



# Dowdy Park Final Concept Recommendation

Presentation from the  
Dowdy Park Design Committee to the  
Nags Head Board of Commissioners

March 4, 2015



## Parks and Recreation Goal:

"The Town of Nags Head must be a good place to live and to visit. We will provide amenities and attractions that appeal to a broad spectrum of age groups, abilities, and interests to help our citizens and guests maintain a healthy lifestyle."

"Dowdy Park will be a park for all ages in perpetuity."

# Dowdy Park Process

## Publicly Driven Process

- Community Project w/ NHES and Colony Ridge
- Pumpkin Fair
- Survey (700+ responses)
- Steering Committee Meetings
- Design Charrette
- Two Public Meetings
- Local Media Outreach



| DOWDY PARK COMMUNITY SURVEY   |  | Town of Nags Head, NC   |
|---|--|---|
| What is your zip code?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 27959 <input type="checkbox"/> 27948 <input type="checkbox"/> 27949 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |  | 5401 S. Croatan Hwy<br>P.O. Box 99<br>Nags Head, NC 27959<br><a href="http://www.nagsheadnc.gov">www.nagsheadnc.gov</a>   |
| What is your age?<br><input type="checkbox"/> 1-19 <input type="checkbox"/> 20-29 <input type="checkbox"/> 30-39 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-49 <input type="checkbox"/> 50-59 <input type="checkbox"/> 60+   |  |   |
| Check five amenities you would like to see in the new park.   |  | The Town of Nags Head has recently purchased the former Dowdy's Amusement Park, to develop as a town park facility for all ages. We would like your input on the design, amenities and activities that should be incorporated into the park. Please take a moment to fill out this brief survey. More information on this project, including additional methods to provide input, can be found at <a href="http://www.nagsheadnc.gov">www.nagsheadnc.gov</a> or at the town's Facebook page. Questions can be directed to Susie Walters, Town Commissioner, ( <a href="mailto:Susie.walters@nagsheadnc.gov">Susie.walters@nagsheadnc.gov</a> ) or to Andy Garman, Director of Planning and Development, ( <a href="mailto:andy.garman@nagsheadnc.gov">andy.garman@nagsheadnc.gov</a> ). This survey can also be completed at the following website: <a href="https://townofnagshead.wufoo.com/forms/dowdy-park-community-survey/">https://townofnagshead.wufoo.com/forms/dowdy-park-community-survey/</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Paths <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness Trails <input type="checkbox"/> Greenspace<br><input type="checkbox"/> Tennis <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic Area/Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Performance Venue<br><input type="checkbox"/> Basketball <input type="checkbox"/> Garden/Fountain <input type="checkbox"/> Playground<br><input type="checkbox"/> Splash Park <input type="checkbox"/> Bocce/Croquet <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Multi-purpose field |  |   |
| What activities would you like to see in the new park?  |  | Please provide us with any additional thoughts, comments, or ideas:<br>_____<br>_____<br>_____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concerts <input type="checkbox"/> Yoga/Pilates <input type="checkbox"/> Theater/Movies<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fitness Classes <input type="checkbox"/> Farmer's Market <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening<br><input type="checkbox"/> Social Gatherings <input type="checkbox"/> Lectures <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Events  |  |   |

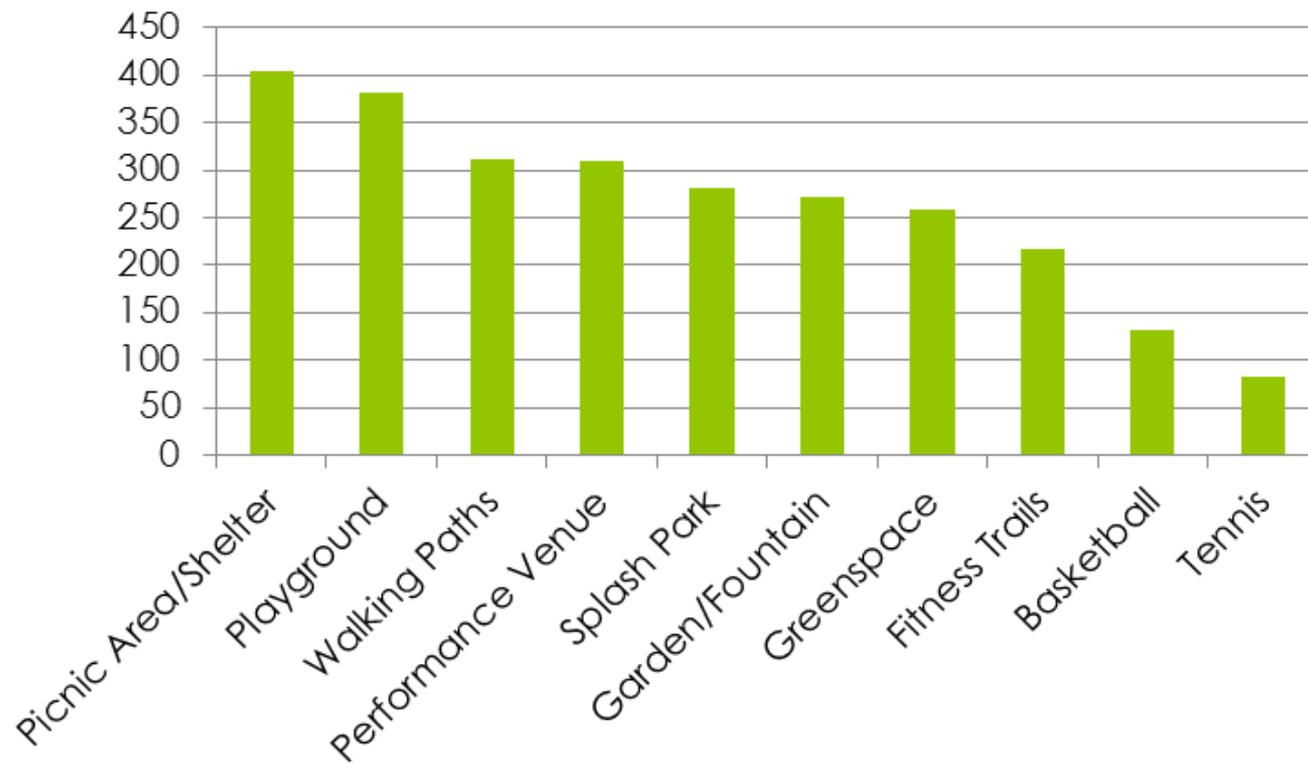
# Dowdy Park Process

- **Board of Commissioners Presentation (March)**
- Refinement of Selected Concept
- Final Report (April/May)
- CIP
- Grant Applications
- Phase I Construction

# Dowdy Park Survey

Results 11/20/14

## ● Amenities

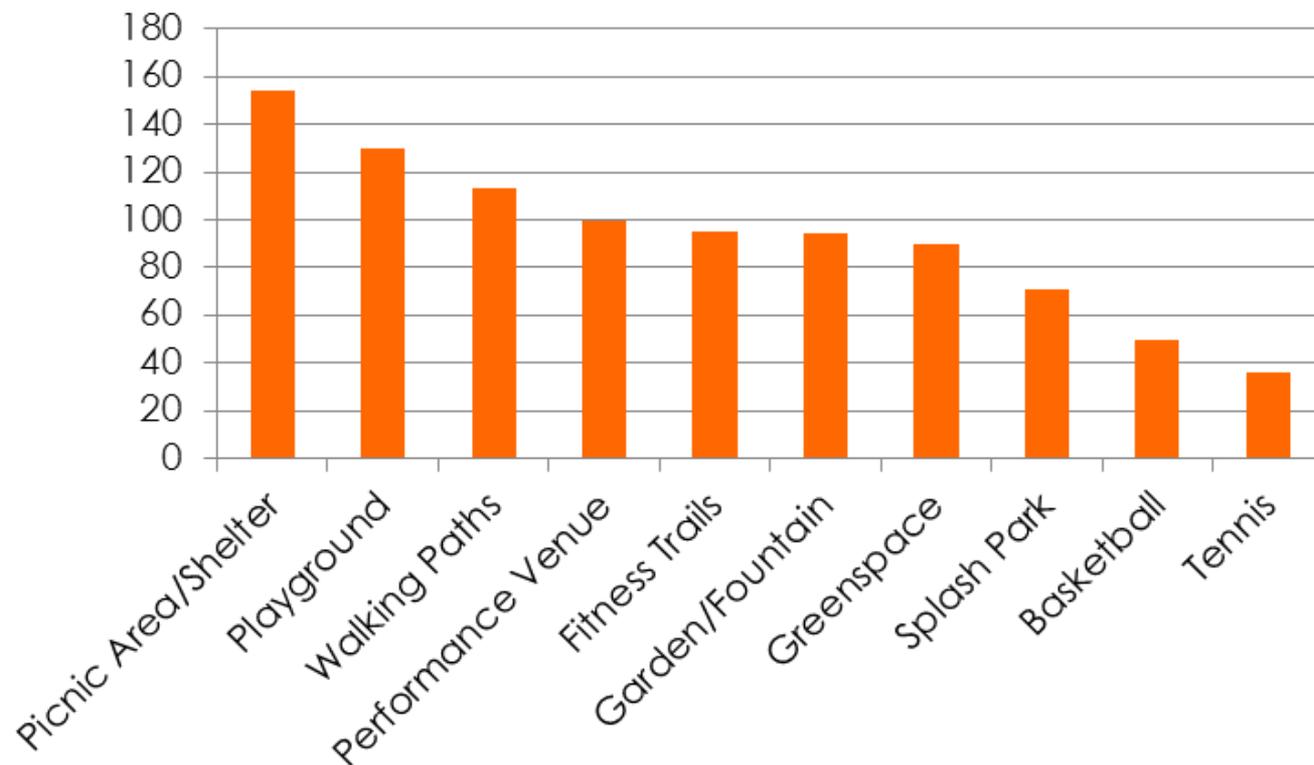


# Dowdy Park Survey

Results 11/20/14

## ● Amenities

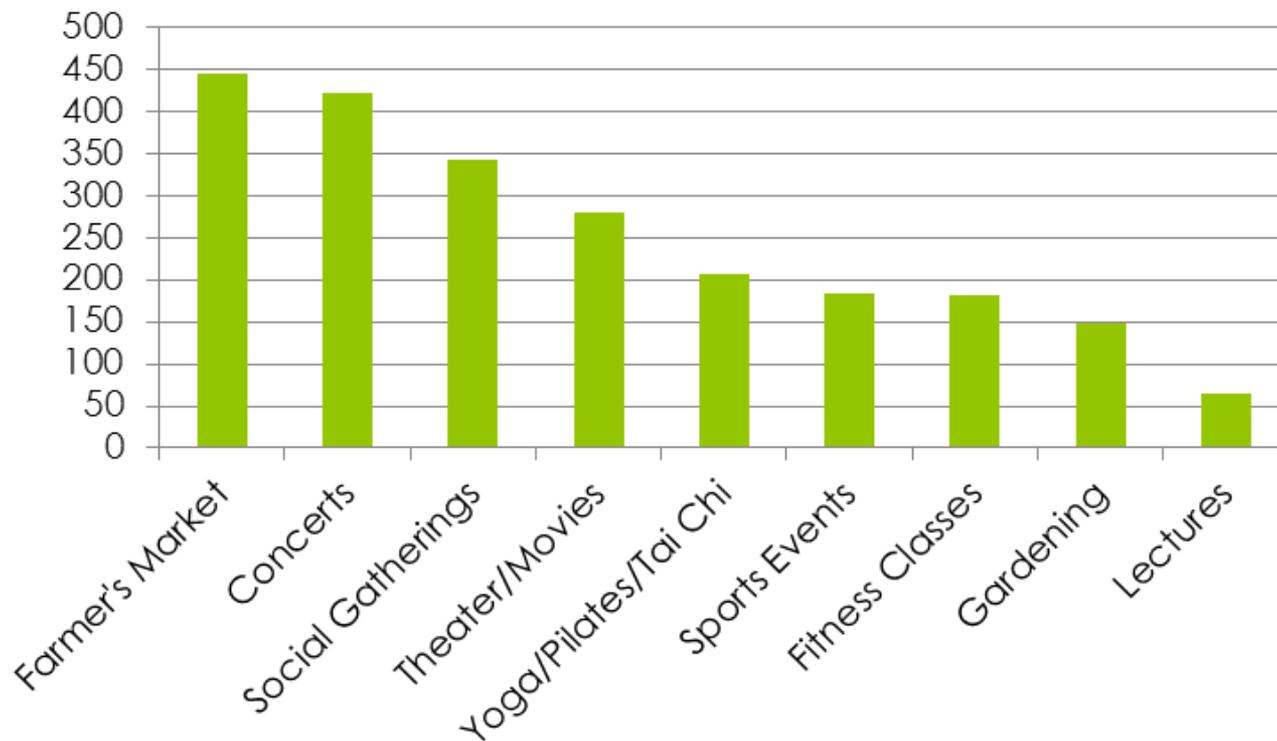
(27959)



# Dowdy Park Survey

Results 11/20/14

## ● Activities

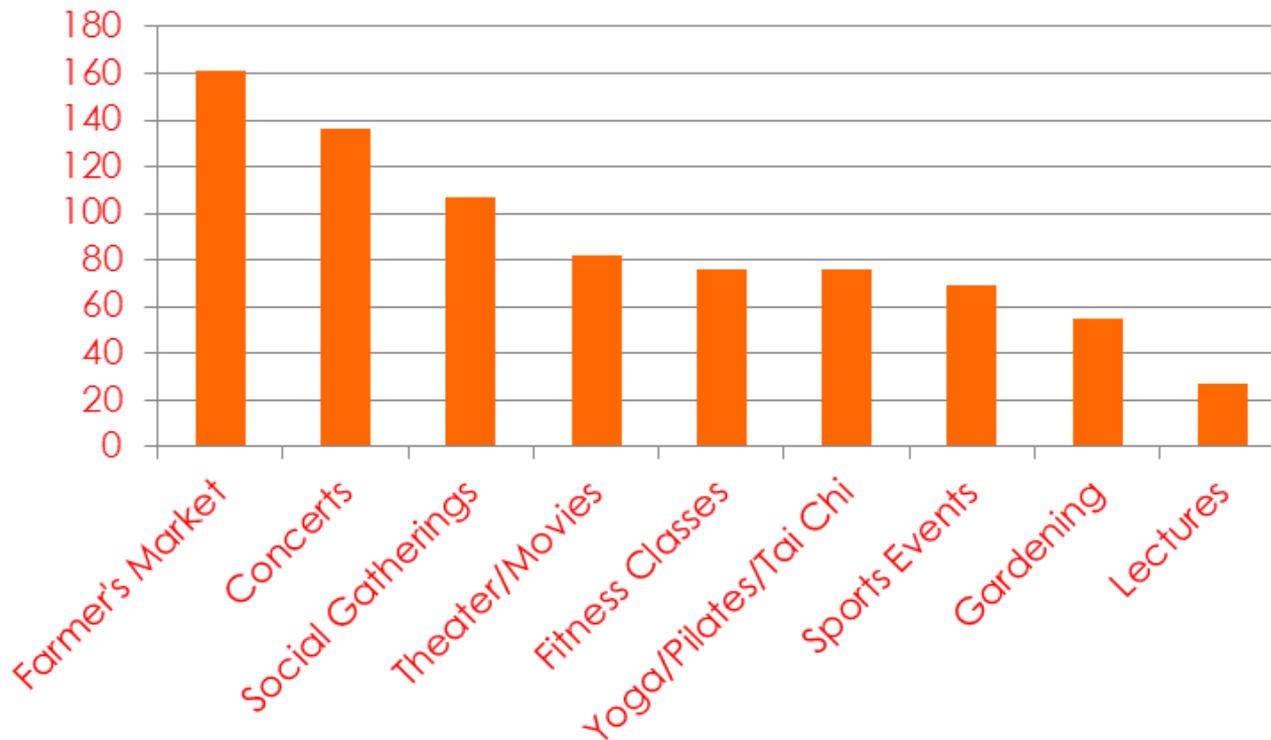


# Dowdy Park Survey

Results 11/20/14

## ● Activities

(27959)



# Public Input

Comments paralleled the survey...

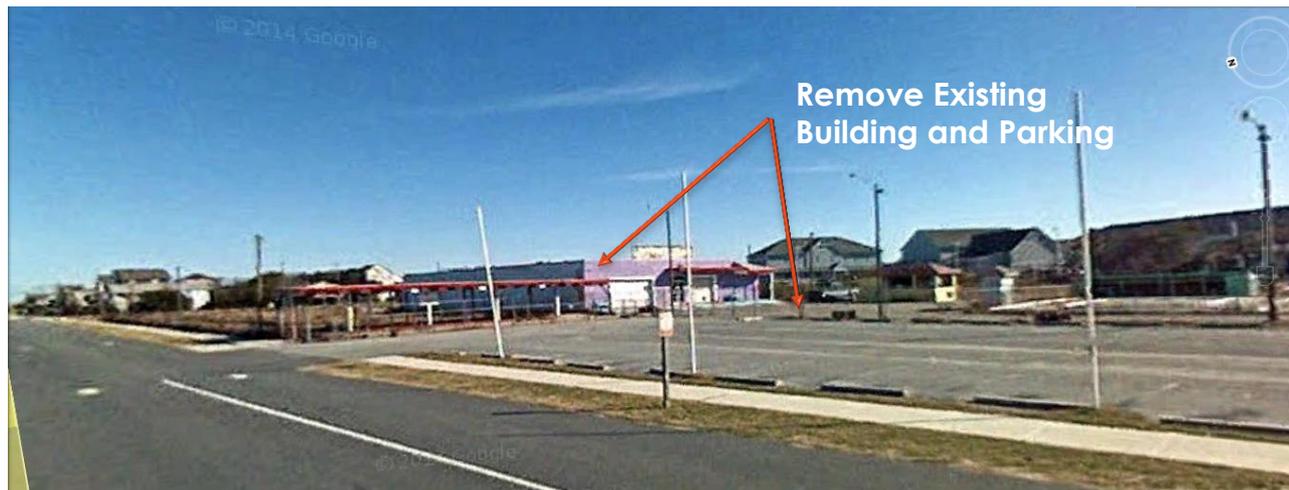
- Active and passive recreation
- Social and cultural events
- Un-programmed open space
- Performance areas
- Art themed facilities
- Community events (farmer's market, art/craft fairs)
- Trails, quiet areas, shady areas
- Informal children's play (climbing boulder, interactive structures, "not a children's playground")
- Sport court (basketball, tennis, handball, pickle ball, evening lighting)
- Senior activities (game tables, lawn sports (bocce), walking and exercise, gardening)
- Landscaped areas with opportunities for shade

# Public Input

## Other Themes/Comments

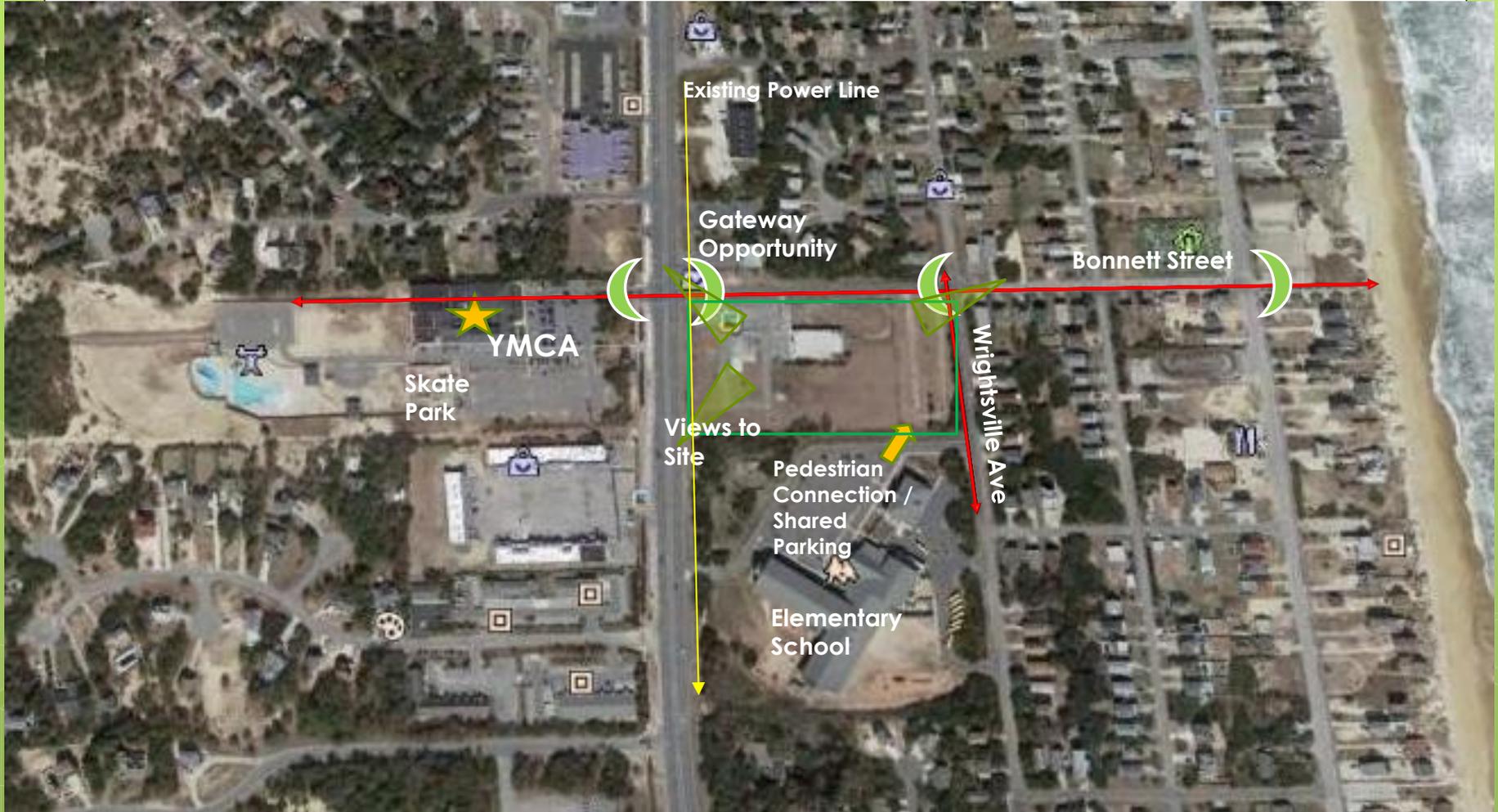
- Green Space
- Dog Park (57 responses)
- Skate Park (59 responses)
- Pool
- Community Art (25 responses)
- Amusement Park (9 responses)
- Sports Fields (12 responses for soccer)
- Learning Center/Museum
- Free Expression Wall Art
- Gathering Spot for Teens
- Bocce (9 responses)

# Existing Conditions



Site Looking Southeast

# Existing Conditions



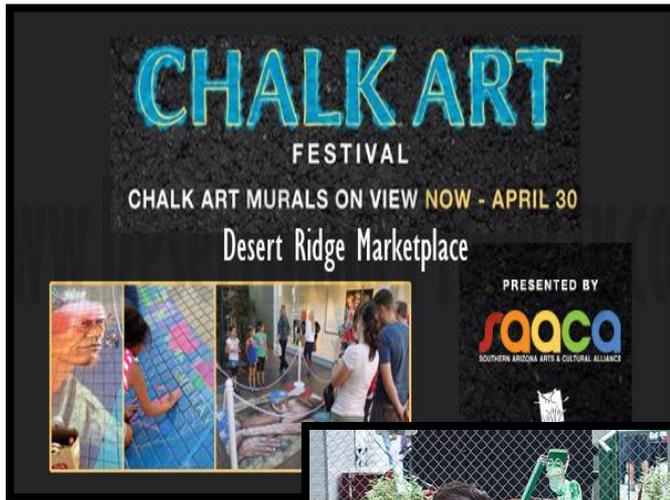
## Committee Design Charrette

### Homework Assignment

- What are the components of a great park or public space?
- Find at least five images of inviting, unique, or interesting parks, public spaces, or places.

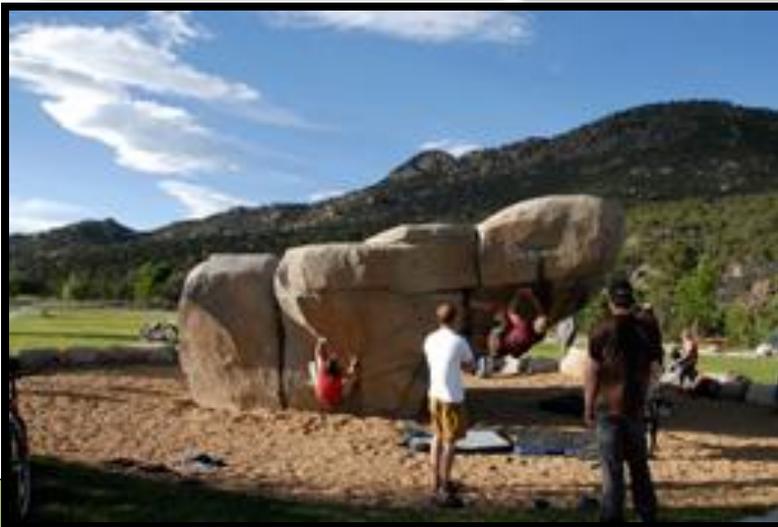
# Committee Design Charrette

## Functional and Interactive Art



# Committee Design Charrette

## Informal play



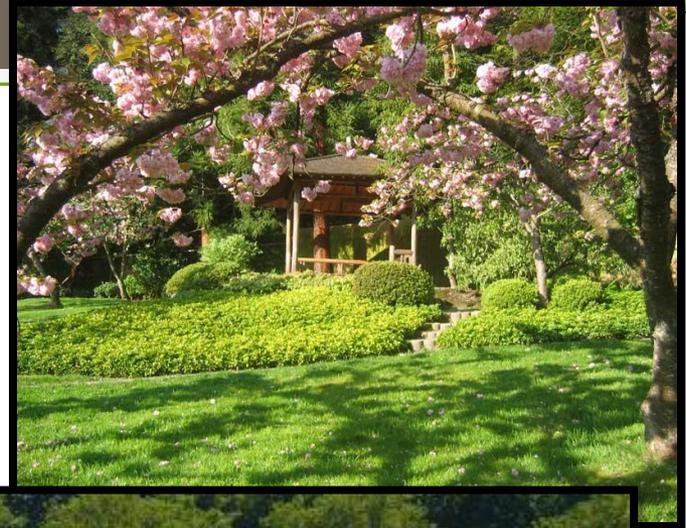
# Committee Design Charrette

Fitness and group activities



# Committee Design Charrette

## Un-Programmed green space



# Committee Design Charrette

Active plaza space



# Committee Design Charrette

## Landscape and garden areas



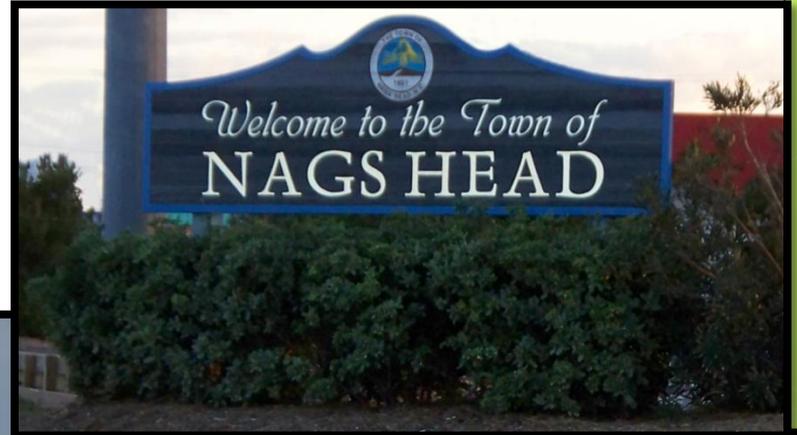
# Committee Design Charrette

## Bocce/lawn sports



# Committee Design Charrette

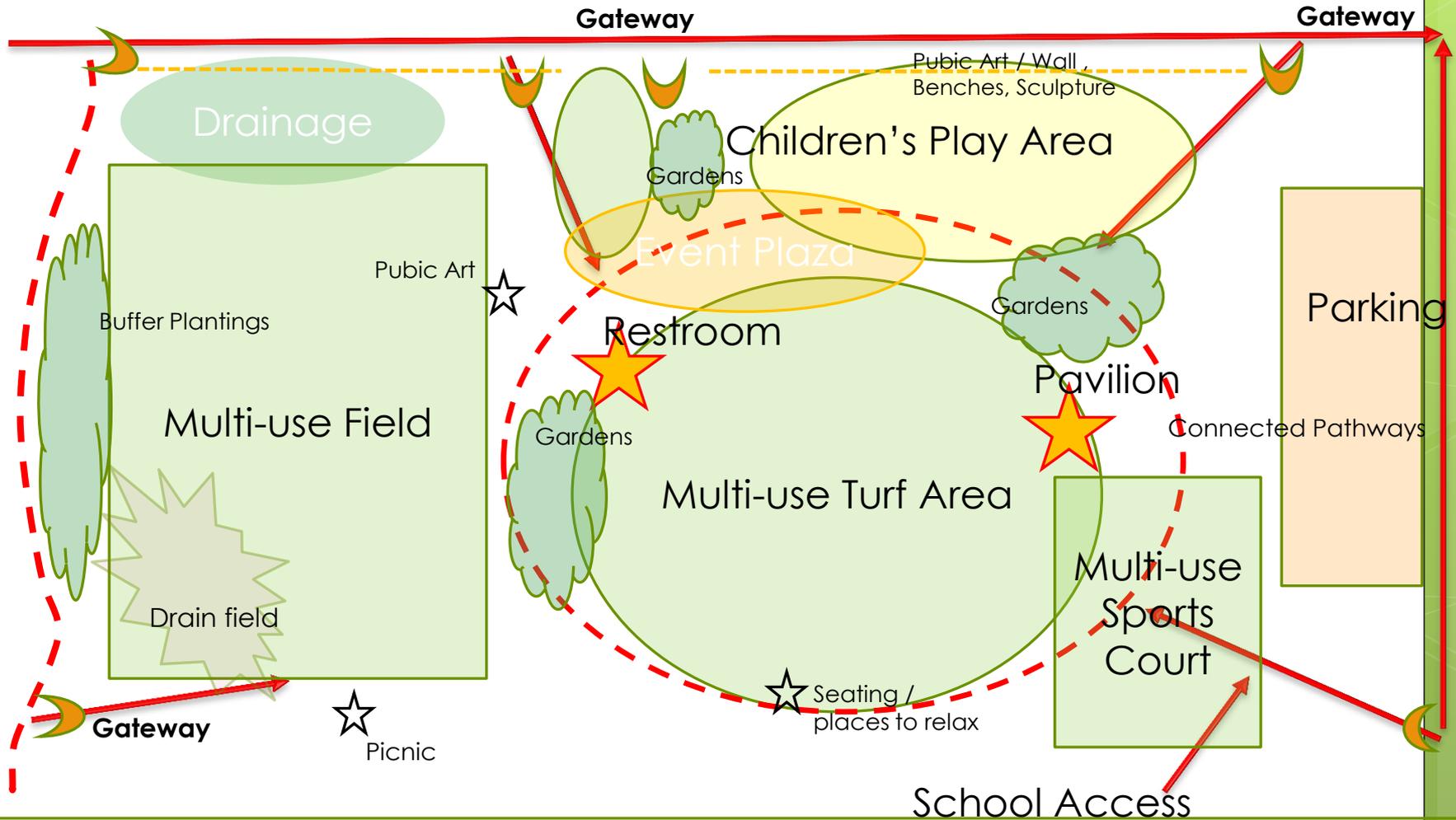
Nags Head style



## Selected Design Elements

- Multi-purpose field
- Gazebo and green area for performances
- Event “hardscape” plaza
- Multi-purpose sport court
- Garden area (community garden, butterfly garden)
- Trail system with fitness stations
- Informal children’s play features
- Landscaping and art
- Seating, game tables, quiet spaces
- Shade structure(s)
- Wetland garden/stormwater retention
- Pedestrian connections
- Security and court lighting
- Restrooms
- Parking

# Design Framework



## Design Elements

Three conceptual layouts were presented to the public based on design framework using similar design elements

# Three Concepts:

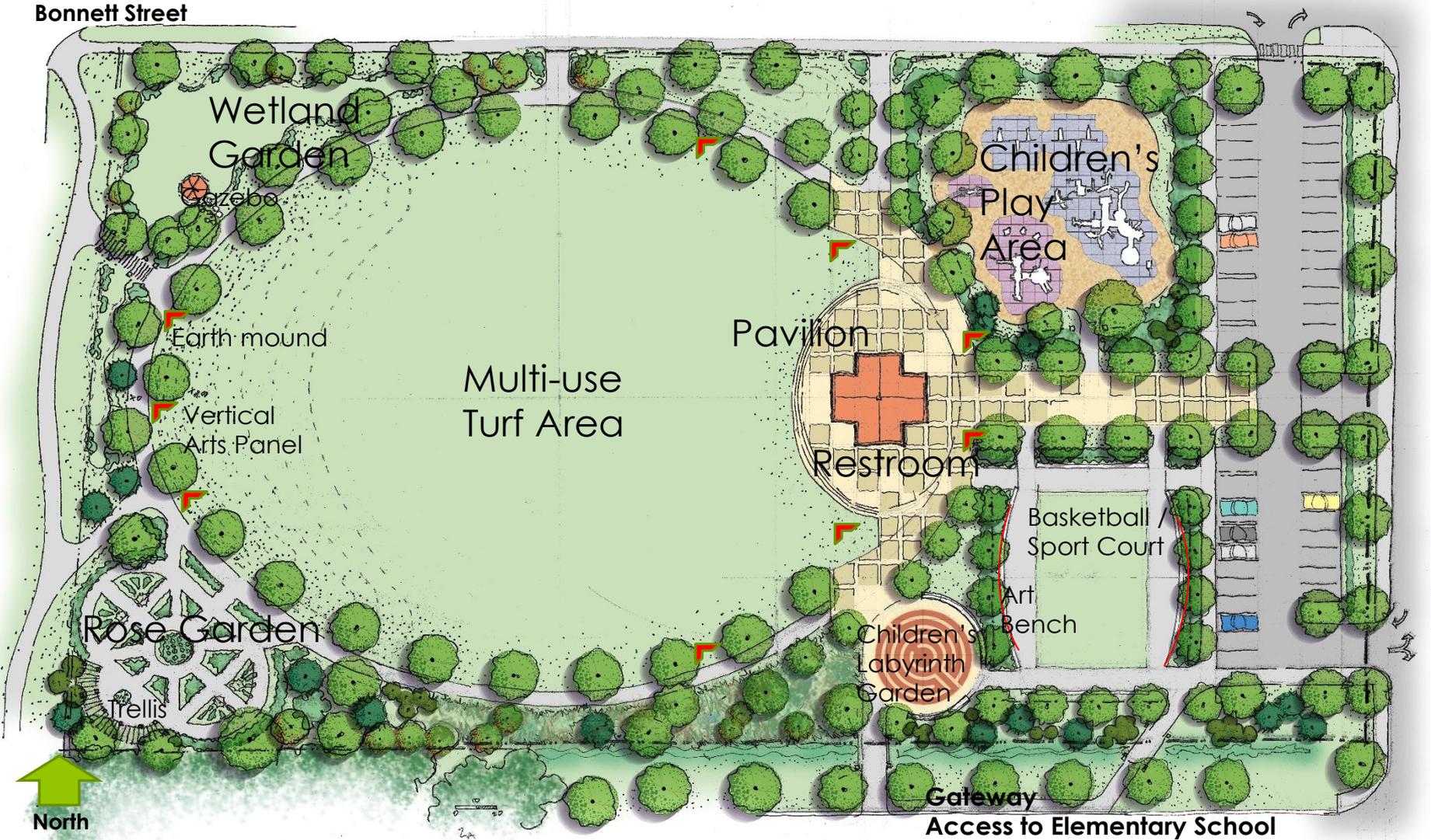
## Concept 1



# Three Concepts:

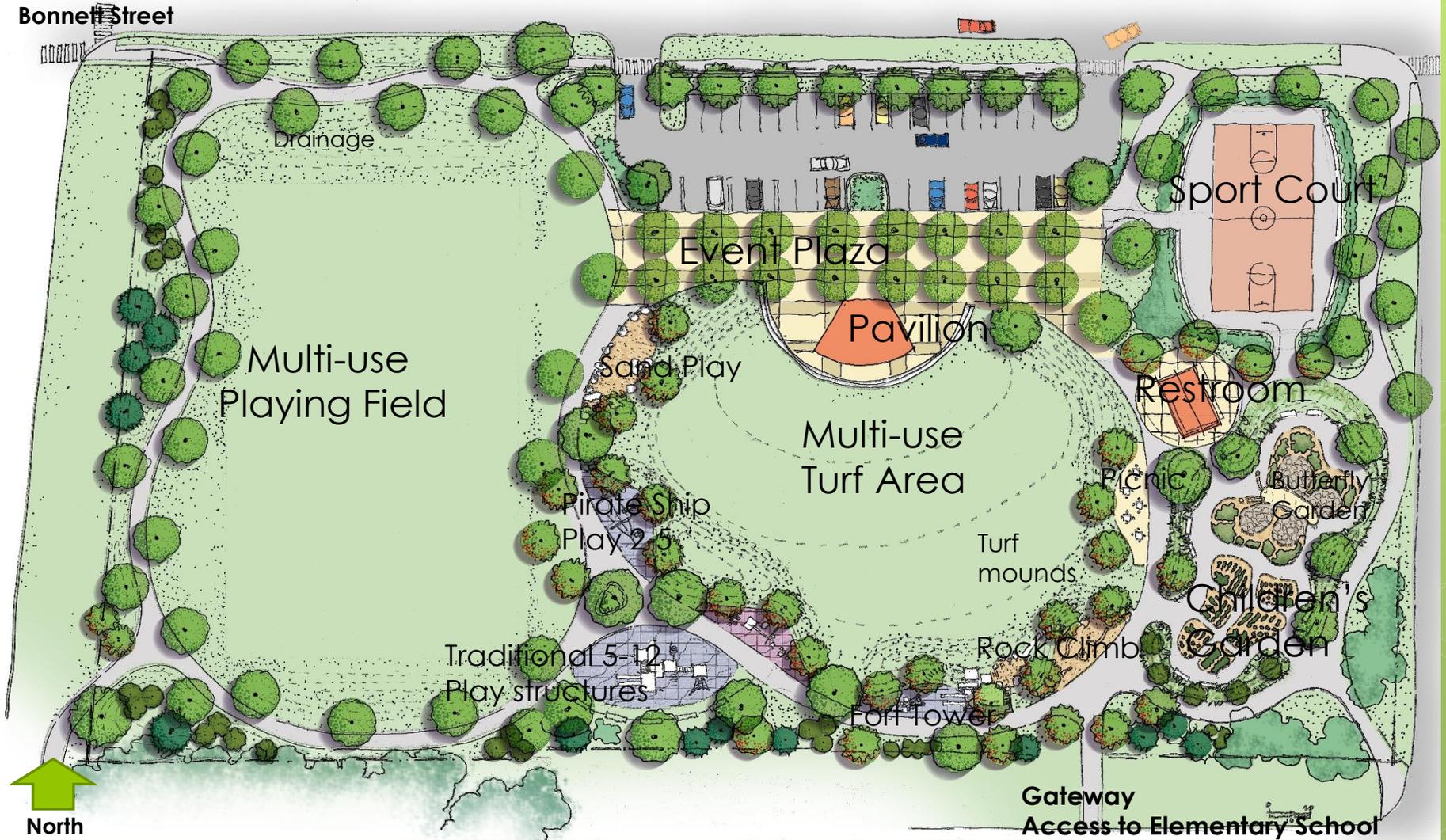
## Concept 2

Bonnett Street



# Three Concepts:

## Concept 3



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications

- Re-orient pavilion and multi-use turf area to NE/SW direction



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications

- Incorporate Dunes and Trail Park from Concept 1



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications

- Move multi-use court away from street corner



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications

- Addition of bocce/lawn sports area



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications

- Addition of more bench seating and game tables



# Committee Recommendation

Concept 3 with modifications

- Shade structures in garden area



# Dowdy Park Process

- **Board of Commissioners Presentation (March)**
- Refinement of Selected Concept
- Final Report (April/May)
- CIP
- Grant Applications
- Phase I Construction

# Comments/Input

