



MEMORANDUM

To: MCWD Board of Managers
From: Renae Clark, Planner/Project Manager
Date: January 25, 2108
Re: Arden Park 30% Design Project Briefing

Purpose:

As part of the Arden Park Restoration Project design development process, staff is providing a 30% design briefing at the Board of Managers meeting on January 25, 2018. The purpose of the project briefing is to review progress and design direction regarding creek alignment, stormwater management concepts, and natural area restoration strategies.

Background:

On November 9, 2017 the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers formally ordered the Arden Park Restoration Project and approved a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Edina to jointly advance the Arden Park concept into design phase. This partnership builds upon the August 2016 Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Edina to develop a concept plan for Arden Park which removes the existing dam at W. 54th Street and integrates creek restoration, stormwater management, trails and facility upgrades for the restoration of Arden Park.

The design development process presented to the Board of Managers on November 9, 2017 and approved by City Council on November 21, 2017 includes check points with City Council, Park Commission, MCWD Board of Managers and the public at 30%, 60% and 90% design phases. Formal action is not requested as part of the 30% design briefing. Pursuant to the Cooperative Agreement, the City Council and Board of Managers will be requested to take formal action to advance 60% and 90% design.

Summary:

The Arden Park Restoration Project is centered around a restored Minnehaha Creek and includes the following design goals established through a public engagement process which included five community meetings and public hearings by the City of Edina and the MCWD.

Arden Park Design Goals:

- Maintain rustic character of the park
- Improve public use experience throughout the park
 - o Increased fishing and in-stream recreation opportunities
 - o Improved visual and physical access to Minnehaha Creek
- Update aging park facilities
- Public safety
- Improved biological and geological function and value of the creek and surrounding corridor
- Regional stormwater management

30% Design Phase Update

The 30% design update includes a revised creek alignment which avoids trees, further developed stormwater management concepts, defined natural resource enhancement strategies, and a modified trail alignment. These developments are reflected in a revised concept plan and figures which are attached and will be presented by staff.

On January 9, 2018 the 30% design was presented at a public open house which was held at Edina City Hall with an estimated attendance of 75 people. A staff briefing was provided to Edina Parks and Recreation Commission immediately following the open house. The information was presented to Edina City Council on January 17. Design progress has been well received.

Next Steps:

Design development will continue with upcoming technical work sessions regarding the main arterial bridge, terrace, and shelter building layout, creek access design and trail materials, and natural area and park vegetation restoration strategies. A pre-application permitting meeting is planned in February with regulating agencies.

Communication and Public Input:

A public communications plan has been developed by MCWD and City of Edina Communications Staff. The plan includes the opportunity to subscribe to project email updates through the District website and the opportunity to submit comments through an online form. A link to the form is available on the District's project webpage. As discussed above and included in the attached design development process and schedule, there will be two additional planned points of community engagement.

Attachments:

1. Creek alignment
2. Revised concept plan
3. Concept plans – side by side comparison
4. Stormwater management concepts
5. Design development schedule and process



**2017 Concept
Stream Alignment**

**2018 Concept
Stream Alignment**

Arden Avenue

52nd Street

53rd Street

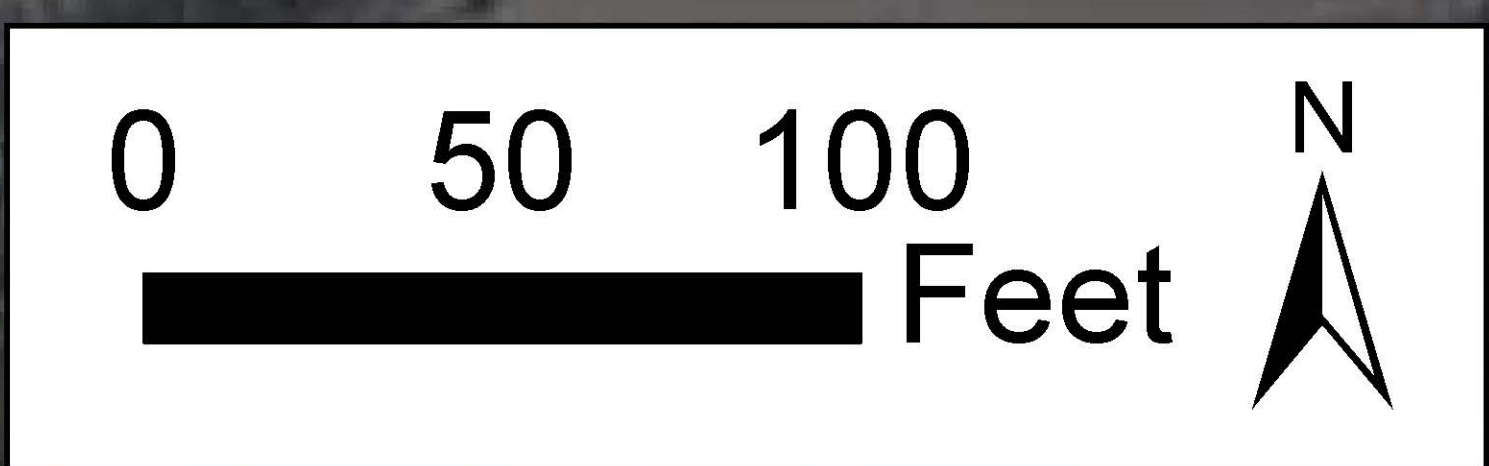
Oaklawn Avenue

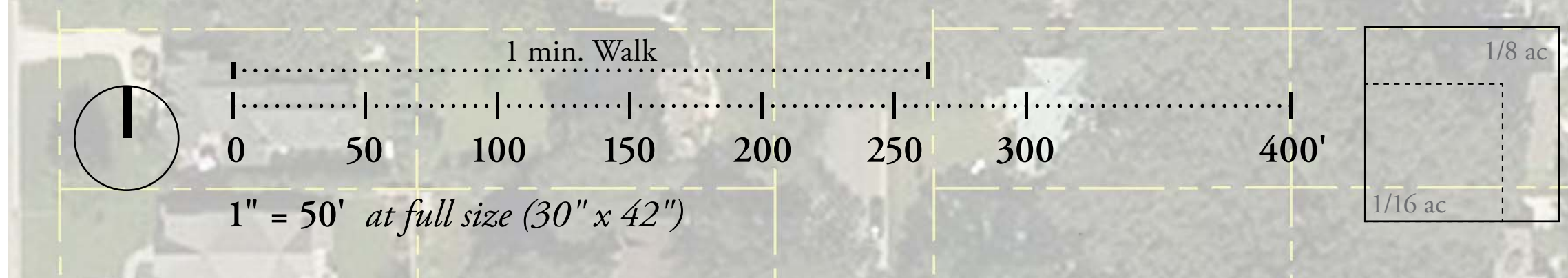
Brookview Avenue

Minnehaha Boulevard

54th Street

Park Place



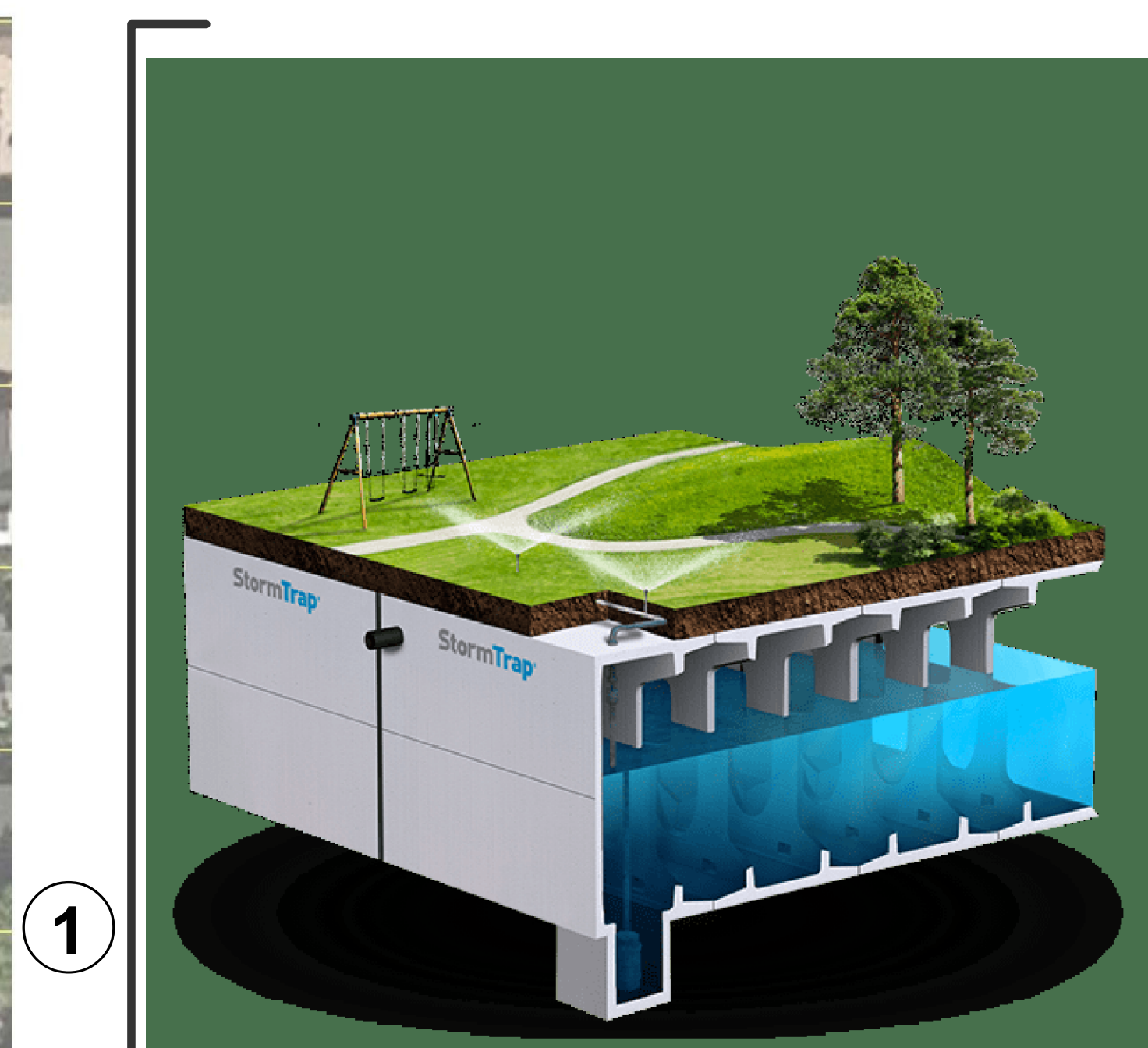




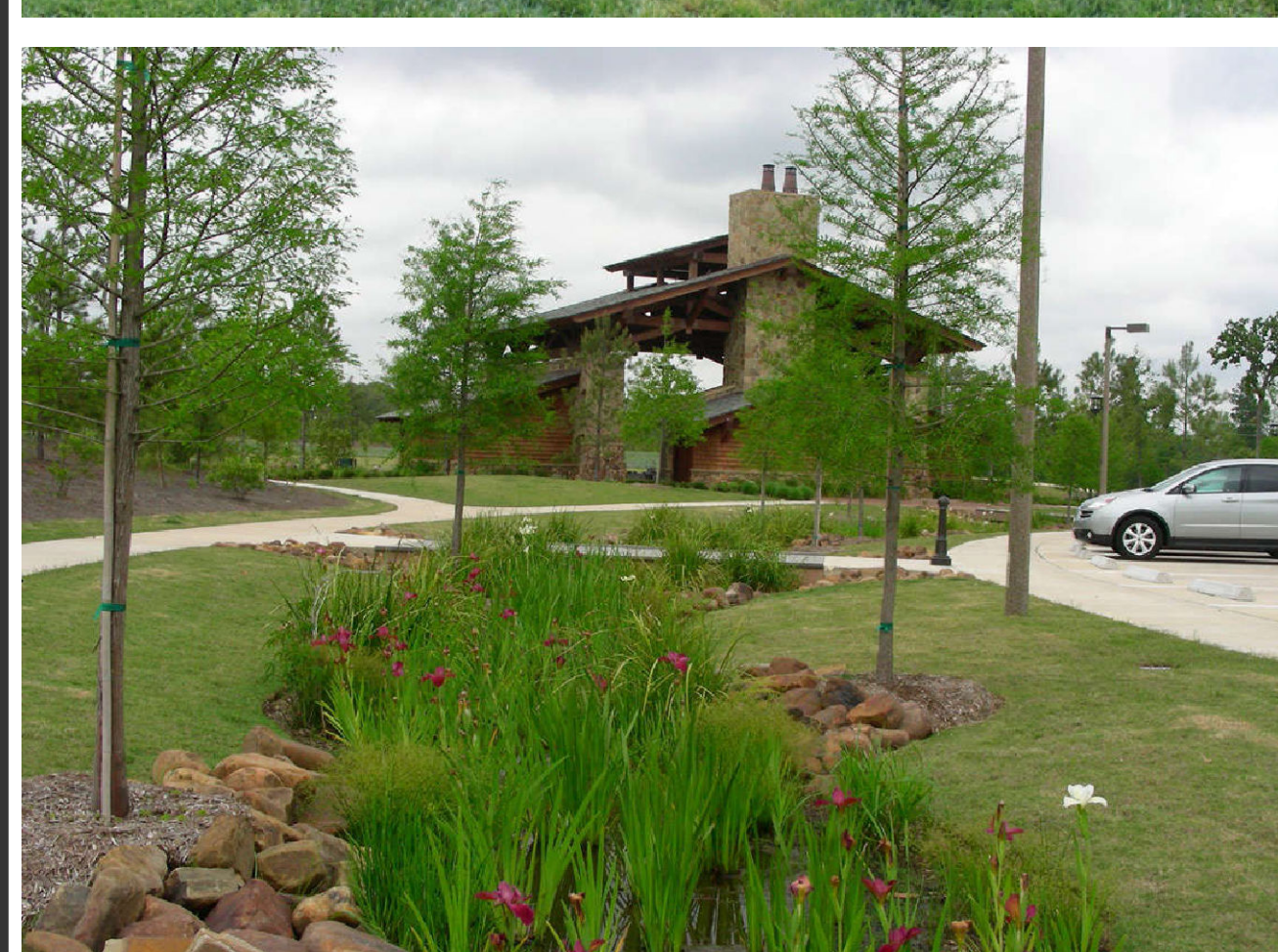
Concept Plan 2017



Concept Plan 2018



Underground Filtration



Bioretention/
Biofiltration Swales

HART HOWERTON NEW YORK - SAN FRANCISCO inter-fluve WENCK ASSOCIATES ARDEN PARK Edina, Minnesota CONCEPT PLAN January 9, 2018

CITY OF EDINA
Arden Park Stormwater Best Management Practices Opportunities

