The **Neighborhood Design Center** is a nonprofit that partners with community leaders to **grow strong, vibrant neighborhoods** through improvements to the built environment.
NDC Believes

• Everyone deserves access to good design.

• The more inclusive and community-driven the process, the better the design.

• Well-designed places enhance healthy cultural and democratic life in our neighborhoods.

• Healthy places are built with consideration of social justice, environmental sustainability, and the true character of a place and the people who live, work, worship and do business there.
the Neighborhood Design Center partners with community leaders to envision better parks, public spaces, streetscapes and more.
Scoping Together

GUIDING QUESTIONS

+What issue(s) are we trying to address through our project?

+What is the end goal of this first phase of the project?

+What approvals are needed / regulations must be met?
Understanding the context

GUIDING QUESTIONS

+Who are we serving?

+What is the history/story that shaped this place?

+What is the history of the issue(s) we are trying to address through our project?

+What other initiatives + projects in the area should be aware of?

+Who else is doing this work?
Planning Community Engagement

GUIDING QUESTIONS

+ Who is most affected by the project/issue?
+ Who stands to benefit?
+ Who is missing?
+ What defines this community: geography, interests, shared values, something else?
+ Who is/will be involved from the community?

No community is a monolith
Magruder Park

Who Uses Magruder Park?

Demographics within 1 mi of park:
- 34% White
- 41% Black / African American
- 20% Other Race
- 4% Asian
- 1% Native American
- 37.6% Latino of any race

Surveyed Park Users:
- 45% White
- 37% Black / African American
- 8% Asian
- 2% Native American
- 8% Prefer to not say
- 57% Latino of any race

51% Female
49% Male

How do they feel about it?

People like Magruder Park:
- 88% feel POSITIVE
- 58% feel STRONGLY POSITIVE

People like Hyattsville:
- 79% feel POSITIVE
- 50% feel STRONGLY POSITIVE

How do they get to the park?
- 15% Walk
- 50% Drive
- 32% Bike
- 5% Other

91% Neighbor
4% Tourist
2% Visitor
5% Program Attendee
1% Local Business Employee

Can design bridge this gap?
it was agreed that, with tweaks, the design for concept 1 was most aligned with community priorities and feedback.

MUST HAVES

- Separation of vehicular and pedestrian/cyclist circulation
- Preservation & increase of nature walks and habitats
- Preservation & increase of sports fields*
- Full court basketball court with lighting, adjacent shade and seating, and half courts with adjustable hoops. Hoops themselves should have single rims and clear backboards.
- Splash pad
- Tennis Courts in a combination of (2) USTA Full courts / (1) USTA full court, (1) hitting wall, (1) mini court / (1) Full and (2) mini courts**
- non traditional playground equipment to include swings, improved slides, play that grows with kids, and ninja warrior style older kid play
- Important adjacency between Playground - BBQ / Picnic Area with trees - Seating and open (ie- not reservable) shade
- A physical walking and signage connection between parks along the NW Branch Trail ***
- Wayfinding signage within the park and to the park ***
- Preserve open, green space in the park.****
- Concessions in some capacity, be it a permanent vendor, temporary / popup stand, or vending machines, will support longer stays at the park.
- Stormwater management must be robust enough to control flooding within the park
- Connection to the NW Branch Trail at a second location with pavilion
- Lighting that balances safety***** with preservation of natural spaces and darkness
THANK YOU!

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the Neighborhood Design Center

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