Pioneer Park - Stanley, Idaho

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University of Idaho
Spring 2012

Project Statement

Incorporate a diverse city park and trailhead into Stanley, Idaho that involves citizens of Stanley and travelers into a unique and stunning experience of viewing the Sawtooth Mountains.

Goals

Preserve and enhance existing conditions

- Features have previously been developed
- Allow for additional features to be added

Promote active and healthy living for users

- Provide multiple types of recreational opportunitites
- Extensive path system for active recreation
- Large open areas for people to experience the outdoors

Enhance views of from the site to surroundings

- Preserve existing view coioridors from Stanley and from Pioneer Park
- Frame the great views of the mountains
- Plant appropriate vegetation the preserve views to and from town

Provide educational opportunities for the school

- Allow for areas of the park to become learning enviornments
- Create an area for classes to be taught for all age groups

Programming

Trailhead	Functional space that serves the purpose of access to trail	- Adequate parking spaces - Restroom facilities - Memorial planting grove - Entance signage
Plantings	Colorful dynamic plantings that serve multiple purposes to enhance the park	- Cold hardy plants that stand up to weather damage - Resistant to animal feeding - Planted according too viewing cooridor
Views	Preserved corridors of sight through the site	- Views of mountains in background - Views from the site to the city of Stanley - Reduced restriction of views out of the site to the surrounding landscape
Winter Recreation	Winter recreational opportunities are plentiful on throughout the site	- Ice rink/ skating program - Snowmachine access to the trailhead - Groomed trail for crosscountry skiing - Open space for children to experience outdoor witner activites
Summer Recreation	Wide variety of summer recreational acitivties on the site	- Improved playground for children - Open spaces for people to go when events are occuring - Baseball field - Natural walking trail - Enlarged picinic areas - Large public garden
Connectivity	Park becomes well connected to surrounding features	- Trail system connected to Stanley so that the park does not become isolated - Trailehead created to connect Redfish Lake to the city - Connect people to the enviornment through landscape features
Maintenance	The park is well mainainted and is visually pleasing	- Adequate water sprinkler system to preserve the landscape - Maintenance shed restored and enhanced to handle new landscape features - Trailhead is maintained inviting visitors to return
Safety	Multiple precations taken to increase safety on site	- Wide paths to reduce that ammount of close traffic on paths - Low night lighting on paths for visibility - Path moved away from heavy traffic roads and planted

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Site Inventory and Analysis

The views from the site are the main attraction to the site and should be preserved as much as possible. Through the implementation of several improvements to the site the views of the spectacular Sawtooth Mountains should always be considered.

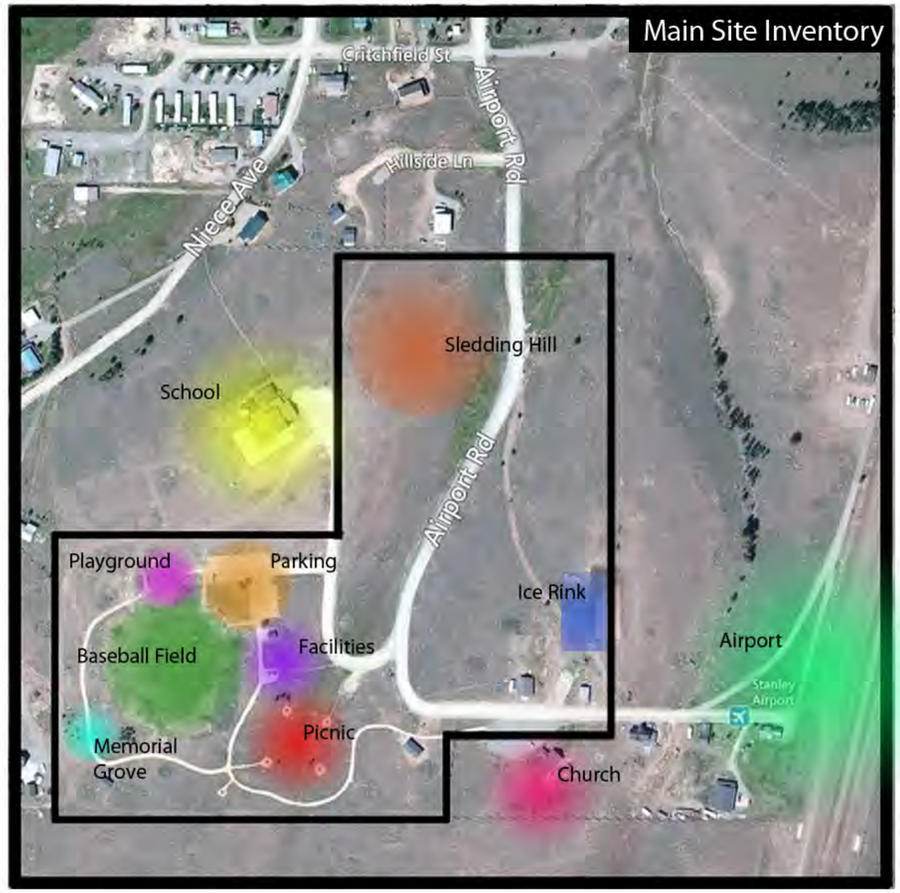
Parking on the site is adequate for the year round users but for the summer months parking should be looked at for expanding. The site can handle more parking areas on the flatter spaces for summer activities that will happen on site.

The facilities on site are undersized for the amount of people that are expected for the activities the city has planned. Facilities may be added in the trailhead area for the trail users so that the facilities are spread out and people have more options.

The entry to the site is unpronounced and there is no sense of arrival. The entry to the site could be announced by adding a overhead sign that advertises the site due to the fact that the park is one of the cities key features and should not be overlooked.

The ball field is the main feature on the site and takes up the most developed space. It is key for the park to have a dynamic space where multiple types of physical activities may take place. It may be looked at to allow for multiple types of recreation to occur on the ball field.

The playground has been talked about for improvements. The location is great for parents to watch their children from their cars so that the kids can be safe while playing. Improvements could be adding boulders and natural features for the kids to play on.

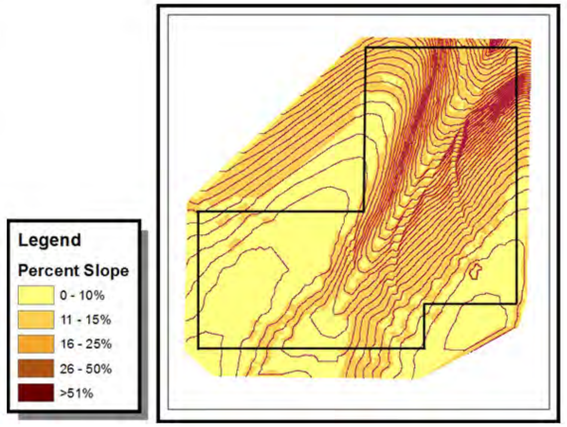


Site Inventory Map

The site sits on top of a hill near the town of Stanley, Idaho. The location of the site could not be in a better stop in the whole valley to take advantage of the amazing views that are all around the valley. Although all of the features are on the site and cannot expand outside of the site, the park should mainly focus on the views outside of the park. In the park it is apparent that many of the features that require active maintenance and use by people are located on top of the hill so that the views can be seen while participating in certain activities. The majority of features are located near each other and the ice rink sits across that park from the majority of the other features. The connectivity of the features on the site is lacking in certain areas and excels in other. The main focus should be keeping the already established features that exist on the site and adding in proposed features between the broken links to increase the connectivity of the park. By inserting some small features into the park, it would greatly increase the feel of the park and make people feel like they could easily access the features that they desire. As it stands now people have to walk around the paths to get to some features that they want to get to instead of being able to walk right to what they want to. By connecting all of the features on the site it would make people feel more like they could do what they want and increase their chance of returning to the site because of the great experience they had.

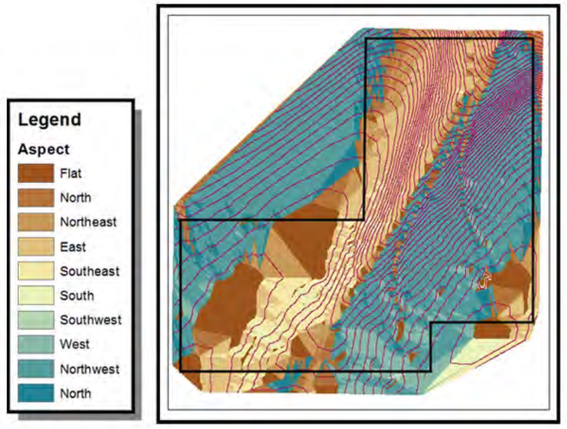
Slope

The slope on this site varies drastically. A majority of the site is on top of flatter area where much of the existing activities take place. Noticing that the slope indicates a clear natural drainage way, it would be expected that much of the spring runoff water makes its way into the town and cause problems through this area. This are would be the best place to locate water catchment and control systems to reduce the effect on the town. The steepest slopes can be used for activities that require these steep areas such as sledding. In some of the flatter are it is possible for water pooling to occur so It would be best to capture that water for reuse or to divert the water to the natural drainage area.



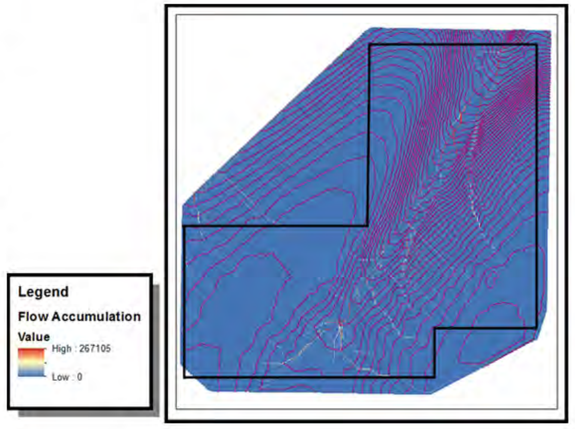
Aspect

The aspect of the site is mainly focused towards the north meaning that it will not receive as much sunlight during the winter months. Looking closer at the aspect map, it may say that the aspect is facing north but much of the site is on top of a hill so it will mainly be receiving direct sunlight all year long. These areas that receive the most sunlight would be best for program activities that require the most use by pedestrians so that the sun will make the activities more desirable. In the less sun filled areas would be the best place to locate features that will not need full sunlight to accomplish their job such as maintenance.



Runoff

Runoff on this site is the major factor for the sites function. Looking at the map there is a clear drainage way created by the topography that indicated that a majority of the water runs this way. Much of the runoff comes from snow during the spring runoff. Knowing that much of the runoff comes in the spring months, much can be done to help mitigate this problem and reduce the amount that runs into the sity by adding some large retention ponds, plant plenty of plants that are water loving so that they can soak up water fast that many of the plants, and grading the hill side and even into the city so that the water doesn't run free and destroy the town.



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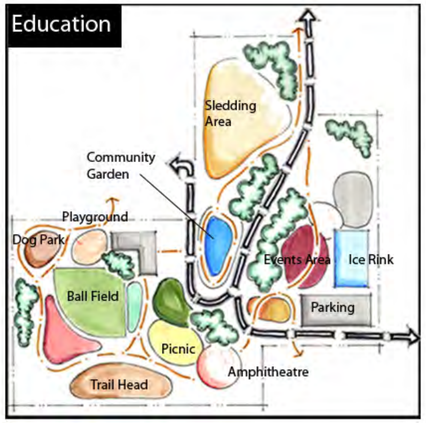
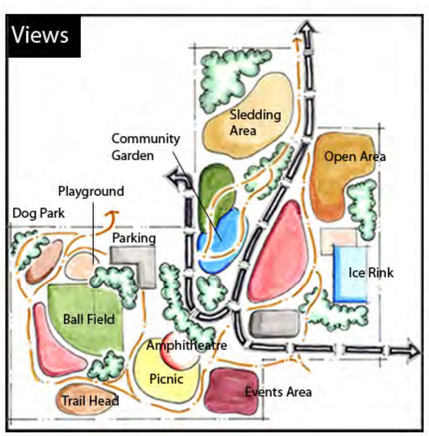
Concepts



The education conceptual focuses on teaching the children and adults of Stanley Idaho various things. For the children, the can learn about different types of plants and animals through learning areas with kiosks and sighs. The adults can use the community garden to help them learn how to grow food for themselves and lean to how to produce food for their family aswell.

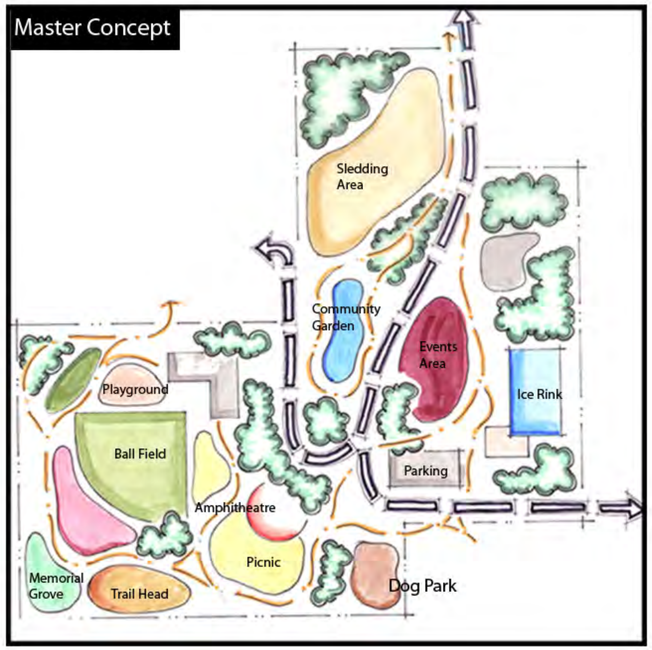
In this conceptual, the goal was to preserve what the park already had and create open space around it for people to use the space as they will. People love to have the ability to do what they want with a space and by adding these open spaces between existing features there is a good balance between one use features and multiuse open spaces.



The goal of this conceptual was to identify the great views from the site and preserve them. The views were mainly situated towards the southwest where the baseball field is facing. Placing open programing elements near end of the baseball field was key to the design to keep the view corridors open.

Final Concept

The final concept combines features from each of the conceptuals into a final concept that informs how the master plan will be created. The main features taken from concept one was the location of the community garden. It is placed strategically so that it can capture runoff water for the plants but also linking spaces that were separated before. The major idea from concept two was the location of the trail head. It is located so that it can easily access the trail system but also so that it can be seen by users so that the feature is not isolated to a corner of the site. Concept three contributed to the fact that a majority of the views are the southwest and trying not to block those views as much as possible by leaving it an open space. The final concept uses all of the existing features of the site in their original location and working around them so that the space remains the same to the people who love it so much but also making it a more dynamic space for all users.



Master Plan

The master plan directly responds to the existing features and conditions on the site. The major condition that much of the new and revised features on the site respond to is the views. The picnic area was redefined into a planned space so that people can go and have a central area with a fire pit to commune in while still being able to view the great mountains. The amphitheater was placed so that it is situated on a small high point, above the pedestrians walking by so that the views are never interrupted. The proposed plaza adjacent to the ice rink is situated and designed so that the views of the great Sawtooth Mountains are framed by trees. The view from inside the city was taken into account as well. The view corridors form certain key points in town were preserved so that citizens my still be able to have great views from the city. The other features responded to by the design were the water control with the water catchment areas and the lack of linkage between spaces. The proposed spaces act as filler spaces between the key spaces to link the entire park into once cohesive park.

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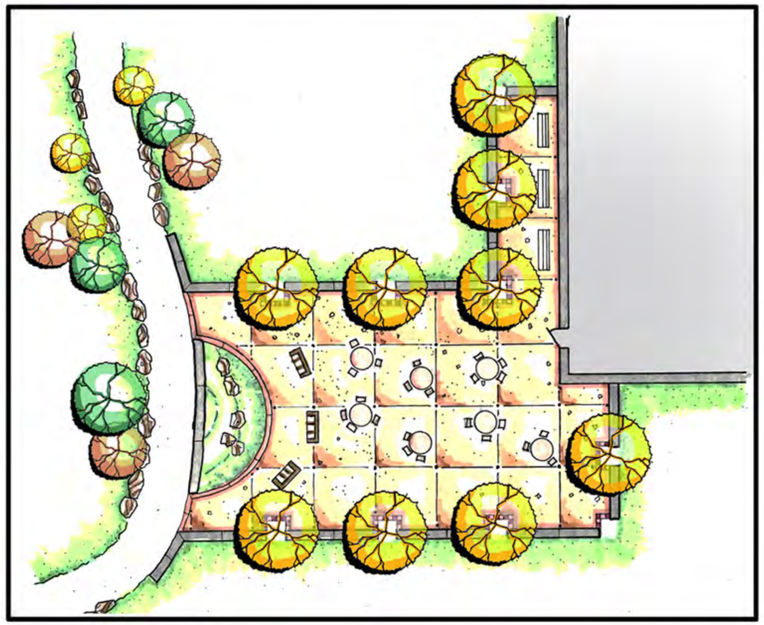
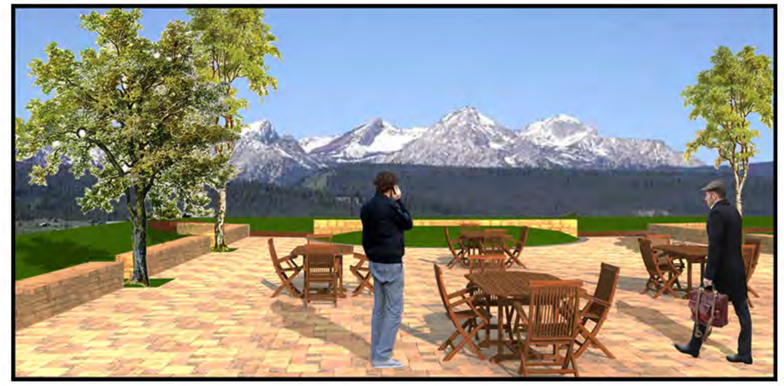
Ice Rink Enlargement



Ice Rink Plaza View

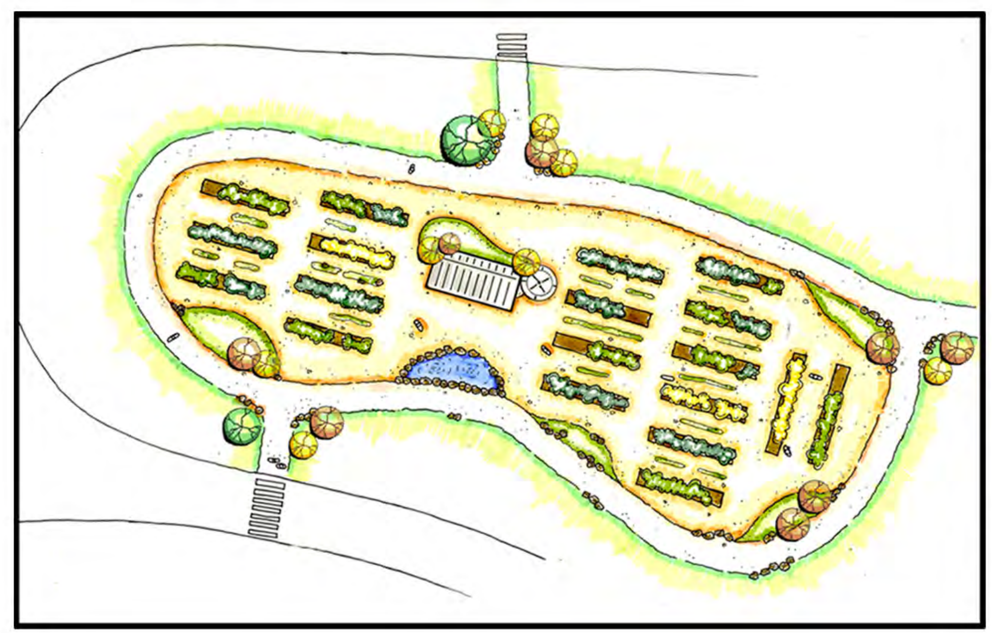


Ice Rink Plaza

The ice rink plaza aims to preserve views outside of the park by framing the mountains in the background with plant material and proposed features. The plaza is located near expansion parking lot so that pedestrians will not have to walk far with their equipment. Once inside of the plaza there are multiple areas for people to put on their equipment. In the middle of the plaza are several picnic tables so that the space is inviting to not only the ice rink users but also to passersby that would like place to sit and relax. From the middle of the plaza, there is an extension that runs along the side of the ice rink that acts as a seating area for watching the events that area happening in the rink.

Community Garden Pavilion

Community Garden Enlargement



The community garden is the first developed feature when entering the park, being the first feature it defines the feel of the park. The gardens are located in the natural drainage are of the park so that they can take advantage of the spring snow runoff and collect the water. The water is key to the garden because of the limited amount that is available. There is a small building in the center of the garden that would act as an area where people could go to clean their produce and possibly sell to other people. Outside of the building are several raised planter beds that each serves a different part of the community. The school will have a small section and the rest will be divided among the people who would like to use this area.