CENTERVILLE PARK EXPANSION DESIGN

The park expansion project will complete the 20-acre Centerville Community Park and the development of the existing neighborhood surrounding the park. The park will provide a social center of the neighborhood and serve the recreation facility needs of greater Fremont. Completed in 1980, the existing community center, tennis courts, baseball field, basketball court and tot lot facilities will be a focal area joined by flowing, park like amenities and an programmed leisure activities. The park will knit together active and quiet uses in the park to serve people of all ages with a variety of interests.

Design Theme

The design theme for the expansion includes series of materials in a nature like setting to encourage passive low impact use of the park and provide relief to the built out neighborhoods and high impact use of the existing park.

SUMMARY OF DESIGN ELEMENTS

WALKWAYS AND CIRCULATION

- A ten-foot wide one-half mile long great loop connects the existing park to the expansion and provides ample space for walking, running, skating, and even bicycling.
- The great loop links all the key elements of the park including the bocce ball complex, parking facilities, restroom, small turf area, picnic areas, play areas, horseshoe, tennis, multi-ball, basketball, community center, baseball, and large turf area.
- The great loop establishes a varied pedestrian experience through the different uses of the park and a constantly changing movement of elevation change, vistas, and orientation.
- A six-foot wide *inner loop* defines the large informal turf area and establishes the center of the park.
- Major facilities are accessed from the loops by carefully located pedestrian connections perpendicular to the loop.
- The ten-foot wide great loop is suitable to support maintenance and police vehicles when needed.

BOCCE BALL COMPLEX

- A 150-foot long inclining arbor will embrace the three 60-foot by 10-foot bocce courts.
- The bocce court area is modest 3-feet below grade to create an arena setting bordered by tuffed banks and wide rain caps, suitable for sitting and viewing the bocce action.
- Under the shade of the arbor are six *chess/game tables*.
- The bocce complex layout is highlighted by the inclining arbor, rows of Italian Cypress trees, and rows of concrete beds along each side of the modest arena.

PLAY AREA

- Separate play facilities are provided for youth (ages 5-12) and tots (ages 2-5).
- An innovative *boulder lined creek* that serves both age groups links the two play areas.
- The youth play area includes innovative elements such as a 16-foot climbing boulder, large net climbing structure, and spinning poles, along with a traditional climbing structure and swings.
- The tot play area encloses the youth area with a tray two foot boulder, traditional climbing structure, and swings, but also includes a water *mist* play area and big wheel/tricycle racetrack.
- The play areas have ample seating on benches in both shade and sun.

PICNIC FACILITIES

- *One large picnic* facility suitable for outing includes six tables, barbeque and soft dispenser and is located adjacent to the restroom and parking.
- Additional tables are scattered in pairs at key locations around the park, including the play area, open turf area, bocce complex, and horseshoe area.

OAK GROVE THEATER

- A twenty-seat semi-amphitheater is nestled under large oak trees and sloping berms.
- Seating is in the form of natural boulders selected for suitability for short-term seating.

PARKING FACILITIES

- Two new parking areas, one on Eggers and one on Hastings will add 66 parking spaces to the 106 existing spaces for a total of 172 parking spaces in Centerville Community Park.

RESTROOM

- The new restroom will be located adjacent to the Eggers parking area, large picnic area, and bocce complex.
- The restroom will be equipped with a *large storm shelter* facility to store the maintenance tools for the bocce ball courts.

TREE PLANTING

- The site will have a wide range of tree types including Oak, Redwood, Pepper, flowering trees, cypress trees, and stately broadleaf and evergreen trees creating the feeling of an arboretum.
- The wide mix of trees will be unified by semi-formal bursts of trees related to the great loop and the inner loop circulation network.
- The inner loop will be highlighted by a formal row of *flowering* pears to further emphasize the large turf area as the center of the park. The aching pattern of the flowering trees on the inner loop is duplicated to highlight the adjacent bocce complex and play areas.
- The great loop will be highlighted by a formal double row of *large* scale high branching canopy trees to create a high tunnel effect for people on the loop.

TURF AREAS

- The *large open informal turf area* defines the center of the park and will accommodate informal games and practice areas for youth teams, but will not support formal team sports and will not have sports lighting.
- The *small turf area* establishes a quiet zone of the park for picnicking and dining.
- The two turf areas are linked to create a large *visual* open space in the park.

SITE FURNISHINGS

- Benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, pathway lighting, bike racks, pay-phone stations, and picnic tables will be throughout the site.
- The inner loop path will be lined with benches and flowering trees.
- The great loop will have low level pedestrian lighting carefully spaced to provide security on the park but not to light up the adjacent use areas creating its nighttime use of the park.
- Bike racks will be located in convenient locations spot-in view for security.
- Six pay-phone stations will be located along the great loop.

HORSESHOE PITS

- Two horseshoe pits are provided adjacent to the existing tennis courts and picnic tables.

CHANGES TO EXISTING PARK

- Remove existing tables between community center and baseball field.
- Landscape the "triangle" behind the tennis courts and basketball courts with a tuffed form and trees.
- Continue the double row of high branching canopy trees along the great loop around the baseball field and back again to the park expansion area.
- New site furnishings such as benches, pay-phone items, and possible arbor will be considered to further link the existing park and the new park.

0 10 20 40' NORTH

Concept Plan *February 13, 2002*

Fremont

CENTERVILLE COMMUNITY PARK EXPANSION