



RASH FIELD PARK PHASE I

Baltimore, Maryland

2022 ULI WAVEMAKER AWARD SUBMISSION



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The new Rash Field Park answers a calling. Baltimoreans envisioned a place to empower themselves; where they come together to make one another stronger both mentally and physically; a retreat to celebrate, cherish and share the place they call home. The project is led by Waterfront Partnership of Baltimore in partnership with the City of Baltimore Development Corporation and with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks.

RASH FIELD PARK
Baltimore, Maryland

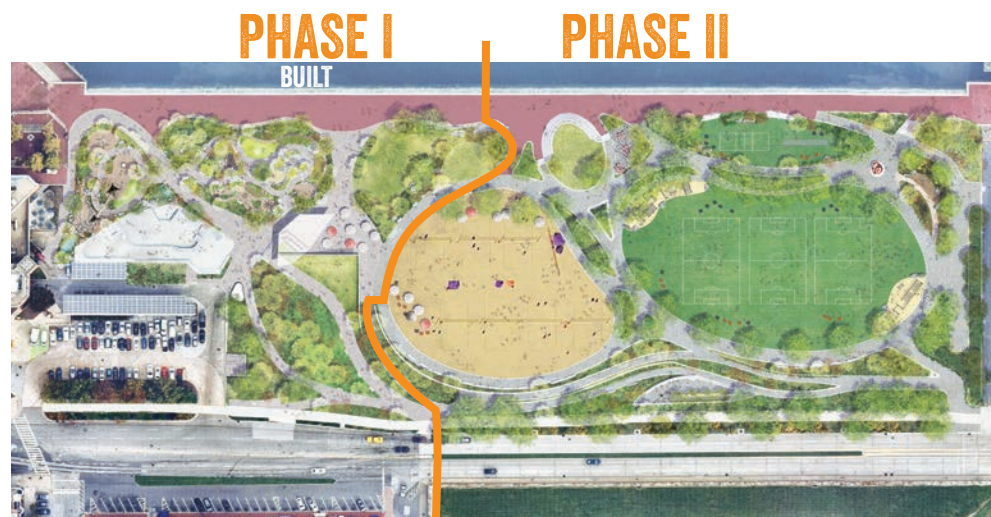
COMPLETENESS:

INVITING BALTIMORE INTO RASH FIELD



Fulfilling one of the key projects of the Baltimore Inner Harbor 2.0 Master Plan, Rash Field sets a renewed standard for future redevelopment in the Inner Harbor. Opened in November 2021, Rash Field's visitations went from a pre Phase I redevelopment of 5-10 visitors/day max to a post construction high of 1500/day and surveys show that visitors come from all around the city, as well as regional visitors who happen upon the park. PHASE

I, the built portion of Rash Field's redevelopment, was funded by a diverse body of public and private entities. Baltimore City contributed \$10.4 million, the State of Maryland \$4.3 million, and Baltimore Gas and Electric secured naming rights for the pavilion and nature park with a \$1 million contribution. The park has also received contributions from a mix of donors such as T. Rowe Price, Brown Advisory, and M&T Bank, as well as local residents.



8830% VISITATION INCREASE

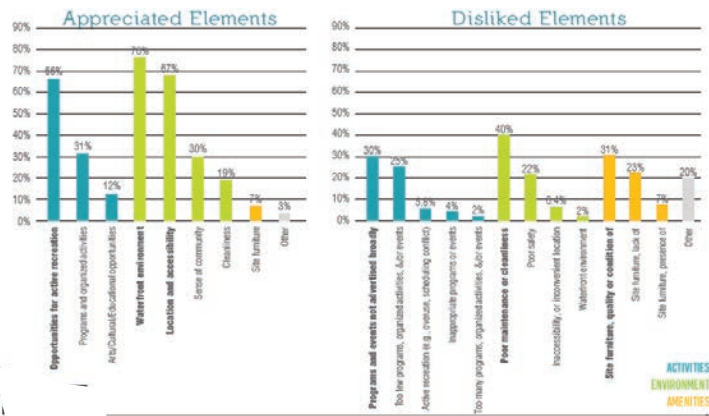
PHASE I POST CONSTRUCTION PERFORMANCE STATS:

- Rash Field Park sees a daily average of 893, on weekends, typically more than 1,200 people.
- The Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend had the highest visitor count at ~2,100 people
- ~20% of visitors come directly to see Rash Field park
- ~35% of visitors came to walk the promenade in general
- ~40% under 34 yrs old, ~50% are between 35-50 yrs old
- ~50% of visitors are Black and/or people of color
- ~63% of visitors are from the city of Baltimore

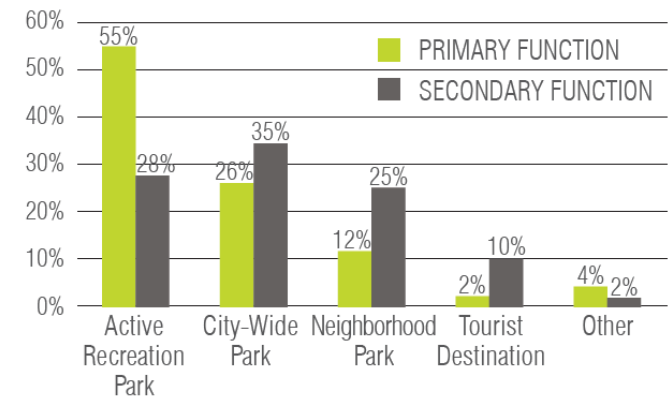
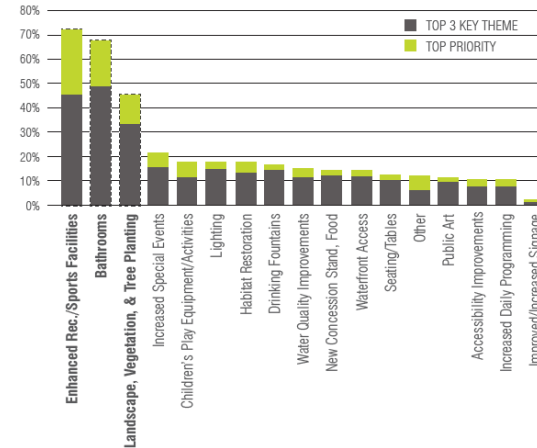
- Top 5 Neighborhoods
 - Federal Hill
 - Riverside
 - Otterbein
 - Downtown
- Top 5 Zip Codes:
 - 21230 (Federal Hill, Riverside, Locust Point, South Baltimore, West Baltimore, Carrol Park, Morrell Park, Lakeland, Westport)
 - 21234 (Parkville, Carney)
 - 21201 (Downtown, Westside, Lexington Terrace, Heritage Crossing, McCulloh Homes, Mid-Town Belvedere)
 - 21218 (Waverly, Better Waverly, Charles Village, John Hopkins Univ, Coldstream - Homestead - Montebello)
 - 21202 (Inner Harbor, Otterbein, Harbor East, Jonestown, Pleasant View Gardens, Oldtown, Mt. Vernon)



APPRECIATIONS/DISLIKES

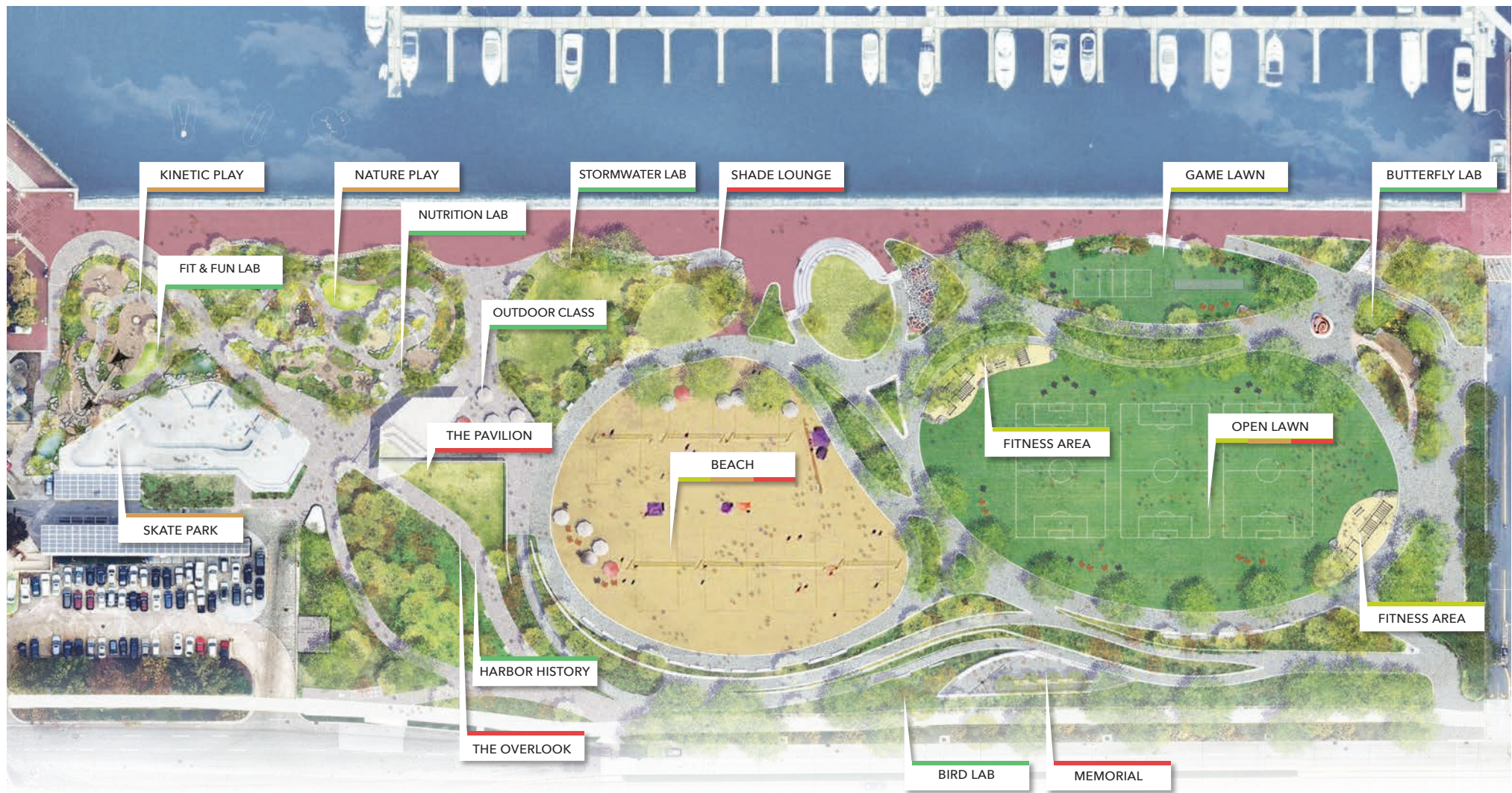


PRIORITIES



COMPLETENESS: COMMUNITY LED

The Waterfront Partnership began planning the redevelopment of Rash Field in 2015, and sought community input through public meetings and a survey carried out by Annapolis market research firm, Opinion Works. More than 1,000 community members attended the public meetings, which yielded ideas such as bringing in a skate park, more shade and free family activities. The survey by Opinion Works reached more than 300 residents over the age of 18, 62% of which were African American and 32% of which were white.



COMPLETENESS: PROGRAMMING

Located in Baltimore's core tourism district, the public engagement process presented an overwhelming desire for the park to serve as an amenity for Baltimore residents. Themes identified and incorporated into the design include: recreation & play, education & ecology, programming & entertainment and health & wellness.

PARK PROGRAMMING

- Recreation & Play
- Education & Ecology
- Programming & Entertainment
- Health & Wellness

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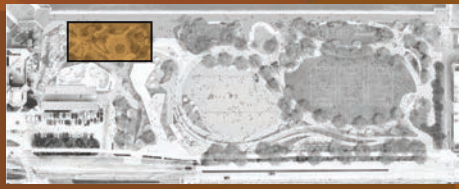
A SENSE OF PLACE AND QUALITY: RECREATION & PLAY

KINETIC PLAY

- Imaginative and interactive play spaces that incorporate opportunities for children to learn about their surroundings and the environment

NATURE PLAY

- Nature inspired play structures that engage children in a setting that is both physically and mentally stimulating

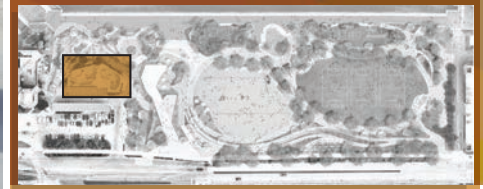




A SENSE OF PLACE AND QUALITY: RECREATION & PLAY

THE SKATE PARK

- Through the public input process, a concept for a skate park, designed by nationally recognized skate park design team, emerged
- Provides much needed dedicated space for the skate boarding community of all ages and abilities in the Inner Harbor and Downtown

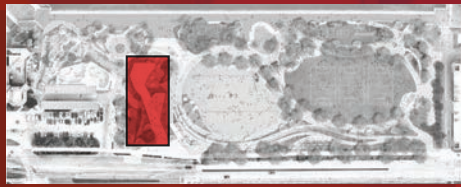


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A SENSE OF PLACE AND QUALITY: SHOWCASING BALTIMORE

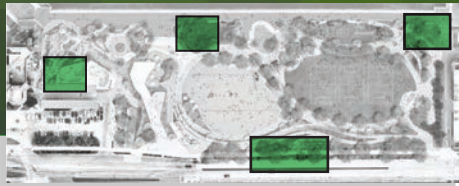
THE PAVILION

- The focal point of the park with bustling activity emanating out into the surrounding park areas
- Programmed with a local eatery, rental and kiosk, public restrooms, and shaded outdoor seating overlooking the park activity and Inner Harbor
- Overlook for the perfect selfie.
- Shaded plaza for organized events and group exercise.



SUSTAINABILITY: EDUCATION & ECOLOGY

- Outdoor learning classrooms
- Rain Gardens
- 125 shade and ornamental trees were planted. All are Mid-Atlantic Natives.
- Over 70% of shrubs planted are Mid-Atlantic Natives and serve as habitat and pollinator sources for birds and pollinating insects
- Over 90% of the herbaceous material planted (ornamental grasses and perennials) are Mid-Atlantic natives. Most of which serves as pollinator sources for pollinating insects.
- Remediated brownfield site.
- Pavilion green roof with overlook.



The Stormwater Lab





VISIONARY AND EMULATION: MULTI-GENERATIONAL

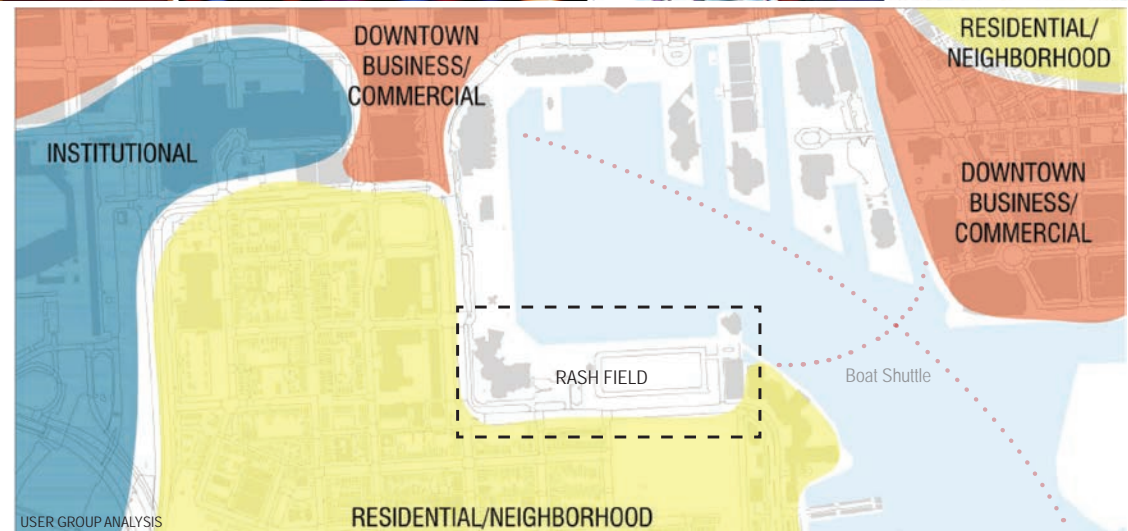
The community led design of Rash Field resulted in a robust programming regime within a fairly compact space. While keeping age appropriate activities defined within their own space, the park intentionally encourages multigenerational interactions and interests. A father and son watch a new friend do a trick at the skate park, a grandmother enjoys the partial shade of a bench watching children at play, a couple waves to their friends down on the big play mound and the wonderful skyline of the city rests in the backdrop.

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RASH FIELD PARK HOSTED EVENTS

- 4th of July Star Spangled Celebration at Rash Field Park featuring the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
- CreativeMornings - Breakfast Lecture Series
- Boards & Breakfast Free Skate Sesh Series w/ Joey Jett
- B'More Lit Youth Summer Series
- Chill Foundation: Baltimore - Skate Camp
- IIDA Mid-Atlantic Chapter - Tour & Ice Cream Social
- Harbor Market - Weekend Food Trucks



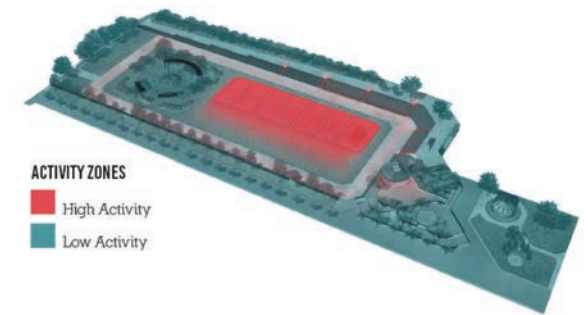
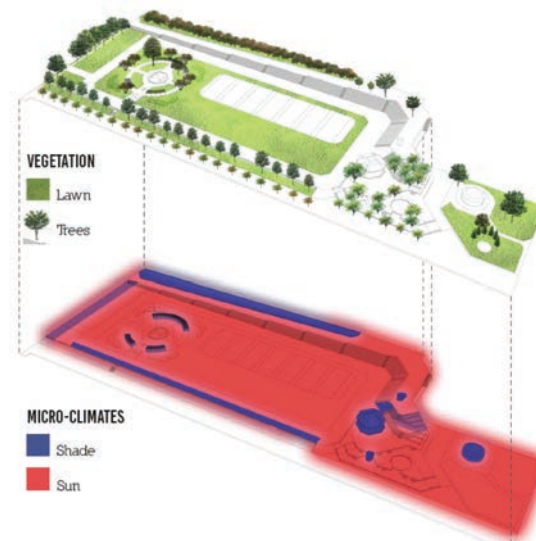
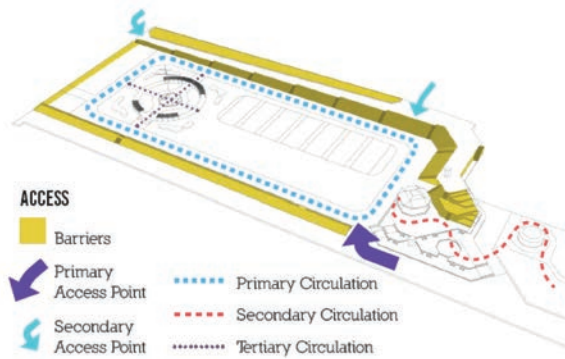
A NEED: A PLACE TO CELEBRATE BALTIMORE, ITS PEOPLE, AND ITS SPIRIT

With over 14 million visitors a year (pre-pandemic), Baltimore's Inner Harbor is the city's gateway to the national treasure of the Chesapeake Bay. Along the promenade you'll find the National Aquarium, Maryland Science Center, restaurants and nationally significant heritage sites and neighborhoods. Rash Field now joins the list as a place to meet and see the people of Baltimore in action.

RASH FIELD PARK



Image Credit: Google Maps



A NEED: A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

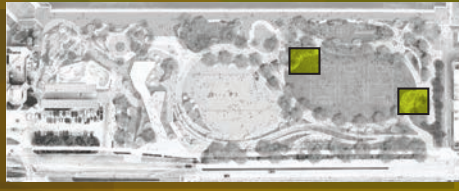
Instead of a family friendly environment that draws people throughout the city and region, early studies pointed to challenges in access, micro-climate and limited park use prior to the redevelopment. Today, Rash Field is perfectly positioned to be the heart that pumps energy into the Inner Harbor.

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THE FUTURE: HEALTH & WELLNESS PHASE II

FITNESS AREAS

- Exercise equipment hubs and workout zones will compliment running loop, open lawn, and beach for maximized workouts
- Each Fitness Area will feature unique exercise equipment, to accommodate a range of fitness levels & abilities



PRECEDENT IMAGERY



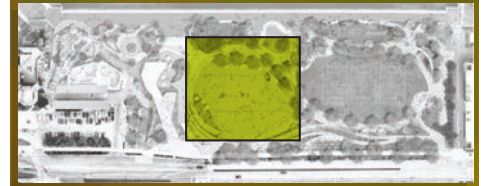
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THE FUTURE: HEALTH & WELLNESS PHASE II

THE BEACH

- Designed to accommodate seven beach volleyball courts and act as an urban beach
- Programmed to accommodate other beach activities including badminton, beach bocce, running drills, and non sport related programming



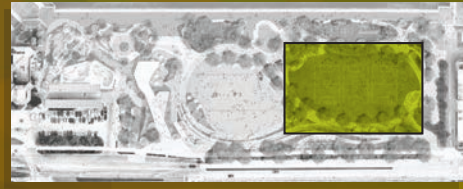
PRECEDENT IMAGERY

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THE FUTURE: HEALTH & WELLNESS PHASE II

OPEN LAWN

- An open space sized to host a multitude of health programming including flag football, youth league soccer or lacrosse games, free workout series, informal pick-up games, and adult league games
- Flexible space for hosting events of all sizes



PRECEDENT IMAGERY

