

City of Cambridge

Commission for Persons with Disabilities

51 Inman Street · Cambridge, MA · 02139-1732

617-349-4692 voice · 617-492-0235 TTY · 617-349-4766 fax



Philibert Kongtcheu
Chair

Gary Dmytryk
Secretary

Loring Brinckerhoff
Avril de Pagter
Mary Devlin
Jerry Friedman
Stelios Gragoudas
Valerie Hammond
Nicole Horton-Stimpson
Jackie Jones
Daniel Stubbs

Rachel Tanenhaus
Executive Director/
ADA Coordinator

Kate Thurman
Project Coordinator

**The next meeting of the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities
will be held online via Zoom on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 5:30 PM**

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO JOIN BY 5:30 PM

AGENDA

Please keep your microphone muted when you are not speaking

- | | | |
|---|---------|--------------------|
| 1. Introductions | 2 min. | |
| <i>If needed, alternates named</i> | | |
| 2. Update on Universal Design | 45 min. | Design Team |
| <i>Playground – See presentation on page 4</i> | | |
| 3. Approval of December 10 Minutes | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 4. Announcements | 3 min. | CCPD staff / Board |
| 5. Chair's Report | 10 min. | Phil Kongtcheu |
| 6. Public Works Update | 5 min. | Jerry Friedman |
| 7. Executive Director's Report | 10 min. | Rachel Tanenhaus |
| 8. Project Coordinator's Report | 5 min. | Kate Thurman |
| 9. Public Input | 3 min. | general public |
| <i>See pages 2&3 for instructions on providing public comment</i> | | |
| 10. Old Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |
| 11. New Business | 2 min. | CCPD Board |

CART/closed captioning will be provided for this meeting.

Captions can be turned on within the Zoom platform. Additionally, you may stream CART in a separate URL at <http://bit.ly/CCPDCART>
(captions will not appear until the meeting has started)

The City of Cambridge, Commission for Persons with Disabilities, does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Commission for Persons with Disabilities will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.

The next CCPD meeting will be held online on Thursday, February 11

Due to the pandemic, CCPD is not meeting in person for the foreseeable future.

Members of the public: See instructions on following pages on how to watch the CCPD meeting and provide public comment via Zoom

Draft

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities

Minutes for Thursday, January 14, 2021

Online via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm

Present

Members: Loring Brinckerhoff, Avril de Pagter, Mary Devlin, Gary Dmytryk, Jerry Friedman, Stelios Gragoudas, Valerie Hammond, Nicole Horton-Simpson, Jackie Jones, Philibert Kongtcheu, and Daniel Stubbs

Staff: Rachel Tanenhaus and Kate Thurman

Guest Speakers: Cass Chroust, Landscape Architect, Weston & Sampson; Adam Corbeil, Director of Recreation, City of Cambridge; Cheri Ruane, Landscape Architect, Weston & Sampson; and Paul Ryder, Project Manager of the Universal Design Playground

Documents/Materials Used:

- Agenda
- Minutes from the December 12, 2020 Meeting
- Danehy Park: Universal Playground presentation (see attached)

Minutes:

A motion to accept the December 12 minutes was seconded and unanimously passed.

Presentation on Universal Design Playground at Danehy Park:

Cass and Cheri, both landscape architects with Weston & Sampson, presented on the universal design playground at Danehy Park, along with City staff Adam and project manager Paul. See attached presentation, Danehy Park: Universal Design Playground

Highlights included:

- Construction is underway, with completion expected in Fall, 2021
- Danehy Park was built on top of a landfill that closed in 1970, so numerous toxicology studies have been done to be sure it's safe. Additionally, building on top of a former landfill significantly increased costs.
- The playground design committee met with a focus group of stakeholders numerous times and held two public meetings before finalizing the design of the playground. There was a lot of input from residents and the plan has been thoroughly vetted.
- The playground is entirely enclosed and has accessible gates.
- Design elements of the playground include:
 - Vehicular drop-off and parking nearby
 - Multiple entrances
 - Signage
 - An accessible loop around the whole playground
 - A designated calmer space
 - Several different play zones, including those geared towards different age groups
 - Spin zones
 - Swinging zones
 - A sensory hilltop

- Mixed use space
- Sensory walk zone with different materials, sound experience, music features, different textures.
- An accessible “kiln” play structure, as the site used to be a clay pit mine, with the clay used for Cambridge and Boston brick
- Additionally, as there used to be trains used to load up the bricks, there will be a boxcar play structure geared toward younger children.
- Multiple art features designed by artists hired by the Cambridge Arts Council, including an artist with disabilities
- Shade
- Bench seating
- A water feature, including splash pads
- Danehy Park staff are onsite 360 days a year and will be checking the playground and emptying trash barrels several times a day as needed.
- The City is also working on updating parks in other parts of the City to have accessible features.

Chair’s Report:

- Phil reported sending out a survey to Commission members and that 7 out of 11 have taken it. He will report on the results at the February meeting.
- He & Gary are working on scheduling a board orientation. Kate will send out a Doodle Poll to see what works for everyone.
 - Phil noted that a link to the last board orientation manual was sent out with the survey and that he and Gary are working with Kate on updating it.
 - Gary suggested adding a list of resources of interest to the disability community and asked for any suggestions that members have.
 - He suggested the board form sub-committees to work on issues and projects of interest to members.

Executive Director’s Report:

- Rachel deferred her report due to lack of time.

Project Coordinator’s Report:

- Kate reported that the “swinging into inclusivity” proposal was funded in this round of participatory budgeting. This will provide funds to add various types of accessible swings to playgrounds around the City.
- She mentioned that the Cambridge Human Rights Commission (CHRC) recently produced a video with both captioning and American Sign Language discussing CHRC’s role in the City and the City ordinances they enforce. CCPD could consider doing something similar about its role.
- Kate will provide an update on the City’s new Language Justice Working Group at the February meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kate Thurman

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



CAMBRIDGE COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

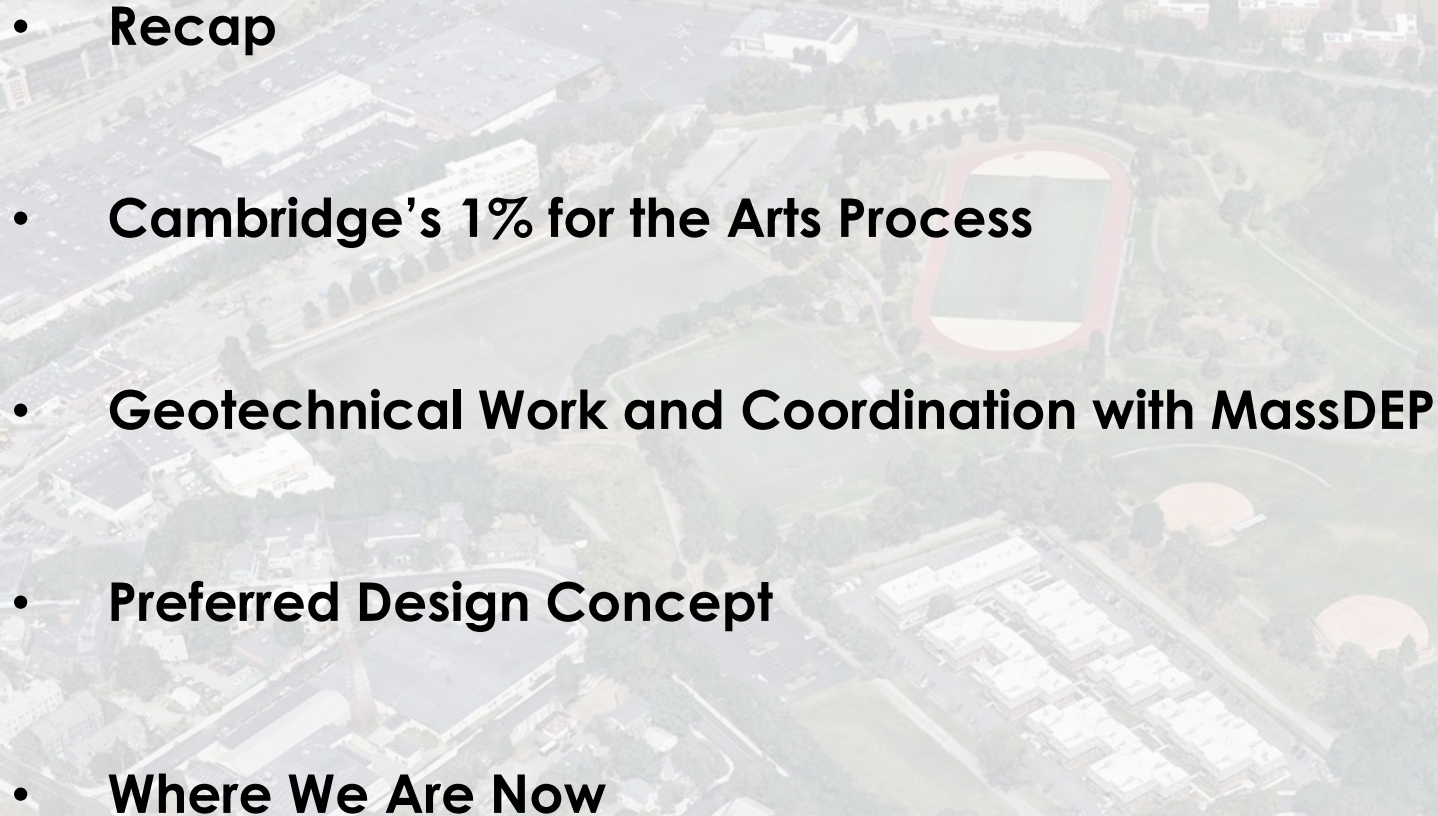
Thursday, January 14, 2021



Weston & SampsonSM

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

AGENDA

- 
- **Recap**
 - **Cambridge's 1% for the Arts Process**
 - **Geotechnical Work and Coordination with MassDEP**
 - **Preferred Design Concept**
 - **Where We Are Now**

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL PROCESS

- Overview of process to date
- Update on Artists' progress
 - Dominic Killiany, Watertown
 - NuVu Studio, Cambridge
- Coordination including Mitch Ryerson

CAMBRIDGE | **ARTS**

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL PROCESS – ARTISTS **Dominic Killiany**



Aquarium '15



Companion Tigers '17



Hawaiian Sunset '17



Jeweled Cats '18

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL PROCESS – ARTISTS **NuVu Studio**



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

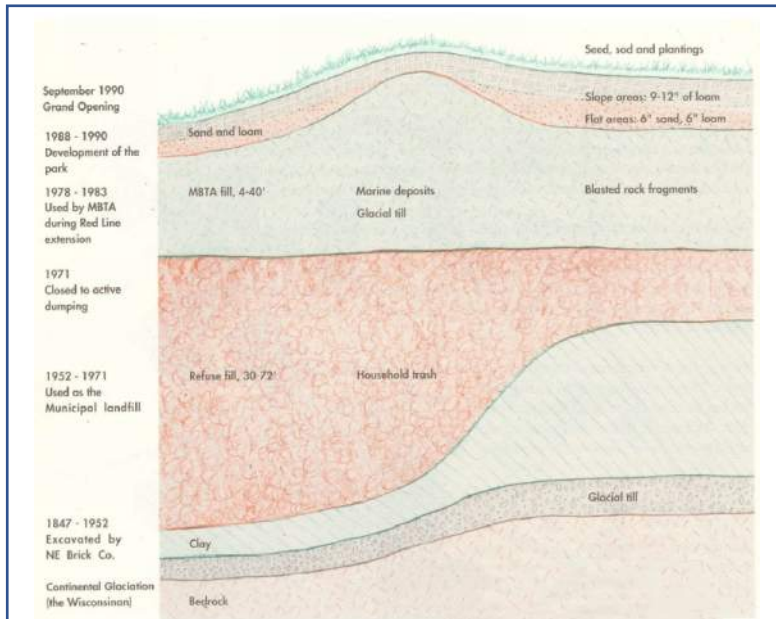
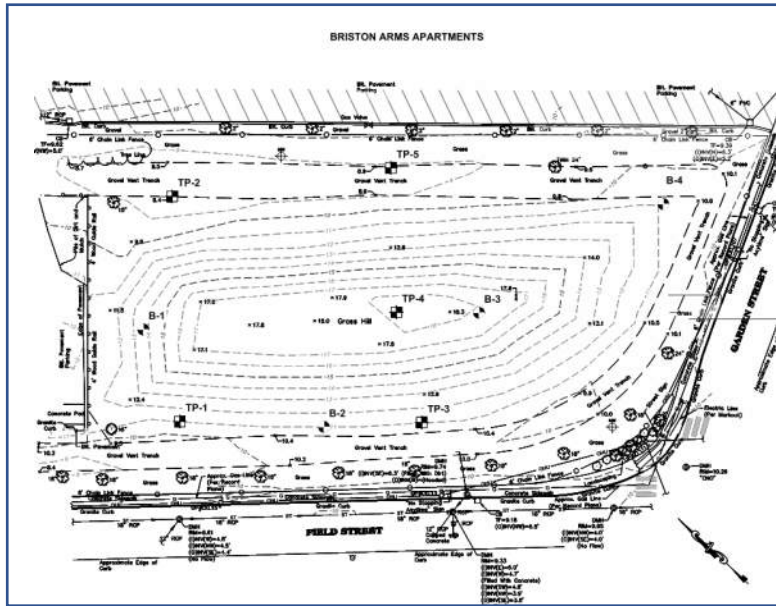
COORDINATION WITH TEAM ARTIST

Mitch Ryerson



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

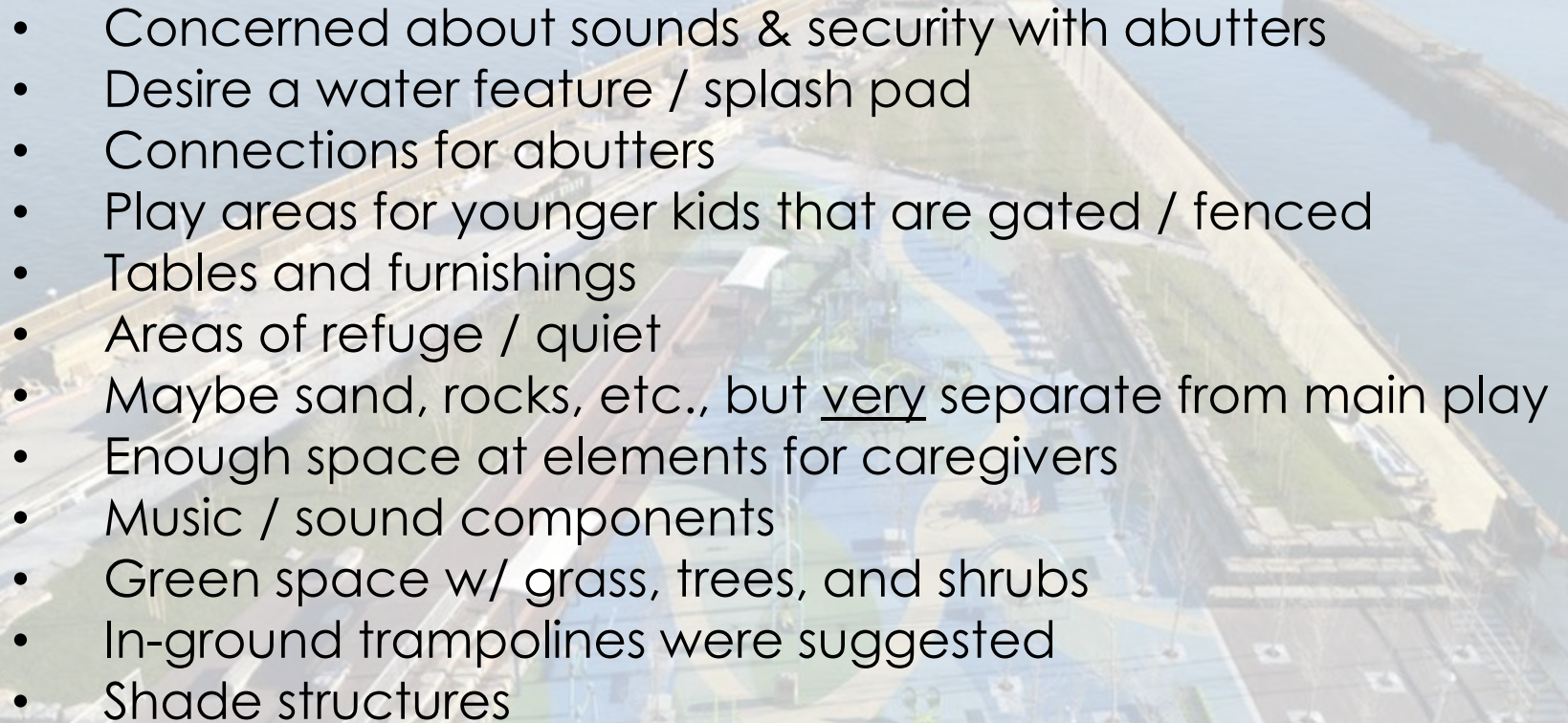
GEOTECHNICAL WORK AND COORDINATION WITH MassDEP



- Meeting held 11/21 to review preliminary design with and obtain input from MassDEP Bureau of Air & Waste
- MassDEP enthusiastic about new playground but raised concerns that might impact project schedule (permitting) and approvals:
 - Minimize soil cover disturbance
 - Maintain 2ft cap
 - Dispose disturbed refuse to approved offsite location
 - Additional data (test pits, borings) may be required
- Second meeting with Mass DEP held December 19, again prior to permit application

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

EARLY PROGRAM PRIORITIES.....are still priorities

- 
- Concerned about sounds & security with abutters
 - Desire a water feature / splash pad
 - Connections for abutters
 - Play areas for younger kids that are gated / fenced
 - Tables and furnishings
 - Areas of refuge / quiet
 - Maybe sand, rocks, etc., but very separate from main play
 - Enough space at elements for caregivers
 - Music / sound components
 - Green space w/ grass, trees, and shrubs
 - In-ground trampolines were suggested
 - Shade structures

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT



Weston & Sampson



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: standalone playground equipment



ROLLER SLIDE WITH DIGNITY EXIT



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: sensory walk zone

HEARING



SIGHT



TACTILE



SMELL/TASTE



Final elements will be similar to and selected from range of elements shown.
Refer to overall plan for quantity.

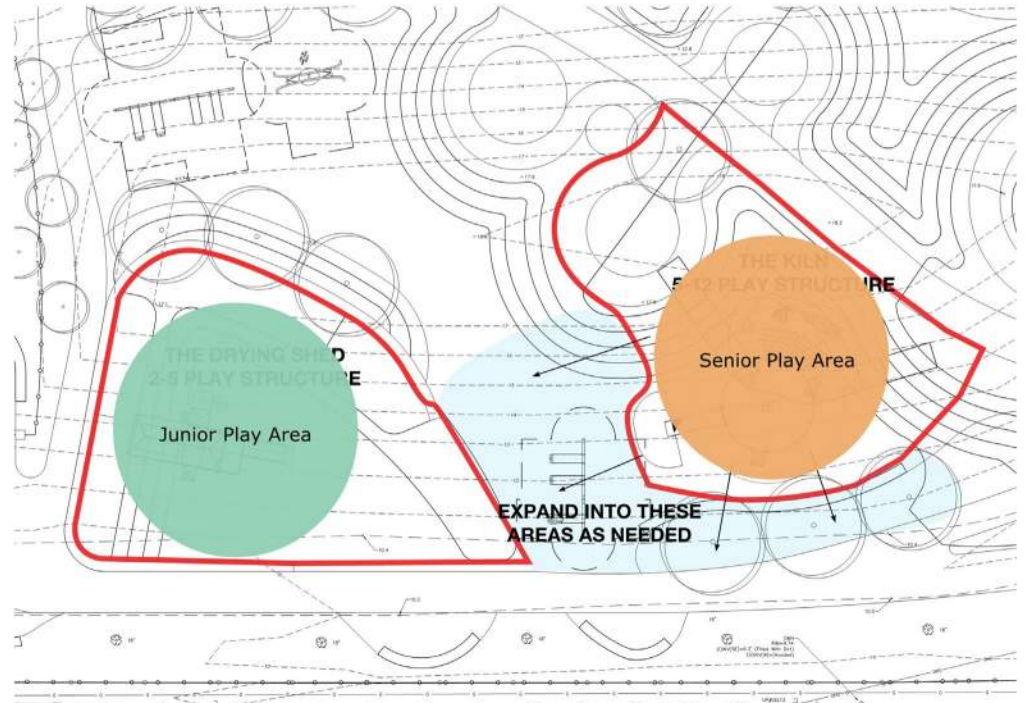
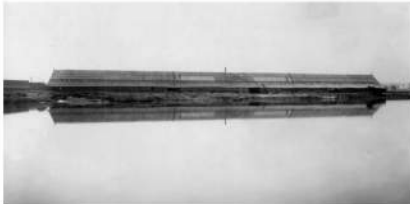
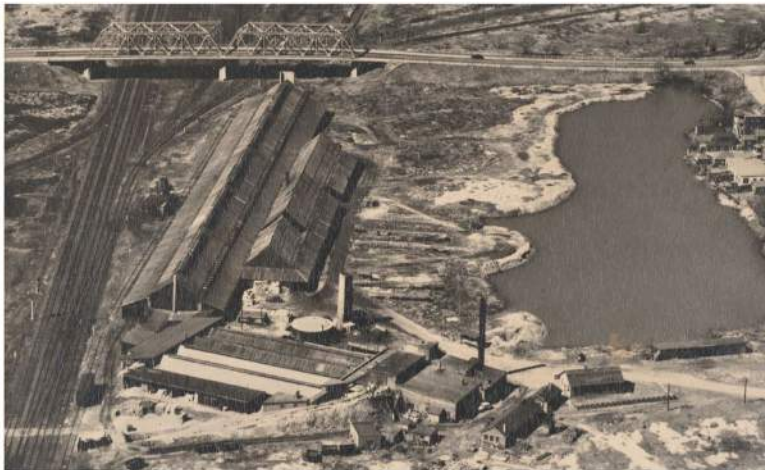
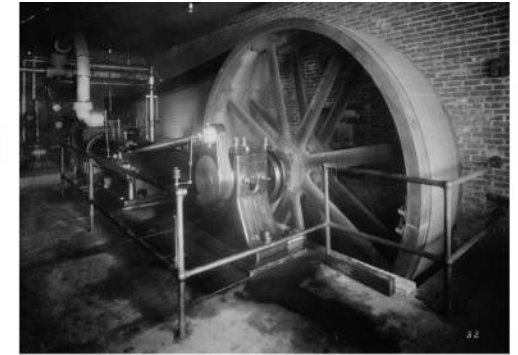
DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: senior and junior play areas

Background & Context

The design of Danehy Park has a number of influences including universal design, site context and history, and local artisans. The proposed playground pieces will be installed on a landfill in a dense urban condition. The safety surfacing will be poured-in-place rubber for maximum accessibility and creative use of colour in the space.

The site of the Danehy Park playground is the former site of the New England Brick Company, and the design of the playground equipment is inspired by this. The conceptual design up until this point divides the playground into junior and senior areas. The play feature for older children is inspired by a round kiln structure. The junior area design reflects the drying sheds where bricks would be stored.



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: senior play area

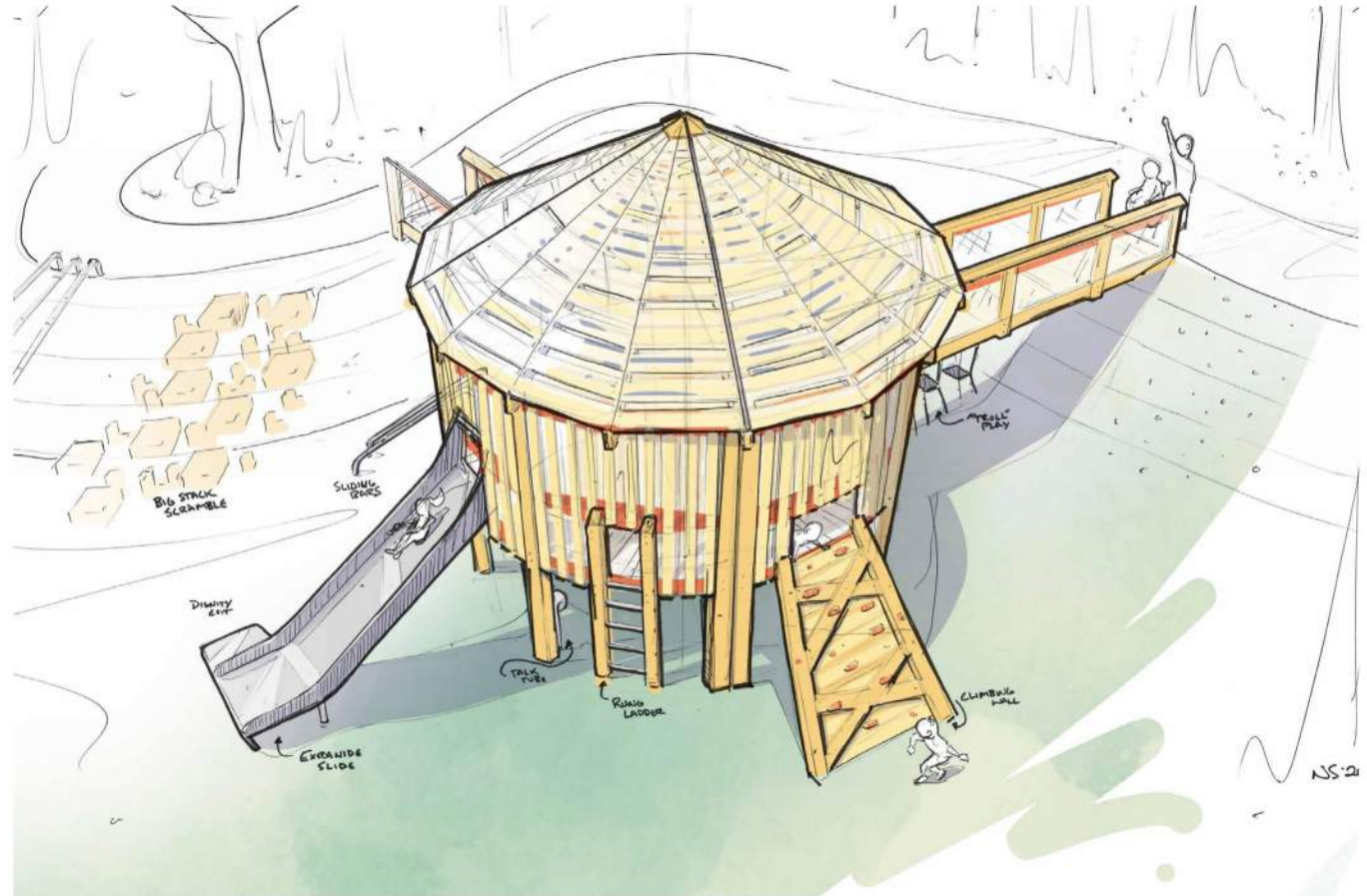
Senior Area: The Kiln

Key Play Features:

This structure draws on the architectural language of the industrial Kiln used to fire bricks. This structure has a real presence; in fact, it takes 4 united towers to create this 20'+ diameter footprint. A diverse range of abilities and challenges are considered in the play experience. The highest challenge feature is the red-rope chimney climber at the center of the Kiln. Children can weave their way up from the ground to the net loft with mid-level breaks of flex-form along the way. For kinetic play, kids can slide down the double wide slide or monkey up and down the sliding bars. For intermediate climbers there is a rung ladder and sloped climbing wall. For the most gradual ascent kids could scramble up the big-stack "bricks" wedged into the side of the slope by the bridge. Not only could the "troll play" under the bridge be the start of a fantastic game of "the floor is lava" but it's also conducive to social or quiet play away from the more rambunctious main level. A surprise element of sensory play in the design is the randomized talk-tube network that links to a single "control station" where kids could communicate secret messages to kids in the loft, on the ground, and in places they can't even see.

This Kiln pushes much of play to either the center of the structure or the perimeter to allow a comfortable 5' clearance all the way around. Ample head clearance is built in for children and caregivers. A transfer station is located at the top of the slide and between the two bridges.

The cladding on the exterior will be spaced 2-3" to let diffused sunlight in as well as give ample transparency for caregivers.



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



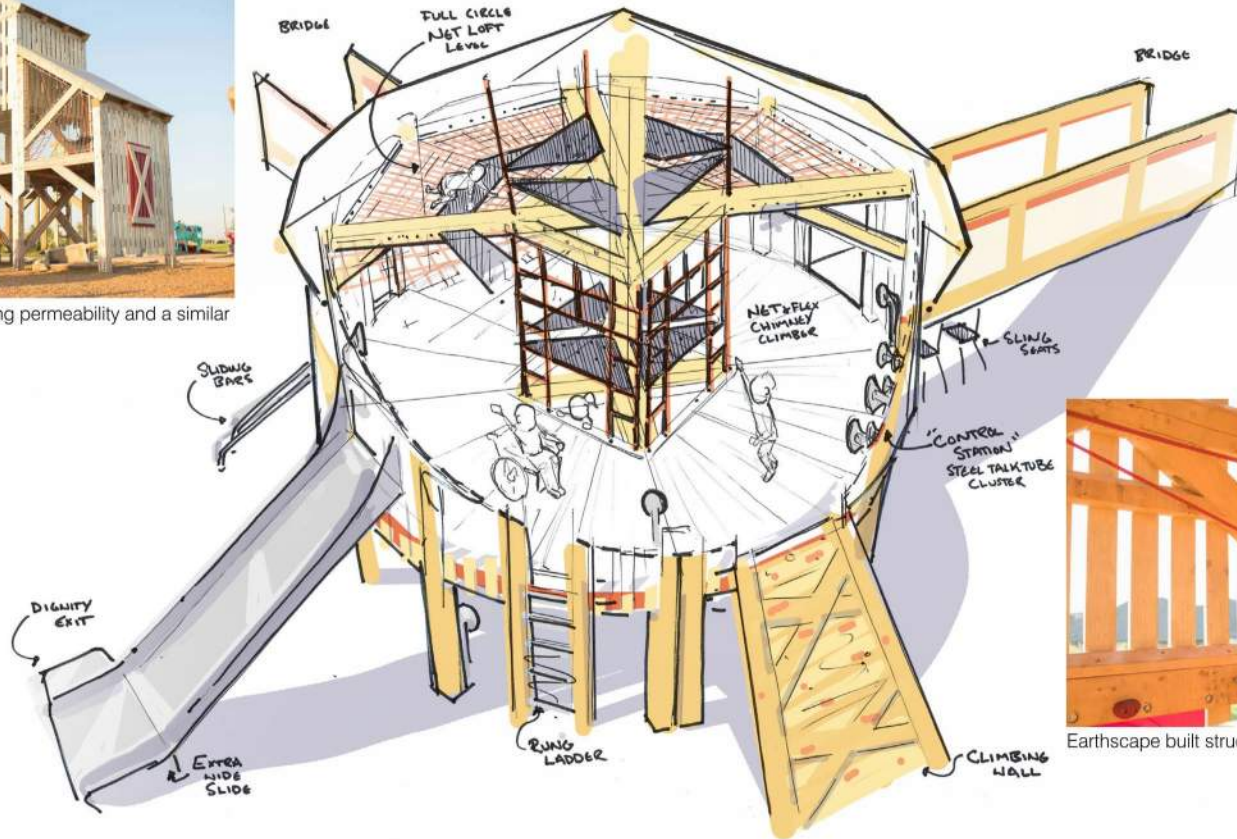
Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: senior play area

Senior Area: The Kiln



Earthscape built structure conveying permeability and a similar scale of The Kiln Structure



Earthscape built structure conveying permeability of structures

NS-20

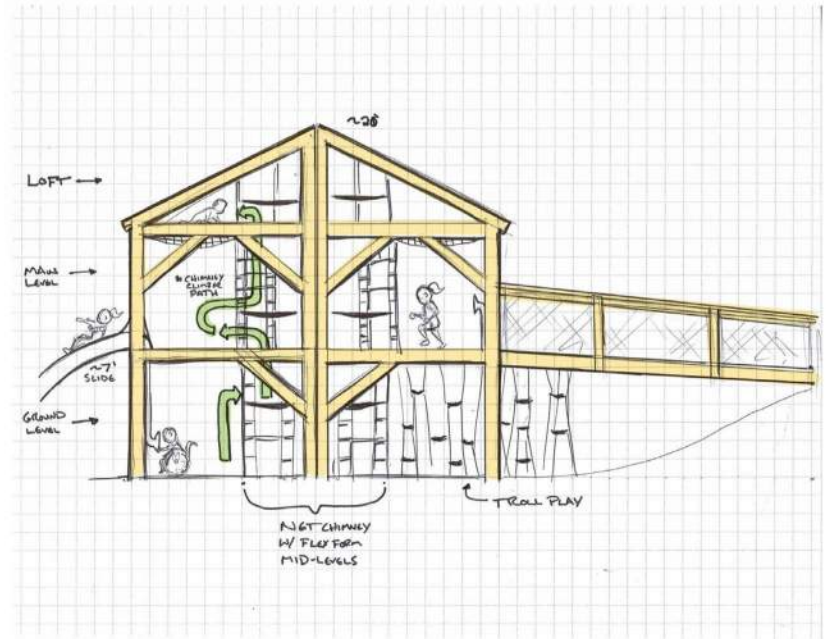
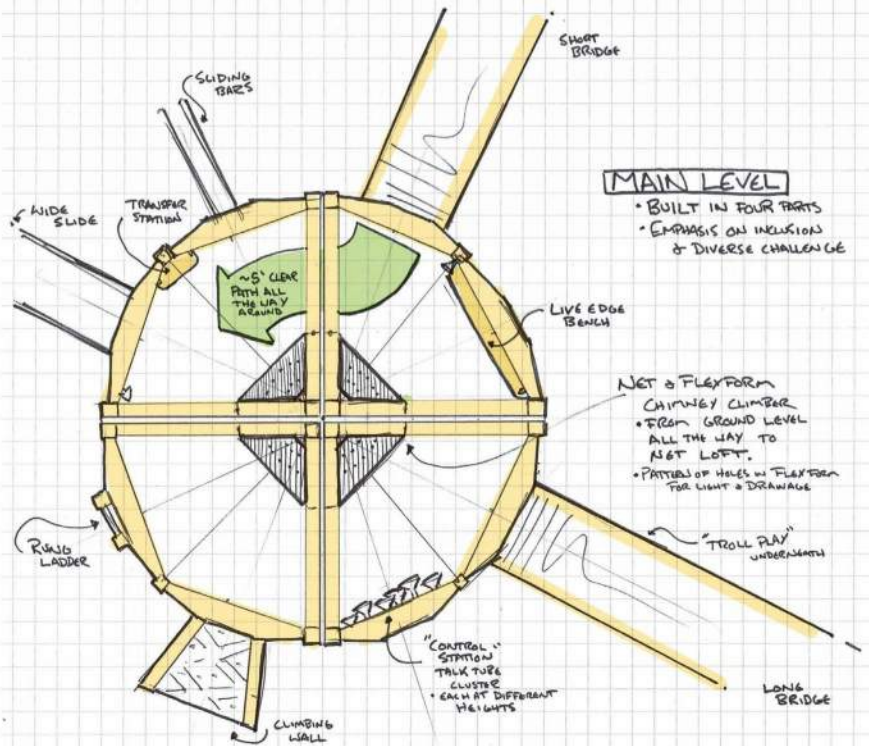
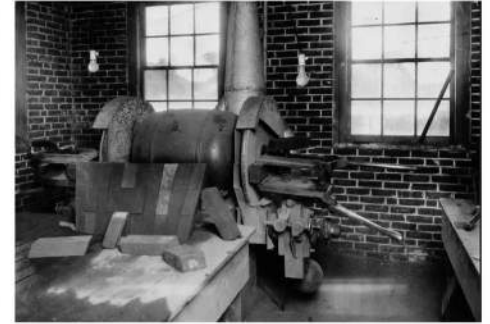
DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: senior play area

Senior Area: The Kifn



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



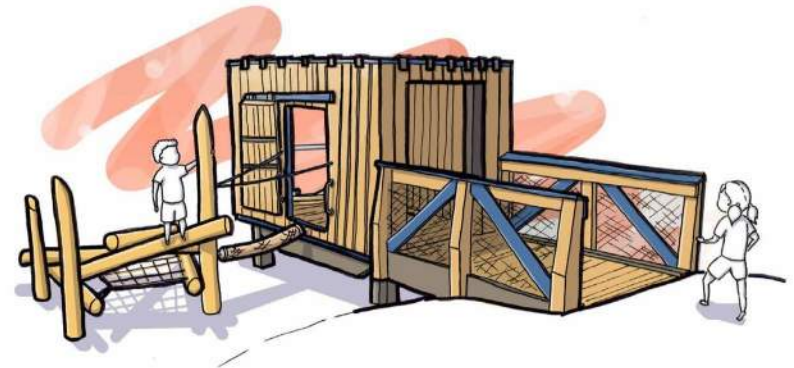
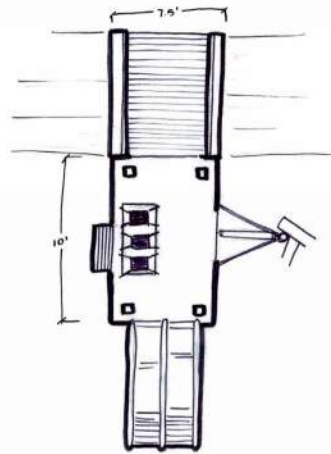
Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: junior play area

Junior Area: Train Car

Key Play Features

The Train Car concept is proposed as an alternative to the Drying Shed concept for the junior play area. It was inspired by the below image that illustrates trains as instrumental in transporting bricks ready for use on construction sites. An open bridge leads to the train car; a partial net floor in the interior allows access around it to the double roller slide at the end of the structure. Like the drying shed structure, the train car also features interior flexible rubber sling seats over the net floor. A solid wood ladder offers access from ground level to the train car. The opposite side features a large diameter rope bridge connected to a small log jam with a net for additional playability outside of the train car.

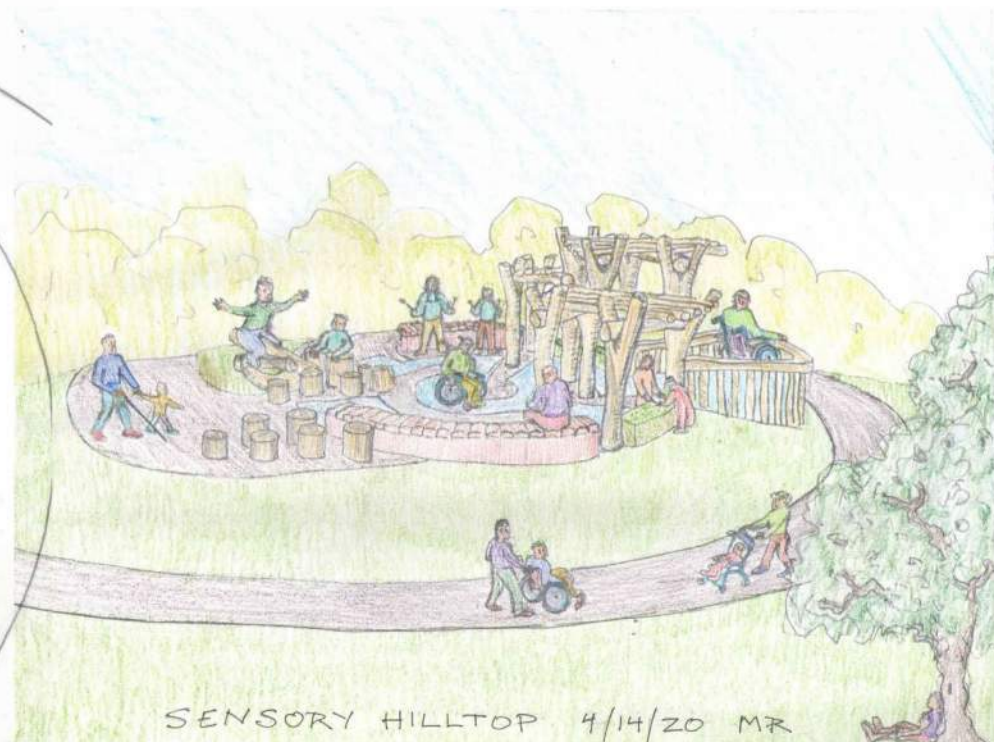
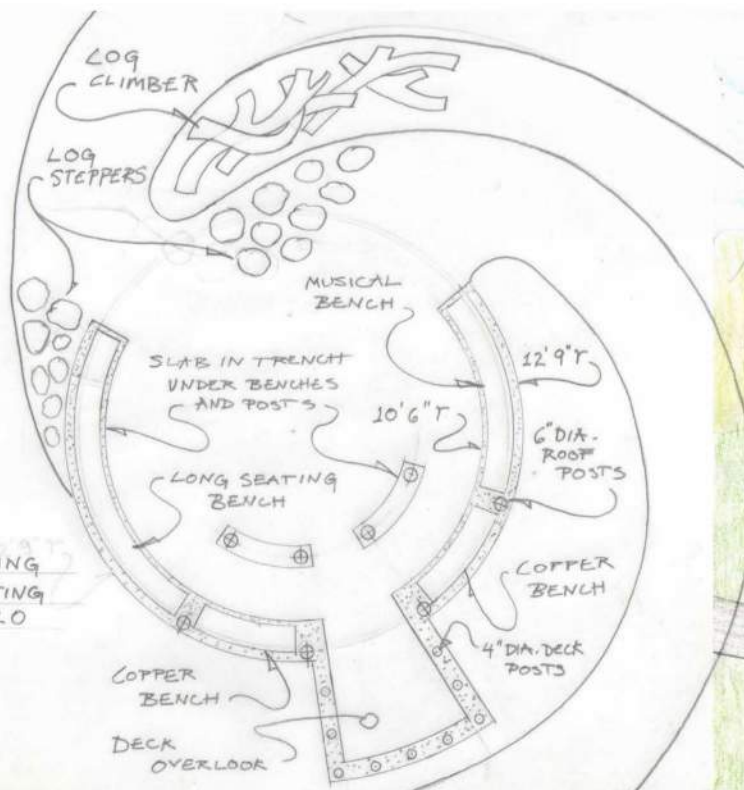
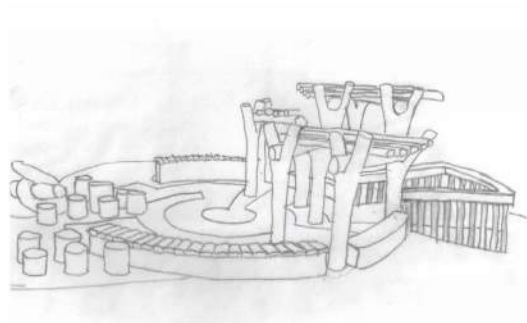


DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: sensory hilltop (Ryerson Design)

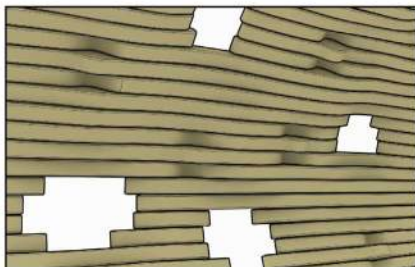
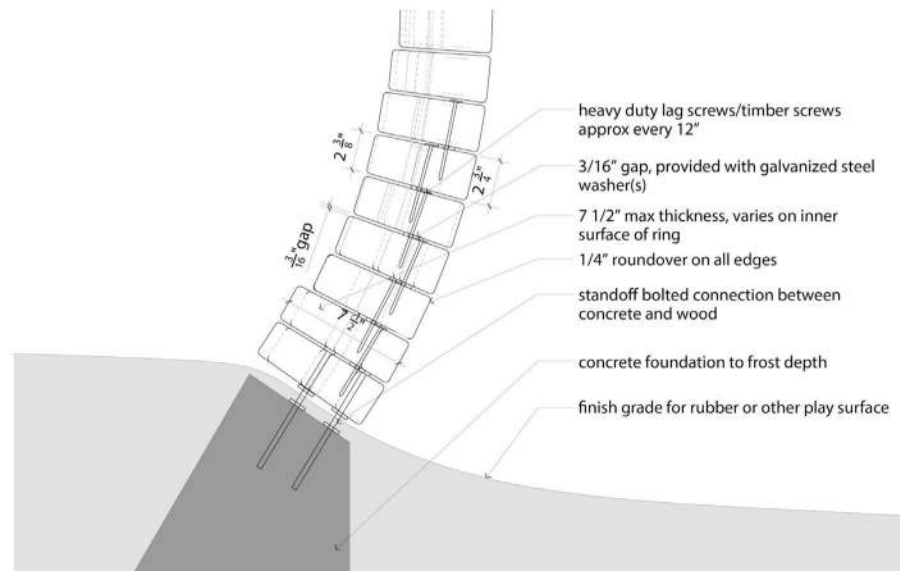
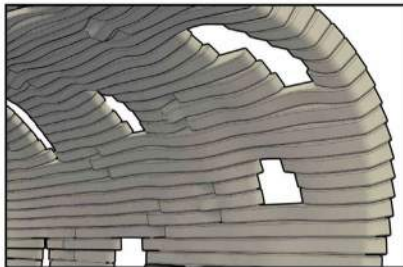
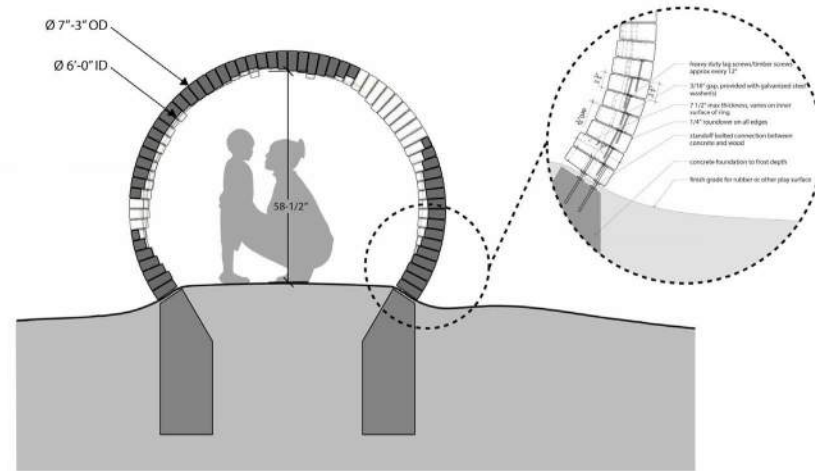
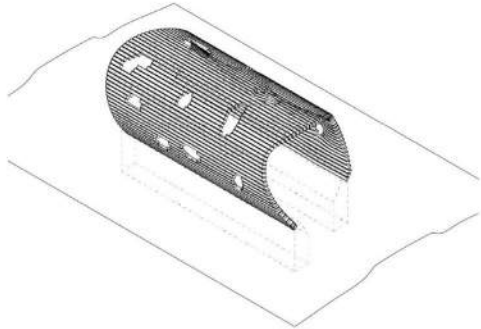


DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: NuVu play feature (Cambridge Arts Council)



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: Dominic Kiliany (Cambridge Arts Council)



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: Dominic Killiany art integration locations explored

POTENTIAL ART APPLICATION:

ENTRANCE SIGNAGE



BENCHES



GROUND PLANE APPLICATION



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: Dominic Killiany integration methods explored

POTENTIAL ART APPLICATION:

ENTRANCE SIGNAGE
SEATWALLS
BENCHES
GROUND PLANE APPLICATION
PARK INFRASTRUCTURE

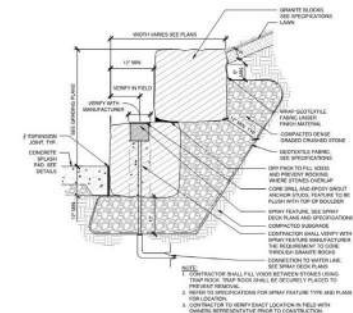
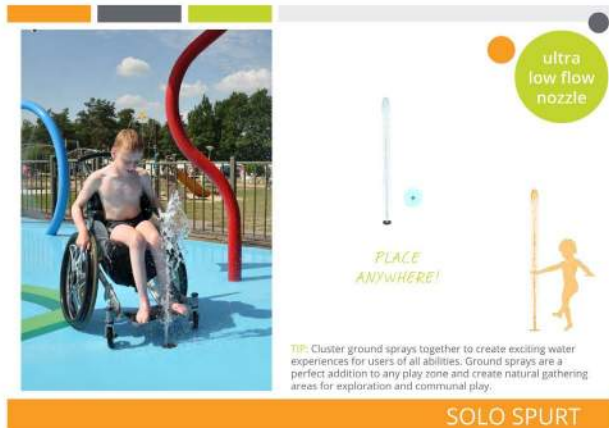


Weston & Sampson™

SPRAY DECK

SYMBOL	ITEM
A	GOLD SPURT
B	SPLIT SPURT
C	GYSEIN
D	MISTY MOUNTAIN
E	TIDAL WAVE
F	STRANDY STRONG
G	THE ARMS
H	ATTRACTION (BOLLARD)

SPRAY DECK EQUIPMENT		
SYMB	ITEM	MANUFACTURER
A	GOLD SPURT	WATERPLAY
B	SPLIT SPURT	WATERPLAY
C	GEYSER	WATERPLAY
D	MISTY MOUNTAIN	WATERPLAY
E	TOTAL WAVE	WATERPLAY
F	STEADY STREAM	WATERPLAY
G	THE WAVE	WATERPLAY
H	ACTIVATION BOARD	WATERPLAY



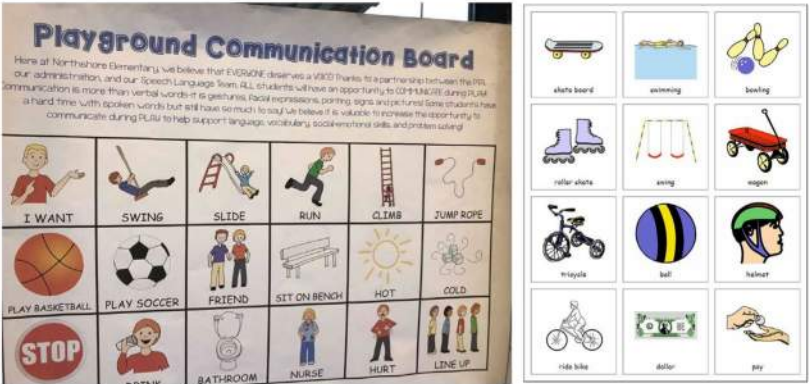
Final elements will be similar to and selected from range of elements shown.
Refer to overall plan for quantity.

DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

PREFERRED DESIGN CONCEPT: signage

SECONDARY PLAYGROUND ENTRANCE SIGNAGE COMMUNICATION BOARD

COMMUNICATION BOARD TO BE CUSTOMIZED FOR UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND PLAY
ELEMENTS



QR CODES

USE OF QR CODES ON SITE SIGNAGE TO POINT TO RELEVANT CAMBRIDGE CITY
INFORMATION



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND

CONSTRUCTION!



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Project was bid in mid-August 2020
- Construction began at the beginning of November 2020
- WE'RE IN CONSTRUCTION!
- Anticipated completion in the Fall 2021



DANEHY PARK: UNIVERSAL PLAYGROUND



Weston & Sampson

THANK YOU

