

MEMORIAL PARK

SPECIFIC PLAN

CITY OF CUPERTINO, FEBRUARY 2024



revitalize
Memorial Park



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Executive Summary

Executive Summary

The City of Cupertino has a robust parks and recreation system that serves its diverse community of over 60,000 residents. Memorial Park is well-known as a key amenity for recreation, leisure, and celebration. As the largest park in the city, Memorial Park hosts concerts, festivals, and ceremonies that attract visitors from across the Bay Area year after year.

As identified in the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, Memorial Park is an ideal location to expand recreational opportunities to serve the greater community. This system-wide plan, adopted in 2020, also provides recommendations to improve circulation, infrastructure, and accessibility within the park. In immediate response to these recommendations, the City of Cupertino began developing a comprehensive vision for a revitalized Memorial Park.

The Memorial Park Specific Plan is the result of careful analysis and planning efforts in collaboration with City staff, local residents, and park visitors. This document analyzes the existing conditions of the park, documents previous planning efforts, contextualizes the park as a key component of the Cupertino community, and synthesizes feedback received from stakeholders. Over 3,300 people provided valuable input about their favorite park features, prioritized potential new amenities, and explored other important topics during community outreach events held both in-person and virtually.

The Memorial Park Specific Plan presents a conceptual design that responds to the community's preferences and priorities; celebrates existing historical, cultural, and environmental features; and proposes new amenities and infrastructural upgrades to enhance the overall visitor experience. Key renovations to the amphitheater and stage, an updated pathway network, new high-quality playgrounds, and dedicated pickleball courts are among the proposed improvements.

This plan also explores potential pathways for achieving the shared vision of a revitalized Memorial Park. A phasing plan, cost evaluation, funding strategy, and a summary of the environmental review findings are included in this plan. Serving as a comprehensive roadmap for stakeholders and decision-makers, the Memorial Park Specific Plan aims to ensure that this popular and well-known community park remains an active, safe, and accessible public resource.



Chapter 1

Introduction

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Overview

Memorial Park is the largest park in the City of Cupertino park system. This popular 22-acre community park includes several acres of lawn, walking paths, a gazebo, two playgrounds, an amphitheater, a lighted softball field, reservable picnic areas, and six lighted tennis courts. Memorial Park features the Cupertino Senior Center, the Quinlan Community Center, and the Cupertino Veterans Memorial. This centrally-located park serves the entire community and hosts a variety of large social and civic events. Memorial Park is open daylight hours to 10:00 pm and has several on-site parking lots.

The Memorial Park Specific Plan seeks to celebrate the unique cultural, historical, and natural assets of the park. This plan will guide the future enhancements based on the vision and priorities of the community. This Specific Plan is a forward-looking document that studies the existing park site and context, analyzes the results of the extensive community engagement process, presents a comprehensive site concept, and recommends an implementation strategy for the future of Memorial Park. This plan aims to:

Build upon the vision of the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan;

Respond to community input and priorities;

Locate new amenities and enhance existing ones;

Investigate costs, funding mechanisms, and project partners; and

Summarize existing environmental review efforts and outline a strategy for moving forward.

Project Purpose

The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, adopted in 2020, presents Cupertino’s vision for expanding civic event and community gathering spaces while improving the existing natural features in Memorial Park. The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan envisions the park as a community hub with robust multi-use and civic-focused event spaces, with updated event infrastructure—particularly the existing amphitheater—and improved circulation for visitors during large events. The development of the Specific Plan is identified as an immediate enhancement opportunity, recognizing this park as an ideal location to host programs, events, fairs, and festivals for visual, performing, and fine arts.

The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan additionally proposes that the park design preserves the existing lighted sports field, repurposes the pond, maximizes shade, enhances accessibility, integrates inclusive and experiential nature play elements, updates walkways and seating options, and considers a multi-court pickleball tournament venue.

The Memorial Park Specific Plan directly responds to the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan by providing recommendations to enhance the park’s unique identity and sense of place. The Specific Plan presents a comprehensive suite of improvements to achieve a balance between the built and natural environments. The final concept plan, driven by extensive community outreach, ultimately aims to meet the present and future event, gathering, recreation, and open space needs of Cupertino.

Guiding Principles

Guiding principles for the project build upon the goals in the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, which were focused on supporting an engaged, healthy, and active community. The guiding principles for the Memorial Park Specific Plan are:

- Reinvigorate and revitalize parks and recreation facilities to support broad and inclusive recreation interests (Goal 4: Enhancement);
- Provide programs, events, and services that foster social cohesiveness and lively, diverse activities for people of all ages, abilities, cultures, and interests (Goal 5: Activity); and
- Create high quality recreation experiences, places, and services that are welcoming, safe, responsible, comfortable, and reflective of Cupertino’s unique character (Goal 6: Quality).

Project Process

The Memorial Park Specific Plan was developed over a period of a year and a half. During that time, an extensive community outreach process took place which invited local stakeholders and community members to discuss their priorities and preferences for a revitalized Memorial Park. Events were held in-person as well as virtually to reach over 3,000 diverse participants.

Participants were presented with design concept alternatives and responded to surveys that provided critical feedback to guide the planning and design process. Meetings were held with neighborhood groups, local civic and community organizations, cultural groups, school districts, advocacy groups, and City of Cupertino staff to develop a design concept and vision that is tailored to the needs of the Cupertino community.



Image 1-1: Memorial Park Sign

Document Organization

The Memorial Park Specific Plan is organized into five chapters. Each chapter builds upon the prior, culminating in the final concept plan and implementation strategy for a revitalized Memorial Park.

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter discusses the purpose, process, and guiding principles of the project.

Chapter 2: About the Park

This chapter provides context about the City of Cupertino and describes the existing conditions of Memorial Park.

Chapter 3: From the Community

This chapter summarizes the findings of the community engagement process that shaped the final concept plan.

Chapter 4: Park Concept

This chapter presents the final concept plan, developed in response to community input and feedback, for Memorial Park.

Chapter 5: Implementation

This chapter outlines the implementation strategies to revitalize Memorial Park.

Appendix

The appendices are bound under a separate cover and include supporting documentation for the Memorial Park Specific Plan, including reports, assessments, and analyses.

Appendix A. Parking Study

Appendix B. Tree Inventory Report

Appendix C. Community Engagement Data

Appendix D. Preliminary Concepts

Appendix E. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment

Appendix F. Geotechnical Evaluation

Appendix G. Planning Context

Appendix H. Site Assessment

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Chapter 2

About the Park

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Image 2-1: Memorial Park (September 2023)

Overview

This chapter will present background information on the park and its surroundings. The sections in this chapter include:

- Site Context
- The Park
- Surrounding Uses
- Park Access
- Park Circulation
- Existing Amenities
- Areas to Preserve
- Community Events
- Recent City Projects On-Site

The full Site Assessment is found in Appendix H. Relevant planning documents that were consulted for the Memorial Park Specific Plan are discussed in Appendix G.

Site Context

The City of Cupertino (City) is nestled into the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains at the west end of Silicon Valley. The City owns or manages 224 acres of community or neighborhood parks, recreational facilities, trail corridors, school sports fields, and special use sites across 34 locations. This includes indoor and outdoor athletic facilities offering baseball, softball, soccer, basketball, tennis, cricket, volleyball, swimming, and more. The City also provides a sports/teen center, senior center, community center, civic center, and golf course.

The Park

Memorial Park is a 22-acre community park centrally located on Stevens Creek Boulevard in Cupertino (Figure 2-1). This park sits one mile away from City Hall and is home to both the Quinlan Community Center and Cupertino Senior Center. Constructed in the mid-1970s, Memorial Park initially included a softball field, tennis courts, and a gazebo. Additional amenities and recreational facilities have been added over time, such as the large amphitheater, multi-use event lawn, playgrounds, walking paths, and Sister City monuments. Memorial Park hosts community events throughout the year, drawing visitors from across Cupertino and the Bay Area.

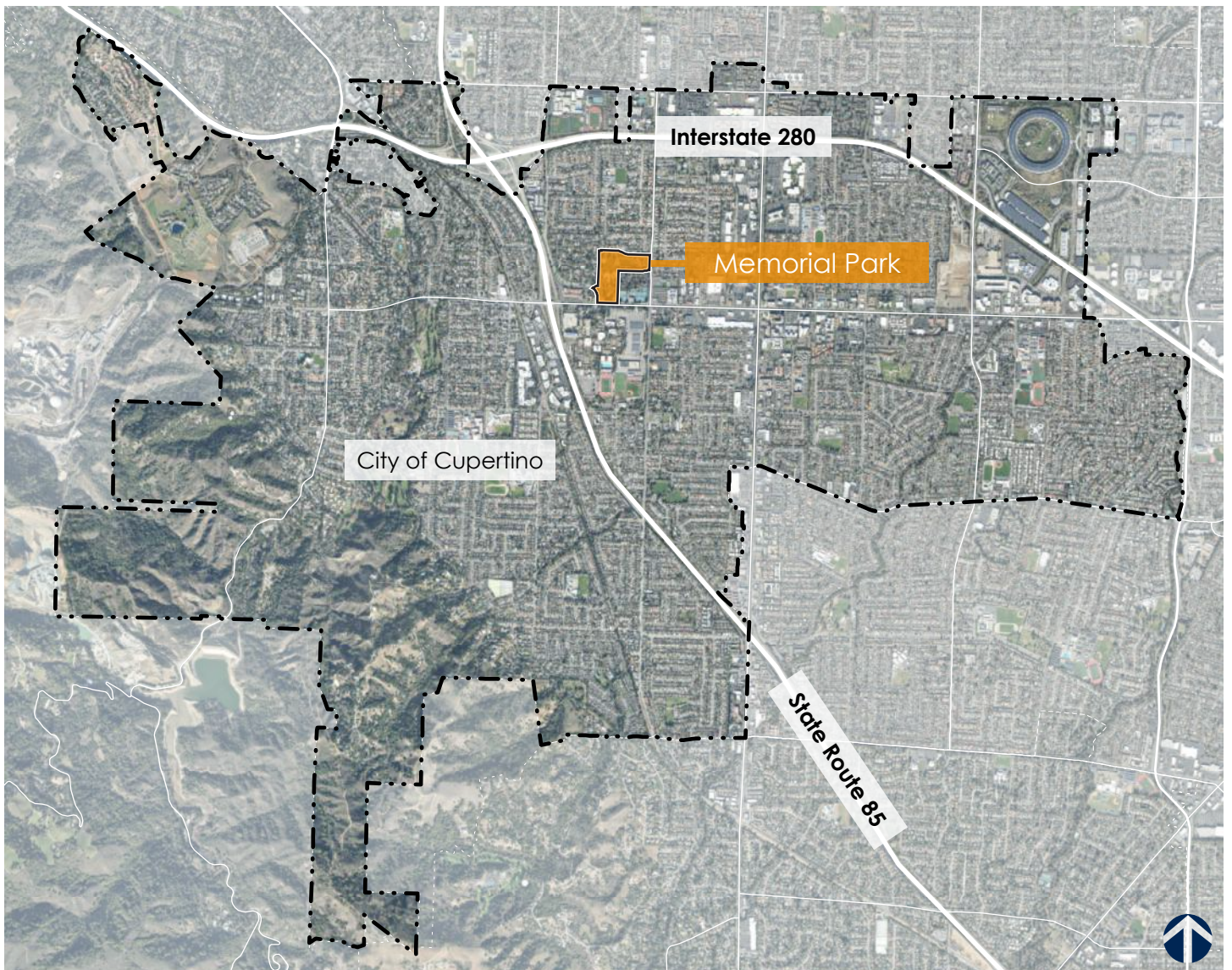


Figure 2-1: Memorial Park Location in the City of Cupertino



Surrounding Uses

Memorial Park is located along Stevens Creek Boulevard, a main commercial corridor with retail, restaurants, grocery stores, and other businesses. The surrounding area of the park is generally known as the residential Garden Gate neighborhood.

Memorial Park is near Garden Gate Elementary School, William Faria Elementary School, Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, and Homestead High School. Across from Stevens Creek Boulevard to the south is De Anza College, a public community college that offers over 70 associate degrees.

The Cupertino Sports Center is southeast of the park at the intersection of Stevens Creek Boulevard and North Stelling Road. This multipurpose facility offers tennis, pickleball, racquetball, basketball, and badminton. The facility hosts fitness classes, sports clubs, leagues, and camps for youth and adults.

The southwest corner of the park is adjacent to the Westport Cupertino development project. The 8-acre mixed-use development will include single-unit attached residences, senior housing, and commercial uses along Mary Avenue and Stevens Creek Boulevard.

Lastly, the Mary Avenue Dog Park is located northwest of the park. This dog park has separate fenced areas for small and large dogs and is open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm every day. There are shaded benches, drinking fountains, and trash receptacles.

Park Access

Visitors typically travel to the park via Stevens Creek Boulevard (arterial running west to east) which borders Memorial Park to the south. Stevens Creek Boulevard connects to the West Valley Freeway (State Route 85) approximately a quarter-mile west of the site. State Route 85 connects to Interstate 280 at an interchange to the northwest of the park. De Anza Boulevard, an arterial running north to south, is located less than a mile east of the park (Figure 2-2).

There are several bus stops along Stevens Creek Boulevard as well as North Stelling Road, which partially borders Memorial Park to the east. Cupertino is served by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). The bus stop near the Cupertino Senior Center on Stevens Creek Boulevard is serviced by the local bus line (route 51), which also stops at the intersection of Stevens Creek Boulevard and North Stelling Road. The bus stop at Stevens Creek Boulevard and North Stelling Road is also serviced by the rapid bus line (route 523). The park is near a stop within the De Anza College campus that is serviced by the frequent bus line (route 23).

There are several bicycle routes to the park, most notably, the buffered bike lanes along Stevens Creek Boulevard, North Stelling Road, and Mary Avenue. To the west of Homestead High School is a pedestrian and bicycle route that connects to the northern end of Mary Avenue. This paved shared-use separated path utilizes the Don Burnett Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge (also known as the Mary Avenue Bridge) to cross over Interstate 280. The bridge was opened in 2009 and connects Memorial Park to neighborhoods on the northern side of the interstate.



Figure 2-2: Memorial Park Context

Park Circulation

Vehicle and Parking

There are three vehicle access points into the park at Mary Avenue, Alves Drive, and North Stelling Road. The vehicle entrances lead into the three parking lots within the park. There is no internal vehicle circulation at Memorial Park, except for City maintenance and emergency vehicle access (Figure 2-3).

The southwestern parking area contains Lots 1, 2, and 3. Lots 1 and 2 are divided by a small speed bump and are both reserved for patrons with a Cupertino Senior Center permit. Lot 3 does not require a permit but has a two hour time limit from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Lot 3 terminates at a roundabout that allows for easy turn-around.

The parking lot along Alves Drive (Lot 4) is unrestricted (no permit requirement or time limit). During large civic events such as the Cupertino Holi Festival of Colors, this parking lot is converted to a food court area with food trucks, tables and chairs, portable restrooms, and handwashing areas. There is additional street parking on Alves Drive near this lot.

Lots 5 and 6 are primarily used for the Quinlan Community Center and can be accessed via North Stelling Road or Alves Drive. This parking lot features electric vehicle chargers and a pick-up/drop-off roundabout. This parking lot is also unrestricted, but there are several stalls reserved for City vehicles only.

The on-site parking lot stall inventory is shown in Table 2-1. There are 258 total on-site parking stalls, with an additional 55 on-street parking stalls, resulting in a total of 313 parking stalls available. All of the 55 on-street parking stalls are unrestricted and located on the north and south sides of Alves Drive. There are no other unrestricted on-street parking stalls along any other park frontage street.

The full Parking Study is found in Appendix A.

On-Site Parking Lots and Stall Quantities

Lot	Access From	Total Stalls	Accessible Stalls ¹
1	Mary Avenue	61	6
2	Mary Avenue	27	1
3	Mary Avenue	34	2
4	Alves Drive	50	2
5	North Stelling Road	42	2
6	North Stelling Road	44	1
All		256	14

¹ Accessible stalls are included in the total stalls quantities
 Source: TJKM Parking Study, 2022

Table 2-1: Parking Lots and Stall Quantities



Image 2-3: Parking Lot 4 along Alves Drive



Image 2-4: Parking Lot 3 Roundabout



-  Major Public Road
-  Minor Public Road
-  Public Access
-  Maintenance Access
-  Parking Lot
-  Accessible Stall

Figure 2-3: Existing Vehicular Circulation

Bicycle

Stevens Creek Boulevard and North Stelling Road have buffered bicycle lanes on both sides of the road (Figure 2-4). Mary Avenue has unprotected bicycle lanes on both sides (Class II), which transition north of the Cupertino Senior Center entrance to a buffered bicycle lane on the east side (also Class II) and a separated bikeway on the west side (Class IV). The Bicycle Transportation Plan recommends a separated bikeway on both sides of North Stelling Road and both sides of Stevens Creek Boulevard (Stevens Creek Boulevard is in progress as part of an ongoing phased project).

Since the park does not currently feature any designated bicycle trails, bicycle riding in the park is discouraged due to potential conflicts with pedestrians. There are several bicycle lockers at the Cupertino Senior Center's northern entrance.

Pedestrian

There is pedestrian access to Memorial Park on all sides except along the western edge, where the park abuts a residential development. Mary Avenue has a sidewalk along the park's western frontage and a protected pedestrian island by the Cupertino Senior Center parking lot vehicle entrance. To the north, along Christensen Drive, there is a pedestrian access point at the park's northwest corner. To the east, along North Stelling Road, pedestrians must go through or around Quinlan Community Center to access the park. Along Alves Drive there are sidewalks and several pedestrian access points. There is a pedestrian access point along Anton Way near the historic gazebo. To the south, Stevens Creek Boulevard has a continuous sidewalk but there is only one pedestrian access point into the park in the southeast corner. The south side of Christensen Drive and both sides of Anton Way do not have sidewalks.

Paved paths connect all uses and amenities to a comprehensive interior pedestrian network. The looped paths range in width from 4 to 6 feet and consist of concrete, asphalt, decomposed granite, or pavers, although a majority of them are 6-foot-wide asphalt paths. Cracking and tripping hazards are common; various areas do not provide accessibility features such as ramps or level surfacing.



Image 2-5: Concrete, Asphalt, and Dirt Paths Converge



Image 2-6: Asphalt Paths with Varying Elevation Changes



Image 2-7: Cracked Asphalt Path



Figure 2-4: Existing Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation

- | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| | Sidewalk | | Bicycle Lanes (Buffered, Class II) |
| | Pedestrian Circulation | | Bicycle Lane (Unprotected, Class II) |
| | Pedestrian Access | | Planned Separated Bikeway (Class IV) |
| | Building Access | | |

Existing Amenities

Memorial Park is a heavily utilized and amenitized park (Figure 2-5). There are two community facilities at opposite ends of the site, an amphitheater, picnic areas, multi-use lawn spaces, playgrounds, a softball field, tennis courts, and other amenities such as such as restrooms, benches, drinking fountains, bike racks, storage areas, and trash receptacles to support the function of the park. This section serves as an overview of the amenities, while Appendix H provides the full Site Assessment.

Quinlan Community Center

The Quinlan Community Center is a 27,000-square-foot recreation facility located in the southeastern portion of Memorial Park. The Quinlan Community Center, opened in 1990, is home to the City's Parks and Recreation Department and the Cupertino Historical Society and Museum. The facility is named after Robert W. Quinlan, Cupertino's second City Manager who served from 1971 to 1989. The building is multi-use, offering classrooms and a variety of other rooms available to rent for business or personal needs. The Quinlan courtyard on the western side of the building features a small shade structure that is bracketed by the wings of the building. The Quinlan event lawn lies immediately west of the courtyard. The courtyard is well-connected with the park's pathway network, with walkways from both the north and south ends of the courtyard wrapping around the Quinlan event lawn leading into the park.

Cupertino Senior Center

The Cupertino Senior Center, a membership-based recreation facility, is a 15,500-square-foot building located in the southern portion of Memorial Park along Stevens Creek Boulevard. The main entrance to the building is on the north side, served by a parking lot accessed via Mary Avenue. The main entrance features a memorial bench and low seat wall with engraved tile dedications bordering a paved plaza with shaded circular picnic tables and a decorative pergola. There is a small deck facing the park on the east side of the building.



Image 2-8: Quinlan Community Center, Street Frontage



Image 2-10: Quinlan Community Center, Courtyard



Image 2-9: Cupertino Senior Center, Street Frontage



Figure 2-5: Existing Amenities

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ① Amphitheater | ④a Playground (2-5) | ⑦ Spectator Seating |
| ②a Picnic (Drop-in) | ④b Playground (5-12) | ⑧ Restrooms |
| ②b Picnic (Reservable) | ⑤ Softball Field | ⑨ Maintenance/Storage |
| ③ Multi-Use Lawn | ⑥ Tennis Courts | ⑩ Cell Tower |

Amphitheater

Memorial Park is home to the only public amphitheater in Cupertino. It hosts the Summer Concert Series and Shakespeare in the Park, which both run during the summer months. The amphitheater is highly valued by the community. Terraced concrete seat walls are built into a small hillside area to provide formal seating. The seat walls are surrounded by lawn and are backed by a grove of trees. There are no ramps, stairs, or handrails and therefore limited accessibility.

Picnic Areas

The park has multiple picnic areas for drop-in use, as well as a large reservable picnic area, which can accommodate social gatherings of all sizes. These areas are largely without shade, which inhibit their use on hot and sunny days. The large reservable picnic area has a capacity of 113 people with 16 picnic tables, 2 serving tables, 3 barbeques, and a counter area with a sink. Electricity is available with a reservation to further enhance the usability of this key amenity. There are two smaller general use picnic areas around the softball outfield, each with two picnic tables and two barbeques. Lastly, there is a large general use picnic area near the 5-12 year old playground with space for multiple groups and barbeques. However, there is a lack of separation between the tables to create clear groupings.

Multi-Use Lawn Spaces

There are several areas of unobstructed multi-use lawn in Memorial Park. The northern portion of the park contains the largest multi-use lawn. It is rectangular, largely flat, and sits between the Quinlan Community Center and the reservable picnic area. The lawn is bounded on the remaining sides by a walking path within an allée of trees. The park also has smaller lawn spaces serving passive use activities.



Image 2-11: Amphitheater Seating



Image 2-12: Reservable Picnic Area



Image 2-13: Multi-use Lawn near Quinlan Community Center



Image 2-15: Playground, 2-5



Image 2-16: Softball Field



Image 2-14: Tennis Courts

Playgrounds

There are two playgrounds at Memorial Park. A playground appropriate for 2-5 year old children is located on the north end of the site, situated between the softball field and tennis courts. A playground appropriate for 5-12 year old children is located on the southern end of the site adjacent to Anton Way and the amphitheater. Both playgrounds are connected by pathways, within walking distance of restrooms, and have unshaded seating areas. Playgrounds are buffered from vehicle traffic by other park amenities.

The play structures lack clear paths of travel and accessible ramps. The play surfacing is composed of wood fiber surfacing bounded by concrete curbs, which does not provide an accessible transition.

Softball Field

Memorial Park features the only lighted softball field in the City. The softball field is primarily used by Cupertino Parks and Recreation sponsored leagues and local teams, but is also available for drop-ins and reservations during the weekends and off-season. This field attracts players and spectators from around the entire South Bay region given the high quality of this amenity.

Tennis Courts

There are six lighted first come, first served tennis courts, one of which is dual-striped for pickleball. The tennis courts are oriented north/south and are divided by a low fence with gaps to allow movement between courts. The tennis court area is protected by a high fence with privacy and wind screens.

Areas to Preserve

There are several areas and site elements of Memorial Park that were not considered for redesign as part of the Memorial Park Specific Plan, shown in Figure 2-6. These existing features are critically important to the identity of the park and/or otherwise constrained.

The Quinlan Community Center building will not be altered, which includes the small patio attached to the southern wing and the small play area attached to the northern wing. The Cupertino Senior Center building will also not be altered, although modifications to the existing deck were considered to improve the building's connection to the park's pedestrian network.

Several cultural elements in Memorial Park will be preserved. The Veterans Memorial, the grove of trees that encompass the memorial, and the other memorial trees were not considered for redevelopment in the Memorial Park Specific Plan. The two stone lanterns will remain, although their exact locations are subject to change. The gazebo, identified as a historic site in the General Plan, is fragile and therefore cannot be altered or relocated.

Lastly, the cell tower and its associated transformers have an active lease through 2040 and cannot be moved.



Image 2-17: Veterans Memorial



Image 2-18: Stone Lantern



Image 2-19: Cell Tower

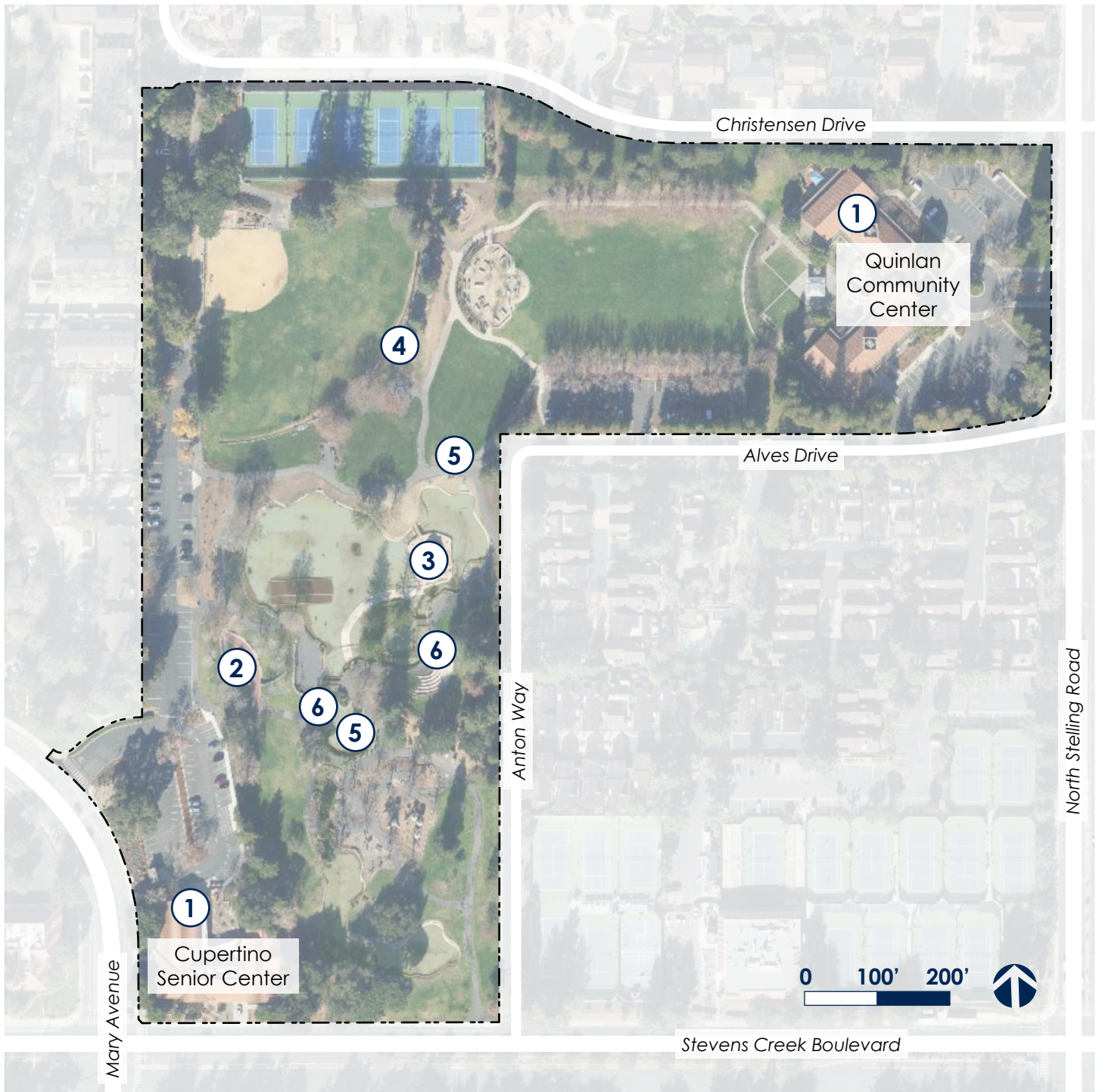


Figure 2-6: Existing Areas to Preserve

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| ① Recreational Buildings | ④ Cell Tower |
| ② Veterans Memorial | ⑤ Stone Lanterns |
| ③ Historic Gazebo | ⑥ Memorial Trees |

Community Events

Memorial Park frequently hosts large community-wide and regional cultural events. Throughout the year, over a dozen events are held by organizations such as the local Rotary Club chapter, Cupertino Chamber of Commerce, and the Sister City program. These large events can attract thousands across the Bay Area to the park.

The Bay Area Diwali Festival of Lights is a free public event that showcases multicultural music, dance, workshops, arts and crafts, and food. For over 20 years, this family-friendly event has partnered with vendors and sponsors to provide fun and educational experiences for the greater region. Memorial Park also hosts the Cupertino Holi Festival of Colors, the Heritage India Faire & Purab Fest, the Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, the Summer Concert Series, Shakespeare in the Park, and more.

In addition to festivals and performances, Memorial Park is also home to ceremonies focused on reflection and remembrance. For example, the annual Veterans Day Ceremony recognizes local veterans at the Veterans Memorial statue titled “The Guardians.” The ceremony includes remarks by notable community members who offer commendations to all veterans, active duty military, and first responders.

Memorial Park also hosts the annual Bell Ringing for Peace Ceremony, which recognizes the bombing of the City of Toyokawa, Japan on August 7, 1945—a few weeks before the end of World War II. This ceremony hosts guest speakers that recount the tragedy, pledge a peaceful relationship, and celebrate over four decades of City sisterhood. The attendees gather around the senbazuru, a tower of 1,000 origami cranes prepared by the student delegates of the Cupertino-Toyokawa Sister Cities program, while the bells are rung for 30 seconds.



Image 2-20: Diwali Festival (2022)

Recent City Projects On-Site

Memorial Park Ponds Repurposing Project

The Memorial Park Ponds Repurposing Project removed approximately 71,000 square feet of existing concrete lining from the ponds located at the park during the summer and fall of 2022. The ponds were previously emptied and without water since 2013 due to drought conditions. The area was backfilled and graded, the irrigation systems were modified, and landscaping, turf, and pathways were installed. During construction, the stone lantern located in the central pond was temporarily relocated and subsequently returned to the original location. The project was completed in August 2023.



Image 2-21: Ponds at Memorial Park Before Removal (2012)



Image 2-22: Ponds at Memorial Park After Removal (2022)

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The background is a dark blue field filled with various shades of blue. It features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes such as curved bands, triangles, and circles. In the lower-left quadrant, there is a small, dark blue crescent moon. The overall aesthetic is modern and minimalist.

Chapter 3

From the Community

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Community Engagement Overview

The success of the Memorial Park Specific Plan relies on the involvement of community members to shape the project’s vision, goals, and priorities. Outreach and engagement are pivotal components of any public project to ensure that the final plan accurately and holistically represents the community and its diverse residents.

Community outreach questions were developed around three identity scenarios—Civic Event Space (e.g., festivals, concerts, sports), Community Gathering Space (e.g., playgrounds, picnics, classes), and Natural Site and Park (e.g., green space, walking paths, nature areas)—which link directly to the vision outlined for Memorial Park in the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan (2020).

The initial goal for Memorial Park outreach was to collect data on the community’s likes, needs, and wants in terms of park identity scenarios, elements, and amenities. A second round of engagement focused on collecting feedback about preliminary concept plans and prioritizing features for the development of a final concept plan. Community input was gathered in September/October 2022 (Round 1) and January/February 2023 (Round 2) through online and in-person engagement activities. Over 3,300 community responses were

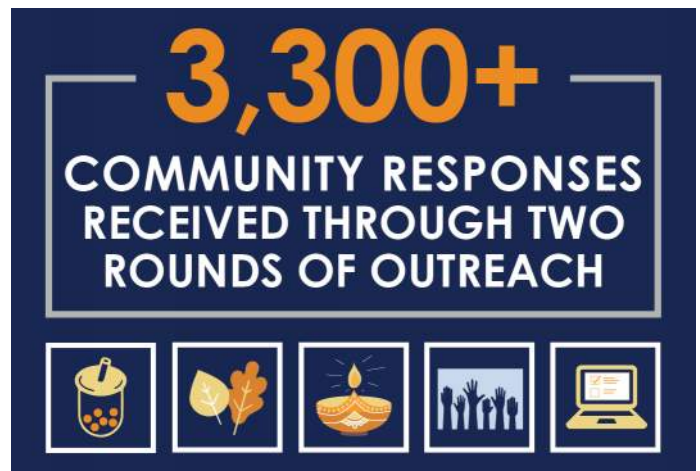


Figure 3-1: By the Numbers - Community Engagement

received in the first two rounds of public outreach, providing essential input to shape the revitalization of Memorial Park. Participants representing a wide range of ages and ethnicities were excited about the opportunity to revision the park and eager to share their opinions in conversations with the project team and in online responses. A third and final round of outreach included a public review period and final presentations of the Memorial Park Specific Plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council.



Figure 3-2: Outreach Process



Figure 3-3: Top 5 Most Liked Current Park Features (Round 1 Outreach)



Image 3-1: Round 1 Pop-Up Event, September 2022

The outreach efforts revealed that Memorial Park is a well-utilized and beloved community asset drawing visitors for a wide range of activities. Among the community members surveyed, most visit Memorial Park to attend a festival or event, and the park’s reputation as a popular venue for public performances and celebrations is an important part of its identity. Walking paths, natural areas, trees, open lawn space, events, and playgrounds were top-rated features of the park, illustrating how effectively Memorial Park balances active and passive recreation, play experiences, nature elements, and community connection.

While planning for the park’s future, the community favored building on Memorial Park’s strong foundation, citing new recreation amenities including water play and nature play, better connections for bike access, more amenities for all ages/abilities, and an expanded tree canopy to provide more shade as the most desired enhancements. Although it was a popular park amenity during initial community engagement for the Memorial Park Specific Plan, water play did not align with the City of Cupertino’s sustainability goals and was not furthered in the design process.

Community outreach participants preferred a park design that combines a variety of recreation options, such as pickleball and tennis, with expanded opportunities for play, social gathering, and the enjoyment of nature. Garden areas, trees, shaded picnic areas, playgrounds, sports courts, upgraded restrooms, and an upgraded amphitheater were all important priorities for the final concept plan.

Overall, the community supports the unique features and diverse uses of Memorial Park, while desiring enhancements to social and recreational experiences and improvement of the park’s natural amenities. The public recognizes the multi-faceted ways the park serves the Cupertino community by providing a trifecta of equally engaging identity scenarios as a civic event space, community gathering space, and natural site and park.

SCENARIOS
CURRENT
AND FUTURE
MEMORIAL
PARK
IDENTITY

*Survey Questions #6-7
 and In-Person Votes*

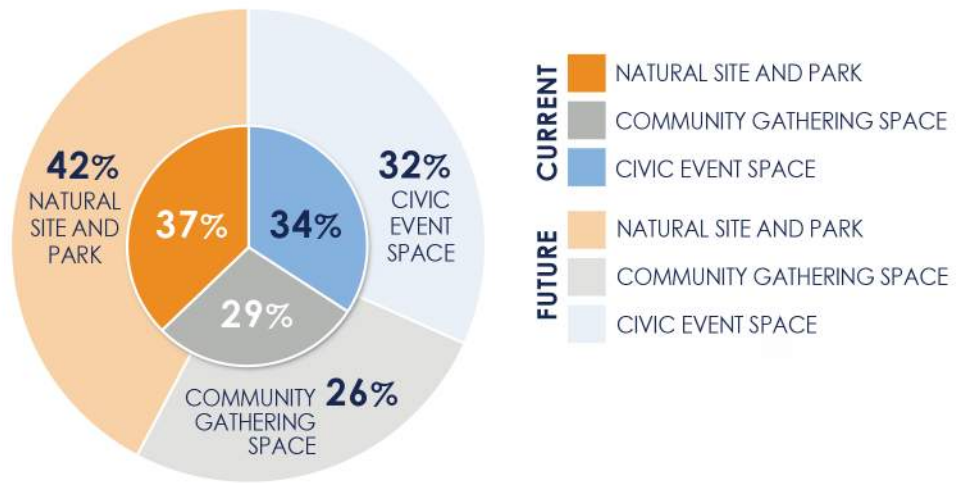


Figure 3-4: Desired Scenarios for Current and Future Identity of Memorial Park (Round 1 Outreach)

The community envisions a future Memorial Park that perpetuates these three identities as it evolves. Enhanced opportunities for access, play, recreation, events, social gathering, and experiencing nature are methods to further the uniqueness of the park.

For detailed information about outreach efforts and results, see Appendix C.

Methods

Community engagement for the project was conducted in a hybrid manner, utilizing virtual and in-person formats to solicit input and provide a variety of convenient options to get involved. Outreach activities included virtual focus group meetings, two webinars, two online surveys, several public presentations, a public comment period, and several in-person events in Cupertino. The engagement strategy utilized multiple avenues to increase public awareness of the project and its community outreach events, including digital and printed promotional materials. See Table 3-1 for a list of outreach efforts.

The identity scenarios of Civic Event Space, Community Gathering Space, and Natural Site & Park

which directly align with key community outreach themes and recommendations for Memorial Park outlined in the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan

will form the foundation of the Memorial Park Specific Plan.

Method	Intent/Purpose	Media	Duration
Engage Cupertino (Project Website)	An information resource for residents and location to post status updates about the project.	Online	Entire project
Survey	To gather community input on existing conditions and future desires for Memorial Park.	Online; available in English, Chinese, and Hindi	September 15 to October 9, 2022; January 25 to February 22, 2023
Pop-up Events	To complement the online survey with in-person participation opportunities.	In-person; printed boards with interactive dot stickers	September 17, 24, and October 8, 2022
Open House	To complement the online survey with in-person participation opportunity.	In-person; printed boards with interactive dot stickers	February 4, 2023
Focus Group Interviews	To begin the outreach process with City staff and the community.	Virtual	September through December 2022
Community Webinar	To gather community feedback on existing conditions and future desires for Memorial Park.	Virtual	September 15, 2022 February 9, 2023
Commission and Council Presentations	To present the project, gather input, and report on the project status.	Virtual; presentation	February 2, 2023 February 23, 2023 June 1, 2023 June 21, 2023
Public Comment Period	To present the preferred site plan to the community for input.	Virtual	August/September 2023
Park Sign	To inform about the project status and encourage community input.	In-person; posted in Memorial Park	Entire project
Social Media Post	To spread the word about community engagement efforts and generate participation.	Online; Facebook and Instagram profiles	Entire project
Postcards and Door Hangers	To spread the word about community engagement efforts and generate participation.	Postcards distributed to all City residences and door hangers to park-adjacent residences	September 2022 January 2023
Commission and Council Announcements	To announce the project, gather input, and encourage participation.	Virtual and in-person; presentation	September and October 2022 January and February 2023
City Newsletter	To spread the word about community engagement efforts and generate participation.	Virtual and hard copies	January 26 and February 2023

Table 3-1: Outreach Methods

Round 1: Community Themes

Community outreach efforts during the initial stage of the project collected input on a wide range of topics including current park features, usage habits, and ideas for revitalizing Memorial Park. Engagement activities consisted of three pop-up events, an online survey, a community webinar, and five focus group interviews. Outreach themes highlighted during the first round of engagement align with several themes and priorities identified in the City’s Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, as outlined below.

Overall, the community wants Memorial Park to be easy to get to and move through, include distinctive spaces for social activities, offer a wide variety of engaging recreation options in a nature-oriented setting, and support a healthy, cohesive community in a manner that is uniquely Cupertino. Suggested improvements for the park focused on a

combination of passive and active uses, as well as social and individual experiences. Improving event spaces such as the amphitheater, enhancing the tree canopy and shade, adding recreation activities and amenities, enhancing nature experiences, expanding inclusive options, and improving park access were recommendations outlined in the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan equally supported by outreach input for the Memorial Park Specific Plan.

Additionally, participants in Round 1 outreach supported the following park features:

- Multi-use pathways and bike-friendly access points
- All-abilities, nature, and water play amenities
- Native plant and demonstration gardens
- Spaces for festivals and community events
- Dedicated pickleball and tennis courts
- Picnic areas with shade

Community Outreach Themes from 2020 System Master Plan that Align with Memorial Park Specific Plan Outreach Results



PARK & FACILITY ACCESS

Residents want easy, enhanced access to parks and recreation opportunities.



NATURE EXPERIENCE

Community members want more opportunities to connect to nature.



EXTRAORDINARY PLAY

Cupertino desires a variety of play experiences for all ages and abilities.



UNIQUELY CUPERTINO

Parks and recreation opportunities should reflect Cupertino’s character, heritage, and diverse community.



RECREATION VARIETY

Residents and visitors desire a wide range of recreation options.



SOCIAL GATHERING & CELEBRATION

Residents appreciate community events and would like to see more spaces in Cupertino for bringing people together.

Figure 3-5: Shared Key Themes Between Memorial Park & Parks and Recreation System Master Plan Community Outreach

Round 2: Preferred Design

The second round of community engagement presented three preliminary concept plans and collected feedback to develop a preferred design for Memorial Park. Engagement opportunities included an online survey, webinar, community open house, public presentations, and the public comment period. The goal of this round of outreach was to gauge public sentiment about different concept options and determine priorities for the final plan.

Each park concept was inspired by one of the three identity scenarios—Civic Event Space, Community Gathering Space, and Natural Site and Park. Concept A (Community Focus) offered a wide range of community-oriented activities while balancing the natural and civic elements of the park. Concept B (Nature Focus) expanded and enhanced the park’s natural elements and blended them with other civic and community-oriented spaces. Concept C (Civic Focus) enhanced opportunities for civic engagement while integrating nature and community-oriented elements of the park. Appendix D contains the three preliminary concept plans.

Concept Priorities

Results from Round 2 outreach revealed the community’s preferences and priorities for Memorial Park’s design. In general, the community preferred a balance of passive and active amenities, including

IDENTIFY YOUR PREFERRED CONCEPT

All Outreach Methods

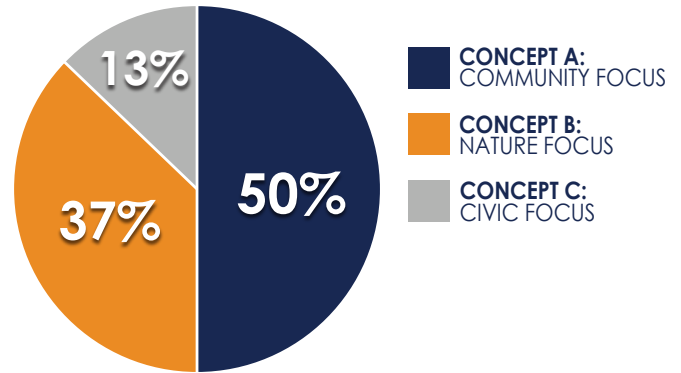


Figure 3-6: Preferred Concept Breakdown (Round 2 Outreach)

play, social gathering, fitness, nature, and civic engagement, and favored the concept plan that best reflects those priorities. Features such as playgrounds, pickleball courts, a passive garden walk, and the amphitheater ranked as favorite elements of each of the three concepts.

When asked to select the most important features across all three concept plans to be included in the final design, the community again focused on a unique combination of play-based recreation, nature elements, and social amenities (see Figure 3-7). The majority of participants chose Concept A as their preferred concept, which focused on recreation and play with a relocated/expanded playground as part of a multi-age play area to replace the softball field.



Figure 3-7: Top 10 Most Important Features for the Final Design of Memorial Park (Round 2 Outreach)

Preferred Concept Plan

Feedback from the community, as well as City staff and commissioners, was synthesized into the preferred concept plan for Memorial Park. This design used Concept A—the favorite concept from Round 2 outreach—as a base, while blending some of the most popular features from Concepts B and C into a single plan that cohesively serves the diverse needs of the community. A key feature of the preferred plan was a large multi-age play area with a relocated/expanded playground and three dedicated pickleball courts on the site of the existing softball field, as shown in Concept A.

The preferred concept was presented to City Council in June 2023. In consideration of public comments received, the preferred design was approved by Council with the condition that the softball field remained in its current location and the new features included in the preferred design for that area be relocated.

Revised Preferred Concept Plan

A revised preferred concept plan was available online for public review in August/September 2023. In the updated design, the softball field remained in its existing location, as per Council’s direction, in place of the previously proposed multi-age play area. Several new park amenities were relocated to other areas of the park, including four dedicated pickleball courts in the southeast corner of the park. Feedback received from the local pickleball community during the public comment period for this design indicated that the number of pickleball courts should be increased to a total of eight to accommodate growing demand.

The following chapter presents the final concept plan and its amenities, proposed site circulation, trees and landscaping, and other components of the revitalized Memorial Park.



Figure 3-8: Preferred Concept Plan Presented at the June 2023 City Council Meeting

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Chapter 4

Park Concept

Final Concept

The final concept plan (Figure 4-1) emerged as a result of the comprehensive outreach approach discussed in the previous chapter. The proposed design provides a cohesive park space that has clear organizational hierarchy, directly responds to the priorities identified in the community outreach process, and builds upon the shared vision for Memorial Park as outlined in the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan.

This chapter presents a conceptual design that celebrates Memorial Park's existing historical and environmental features while proposing new amenities and infrastructural improvements to enhance the overall visitor experience. The design preserves important cultural features of the park, such as the Veterans Memorial, as well as preserving key recreational opportunities, such as tennis and softball. A renovated amphitheater and stage, dedicated pickleball courts, and an all-abilities playground are among the proposed improvements to revitalize Memorial Park.

The final concept plan considered the existing and future uses of the park amenities to provide a balanced and functional outdoor space. Trash receptacles, drinking fountains, benches, and bicycle racks will be incorporated strategically near amenities, restrooms, and other destinations to enhance visitor comfort and convenience. Additional trees, plantings, and bioretention areas are recommended to maintain the park's aesthetic environment while enhancing its ecological value. Lastly, the final concept improves park circulation with an expanded multi-use path network that provides bicycle connections to the City's extensive active transportation system.

The remainder of this chapter discusses the programming of the park, outlines the new or enhanced site elements, provides character images to communicate ideas, describes the improved circulation network, explores event and festival considerations, and summarizes the landscaping recommendations.

- ① New Site Arrival
- ② New Parking Stalls
- ③ Upgraded Restroom
- ④ Passive Garden Walk
- ⑤ Pickleball Courts
- ⑥ Expanded Senior Center Deck / Plaza
- ⑦ Fitness Station
- ⑧ Bocce Court
- ⑨ Reservable Picnic Area
- ⑩ Nature Playground
- ⑪ Enhanced Pedestrian / Bicycle Access
- ⑫ Veterans Memorial
- ⑬ Upgraded Amphitheater and Stage
- ⑭ Historic Gazebo
- ⑮ Event Lawns
- ⑯ Event Plaza
- ⑰ All-Abilities Playground
- ⑱ New Restrooms
- ⑲ Basketball Court
- ⑳ Existing Softball Field / DOLA
- ㉑ Dedicated Tennis Courts
- ㉒ Upgraded Quinlan Courtyard
- ㉓ Upgraded Parking Lots



Figure 4-1: Final Concept Plan

Site Programming

Site programming involves the thoughtful planning, design, and arrangement of distinct areas within the park to support specific activities and experiences. Effective site programming ensures that each designated area can accommodate its intended purpose while also considering factors like accessibility, safety, and aesthetics.

The programmed areas accommodate a diverse range of community needs, interests, and priorities. Their organic arrangement ensures that the park's layout is balanced and cohesive, while establishing a harmonious, vibrant, and functional blend of active and passive recreation opportunities. Programmed uses are also separated into well-defined pockets to avoid interference and conflict between incompatible uses while maintaining a permeable, attractive, and approachable hierarchy of activities. Deliberate and intentional site programming produces an engaging and enjoyable rhythm as a visitor travels through the park.

Figure 4-2 shows the primary programmed areas: sports, play, social gathering and picnic, festivals and events, and experiential garden. The general definitions and benefits of the programmed areas are discussed below. Specific site elements and physical design features within Memorial Park are explored in the following section, organized by the zones labeled in the figure.

Social Gathering and Picnic

This area provides a space for casual social gatherings as well as opportunities for relaxation and passive enjoyment. Picnic tables and barbecues provide spaces for cookouts and communal dining experiences to share and enjoy meals with family and friends, while also supporting passive uses such as reading, studying, crafting, and board games. Some of the amenities in this programmed area are rentable, including the Quinlan courtyard, large picnic area, and historic gazebo.

Play

Play areas are designed for children and families to engage in a variety of physical, social, and imaginative activities. These areas support family outings, caretaker-child bonding, quality outdoor experiences, and community building. They provide opportunities for children to develop skills and explore their interests in a safe and supervised environment.

Experiential Garden

Experiential gardens are valuable for promoting relaxation, contemplation, and mindfulness by offering a tranquil and meditative space. This area allows a visitor to peacefully explore and appreciate the natural environment. Experiential gardens may showcase a variety of materials and plant species, focusing on unique textures, fragrances, and colors that create a sensory and educational experience while supporting the health and resilience of the local ecosystem.

Festivals and Events

By allocating spaces for festivals and large events, a park can enrich the cultural, social, and economic fabric of the community. These areas provide opportunities for celebrating cultural diversity through educational and artistic exhibitions and performances; boosting tourism and the local business economy by attracting outside visitors from the greater region; and building a community sense of pride and identity by creating platforms for local performers, artists, and vendors to gain recognition.

Sports

This programmed zone features recreational facilities and spectator areas designed for sports-related activities. Although sports fields and courts typically have striping and features aligned with the rules and requirements of one particular sport, they are often flexible to accommodate a wide range of casual athletic hobbies. Athletic areas may support organized sports leagues and competitive tournaments as well as casual and spontaneous games. This usage category plays an important role in promoting physical fitness, social interaction, and community engagement.

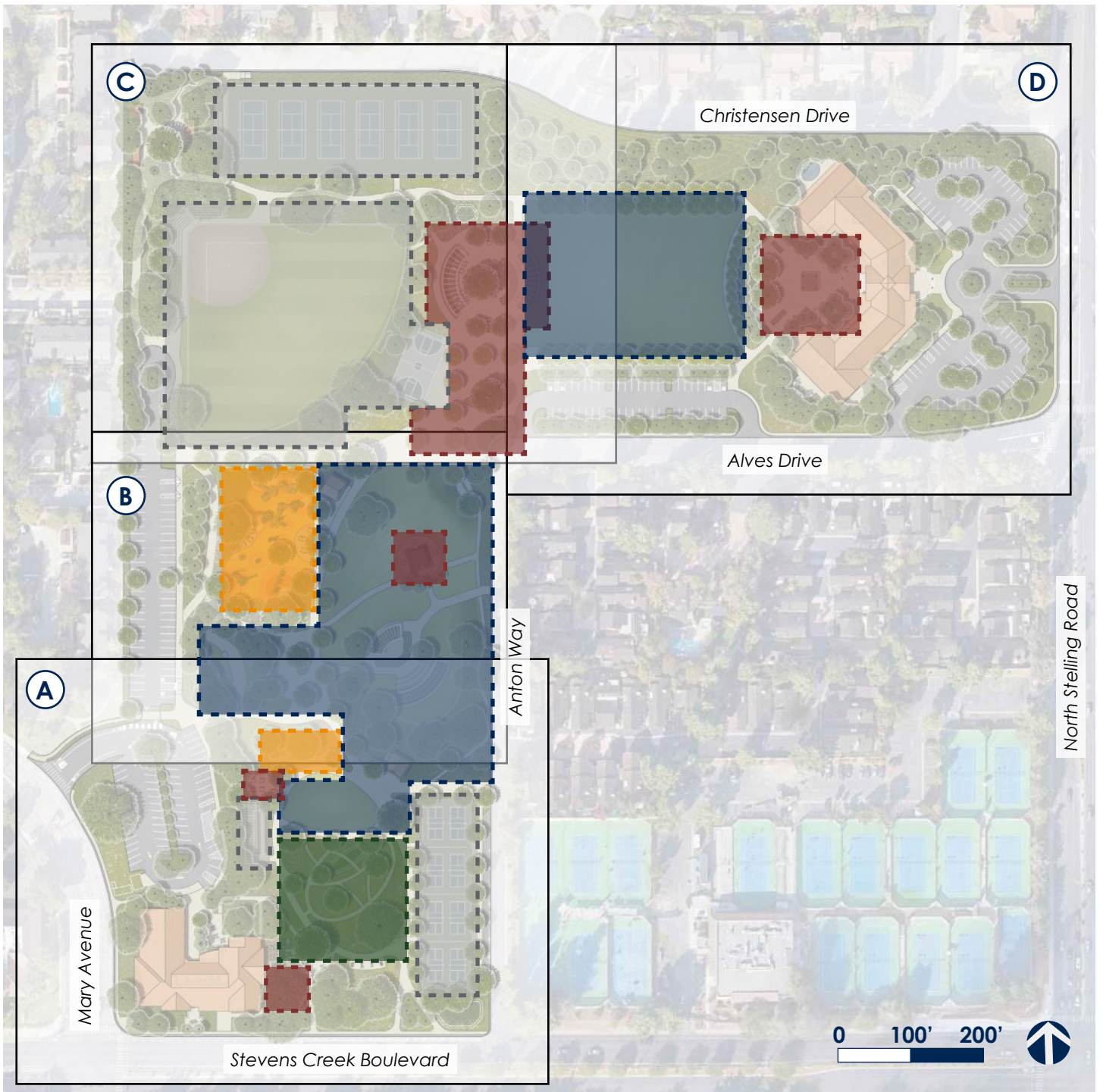


Figure 4-2: Site Programming and Zone Key Map

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Social Gathering and Picnic |  Festivals and Events |
|  Play |  Sports |
|  Experiential Garden |  Zones |

Site Elements - Zone A

Passive Garden Walk

The passive garden walk provides a quiet and aesthetic space for meditation and passive enjoyment of the natural environment. This amenity features walking paths that meander through planting and landscaped areas. The passive garden walk will feature native and adapted low-water plant species, providing visual interest and species richness. Seating elements with back support are placed strategically along the meandering pathways, encouraging visitors to linger in this serene setting (Figure 4-3).

In response to the City's Green Stormwater Infrastructure Plan, the site will include stormwater treatment areas with educational signage. Stevens Creek Boulevard frontage will also accommodate street stormwater runoff.



Image 4-1: Passive Garden Walk



Figure 4-3: Photosimulation of the Passive Garden Walk

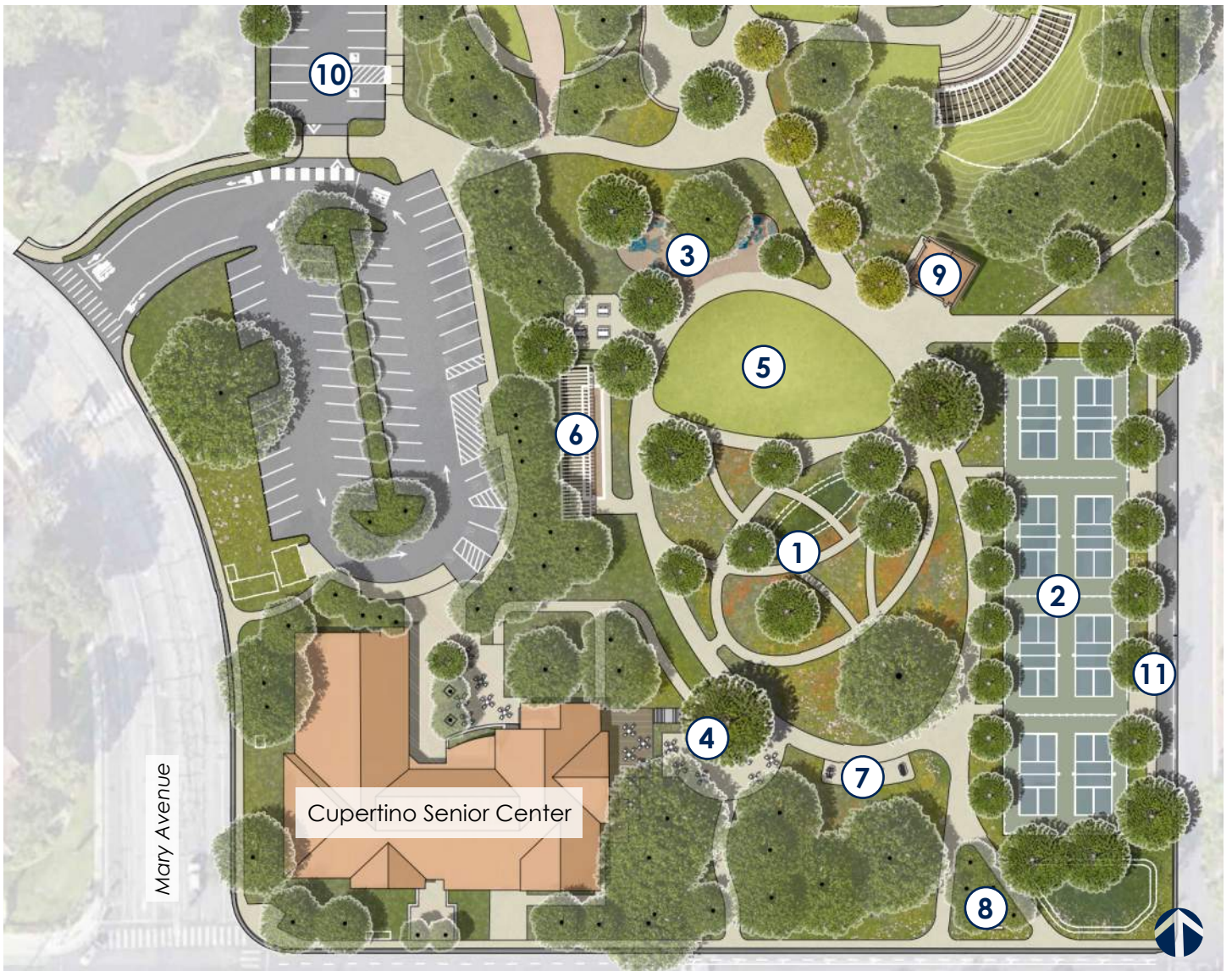
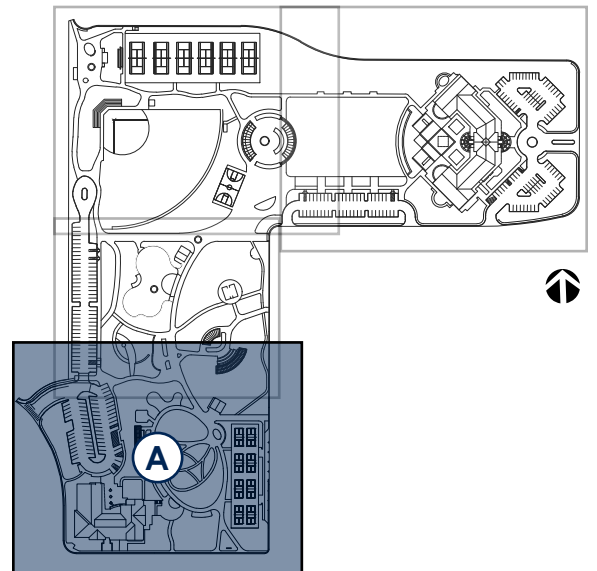


Figure 4-4: Final Concept - Zone A

- ① Passive Garden Walk
- ② Pickleball Courts
- ③ Nature Playground
- ④ Expanded Senior Center Deck / Plaza
- ⑤ Event Lawn
- ⑥ Bocce Court
- ⑦ Fitness Station
- ⑧ Park Sign
- ⑨ New Restroom
- ⑩ Upgraded Parking Lot
- ⑪ New Parking Stalls



KEY MAP

Pickleball Courts

The final concept includes eight dedicated pickleball courts located in the southeast corner of the park. This location is ideal due to the proximity to the Cupertino Sports Center, which has overlapping and compatible uses. The reservable courts will be contained by a 6-foot fence and feature waiting areas with benches and drinking fountains at the eastern entrances.

The pickleball courts are oriented north/south and are organized into two clusters of four courts with permanent nets. The pickleball courts are expected to accommodate multiple games to accommodate the growing pickleball demand. Lighting is recommended to allow for evening use.



Image 4-2: Pickleball Courts

Nature Playground

The nature playground features boulders, logs, and other natural materials for creative and imaginative play. Nature playgrounds provide opportunities for unstructured activities that bolster sensory development and environmental education. This amenity is the smaller of the two playgrounds in the park, and is accompanied by an adjacent small reservable picnic area with a barbeque.



Image 4-3: Nature Playground

Expanded Senior Center Deck / Plaza

The Cupertino Senior Center deck will be expanded to accommodate a larger number of guests for events and activities held at the facility. The deck will feature a gentle ramp that connects to the pathway network and a small plaza at the ground level (Figure 4-5).

Event Lawn

The event lawn provides a large open space that is flexible and multi-use. The grassy area would be ideal for events and social gatherings, quiet lounging and relaxing, or informal lawn games. The event lawn features seat walls along the edge allowing for rest and observation. This amenity would also accommodate spillover from the adjacent nature playground and picnic area.



Figure 4-5: Enlargement of Senior Center Deck / Plaza

Bocce Court

The proposed bocce court is north of the Cupertino Senior Center and is expected to be utilized by members of this facility. This amenity is reservable but open for drop-in use when not otherwise occupied. The bocce court will have a shade structure and seating for additional comfort, and will require little maintenance aside from periodic compaction.

Fitness Station

The park design features an outdoor fitness station, which will be equipped with exercise equipment for visitors to engage in strength and balance training. The fitness station intends to provide free access to physical exercises guided by signage and featuring accessible design.

Park Sign

A relocated park sign will enhance the arrival experience for a visitor entering the park from the southeast corner. The sign, centered between two entry pathways, will improve visibility of the park for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers traveling along Stevens Creek Boulevard.

New Restroom

A small restroom building will provide bathroom stalls as well as drinking fountains and storage for park equipment. This restroom replaces an existing restroom planned for removal, and will serve the adjacent amenities such as the nature playground and pickleball courts.

Upgraded Parking Lot

The Cupertino Senior Center parking lot is recommended for resurfacing and restriping. While the arrangement and number of parking stalls would not change, landscape improvements to the planting areas and an asphalt concrete overlay would enhance the visitor arrival experience. A new speed table at the northern edge of the parking lot would serve as a traffic calming device that improves circulation, safety, and accessibility, as discussed further in the Site Circulation section.



Image 4-4: Bocce Court



Image 4-5: Fitness Station

New Parking Stalls

The pickleball courts will be bordered to the east by nine new parallel parking stalls. One of the eight stalls is accessible. The adjacent sidewalk connects the stalls to the park's circulation network. Directly north of the parking stalls is a 15-foot maintenance vehicle access point off of Anton Way.

Site Elements - Zone B

All-Abilities Playground

A primary focal point of the park’s design is the large all-abilities playground. This key amenity accommodates people of all abilities, including those with physical, sensory, or cognitive disabilities. Adaptive equipment such as handrails, transfer platforms, and specialized seating accommodate a variety of physical needs, in addition to ramps and pathways that allow efficient access for individuals with mobility devices. The all-abilities playground aims to create a welcoming environment to support many types of play by including multi-sensory elements and variety of social spaces. These features are built upon the primary elements of play, which include balancing, sliding, brachiating, spinning, climbing, swinging, running, and free play.

The all-abilities playground will feature resilient rubber surfacing and will utilize the existing natural topography for locating slides and pathways. This amenity is the largest of the two proposed playgrounds in the park and will be accompanied by an adjacent picnic area with accessible picnic tables.

Upgraded Amphitheater and Stage

The existing amphitheater and stage are highly used amenities in Memorial Park, frequently hosting concerts and theatrical performances. As part of this final concept plan, the amphitheater will be expanded in size and will receive upgrades to seating, stairs, and pathways to enhance accessibility. The amphitheater and stage will feature new shade structures to extend usage during hot and sunny days, new surfacing, and technological enhancements that will expand entertainment opportunities. The existing hill behind the amphitheater seating will continue to offer additional informal seating options for viewers.



Image 4-6: All-Abilities Playground

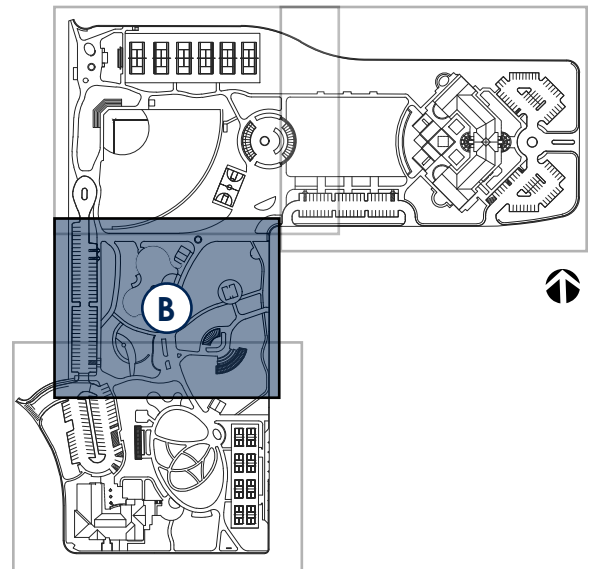


Image 4-7: All-Abilities Playground



Figure 4-6: Final Concept - Zone B

- ① All-Abilities Playground
- ② Upgraded Amphitheater and Stage
- ③ Historic Gazebo
- ④ Event Lawn
- ⑤ Veterans Memorial
- ⑥ Seating / Picnic Area
- ⑦ Upgraded Parking Lot
- ⑧ New Restroom



KEY MAP

Historic Gazebo

As discussed in Chapter 2, the existing gazebo is identified as a historic site in the General Plan. While there will be no alterations to the historic gazebo’s structure, the planting area along its border will be refreshed and its paved platform area will be resurfaced. The paved area will feature several picnic tables for drop-in use. The gentle improvements to this cultural amenity are expected to increase its aesthetic character, celebrate its history, and increase visitation as a key destination in the park.

Event Lawn

This additional event lawn provides extra flat and open space for picnics, lounging, and playing games. Crowds can spill over into this area, which is expected to occur during large events at the amphitheater. The proposed event lawn is flexible and can accommodate a variety of uses (Figure 4-7).



Image 4-8: Event Lawn



Figure 4-7: Photosimulation of the Event Lawn

Veterans Memorial

Similar to the historic gazebo, the Veterans Memorial will be preserved in its existing condition. The memorial will feature minor adjustments to the existing surrounding topography. The brick pavers featured in the Veterans Memorial have inscribed messages that will continue to be maintained. This cultural amenity will continue to accommodate quiet moments of reflection for visitors, the annual Veterans Day Ceremony, and other community events and gatherings for many years to come.

Seating / Picnic Area

Additional seating opportunities are proposed at several key locations in this portion of the park. Benches, picnic tables, and seat walls are recommended to improve visitor comfort and accessibility. Where feasible, these areas may be accompanied by educational signage highlighting landscape and garden elements.

Upgraded Parking Lot

The final concept plan recommends resurfacing and restriping this parking lot. An asphalt concrete overlay will follow minor adjustments to the parking lot planting areas to accommodate a widened pedestrian and bicycle multi-use path. While the locations of the parking lot stalls will shift, the overall number of stalls available to visitors will not change.

New Restroom

A small restroom structure will provide convenient access to bathroom stalls, drinking fountains, and park storage for the adjacent amenities and uses.



Image 4-9: Seating Opportunities



Image 4-10: New Restroom

Site Elements - Zone C

Event Plaza

The new event plaza offers additional opportunities for small to medium-sized gatherings. It bridges the proposed event lawn areas, allowing for overflow during highly-attended events. This public space serves as a primary entry into the park, conveniently located adjacent to a parking lot as well as the pedestrian entrance accessible from the Alves Drive sidewalk. The event plaza features decorative pavement colors and textures, creating a distinctive pedestrian experience while also allowing a key point of access for emergency vehicles. A grid arrangement of trees, with seating elements under the canopy, provide a shady spot for park visitors to enjoy. The event plaza is expected to be a heavily-used park amenity and destination given its convenient location and aesthetic characteristics (Figure 4-8).



Figure 4-8: Photosimulation of the Event Plaza

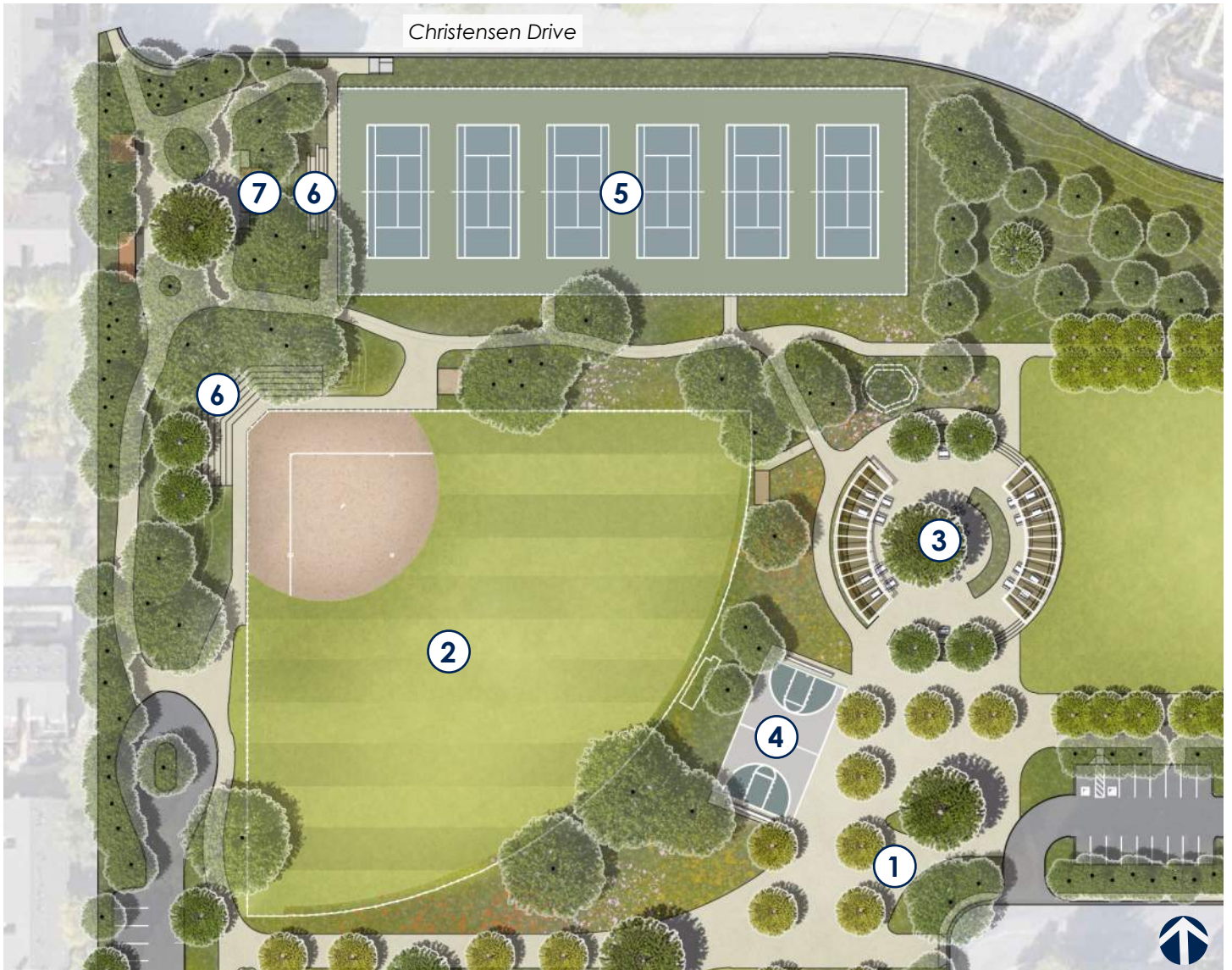
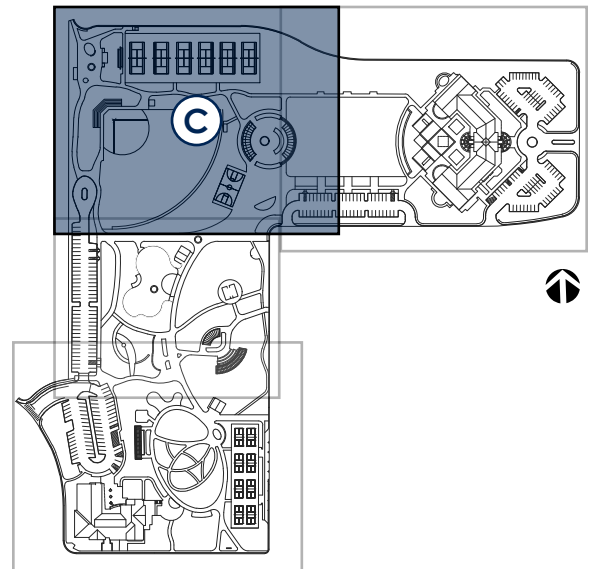


Figure 4-9: Final Concept - Zone C

- ① Event Plaza
- ② Existing Softball Field / DOLA
- ③ Reservable Picnic Area
- ④ Basketball Court
- ⑤ Dedicated Tennis Courts
- ⑥ Upgraded Spectator Seating
- ⑦ Upgraded Restroom



KEY MAP

Softball Field / DOLA

Memorial Park features a high quality lighted softball field with a scoreboard that attracts visitors from across the South Bay region. This amenity has field preparation services (such as dragging, watering, chalking, and bases) made available through the Parks and Recreation Department reservation system.

The final concept plan recommends that this amenity serve a double purpose as a dog off-leash area (DOLA) when not in use for softball during regular hours of park operation. At present, the softball field is informally used by dog owners. Formalizing this existing usage would improve safety and mitigate potential conflicts, such as spillover from the adjacent all-abilities playground interfacing with off-leash dogs. Improvements to accommodate this usage include closing the gaps in the fencing to enclose the area, as well as new site elements such as drinking fountains with pet bowls, trash receptacles, and additional bag dispensers to supplement the existing ones placed strategically throughout the park. The final concept plan recommends modernizing the existing field lighting and control system, as well as annual inspection and maintenance of the system, to ensure this amenity remains safe during evening use.

The softball field will remain as a reservable amenity that continues to host organized league events given its high quality condition and functionality. In addition to the proposed upgrades to the lighting system, the final concept plan recommends enhancements to the spectator seating area and adjacent restroom facilities, as well as adjustments to the topography and plantings of the bermed area behind the spectator seating to further enhance the visitor experience.

Reservable Picnic Area

The picnic area adjacent to the Quinlan event lawn will be expanded in size. As the largest and only reservable picnic area in the park, this amenity is used for celebrations and gatherings such as birthday parties, family reunions, community cookouts, and more. The ample counter space, electricity outlets, and trash/recycle/compost receptacles establish this



Image 4-11: Softball Field (Existing)



Image 4-12: Reservable Picnic Area with Shade

area as a valuable community resource. The existing sinks, barbeques, seating elements, and concrete surfacing will be upgraded to ensure that this space continues to facilitate safe and convenient food preparation and cleanup for large groups.

The reservable picnic area will be further improved by the addition of two new shade structures to extend usage on hot and sunny days. The existing terraced stairs on the eastern side of the picnic area, sloping downwards to the Quinlan event lawn, functions as an informal stage. This feature will be expanded and improved to further accommodate events and community gatherings.

Basketball Court

A full-size basketball court, available for drop-in use, will accompany the other sports opportunities in this portion of the park. The court is also adjacent to the reservable picnic area and event plaza. Given the adjacency to the cell tower and transformers, the court's location preserves maintenance access, and is compatible with the adjacent softball use.

The court will be 84 feet by 50 feet, which is the standard dimension for high school and middle school games. It will feature lighting for evening use and seat walls along the sides of the court for players and spectators. The existing berms provide casual seating opportunities, partially shaded by existing trees, to supplement the seating opportunities in the event plaza.

Dedicated Tennis Courts

One of the six existing lighted tennis courts has dual striping for pickleball, providing four pickleball spaces within one tennis court. As part of the park's design plan, the pickleball usage will be moved to dedicated courts in the southeastern portion of the park, and the dual striping will be removed. Aside from updates to the striping, the tennis courts are in good condition and will not receive direct improvements.

While the tennis courts are first come, first served, this area can host several simultaneous games and is therefore used for casual tournaments organized informally by community members. The tennis courts are expected to continue to host casual tournaments given their high quality condition, existing lighting, and nearby restroom facilities. The bermed area to the west of the courts will remain, with minor improvements to the topography, as well as enhancements to the spectator seating area.

Upgraded Spectator Seating

Both the tennis courts and the softball fields are accompanied by concrete and brick terraced seat walls serving as an opportunity for spectator viewing. While not currently accessible, the final concept plan recommends upgrades to the existing spectator seating to allow for free and full access to the amenity for visitors of all ability levels.

Upgraded Restroom

The existing restroom nestled under the tennis court spectator seating will be renovated to provide features that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These crucial upgrades will enhance the visitor experience and ensure safety for all park users. This restroom is expected to be a key amenity for tournaments and organized sports events held at the tennis courts and softball field, as well as large events in other areas such as the Quinlan event lawn.

Site Elements - Zone D

Quinlan Courtyard

The Quinlan Community Center is a very active hub of the City. This facility frequently hosts events organized by the City as well as local organizations and residents. The Quinlan courtyard is frequently used as an outdoor component of events occurring inside the building's lobby, such as the annual Community Tree Lighting in December.

The final concept plan recommends extending the paved area of the courtyard. This extension allows additional space for a variety of seating opportunities, and will allow the courtyard to accommodate a larger number of guests and types of activities. The shade canopy will be enhanced with new trees and shade structure.

The final concept plan does not recommend alterations to the building itself or its attached outdoor small play area and seating node. However, the park design includes landscape improvements around the edges of the building and within the parking lots. The trees in the landscape islands within the parking lot will be replaced in compliance with the arborist report's classification of these trees as having a low suitability for preservation.



Image 4-14: Quinlan Courtyard as Event Space

Quinlan Event Lawn

The Quinlan event lawn is a popular location for large community events. At approximately 50,000 square feet, this amenity can also accommodate regional events such as the Bay Area Diwali Festival of Lights. This large multi-use lawn also provides space for spillover from events occurring at the Quinlan Community Center and its courtyard.

The existing looped pathway around the Quinlan event lawn is a popular walking route for visitors. At present, the eastern side of the loop travels through the Quinlan courtyard. As a result, passive uses such as strolling or dog walking can conflict with other uses such as an active celebration or a solemn ceremony taking place in the courtyard.

The final concept plan recommends an additional pathway along the eastern side of the Quinlan event lawn, located west of the retaining wall and linear arrangement of trees that visually separate the amenities. This allows pedestrians to complete the loop without encroaching on events or being hindered by a crowd. The proposed pathway runs alongside the existing retaining wall, providing access to informal seating. The wall is shaded under a row of existing Purpleleaf Plum trees that offer a pop of color in the spring, as well as a proposed additional row of Purpleleaf Plum trees, discussed further in the Trees and Landscaping section.

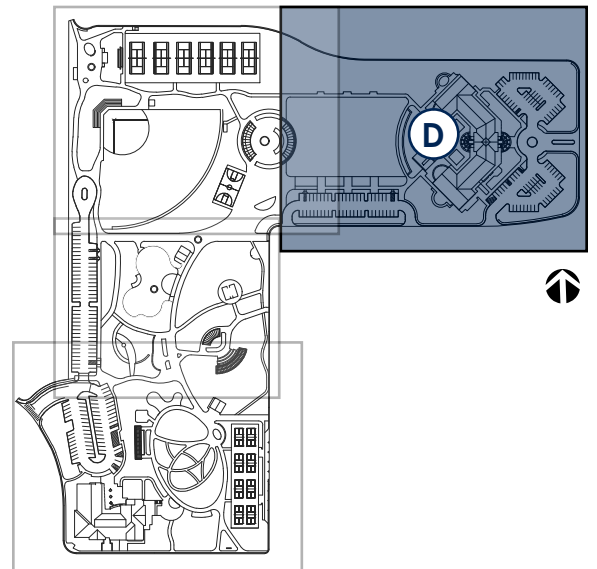


Image 4-13: Event Lawn



Figure 4-10: Final Concept - Zone D

- ① Quinlan Courtyard
- ② Quinlan Event Lawn
- ③ Perimeter Seating
- ④ Upgraded Parking Lots



KEY MAP

Perimeter Seating

Seating elements are recommended along the perimeter pathway that loops around the Quinlan event lawn. The proposed tree canopy lining the pathway will provide shade for visitors stopping to rest while traveling through the park's extensive pedestrian network. The additional seating opportunities are ideal for observing activities taking place on the Quinlan event lawn.

Upgraded Parking Lots

The existing parking lot along Alves Drive will be enhanced to improve circulation and accessibility to and within Memorial Park. The parking lot presently has one entrance at the center of its frontage with Alves Drive, resulting in congestion during peak visitation times. The park design proposes two points of egress on the west and east sides of the parking lot. This layout is expected to relieve congestion during events and improve pick-up and drop-off circulation. Lastly, this parking lot will be resurfaced and restriped to ensure safety and ease of use. The total number of parking stalls will not change (50). The number of accessible will increase from two to four, which will be evenly split between the northwestern and northeastern corners of the lot.

The final concept plan proposes minor landscaping improvements to the Quinlan Community Center parking lot planting areas, resurfacing, and restriping.

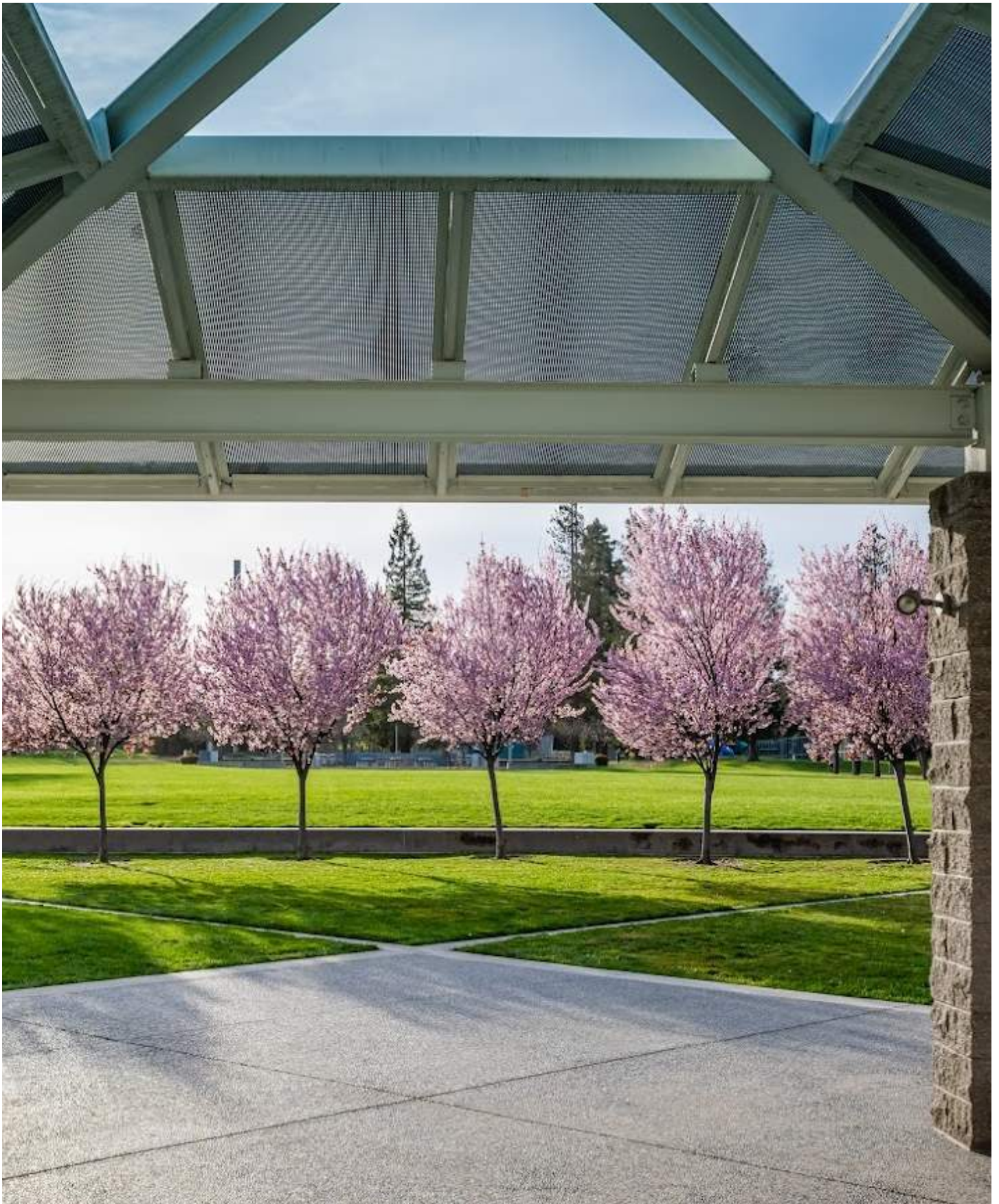


Image 4-15: Quinlan Courtyard

Festivals and Events

The final concept plan recommends accommodations for festivals, events, and other community gatherings that are expected to be held at Memorial Park for many years to come. During the design process, potential event space was studied and prioritized, to ensure that present and future events can be held safely in the park.

Figure 4-11 shows the regions of the park that are intended to host large gatherings, while the other areas are intended for individual enjoyment or small to medium group activities. The figure also shows the main promenade and primary pedestrian circulation routes, which conveniently connect all large event spaces. The festival and event areas are intended for performances, concerts, speeches, cultural festivals, public celebrations, civic events, and other gatherings that may include food and merchandise vendors or temporary structures like stages and canopies.

These open lawn areas are highly adaptable to different uses. When not hosting events, the festival and event areas could be used for lounging, picnicking, sunbathing, meditation, photography, painting, reading, and other forms of passive recreation. These areas could also be used for active recreation activities such as playing frisbee or catch, having a race, flying kites, yoga and stretching, and other athletic or team-building outdoor activities.

The Parking Study conducted for the Memorial Park Specific Plan observed parking capacity levels during the 2022 Bay Area Diwali Festival of Lights. The analysis found that existing on-street and off-street parking available to visitors was adequate, even during peak periods of the event (Appendix A). The analysis also noted that De Anza College to the south of the park is occasionally used for overflow parking during large events. This partnership with the neighboring college ensures that Memorial Park will continue to host large-scale community and regional events that are safe and easy to navigate to.



Image 4-16: Amphitheater (Existing)

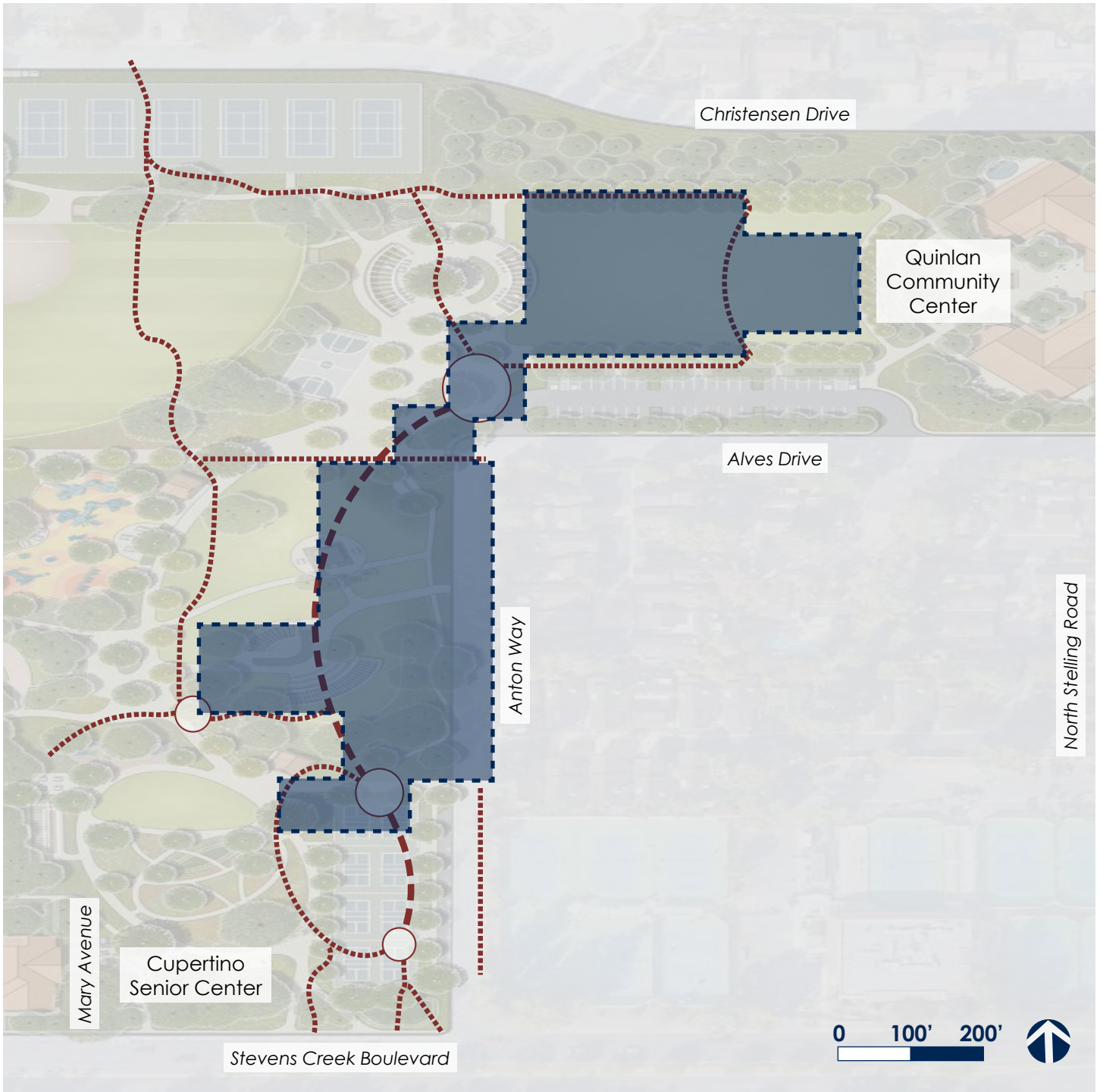


Figure 4-11: Festivals and Event Areas

-  Festivals and Events Area
-  Main Promenade
-  Primary Pedestrian Circulation
-  Arrival Node

Site Circulation

The final concept plan considers improvements to pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle circulation to and within the park.

Pedestrian

The park design features a strategic network of multi-use paths to provide an enjoyable walking experience. Figure 4-14 shows the proposed pedestrian circulation network, including the main promenade as well as the primary and secondary pedestrian circulation routes. The hierarchy of pathways relates to the width of the path and the expected level of foot traffic. Pathways vary from 6 to 12 feet and may consist of concrete or pavers. Several arrival nodes, such as the event plaza, facilitate enjoyable arrival experiences that are key to guide visitor circulation and wayfinding.

The pathway network provides an accessible and direct connection to all park amenities, while also offering a meandering option for visitors desiring a prolonged walking experience. A raised crosswalk with high-visibility striping is recommended to replace the existing speed bump north of the Cupertino Senior Center parking lot. Raised crosswalks are flush with the height of the sidewalk to enhance the pedestrian experience, particularly for visitors with mobility devices. This feature also acts as a speed table for vehicular traffic calming and improving the visibility of pedestrians to reduce the risk of potential collisions.

Bicycle

Key components of the final concept plan are the proposed bicycle enhancements. New bicycle paths in Memorial Park would provide critical connections between segments of the existing and proposed City-wide bicycle network.

Two types of bicycle paths are proposed in the final concept plan: a Class I, 20-foot-wide bicycle/pedestrian separated path running west to east and a Class II 12-foot-wide bicycle/pedestrian shared path running north to south. The 20-foot separated path would consist of an 8-foot dedicated bicycle lane on the north side of the path and a 12-foot dedicated pedestrian lane on the south side, with crosswalk

striping at all pathway intersections. The 12-foot shared path would include 1-foot shoulders on each side of the path. Bollards, signage, striping, and other measures would be included in these multi-use paths to improve safety and reduce potential collisions.

Figure 4-14 notes the primary bicycle entrances and critical intersections while Figures 4-12 and 4-13 show key locations for safety striping and signage. Figure 4-13 further highlights how the raised crosswalk serves as a key connection to the Mary Avenue bikeway via bicycle lanes along the Cupertino Senior Center entrance road. Bicycle racks are recommended along multi-use paths and at park entrances, as well as signage recommending dismount along non-bicycle routes.

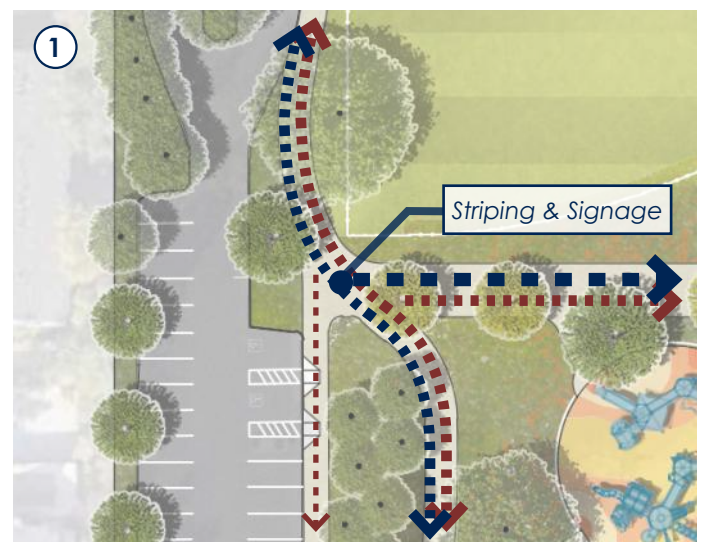


Figure 4-12: Enlargement of Critical Intersection (1)

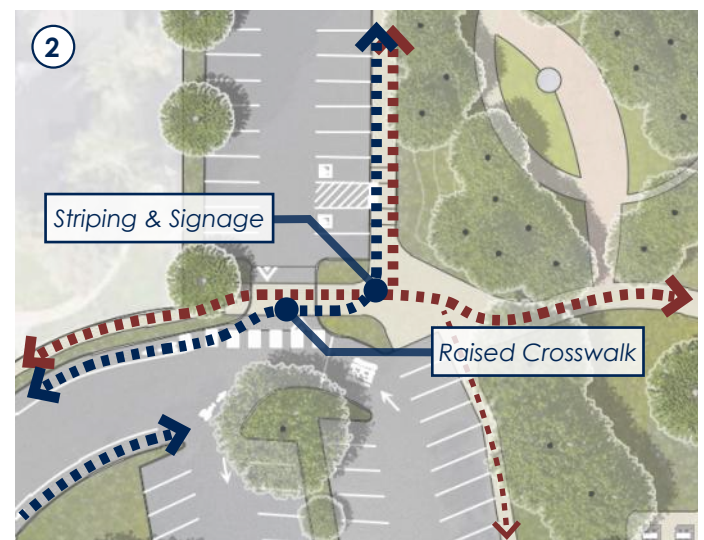


Figure 4-13: Enlargement of Critical Intersection (2)

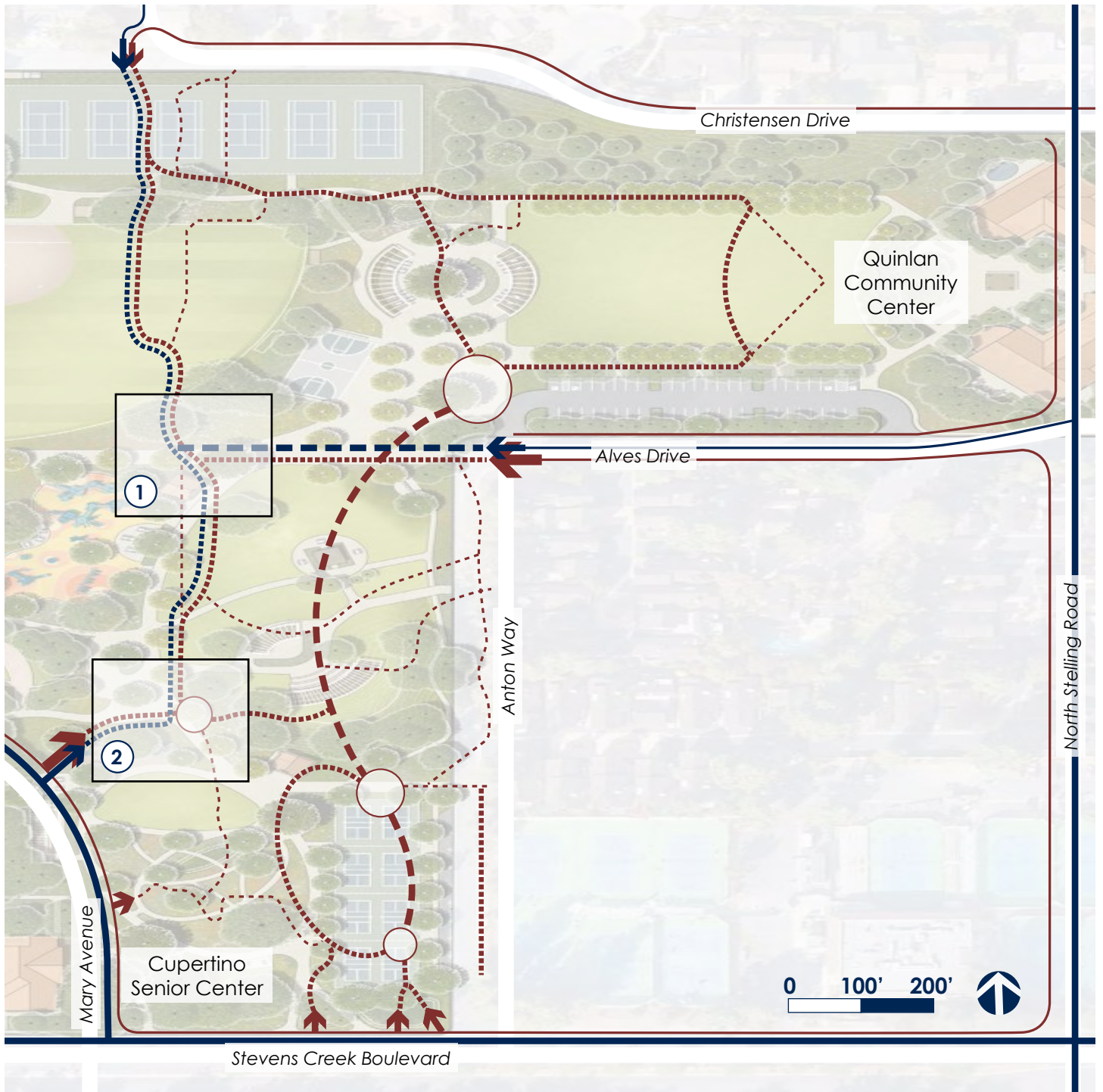


Figure 4-14: Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation

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|--|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| | Main Promenade | | Bike/Ped Separated 20' Path | | Arrival Node |
| | Primary Pedestrian Circulation | | Bike/Ped Shared 12' Path | | Critical Intersection |
| | Secondary Pedestrian Circulation | | Planned Bicycle Network | | |
| | Existing Sidewalk | | Existing Bicycle Network | | |
| | Pedestrian Entrance | | Bicycle Entrance | | |

Vehicle

Figure 4-15 shows vehicular access improvements to Memorial Park as part of the final concept design. While there is no vehicle circulation for visitors inside the park, access points and circulation routes for maintenance and emergency vehicles were prioritized in the design.

Emergency Access

Well-planned emergency vehicle access requires careful consideration of pathways and infrastructure to accommodate the size and weight of ambulances, fire engines, and other first responders. Access points, as well as a turnaround area, were strategically placed in the final concept plan to ensure the safety and wellbeing of visitors and staff. These considerations allow emergency vehicles to navigate the park efficiently, especially during events with large crowds, stages, outdoor furniture, and other temporary event-related structures. Careful emergency access planning also preserves natural areas of the park that may provide habitat to the local ecosystem.

The event plaza adjacent to the basketball court is a key location for entry and turnaround of emergency vehicles. Aesthetic pavement colors and textures are recommended to accommodate the weight of the vehicles while maintaining an attractive public space.

Maintenance Access

Maintenance vehicles can also utilize emergency vehicle access points for regular park maintenance such as landscaping and trash removal, as well as upkeep of restrooms, pathways, playgrounds, picnic areas, and other amenities. A new maintenance access point is proposed along Anton Way north of the pickleball courts. This 15-foot pathway allows for City vehicles to safely enter the park for operational inspections, event preparation, and other activities to ensure Memorial Park remains safe, attractive, and functional.

Parking

The Parking Study conducted for the Memorial Park Specific Plan (Appendix A) found that the existing parking facilities are generally sufficient for day-to-

day and festival use. The final concept plan improves the quality of the existing parking lots while adding several unrestricted parking stalls for visitor convenience. These improvements are intended to enhance the arrival experience while alleviating congestion during peak visitation periods.

All parking lots in Memorial Park, as well as the roundabout adjacent to the softball field, are recommended for resurfacing with a new layer of asphalt concrete with subsequent restriping and ADA-compliant curb ramps. In the Cupertino Senior Center parking lot, new plantings are recommended in the center island and the adjacent planting areas. In the rectangular lots directly north, renovations to the planting areas and curbs would shift stall locations. Specifically, the planting areas adjacent to the existing speed bump would be widened while those to the north would become smaller. The existing trees would be replaced, as supported by the tree analysis conducted for this Specific Plan. The total number of parking stalls in this area will not change with the proposed improvements.

The existing parking lot along Alves Drive has a singular access point while the final concept plan proposes two access points to alleviate congestion. While the overall number of parking stalls would not change, the number of accessible stalls would increase from two to four.

The parking lot for the Quinlan Community Center is recommended for landscaping improvements to the parking islands, specifically replacing the existing trees that were identified as having low suitability for preservation.

Lastly, the final concept plan recommends nine parallel parking stalls along Anton Way adjacent to the pickleball courts. One accessible stall and eight unrestricted stalls would provide a convenient parking option for the southeast portion of the park.

As recommended in the parking study, other improvements may include supplemental wayfinding signs that clarify time and/or permit restrictions while directing visitors to additional parking facilities in the park.

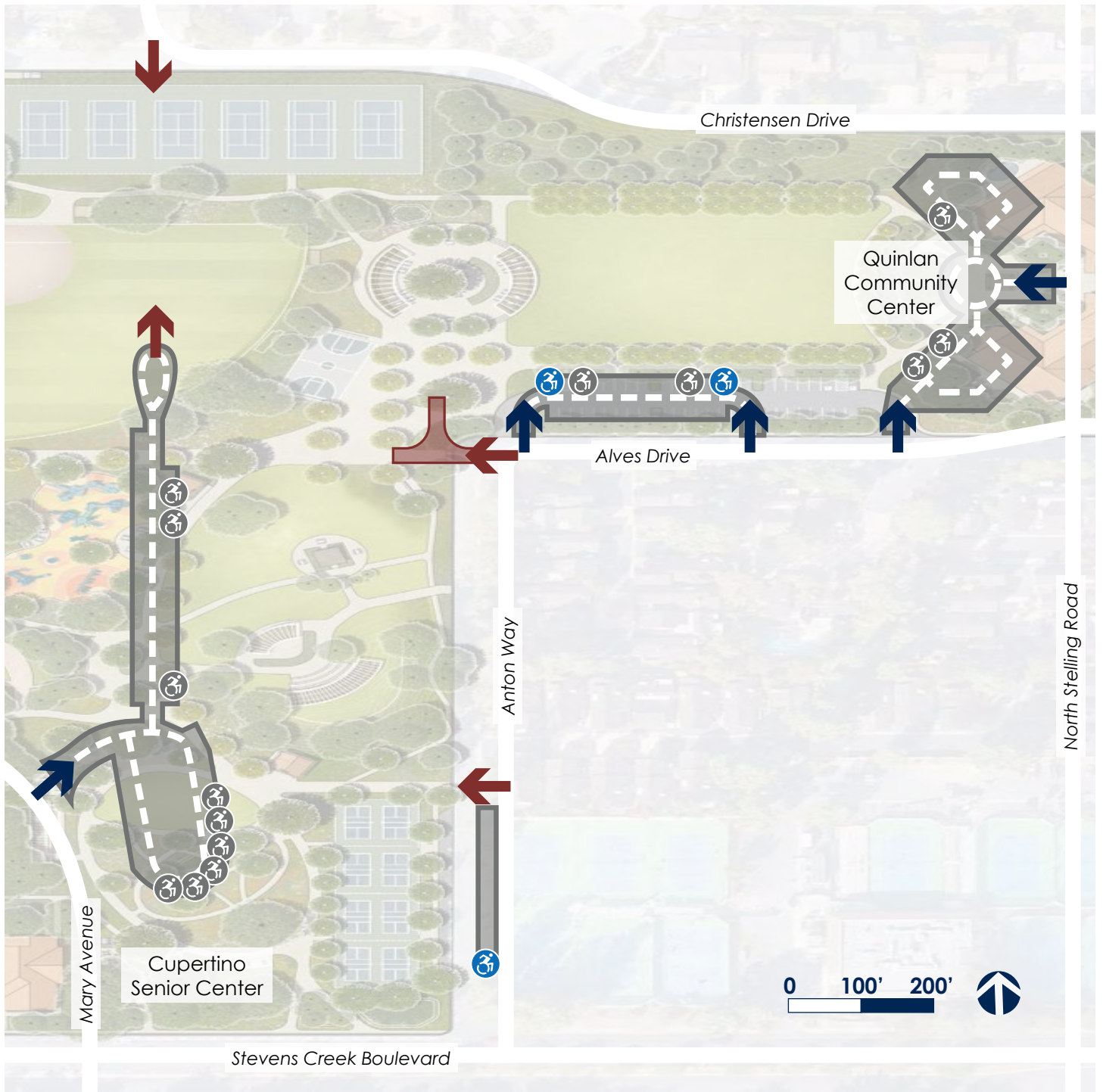








Figure 4-15: Vehicle Circulation

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
|  | Public Vehicle Access |  | Accessible Stall (Proposed) |
|  | Emergency/Maintenance Vehicle Access |  | Accessible Stall (Existing) |
|  | Emergency Vehicle Turnaround | | |
|  | Parking Areas and Drive Aises | | |

Trees and Landscape

The final concept recommends new planting areas, lawn areas, and trees. These landscaping elements aim to create a peaceful natural setting that provides shade, visual interest, and a cohesive aesthetic theme.

Landscape Zones

Lawn

As discussed previously, portions of the repurposed pond were recently converted to lawn area. The final concept plan proposes to shape the lawn areas strategically around the proposed and existing park amenities, complementing park features and providing room for events and passive enjoyment. The final concept plan proposes multi-use lawn space north of the passive garden walk and in the area surrounding the amphitheater, stage, and historic gazebo. The grass outfield of the softball field will be preserved. The Quinlan event lawn will be slightly reduced in size to accommodate the improvements to the perimeter, but overall will be preserved as an inviting park amenity and valuable community resource.

Planting Areas

Portions of the repurposed pond area and other non-landscaped zones are recommended for conversion to planting areas. Planting areas will prioritize native and climate-adapted species that have minimal maintenance and irrigation requirements. The landscaping should elevate the overall quality of the park by framing and softening the look of structures, delineating site functions, and providing screening and buffering from adjacent uses to ensure a visually appealing landscape design.

Remaining areas not suitable for planting or lawn conversion will be mulched. Natural mulch, typically consisting of organic wood chips, protects soil from erosion, suppresses weeds, and moderates temperature extremes.

Trees

Preserved Trees

Approximately 71% of the trees found at Memorial Park are preserved in the final concept plan. Figure 4-16 shows the existing trees to remain, all of which were identified as having moderate or high suitability for preservation in the Tree Inventory Report (Appendix B). High suitability trees are defined as trees with good health and structural stability that have the potential for longevity at the site. Moderate suitability trees are defined as trees with somewhat declining health and/or structural defects that can be abated with treatment. The tree will require more intense management and monitoring, and may have a shorter life span than those in the “high” category.

Of the 32 Japanese Flowering Cherry trees identified in the park, 17 will remain in place. Seven of the cherry trees will be relocated strategically, including five trees in the southeastern corner that will shift towards the park sign’s new location along Stevens Creek Boulevard, as well as the two Sister City cherry trees and their plaques that will shift to the historic gazebo area. Eight of the cherry trees will be removed due to their classification of having low suitability for preservation.

All Red Maple trees surrounding the Veterans Memorial will remain in place, as well as the Purpleleaf Plum trees that frame the Quinlan courtyard. The existing Coast Live Oaks along Stevens Creek Boulevard by the Cupertino Senior Center will be preserved in alignment with the Heart of the City Specific Plan, which recommends that this travel corridor feature informal arrangements of native trees (specifically Coast Live Oaks). The large Coast Live Oak that greets visitors entering from Mary Avenue would be preserved as well.

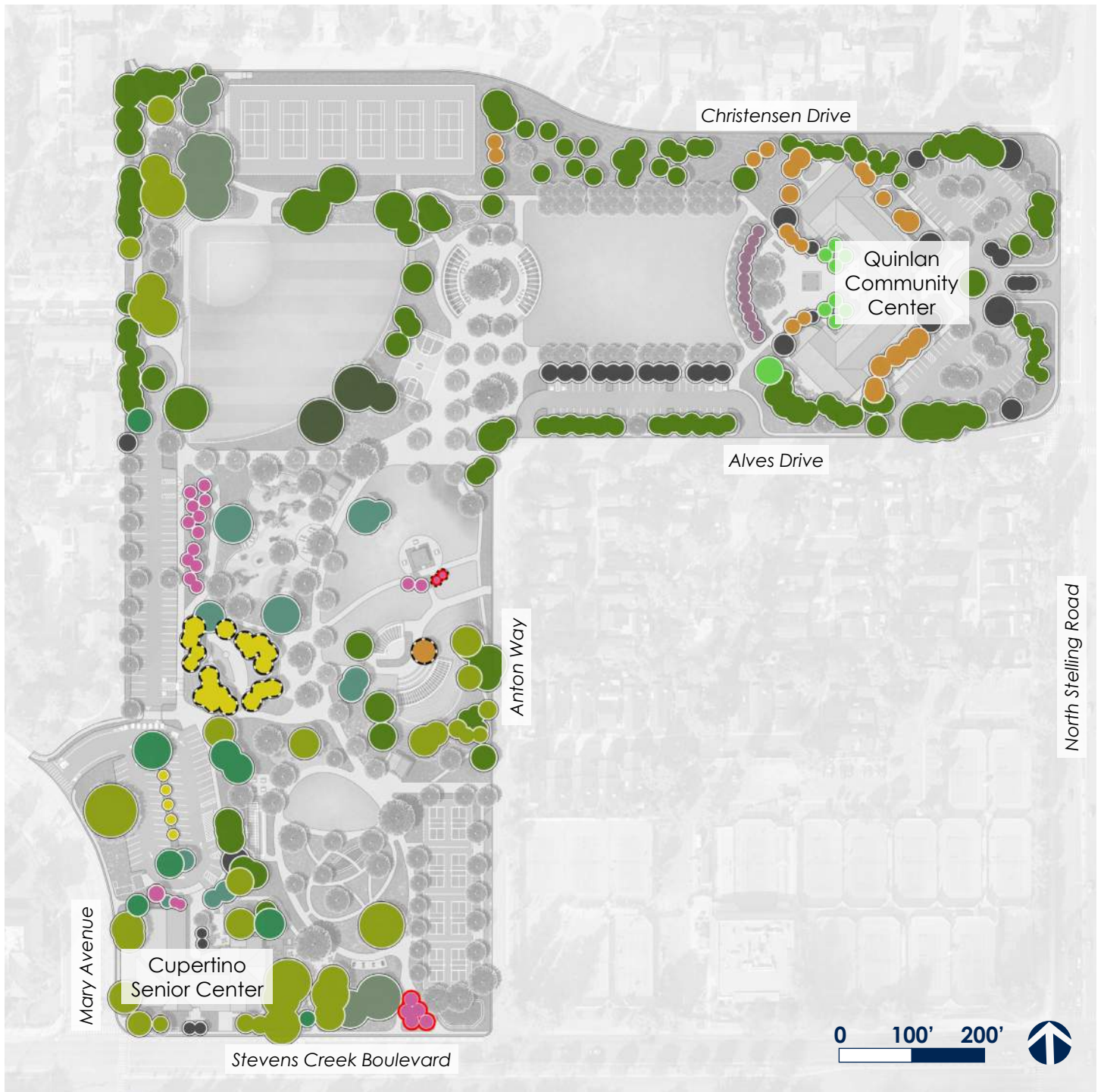
















Figure 4-16: Proposed Tree Preservation

	Ash	<i>Fraxinus spp.</i>		Oak	<i>Quercus spp.</i>		Relocated
	Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>		Pine	<i>Pinus spp.</i>		Memorial
	Chinese Pistache	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>		Purpleleaf Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>		
	Coast Redwood	<i>Sequoia sempervierns</i>		Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>		
	Japanese Flowering Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>		Sycamore	<i>Platanus spp.</i>		
	Japanese Zelk	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>		Other			

Proposed Tree Removals

With the implementation of the Memorial Park Specific Plan, approximately 30% of the trees in the park would be planned for removal (Figure 4-17). Of these trees, approximately 60% were identified as having low suitability for preservation. Low suitability trees are defined as trees in poor health or with significant structural defects that cannot be mitigated. These trees are expected to continue to decline in health regardless of treatment. The species or individual tree may have undesirable characteristics for the park landscape and/or the tree is generally unsuited for this area. Many of these low suitability trees would be replaced with a new and healthier tree better suited for the region and park aesthetic.

The remaining trees would be removed to build new park amenities such as the pickleball courts and playgrounds, representing less than 15% of all moderate and high suitability trees in the park. Only nine trees that were found to have a high suitability for preservation would be removed as part of the final concept plan, which are related to the passive garden walk, the pickleball courts, parking lot upgrades, and one of the new restroom buildings.

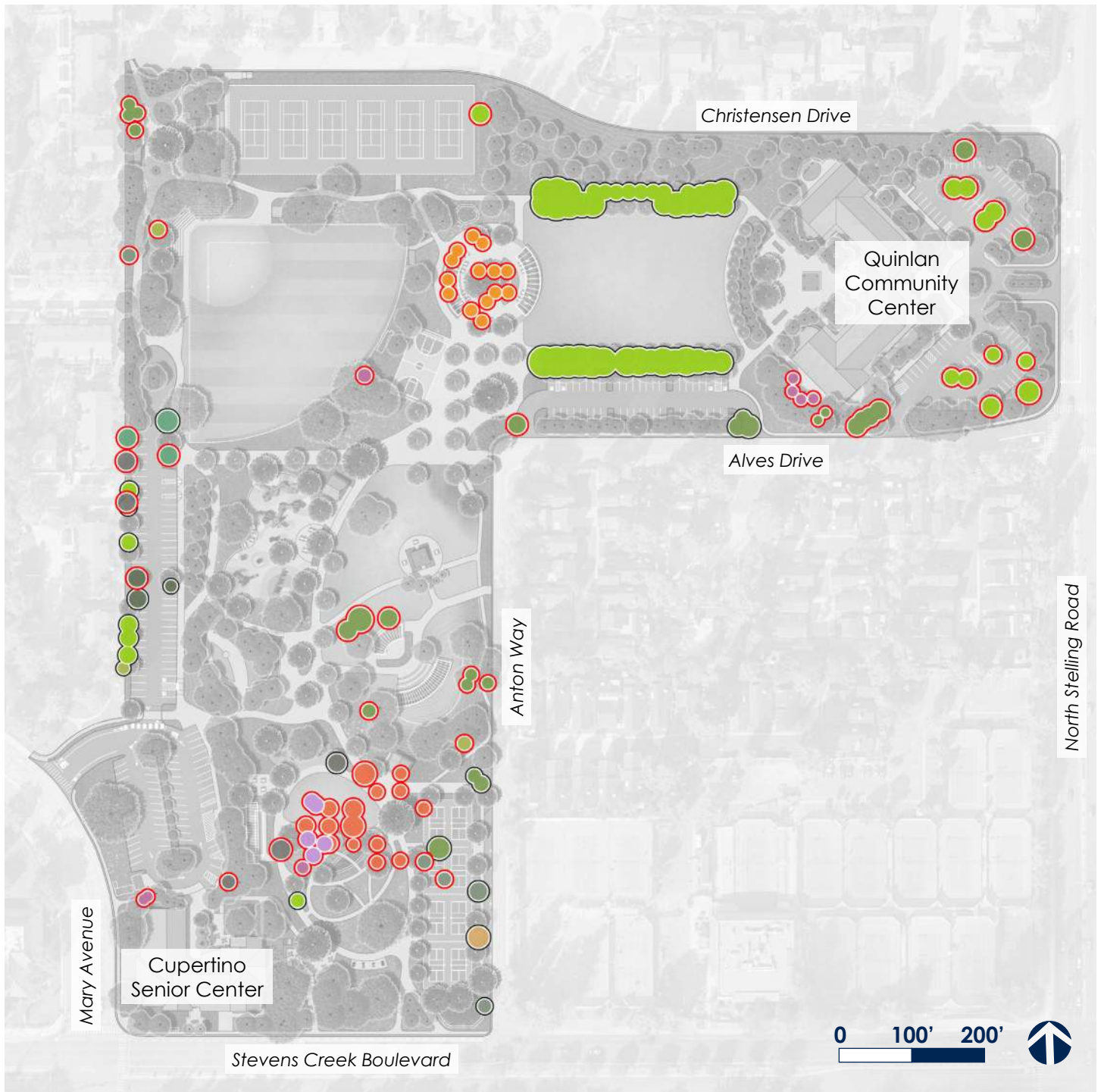


Figure 4-17: Proposed Tree Removals

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|--|-------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | Black Walnut | <i>Juglans hindsii</i> | | Japanese Flowering Cherry | <i>Prunus serrulata</i> | | Low Suitability for Preservation |
| | Callery Pear | <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> | | Japanese Zelk | <i>Zelkova serrata</i> | | Removal for Park Element |
| | Chinese Pistache | <i>Pistacia chinensis</i> | | Oak | <i>Quercus spp.</i> | | |
| | Coast Redwood | <i>Sequoia sempervierns</i> | | Pine | <i>Pinus spp.</i> | | |
| | Hollywood Juniper | <i>Juniperus chinensis</i> | | Sycamore | <i>Platanus spp.</i> | | |
| | Honey Locust | <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> | | Other | | | |

Proposed Trees

The final concept plan proposes a variety of options for new trees at Memorial Park. These trees were placed strategically throughout the site, intending to provide shading, screening, buffering, or visual interest.

Figure 4-18 shows the locations of the proposed trees and their categories, outlined below in Table 4-1 to Table 4-3.

Playground Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Coast Live Oak	<i>Pinus canariensis</i>	80	20 - 35	Low	Evergreen, Columnar or Conical
Crape Myrtle	<i>Lagerstroemia</i> spp.	20 - 30	15 - 30	Low	Deciduous, Rounded
Drake Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> 'Drake'	45	35 - 50	Low	Deciduous, Rounded
London Plane Tree	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	80	50 - 70	Moderate	Deciduous, Tough

Accent Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Armstrong Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i> 'Armstrong'	60	15 - 25	Moderate	Deciduous, Columnar
Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	50	15 - 30	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded or Conical
Purple Leaf Plum*	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	25	15 - 20	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded
Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	80	50 - 70	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded
Sour Gum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	50	20 - 30	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded or Conical

* For Quinlan Community Center Courtyard only

Table 4-1: Proposed Tree Palette

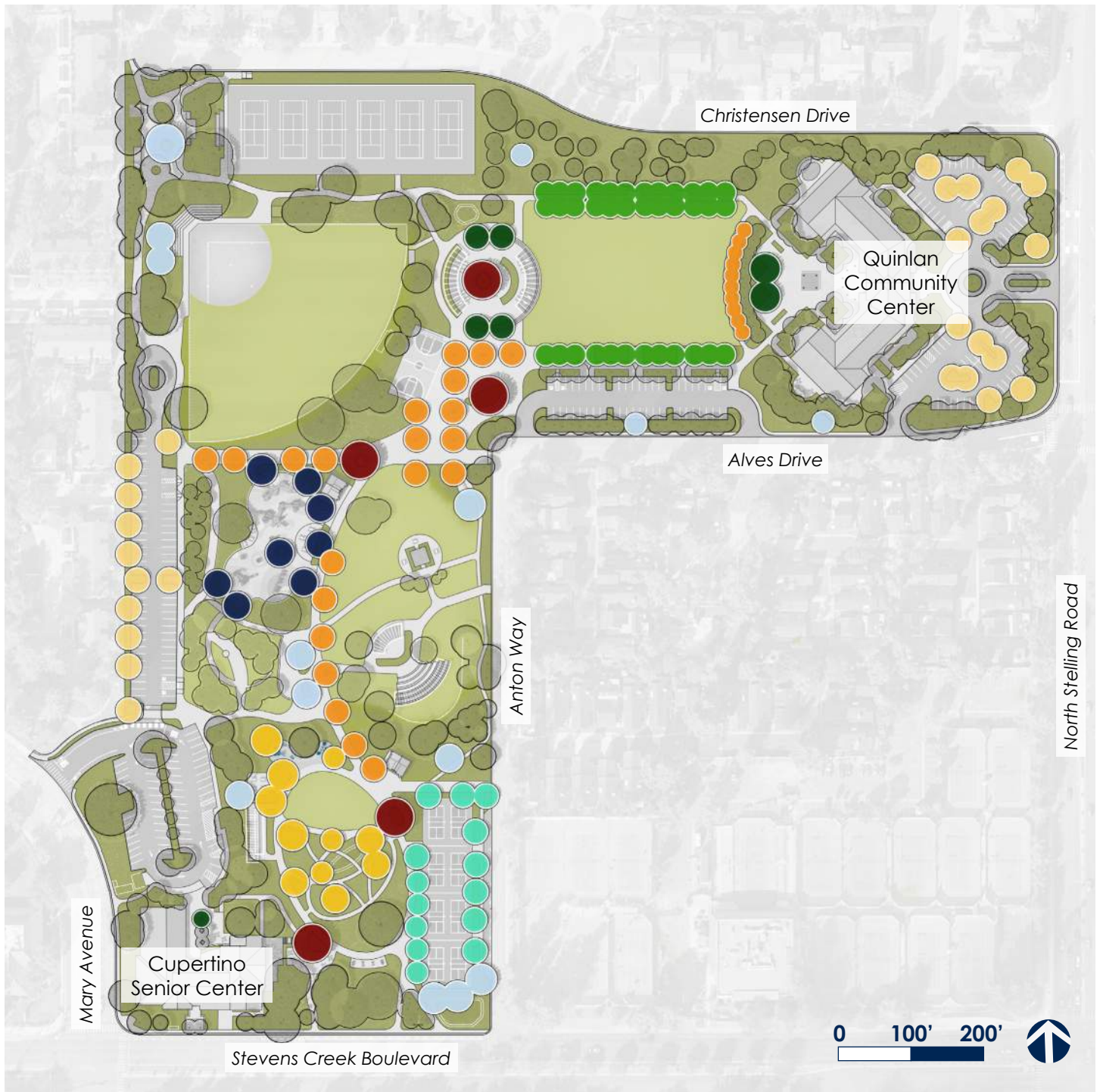


Figure 4-18: Proposed Trees and Landscaping

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| Specimen Tree | Parking Lot Tree | Accent Tree | Lawn |
| Playground Tree | Plaza Tree | Allee Tree | Planting Area |
| Passive Garden Tree | Screen Tree | Buffer Tree | Existing Tree to Remain |

Specimen Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Cork Oak	<i>Quercus suber</i>	70	70	Low	Evergreen, Rounded
Sawtooth Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	70	50 - 65	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded, Moderate to Fast Growing
Silk Tree	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	35	20	Low	Deciduous, Rounded or Vase, Fast Growing

Buffer Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Canary Island Pine	<i>Pinus canariensis</i>	80	20 - 35	Low	Evergreen, Columnar or Conical
Coast Live Oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	70	30 - 70	Low	Evergreen, Rounded
Deodar Cedar	<i>Cedrus deodora</i>	60	20 - 30	Moderate	Evergreen
Incense Cedar	<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	90	10 - 15	Moderate	Evergreen, Conical

Parking Lot Trees					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Chinese Flame Elm	<i>Koelruteria bipinnatata</i>	40	15 - 30	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded or Vase
Island Oak	<i>Quercus tomentella</i>	50	25 - 40	Low	Evergreen, Rounded, Moderate Growth Rate
Netleaf Oak	<i>Quercus rugosa</i>	60	20 - 40	Low	Evergreen, Oval/Round Topped, Slow Growing
Southern Live Oak	<i>Quercus virginiana</i>	70	60 - 100	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded

Plaza Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Emerald Sunshine Elm	<i>Ulmus davidiana</i> var. <i>japonica</i> 'Emerald Sunshine'	35	15 - 25	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded or Vase, Fast Growing
Sawleaf Zelkova	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	70	50 - 65	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded, Moderate to Fast Growing

Table 4-2: Proposed Tree Palette (continued)

Screen Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
African Fern Pine	<i>Afrocarpus falcatus</i>	70	10 - 20	Moderate	Evergreen, Rounded
Kohuhu	<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	30	6 - 15	Moderate	Evergreen, Conical or Rounded
Marina Madrone	<i>Arbutus marina</i>	40	30	Low	Evergreen, Rounded
Saratoga Laurel	<i>Laurus 'Saratoga'</i>	40	15 - 30	Low	Evergreen, Conical or Rounded

Allee Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Columbia London Plane Tree	<i>Platanus x hispanica 'Columbia'</i>	80	30	Moderate	Deciduous, Conical
Frontier Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia 'Frontier'</i>	30	20	Low	Evergreen, Rounded/Weeping
Maidenhair Tree	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	70	25	Moderate	Deciduous, Conical
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	70	30 - 40	Moderate	Deciduous, Conical

Passive Garden Tree					
Common Name	Scientific Name	Maximum Height (ft)	Canopy Spread (ft)	WUCOLS	General Characteristics
Bigleaf Maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	80	30 - 50	Moderate	Deciduous, Rounded
Coast Live Oak	<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	70	30 - 70	Low	Evergreen, Rounded
Coast Silktassel	<i>Garrya elliptica</i>	15	8 - 12	Low	Evergreen, Rounded
Valley Oak	<i>Quercus lobata</i>	70	50	Low	Deciduous, Rounded
Western Redbud	<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	25	10 - 20	Low	Deciduous, Rounded

Table 4-3: Proposed Tree Palette (continued)

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— Chapter 5 —

Implementation

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Phasing

The phasing process divides the overall project into distinct, manageable stages for implementation. Phasing ensures that the project remains adaptable, manageable, and achievable while providing tangible benefits to the community throughout the construction process.

The order and magnitude of construction phases is determined by the City of Cupertino based on several factors, including the availability of funds and overall priorities. Once funds are available to implement the design, careful attention should be given to how park elements are connected throughout the planning and construction phases.

Depending on the sequencing of construction, delaying certain improvements to a later phase may result in rebuilding, removing, or reworking certain improvements built in earlier phases. Careful consideration of the sequencing of construction must be made to minimize inflation of cost. It is strongly recommended to revisit the phasing strategy as construction documents are prepared.

The recommended phasing strategy for the Memorial Park Specific Plan is to be used for planning purposes and may change based on funding, community needs, and site conditions.

The Memorial Park Specific Plan recommends three implementation phases, as shown in Figure 5-1. The phases are staggered in order of the prioritized amenities by the community. Additionally, each phase is provided a suggested timeline. Phase 1 can be completed in 0 to 5 years, Phase 2 in 6 to 10 years, and Phase 3 in 11 to 15 years. All phasing and timelines are dependent upon available funding.

Phase 1

Phase 1 includes improvements and new amenities that were deemed high priority by the community. The construction time for this phase is 1 to 5 years.

Phase 1A

This initial phase focuses on the construction of the western edge. This area establishes the main circulation through the site, most critically the bicycle circulation routes that were identified in the 2016 Bicycle Transportation Plan. Improvements to this area include:

- Enhanced pedestrian and bicycle access
- All-abilities playground
- Restrooms
- Upgraded parking lot
- Improved topography around the Veterans Memorial
- Improved emergency vehicle access

Phase 1B

This secondary phase shifts focus to the southern edge of the park located on Stevens Creek Boulevard and across from De Anza College. In this area, active and passive recreation intermingle to create a multi-use, multi-generational space. Improvements to this area include:

- New site arrival
- New parking lot
- Upgraded restrooms
- Passive garden walk
- Pickleball courts
- Expanded Senior Center deck
- Fitness stations
- Bocce court
- Reservable picnic area
- Nature playground

Phase 2

Phase 2A

Phase 2A enhances the smaller event space located in the middle of Memorial Park. This phase includes the following improvements:

- Extended and upgraded amphitheater and stage
- Updated picnic area by the historic gazebo
- Enhanced open lawn space for small events

Phase 2B

Phase 2B focus on improvements to the active social area in the northwest corner of the park. Improvements to this area include:

- New enhanced arrival
- Reserverable picnic area
- Development of a full-size basketball court
- Enhanced softball field
- Enhanced tennis courts
- Upgraded restrooms

Phase 2C

Phase 2C improves the larger and main event space at Memorial Park. This area sits adjacent to the softball field and Quinlan Community Center. Improvements in this phase include:

- Enhanced event lawn space
- Upgraded Quinlan courtyard
- Upgraded parking lot

Phase 3

Phase 3, the final phase, focuses improvements on general enhancements around the Cupertino Senior Center and Quinlan Community Center and in their adjoining parking lots. These improvements were of low priority and include upgrades to the landscape and hardscape to better enhance visitor experience.

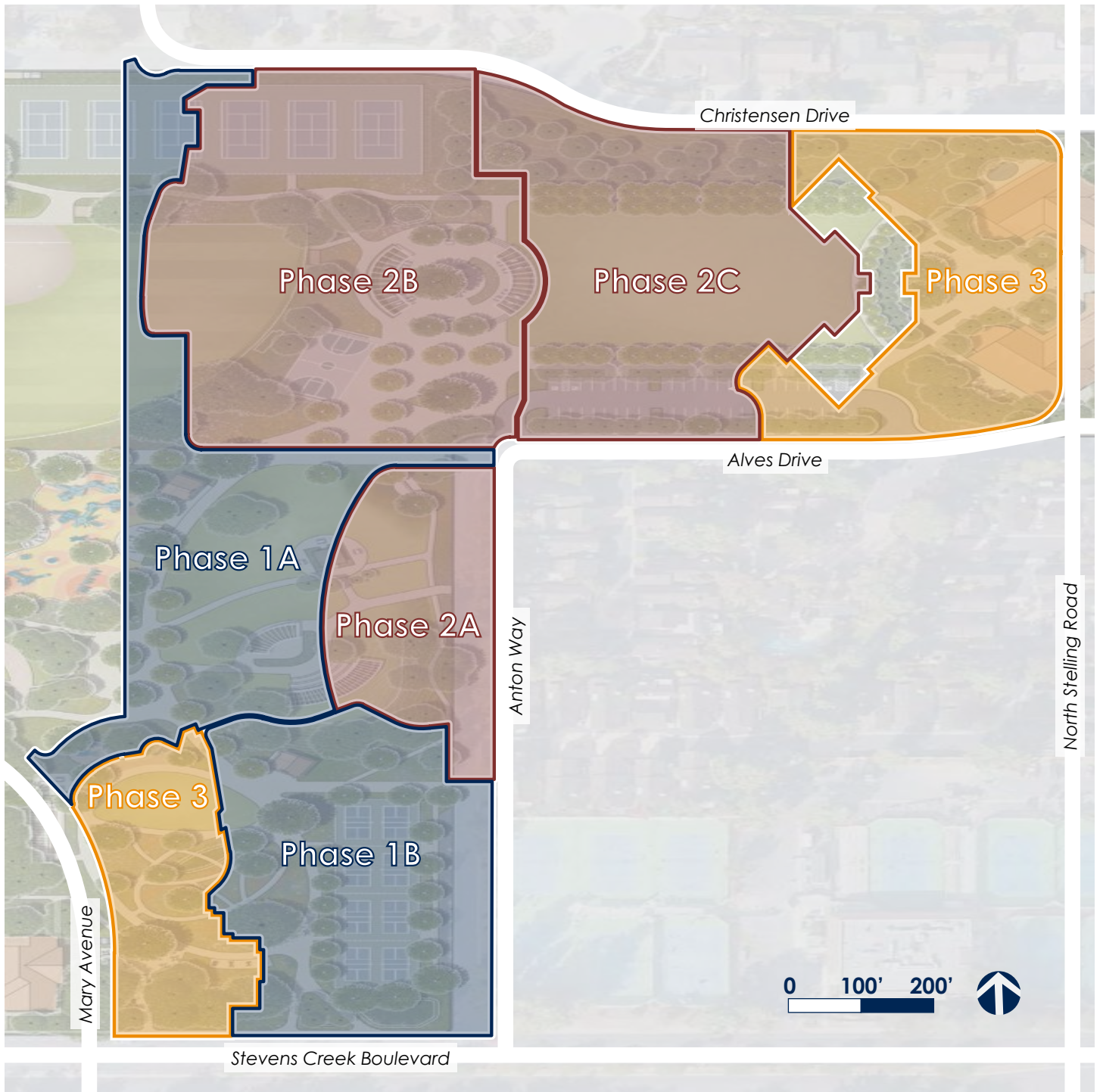


Figure 5-1: Phasing Plan

Costs

For each construction phase, a budget range was established. Cost data for materials and labor were referenced from recently constructed public parks and recent bids from contractors. These referenced projects reflect a similar marketplace, size, and scope. Current pricing information from suppliers for materials and furnishings were gathered as a source of information along with recent trends in construction costs. All costs established within the Specific Plan are calculated and adjusted to January 2024 price index factors. An annual compound escalation rate of 5% should be added per year from January 2024 to identify the total project cost. The escalation rate should be verified against the current Engineering News Record (ENR) for current escalation trends.

The Memorial Park Specific Plan proposes a conceptual level of design with a total project cost that includes typical industry breakdowns for direct construction (hard costs) and administration and permitting costs (soft costs). The project hard costs are generated based on the conceptual design, construction, and equipment procurement. Soft costs are based on the total hard costs amount. The purpose of these soft costs is to address contingencies, unknown design factors, design and engineering, permitting, and administration. The cost estimate assumes the project will be competitively bid on a fixed fee cost basis and assumes construction labor costs will be subject to prevailing wages.

The cost for developing the final concept plan in its entirety is estimated to be approximately \$83.7 million. Though the possibility exists that the cost of construction could come down, it is expected that costs will increase based on inflation rates and other market conditions. Delaying implementation of the plan may result in an increase in construction costs above this estimate.

Maintenance costs could include servicing the restrooms, lighting, furnishings, and landscape, as well as other maintenance tasks such as trash removal or the periodic compaction of the bocce court.

For budgeting and planning purposes, the Memorial Park Specific Plan breaks out the cost estimate by each construction phase (Table 5-1).

Phase	Subtotal
Phase 1A	\$20,312,626
Phase 1B	\$17,275,643
Phase 2A	\$11,892,443
Phase 2B	\$17,244,618
Phase 2C	\$12,549,359
Phase 3	\$4,399,489
Total Project Cost:	\$83,674,178

Table 5-1: Total Project Cost Estimate

COST ESTIMATE - Phase 1A

	Recommendation	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Subtotal
1	Tree Protection	100	EA	\$1,500	\$150,000
2	Tree Demolition	17	EA	\$2,500	\$42,500
3	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$52,500	\$52,500
4	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$30,000	\$30,000
5	Construction Surveying	1	LS	\$90,000	\$90,000
6	Site Preparation and Demolition	150,000	SF	\$3	\$450,000
7	Site Utilities (Domestic Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drain)	1	LS	\$500,000	\$500,000
8	Site Grading	150,000	SF	\$6	\$900,000
9	Stormwater Retention Area	1	LS	\$75,000	\$75,000
10	Site Electrical and Lighting	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000
11	Parking Lot and Drive Aisle	35,000	SF	\$28	\$980,000
12	Multi-Use Paths	50,000	SF	\$30	\$1,500,000
13	Planting and Irrigation	40,000	SF	\$18	\$720,000
14	New Trees	1	LS	\$40,000	\$40,000
15	Relocated Trees	2	EA	\$2,500	\$5,000
16	Picnic Areas and Site Furnishings	1	LS	\$150,000	\$150,000
17	All-Abilities Playground (Resilient Surfacing, Play Structures, Seat Walls)	1	LS	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
18	New Restrooms	1	EA	\$900,000	\$900,000
19	Upgraded Restroom	1	LS	\$500,000	\$500,000
20	Perimeter Conform	34,000	SF	\$15	\$510,000
	Direct Construction Cost (Subtotal)				\$11,785,000
21	Construction Contingency (10%)				\$1,178,500
22	Mobilization and General Condition (10.5%)				\$1,237,425
23	Bonding (1.5%)				\$176,775
24	Insurance (2%)				\$235,700
	Direct Construction Cost (Total)				\$14,613,400
25	Design and Unknown Factor Contingency (30%)				\$4,384,020
26	Design and Engineering (7%)				\$1,022,938
27	Permits and Fees (1%)				\$146,134
28	City Administration Fee (1%)				\$146,134
	Total Administration and Permitting Cost				\$5,699,226
	TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$20,312,626

Table 5-2: Phase 1A Cost Estimate

COST ESTIMATE - Phase 1B					
	Recommendation	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Subtotal
1	Tree Protection	33	EA	\$1,500	\$49,500
2	Tree Demolition	31	EA	\$2,500	\$77,500
3	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$51,000	\$51,000
4	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$30,000	\$30,000
5	Construction Surveying	1	LS	\$85,000	\$85,000
6	Site Preparation and Demolition	146,000	SF	\$3	\$438,000
7	Site Utilities (Domestic Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drain)	1	LS	\$700,000	\$700,000
8	Site Grading	146,000	SF	\$6	\$876,000
9	Stormwater Retention Area	1	LS	\$50,000	\$50,000
10	Site Electrical and Lighting	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000
11	New Parallel Parking	1	LS	\$90,000	\$90,000
12	Multi-Use Paths	35,000	SF	\$28	\$980,000
13	New Trees	1	LS	\$35,000	\$35,000
14	Relocated Trees	5	EA	\$25,000	\$125,000
15	Planting and Irrigation	80,000	SF	\$18	\$1,440,000
16	Lawn and Irrigation	8,000	SF	\$12	\$96,000
17	Expanded Senior Center Courtyard	2,000	SF	\$150	\$300,000
18	Picnic Areas and Site Furnishings	1	LS	\$250,000	\$250,000
19	Nature Playground	1	LS	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
20	Pickleball Court	8	EA	\$150,000	\$1,200,000
21	Bocce Court and Shade Structure	1	EA	\$250,000	\$250,000
22	Fitness Station	1	LS	\$300,000	\$300,000
23	New Restroom	1	EA	\$900,000	\$900,000
24	Perimeter Conform	18,000	SF	\$15	\$270,000
	Direct Construction Cost (Subtotal)				\$10,023,000
25	Construction Contingency (10%)				\$1,002,300
26	Mobilization and General Condition (10.5%)				\$1,052,415
27	Bonding (1.5%)				\$150,345
28	Insurance (2%)				\$200,460
	Direct Construction Cost (Total)				\$12,428,520
29	Design and Unknown Factor Contingency (30%)				\$3,728,556
30	Design and Engineering (7%)				\$869,996
31	Permits and Fees (1%)				\$124,285
32	City Administration Fee (1%)				\$124,285
	Total Administration and Permitting Cost				\$4,847,123
	TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$17,275,643

Table 5-3: Phase 1B Cost Estimate

COST ESTIMATE - Phase 2A

	Recommendation	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Subtotal
1	Tree Protection	28	EA	\$1,500	\$42,000
2	Tree Demolition	6	EA	\$2,500	\$15,000
3	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$35,000	\$35,000
4	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$30,000.00	\$30,000
5	Construction Surveying	1	LS	\$45,000	\$45,000
6	Site Preparation and Demolition	78,000	SF	\$3	\$234,000
7	Site Utilities (Domestic Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drain)	1	LS	\$130,000	\$130,000
8	Site Grading	78,000	SF	\$6	\$468,000
9	Stormwater Retention Area	1	LS	\$12,000	\$12,000
10	Site Electrical and Lighting	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000
11	Multi-Use Paths	9,000	SF	\$28	\$252,000
12	Lawn and Irrigation	47,000	SF	\$12	\$564,000
13	Planting and Irrigation	15,000	SF	\$18	\$270,000
14	New Trees	1	LS	\$12,000	\$12,000
15	Gazebo Picnic Area	5,000	SF	\$150	\$750,000
16	Upgraded Amphitheater and Stage	1	LS	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000
17	Perimeter Conform	13,000	SF	\$15	\$195,000
	Direct Construction Cost (Subtotal)				\$6,754,000
18	Construction Contingency (10%)				\$675,000
19	Mobilization and General Condition (10.5%)				\$709,170
20	Bonding (1.5%)				\$101,310
21	Insurance (2%)				\$135,080
	Direct Construction Cost (Total)				\$8,374,960
22	Design and Unknown Factor Contingency (30%)				\$2,512,488
23	Design and Engineering (10%)				\$837,496
24	Permits and Fees (1%)				\$83,750
25	City Administration Fee (1%)				\$83,750
	Total Administration and Permitting Cost				\$3,517,483
	TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$11,892,443

Table 5-4: Phase 2A Cost Estimate

COST ESTIMATE - Phase 2B					
Recommendation	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Subtotal	
1 Tree Protection	36	EA	\$1,500	\$54,000	
2 Tree Demolition	16	EA	\$2,500	\$40,000	
3 Erosion Control	1	LS	\$80,000	\$80,000	
4 Traffic Control	1	LS	\$30,000	\$30,000	
5 Construction Surveying	1	LS	\$135,000	\$135,000	
6 Site Preparation and Demolition	235,000	SF	\$3	\$705,000	
7 Site Utilities (Domestic Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drain)	1	LS	\$450,000	\$450,000	
8 Site Grading	235,000	SF	\$6	\$1,410,000	
9 Stormwater Retention Area	1	LS	\$8,000	\$8,000	
10 Site Electrical and Lighting	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000	
11 Multi-Use Paths	36,000	SF	\$28	\$1,008,000	
12 Planting and Irrigation	75,000	SF	\$18	\$1,350,000	
13 New Trees	1	LS	\$20,000	\$20,000	
14 Softball Lighting Upgrades and Control Panel	1	LS	\$650,000	\$650,000	
15 Softball Amphitheater	1	LS	\$275,000	\$275,000	
16 Tennis Court Amphitheater	1	LS	\$80,000	\$80,000	
17 Tennis Court Striping Removal	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000	
18 Picnic Areas and Site Furnishing	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000	
19 Reservable Picnic Area (Site Furnishing, Shade Structures)	1	LS	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	
20 Basketball Court (Paving, Striping, Goals)	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000	
21 Upgraded Restroom	1	LS	\$400,000	\$400,000	
22 Perimeter Conform	20,000	SF	\$15	\$300,000	
Direct Construction Cost (Subtotal)				\$10,005,000	
23 Construction Contingency (10%)				\$1,000,000	
24 Mobilization and General Condition (10.5%)				\$1,050,525	
25 Bonding (1.5%)				\$150,075	
26 Insurance (2%)				\$200,100	
Direct Construction Cost (Total)				\$12,406,200	
27 Design and Unknown Factor Contingency (30%)				\$3,721,860	
28 Design and Engineering (7%)				\$868,434	
29 Permits and Fees (1%)				\$124,062	
30 City Administration Fee (1%)				\$124,062	
Total Administration and Permitting Cost				\$4,838,418	
TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$17,244,618	

Table 5-5: Phase 2B Cost Estimate

COST ESTIMATE - Phase 2C

	Recommendation	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Subtotal
1	Tree Protection	77	EA	\$1,500	\$115,500
2	Tree Demolition	40	EA	\$2,500	\$100,000
3	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$58,000	\$58,000
4	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$30,000	\$30,000
5	Construction Surveying	1	LS	\$100,000	\$100,000
6	Site Preparation and Demolition	168,000	SF	\$3	\$504,000
7	Site Utilities (Domestic Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Drain)	1	LS	\$300,000	\$300,000
8	Site Grading	168,000	SF	\$6	\$1,008,000
9	Stormwater Retention Area	1	LS	\$35,000	\$35,000
10	Site Electrical and Lighting	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000
11	Alves Parking Lot Update	1	LS	\$400,000	\$400,000
12	Alves Drive Parking Stall Striping	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000
13	Multi-Use Paths	16,300	SF	\$28	\$456,400
14	Planting and Irrigation	68,000	SF	\$18	\$1,224,000
15	New Trees	1	LS	\$50,000	\$50,000
16	Lawn and Irrigation	20,000	SF	\$12	\$240,000
17	Quinlan Courtyard	13,000	SF	\$150	\$1,950,000
18	Picnic Areas and Site Furnishings	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000
19	Perimeter Conform	20,000	SF	\$15	\$300,000
	Direct Construction Cost (Subtotal)				\$7,280,900
20	Construction Contingency (10%)				\$728,090
21	Mobilization and General Condition (10.5%)				\$764,495
22	Bonding (1.5%)				\$109,214
23	Insurance (2%)				\$145,618
	Direct Construction Cost (Total)				\$9,028,316
24	Design and Unknown Factor Contingency (30%)				\$2,708,495
25	Design and Engineering (7%)				\$631,982
26	Permits and Fees (1%)				\$90,283
27	City Administration Fee (1%)				\$90,283
	Total Administration and Permitting Cost				\$3,521,043
	TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$12,549,359

Table 5-6: Phase 2C Cost Estimate

COST ESTIMATE - Phase 3					
	Recommendation	Quantity	Unit	Unit Cost	Subtotal
1	Tree Protection	121	EA	\$1,500	\$181,500
2	Tree Demolition	24	EA	\$2,500	\$60,000
3	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$30,000	\$30,000
4	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000
5	Construction Surveying	1	LS	\$15,000	\$15,000
6	Site Preparation and Demolition	112,000	SF	\$3	\$336,000
7	Senior Center Parking Lot Resurfacing	21,000	SF	\$15	\$315,000
8	Quinlan Parking Lot Resurfacing	40,000	SF	\$15	\$600,000
9	Planting and Irrigation	55,000	SF	\$18	\$990,000
10	New Trees	1	LS	\$15,000	\$15,000
	Direct Construction Cost (Subtotal)				\$2,552,500
11	Construction Contingency (10%)				\$255,250
12	Mobilization and General Condition (10.5%)				\$268,013
13	Bonding (1.5%)				\$38,288
14	Insurance (2%)				\$51,050
	Direct Construction Cost (Total)				\$3,165,100
15	Design and Unknown Factor Contingency (30%)				\$949,530
16	Design and Engineering (7%)				\$221,557
17	Permits and Fees (1%)				\$31,651
18	City Administration Fee (1%)				\$31,651
	Total Administration and Permitting Cost				\$1,234,389
	TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$4,399,489

Table 5-7: Phase 3 Cost Estimate

Funding

The implementation of the Memorial Park Specific Plan will be contingent on funding availability. Funding will be required for both capital improvements as well as the associated ongoing maintenance costs. For a general summary of existing and additional funding sources, please view Appendix G of the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. Potential funding sources to support the implementation of the Memorial Park Specific Plan are discussed below.

Community Facilities District

A funding tool to generate capital for park projects is a Mello-Roos community facilities district (CFD). A CFD is a special tax district that aids in financing public infrastructure improvements through imposing a tax on property within a geographic area. A CFD special tax could fund a substantial amount of capital costs depending on the “boundary” or number of property owners included in the CFD area. The tax continues until bonds are paid off and then reduced to maintain investment. According to the City of Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, the City has no existing CFDs.

Grant Funding

Grants in recent decades have provided substantial opportunities for cities to invest more in their parks. Funding from grants can range from local to national sources and can include public agencies such as the California Department of Parks and Recreation, as well as private and non-profit organizations like the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). California grant programs such as the Per Capita Program, the Recreational Infrastructure Revenue Enhancement (RIRE) Program (allocated to Santa Clara County), and other statewide park programs could be other potential funding opportunities to achieve the vision of the Memorial Park Specific Plan. Grants will require dedicated staff support as they require specific project reporting protocols. Grants should be mainly considered a capital funding source.

Other Funding Options

Additional funding opportunities for the City to consider include Special Assessment taxes, taking advantage of local sales tax measures to garner revenue from local retail transactions, parcel taxes that can offer funds for both capital and operations, or other Mello-Roos special taxes appropriate for this project such as Enhanced Infrastructure Finance Districts (EIFD).

Partnerships, sponsorships, and amenity naming rights are opportunities to build relationships with the community while simultaneously building capital for park improvements. Situated in the heart of Silicon Valley and visited by various members of the Cupertino community, there is a high opportunity for the City to partner with local companies, sports leagues, institutions, and organizations to help fund the improvements at Memorial Park. Oftentimes donations may also be directed toward the project from these invested stakeholders.

Environmental Review

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study/Addendum was prepared for the Memorial Park Specific Plan. The Initial Study/Addendum evaluates the environmental impacts that might reasonably be anticipated to result from implementation of the proposed project.

The Initial Study/Addendum tiers from the City of Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (adopted October 2019, State Clearinghouse [SCH] #2019109066).

Section 15162(a) of the CEQA Guidelines states that when an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been certified or a Negative Declaration adopted for a project, no subsequent EIR or Negative Declaration is needed unless there are substantial changes to the scope, environmental circumstances, or information available for a given project.

Section 15164(b) of the CEQA Guidelines states that an Addendum may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary or none of the conditions described in Section 15162(a) calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR or Negative Declaration have occurred.

Based on the analysis completed in the Initial Study/Addendum, the City has determined that the project would not result in new or substantially more severe significant impacts than previously disclosed in the 2019 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Therefore, a subsequent EIR or Negative Declaration would not be required for the project and an Addendum has been prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15164.

The Initial Study/Addendum includes a project description with anticipated construction phasing, a conformity analysis documenting the project's consistency with the prior environmental review completed for the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan, and information sourced from relevant, project-specific technical analyses.

Please see the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (Appendix E) and the Geotechnical Evaluation (Appendix F) for supporting information.

MEMORIAL PARK SPECIFIC PLAN



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Memorial Park