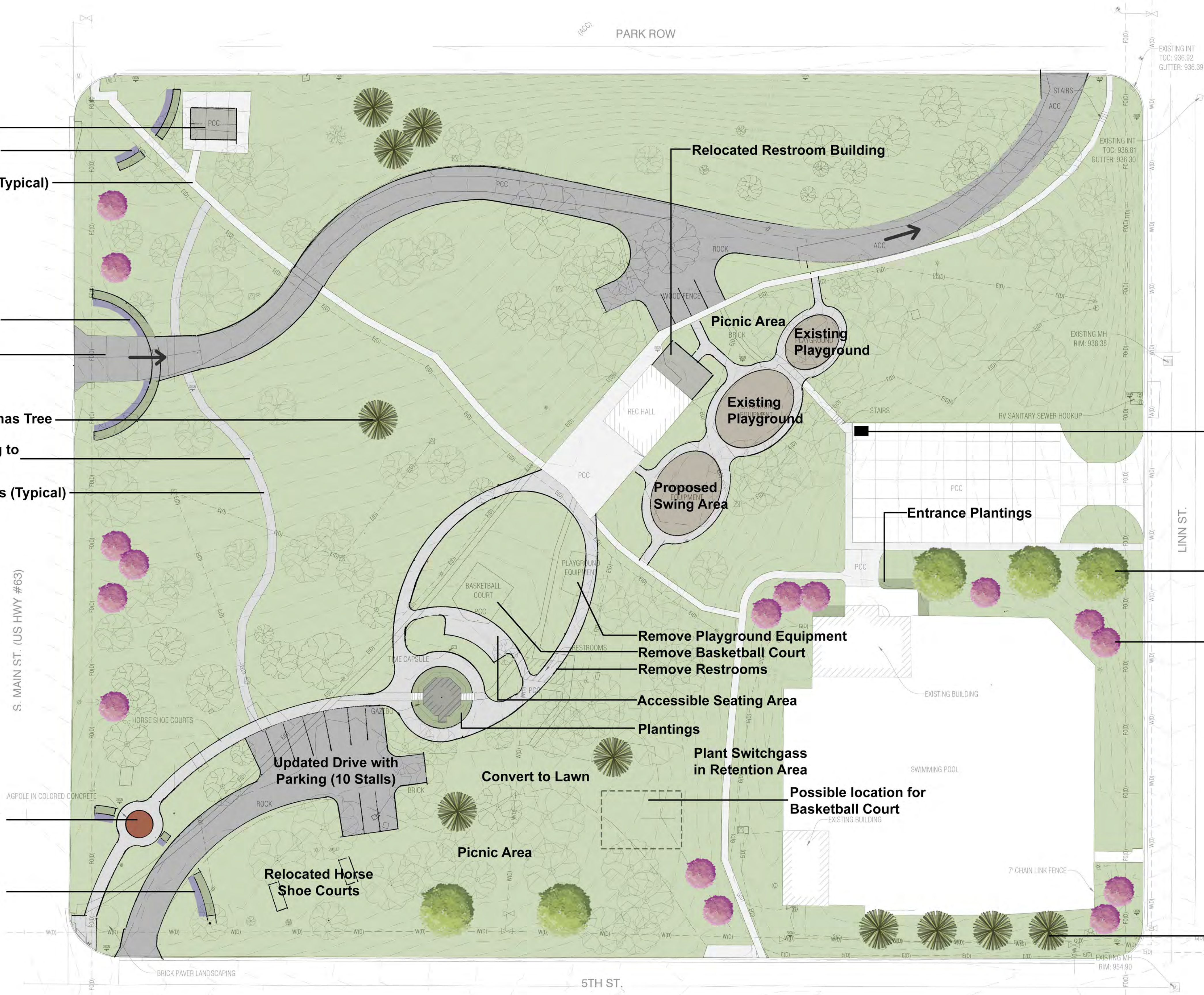


Proposed Shelter
Entrance Plantings
Existing Sidewalk (Typical)

Entrance Plantings
One-way Traffic
Community Christmas Tree
Benches & Lighting to Match Downtown
Proposed Sidewalks (Typical)

Veteran's Memorial
Entrance Plantings



Relocated Restroom Building

Picnic Area
Existing Playground

Existing Playground

Proposed Swing Area

Remove Playground Equipment
Remove Basketball Court
Remove Restrooms

Accessible Seating Area
Plantings

Plant Switchgrass in Retention Area

Possible location for Basketball Court

Picnic Area

Relocated Horse Shoe Courts

Relocated Garbage Dumpster

Entrance Plantings

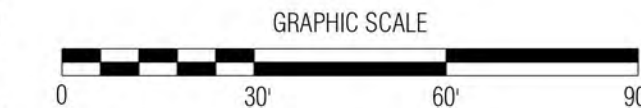
Shade Tree (Typical)

Ornamental Tree (Typical)

Evergreen Tree (Typical)

Taylor Park Improvements

Traer, Iowa



1. Relocate the basketball court and/or add possible pickleball court or shuffleboard.

- a. Our recommendation is to remove basketball and other “ball” sports from the park as they are incompatible in its current location with programming for the gazebo. Given the topography of the site, any ball sport would need to be fenced in to keep the balls from rolling down the hill and there is not a great location for this to occur. After reviewing local amenities, including the nearby courts at the school, our recommendation would be to not keep or replace the court within the park. If the community decided they wanted to keep basketball inside the park, a location near 5th Street and the pool would work.

2. Bathroom

- a. The current restroom needs updating. Its location competes with ideal programming and flow of the park. We are suggesting relocating it to the northeast side of the existing shelter and creating a large open lawn area for performances at the gazebo.

3. Gazebo

- a. By removing the basketball court, existing restrooms, and the tire swing & other misc. playground equipment, we were able to create an event lawn with accessible seating. This area puts the focal point on the gazebo and creates a better relationship between the gazebo and existing shelter. The relocation of the restroom facility behind the existing shelter allows better pedestrian flow and detracts from the restroom competing with the gazebo as a focal point. The planting area around the gazebo is expanded allowing plenty of room for plantings to keep the vegetation off of the gazebo and not encroach on the adjacent sidewalk.

4. ROW Sidewalks

- a. After reviewing the site, we are discouraging the use of the sidewalks in the right-of-way around the perimeter of the park. The adjacent roads have great sidewalks already and the important connectors into the park are what are most important. It would be expensive and require retaining walls to add sidewalks to the perimeter due to the steep grades. The existing trees also pose a problem. Anyone walking to the park can cross the street and enter the park in a safe manner. Our recommendation is to increase the safety of the crosswalks with highly-visible crosswalks into the park at all existing entrances.

5. Trash Area

- a. Relocating the dumpster to the west side of the park where existing concrete is seems like a logical way to handle this. The location also has easy access from the road. The container would be tucked away from view from neighboring residences and include plantings but a wooden fence could also be used to provide additional screening. **UPDATE: City Council preferred the trash**

container be located in the pool parking area. More decision making will be needed from the city on how they would like that secured.

6. Commemorative Bricks

- a. The existing commemorative bricks throughout the park can be reused near their current locations or could be added into a centrally located plaza space within the park. Any area that is shown with pavement could be converted to bricks.

7. Driveways

- a. We are suggesting discontinuing the use of the through drive on the west side of the park and instead allowing vehicles to drive in and park near the gazebo. The space allows for 10 parking spots with room to back out and exit the way you came. The area where the current drive is would be converted back to lawn which should aid in the drainage issues on that side of the park. Currently, there are ruts in the gravel due to fast flow of drainage.
- b. The north entrance would be widened to 18' with 4 parking spots delineated near the existing shelter. If more parking is desired near the shelter, we have shown on the plan an additional route that would add 7 parking spots.

8. Horseshoes

- a. The existing horseshoes and signage for horseshoes would be relocated to the west side of the park. This would allow for better pedestrian circulation through the Veteran's Memorial to the gazebo.

9. Playground

- a. The existing playgrounds would be enclosed by sidewalks to create an edge and allow for circulation around the play equipment. Places to sit along the sidewalks would also be implemented.

10. Swimming Pool Area Plantings

- a. The existing low drainage area could be enhanced with a switchgrass planting which would eliminate the need to mow the area. Additional plantings around the swimming pool would be mostly evergreen trees and ornamental trees. The entrance of the parking lot could be planted with shade trees. Our firm does not recommend prairie plantings around the swimming pool area. The maintenance for that type of planting is high especially in small areas. If further planting was desired, we could add areas with a mix of shrubs and ornamental trees. We discourage the over use of perennials in public spaces unless there is a robust maintenance team who can handle their care. The entrance around the pool building could be enhanced by shrub and perennial plantings with the ideal situation being easy maintenance.

11. Parking

- a. Revising the current drives includes delineating 10 parking stalls near the gazebo and 4 parking stalls near the shelter. These spots should include handicap parking at both locations.

Projects that could be started or accomplished in 2024

1. Relocating and refurbishing the horseshoe pits (currently in 2025 Phased Plan)
2. Adding the picnic gazebo on the NE corner of the park
3. Tree plantings along Hwy 63 and Park Row
4. Tree plantings around pool area
5. Relocating the restroom