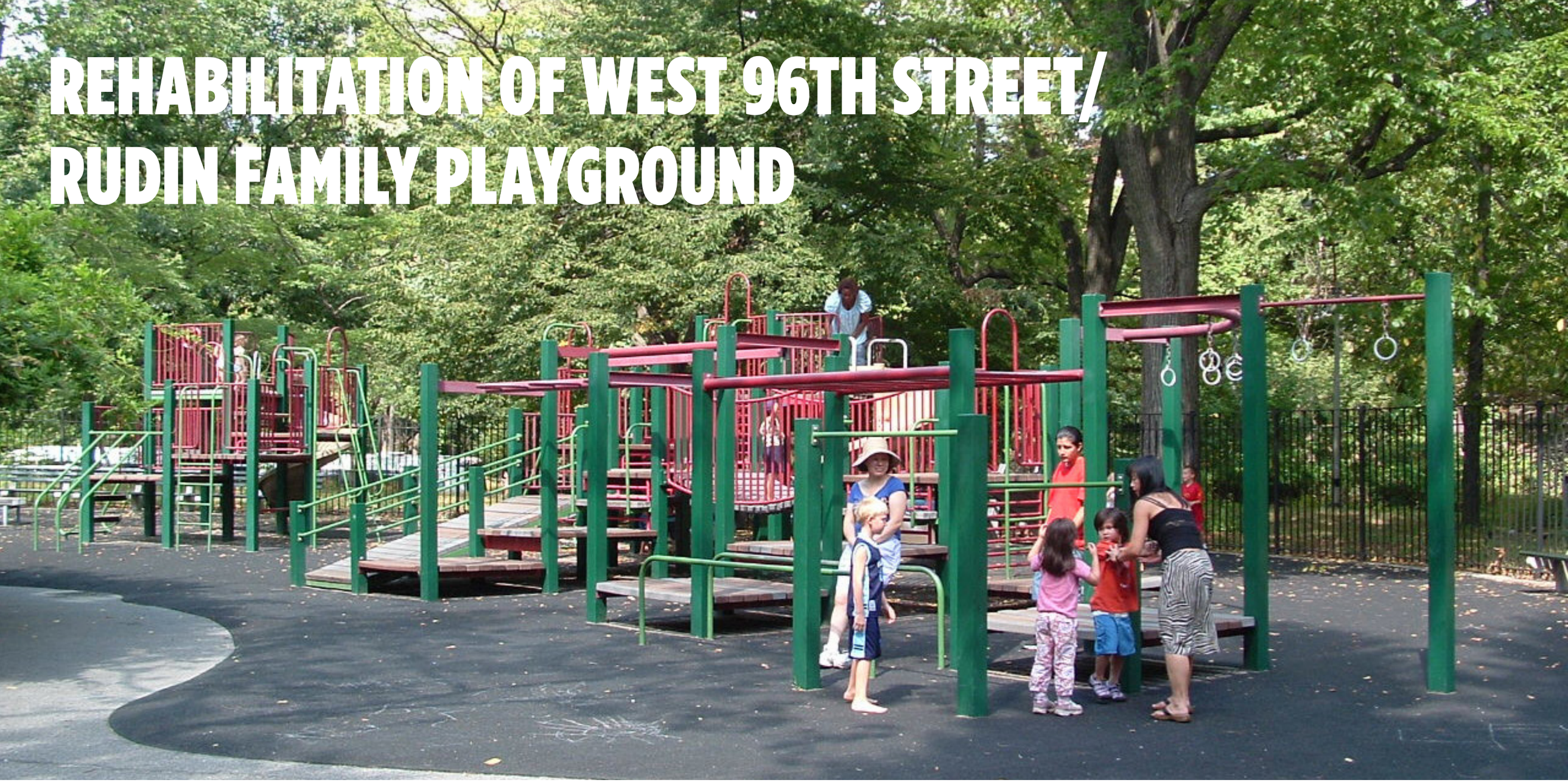
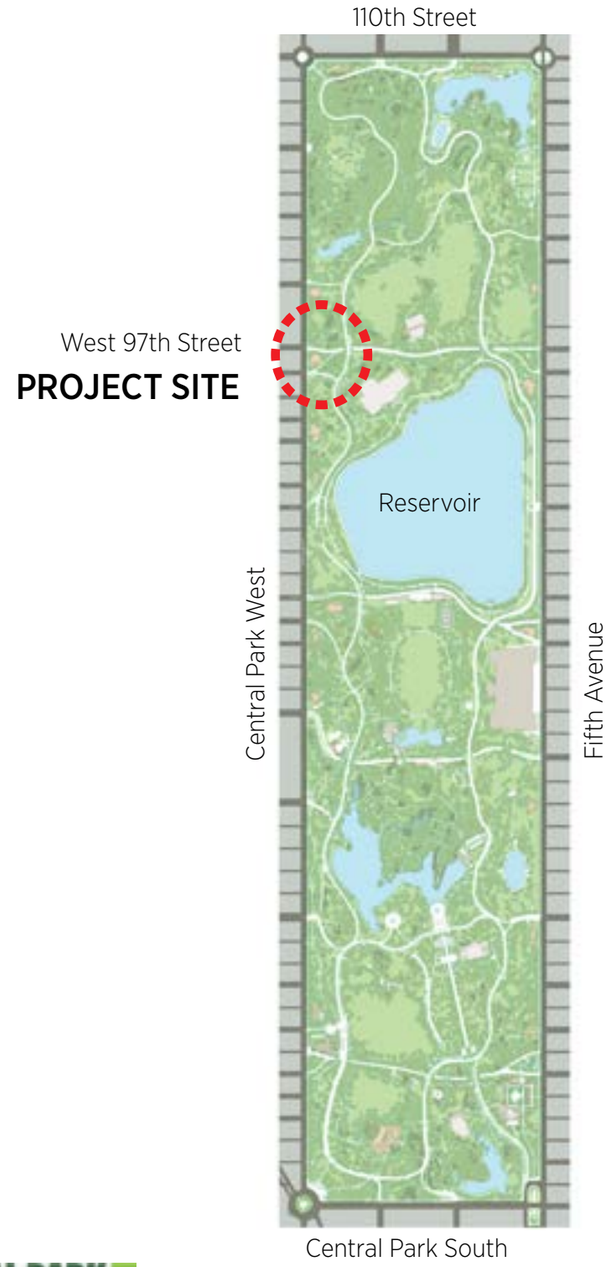
REHABILITATION OF WEST 96TH STREET/ RUDIN FAMILY PLAYGROUND



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

COMMUNITY BOARD REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 2026





NORTH

LOCATION MAP & PROJECT AREA | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND

PROJECT GOALS



Rehabilitation

Renew a beloved neighborhood playground through a comprehensive reconstruction that improves safety, durability, and functionality while respecting the site's history and role as a community play space.



Access for All

Create an inclusive and welcoming playground that provides equitable access, play opportunities, and comfort for children and caregivers of all abilities.



Environmental Stewardship

Enhance the environmental performance and resilience of the playground by preserving its mature tree canopy, extending the life of existing assets where appropriate, and upgrading utilities and features to limit water use.

HISTORY

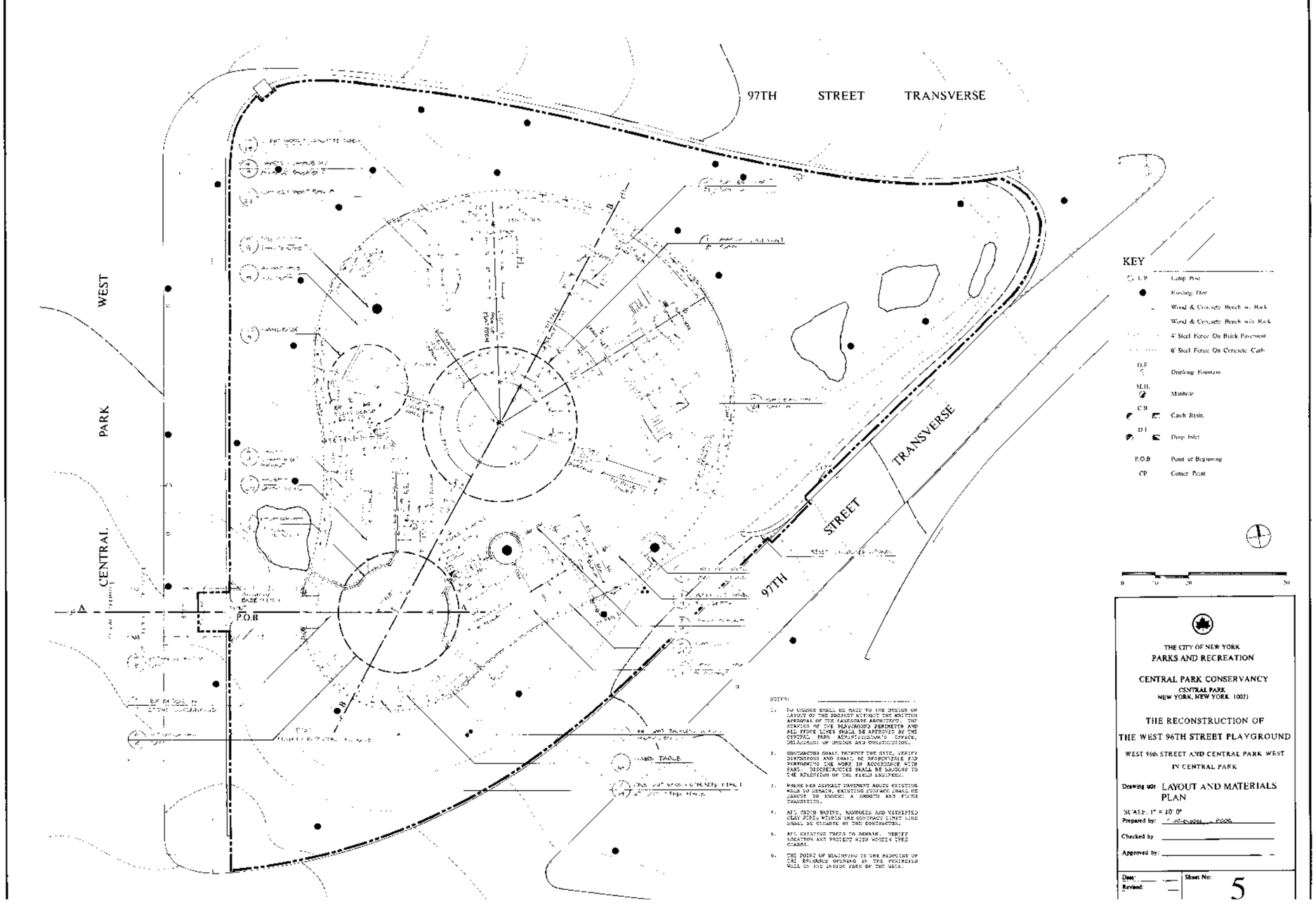


1873 BOGART MAP | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND





1941 - 97TH STREET TRANSVERSE ROAD BUILT (FACING WEST) | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND


97TH STREET TRANSVERSE
CENTRAL PARK WEST
97TH STREET
TRANSVERSE
P.O.B
KEY
L.P. Lamp Post
Existing Tree
Wood & Concrete Bench w. Back
Wood & Concrete Bench with Back
4' Steel Fence On Brick Pavement
6' Steel Fence On Concrete Curb
D.F. Drinking Fountain
M.H. Manhole
C.B. Catch Basin
D.I. Drop Inlet
P.O.B Point of Beginning
CP Center Point
NOTES:
1. NO CHANGE SHALL BE MADE TO THE DESIGN OR LAYOUT OF THE PROJECT WITHOUT THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT. THE STAKING OF THE PLAYGROUND PERIMETER AND ALL FENCE LINES SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE CENTRAL PARK ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, ORGANISM OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.
2. CONTRACTOR SHALL INSPECT THE SITE, VERIFY DIMENSIONS AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PERFORMING THE WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAME. DISCREPANCIES SHALL BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE FIELD ENGINEER.
3. WHERE NEW ASPHALT PAVEMENT ABUTS EXISTING WALK TO REMAIN, EXISTING SURFACE SHALL BE PLANED TO PROVIDE A SMOOTH AND FLUSH TRANSITION.
4. ALL DRAIN BASINS, MANHOLES AND VITRIFIED CLAY PIPE, WITHIN THE CONTRACT LIMIT LINE SHALL BE CLEANED BY THE CONTRACTOR.
5. ALL EXISTING TREES TO REMAIN. VERIFY LOCATION AND PROTECT WITH WOODEN TREE GUARDS.
6. THE POINT OF MEASURING IS THE PERIMETER OF THE ENTRANCE OPENING AT THE PERIMETER WALL ON THE INSIDE FACE OF THE WALL.
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
PARKS AND RECREATION
CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY
CENTRAL PARK
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021
THE RECONSTRUCTION OF
THE WEST 96TH STREET PLAYGROUND
WEST 96th STREET AND CENTRAL PARK WEST
IN CENTRAL PARK
Drawing title LAYOUT AND MATERIALS PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 10' 0"
Prepared by: J. JOHNSON, PGDS
Checked by
Approved by:
Date:
Revised:
Sheet No: 5



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

2010's BIRDS EYE VIEW | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND PROPOSED DESIGN



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

NORTH

2026 AERIAL VIEW - EXISTING CONDITIONS | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



LEGEND

- Asphalt/pavers
- Brick
- Bluestone
- Rubber safety surface
- Sand play area
- Rock outcrop
- 8’ Wood & concrete bench
- Empty tree pit
- Existing vegetation
- Existing tree to remain

CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

0’ 20’ 40’ 80’

NORTH

SITE - EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND

SEPTEMBER 2026 | 12



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

INACCESSIBLE ROUTE FROM CENTRAL PARK WEST | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



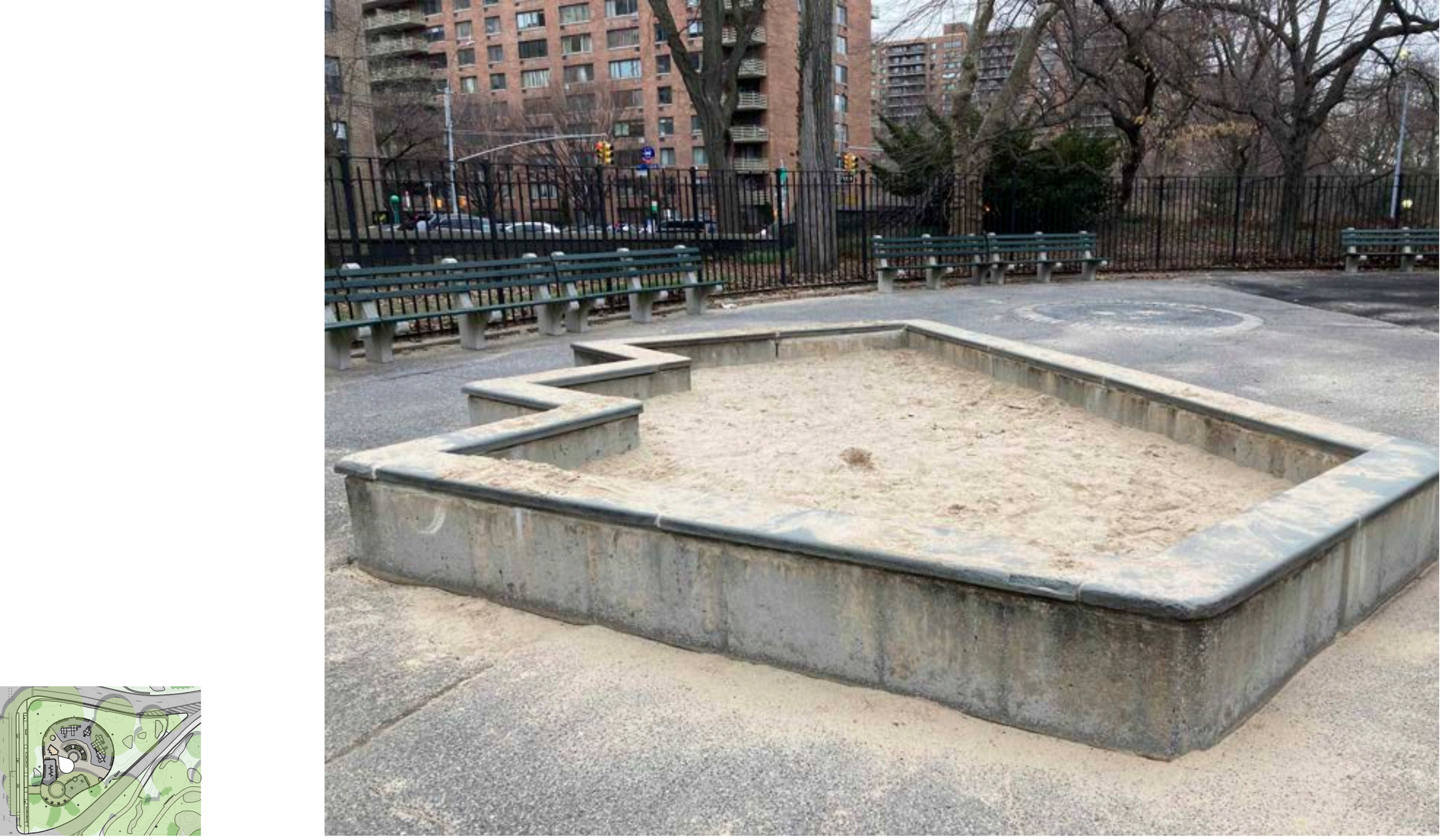
CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

EXISTING CHESS AND CHECKERS TABLES AT ENTRANCE | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



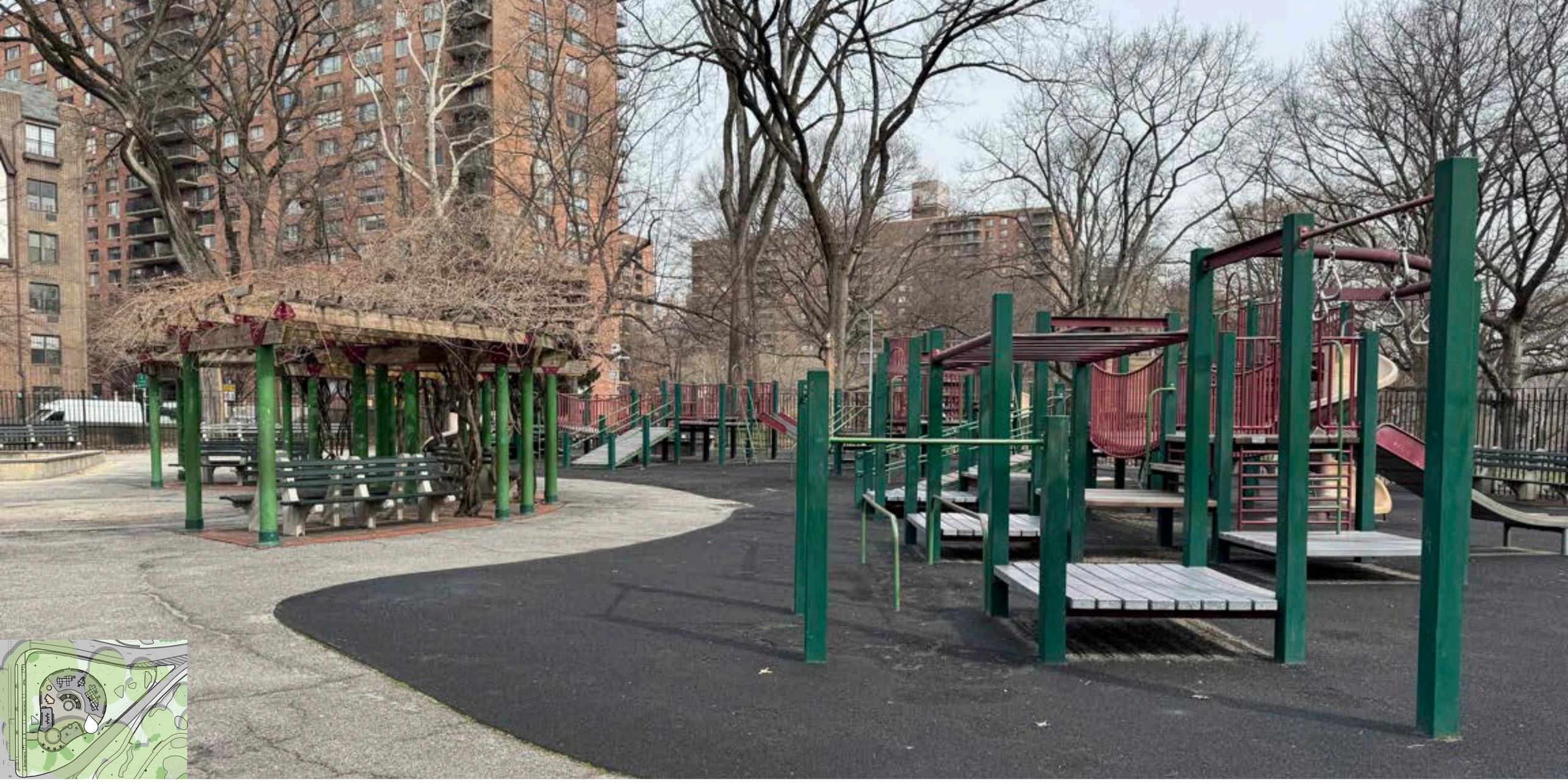
CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

EXISTING PERGOLA AND WATER FEATURE | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



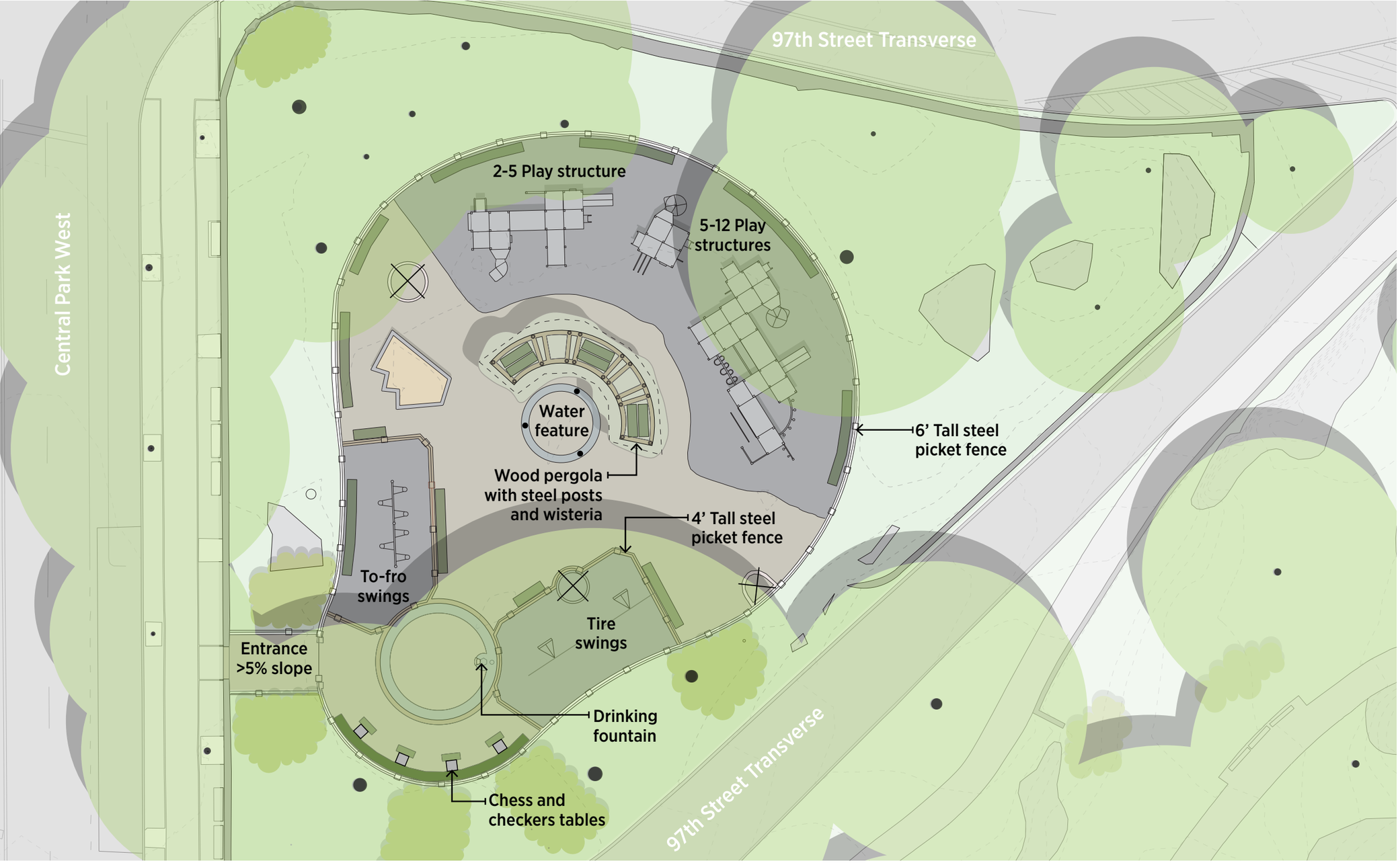
CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

EXISTING SANDBOX AND EMPTY TREE PIT | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

EXISTING PLAY STRUCTURES | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



LEGEND

- Asphalt/pavers
- Brick
- Bluestone
- Rubber safety surface
- Sand play area
- Rock outcrop
- 8' Wood & concrete bench
- Empty tree pit
- Existing vegetation
- Existing tree to remain

CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

0' 10' 20' 40'

NORTH

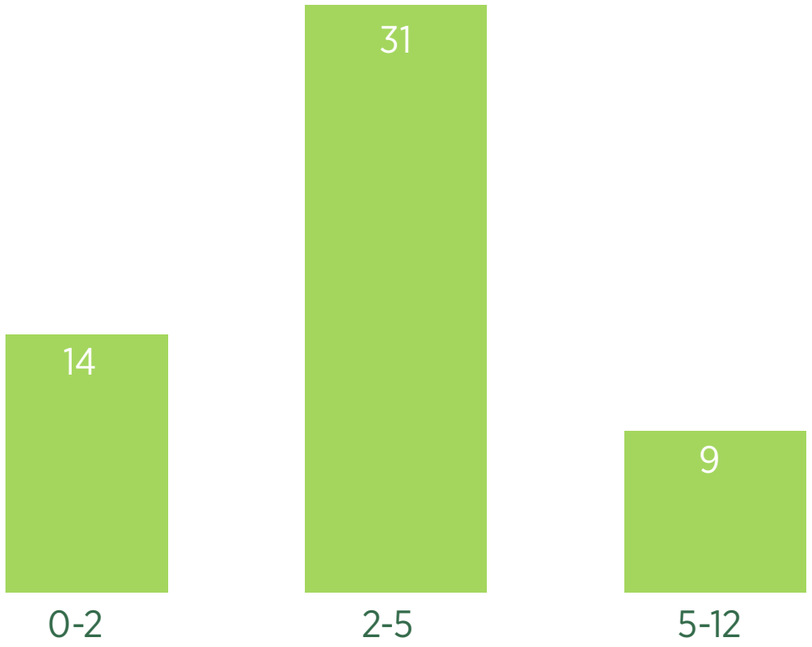
PLAYGROUND - EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

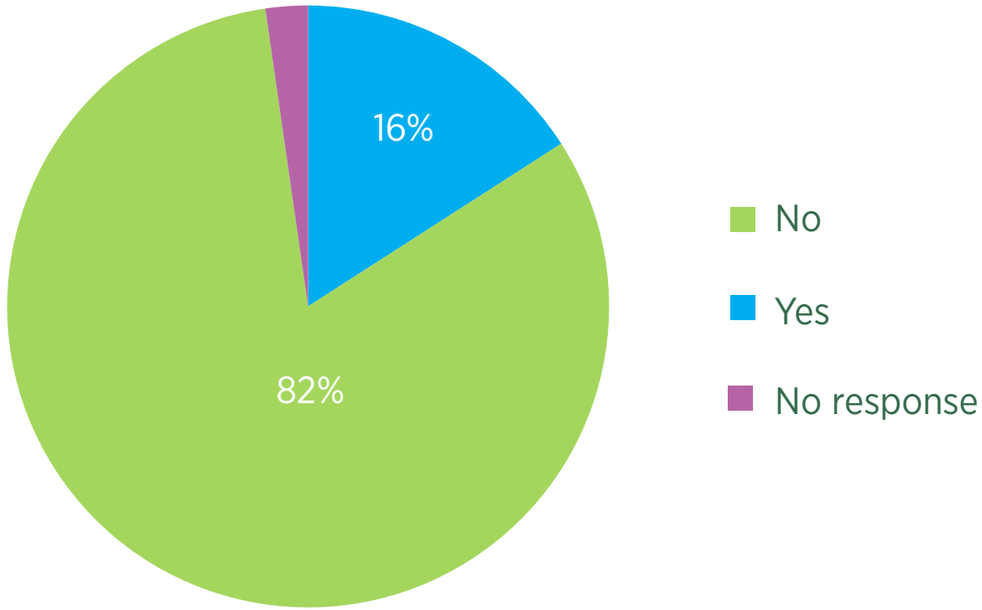
Survey Process

- CPC staff visited the site five times over a period of three weeks from October to November 2025.
- 40 in-person caregiver surveys, 4 digital responses.

Age of children (years)



Do you use the chess and checkers tables?



What are your favorite existing features?

Swings

Climbing

Water feature

Leaves

Imaginative play

Sand

Running around

Hanging bars

Overhead bars

Slides

Poles

Variety

What would you like to change?

Improve safety surface

Repair/update equipment

Improve shade

More variety

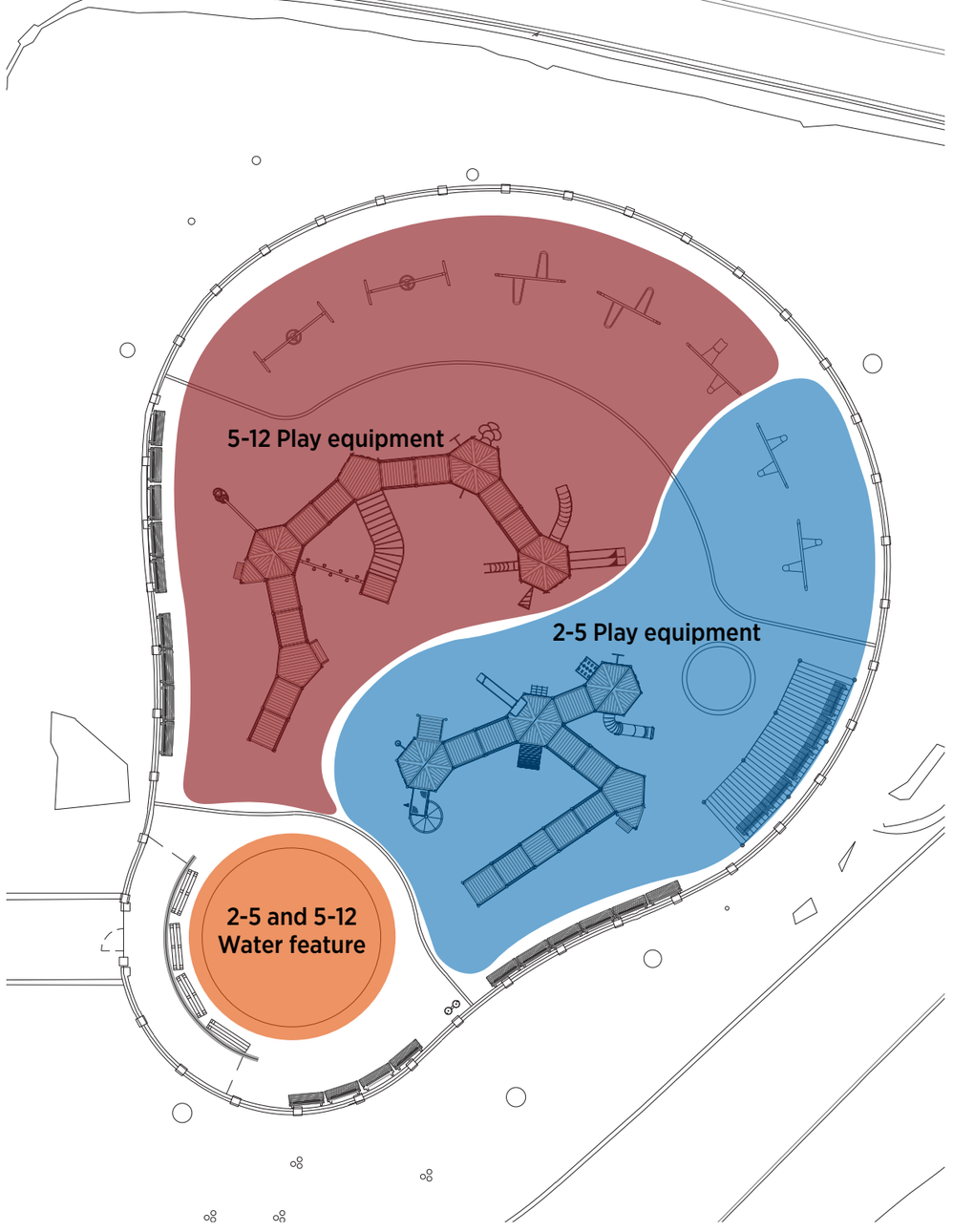
Add more greenery

Add restrooms

More swings

Improve sand

Features for older kids (other than swings)

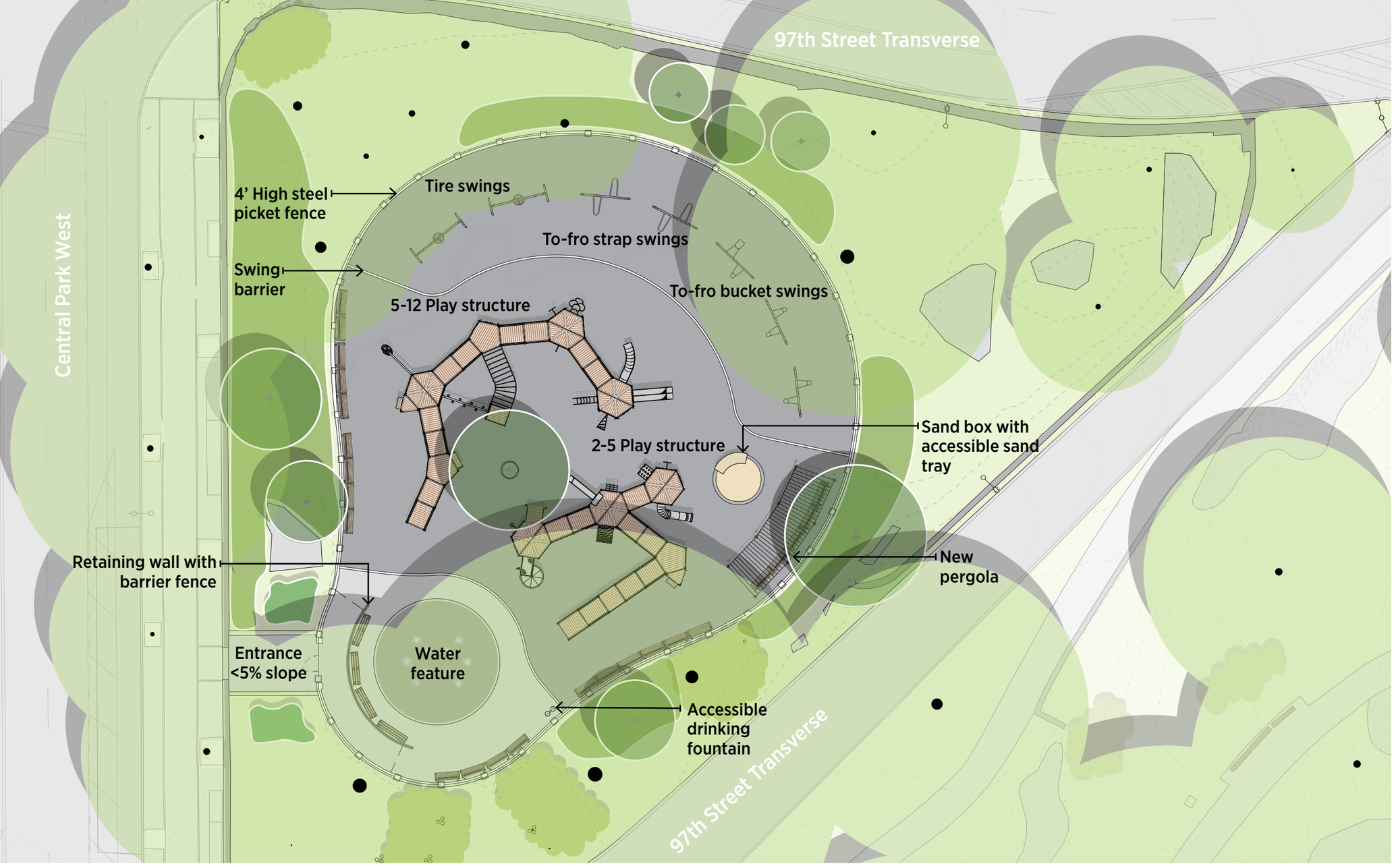


CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

0’ 10’ 20’ 40’

NORTH

PROPOSED DESIGN CONCEPT | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



LEGEND

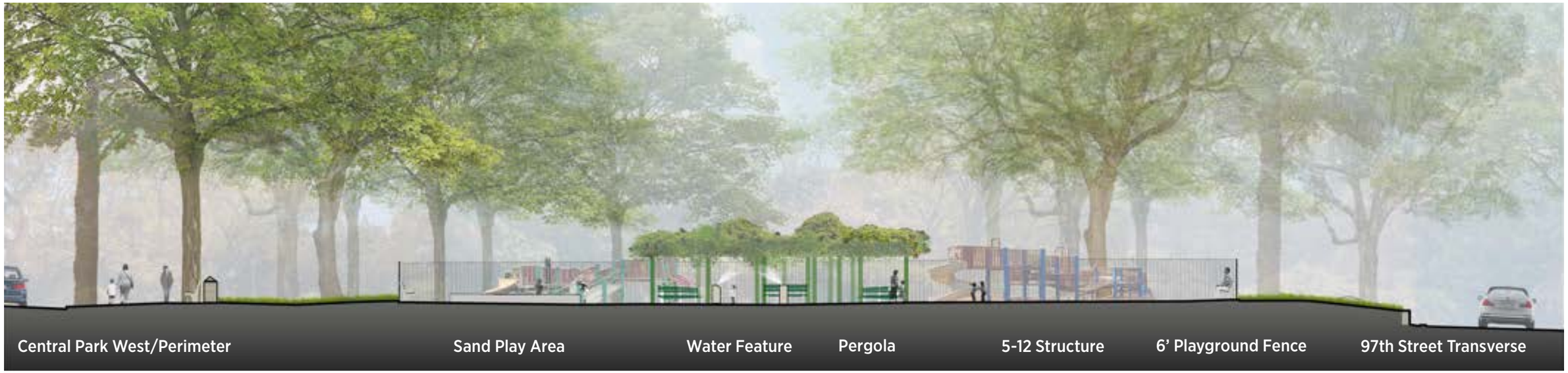
- Asphalt/pavers
- Rubber safety surface
- Sand play area
- Rock outcrop
- Steel post and platform play structure
- 8' Wood and concrete bench
- Existing vegetation
- Proposed vegetation
- Proposed shrub
- Existing tree to remain
- Proposed tree

CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

0' 10' 20' 40'

NORTH

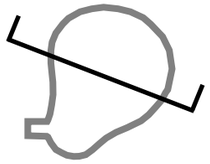
PLAYGROUND - PROPOSED PLAN | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



EXISTING SECTION ELEVATION



PROPOSED SECTION ELEVATION



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

SCALE 1/16” = 1’-0”

PLAYGROUND - SECTION ELEVATION A | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



EXISTING SECTION ELEVATION



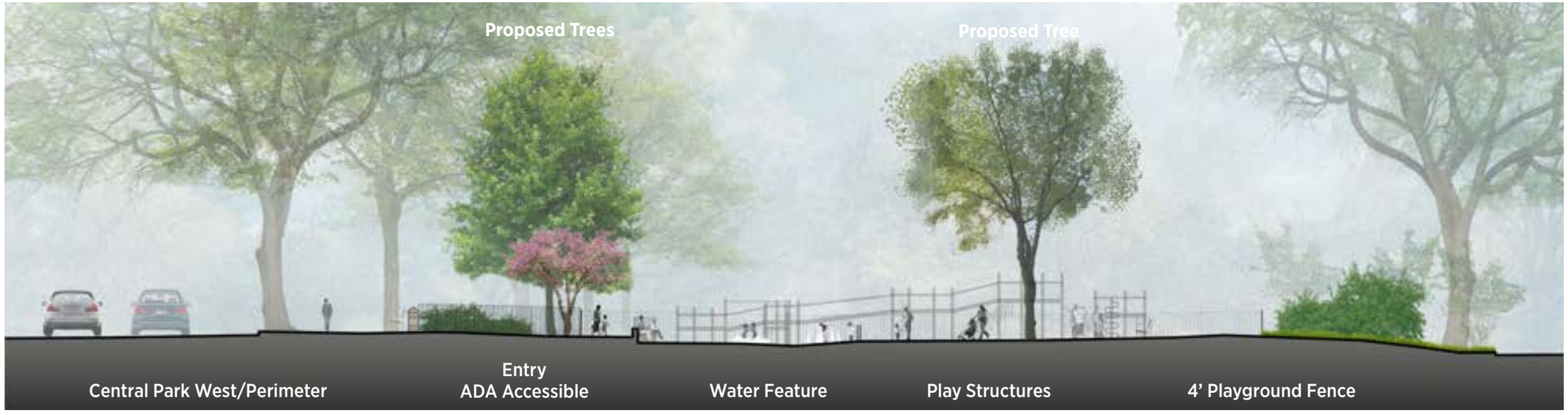
PROPOSED SECTION ELEVATION

CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

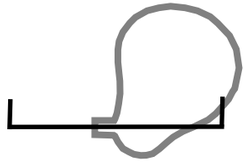
0’ 10’ 20’ 40’



EXISTING SECTION ELEVATION



PROPOSED SECTION ELEVATION



CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

SCALE 1/16” = 1’-0”

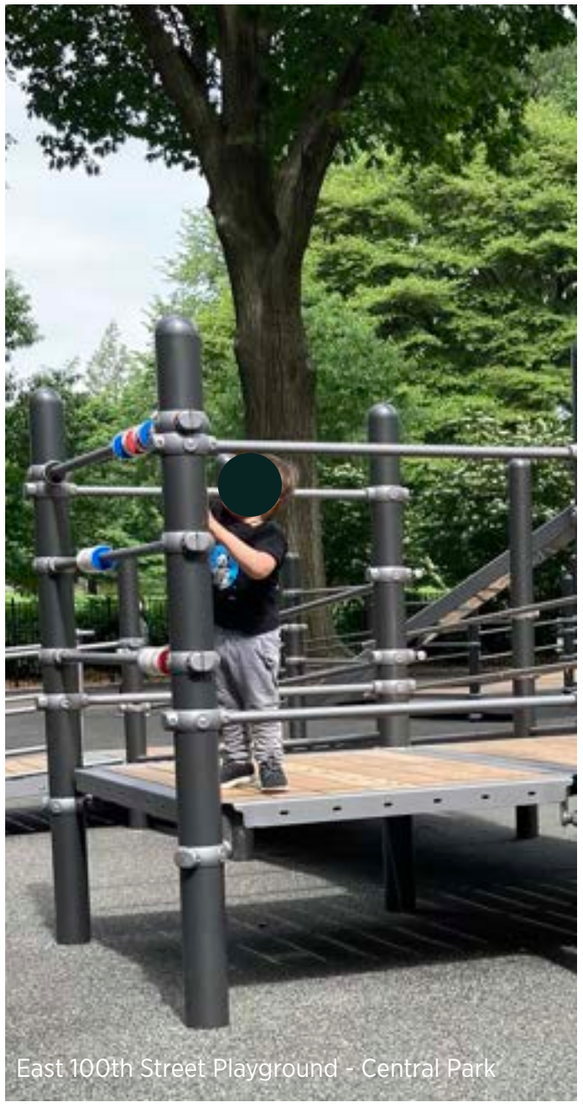


CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

PLAY STRUCTURE PRECEDENT - E 100 ST PLAYGROUND, CENTRAL PARK | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND



Adventure Playground - Central Park



East 100th Street Playground - Central Park



East 108th Street Playground - Central Park



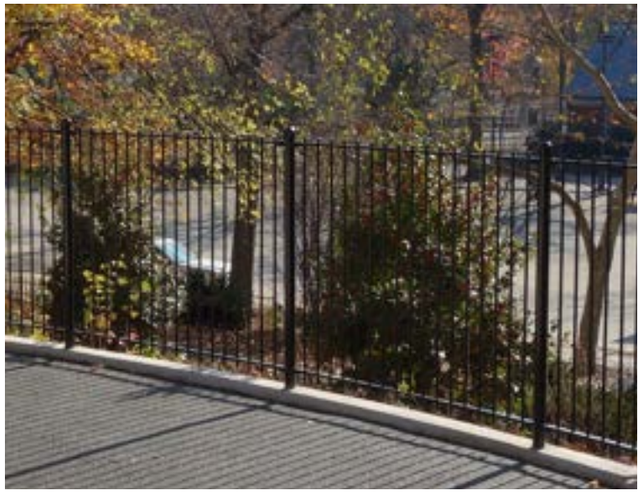
Playground gate

(Wild West Playground, Central Park)



Granite threshold at playground entry gate

(E 96th Street Playground, Central Park)



4’ Steel picket playground perimeter fence on existing 12” concrete curb

(Adventure Playground, Central Park)



Wood and concrete bench

(W 85 Playground, Central Park)



Custom cantilevered accoya bench

(E 79 Playground, Central Park)



Type ‘E’ drinking fountain with child bowl

(E 108 Playground, Central Park)



Asphalt pavement



Hexagonal asphalt block pavers



Rubber poured-in-place safety surface



Concrete and flush concrete border

TREES AND LARGE SHRUBS



Swamp White Oak
Quercus bicolor



Pin Oak
Quercus palustris



Thornless Honeylocust
Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis



Allegheny Serviceberry
Amelanchier laevis



Eastern Redbud
Cercis canadensis

SHRUBS



Virginia Sweetspire
Itea virginica 'Merlot'



Cherry Laurel
Prunus laurocerasus



Dwarf Fothergilla
Fothergilla gardenii



Oakleaf Hydrangea
Hydrangea quercifolia



Chokeberry
Aronia melanocarpa



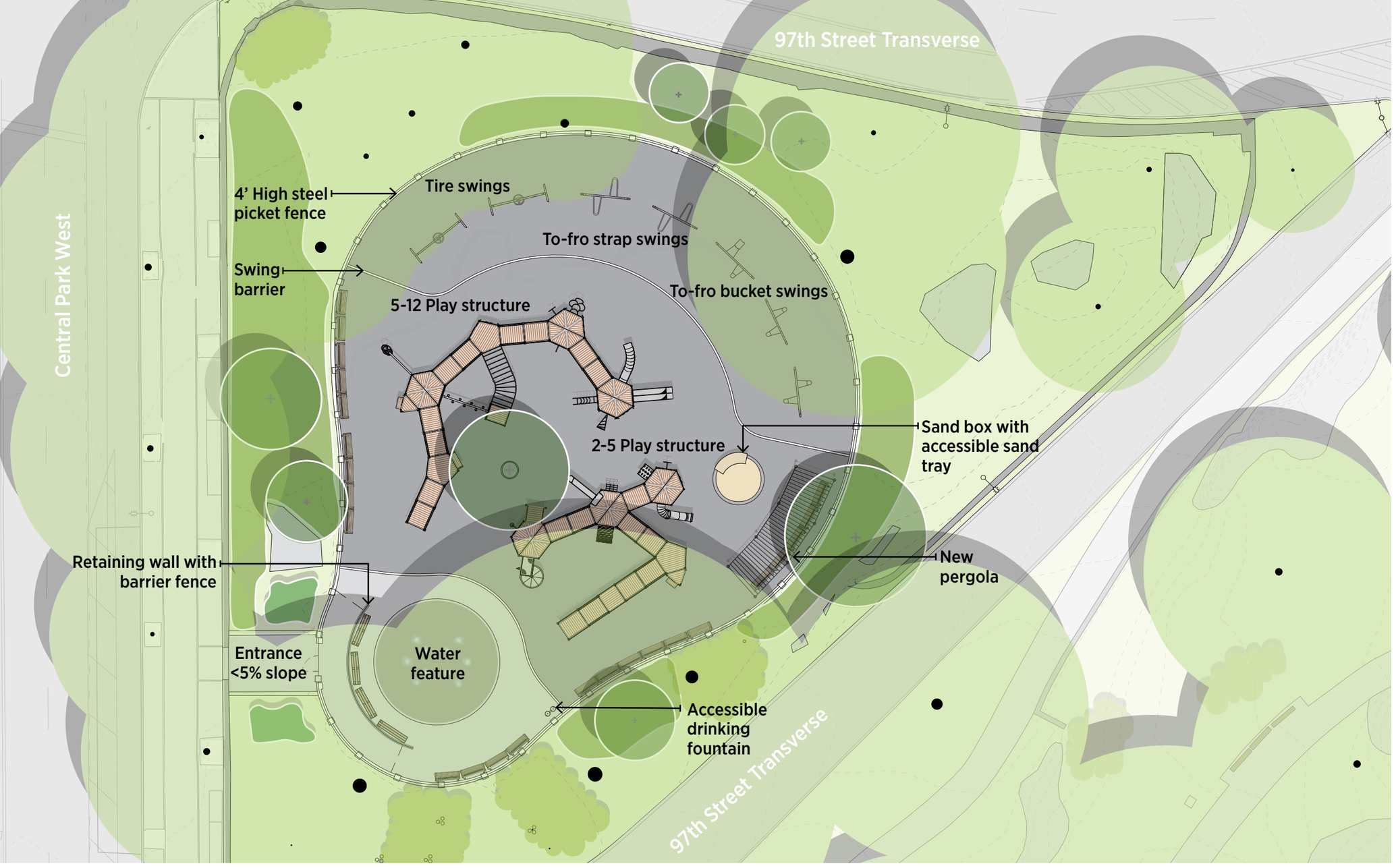
Summersweet
Clethra alnifolia



Arrowwood Viburnum
Viburnum dentatum



Blackhaw Viburnum
Viburnum prunifolium



LEGEND

- Asphalt/pavers
- Rubber safety surface
- Sand play area
- Rock outcrop
- Steel post and platform play structure
- 8' Wood and concrete bench
- Existing vegetation
- Proposed vegetation
- Proposed shrub
- Existing tree to remain
- Proposed tree

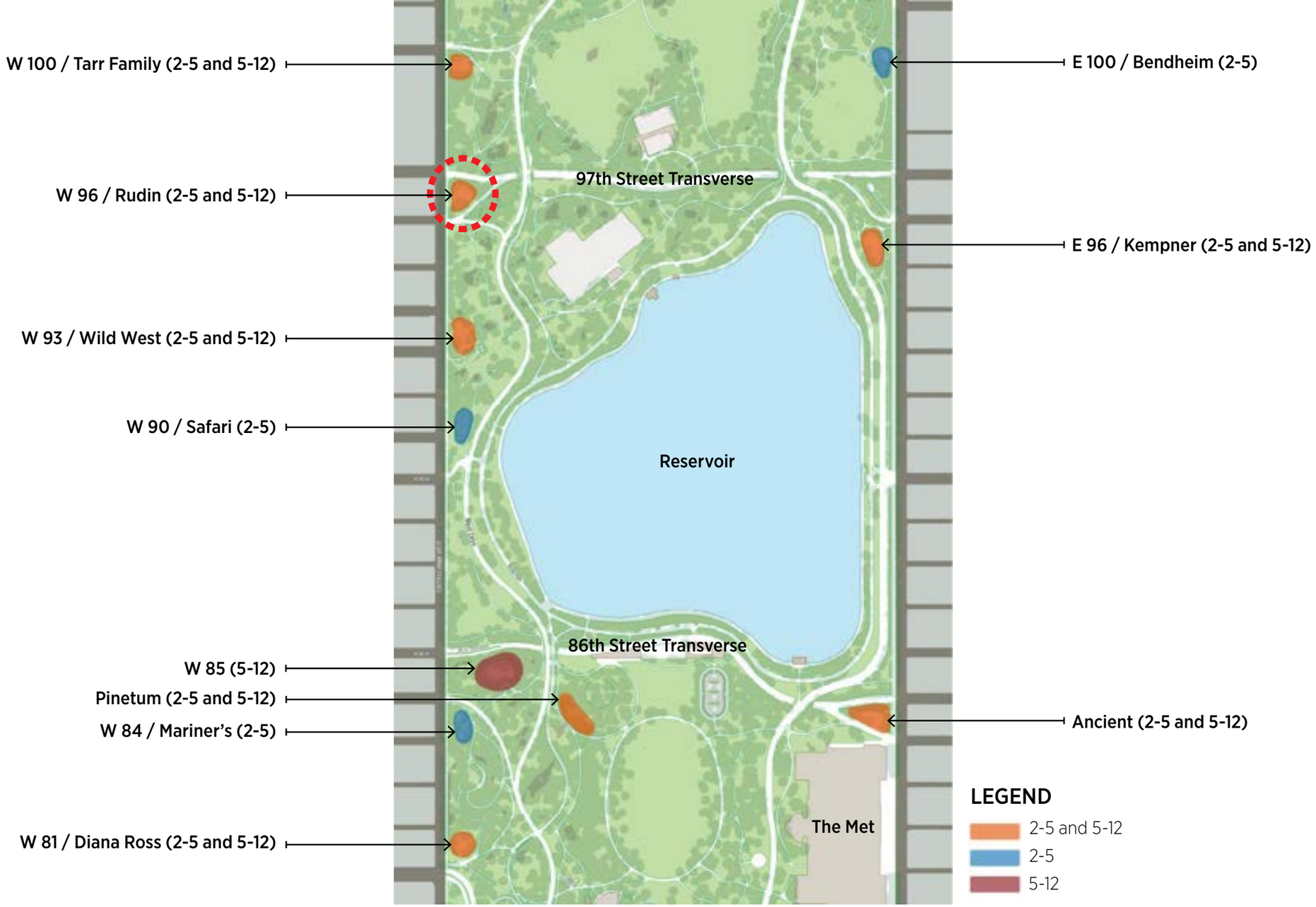
CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

0' 10' 20' 40'

NORTH

PLAYGROUND - PROPOSED PLAN | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND

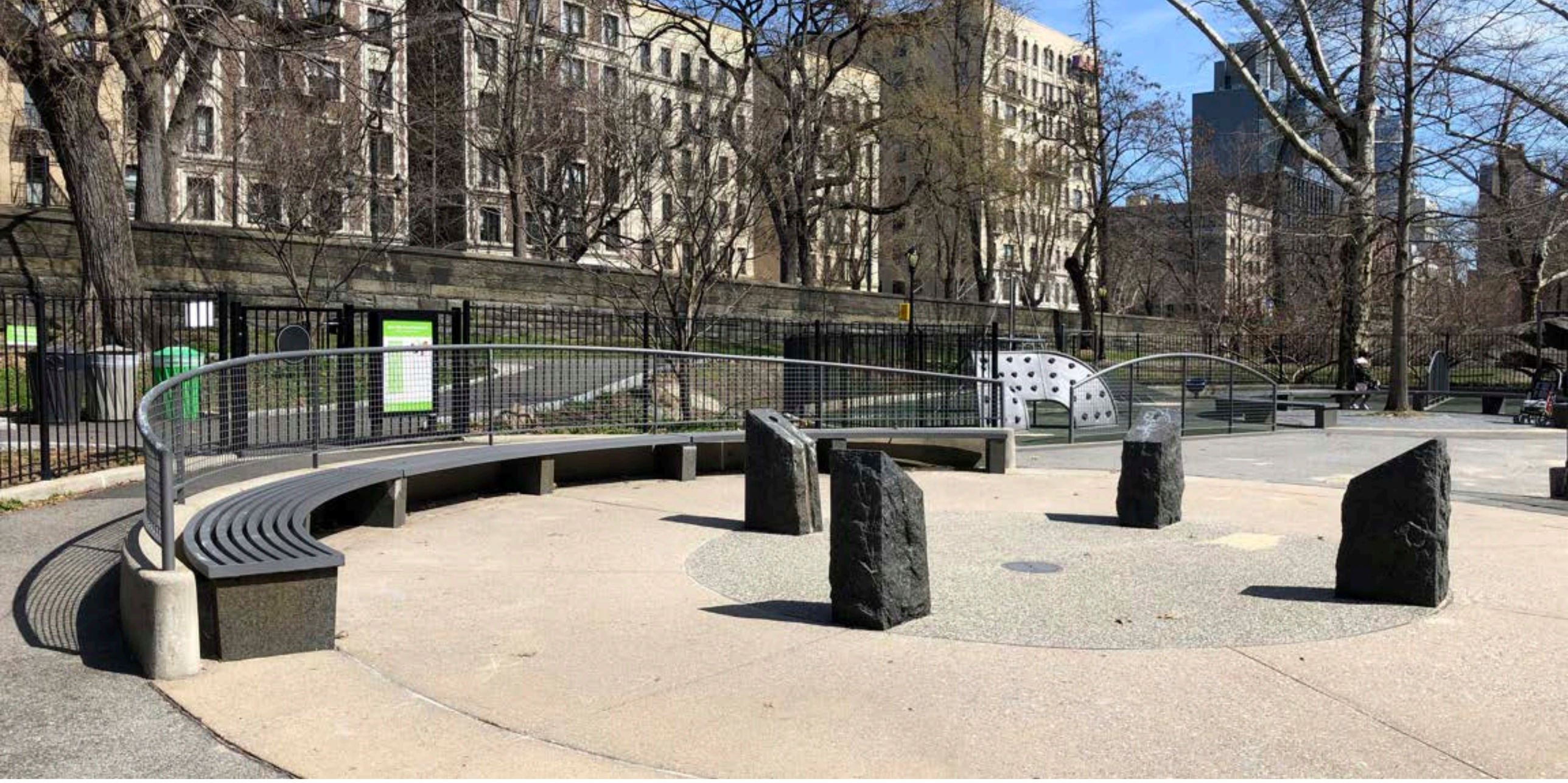
APPENDIX


W 100 / Tarr Family (2-5 and 5-12)
W 96 / Rudin (2-5 and 5-12)
W 93 / Wild West (2-5 and 5-12)
W 90 / Safari (2-5)
W 85 (5-12)
Pinetum (2-5 and 5-12)
W 84 / Mariner's (2-5)
W 81 / Diana Ross (2-5 and 5-12)
E 100 / Bendheim (2-5)
E 96 / Kempner (2-5 and 5-12)
Ancient (2-5 and 5-12)
97th Street Transverse
Reservoir
86th Street Transverse
The Met
LEGEND
2-5 and 5-12
2-5
5-12

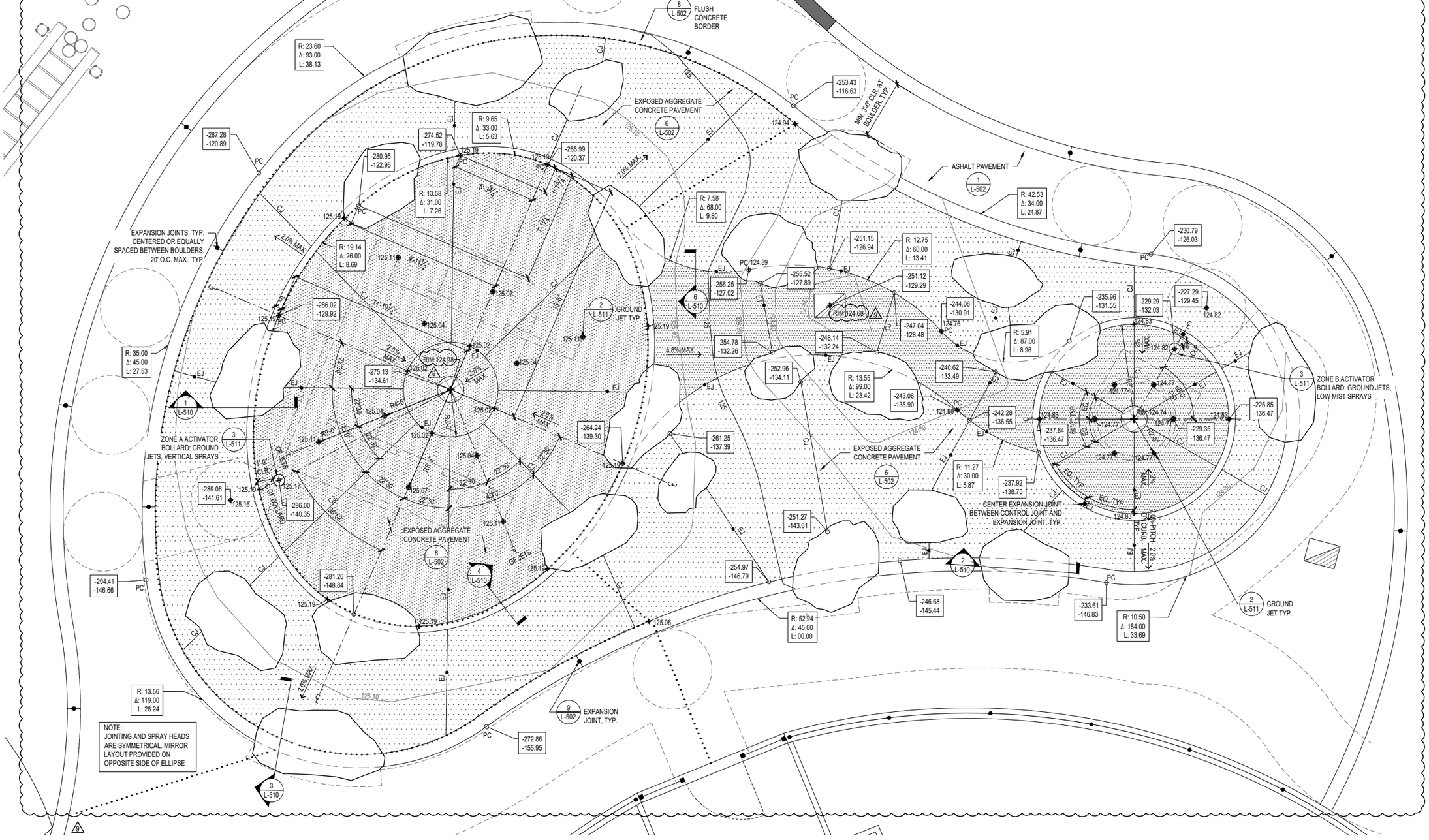


CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

INCLUSIVE SWING - E 100 STREET PLAYGROUND, CENTRAL PARK | WEST 96TH STREET/RUDIN PLAYGROUND







717 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022
TEL. 212-310-6600
www.centralparknyc.org

CONSULTANTS:

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY
717 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

CIVIL, STRUCTURAL & GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
McLAREN ENGINEERING GROUP
131 WEST 35TH STREET
4TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001

MEP ENGINEERING
LiRo ENGINEERS, INC.
3 AERIAL WAY
SYOSSET, NEW YORK 11791

CONSULTING ARCHAEOLOGIST
HUNTER RESEARCH
120 WEST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08608

CONSULTING ARBORIST
PAUL COWIE AND ASSOCIATES
11 N. BEVERWYCK ROAD
LAKE HIAWATHA, NEW JERSEY 07034

CONTRACT SET
ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION

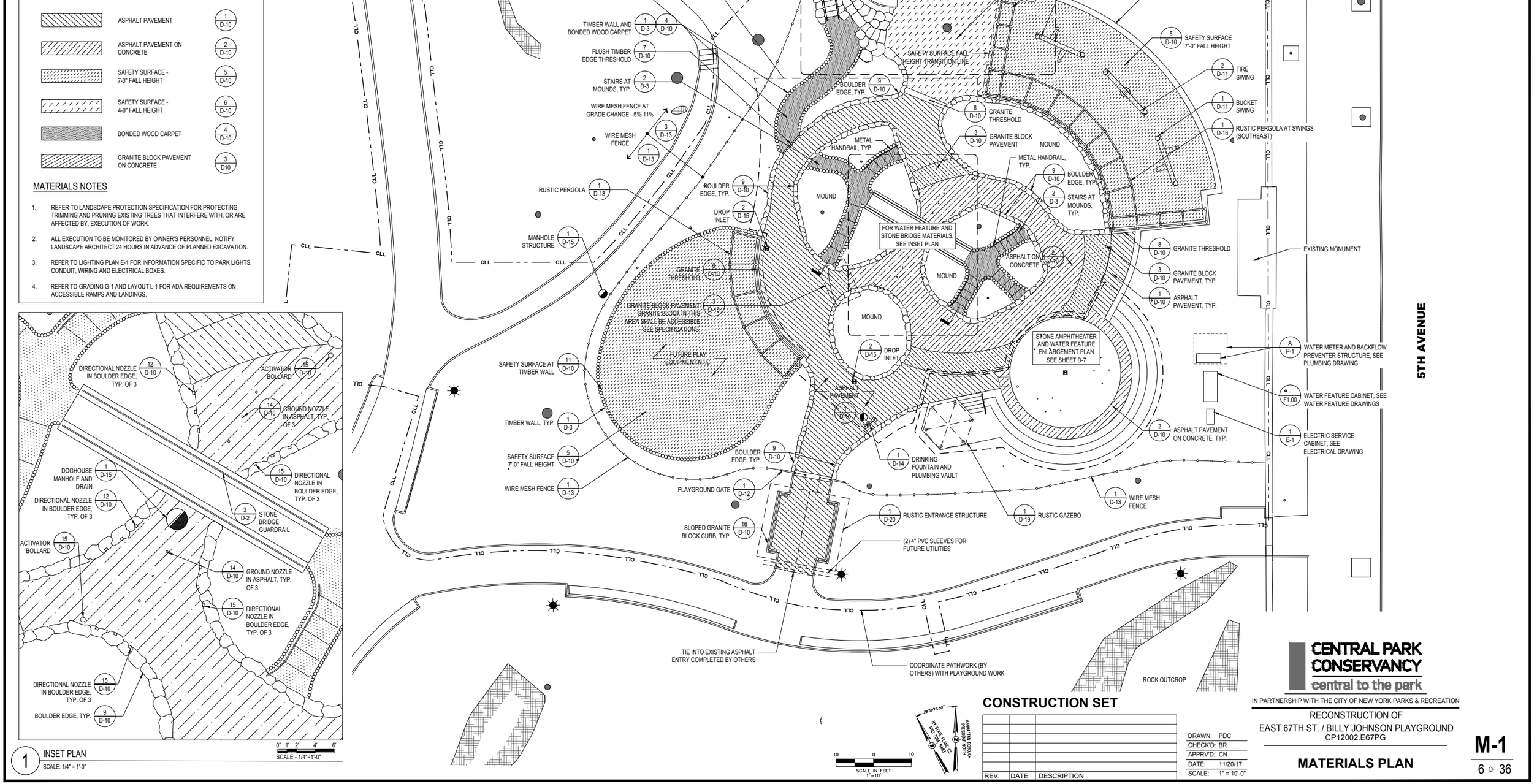
NO.	DATE	REVISION
1	12/19/2025	REVISION 9

DRAFTED BY: LB, GG
CHECKED BY: CT, BR, NK
CONTRACT NO.: CP.19005.W85PG
DATE: 02/12/2025

PROJECT TITLE:
RECONSTRUCTION OF WEST 85TH STREET PLAYGROUND

ADDRESS: BLOCK: 0000 LOT: 0000

RESERVED FOR PLAN EXAMINER'S STAMPS



1 INSET PLAN

CONSTRUCTION SET

REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION

DRAWN: PDC
CHECK'D: BR
APPRV'D: CN
DATE: 11/20/17
SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"

CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY
central to the park

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF NEW YORK PARKS & RECREATION

RECONSTRUCTION OF
EAST 67TH ST. / BILLY JOHNSON PLAYGROUND
CP12002.E67PG

MATERIALS PLAN

M-1

6 OF 36