

Fort Ward Park Playground Accessibility Project Community Meeting #7

Virtual Meeting Agenda
June 26, 2024
7:00 p.m.

1. Welcome

2. Presentation

- Playground Project Schedule
- Playground Design Update

3. Questions and Comments





Community Engagement

2022

- January 22, 2022: Community Meeting #1 Fort Ward Projects (virtual)
- May 21, 2022: Playground Community Meeting #2/Site Walk
- June 22, 2022: Playground Community Meeting #3 (virtual)

2023

- February 22, 2023: Playground Community Meeting #4 (virtual)
- March 4 and 11, 2023: Playground Community Open Houses
- February 17 - March 31, 2023: Community Comment
- May 11, 2023: Playground Community Meeting #5 (virtual)
- December 6 and 16, 2023: Playground Community Meeting #6 (virtual) and Community Open House

2024/2025

- June 2024: Playground Community Meeting #7 (virtual)
- Summer/Fall 2025: (Tentative) Community Pre-Construction Meeting

FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS Playground Relocation Site B Design and Construction Schedule

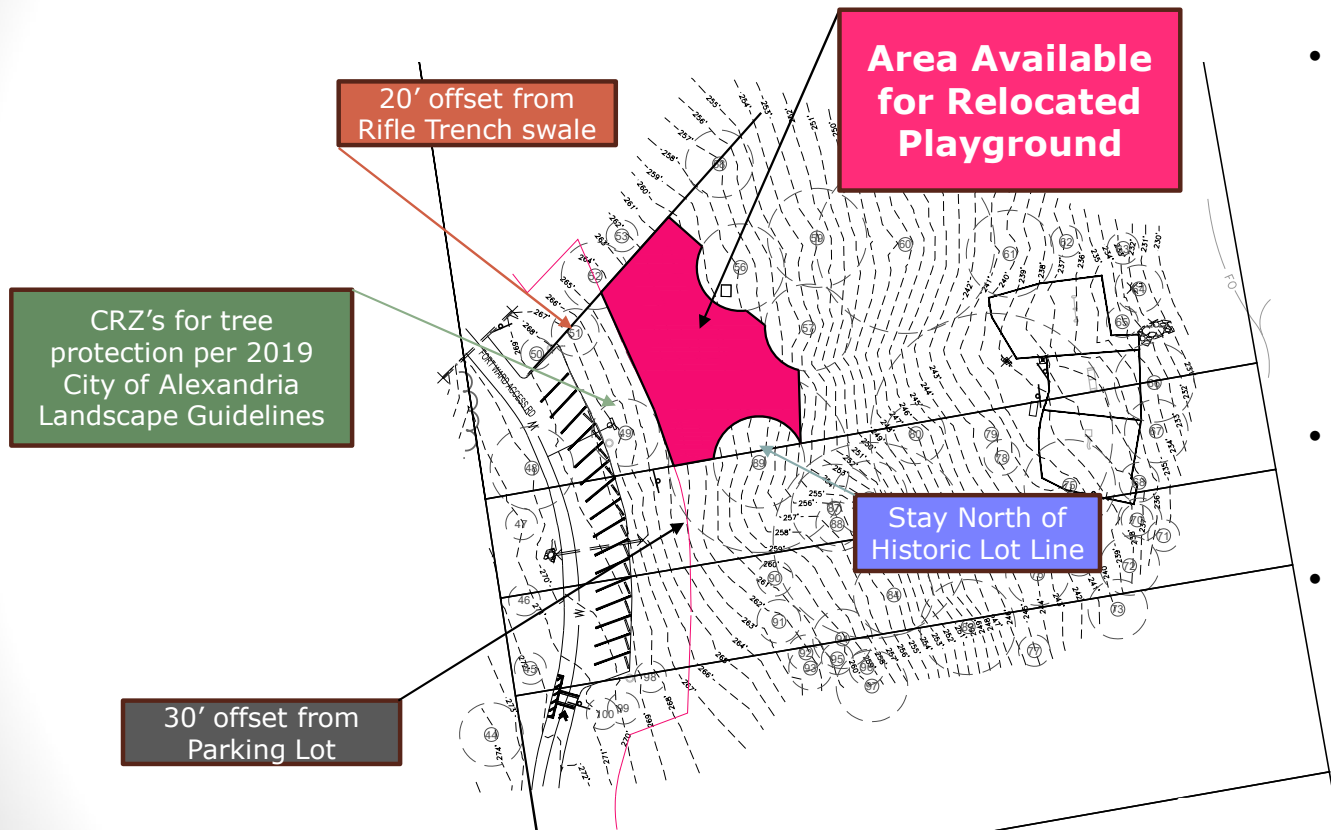


Updated 6/21/24

FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

December 2023 Playground Concept Exploration



- Site Constraints include:
 - Historic Lot Line (s)
 - Tree Critical Root Zones
 - Rifle Trench Buffer
 - Safety Buffer from parking lot
- Site constraints may significantly reduce playground footprint
- Choices on play equipment selection are needed (ie. swings, play structures, etc.)



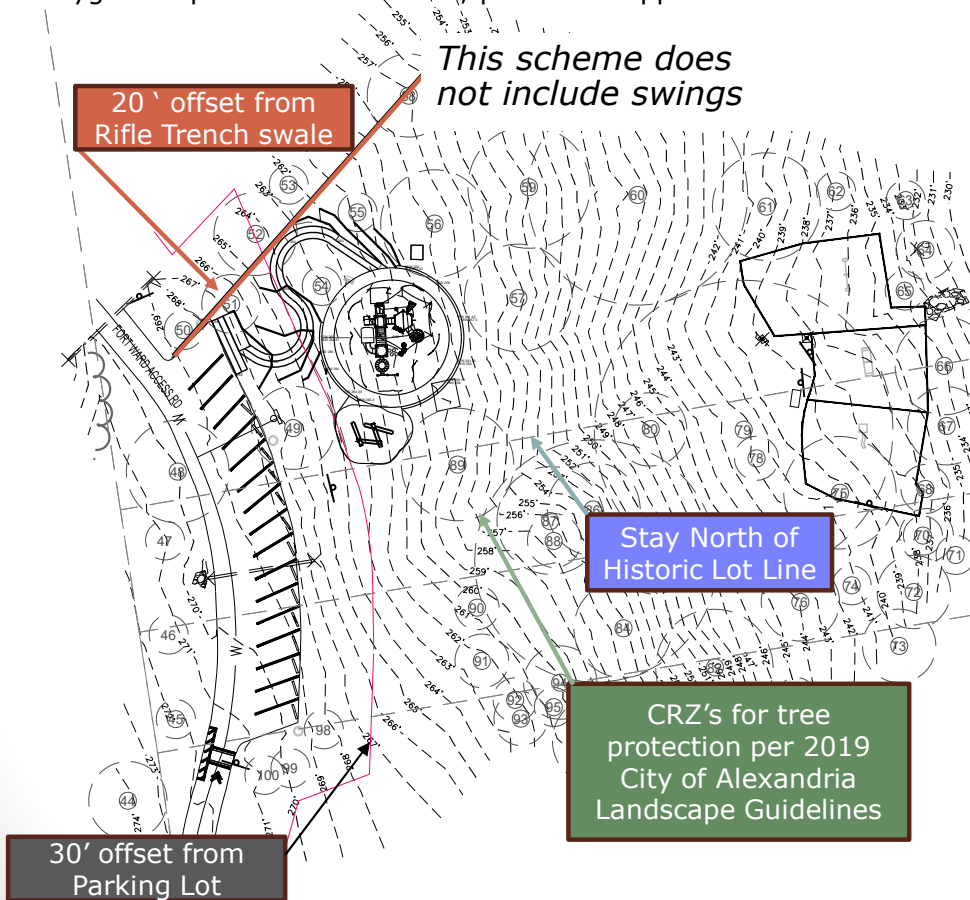


FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

2024: Exploring FIT and the Site's Resources

December 2023 Concept Exploration
Playground pad elevation is 262; park drive approx. 268



- Continue conceptual design process to address reduced playground footprint
- Explore play equipment to accommodate multiple age groups, creating efficiencies by reducing the need for a larger footprint
- Retain stormwater management (SWM) approach presented in December 2023; keep impervious surface square footage less than existing; use level spreaders or rip rap plunge pool for SWM

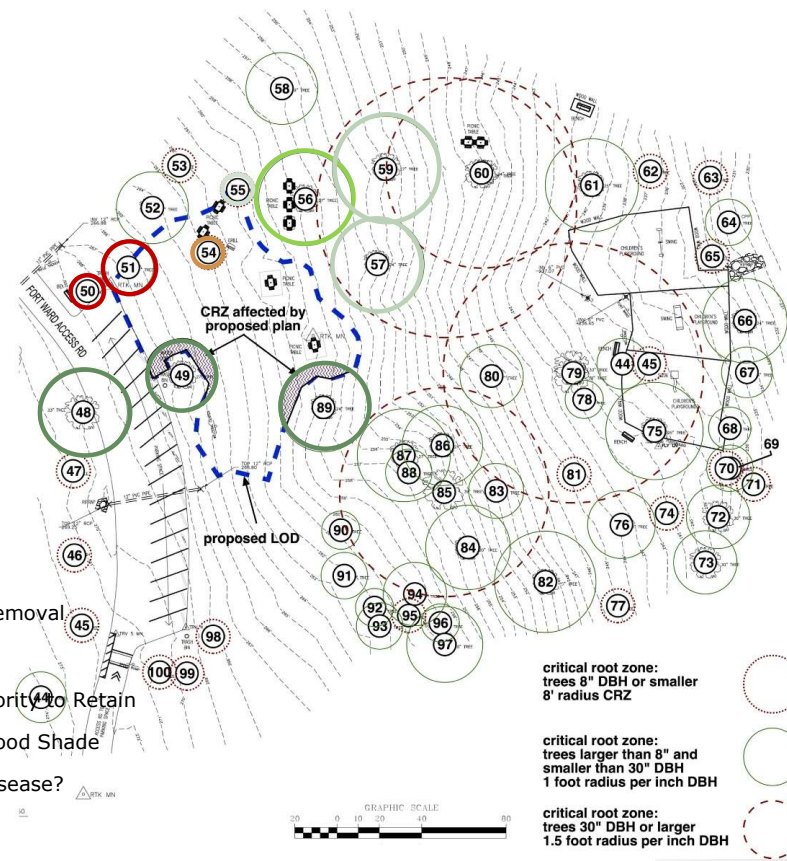


FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

2023 Existing Tree Inventory

Tree #	Name	Size	Condition	Comment	Recommendation
48	hickory <i>Carya</i> spp. Species Rating: 80%	12/12/13	.56	Suitability for preservation: <i>moderate</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. There is decay in the trunk and base of this tree. This is a serious problem for this tree. Included bark is evident. Mowers damaged this tree's trunk and/or roots in the past.	Preservation status to be determined
49	persimmon <i>Diospyros virginiana</i> Species Rating: 85%	12/12	.8	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined.	Preservation status to be determined
50	flowering dogwood <i>Cornus florida</i> Species Rating: 65%	1	.2	Suitability for preservation: <i>poor</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Borer damage is evident. This is a severe problem for this tree!	Preservation status to be determined
51	black cherry <i>Prunus serotina</i> Species Rating: 60%	12	.44	Suitability for preservation: <i>moderate</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. There is decay in the trunk and base of this tree. This is a serious problem for this tree. It appears this tree was partially uprooted in the past. Dead branches are a significant problem for this tree.	Preservation status to be determined
52	Virginia pine <i>Pinus virginiana</i> Species Rating: 50%	17	.72	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Mowers damaged this tree's trunk and/or roots in the past. Dead branches in this tree's crown are a minor problem.	Preservation status to be determined
53	southern red oak <i>Quercus falcata</i> Species Rating: 80%	.5	.72	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. This tree was recently planted. Tip pruning has been done to shorten branches/main stem.	Preservation status to be determined
54	red oak <i>Quercus</i> spp. Species Rating: 80%	4	.68	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Tip pruning has been done to shorten branches. May be southern red oak.	Preservation status to be determined
55	red oak <i>Quercus</i> spp. Species Rating: 80%	2	.68	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Tip pruning has been done to shorten branches. May be northern red oak.	Preservation status to be determined
56	sawtooth oak <i>Quercus acutissima</i> Species Rating: 75%	22	.8	Suitability for preservation: <i>moderate</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Sawtooth oak, an exotic, is invasive in some areas.	Preservation status to be determined
57	northern red oak <i>Quercus rubra</i> Species Rating: 80%	22	.8	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Dead branches in this tree's crown are a minor problem. Bacterial leaf scorch may be affecting this tree.	Preservation status to be determined
58	southern red oak <i>Quercus falcata</i> Species Rating: 80%	17	.68	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Dead branches in this tree's crown are a minor problem. Bacterial leaf scorch may be affecting this tree.	Preservation status to be determined
59	northern red oak <i>Quercus rubra</i> Species Rating: 80%	25	.6	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Dead branches are a significant problem for this tree. Bacterial leaf scorch may be affecting this tree. Bleeding cankers are apparent; may be <i>Phytophthora</i> .	Preservation status to be determined
89	mockernut hickory <i>Carya tomentosa</i> Species Rating: 80%	6/15/10/9	.76	Suitability for preservation: <i>good</i> . Chances of survival to be determined. Bark was damaged near the base of the tree years ago. Included bark is evident.	Preservation status to be determined





FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

2024 Tree Risk Assessment

Tree Risk Assessment by City of Alexandria

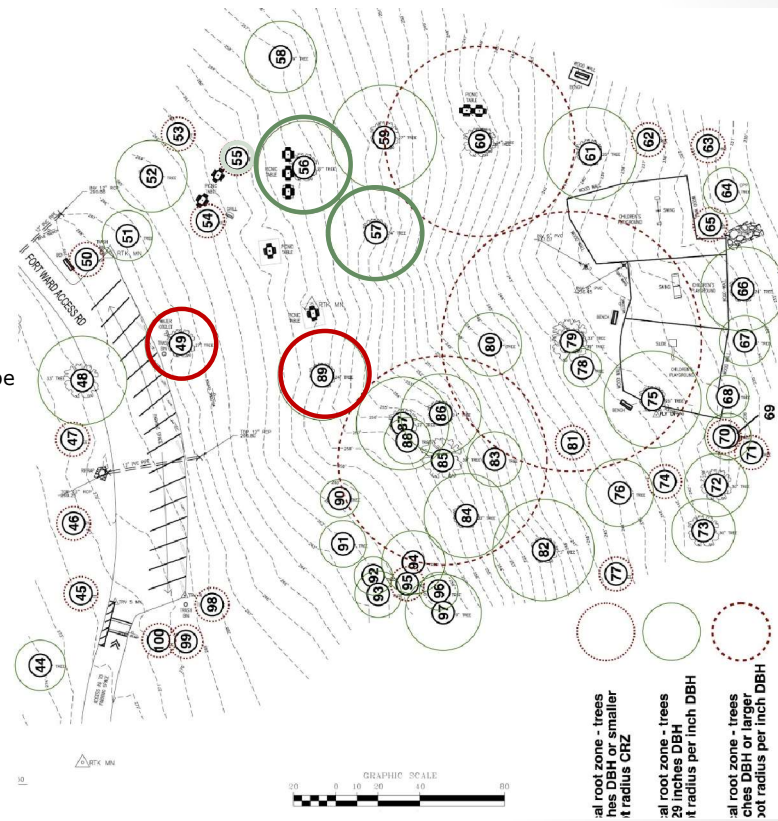
Tree Risk Assessments (TRA) help stakeholders establish risk tolerance regarding trees in urban settings.

Tree Risk Assessments note the structural integrity of a tree, examines the likelihood of failure over time, and identifies the potential consequence of tree failure based on its immediate surroundings.

There are 3 different Levels of a TRA.

Level II TRA was completed for Trees 56, 57, 49, and 89 based on the proposed proximity to a new playground. Based on the possible land use change and condition, Tree #49 and #89 would be removed to eliminate the elevated risk near children and families.

- Legend
- High Risk: Tree to be Removed
 - Lower Risk



FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

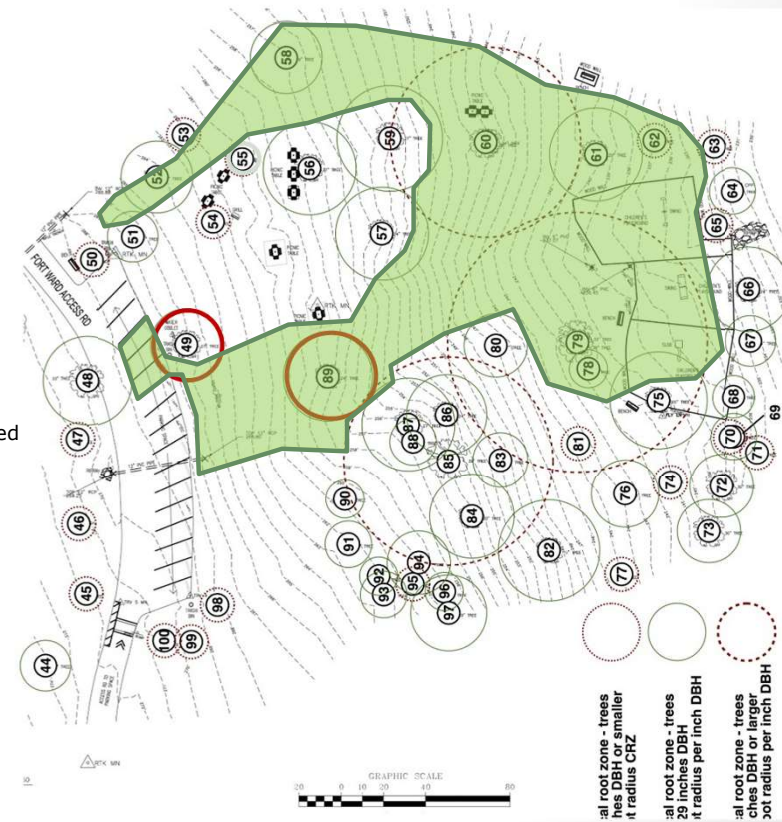
Tree Removal Mitigation: Opportunities to Expand Tree Canopy

Goals and Objectives

- Increase the biodiversity of native deciduous and evergreen vegetation
- Add successional plantings to replace older, mature trees
- Provide additional shade in the vicinity of the relocated play area
- Increase trees to support stormwater management
- Allocate resources to support tree establishment

Legend

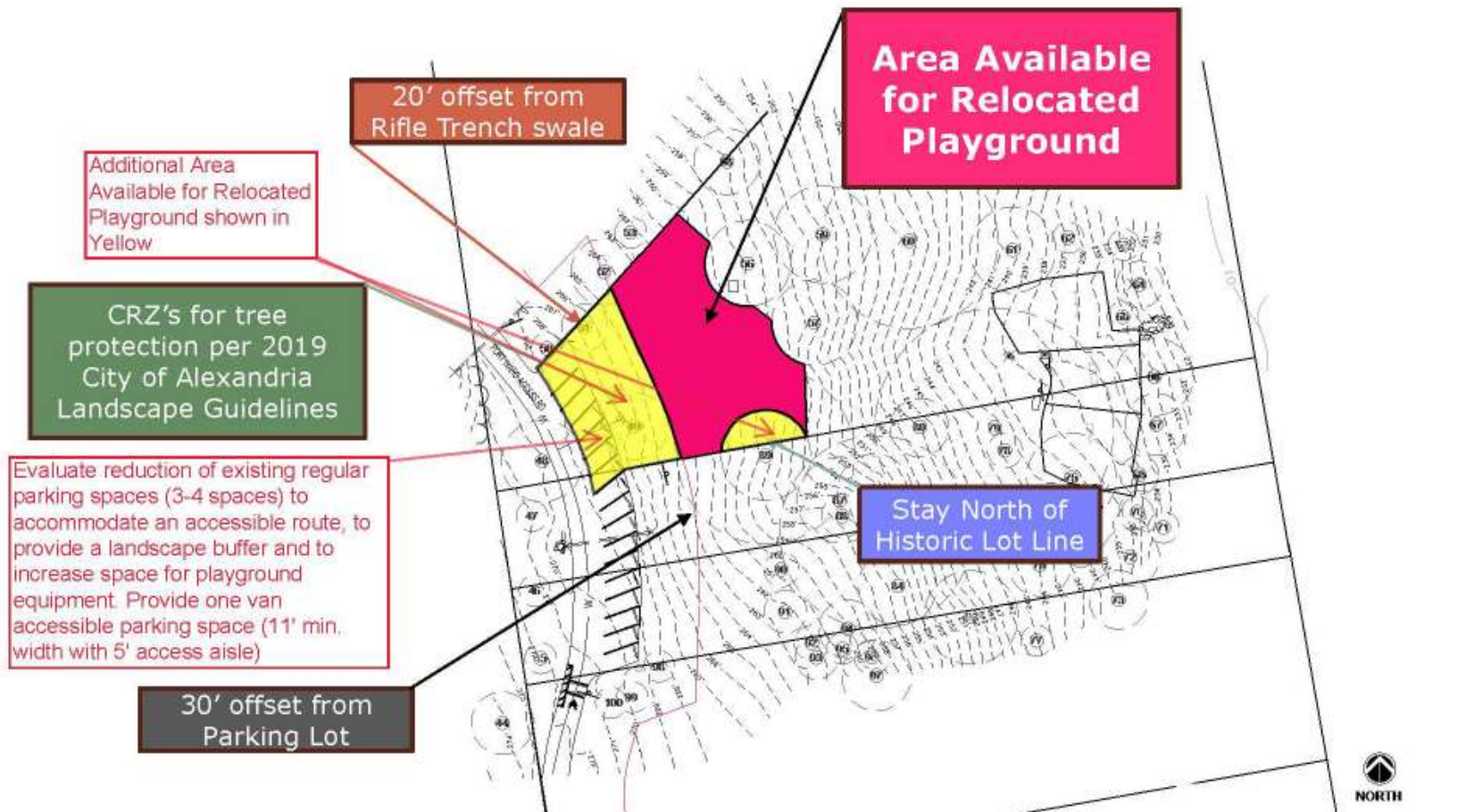
- Tree to be Removed
- Opportunities for Tree Planting



FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

2024 -- Additional Area for Relocated Playground (Shown in Yellow)

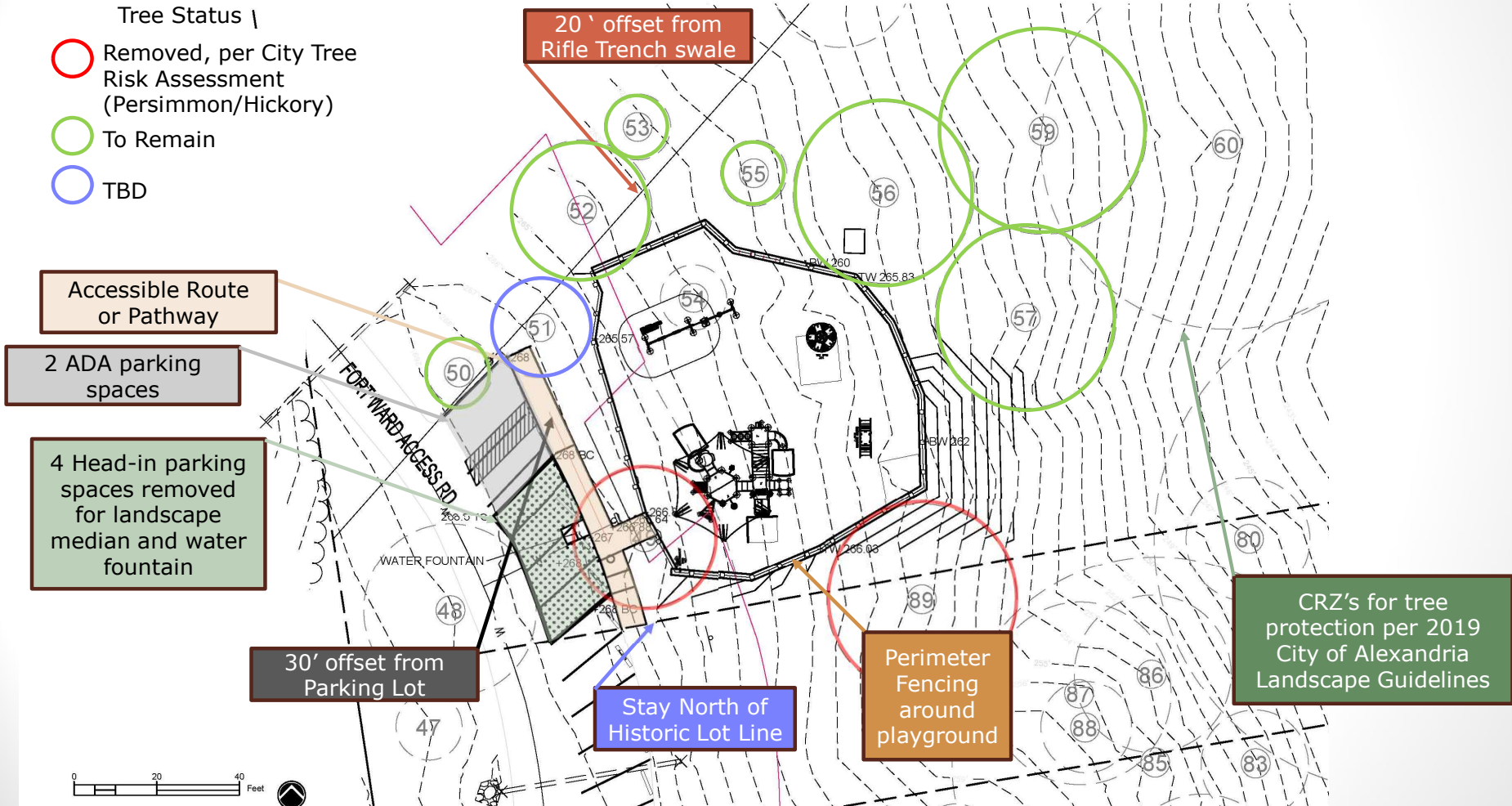




FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

Potential Maximum Playground Footprint



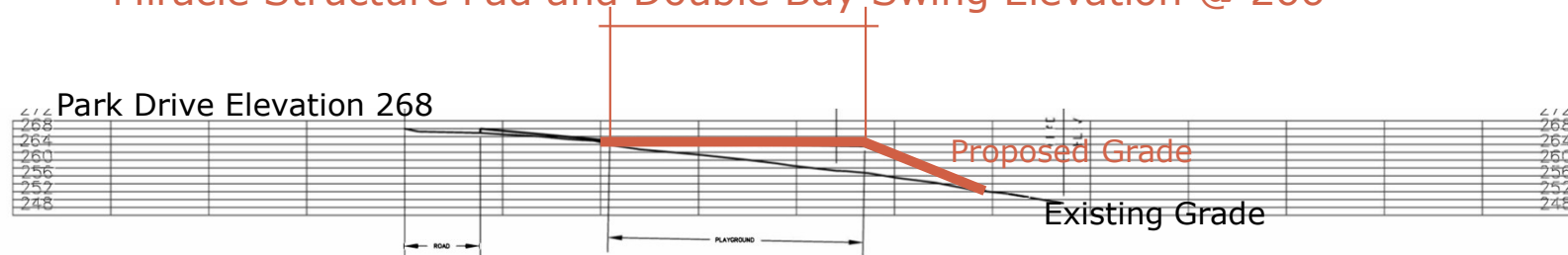


FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground Proximity to the Fort and Rifle Trench

- Incorporate vegetative screening along the Rifle Trench and around the playground.
- Limit access to the Rifle Trench from the playground:
 - Relocate the accessible route along the parking lot
 - Enclose the playground with fencing and other barriers

Miracle Structure Pad and Double Bay Swing Elevation @ 266



June 2024 Section looking north

FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground Playground Equipment within the Maximum Playground Footprint



FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS
Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground
Playground Equipment Sections



West facing view



North facing view

FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS
Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground
Stand Alone Play Equipment – Ages 2 -12 years



Miracle Buddy Rocker #6087



Photos courtesy of Miracle

Miracle Spinner Ten Spin #304



FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Playground Relocation - Site B, Near the Existing Playground

Next Steps: June – December 2024

- In-depth engineering for grading, stormwater management, structures, retaining walls; cost estimating
- Finalize site design and landscape planting design
- Finalize playground equipment selection
- Production of construction documents
- Permit approvals



FORT WARD PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS Playground Relocation

Thank you!

Questions and Discussion

[Project Webpage: https://www.alexandriava.gov/parks/fort-ward-park-and-museum-area-management-plan](https://www.alexandriava.gov/parks/fort-ward-park-and-museum-area-management-plan)

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