



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

March 04, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94184441385> or +1 669 444 9171 US Webinar ID: 941 8444 1385

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[1.](#) Minutes from February 4, 2025

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

[2.](#) March 4 Agenda Overview

G. NEW BUSINESS

3. Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. STAFF REPORTS

[4.](#) Trail Mix Update

[5.](#) Jackie Renninger Park Update

6. Dimond Park Field House Injury

J. PUBLIC LETTERS TO PRAC

[7.](#) Letter from Lillian Thorington

[8.](#) Letter from Susan Schrader

K. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

L. NEXT MEETING DATE - April 1, 2025

M. ADJOURNMENT

ADA accommodations available upon request: Please contact the Clerk's office 36 hours prior to any meeting so arrangements can be made for closed captioning or sign language interpreter services depending on the meeting format. The Clerk's office telephone number is 586-5278, e-mail: city.clerk@juneau.gov.

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE **DRAFT** MINUTES

February 04, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar



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A. CALL TO ORDER

PRAC Chair Ryan O'Shaughnessy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Ryan O'Shaughnessy, Josh Anderson, Ren Scott, Danika Swanson, Emma Van Nes, & Paulette Schirmer

Absent: Kaasáank' Andrew Williams, & Portland Sarantopoulos

Staff Present: George Schaaf, Parks & Recreation Director; Lauren Verrelli, Parks & Recreation Deputy Director; Jorden Nigro, Youth Services Manager; Jason Hoffbauer, Engineering & Public Works Engineering/Architectural Associate; Neil Steininger, Assembly Liaison; & Annie Carroll, Parks & Recreation Staff Liaison

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Ms. Schirmer to approve the agenda. *No objections were heard, and the agenda was approved.*

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes from January 7, 2025

MOTION by Ms. Schirmer to approve the minutes. *No objections were heard, and the minutes were approved.*

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - *None*

F. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2. February 4 Agenda Overview

G. NEW BUSINESS - *None*

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - *None*

I. STAFF REPORTS

3. Youth Services Update – Presented by J. Nigro

Ms. Nigro began by introducing herself and presenting a short PowerPoint with an overview of the Zach Gordon Youth Services division. The division offers youth sports, camps, and afterschool programs. They are also responsible for running the Zach Gordon Youth Center (ZGYC), and Shéiyi Xaat Hít Youth Shelter. Additionally, they provide housing navigation, rapid rehousing, and support services for local youth. She shared that the Zach Gordon Youth Center served 1,394 individuals, provided thousands of meals, hosted cooking and art programs, and D&D & hiking clubs in 2024 among other events. She then highlighted the Youth Activities Scholarship which provides flexible funding to support youth who want to participate in recreational activities, and their Youth Activities Board which provides CBJ Grant funding to youth serving organizations in Juneau. She continues by sharing that the division offers

soccer, volleyball, basketball and Start Smart Sports for youth with the support of volunteers that put in 1,659 hours of coaching in 2024. She describes the offerings of the Shéiyi Xaat Hít Youth Shelter which is funded by a mix of federal grant funding, Juneau Community foundation funding, private donations, as well as CBJ funding. She concludes by excitedly sharing that the Zach Afterschool program at Cedar Park and Geneva Woods had its first day on February 3 and offers free on-site afterschool programming to youth ages 6-12 with funding from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy asks how organizations can get involved with the Body and Mind (BAM) Afterschool Program. Ms. Nigro answers that it is easiest if they call the ZGYC or reach out to her at her direct line.

Ms. Scott asked which of the division's programs have federal funding to which Ms. Nigro answered only the housing program.

Ms. Swanson asked if the division has ever worked in conjunction with Youth Court to which Ms. Nigro answered that they just took a young person staying at the shelter to Youth Court for the first time. Ms. Swanson asked how long young people stay at the shelter on average. Ms. Nigro answered that the average is around 11 days, but that the federal grant caps their stay at 21 days max. Ms. Swanson also asked about the ZGYC participating in geocaching last year. Ms. Nigro answered that geocaching was a personal interest of one of their staff, so they decided to include it as part of their summer camps.

4. Marine Park Final Design – Presented by G. Schaaf, J. Hoffbauer, and E. Leonetti of Coffman Engineers

Mr. Schaaf begins by sharing some images of the final design plans for Marine Park. He explains that these designs are the culmination of a multi-year effort to plan for renovations and improvements at the park which hosts nearly a quarter of a million guests each year. He introduced the project manager Jason Hoffbauer, and Ed Leonetti of Coffman Engineers, who were present to discuss the plans and answer questions. The park was built with land and water conservation funds meaning the site is protected in perpetuity for outdoor recreation purposes. Currently the park features a shelter with benches, space for 3 seasonal food vendors, and several tables for visitors. The department held public engagement meetings to gather the public's input on what they wanted to see in the finished park. One of the greatest requested features was a space for public performances which prompted the addition of an elevated covered clamshell stage to the park design. The center of the park will include a large formline art piece by Rico Worl with additional design elements extending into the seating area near the edge of the park. The plans also propose the addition of a children's climbing structure inspired by the form of the Tlingit Gonakadet, or Sea-Wolf. Finally, he explains that the park will incorporate 2 permanent structures for food vendors positioned to prevent the interruption of foot traffic.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy asked if there would be any changes to the fee schedule for Marine Park vending. Mr. Schaaf answered that they do anticipate change, but it will require some changes to their regulations, and approval from the Assembly. Currently vendors pay a flat monthly fee, and the department is looking into moving to a concession model where vendors pay a portion of their gross sales.

Mr. Anderson asks how vendors are chosen for the highly sought after spots at the park. Mr. Schaaf answers that the department puts out a request for interest and interested vendors submit a permit application and proposal which is then graded. If a concession model is established the vendors who provide the best level of service to the public, and best revenue for the city, would be selected.

Ms. Swanson asks if vendors who have received the vending location in the past would be given the first opportunity to use the new kiosks. Mr. Schaaf answers that under the city's current regulations currently permitted vendors do not get preferential treatment or priority for future permits and must apply and be reviewed every year. Ms. Swanson then asked how many guests would fit in the park to

watch the performance on the stage. Mr. Leonetti answered that you could likely fit up to a few thousand people in the park observing, and approximately twenty-five people on the stage.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy asked for an overview of the estimated cost of construction and Mr. Schaaf answered with a rough estimate of 4.5 million for construction costs paid by marine passenger fees, and a total project cost of 7 million.

Mr. Anderson asked if there was a process for picking the theme, or consideration of the 1% for Art process. Mr. Schaaf answers that there was not a 1% for Art committee formed for this project and that the selections were at the discretion of department staff. They attempted to remain consistent with the Downtown Wayfinding Project that was recently completed so the new park would integrate well with new additions in the downtown area.

Ms. Van Nes acknowledged that the park design integrates a sleeve for the seasonal Christmas tree, and expressed her satisfaction that the tree will remain a tradition at the park for locals to enjoy. She then asks what the timeline is for this project. Mr. Schaaf answers that upon approval of funding they anticipate the park to be closed for an entire year.

Ms. Schirmer asked if the statue of Patsy Ann will be retained, and Mr. Schaaf answered that the statue will not be affected by the project and is not within the construction area.

5. Dimond Park Field House Maintenance Update— Presented by G. Schaaf

Mr. Schaaf shares that the department received two letters from the public expressing concerns about the water leaking from the roof at the Dimond Park Field House (DPFH). He presents them with a memo from Nate Abbott, the department's Building Maintenance Supervisor, explaining that the issue is largely caused by condensation due to a lack of thermal breaks between the exterior roof structure and the interior fixtures. He explains that they are aware of the dangers of water on the track, and corrosion of the fire sprinkler system, and asserts their commitment to getting a plan together to address the issues. A financial analysis is being conducted on two potential solutions. The first option would be to remove interior insulation and install thermal breaks, and the second option would be a full roof replacement with new insulation.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy asks how much has been spent on previous roof repairs and Mr. Schaaf answers less than fifty thousand dollars.

J. COMMITTEE MEMBER / LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Mr. Anderson shared that the Youth Activities Board met a few weeks ago to discuss their grant packets that will be coming out this month and held an open meeting for grantees to ask questions. The scoring will take place in March, and they will be awarding grants in March and April. He also shared that they recently approved emergency grant funds for the Glacier Swim Club. Their emergency contingency fund is in place for situations like these where organizations need a little help getting to the finish line to participate in special events.

Ms. Schirmer shared that the Lands Housing & Economic Development Committee met and discussed shared use of the Floyd Dryden Middle School by Tlingit and Haida and the University of Alaska for the purposes of childcare. Additionally, the Juneau Animal Rescue is leasing property near Don Abels which will give them more space. She also shares that while attending the Assembly meeting, she learned that vehicles which are Impounded in place are examined only by line of sight, meaning they could have undiscovered dangerous materials such as weapons and drugs inside them which is a cause for concern.

Mr. Steininger shared that the Assembly met and spent much of their time discussing flood response, eventually voting to move forward with the Local Improvement District (LID) process. They also discussed and ultimately denied an applicant who had applied to purchase a strip of parkland. Discussions regarding

the playground at Dzantik'i Heeni concluded with a request that the school district provide more options at different price points after reviewing the previous design with a rough cost estimate of 1.8 million.

Ms. Swanson thanked Mr. Schaaf for the in-depth facility tour he hosted on January 18. She enjoyed seeing the inner workings of the facilities such as the boiler room, and pool filtration system.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy concluded by encouraging the PRAC to attend the upcoming Jackie Renninger Park public meeting on February 11 to see the park's concept designs drafted with community input.

K. NEXT MEETING DATE - March 4, 2025.

L. ADJOURNMENT – With no further business to discuss the committee meeting adjourned at 6:37pm

Respectfully submitted by Annie Carroll on 2/28/2025



TO: Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
FROM: George Schaaf, Parks & Recreation Director
DATE: February 28, 2025
RE: March 4, 2025 Meeting

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Please find enclosed the information supporting your agenda topics for this meeting. The meeting is anticipated to last 60 minutes and will take place virtually via **Zoom Webinar**. To join the Zoom Webinar, go to <https://juneau.zoom.us/j/94184441385> or call 1-253-205-0468. **Webinar ID:** 87003674124.

NEW BUSINESS

Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park

Voters approved a \$6.6 million general obligation bond for park and trail improvements in 2022, including \$5 million for improvements at Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park. The initial scope of this project included installation of an artificial turf baseball/softball field and rehabilitation of the track. With the artificial turf field coming in under budget, additional items were added, including new LED lighting, new fencing, and new dugouts. Approximately \$1.4 million in bond funds remain available for the project.

Project consultants discovered that the 40-year-old track is in such poor condition that it cannot be repaired due to the degraded asphalt under the rubber surface, which itself has many bubbles, rips and tears. A complete replacement is estimated to cost up to \$4 million. Given the recent closure of Floyd Dryden Middle School and the consolidation of Thunder Mountain High School and Juneau-Douglas High School, the Juneau School District has indicated that the track at Thunder Mountain Middle School is sufficient to meet the needs of high school sports.

As a result, the Department recommends using the remaining bond funds for other priorities that will improve the park and support youth sports, including JSD activities. These include:

- Replace the failing press box at the football field
- Replace failing field lighting at the football field with LEDs
- Renovate the plaza between the football and baseball fields
- Replace temporary sheds with permanent storage for user groups and sports teams

- Replace the restroom/concession building

Action Requested:

Staff are seeking a recommendation from the PRAC regarding how to proceed with remaining work at Adair-Kennedy Memorial Park, including the proposed project list. This could include a recommendation to proceed as outlined above, or a request for more information and/or development of alternatives.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Trail Mix Update – *Presented by Meghan Tabacek, Executive Director, Trail Mix, Inc.*

Trail Mix Executive Director Meghan Tabacek will share an update on Trail Mix operations, including projects completed in 2024 and plans for the 2025 field season.

Jackie Renninger Memorial Park - Final Master Plan

Following a lengthy public process throughout 2024, the final master plan for improvements to Jackie Renninger Memorial Park were completed in February. A final meeting with stakeholders was held with skaters and pickleball players to confirm overall direction for the project. The Assembly has appropriated an additional \$1 million toward bid-ready design and construction expenses. Total project costs are estimated at about \$7.5 million, with a voter-approved general obligation bond the likely funding source.

Dimond Park Field House Injury

We received a report of a child that was struck in the head by the front door of the Dimond Park Field House while another patron was exiting. Replacement of the doors has been on an extensive list of unfunded deferred maintenance projects for CBJ facilities. As a short-term solution to prevent this incident from happening again before the doors are replaced, staff are cutting windows into the doors.



Trail Mix, Inc.

2025 SCOPE OF WORK



2025 TRAIL PROJECTS

- Christopher Trail
- Under Thunder Bike Park
- Perseverance
- 35 Mile ORV Park
- Black Bear Trail
- Fish Creek Bridge
- Mt. Jumbo Reroute
- Horse Tram
- Outer Point
- Brushing/General Maintenance

TRAIL STEWARDS

Since its launch in 2022, Trail Mix has logged **8,200 volunteer hours** on CBJ trails! We're excited to keep the momentum rolling and work with volunteers on these trails this summer:

- Mt. Jumbo Reroute
- Switzer Creek
- Horse Tram
- Black Bear Trail (lower Montana Creek)

HUB FOR TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS

- We've addressed over 100 responses on our Juneau Trails Damage Form.
- Improving our online resources, including building out our Juneau Trails Map and resources.
- Trail Mix has grown our capacity, and we now employ 4 full-time, year round staff and 20 seasonal crew members.

BRUSHING AND TRAIL MAINTENANCE GRANT

- Trail Mix is requesting an increase from \$75,000 to \$100,000 in our operational grant.
- This grant funds our brushing and maintenance crew. Each year, our brushing crew clears 60+ trails and beach access points.
- This grant also supports materials for volunteers, crew supplies, and machine and equipment repair.

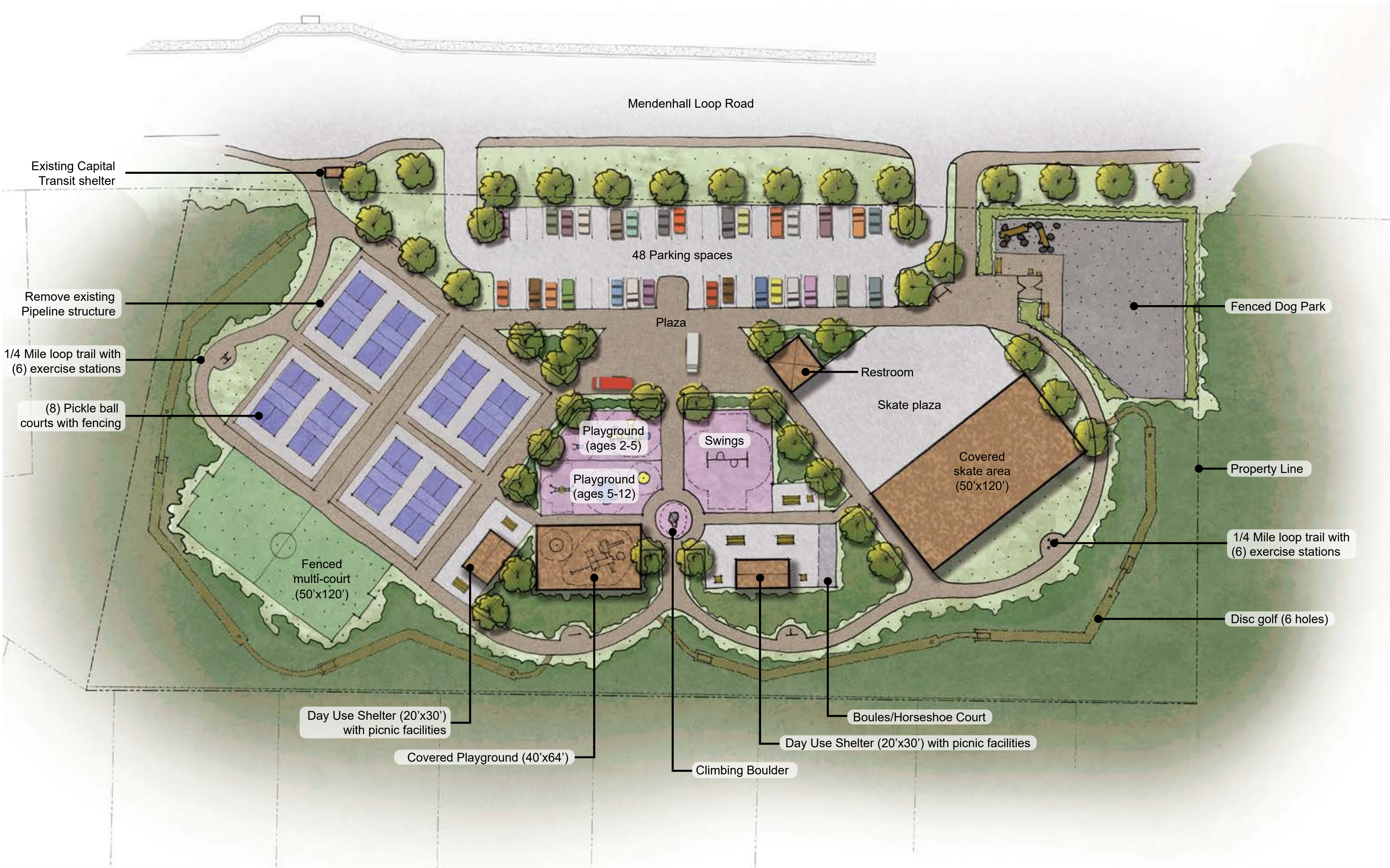
TRAILS FOR ALL AND ALL FOR TRAILS!



JACKIE RENNINGER SKATEPARK

JUNEAU, ALASKA
FEBRUARY 2025

CONCEPT DESIGN PACKAGE

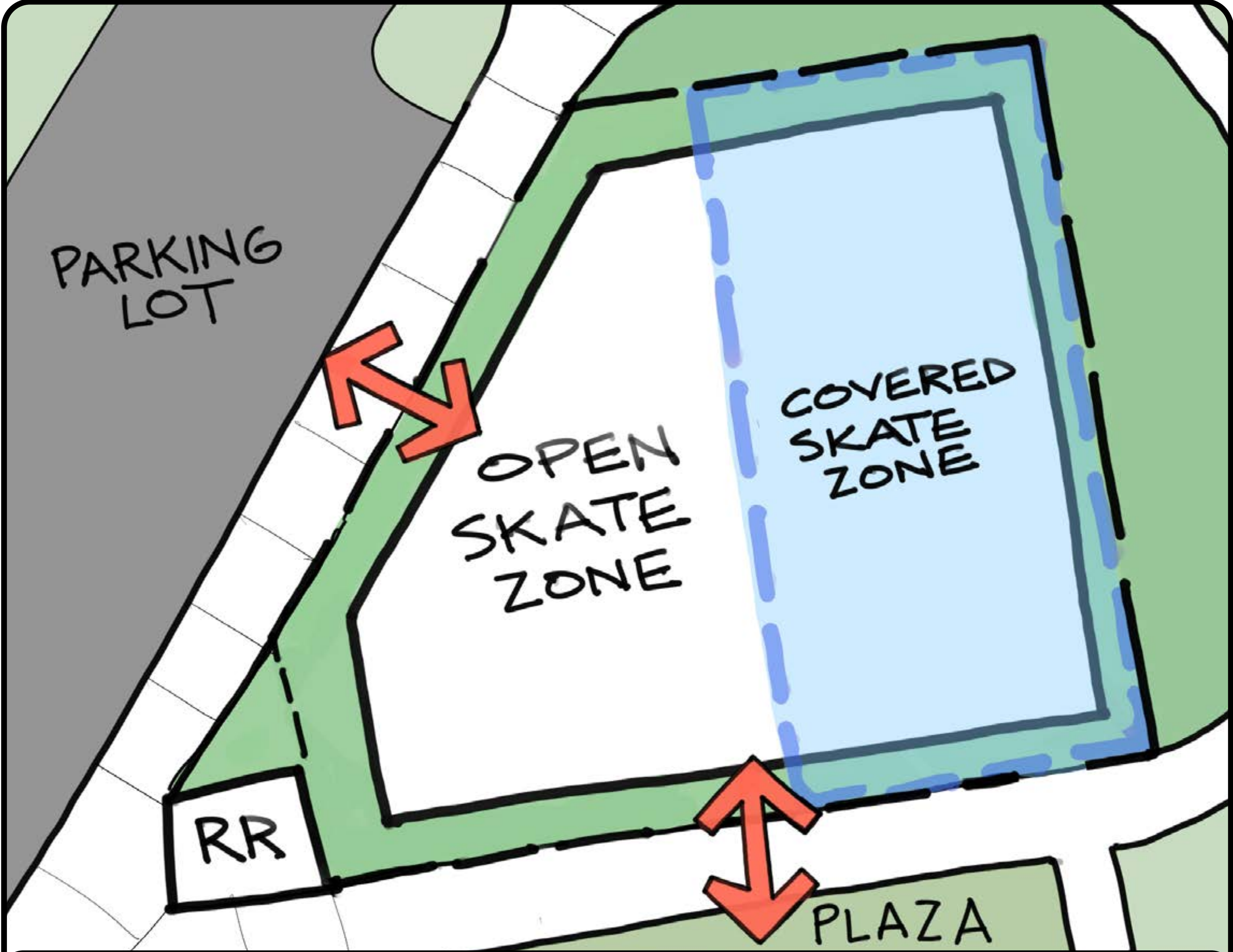


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JACKIE RENNINGER CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN



Master Plan Concept



Skatepark Site Context

Project Development | Meeting 1 Feedback

Meeting Summary

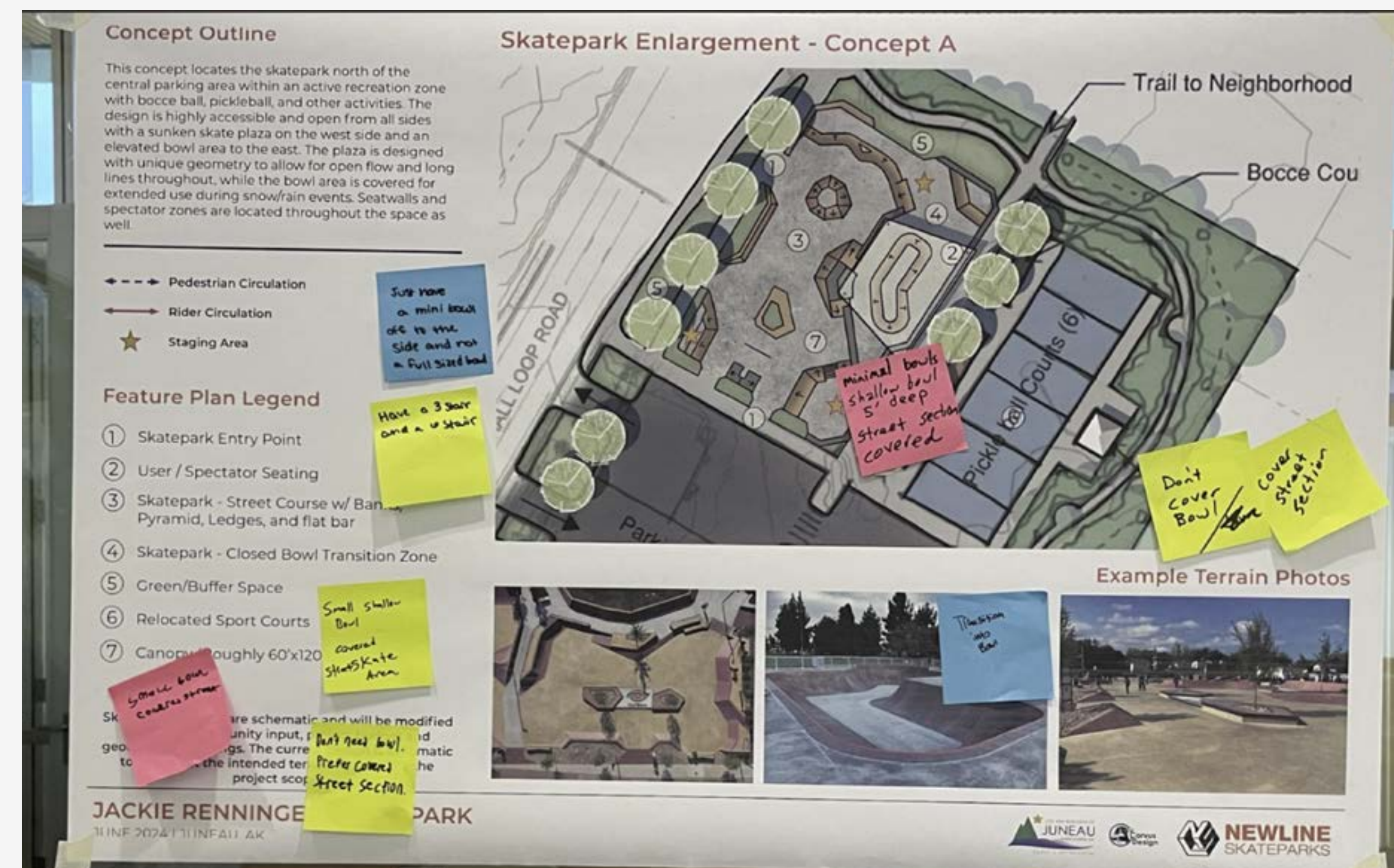
In June 2024, a public design input meeting was held for the new Jackie Renninger skatepark. The goal was to engage the community, inform them about the project, collect input on desired project features and park improvements.

Participants were presented with concept designs and given the opportunity to express their desired skatepark terrain and styles. The feedback from this meeting will be considered for further skatepark design development.

Feedback Notes

- Concept A is the most preferred skatepark design
- Street terrain is most preferred
- Smaller transition preferred over larger (5' Max)
- Street style is most preferred terrain skate under the overhead cover section
- 3 Stair and 6 Stair requested
- Mini ramp preferred over mini bowl

Meeting 1 Material



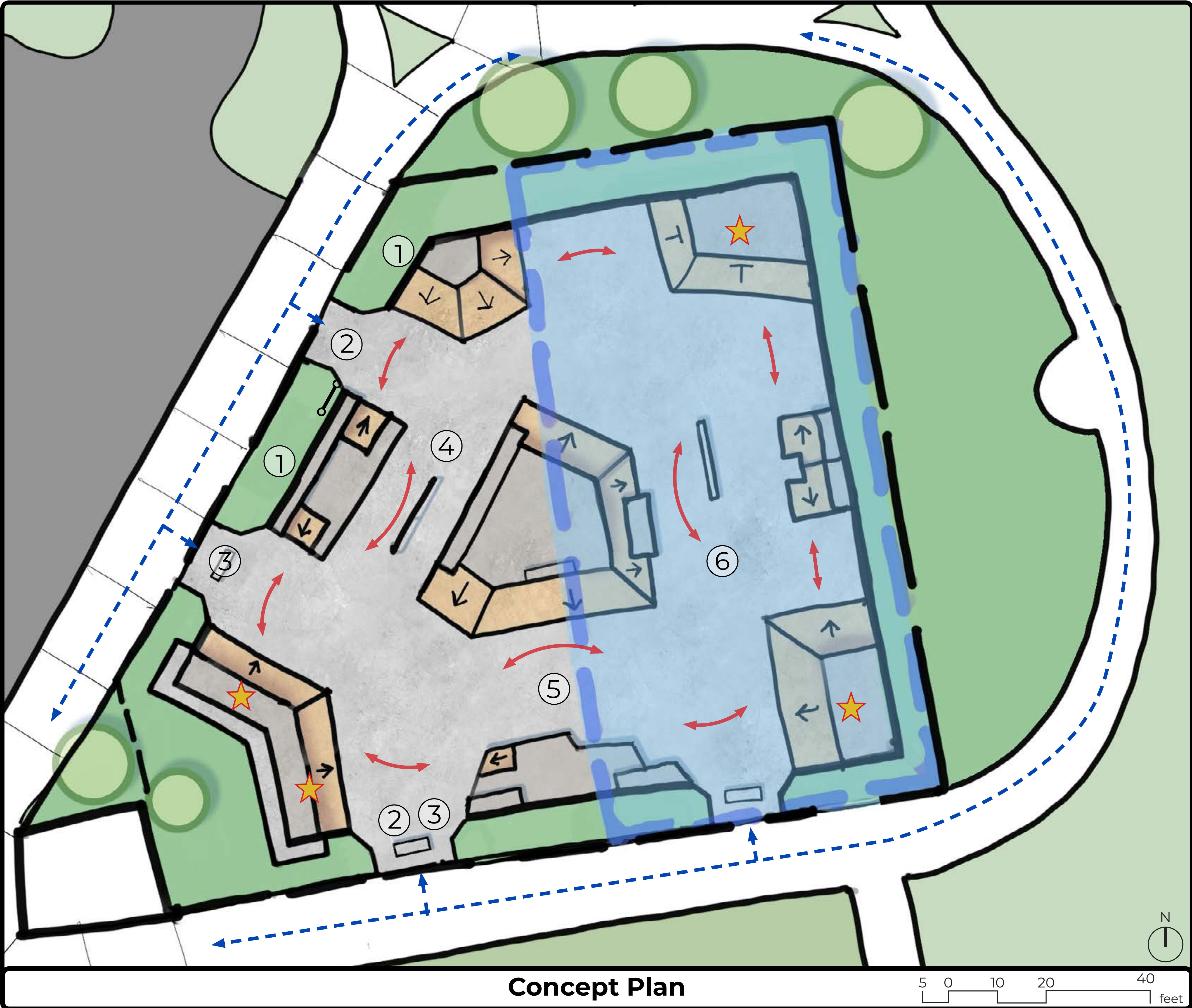
Concept Design Feedback



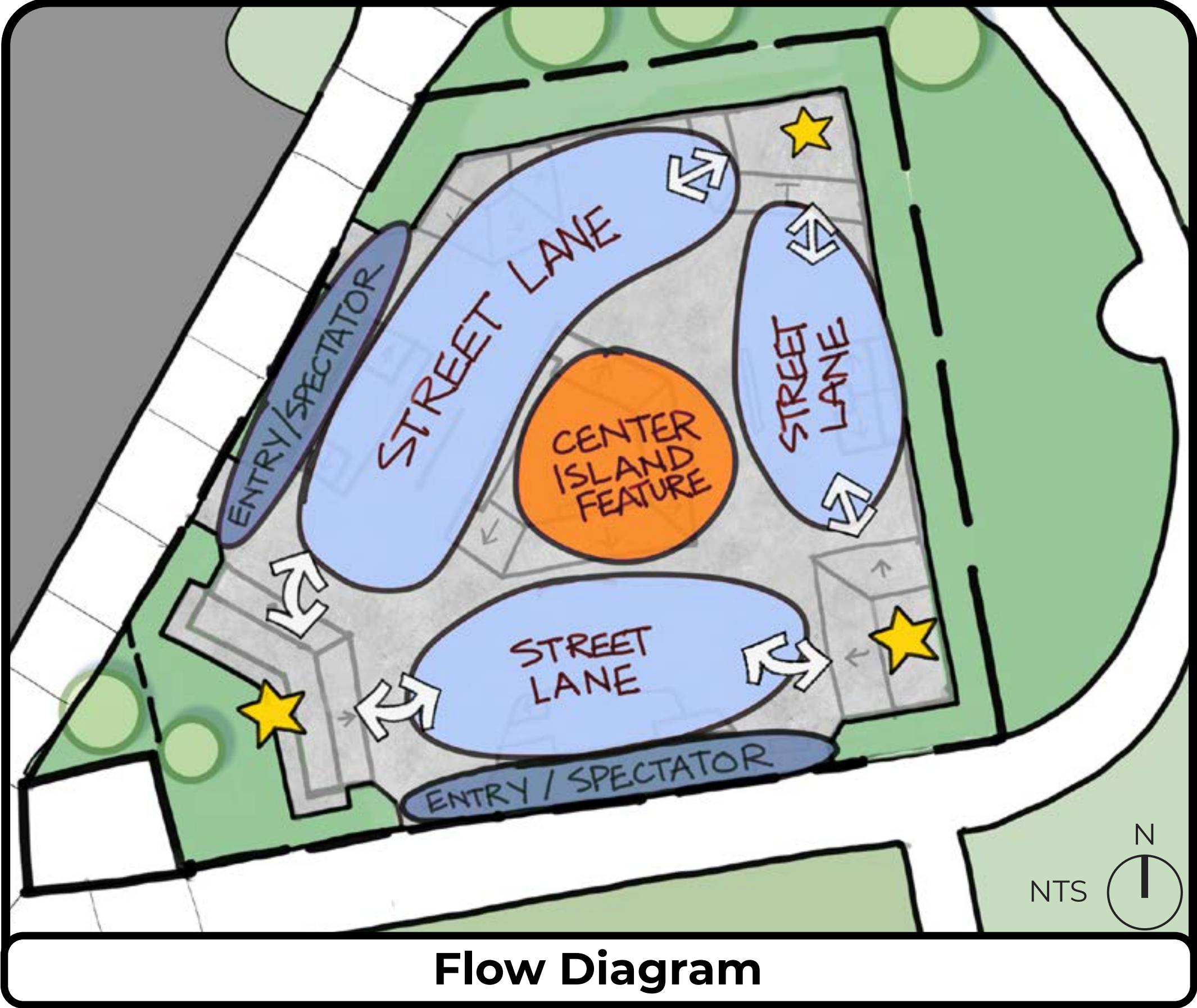
Preferred Skatepark Design
'Concept A'



Overall Park Layout
'Concept C'



Concept Plan



Flow Diagram

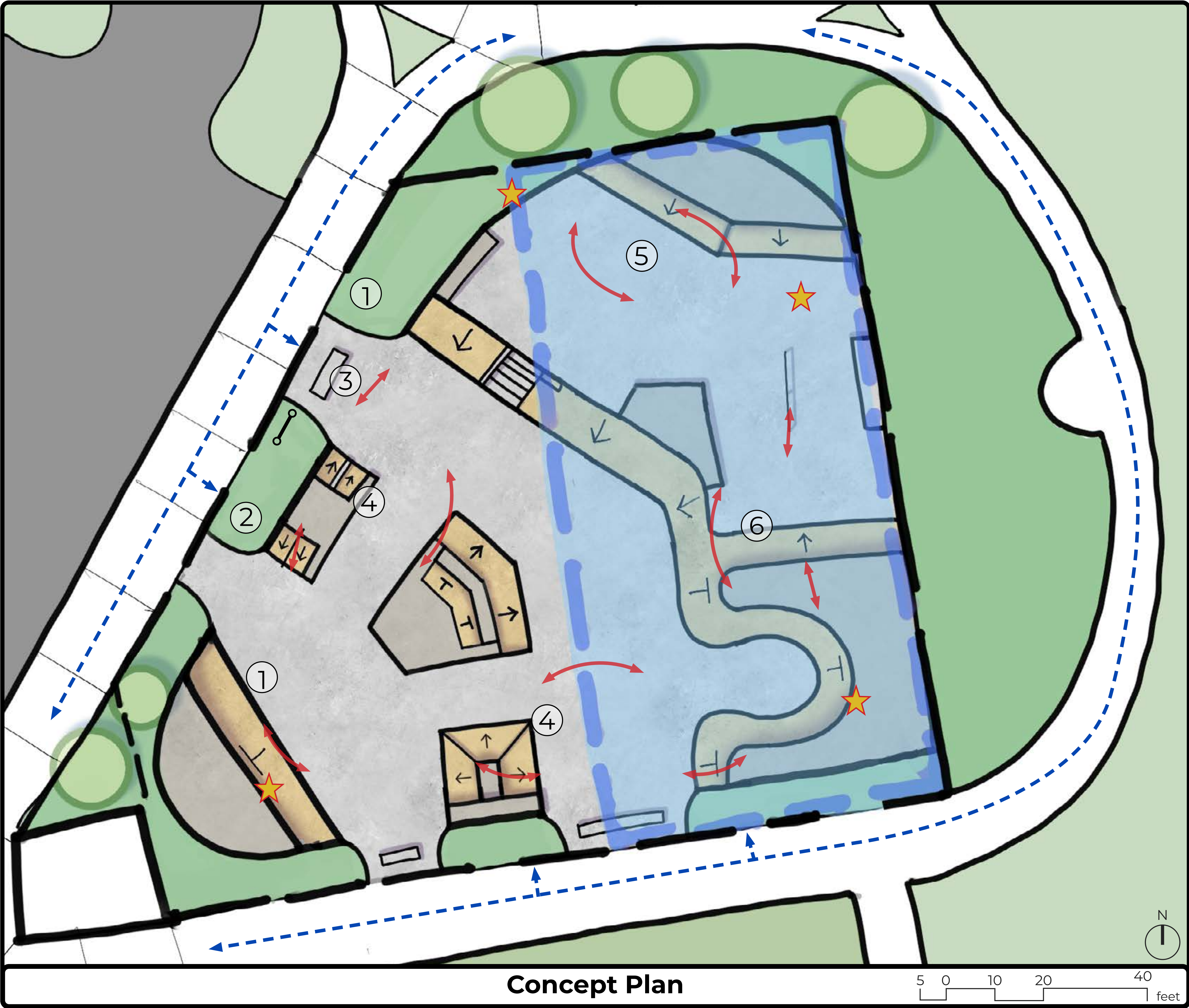
Concept Plan Key

- ① Landscape Buffer
- ② Skatepark - Entry
- ③ Skatepark - Spectator Seating
- ④ Skatepark - Moderate Speed Street Lane
- ⑤ Skatepark - Transition Flow Lane
- ⑥ Skatepark - Covered Street Lane
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ↔ Rider Circulation
- ★ Staging Area
- ⌘ Rules Sign
- [] Overhead Structure

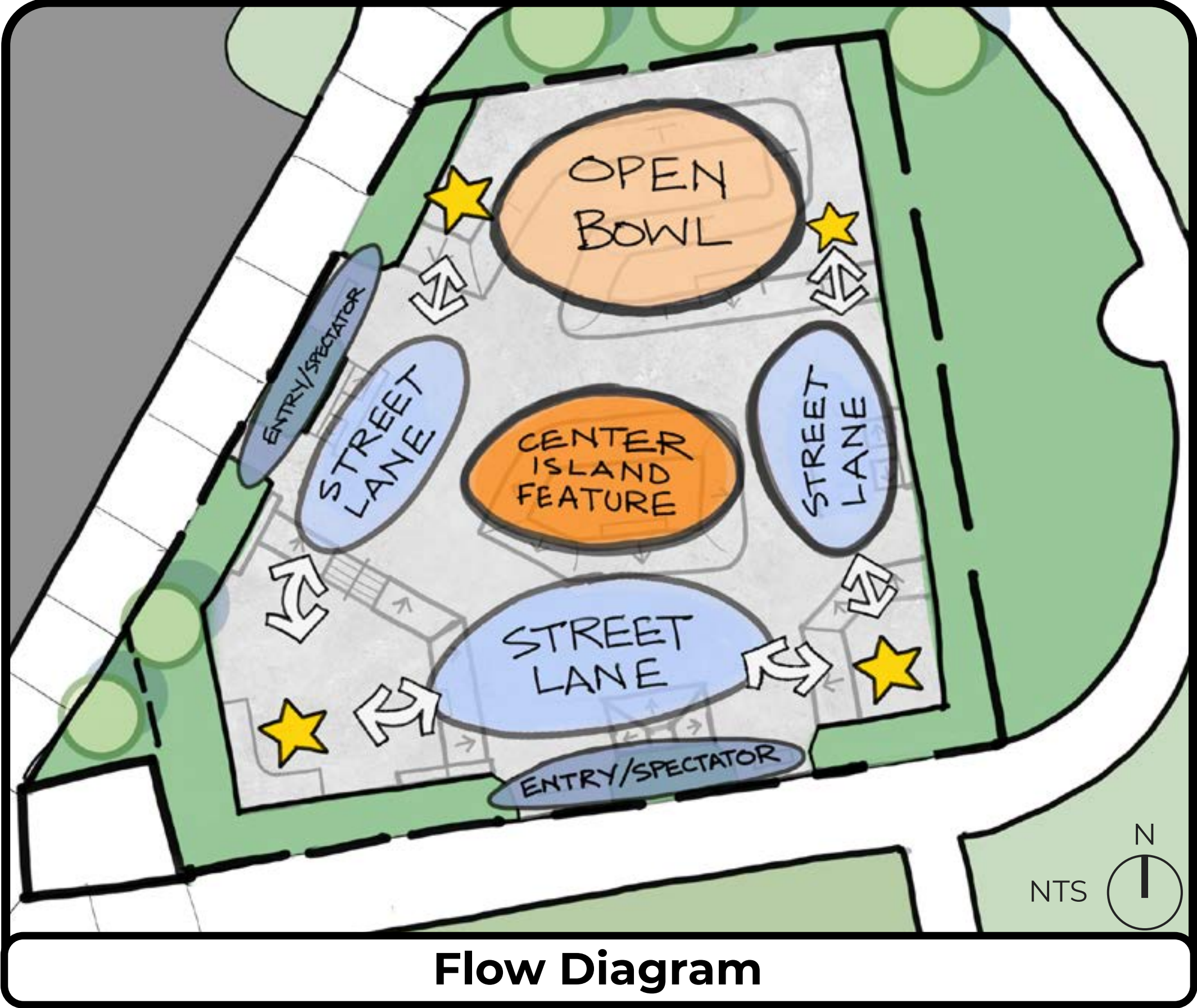
JACKIE RENNINGER SKATEPARK

JUNEAU, ALASKA
FEBRUARY 2025





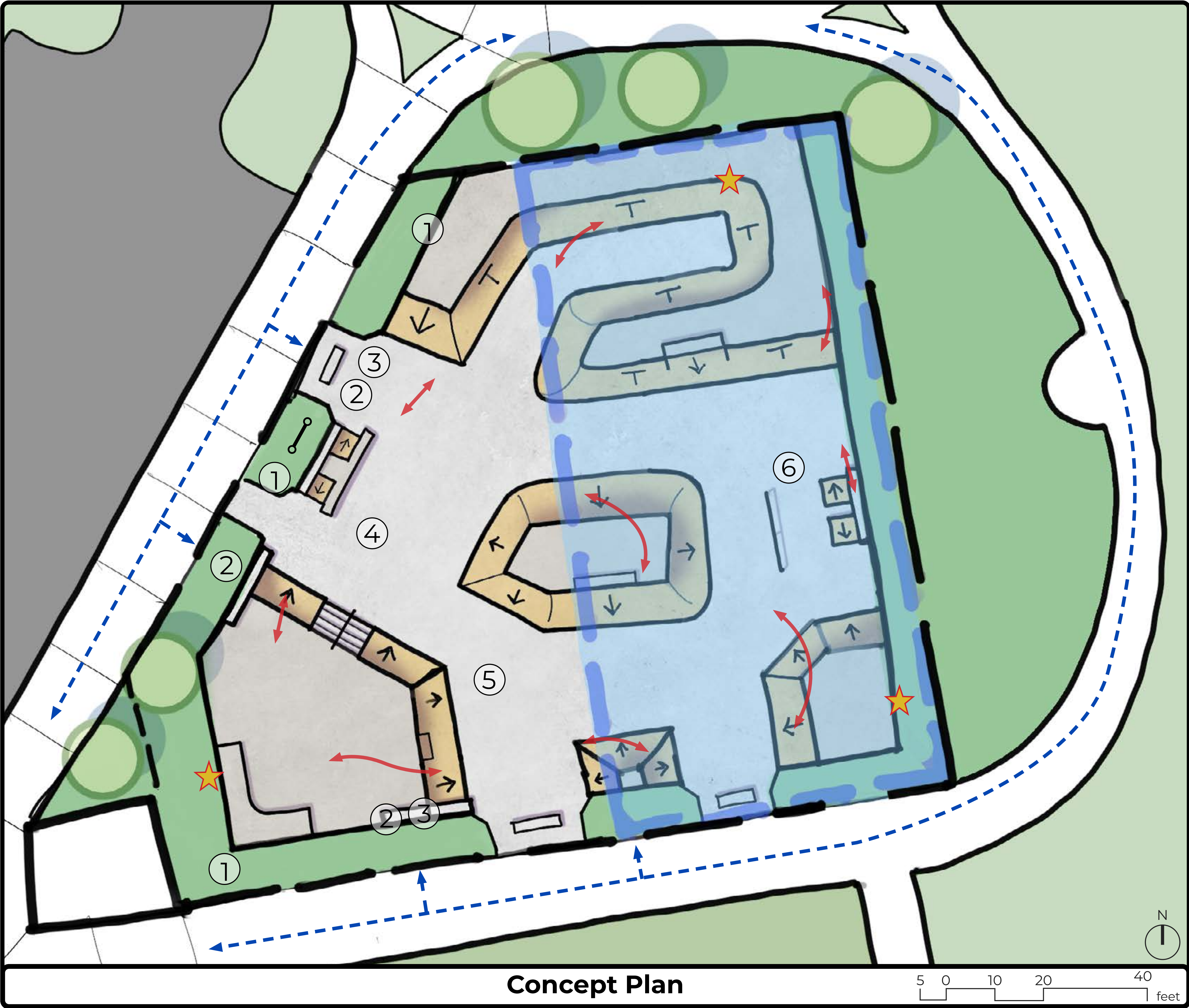
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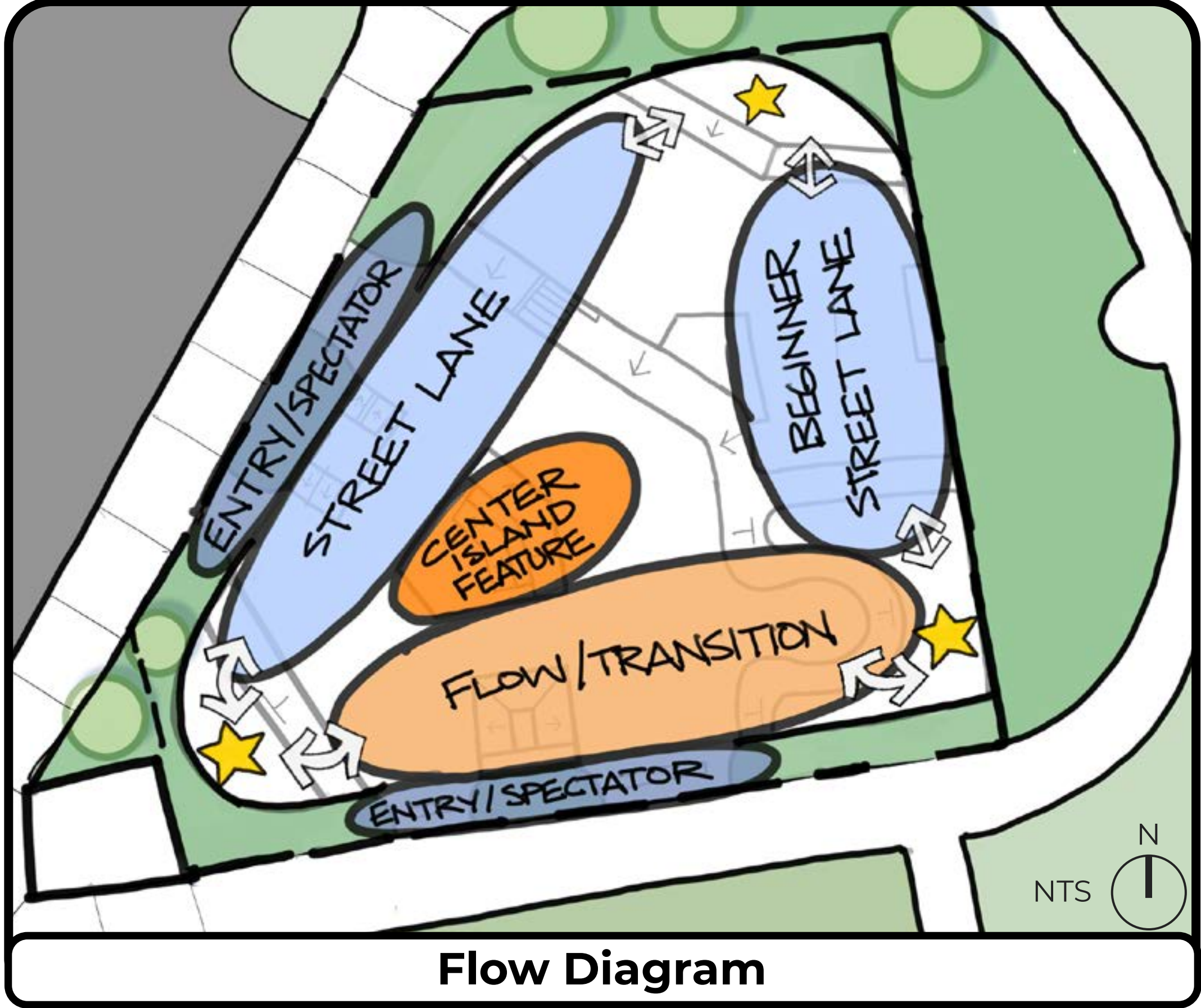
Flow Diagram

Concept Plan Key

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- ② Skatepark - Entry
- ③ Skatepark - Spectator Seating
- ④ Skatepark - Moderate Speed Street Lane
- ⑤ Skatepark - Open Bowl
- ⑥ Skatepark - Covered Street Lane
- ↔ Pedestrian Circulation
- ↔ Rider Circulation
- ★ Staging Area
- ⌘ Rules Sign
- Overhead Structure



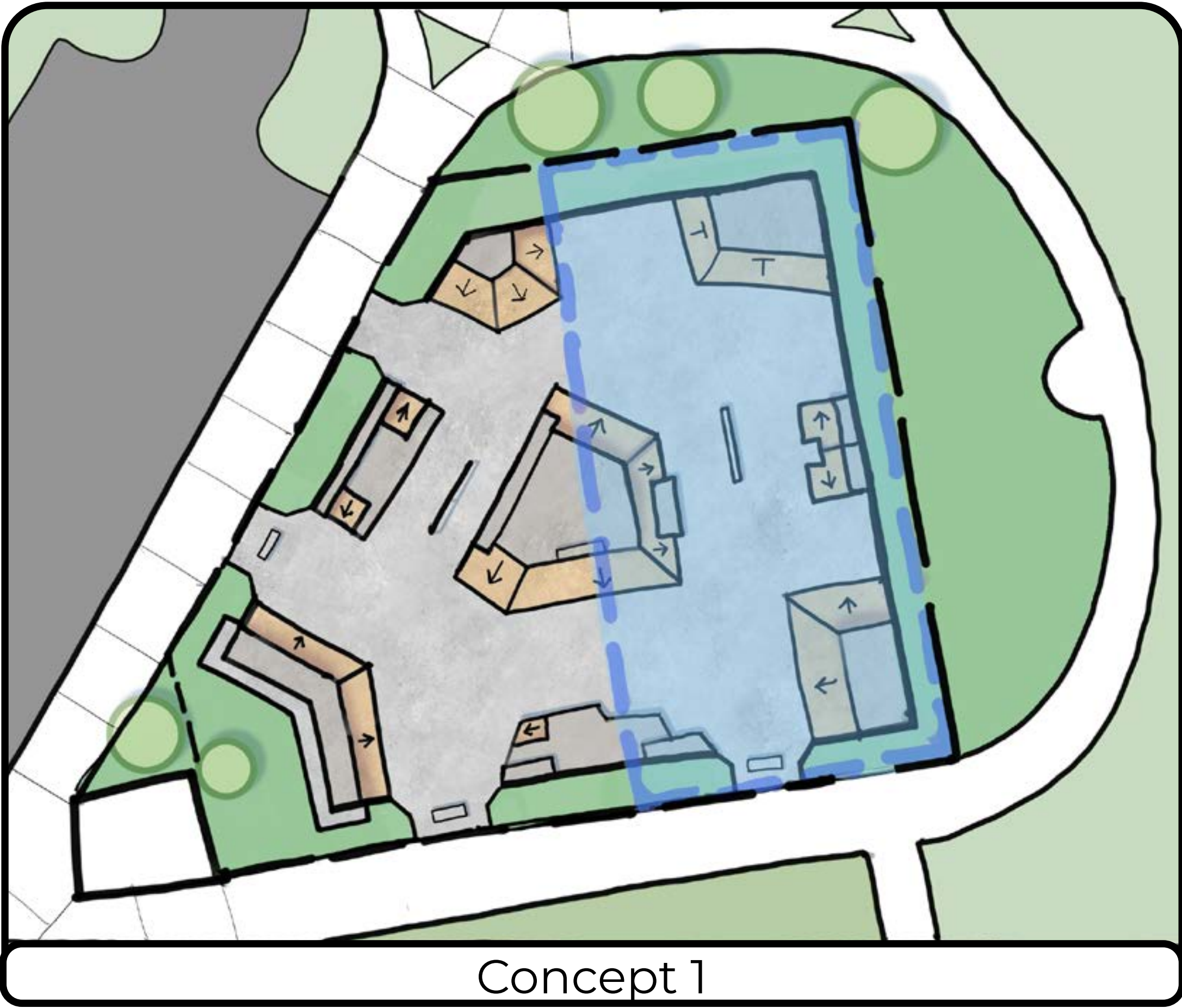
Concept Plan



Flow Diagram

Concept Plan Key

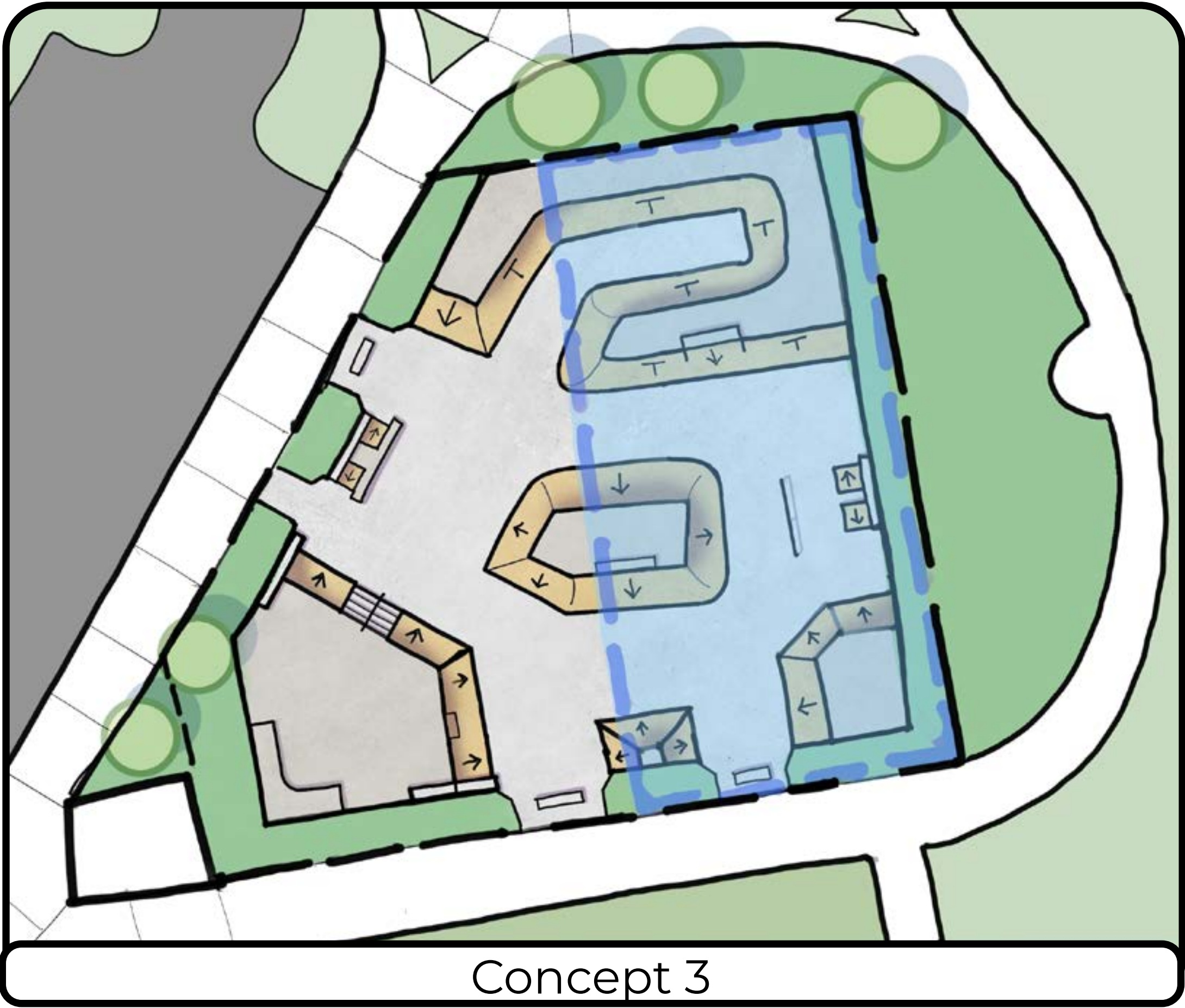
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- [] Overhead Structure



Concept 1



Concept 2



Concept 3

From: Lillian Thorington

Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 4:35 PM

To: George Schaaf <george.schaaf@juneau.gov>

Subject: Jackie Renninger Park Rebuild - Accessible Playground

Section J, Item 7.

Hello,

My name is Lillian Thorington and I am a disability rights advocate. I understand that there is a new playground being built in Jackie Renninger Park, as a part of the upcoming rebuild. I would like to propose that the new playground be an accessible and inclusive playground that can be accessed by all children, including those with disabilities. Some things that I would like to see in the playground would include adaptive equipment, tactile areas so that the playground is accessible to blind children, and a smooth ground so that wheelchairs can access the playground. I am reaching out to ask who I need to contact to begin the process of pushing for an inclusive playground.

Thank you,
Lillian Thorington

TO: Juneau Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Susan Schrader 2611 John Street, Juneau

DATE: February 24, 2025

RE: Addition of 9 more Baskets for Disc Golf at the Treadwell Mine Site

I am writing to urge the PRAC to enthusiastically support the proposal to expand the disc golf course at the Treadwell mine site above Sandy Beach to include 9 additional baskets.

Having lived in West Juneau for over 15 years, I walk the trails at the site and on Sandy Beach multiple times a week. I was intrigued by the game as I watched others playing it. Early last summer, I asked one player about disc golf, and she encouraged me to join the Women's league.

I fretted a bit over how these younger women would respond to a septuagenarian in their league! At my first game, they offered me discs to try, explained the necessary details of the game for me to get started, and were warmly encouraging. And I was impressed by the concern they all showed for hikers, cyclists, runners, dog walkers, and other users in the area; we would always be sure our throws wouldn't endanger anyone.

The Treadwell course is a great addition to Douglas and downtown recreation opportunities, especially in view of the fact that disc golf can be enjoyed by Juneauites of nearly all ages. I think the expansion of the course is a great idea that would enhance enjoyment of the Treadwell site without negatively impacting other users.