



Eva Walker Park

Master Plan & Commemorative Garden

FINAL DOCUMENT
December 2020

Project Partners:



PATH FOUNDATION



RHI PLAN+PLACE

Executive Summary & Acknowledgments

The process to create the Eva Walker Master Plan and Commemorative Garden is an example of what makes Warrenton a truly special community. Through multiple partnerships, rich history, and a deep sense of community pride, the Master Plan creates a public gathering spot to inspire the individual, provide for a diversity of activities, escape for reconnection to nature or come together for a favorite pastime. The Eva Walker Master Plan honors its heritage to the greater Haiti neighborhood, while inviting today's generation to create new memories to add to the land's continuing story.

Made possible by funding from the PATH Foundation that was matched by the Town of Warrenton, the development of the Eva Walker Master Plan was guided by an Advisory Group and community input. The Eva Walker Commemorative Garden was awarded an AARP Community Challenge Grant, out of 2800 projects from across the United States, to ensure her story is told to all who want to learn it. The result envisioned in this document includes preserving a beloved sledding hill while enhancing access with a grand staircase and slides; enhancing community gathering spots with a natural amphitheater, multi-use platform, pavilions, and common green; doubling the well-used basketball courts; providing walking trails and gardens; encouraging imaginative play with a natural playground; and incorporating additional parking. The unifying element is the Commemorative Garden intended to create a theme for the entire park through its art and stories of Eva Walker and others who helped make this space special.

The Town of Warrenton would like to thank the Advisory Group, and most especially the family and friends of Eva Walker who contributed to the Master Plan.

Town Council

H.E. Carter Nevill, Mayor
Sean Polster, Vice Mayor *At Large*
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Heather D. Sutphin – *Ward 1*
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James N. Hartman III – *Ward 4*
Kevin T. Carter – *Ward 5*

Planning Commission

Susan Rae Helander, Chair
Ali Zarabi, Vice Chair
Gerald Johnston
James Lawrence
Mark Moore
Ryan J. Stewart

Eva Walker Advisory Committee Members

Sherrie Carter
Eva Walker Daughter
Kirsten Dueck
PATH Foundation and Master Gardener
Liaison
Vinicent Holland
First Baptist Church
Christine Lewis
Afro American Historical Association Liaison
and friend of Eva Walker
Darryl Neher
Fauquier County Habitat for Humanity
Robyn Thompson
Eva Walker Daughter
Ashleigh Corrin Webb
Eva Walker Granddaughter

Consultant Team

Rhodeside Harwell, Inc. (RHI)
Plan+Place

Town of Warrenton Staff

Brandie Schaeffer
Town Manager
Paul Bernard
Public Works/Public Utilities
Tim Carter
Town of Warrenton Police
Frank Cassidy
Community Development/Public Works/
Public Utilities
Tommy Cureton
Parks and Recreation
Denise Harris
Community Development
Millie Latack
Community Development
Rob Walton
Community Development

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A large, leafy tree with a thick trunk and many branches dominates the left side of the image. The tree's canopy is dense with green leaves. In the background, a blue house with white trim and a grey roof is visible. The house has several windows and a small porch area. The foreground is a grassy lawn with a dark, curved path or driveway leading towards the house. The sky is overcast and grey.

1 PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Project Introduction

Eva Walker Park is a beautiful, 5.6-acre community park located next to Downtown Warrenton within the Haiti neighborhood. The park is a local amenity for the Haiti community and the entire town, but it also serves as a major gateway to downtown along Alexandria Pike. The park's location provides opportunities for Eva Walker Park to host more recreation, gathering and symbolic functions beyond those of its neighboring communities, churches, and organizations. Nevertheless, the park's shape, topography, hydrology, infrastructure, and boundaries pose challenges regarding its continued ability to meet current and future programming, access, and usability needs.

While located next to downtown, the park is adjacent to the Haiti neighborhood and named after one of Haiti's most beloved residents- Eva Walker. Haiti and Ms. Walker's legacies are prolific, yet their stories and memories are not explicitly expressed in the park today. While neither the Haiti neighborhood nor Eva Walker Park are formally designated as historic, the Town recognizes the opportunity to document and celebrate these stories within Eva Walker Park as a way to share the community's rich history with future generations, new residents, and visitors.

Sharing this history is especially important as the Haiti neighborhood and the Town experience growing redevelopment pressures.

Project Goals, Background, and Schedule

The goal of this effort is to define a clear path forward for Eva Walker Park, determine the types of park improvements needed over the next decade, and develop a commemorative garden design for Eva Walker that celebrates her life achievements and local impact. The master plan and commemorative garden, which are separate projects, were completed in tandem. The master plan was funded collectively between the Town of Warrenton and the PATH Foundation, while the commemorative garden was funded between AARP and Plan+Place. Additional support for this collective effort was provided by the Walker family, Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, the Afro-American Historical Association of Fauquier County, the First Baptist Church of Warrenton, the Piedmont Environmental Council, and the Warrenton Garden Club.

BOTTOM IMAGE

View of Main Street in
Downtown Warrenton

Credit: RHI



The combined project schedule was compact. Both projects spanned between July 2020 and April 2021 with the master plan and commemorative garden's existing conditions analysis, community outreach, and design development occurring between August 2020 and December 2020. The master plan's adoption and the commemorative garden's first phase of implementation will occur between January 2021 and April 2021.

As part of this combined effort, the Town worked closely with stakeholders and residents through in-person and virtual community engagement activities while following COVID-19 safety protocols. The community's involvement was fundamental to developing a beautiful master plan and a commemorative garden design that sustains community, works with its environment, and continues to tie the Haiti community, downtown, and the rest of Warrenton together.

BOTTOM IMAGE

View of Eva Walker Park
near the main Horner
Street entrance

Credit: RHI



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A photograph of a park scene. In the foreground, a dark asphalt path curves from the bottom right towards the center. To the left of the path is a lush green lawn. In the background, several large, mature trees with dense green foliage stand on a slight rise. The sky is overcast and grey.

2 EXISTING CONDITIONS

Existing Conditions

History of the Site*

Eva Walker Park hasn't always been a dedicated public park. As recently as the early 1980s, the site was a privately owned field formerly called "Horner's Field". Sanborn maps of Warrenton dating back to 1924 reveal that the park's current boundaries were likely the result of property parcel assemblages. Parcels at the intersection of Alexandria Pike and North Street were most likely consolidated with some rear portions of other parcels fronting Alexandria Pike and Haiti Street during the mid-twentieth century. The reasoning behind this property assemblage could have been related to the land's steep terrain and waterlogged soil. According to the same Sanborn maps, portions of Eva Walker Park, near the intersection of Alexandria Pike and North Street, also included a handful of homes or other wooden structures.

IMAGE

A portrait of Eva Walker in the early 1980s

Credit: Robert Walker



During the community engagement process for this park master plan, longtime Haiti Street residents- including Walker family members and friends- shared stories about the park and how Haiti Street children played in this former field. Before the playgrounds, lawns, and trails, the site hosted wetlands with cattails, informal horseshoe pits, sledding hills, firepits, and grazing cattle. According to these stories, Charles Brooks, a local townsman, occasionally used the land to host carnivals and community dances.

Eva Walker Park's Beginnings*

As Eva Walker emerged as a prominent civic leader and outspoken civil rights activist in the 1960s and 1970s, she spearheaded the effort to convert the site into a park. This effort was one component within a larger campaign to improve the Haiti community's public infrastructure, safety, and quality of life. This larger campaign to improve one of Fauquier County's historically segregated African American communities was consistent with Eva Walker's commitment to the Civil Rights movement as well as to Haiti's children and families. Working with Dr. Aaron Gerber, Eva Walker convinced the Gerber's to donate the site to the Town for use as a public park. Originally called "Alexandria Park", the park was renamed "Eva J. Walker Memorial Park" following Eva Walker's sudden death in 1982, at the age of 48.

**The history described in these sections are based on narratives described during the community outreach process.*

Existing Conditions

Park Improvements

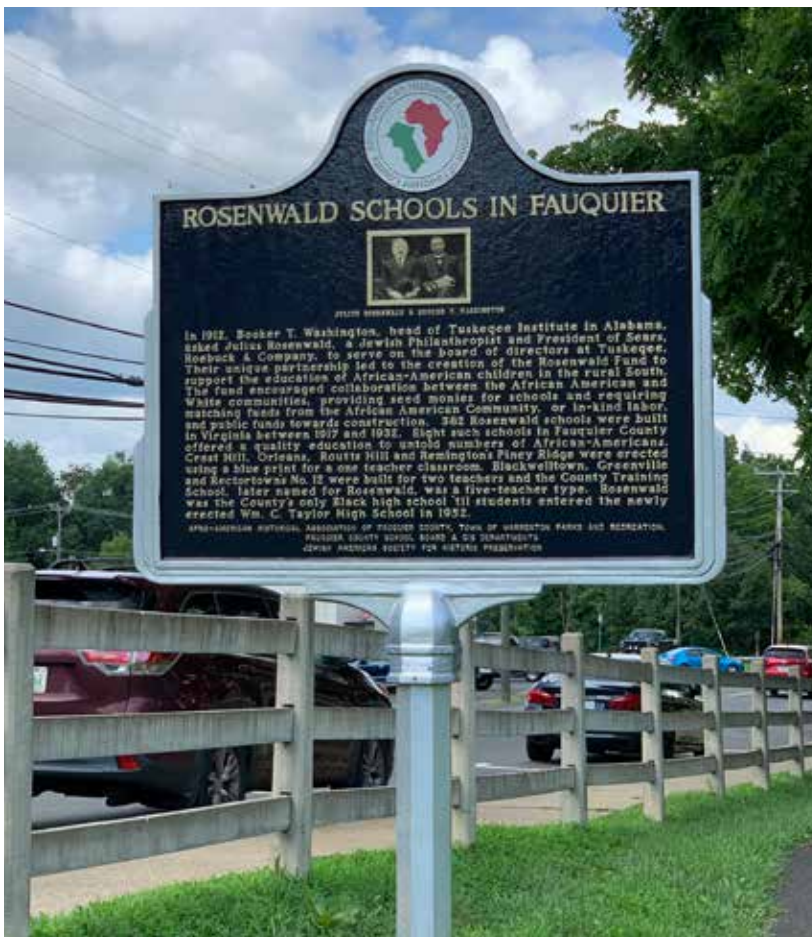
Prior to the creation of the Town's Parks and Recreation Department in 2008, Eva Walker Park was managed by the Town's Public Works Department. Under this Department, the Town embarked on a series of infrastructure-related improvements. One of the most important improvements occurred in 2004 with the installation of an underdrain pipe system that minimized standing water and flooding in the park.

To better inform additional improvements, the Town worked with LPDA, a landscape architecture and planning firm, to explore alternative landscape and facility improvements within the park.

IMAGE

The Rosenwald Schools in Fauquier County historical marker installed in 2019

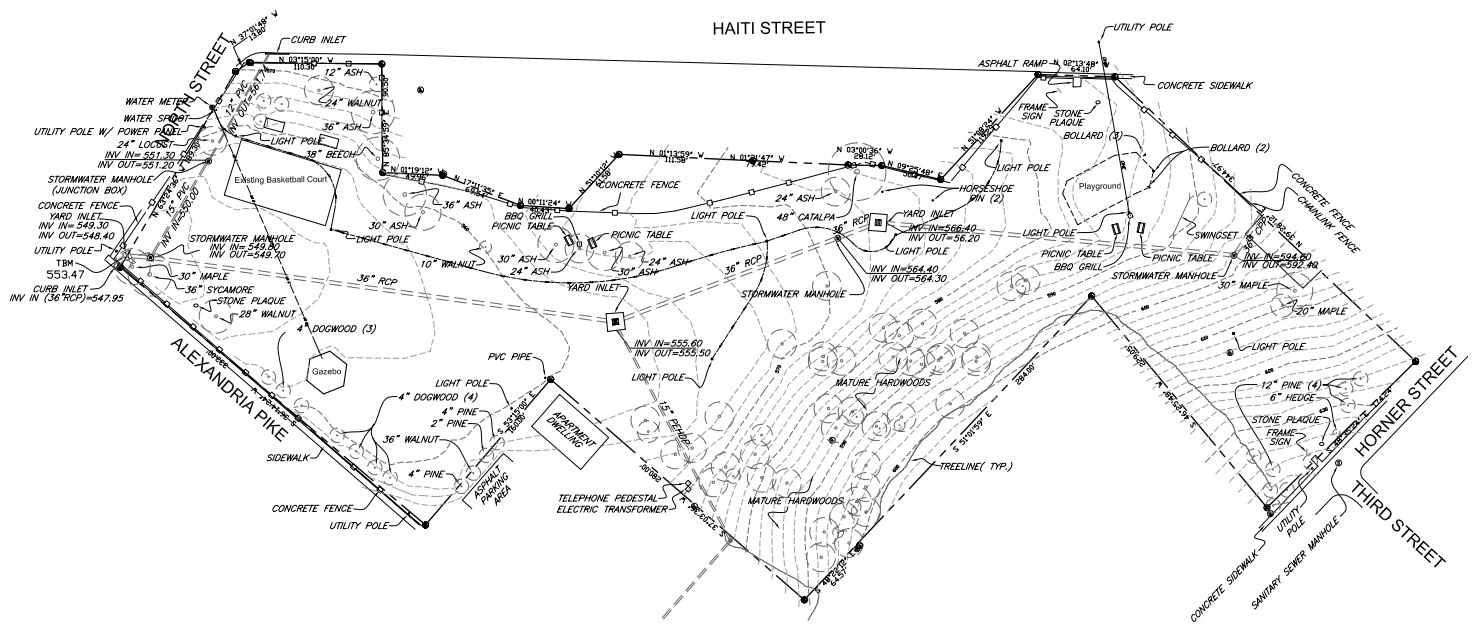
Credit: RHI



In 2006 and 2008, following LPDA's initial effort, the Town worked with that firm to develop construction plans for phased improvements. The Town used these plans to implement many of the park improvements visible today, some of which include:

- New park entrances at Alexandria Pike and Horner Street;
- New asphalt walking trails with pedestrian lights;
- Resurfacing the basketball court;
- Moving the playground equipment from the Haiti Street entrance to the Alexandria Pike entrance;
- New fitness equipment near the Haiti Street entrance;
- New restroom facilities near the Alexandria Pike entrance; and
- Additional drainage facilities throughout the site.

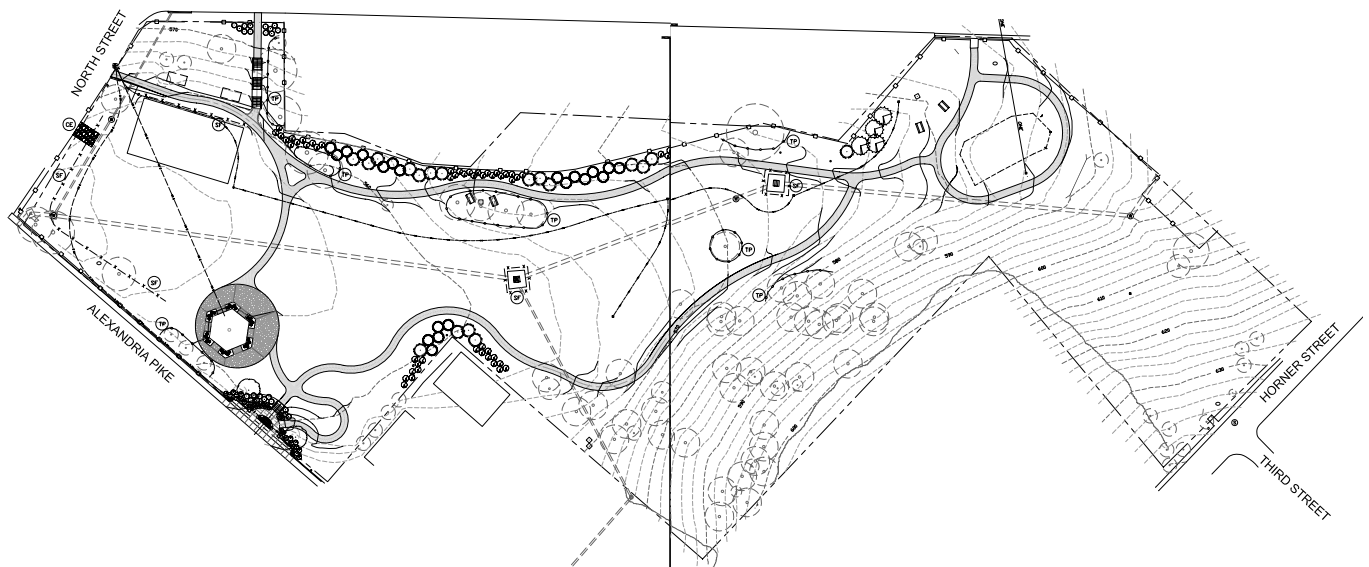
The most recent park improvement, a separate effort spearheaded by the Afro-American Historical Association of Fauquier County in 2019, was the installation of a historical marker within the park along Alexandria Pike. The marker commemorates Fauquier County's eight Rosenwald Schools. Eva Walker attended two of these schools- Routts Hill School and Rosenwald High School. Eva Walker Park never hosted a Rosenwald school on-site, yet the marker's addition to the park is fitting given the park's history within the Haiti community.



TOP IMAGE

An existing conditions survey plan for Eva Walker Park from 2005 that shows the location of drainage pipes and other existing park facilities

Credit: LPDA



BOTTOM IMAGE

A construction plan from 2006 that illustrates park improvements that have since been implemented

Credit: LPDA

Existing Conditions

Site Environmental Constraints

As part of the effort to ensure an appropriate design response for the park, an evaluation of the existing conditions and uses is not only critical, but responsible for crafting the desired outcome. Previously documented conditions including superficial drainage and topography were vetted with on-site investigation and corroboration with Town staff, community members, and Advisory Committee members. For additional information regarding the

Advisory Committee, refer to Chapter 3, Community Outreach. For more information about the site's soil conditions, refer to Chapter 6, Appendix.

The map on the following page highlights environmental conditions that were considered as part of the master plan design. Existing topography, drainage, vegetation and adjacent uses and communities provide key information for understanding how the park has evolved and will continue to be shaped over time.

BOTTOM IMAGES

Documentation of existing environmental conditions within Eva Walker Park keyed to the map on the following page.

Credit: RHI



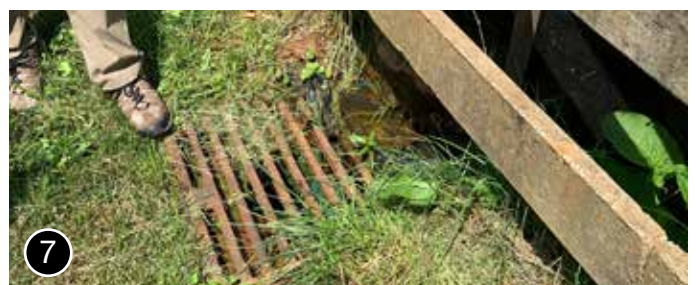
Topography forms a gentle valley



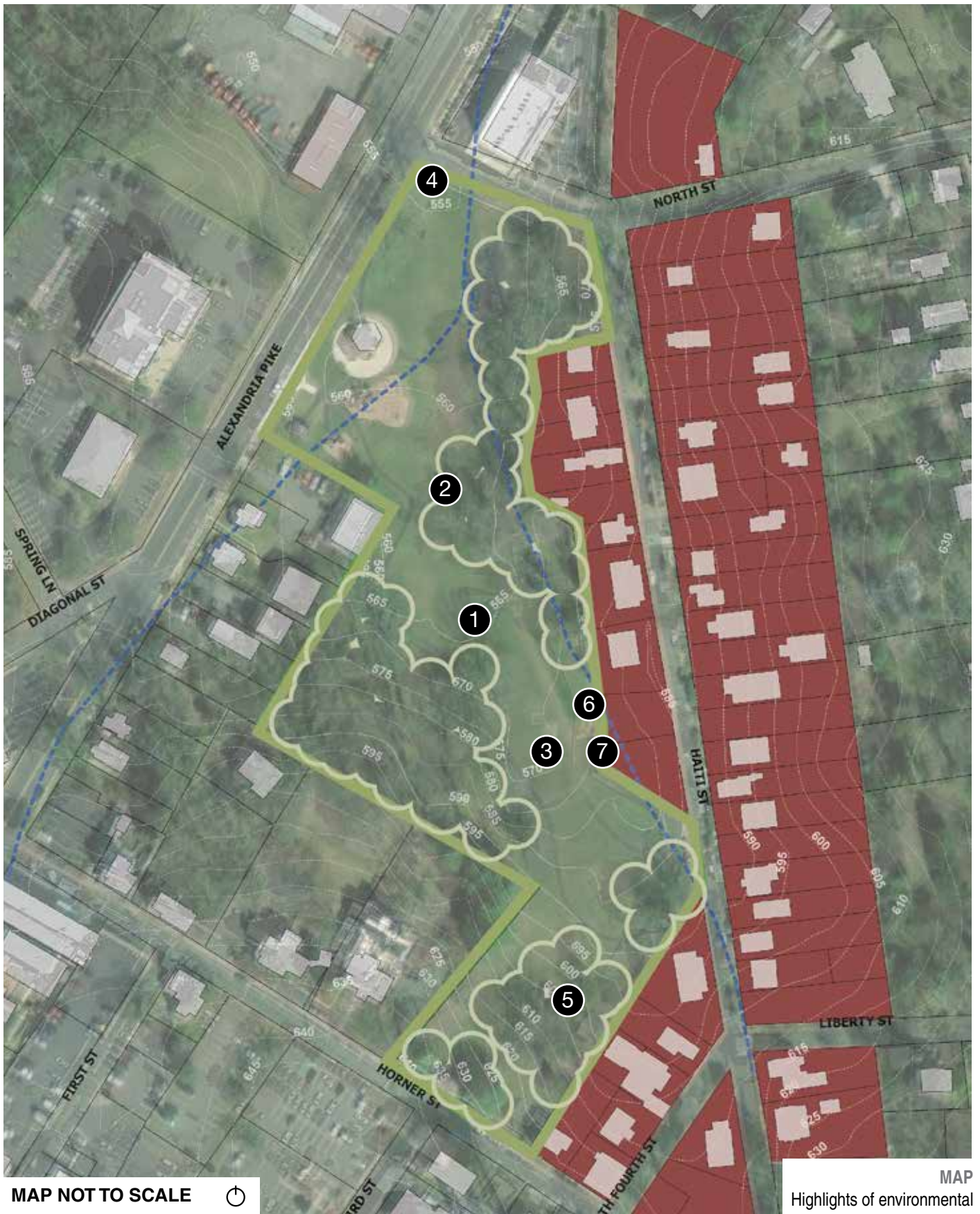
Drainage structures along the centerline of the park



Steep Slopes near the Horner Street entrance



Wet areas near the backyards of Haiti Street houses



MAP NOT TO SCALE



■ Haiti Community

■ Park Boundary

--- Existing Drainage Pipes

MAP

Highlights of environmental site conditions within Eva Walker Park informed by site visits, input from Town staff, and community feedback

Existing Conditions

How the Park is Being Used Today

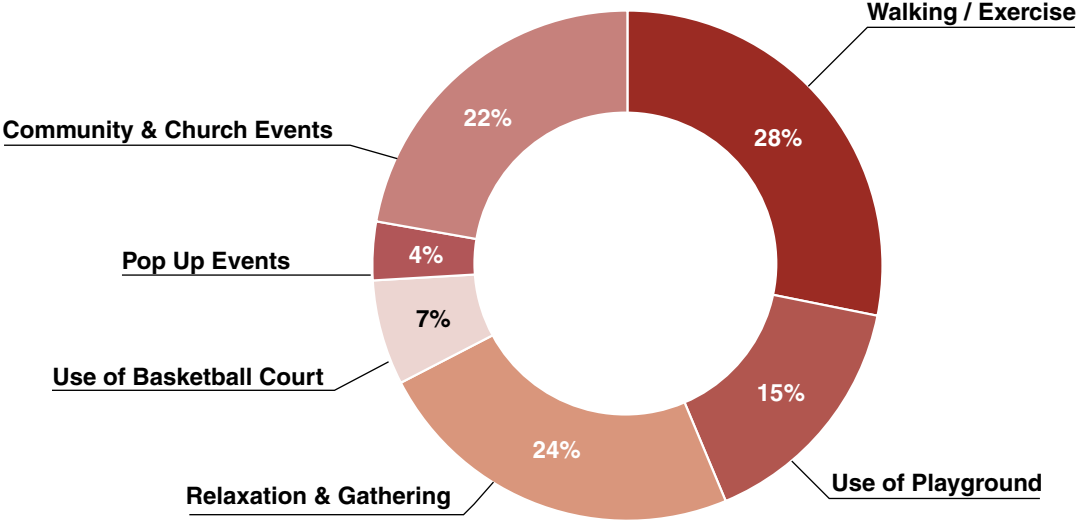
In addition to existing conditions, the park's current uses and programming are significant, contributing factors for the master planning effort and design.

Items highlighted from both site visits and community engagement efforts helped to define the elements documented in the map on the right. Below are results from surveys conducted with the community and stakeholders and reflect both the use and frequency of use of the park.

TOP CHART

Individuals were asked as part of a community survey about existing park conditions how they use the park and to mark all applicable activities. This information was later grouped thematically for analysis. Individuals use Eva Walk Park for a diverse set of activities including large numbers for walking and exercise (38 respondents), relaxation and gathering (32 respondents), and community and church events (30 respondents).

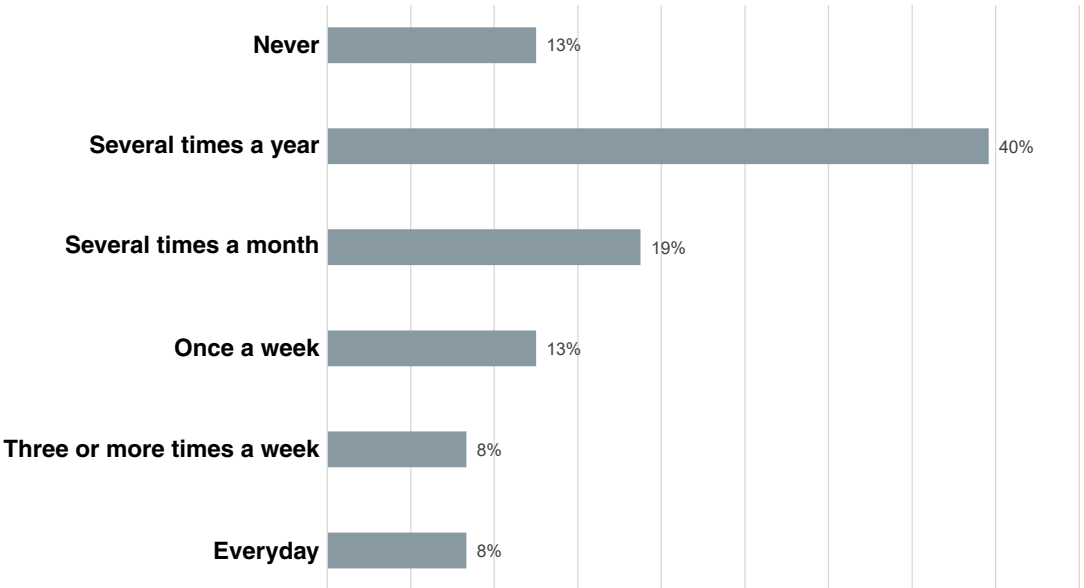
How do you currently use Eva Walker Park? (Survey #1)

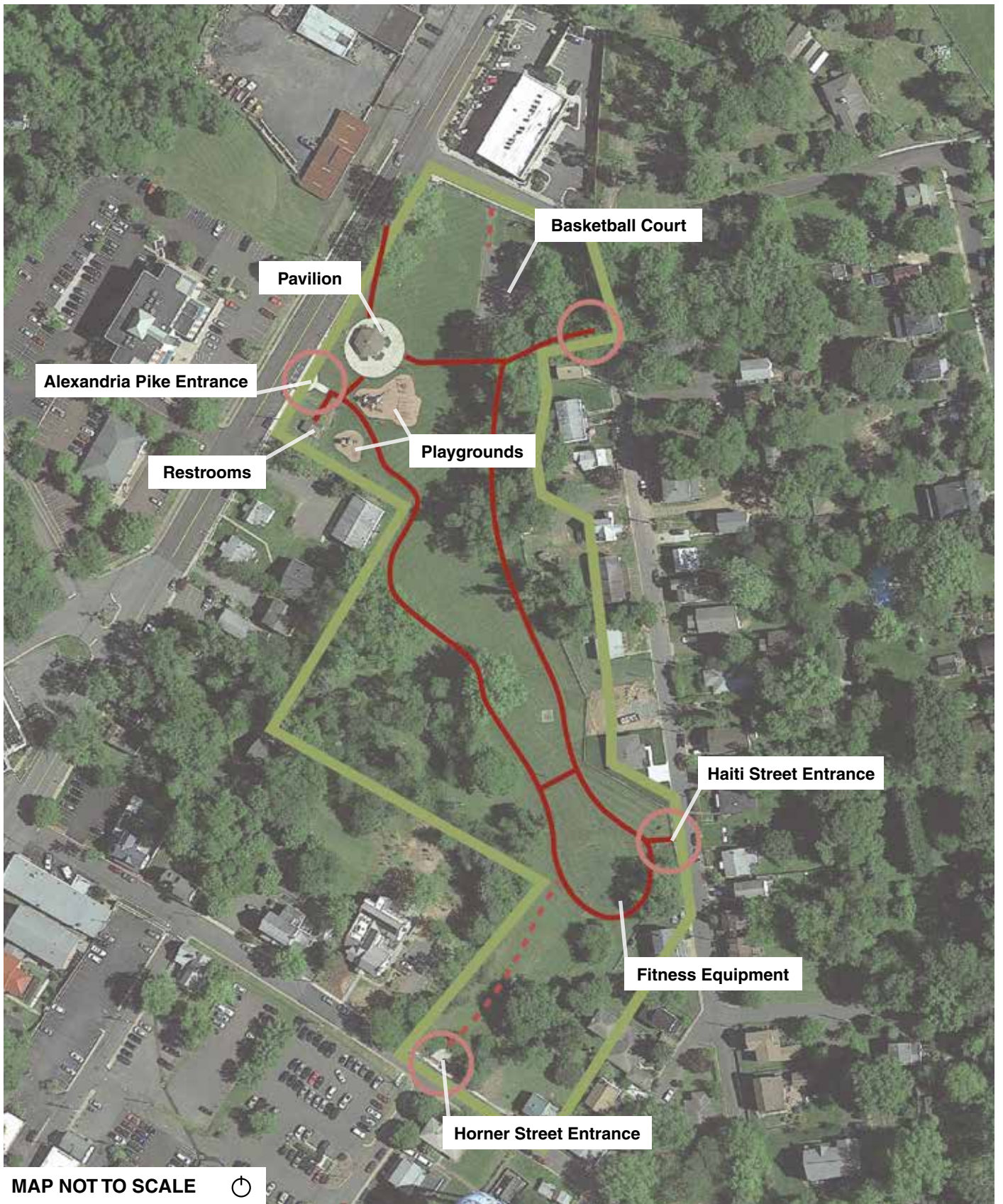


BOTTOM CHART

Both the first community survey and the community workshop collected information about how often individuals visited Eva Walker Park. Approximately 40% of respondents visit the park several times a year and approximately 20% visit several times a month. Overall, respondents indicated that they visit the park on a regular or semi-regular basis.

How often do you use the park? (Survey #1)





MAP NOT TO SCALE



- Paved Trails
- ▭ Park Boundary
- Park Entrances
- - Unpaved Trails

MAP
Highlights of uses and
facilities within Eva
Walker Park

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A large, leafy tree in a park setting with a path and houses in the background.

3

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement

The voices, opinions, and experiences of both the Haiti community and other citizens of Warrenton were central to the development of this master plan and commemorative garden effort. During the Fall of 2020, the Town conducted a community engagement program to collect input and feedback to assist in the development of a master plan program for Eva Walker Park. The Town utilized a number of engagement strategies to connect with community members and encourage participation in the planning process.

A Note on Community Engagement during the 2020 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Community engagement activities were conducted in the midst of the 2020 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic. Due to the public health crisis, the large majority of community engagement activities took place virtually with limited in-person events. When in-person events were held, all appropriate public health guidance was observed.

By The Numbers

- 2 Community Workshops
- 2 Community Surveys
- 10 Eva Walker Advisory Committee (EWAC) Members
- 3 EWAC Meetings
- 70 Survey Responses Submitted

BOTTOM IMAGES

Scenes from the first community workshop hosted at the park's pavilion on Saturday, September 26, 2020

Credit: Fauquier Times (left), Town of Warrenton (right)



Engagement Highlights

A. Establishment of an Advisory Committee— Meetings in September, October, and December 2020

- A 10 person committee, comprised of local community organization leaders, Town staff, and individuals who knew Eva Walker, was established to advise the project team during the master planning process, provide guidance on site challenges, and give feedback on the incorporation of Eva Walker's legacy into the park. Notable local organizations represented included the PATH Foundation, Fauquier Habitat for Humanity, the Afro-American Historical Association of Fauquier County, and the First Baptist Church of Warrenton. A complete list of Advisory Committee members is included in the acknowledgment section.
- Meetings were held on September 2, 2020; October 21, 2020; and December 9, 2020

B. Community Workshops— September and November 2020

- Two workshops engaged community members of the Haiti neighborhood and other local residents. Each workshop invited participants to provide direct feedback on the park, its assets and challenges, and the types of facilities to be included in the park. Surveys were distributed at workshop 1 and community members had the

opportunity to provide feedback on large “boards” which directly collected individual's comments and ideas. The first workshop was held in-person and physically-distanced at the park's pavilion. The second workshop was hosted virtually on Zoom.

- Workshops were held on September 26, 2020 and November 12, 2020

C. Community Surveys— September and November 2020

- Two community surveys collected feedback from community members on a variety of topics related to the park and the commemorative garden design. The information collected guided the development of the Eva Walker Park Master Plan, influenced the number and types of park amenities, provided suggestions for public art and space activation, and collected ideas on how to commemorate Eva Walker and her legacy in the park.
- The first survey was conducted from September 14 to October 5, 2020, and the second from November 11 to November 20, 2020.

D. Workshop and Survey Flyers and Doorhangers

- Flyers and doorhangers were distributed throughout Warrenton to raise awareness of the master planning project, encourage participation in the planning process, and invite the community to provide feedback through the community surveys.

Community Engagement

Key Takeaways

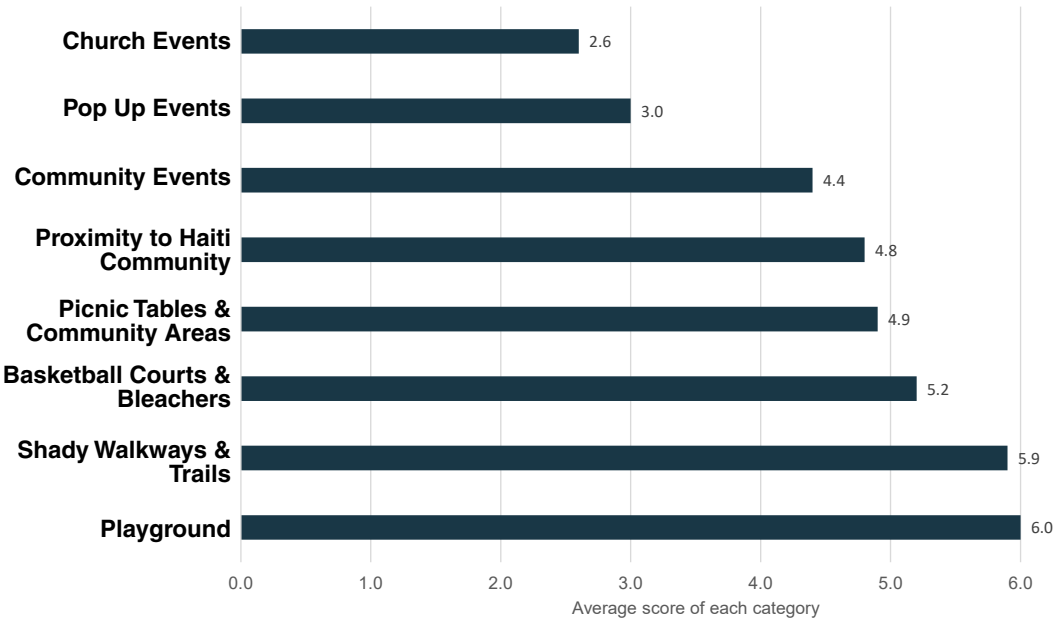
Through the community workshops, EWAC meetings, and surveys, a wide variety of information was collected and used to inform this project effort. From these activities, it became clear that:

- Eva Walker Park is **currently used for a variety of activities** including exercise, play, rest, relaxation, and community events.
- Residents want Eva Walker Park to be a **multi-use, active park that benefits all park users and age groups**.
- Residents and park users believe that the park’s **current playground, basketball court, and natural elements are key assets**. These elements **should be preserved** in the master plan.
- Residents want **enhanced natural areas, an upgraded playground, additional basketball courts, and new community amenities (picnic areas, grilling stations, and public gathering spaces)** in the park.
- Residents think the addition of a **water feature, flower gardens, additional trees, and more areas for rest and relaxation** would benefit and improve the park.
- Residents want **safe access** to the park and believe that **crosswalks around the park could be improved**.
- Residents support **commemorating Eva Walker and her legacy in the park**.

What do you like most about Eva Walker Park? (Survey #1)

CHART

The first community workshop and survey asked respondents to rank what they like most about Eva Walker Park on a scale from 1 (like somewhat) to 8 (like a lot). This question included both physical aspects of the park (picnic tables, trails, etc.) and social aspects (pop up events, church events, etc.). Overall, individuals highly ranked the natural elements in the park and its active areas. Individuals also highly ranked the community events that take place in the park.



EVA WALKER PARK MASTER PLAN & COMMEMORATIVE GARDEN

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

11.12.20 | 6:00PM - 7:30




IMAGE

A screenshot from the second community workshop hosted virtually on Thursday, November 12, 2020

Credit: RHI

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A large, open green lawn with a white house and trees in the background. The house is a two-story building with a blue roof and white siding. There are several trees, including a large one on the left and another on the right. The sky is blue with some clouds. The overall scene is a peaceful, suburban landscape.

4 MASTER PLAN CONCEPT



- (A) HORNER STREET OVERLOOK ENTRANCE
 (B) SLEDDING HILL
 (C) CURVED STAIRCASES AND HILLSIDE SLIDES
 (D) CONNECTION TO PIEDMONT ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL'S GARDEN WALK
 (E) HAITI STREET PICNIC PAVILION
 (F) HAITI STREET GATEWAY ENTRANCE
 (G) EVA WALKER COMMEMORATIVE GARDEN



- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| (H) PERENNIAL GARDEN WALK | (M) NATURE PLAYGROUND | (Q) NORTH STREET GATEWAY ENTRANCE AND PARKING |
| (I) SPLASH PAD / STAGE | (N) ALEXANDRIA PIKE GATEWAY ENTRANCE | (R) HAITI STREET OVERLOOK ENTRANCE |
| (J) NATURAL AMPHITHEATER | (O) EXISTING PAVILION | (S) EXISTING RESTROOMS |
| (K) WOODLAND WALK | (P) RENOVATED AND NEW BASKETBALL COURTS | |
| (L) MULTI-USE LAWN | | |

Master Plan

The foundational goal for the Eva Walker Park Master Plan is to create an active, varied, flexible, and recreational community space for all park users. In doing so, the master plan embraces the current park and its assets, while simultaneously providing new amenities, gathering areas, and spaces for passive recreation. The plan accomplishes this by leveraging the natural topography of the park and by retaining many of the park's existing amenities. This allows Eva Walker Park to establish itself as a peaceful, yet active community amenity.

The master plan also works to transcend the park's physical boundaries by incorporating and commemorating the legacy of Eva Walker and the Haiti community. By incorporating the work and ideals of Eva Walker, the master plan and park look outward from Haiti toward its neighboring communities to share its proud history and to host a welcoming space for all people.

Park Programming

The master plan proposes recreational and sensory experiences for individuals of all ages. These include an updated playground, new hillside slides, gardens, trails, and active spaces. The master plan distributes these various active and passive areas in focal areas across the park and provides options for various programming and educational experiences; the images on the following two pages show inspiration for the programming and design elements proposed within the final master plan concept.

The master plan allows for flexibility in the use of the park by providing a mix of small, intimate passive recreation spaces and large, active gathering locations. Specific programming will be determined as the park is implemented, in conjunction with the adjacent neighborhood and the community as a whole. The placement and design of each park programming element was determined based on:

- Feedback received from the community, Advisory Committee members, and Town staff;
- Maximizing low impact design applications and minimizing new impervious pavement areas to work with existing site topographical constraints;
- Maintaining existing facilities intended to remain;
- Maximizing universal accessibility into and throughout the park; and
- Balancing active programming more evenly throughout the park site.

The Eva Walker Park Master Plan provides a strong vision and path forward for the achievement of a true community space for the Haiti community and the Town of Warrenton. While the master plan will be accomplished in phases over time, each phase will provide the Warrenton community existing and ever-new experiences and enjoyment.

Park Programming and Design Inspiration



Flexible Lawn with Preserved Specimen Trees
Credit: ASLANY



Seasonal Arts Walk
Credit: Laurent Geslin



Pollinator Walk
Credit: Fine Gardening



Nature Playground
Credit: Terranova



Brick Hardscape
Credit: wtсенates.info



Mural Basketball Courts
Credit: Twitter, Humankindcity

Master Plan

Park Programming and Design Inspiration



Hillside Slides
Credit: BYGL, Secrest Arboretum



Natural Ampitheater
Credit: Franklin Pierce University



Splash Pad / Stage
Credit: lifeinbonitasprings.com



Temporary Art Installations
Credit: goingplacesmagazine.com



Shade Canopy
Credit: Cincinnatiusa.com



Picnic Pavillion
Credit: Anoka County MN

Perennial Garden Walk & Eva Walker Commemorative Garden

Next to the Haiti Street Pavilion, the master plan calls for the installation of a perennial garden walk. This walk will be planted with flowering plants and trees and will include seating areas along its length. The commemorative garden will feature flowering plants, seating that invites contemplation and rest, and original artwork created by Eva Walker's granddaughter. The commemorative garden was designed to embody the lasting impact and legacy of Eva Walker in Warrenton and beyond.

In addition to serving as a commemorative space, the garden may incorporate bio-retention and other stormwater management facilities. The master plan also allows for the installation of a boardwalk or bridge that could provide further commemorative elements for the Haiti Street community over time.

Haiti Street Picnic Pavilion

The master plan calls for the installation of a picnic pavilion at the Haiti Street gateway entrance. Community feedback revealed a strong desire for more enclosed gathering spaces and picnic areas within the park. The pavilion will be open for community use and may include grilling stations and other amenities.

Curved Staircases, Hillside Slides & Sledding Hill

The master plan calls for the installation of two curved staircases which will lead from the Horner Street overlook entrance to the bottom of the large sledding hill. Next to these curved staircases will be two sets of segmented hillside slides. The slides will be built directly into the hill and are intended for recreational use by individuals of all ages. The sloped area between the two staircases, will be left open and can serve as an active or passive area in all seasons. Historically this hill was used by the Haiti community as a sledding hill and the master plan formalizes and cements this legacy for future generations.



Commemorative Garden and Perennial Garden Walk

Master Plan

Natural Amphitheater

Utilizing the natural topography of the hill in the center of the park, a natural amphitheater will be installed which overlooks the splash pad and stage area. This amphitheater will provide ample space for a variety of activities including large and small group gatherings, local performances, formal and informal events, among many others. The amphitheater will also provide commanding views of the larger park and will provide an area for passive recreation.

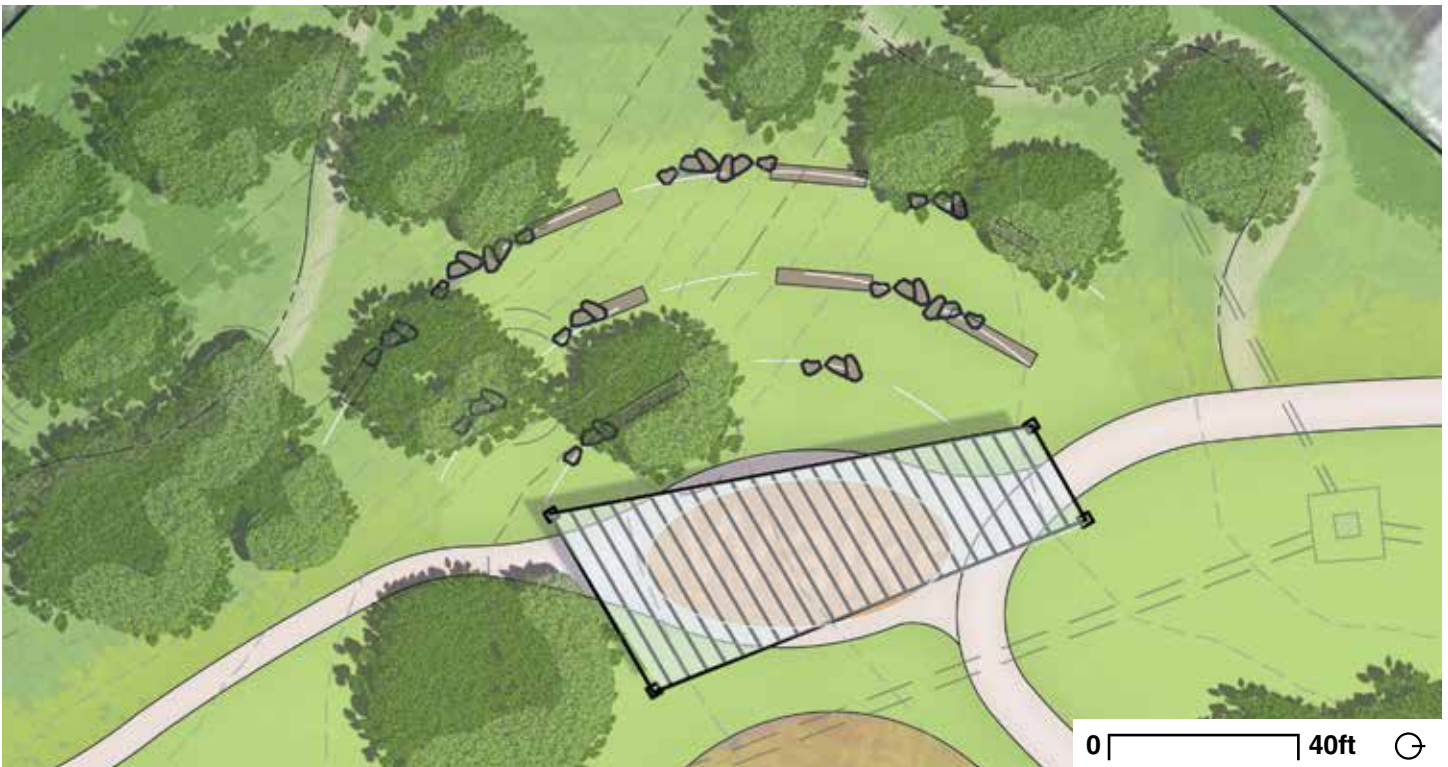
Splash Pad/ Stage

The master plan calls for the installation of a splash pad/ stage area located at the base of the natural amphitheater. The splash pad can be activated on-demand and will provide a prominent water feature for community use. The splash pad can also be converted into a multi-use stage area that can be used for a variety of different

community events. A shade canopy will be installed over the splash pad/stage which will create a focal point drawing visitors into the park and facilitate flexible programming options. This programming may include local performances from community groups, festivals, small concerts, among others. The Town's Parks and Recreation Department will manage all programming in this space. Both the splash pad and stage will receive the necessary water and electrical infrastructure to facilitate their installation and use.

Basketball Courts

The master plan calls for the preservation and renovation of the existing basketball court and the addition of a second court. Both basketball courts may be painted or designed with a mural, transforming them into both a functional activity space and a potential public art installation. The



Natural Ampitheater and Splash Pad/Stage

new court may also incorporate porous pavement to mitigate drainage challenges in the north portion of the park. There are several kinds of colored porous pavement materials that could be suitable for creating an expressive permanently colored surface, or non-damaging chalk paints could be used for temporary mural installations. The master plan also allows for the potential installation of hillside bleachers to provide seating and viewing areas for the courts.

Nature Playground

A large nature playground will be introduced near the existing restroom facility and will have multi-age play equipment including swings, balancing logs, scramble areas, and other creative play activities. This new playground will consolidate the current split playground space into one larger space.

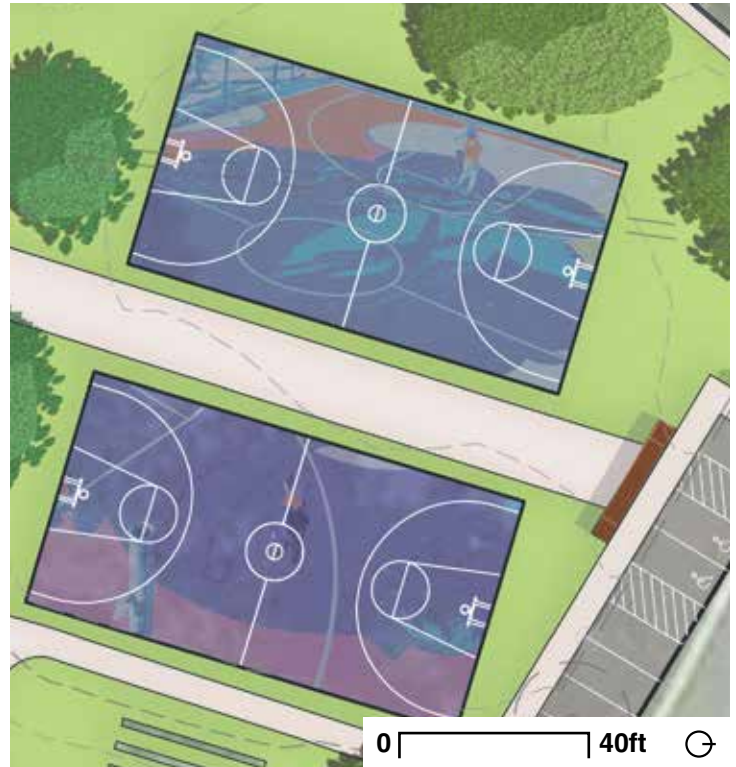
The new playground will be buffered from the private property behind it by large plantings and screening installations. The existing playground equipment will be salvaged and may be reused by the Town in another location. An alternative plan, poses an option for a more expansive play area which hugs the lawn and draws visitors closer to the splash pad. The alternative plans can be seen side by side at the end of this chapter.

Existing Restrooms

The existing restroom facility will be preserved and remain in its current location. The exterior walls of the facility may be used as a public art canvas.



Alternative option with expansive playground



Mural Basketball Courts and North Street Gateway Entrance

Master Plan

Existing Pavilion

The master plan calls for the preservation of the existing pavilion at the north end of the park. This pavilion will be open for use by the local community and will provide space for events, gatherings, and activities. The pavilion may be improved with grilling stations and other amenities.

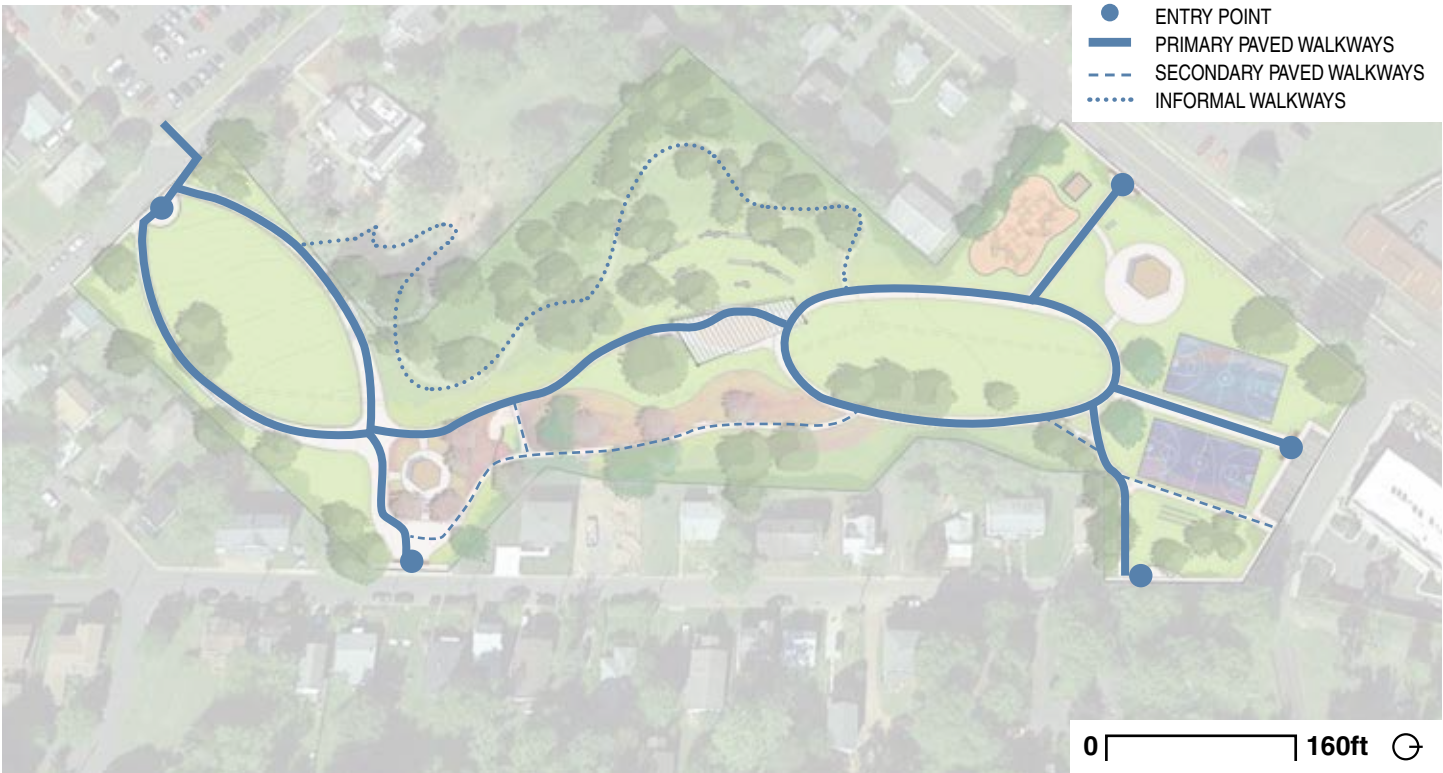
Multi-Use Lawn

The master plan calls for the creation of a large open lawn space in the center portion of the park. This lawn will provide a large space for varied activities, events, and community gatherings. Due to the flexible nature of this open lawn space, the area may be reinforced to accommodate mobile and pop-up events where vehicles may need to traverse or park on the lawn.

Woodland Walk & Trail Network

Behind the natural amphitheater, a winding woodland walking path will connect to the Piedmont Environmental Council’s garden area. This path will provide a natural, woodland-like atmosphere which will invite individuals to connect with nature and learn about native plants. This area will be largely open at the under-story to provide safe and open views.

In addition to the woodland walk, the new master plan provides a redesigned network of paved trails in the park that can be used for passive uses. The expansion of the trail network in the park was a direct result of community feedback which emphasized the popularity of the park’s trails and expressed a desire to both improve and add to existing trails. The trails may be covered with a mix of porous and flexi pavement.



Heirarchy of Circulation

Preservation of Existing Trees and Managing Drainage

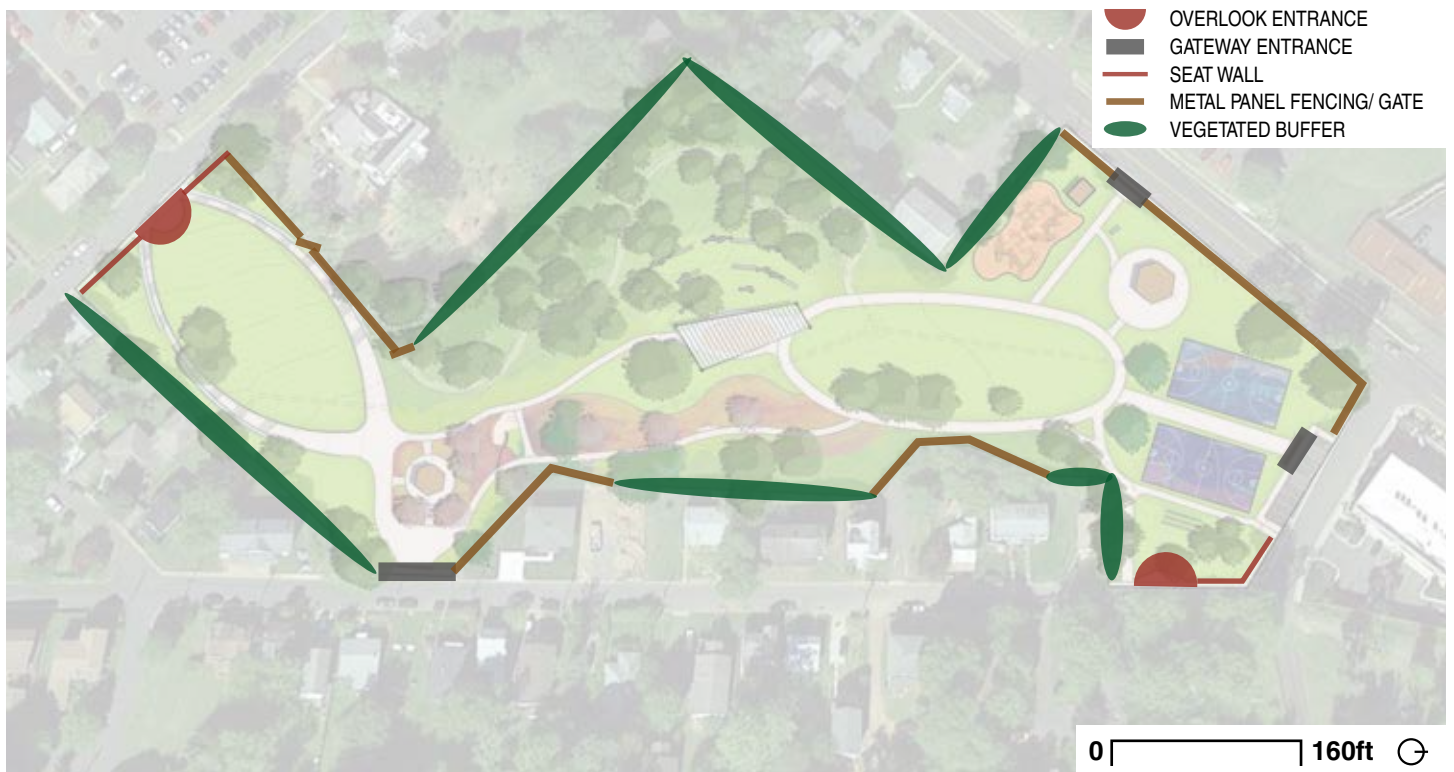
The master plan calls for the preservation of as many existing specimen trees in the park as possible. Existing trees may be supplemented with additional plantings in the perennial garden, at park entrances, and along the woodland walk.

There are several known drainage challenges in the park. The master plan proposes a variety of best management practices such as rain gardens, permeable pavement, and infiltration facilities to mitigate these issues. Examples may include permeable pavement for the new basketball court or parking lot, a rain garden in the perennial garden walk, and stormwater infiltration facilities beneath the multi-use lawn, among others. It is noted that Warrenton is an MS4 Community. Refer to the document appendix for more information about the site's drainage and soil composition.

Park Fencing/Screening

The master plan calls for the removal of all existing fencing in the park to replace it with a combination of landscaped and new fencing materials. Landscaped fencing will provide a buffer of plantings between park and non-park land, and could include evergreen trees or shrubs, small canopy deciduous trees, or shrubs.

New hardscape fencing materials may include artistic metal panels, low seat walls, or similar materials to delineate park and non-park land. The artistic metal panels will echo the style of panel used in the Eva Walker Commemorative Garden to provide additional space for telling important community stories and history.



Fencing and Entrance Types

Master Plan



- (A) Brick Pillar
- (B) Brick Seat Wall
- (C) Artistic Metal Panel
- (D) Landscape Fencing

Entry Gateway Concept Sketch



- (C) Artistic Metal Panel
- (D) Landscape Fencing

Recommended landscape buffer species:

Trees:

- Southern Magnolia - *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Brackens Brown Beauty'
- Serviceberry - *Amelanchier canadensis*
- American Holly - *Ilex opaca* 'Jersey Knight' and 'Jersey Princess'
- Atlantic Red Cedar - *Juniperus virginiana*.

Shrubs:

- Sweetpepper Bush - *Clethra alnifolia*
- Buttonbush - *Cephalanthus occidentalis*
- Bottlebrush buckeye - *Aesculus parviflora*

Fencing and Vegetative Buffer Concept Sketch

Park Fencing/Screening Design Inspiration



Vegetative Buffer Credit: stecks.uk, RHI, RHI



Custom Fence Panels Credit: visodoors.com, prldesign.com, alibaba

Master Plan

Park Entrances

Park entrances are designed to tie the park to the greater context of Warrenton and provide visible and welcoming entrances to the park. The master plan calls for five park entrances- two of which, the Haiti Street and North Street gateway entrances, will be ADA accessible. Two types of entrances are proposed.

1. Overlook entrances provide views into the park from higher ground, and welcome visitors with low seat walls. Overlook entrances are proposed at Horner Street and at Haiti Street near the basketball courts.
2. Gateway entrances provide a main threshold into the park. These entrances are proposed to have a vertical element such as columns or overhead arches with artwork. Gateway entrances create landmarks with a common language to help orient visitors to the park. Gateway entrances are proposed at Haiti Street near the Haiti Street Picnic Pavilion, at North Street, and at Alexandria Pike near the existing restrooms.

Wayfinding should be installed throughout the park to guide individuals through the site. All wayfinding should be consistent with existing Town branding guidelines and wayfinding elements.

Parking Area(s)

The current park does not include any on-site parking and the local community expressed a strong desire for more park space over parking space.

Town-managed parking lots are offered near the Horner Street park entrance in downtown. With enhanced way-finding, more active programming at the park's south end, and a more visible park entrance, visitors can better utilize those Town-managed parking lots to allow for more park and recreation space.

Additionally, the master plan calls for a new parking location on North Street which provides a more universally accessible parking option. This new parking location will create an easily accessible park entrance for all park users. This location will also serve as an access point for emergency vehicles into the park.



Parking Lot at Haiti Street Gateway Entrance

Further, in the Alternative Parking Option 2 (shown on the following page), one additional handicap parking space, and three standard spaces are provided at the Haiti Street gateway entrance. The specific design and designation of parking space types will be determined when construction drawings are developed and might also include an analysis of Alexandria Pike's existing right-of-way and roadway configuration to explore opportunities for additional on-street parking spaces.

Beyond the park site, wayfinding opportunities exist to allow park users to more easily park in the Horner Street public parking lot and navigate to the Horner Street overlook entrance on foot. Any future wayfinding applications should be designed to compliment the Town's existing branding efforts to ensure intuitiveness and minimize visual clutter. Further information about parking access can be found in the Town's Complete Streets Report.

Lighting / Electrical Infrastructure

The master plan calls for the provision of adequate lighting and electrical connections throughout the park site. Appropriately scaled lighting ensures that pedestrian and parking areas are adequately illuminated to ensure safety. These areas include the park's trails and sidewalks, activity spaces, and other gathering areas. As construction drawings are developed for this master plan, a lighting consultant and civil engineer will assess the best applications of electrical utilities and Dark Sky compliant lighting to ensure safety, functionality, and sensitivity of neighboring properties.

Additional Crosswalks and Multimodal Access

Although this master plan only pertains to the Eva Walker Park site, the Town is exploring potential high visibility crosswalk improvements at critical junctions around the park to maximize pedestrian safety. Some of these locations include:

- The intersection of North Street and Alexandria Pike;
- A mid-block crossing on Alexandria Pike at the gateway entrance; and
- The intersection of Horner Street and Third Street.

Additional pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure improvements will benefit the park and help create a safer and more accessible space for all visitors. Further information and guidance about crosswalks and pedestrian access to the park can be found in the Town's Complete Streets Report.

Implementation and Phasing

The implementation and phasing of this master plan concept will largely depend on available Town and grant funding and should be reassessed beyond the plan's ten-year lifespan to meet the future needs of the Warrenton community. If possible, the Town should consolidate implementation to no more than four construction phases. This will ensure that facilities and materials share consistent technologies, appearances, and material lifespans.

Listed on the following page are the five general phases that would lead to successful master plan implementation.

Master Plan

Phase 1: Conduct cost estimations and construction drawings for the total master plan concept to determine the relative costs of each proposed element and to understand the comprehensive infrastructure impacts. This phase will also include costing related to necessary site drainage improvements and soil mitigation. For more information about cost estimation, refer to the document appendix.

Phase 2: Construct the North Street gateway entrance, second basketball court, and new park fencing to ensure ADA accessibility at the park's north end, to meet the local demand for more basketball courts, and to improve the park's overall safety and street presence.

Phase 3: Construct the Haiti Street gateway entrance and picnic pavilion to improve ADA accessibility from the park's south end and to provide the Haiti community with a formal gathering space.

Phase 4: Construct all of the remaining park elements north of the Haiti Street gateway entrance including the remainder of the Eva Walker Commemorative Garden. This would allow for most trails, landscaping, and utility infrastructure to be built all at once to ensure visual cohesion and to limit intermittent construction disruptions within the park's inner portions.

Phase 5: Construct the Horner Street overlook entrance and all of the remaining park elements south of the Haiti Street gateway entrance. This would allow for the sledding hill, curved staircases, hillside slides, and connection to the Piedmont Environmental Council's Garden Walk to be built all at once to ensure visual cohesion of the hillside elements and to limit intermittent construction disruptions at the park's main entrance from downtown.



Proposed Master Plan

Master Plan Concept Parking and Playground Alternatives



Additional Parking Alternative 2



Additional Playground Alternative 3

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EVA J. WALKER MEMORIAL PARK
IN HONOR OF
ONE WITH A "VISION" FOR THE COMMUNITY
1934 - 1982
Land donated by the
AARON H. GERBER FAMILY

5 EVA WALKER COMMEMORATIVE GARDEN

Eva Walker Commemorative Garden

Commemorative Garden Design

Funded in part by an AARP Community Challenge Grant, the Eva Walker Commemorative Garden is intended to be a special place within Eva Walker Park dedicated to honoring Eva Walker's life and legacy. The design process for the garden involved collecting memories and stories of Eva Walker from the Warrenton community and project Advisory Committee members. (See Chapter 3 for more information about the community engagement process). The garden concept was conceived through close collaboration with Eva Walker's family and family friend including: Ashleigh Corrin Webb (Eva Walker's granddaughter); Robyn Thompson (Eva Walker's daughter); Sherrie Carter (Eva Walker's daughter); and Christine Lewis (family friend and local historian with the Afro-American Historical Association of Fauquier County (AAHA)).

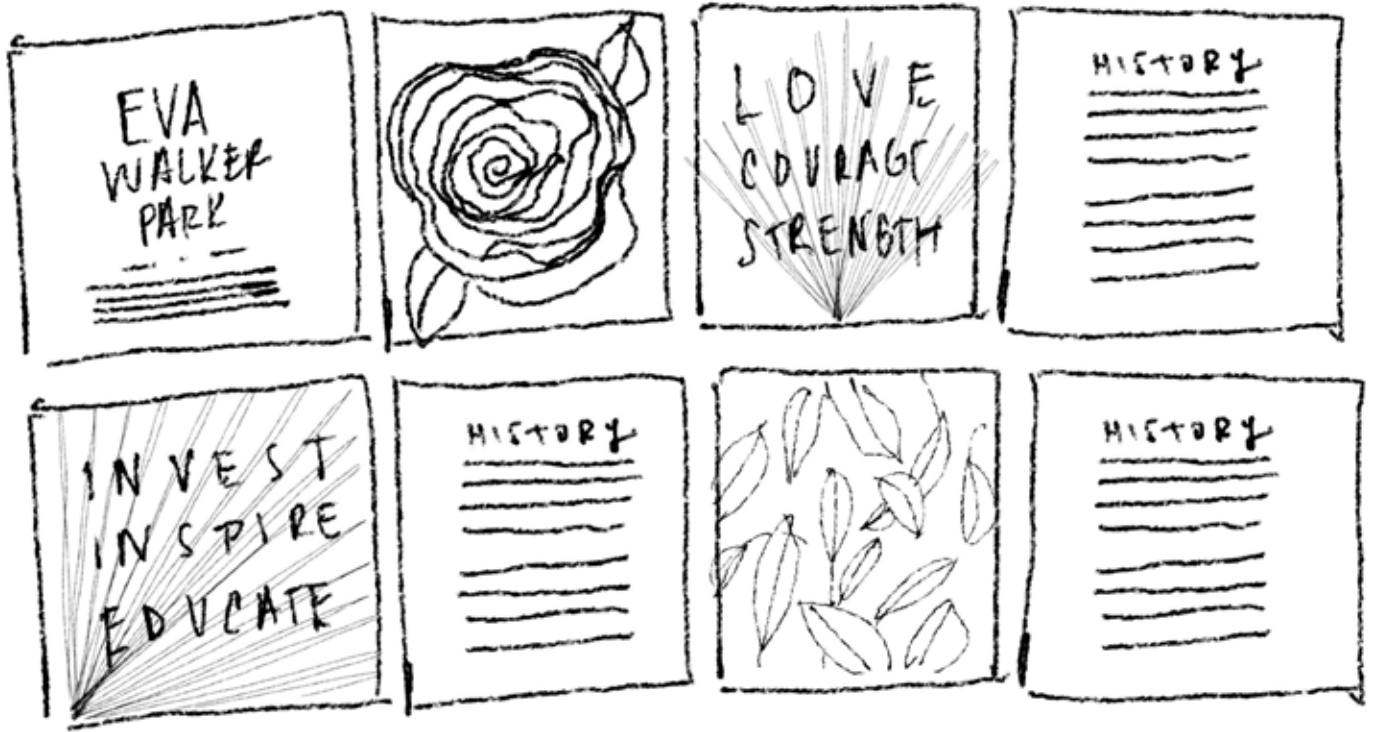
The selected concept, called 'Parade', was inspired by the parades that Eva led in the Haiti community as well as her background in dance and modeling. The concept incorporates personal memories of Eva Walker and her legacy.

The area for the commemorative garden is located near the Haiti Street gateway entrance (see map on page 26) and is comprised of a small area of concrete paving and expressive native and flowering planting. A faceted series of interpretive panels draw visitors in, winding through the plantings and hugging the back of two curved benches. The benches create an intimate seating space for conversation and contemplation. The graphics for the interpretative panels were developed in collaboration with Ashleigh Corrin Webb and consists of laser cut metal and laminated plastic segments on which four distinct elements are embedded. These four elements include:

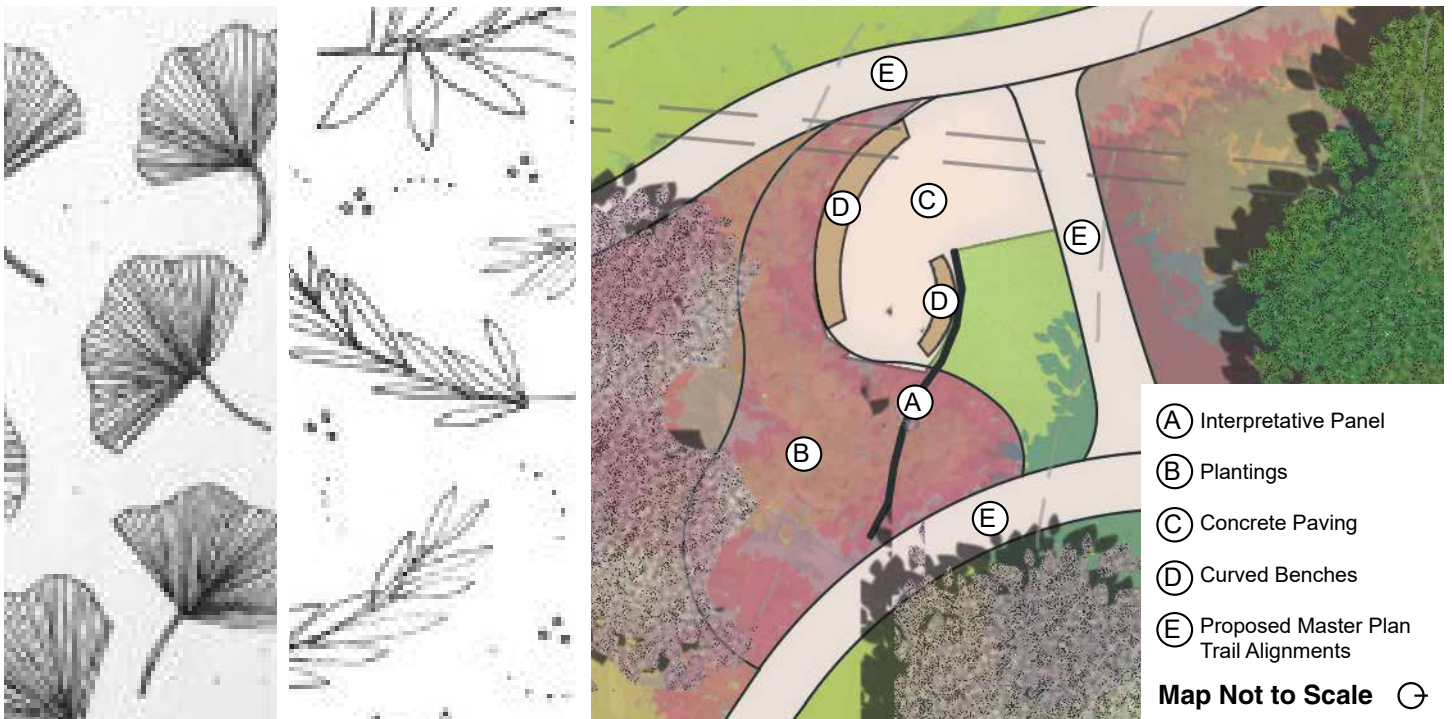
- **A Rose:** The rose with swirling lines illustrates Eva Walker's favorite flower, the yellow rose, which also symbolizes the "ripple effect" of Eva's impact. Ashleigh described her inspiration for Eva Walker's legacy as "a ripple effect of influence and inspiration for me, the community, and many others";
- **Inspiring Words:** The words are set on a background pattern of radiating lines. Ashleigh described this pattern as "inspired by rays of light. We all have in us a light to share with those around us, our communities, the world";
- **Leaves:** The leaves create a connection to the rose. Some traditions also depict leaves as hope, renewal, and revival and can symbolize the individual believer within a community; and
- **History:** One of the panels will be dedicated to telling a short history of Eva Walker, her legacy, and the history of Eva Walker Park.



Concept Sketch for the Commemorative Garden



Interpretative Panel Concept Sketch by Ashleigh Corrin Webb Credit: Ashleigh Corrin Webb



Inspiration from Ashleigh Corrin Webb's
Graphic Patterns Credit: Ashleigh Corrin Webb

The Commemorative Garden Integrated into the Master Plan

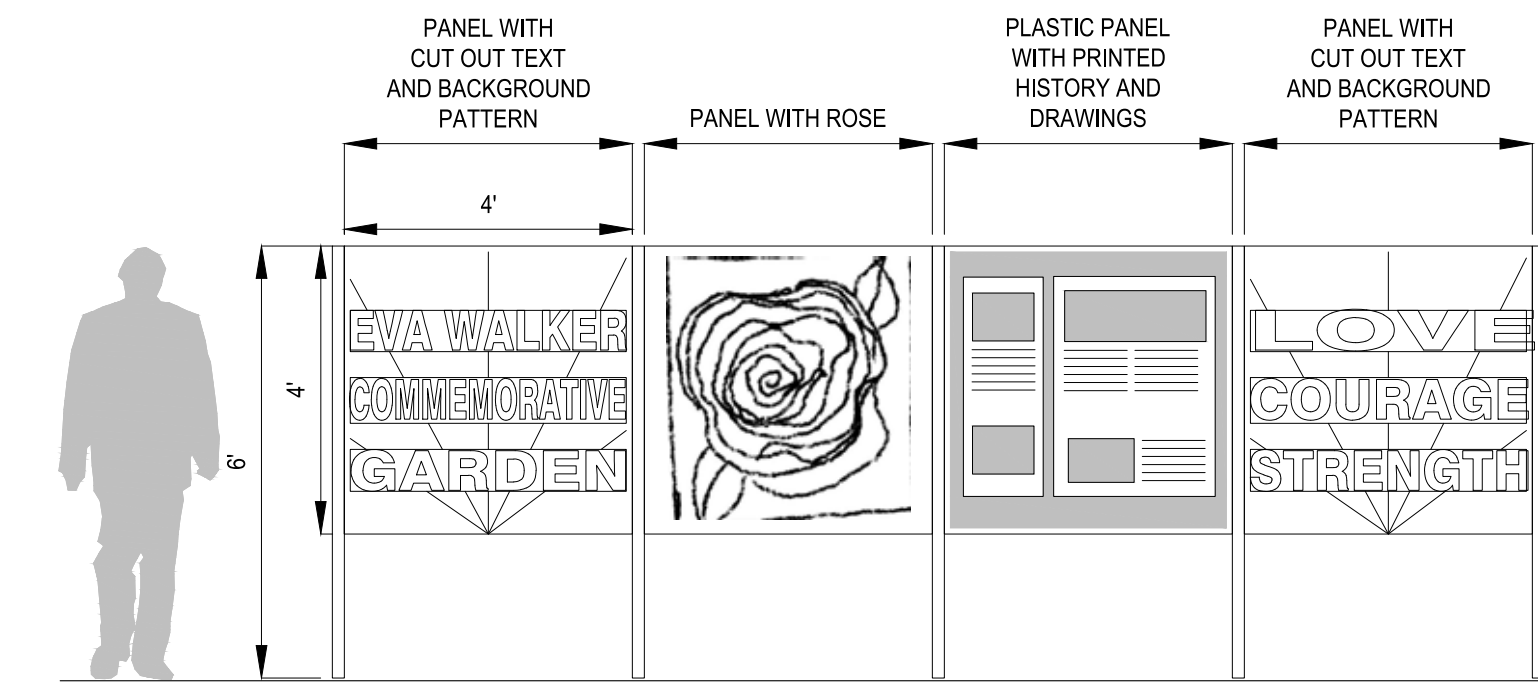
Eva Walker Commemorative Garden



Laser Cut Metal Panel Inspiration Credit: Cutout.com



Laser Cut Metal Panel Inspiration Credit: Anova Furnsihings



Refined Interpretive Panel Concept



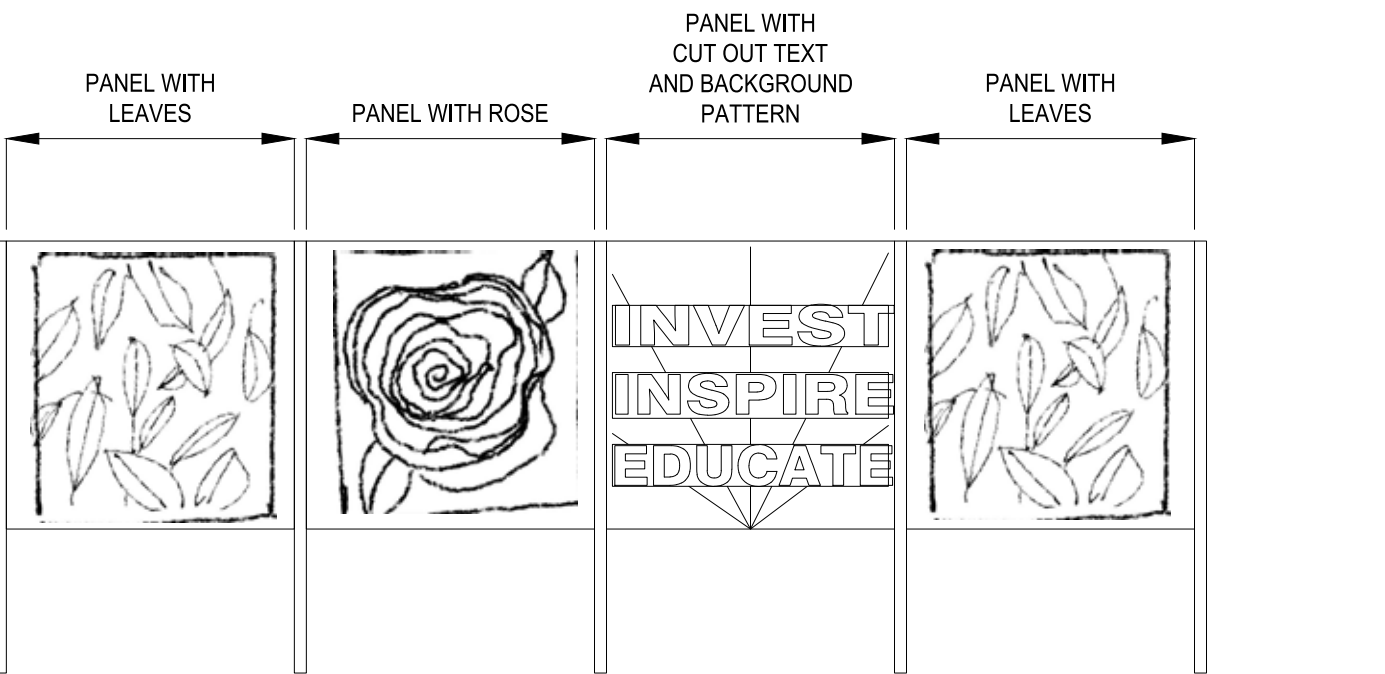
Curved Benches Credit: Anova Furnsihings



Native Planting Credit: RHI



Yellow Roses Credit: Plantingtree.com



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A photograph of a park with a basketball hoop on the left, a black lamppost in the center, and a paved path leading through a grassy area. Large trees are in the background under a cloudy sky.

6 APPENDIX

Eva Walker Park Shrink-Swell Map



Eva Walker Park Soil Map



Eva Walker Park Soil Resource Report

17B—Middleburg loam, 2 to 7 percent slopes, frequently flooded

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 21m5c

Mean annual precipitation: 34 to 46 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 43 to 66 degrees F

Frost-free period: 174 to 211 days

Farmland classification: Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season

Map Unit Composition

Middleburg and similar soils: 85 percent

Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Middleburg

Setting

Landform: Drainageways

Landform position (two-dimensional): Toeslope

Landform position (three-dimensional): Base slope

Down-slope shape: Linear

Across-slope shape: Convex

Parent material: Alluvium derived from igneous and metamorphic rock and/or colluvium derived from igneous and metamorphic rock

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 9 inches: loam

H2 - 9 to 48 inches: silty clay loam

H3 - 48 to 61 inches: silt loam

Properties and qualities

Slope: 2 to 7 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Natural drainage class: Well drained

Runoff class: Low

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.57 to 5.95 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: Frequent

Frequency of ponding: None

Available water storage in profile: High (about 10.0 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified

Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 2w

Hydrologic Soil Group: A

Hydric soil rating: No

Eva Walker Park Soil Resource Report

40D—Myersville silt loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes, stony

Map Unit Setting

National map unit symbol: 21m6t
Mean annual precipitation: 34 to 46 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 43 to 66 degrees F
Frost-free period: 174 to 211 days
Farmland classification: Not prime farmland

Map Unit Composition

Myersville and similar soils: 80 percent
Estimates are based on observations, descriptions, and transects of the mapunit.

Description of Myersville

Setting

Landform: Mountainsides
Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder, backslope
Landform position (three-dimensional): Mountainflank
Down-slope shape: Concave
Across-slope shape: Concave
Parent material: Residuum weathered from greenstone

Typical profile

H1 - 0 to 8 inches: silt loam
H2 - 8 to 43 inches: silty clay loam
H3 - 43 to 55 inches: silt loam
H4 - 55 to 71 inches: bedrock

Properties and qualities

Slope: 15 to 25 percent
Percent of area covered with surface fragments: 0.1 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: 40 to 60 inches to paralithic bedrock
Natural drainage class: Well drained
Runoff class: Medium
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Very low to high (0.00 to 1.98 in/hr)
Depth to water table: More than 80 inches
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Available water storage in profile: Moderate (about 8.4 inches)

Interpretive groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): None specified
Land capability classification (nonirrigated): 6s
Hydrologic Soil Group: B
Hydric soil rating: No

Eva Walker Park Cost Reference Guide

Program	Phasing	Reference Projects or Manufacturer/Vendor	Considerations
Cost Estimating, Site analysis, Soils and Geotech Testing, Survey, and Site Investigation	1	This work should be done before construction documents for any of the park programs are developed. **	
Perennial Garden Walk, Commemorative Garden Expansion	2	Brookside Gardens, Montgomery County MD; Vendor: North Creek Nursery; Babikow Nursery;	Drainage, Stormwater Management
Haiti Street Picnic Pavilion	2	Vendor: RCP Shelters	Pavillion + Pavement, Landscape, and Furnishings
Curved Staircases and Sledding Hill	4	Reference Los Angeles Department of Transportation, or Pittsburgh	Custom Design, Materials, Structural and Civil Engineering
Hillside Slides	4	Seacrest Arboretum Slide - Ohio State University, Vendor: Fine Concrete- Charlottesville	Custom Design, Materials, Structural and Civil Engineering
Natural Amphitheater	3	Kalamazoo Nature Center- Kalamazoo Michigan; John Streeter Garden Amphitheater Seacrest Arboretum	Materials, Grading, Drainage
Splash Pad / Stage and Shade Canopy	3	Pearl Brewery Splash Pad- San Antonio Texas, Vendor: Vortex- Splashpads; RCP Shelters for Shade Canopy	Materials and Design
Basketball Courts	2	Vendor: Capitol Flexipave; B&S Contracting- Porous Asphalt	(2) Basketball courts including reconstruction of existing court, Materials, Grading and Drainage, Stormwater Management
Nature Playground	3	Georgetown Day School, Johnston-McVay Park- Westerville Ohio Vendor: Earthscape Play	Scale and Surface Materials
Trail Network	3	Vendor: Capitol Flexipave; B&S Contracting- Porous Asphalt	Materials, Grading and Drainage, Stormwater Management
Fencing and Screening	2	Vendor: Anova Furnishings Custom Metal Panels; Project Contact: David Traphagen- David.T@anovafurnishings.com	Scale and Materials
Entrances	2	Meadowlark Botanical Garden Entrance Improvements	(4) Separate Entrances, Scale, Grading, Materials
Lighting Fixtures	phase 2-4	Use Public Works for Reference for standard fixtures; Vendor: Landscape Forms for more high end fixtures.	Type of Fixture, Utility Connections
Parking Lot	2	Use Warrenton Public Works for Reference	Scale and Surface Materials
Stormwater Management Facilities	phase 2-4	Brookside Gardens Montgomery County Maryland; DC or VA Department of Transportation, DC Water Green Infrastructure Vendor: NDS Pro.	Scale, Type of Facility (Infiltration, Permeable Pavement, Rain Garden etc)

**Notes

1) Cost Estimating should be done as Phase 1 in conjunction with site analysis, soils and geotech testing, survey, and site investigation. Any costs should be escalated for year of construction. Review when a detailed program is determined and when design and material selections have been made. Costs for each program element will vary widely based on existing site conditions, materials, and final designs, higher end materials, etc.

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