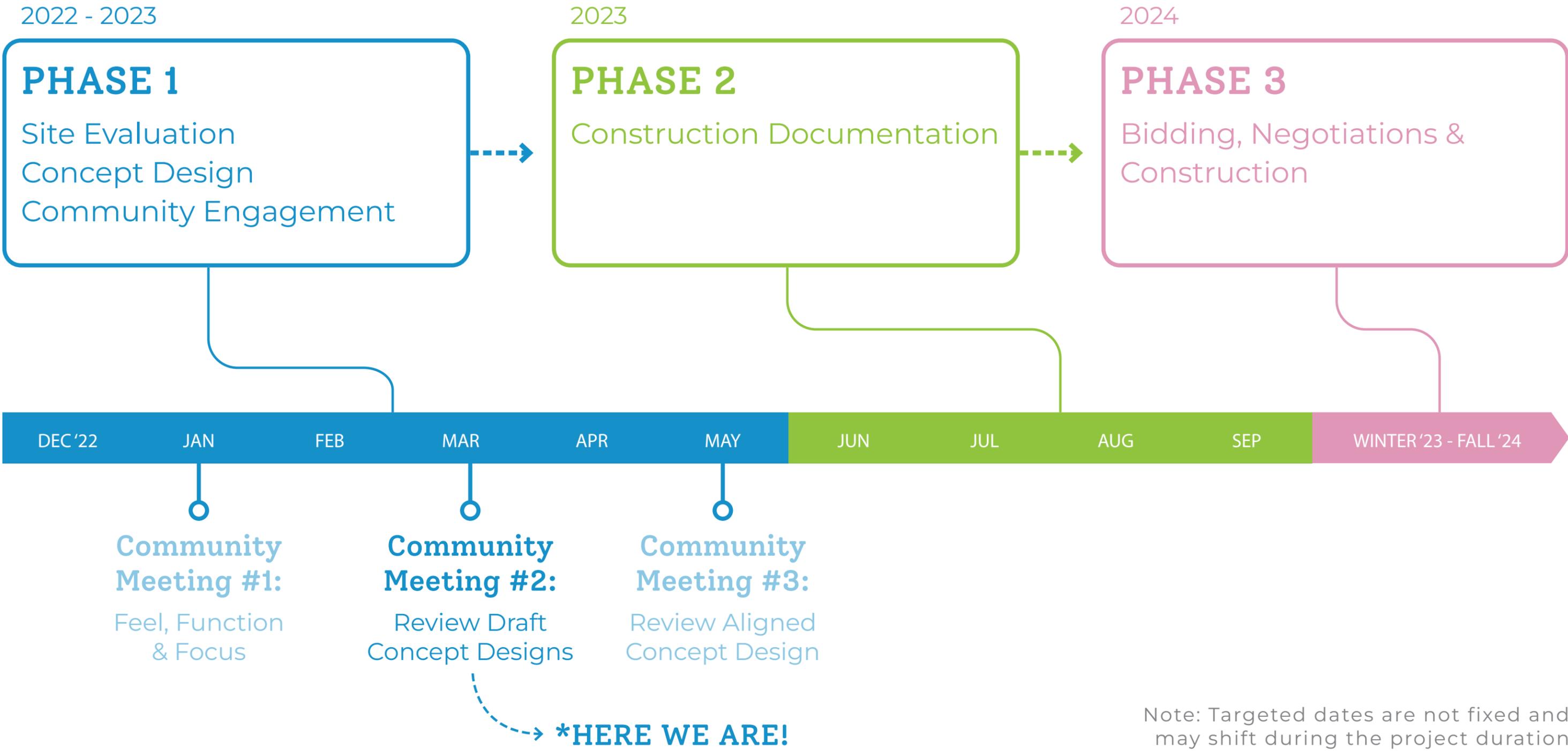
Project  
Team

**MKSK**



# Project Roadmap

Overview of Schedule & Milestones



Note: Targeted dates are not fixed and may shift during the project duration

# Community Workshop #1

Overview of Exercises & Feedback

“Our daughters love the annual tree lighting and summer concerts. They also enjoy climbing trees and running through and all around the park.”

“Kids playing on the playground and meeting friends.”

“The picnic tables are great. We use them often and they are movable so we can move in and out of the shade.”



“Being a new mom in Evanston with a newborn and meeting so many new friends at Independence Park.”

“Relaxing and reading.”

“Coffee with family, friends, and neighbors.”

# Community Workshop #1

Overview of Exercises & Feedback

## What's Working Well?

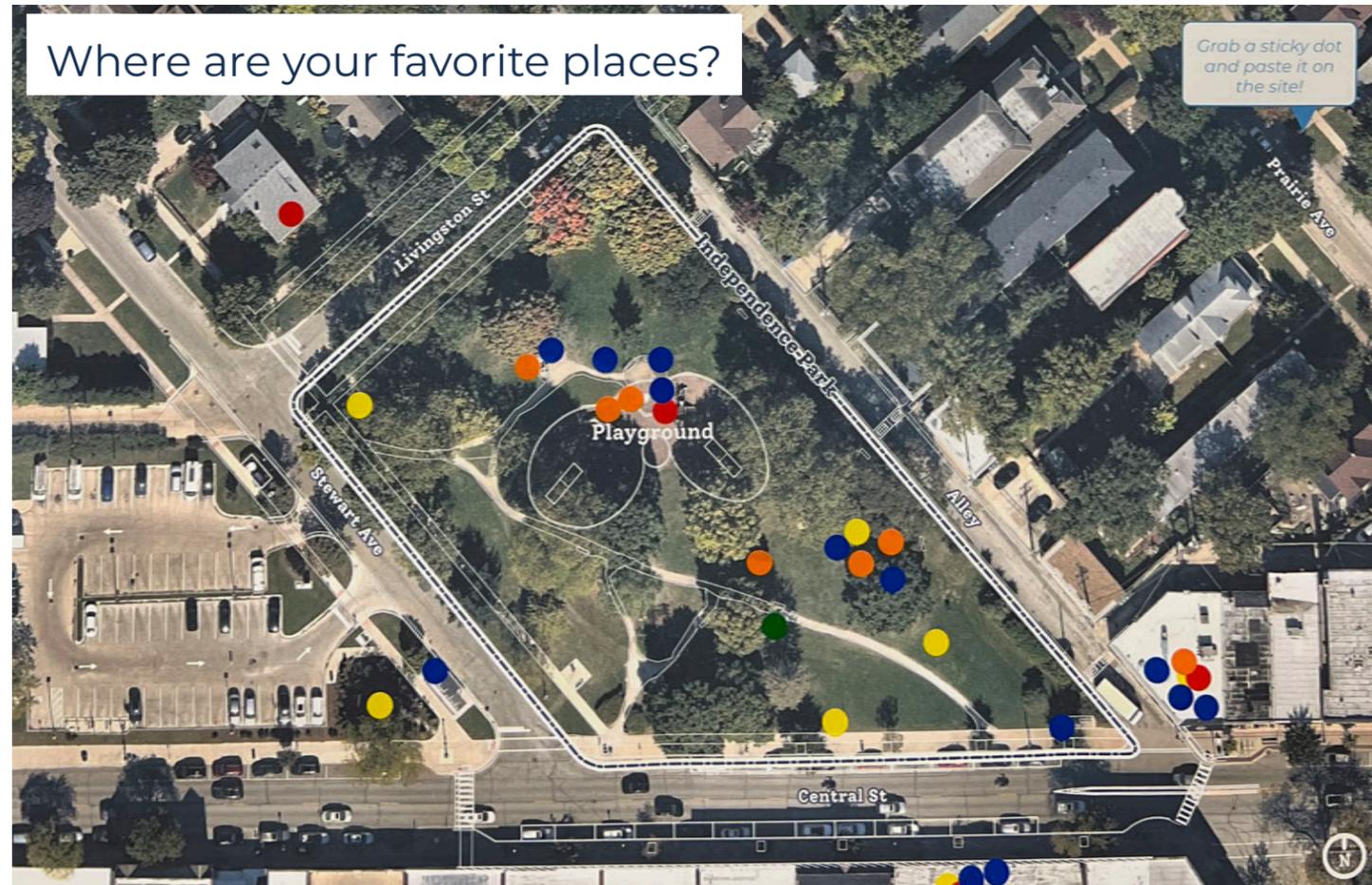
“...the proximity to local businesses”

“...the lights at night really make it seem inviting”

“...picnic table under the tree lighting because I can sit with my friends after school”

“...it's a green place to relax and people watch”

“...love how the playground is shaded, contained, and away from the street”



## What's Needs Some Love?

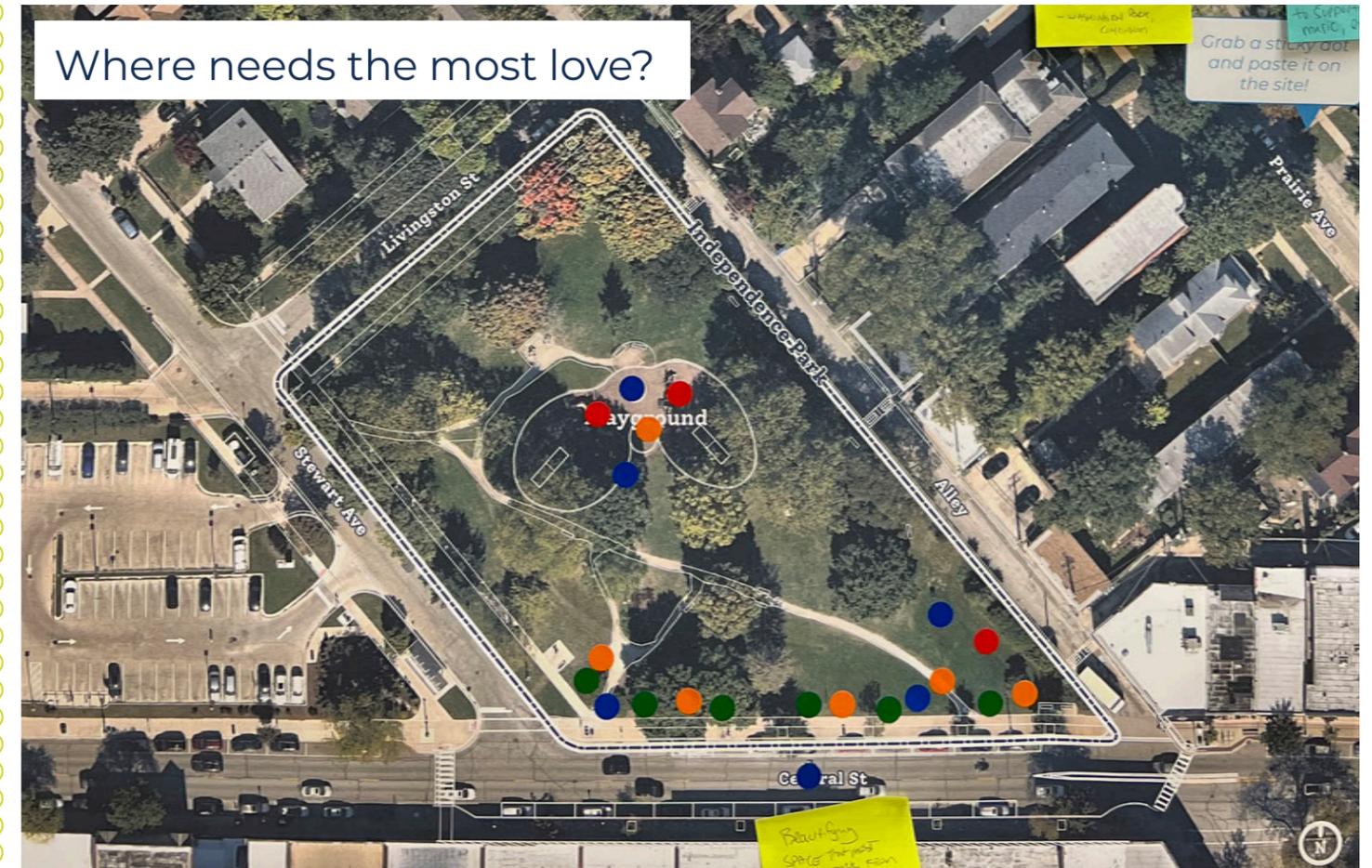
“...pathways are difficult to navigate with a stroller”

“...shaded area for performances and gathering”

“...more seating for adults, picnic tables, etc.”

“...playground for toddlers and older children as well”

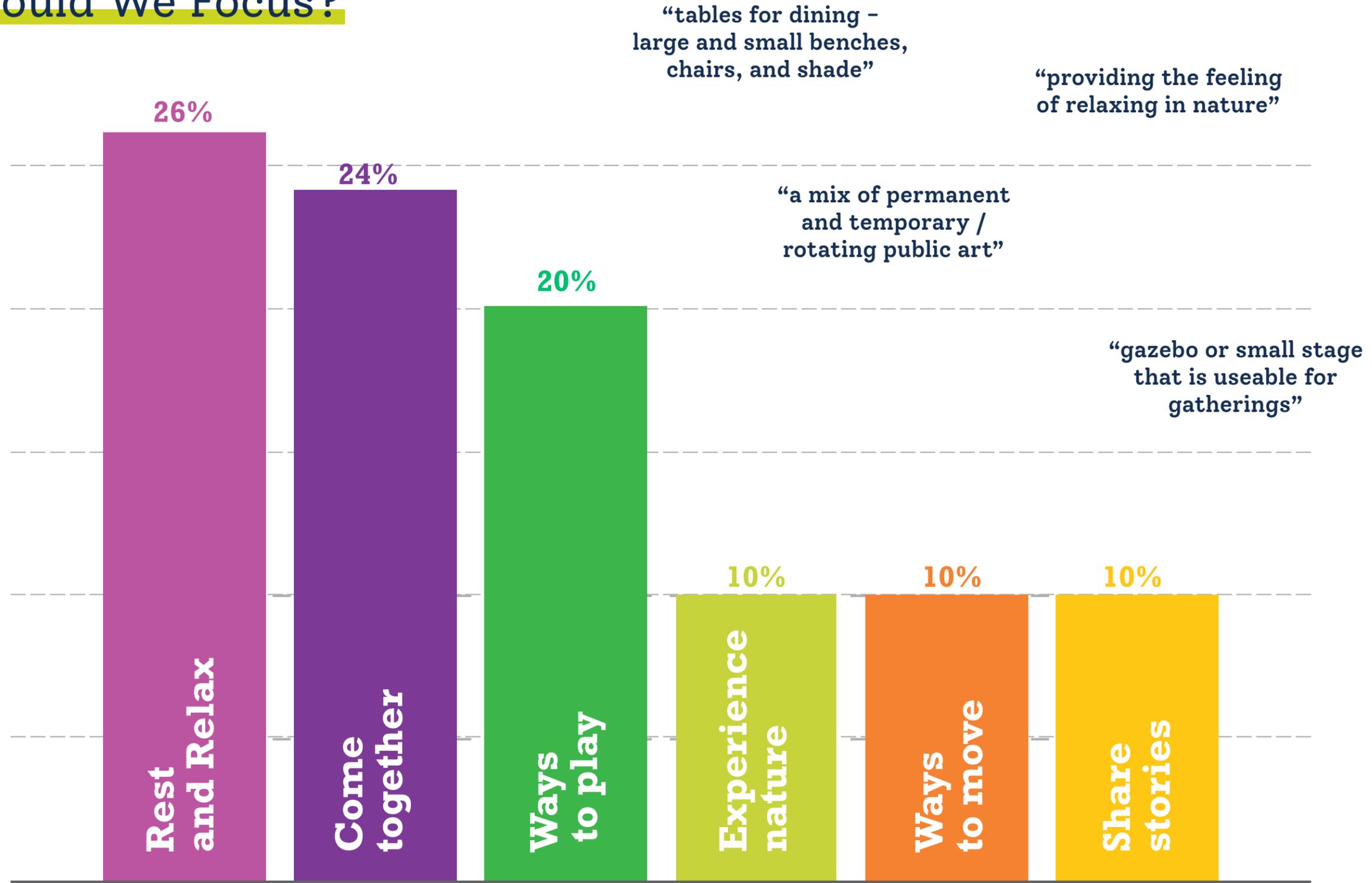
“...it's too dark near the playground and Livingston Street in the fall, winter, and spring”



# Community Workshop #1

Overview of Exercises & Feedback

## Where Should We Focus?



Independence Park  
**Site Evaluation**

# Independence Park

Evanston, Illinois



# Building Community

Programming & Site Feature Analysis

“Passive Periphery”

“Active Core”

“Flexible Front Door”

Livingston St

Independence Park

Prairie Ave

Stewart Ave

Alley

Water Fountain

Seating

Playground

Signage

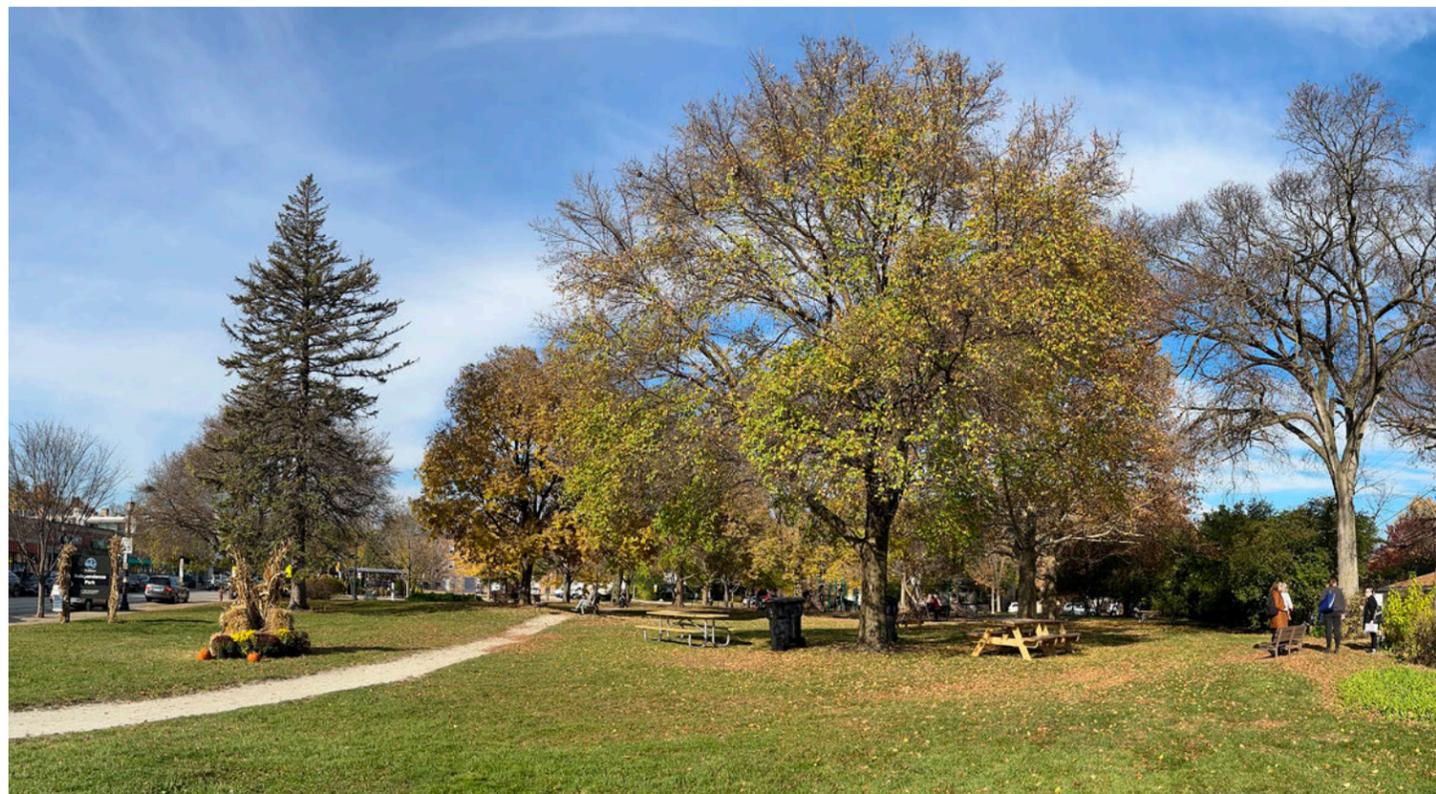
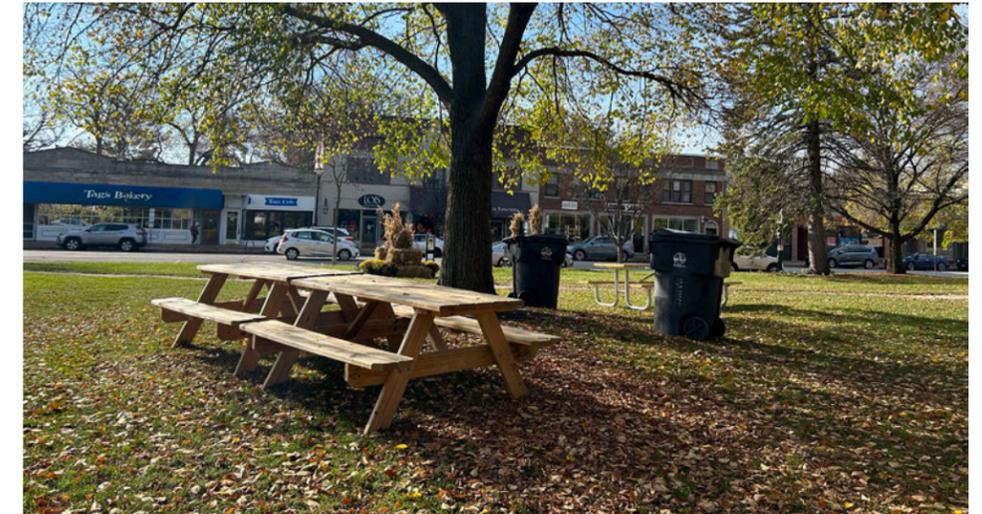
Central St

Tree Lighting



# Building Community

Programming & Site Feature Analysis



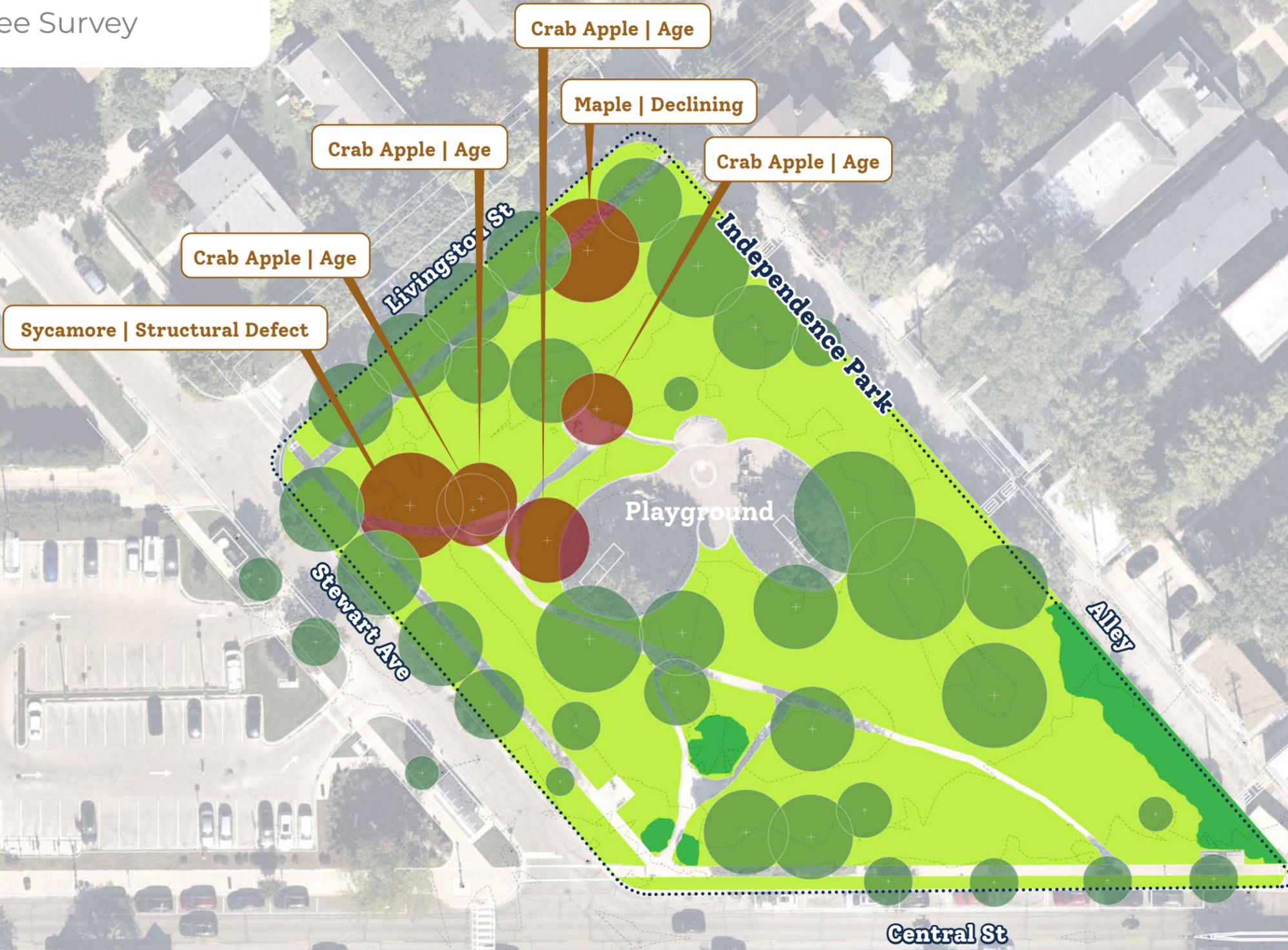
# Site Analysis

Circulation, Landscape, & Utilities



# Site Analysis

Existing Tree Survey



## LEGEND

- Existing Trees to be Removed
- Existing Trees to Remain



Independence Park  
**Concept Design**

# Independence Park

Evanston, Illinois

Concept A



## Pleasure Ground

Emphasis On The Natural Environment

Concept B



## Destination Play

Emphasis On Movement & Play

Concept C



## Civic Commons

Emphasis On Community Gathering

Concept A



## **Pleasure Ground**

Emphasis On The Natural Environment

# Pleasure Ground

Concept A | Independence Park

## LEGEND

-  Park Light (Proposed)
-  Furnishings (Proposed)
-  Sidewalk (Existing)
-  Paths (Proposed)
-  Plazas (Proposed)
-  Picnic Areas (Proposed)
-  Stage (Proposed)
-  Play Surfacing (Proposed)
-  Lawn (Proposed)
-  Buffer Planting (Proposed)
-  Tree (Existing)
-  Tree (Proposed)



# Pleasure Ground

Concept A | Independence Park

Dining Terrace



Stage

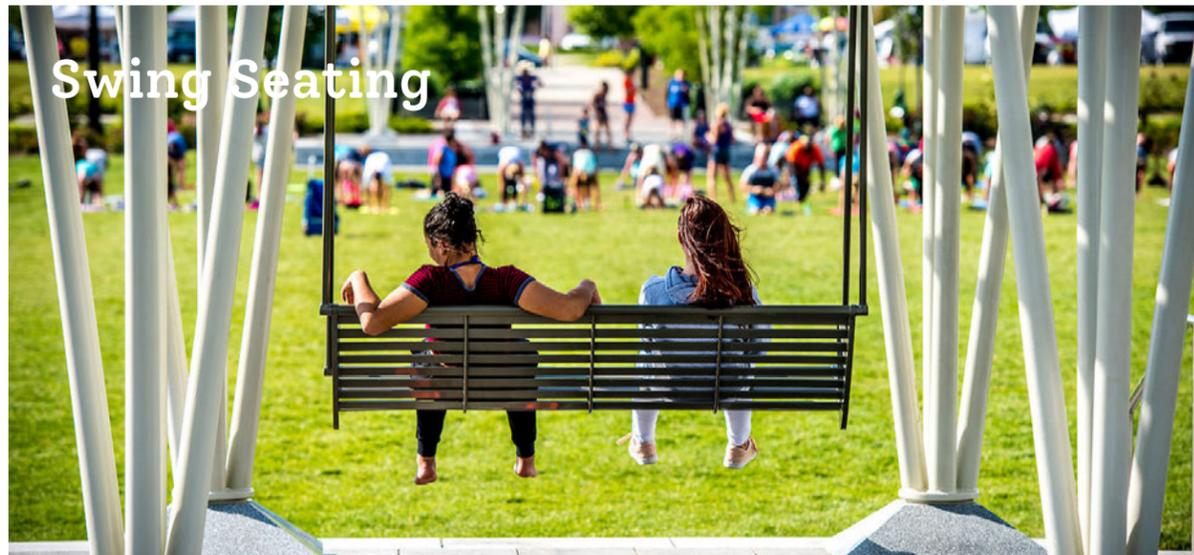


Sweeping Paths



# Pleasure Ground

Concept A | Independence Park



Concept B



# Destination Play

Emphasis On Movement & Play

# Destination Play

Concept B | Independence Park

## LEGEND

-  Park Light (Proposed)
-  Furnishings (Proposed)
-  Sidewalk (Existing)
-  Paths (Proposed)
-  Plazas (Proposed)
-  Picnic Areas (Proposed)
-  Stage (Proposed)
-  Play Surfacing (Proposed)
-  Lawn (Proposed)
-  Buffer Planting (Proposed)
-  Tree (Existing)
-  Tree (Proposed)



# Destination Play

Concept B | Independence Park

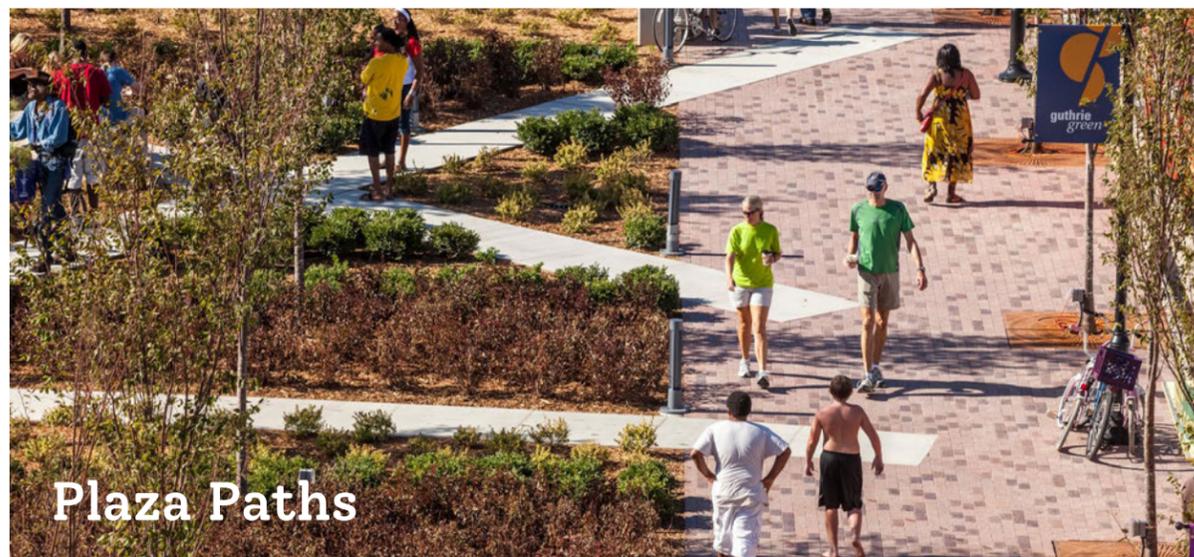


# Destination Play

Concept B | Independence Park



Elevated Performance Stage



Plaza Paths



Plaza Paths w/ String Lighting

Concept C



# Civic Commons

Emphasis On Community Gatherinig

# Civic Commons

Concept C | Independence Park

## LEGEND

-  Park Light (Proposed)
-  Furnishings (Proposed)
-  Sidewalk (Existing)
-  Paths (Proposed)
-  Plazas (Proposed)
-  Picnic Areas (Proposed)
-  Stage (Proposed)
-  Play Surfacing (Proposed)
-  Lawn (Proposed)
-  Buffer Planting (Proposed)
-  Tree (Existing)
-  Tree (Proposed)



# Civic Commons

Concept C | Independence Park



# Civic Commons

Concept C | Independence Park



# Independence Park

Evanston, Illinois

## Station 1 | Concept A



### Pleasure Ground

Emphasis On The Natural Environment

## Station 2 | Concept B



### Destination Play

Emphasis On Movement & Play

## Station 3 | Concept C



### Civic Commons

Emphasis On Community Gathering

