

# SKATE PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND PUMP TRACK PROJECT

PHASE 2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

APRIL 15 - JUNE 5, 2020



CITY OF BOULDER  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
JUNE 15, 2020



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## INTRODUCTION

This is a summary of the second round of community engagement for the Skatepark Improvements and Pump Track Project at Scott Carpenter Skate Park (aka Boulder Skate Park), Valmont City Park, and the newly added Howard Heuston Park. Understanding that existing skate and bike facilities in Boulder don't meet the recent trends and demands for skaters and riders within the community, staff initiated this project in Fall 2019 with a goal to create flexible and multi-use features that accommodate a variety of skill levels and abilities while also ensuring innovative design ideas that provide features that aren't available in nearby parks.

Through the first phase of engagement, staff shared a foundation of information and presented options with the intention of involving the community early in the decision-making and design process of the new and renovated amenities at Scott Carpenter Park and Valmont City Park. Several stakeholder groups, a community meeting and digital outreach targeted to younger community members demonstrate the extensive outreach effort involved in the first round of engagement. The first phase of engagement occurred from December 5-19, 2019.

Following the first round of engagement, staff and the consultant teams worked on creating designs that would suit the needs and preferences of the community based on the feedback received. Unfortunately, just as the team was preparing to announce the next series of public meetings in Spring 2020, the global coronavirus pandemic resulted in community lockdowns that forbade gatherings outside of a household, and the traditional community meetings could not occur.

Because of this, staff worked to build the project website into one that could mimic what we usually expect at a community meeting: written, verbal, and graphic explanations of the designs; the exchange of opinion, questions and answers; and an opportunity to engage with staff or consultants one-on-one or in groups. The ultimate goal was to be able to fully engage those that had previously participated while still recruiting new participants that may not have been aware of the project before, allowing us to continue refining the design and not hold the project back longer than necessary.

The following engagement summary provides further details regarding this process. It is our hope that this model can be further refined and used in future projects to better engage the community in a time when technology is continually improving and unpredictable public health emergencies occur without precedent.

## OUTREACH

As staff began planning for an online-only engagement period, we consulted the community partners we had relied on in the past to determine if this was the right approach. We met with several of these community partners in a group video call to ask them if they thought the community would respond well to a call for feedback during such stressful times. We were told, quite simply, that the skate and bike community was anxious to see the project's completion and would likely support anything that could prevent slowing it down.

We then proceeded to create an engagement plan based on entirely online engagement. Because we recognise that most of the community was facing a significant amount of stress, and because not every person has full access to online resources, we made modifications that would allow us to better reach everyone:

- An extended engagement period would allow more time to review the information, ask questions, and provide feedback.
- Written versions of the videos and graphics were always provided to accommodate those who were visually-impaired or hard of hearing.
- Yard signs were placed at the three parks and nearby dog parks and bike parks to notify all users of the project, and staff phone numbers were provided on the signs in case someone could not access the internet but wanted to participate. The signs were translated in Spanish on the other side, and a Spanish-speaking staff member provided her phone number for questions from Spanish-speakers.
- Because many people do not understand the birds-eye view of maps and site plans, 3D models were provided when available to help the viewer understand the context and relate it to the parks they were familiar with.
- Staff emails and phone numbers were provided on the website with an invitation to contact directly as needed.

Staff worked to keep the engagement transparent, honest, and comprehensible for children, who make up a large portion of the overall participation. Elements of humor and frankness were included to keep the tone relatable. Frequent website updates with videos from staff, written explanations of the project and designs,

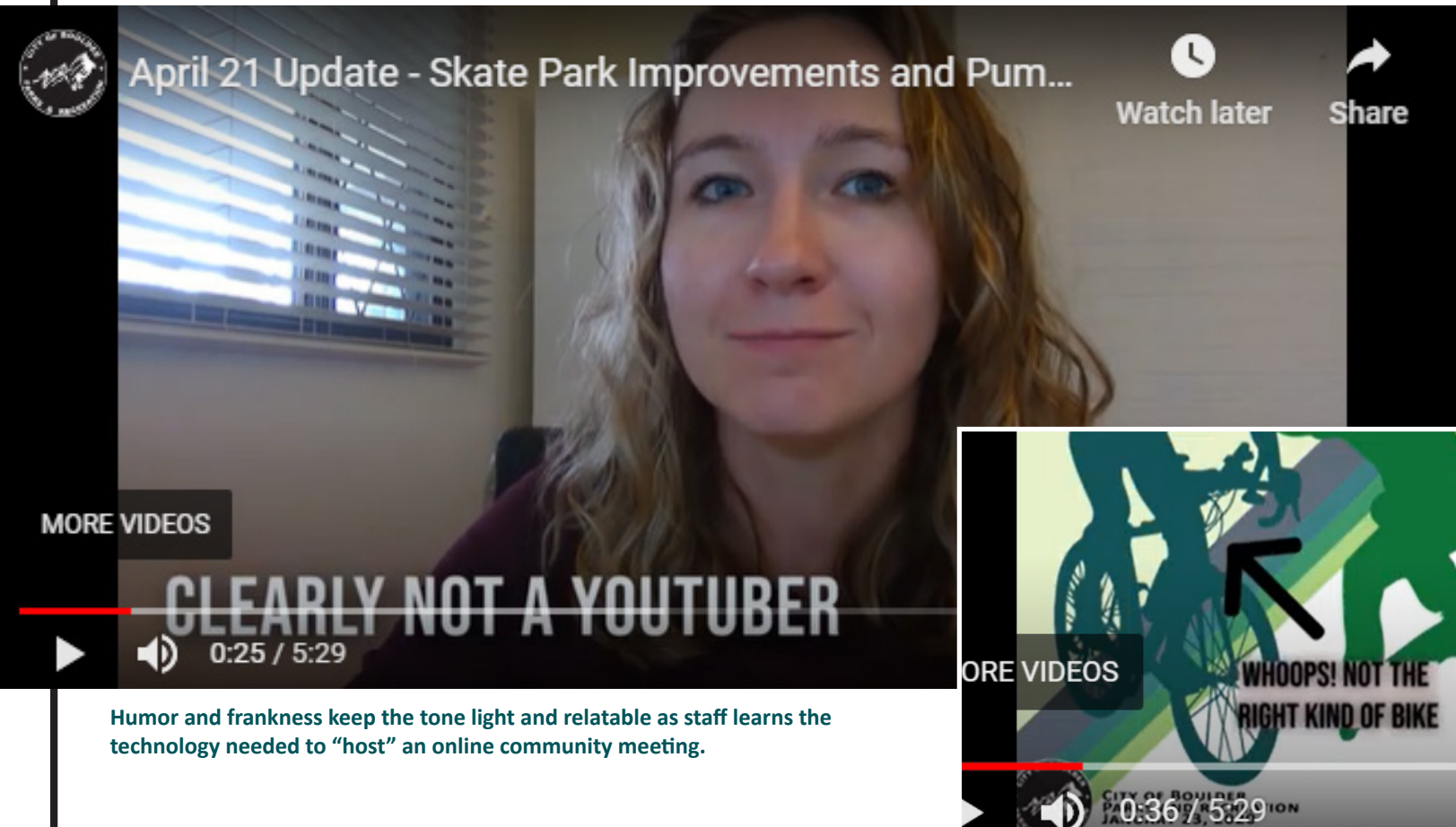
**We relied on our team of industry experts and community connections to keep the community engaged and informed during the pandemic closures.**

**Partners included:**

- Raul Pinto, Satellite Boardshop and Green Block DIY
- Square State Skate
- 303 Boards
- Avid for Adventure
- 303 Dirt
- Boulder Mountainbike Alliance
- Boulder Junior Cycling
- The Fix
- PLAY Boulder Foundation
- Cripsin Porter & Bogusky
- Null Skateboards
- Coda Skateboards
- And more

and a variety of graphics (videos, illustrations, and 3D modeling) would help keep the information from being overwhelming or unmanageable in this stressful and unpredictable situation, and the extended engagement period would allow more time to review the designs and provide feedback.

A live video meeting was proposed early into the process to present the designs and allow participants to speak and be heard. However, issues with “Zoom bombing” and the disruption of public meetings through offensive language and disturbing imagery convinced staff to cancel such a meeting to prevent the exposure of children to such material. Since that time, better security features may have come into place to prevent such occurrences again in the future.



**Humor and frankness keep the tone light and relatable as staff learns the technology needed to “host” an online community meeting.**

Forms of outreach used in this engagement period include:

- Yard signs at the park sites
- Enhanced website with frequent updates
- Videos accompanied by detailed written descriptions
- 3D modeling and graphics
- Online survey
- Open comment box on website throughout entire duration of engagement
- Staff email and cell phone numbers publicly provided on website and newsletters
- Newsletter and social media pushes at key times in the process
- Word-of-mouth and information sharing through community partners



## ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE

When the initial timeline for the engagement period was introduced, it was stated that dates might change based on feedback from the community to slow down or speed up, situations in the community requiring more sensitivity, and staff abilities and capacity. The timeline did in fact change several times due to staff involvement in emergency response and recovery, and although updates were given announcing this, no comments were made regarding any of the changes.

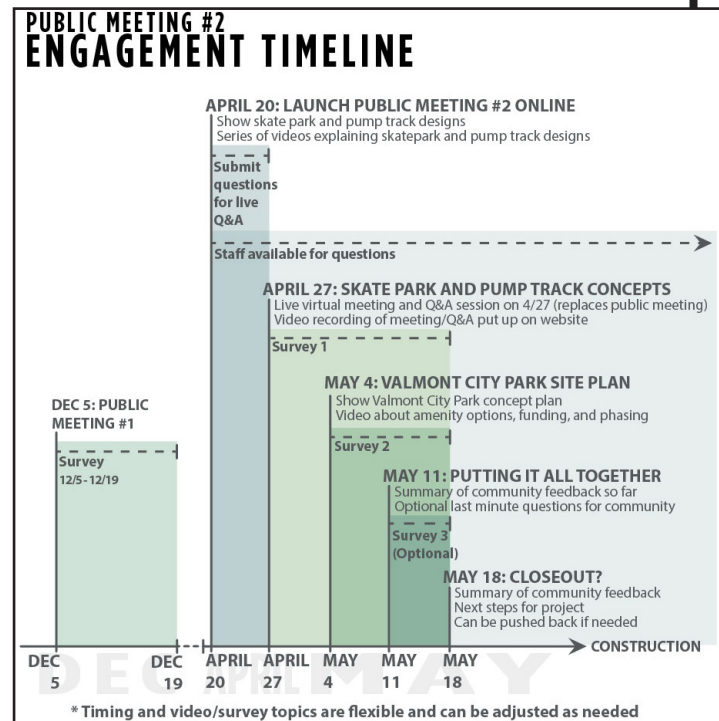
Below is a summary of the timeline and the engagement that occurred.

### April 15: Phase 2 Launch

- The website is updated with a video explanation from staff about how the closures relating to the global pandemic will affect the new meeting process, which will be exclusively online. A graphic displaying the projected timeline for information release and feedback requests is provided, and is updated when dates change.

### April 21: Skate Park and Pump Track Designs Released

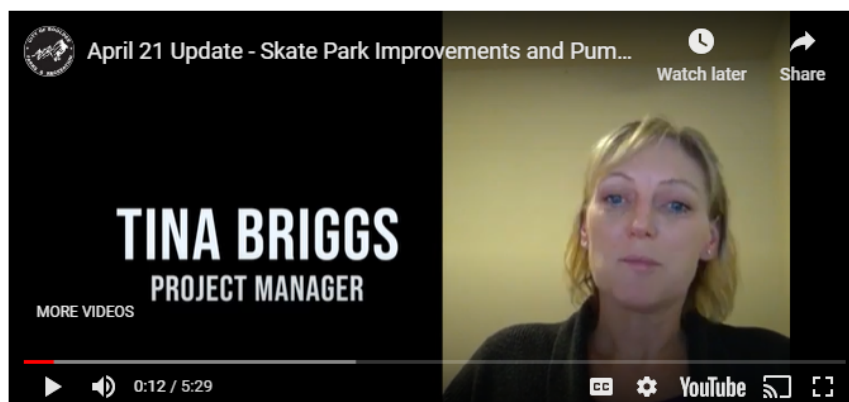
- Originally scheduled for April 27, staff decided to cancel the proposed live video Q&A meeting out of security concerns and the recent “Zoombombing” trends. Instead, the website is updated with a video explanation from staff about the skate park and pump track design details. A written explanation is provided as well, and graphics help explain limitations to the design and construction process, how the Boulder Skate Park System fits together, and then introduces the skate park and pump track designs from our consultant teams. Videos and graphics from the teams, as well as a written explanation of the details, help explain how feedback from the first engagement period guided the final designs.



*The initial timeline as presented on April 15.*

### April 21 Update: Check out the Preferred Concept Designs for the skate parks and pump track!

We know you've been waiting, so here you go! First of all, watch this to get a summary from Tina and Morgan:



We would love to receive comments and questions. Please use the comment box below to share your thoughts. We will post comments and questions at the end of each week.

#### Why Now?

- Staff understands there is a high level of interest from the community to continue this project.

- An open comment box is made available this day as well, and remains open through the entire engagement period. It invites any comments or questions, and feedback we received helped design the survey. Any questions we received in this box or through emails was answered later in a website update and newsletter notification.

### May 19: The North Valmont City Park Concept Design is Released

- Several questions received the week before were answered in a website update, and then a video explaining the need to alter the park site plan and opportunity to include needed amenities was provided. A written description and many graphics were provided, including the illustrated North Valmont City Park Concept Plan, and 3D renderings were provided as well to help visualize the suggested changes.
- It was explained that the project would have to be constructed in phases, and then an explanation for the survey exercise was given: the community was being asked to prioritize the suggested amenities, considering cost and timing at the same time. The survey was opened up from May 19 to June 5. Additional members of the community that were on email lists relating to Valmont City Park, the dog park, the disc golf course, the bike park, as well as the East Boulder Subcommunity Plan were included in the notifications to maximize the outreach and feedback
- The survey was closed at 5 p.m. on June 5.

Send Us Your Thoughts

**QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? SEND THEM HERE!**

What questions or comments do you have about the skate park and pump track designs?

Do you want us to send you email updates for this project?

☐ Yes ☐ No

**SUBMIT FORM**

*This comment box was left open throughout the entire process.*

#### How can I get more involved in the design process?

**Answer:** Please [sign up for email updates!](#) We will send out updates or opportunities for providing input through this website and the email notifications.

#### North Valmont City Park Concept Design



This video discusses the concept design for north Valmont City Park. Because the addition of the skate park and paved pump track will require us to move some things around, we are using this opportunity to make improvements and additions in the park. The Concept Design includes **everything** we want to complete in the park, but we won't be able to do it all at once.

This design includes:

- the new skate park and paved pump track designs,
- a paved and redesigned parking lot, with a possible additional entrance,
- a new central gathering area with stone seating and splash pads (water jets),



#### Phase 1 Engagement Summary



phase the improvements.

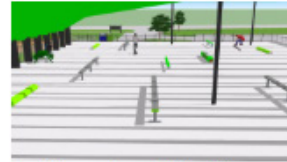
### North Valmont City Park FULL CONCEPT PLAN



The park entrance.



The Green Block in the pavilion.



Another view of the Green Block.



Electric vehicle parking, the event lawn, and skate park.



The food truck area and event lawn.



The pump track and the rest of the park.



*The illustrated site plan and 3D images were provided in large, high-resolution versions on the website, as well as explained in more detail in the video.*

## COMMON THEMES

Between the open comment box, emailed comments, survey responses, social media comments, and phone calls, things we heard the most were:

- Questions regarding construction timelines.
- The skate park and pump track designs are well liked: over 50% agree that both designs fit the needs and wants of the community, and almost 20% said they “somewhat agree”.
- There is desire for the new skate park and pump track at Valmont to be bigger.
- There is concern about the Green Block space being decreased, and the remaining space in the pavilion being underutilized once built.
- The most highly prioritized option at Valmont City Park was drinking fountains, followed by permanent restrooms, more shade, and park-wide lighting.
- Play areas (such as the splash pads, nature play, and a play structure) are mentioned as being “out of place” or intrusive to the “adventure park” feel that currently exists.

# COMMUNITY SURVEY


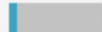

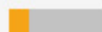

## 107 Total Survey Responses (Electronic)

The survey was available online from May 19 to June 5. There were 88 total valid, complete responses (one survey was taken by the consultant to test and was disqualified later) and 19 incomplete responses. The survey for Engagement Period 1 received 62 responses.

## SKATE PARK AND PUMP TRACK DESIGN QUESTIONS

**1. SKATE PARK:** As shown in our April 21 update ([click here for the project website](#)), we've used what we heard from you at the first meeting in December to develop plans for three new skate areas in town at Scott Carpenter Skate Park, Howard Heuston Park, and Valmont City Park. Because each park has limitations in where and what we can build, we plan to provide different sizes and types of amenities at each park so that they are unique and don't duplicate each other: Valmont being the premier skate area with a new skate area to complement the Green Block, the new Howard Heuston park providing different amenities at a right size for the park, and Scott Carpenter adding a beginner area to the existing skatepark.

**How much do you agree with this statement?: The three parks are well designed based on the public input and represent the goals of the community by achieving the right size and features for the park they are in.**

Value		Percent	Responses
Disagree		6.5%	7
Somewhat disagree		7.5%	8
Neutral		14.0%	15
Somewhat agree		19.6%	21
Agree		52.3%	56
Totals: 107			

## 2. Please let us know any other thoughts you have about the skate park designs.

- I think there needs to be more of an emphasis on plaza type features and less of the
- I really think that the park needs more space. It should be bigger, maybe not building one of the parks and using the funds to hire a better park builder like team pain on just one park would be much better. I also really think both parks HAVE to have at least one closed off bowl, a bowl that is separated from the park and is meant to have one person skating it at a time. I am very displeased and bummed that evergreen was hired for this project, they don't build skateparks they build bike parks, something that Boulder has plenty of.
- I thought that the success of Green Block is what inspired this interest in adding additional Skateboard facilities to Boulder? Why reduce and aggressively fence in what is already working? Very few people used this part of the park in the first place. Adding some picnic tables will not change this. It's a waste of money and precious space.
- The concession area is much too large. I like the restrooms being added and water fountain. The Greenblock area



is much too small. Not shown in the diagrams are the support beams that take really break up the usable space. The skatepark is turning into a moonscape like we specifically asked it not to be.

- It seems like a large waste of money given the scale and quality of other skate parks in the front range. I think that the Green Block has been an amazing addition to the community so far, and it's a shame that you plan on shrinking down the size of it. If anything, the money should be used to utilize the slab space fully for it, add shade covering to the roof to make it safer (create less shadows) and cooler, and improve the features that are present.
- Too many clamshell/cradle type features. Traditional quarter pipes and transition features are much more practical and offer much more utility in a small space.
- The area is already overflowing with mountain bikers, why would you take away available space from them. Paving the lot would be nice but public funds would probably be more useful elsewhere.
- Go to the Arvada park, take notes. 100% perfect
- Skate park looks awesome!
- Maybe a bit more street on the Scott carpenter park, but overall I am just super excited to see some new skateparks in the area!
- A small centrally located skate park would be a nice addition. I witnessed teens using the ramps at the playground north of the main library for tricks, which is not a safe location for that activity given the number of children also using the park. When I inquired why they weren't using skate parks, they said that they were hard to get to.
- I love all of your plans & I like the graduated concepts of installations over time due to costs and matching amenities to the sizes of the 3 parks. I'm not a mountain biker or skate park person & I have no idea what a pump track is but we need free outdoor facilities for everyone! Thank you.
- It's somewhat difficult to see from the project website, but it seems like the bowls at Valmont could stand to have a bigger footprint.
- A large skatepark like the City of Golden has should be a priority for Boulder. There is a huge amount of demand, and really poor facilities in Boulder. The goal should be to make the park as good if not better than what other area communities have. Please don't think small.
- Overall, I think everything looks good. However, I would like to see as little space as possible removed from the green block skate pavilion. I think the space is better used for skate obstacles rather than picnic benches (which will likely end up as skate obstacles in this context). The green block is a very unique DIY space that I allows skaters to be creative with obstacles in a safe, non-destructive space.
- The pump track could be bigger
- I love the idea of the pumptrack, and also the skate park. Everything in my opinion is how it should be. I do think the skate park should have small and big bowls, some banks (without the metal coping) and hopefully some stairs, but not huge ones. I couldn't tell everything from the website, so there might already be most of these things, but thought I should say them.
- VBP is my favorite (non-National) Park! This includes Disney World. I love being able to squeeze in a fantastic ride in only 45 mins. --I'd worry less about parking and seating; focusing on the splash pad first. If anything can be done to "green up" the frisbee course, that'd be my other wish. THANK YOU!
- Looks beautiful! Balance of skatepark, water features, parking, and other amenities. Well done!
- The bike park is currently well designed, allowing riders of all ages and abilities to be there together. Adding event space, splash pad, concessions and picnic area will draw people who are not participating in the action, and therefore contribute to overcrowding and danger to those riding. The skatepark can be improved upon but not diminished in size. Don't need more manufactured outdoor entertainment. You are taking a good thing and ruining it!
- What about expanding disc golf and the cross country MTB loop around the disc golf course to add distance?
- Would really like to see natural features around the skate park that would fit the design of Valmont. Log fence instead of metal and rocks with local plants.
- Im all for developing a pump track and or improving an existing one. Not a skate park.
- put a roof on green block
- Put a roof over green block because it already has the frame
- Both look great








- good vision
- I as an adult will use the pump track. I foresee my toddlers heavily utilizing both if available. We already frequent the one in Broomfield.
- My ideal Valmont skate park would just be simply a series of bowls in a circle. Picture a circle of linkable concrete jumps/features in an airtime based circular pump track or essentially private bowls for individuals to practice skating bowls. I would love to see the Valmont skate park as a slightly more advanced zone with an emphasis on bowls for both dirt jumper and BMX accessibility and/or independent space for multiple park attendants. The green will perfectly be able to provide the complimentary beginner and flat skate area! Regardless I love these improvements as currently planned just thought I'd throw my two cents in the hat!!!
- Larger pump track
- Great idea having bike park/skate park at Valmont together
- I'm not a skater, but agree with the general principles expressed.
- How big will it be? Like the skatepark area
- I think building the pumptrack soon would be super great idea! Probably the nearest one is in Broomfield and people love it, but it is quite far, having one in Valmont would be such a great idea to supplement all other trails in Valmont. Skate park looks great, just please, keep in mind, the beginner and intermediate areas, not only for advanced riders. Thanks for working on it!
- Love the idea of a splash pad being included for the younger kids to enjoy.
- The design looks excellent. However as with most of these parks, there's not enough shade shelters for summertime heat. I would suggest a few more shade shelters.
- Adding more skate park to Valmont risks serious overcrowding at a park that's already highly used for bike and dog park. Can those funds be directed to Scott Carpenter and Howard Heuston to make them even better for skaters?
- Love the designs; I'm all for having less parking and more amenities, these parks should first serve the local communities who largely commute by foot/bike/skateboard and encourage such travel. Thanks!
- they look great! seems like a solid addition to a great place. seems like having a proper BMX track on the south side would be ideal!
- As a member of the skateboard industry these parks will be dated and underutilized because of the nature of the limited design. This is not what the youth of boulder who do not have cars and will use this for years want or need. They have expressed this to us multiple times.
- Please make a Velo solution pump track like Broomfield
- I don't have any opinion about the skate parks
- I think the initial plan and location as well as original spend of funds to each area is well thought out. However the delays and Addison to of many unnecessary things such as splash pads picnic tables and food trucks at valmont are derailing and muddying the organic growth of a sk8 scene at valmont s green block as well as limiting its sk8 space.
- Green block is what boulder has been missing. The park has been extremely successfully and kids all over the boulder county area come to skate it. It is one of the most popular skatepark around due to its unique structure. The fact that the green block will be shrinking is very upsetting. Nobody wants to go have a relaxing lunch with their family when there is a skatepark next to them. The two activities do not get along. Please leave the space as it is and don't ruin it with features such as food truck areas and splash pads. Which will barely be used. If you visit green block on any day of the week you will see 40 people visiting the park. By shrinking the space, You are just pushing kids back into the streets where they are not wanted. PLEASE LEAVE GREEN BLOCK ALONE.
- Please keep green block as is, build more street features at Scott carpenter as well
- Dont shrink it
- 1. Shading (trees, awnings) should be placed in such a way as to protect from the heat and blinding sun (eg. southern/western direction)...and from the wind (western aspect) 2. Sprinklers must be placed carefully as not to water the skatepark (as in Lafayette they do) 3. Wood chips stop skateboards very quickly (and dangerously). Keep this in mind when mulching trees/shrubs close to the skatepark. Pebbles too. 4. Place benches around park so parents can watch, and skaters have a place to sit and relax and put their belongings and socialize 5. If conflict arises from bikes, scooters make hours for them to use the park. 6. Use granite, pool coping where you can, It

lasts longer and is more satisfying to a skater than metal rails

- Looks great!!!
- I don't love the main skatepark area. Feel like there is some wasted space a slack of flow
- Something downtown viable?
- not sure how i feel about the wasted/un-skate-able area in the middle of the skatepark? The Golden park has seating, that is still skate-able... ledges and etc.
- In the Valmont skatepark there is a common area in the middle of the skatepark that is not skate able... people may want to skate in that area and they are not allowed to? or kids in the area running back and forth from the common area to the grass outside the skatepark. This may cause some issues with parents/skaters. Also i would like to see more points of impact for the street skaters. as in stair sets/ gaps. This would help with the "Street Style" the kids are asking for. All of the skateparks have a VERY close feel, all of them have bowls and open transition made for fly outs and not much more. Straight ledges that stop and end, Flat bars, Step up gaps ( Euro Gaps ) Stair Sets
- I feel that if the Howard Heuston Park will have all bowl features, the new Valmont park could have less bowl features than currently shown in the plan. Especially if Green Block is going to be made smaller. Another idea is to make the rest area at the new Valmont park outside of the park to give more space for skateable features.

**3. PUMP TRACK: Based on your feedback from December and the limitations of building in Valmont City Park, you've been shown the designs for the paved pumptrack at Valmont City Park (click here for the project website).**

**How much do you agree with this statement?: The track is well designed based on the public input and represents the goals of the community by achieving the right size and style of riding with its options for competitive as well as individual riding.**

Value		Percent	Responses
Disagree		1.0%	1
Somewhat disagree		4.9%	5
Neutral		22.3%	23
Somewhat agree		18.4%	19
Agree		53.4%	55
Totals: 103			

**4. Please let us know any other thoughts you have about the pump track design.**

- Pump track will not get used nearly as much as the skatepark
- I dont think we need a pump track, the bikers have so much in this town and skaters dont have anything but greenblock, cancel the pump track and put the money into the skateparks
- It is super basic in design and is no where near as impressive as the other pump tracks in the area.
- Looks pretty lame, pavement isn't ideal
- I cannot tell from the pictures but it would be cool it the pump track was set up like a duel slalom where you could race your friends. Other than that this will be an awesome addition to Valmont!!
- Is it only for bikers?
- I don't know how much demand there is for a pump track. But I do know that Boulder is a city of runners, many

world-class, yet there isn't a single city running track! This is a strange and terrible circumstance. Runners who want to do track and speed workouts have to go to other communities! Why not build a 1/4 mile running track at Valmont Park? Or somewhere in Boulder? High School tracks and CU are not open to the public or only in a very limited capacity.

- I have been to several of the velosolutions pump tracks and they are definitely fun, but I do not think this is meeting a need that is not met by the existing features at the valmont bike park. There are 2 existing dirt pump tracks at valmont and other than the fact that the asphalt will dry slightly faster I do not see the added utility.
- Could be bigger
- I really like pumptracks but there aren't any good ones near North Boulder, so I really hope this works
- The pump track should be bigger
- haven't seen it and don't know anything about concrete pump tracks. I'll abstain here.
- Awesome design! Pump track is well needed and looks great.
- Pump track fits the location well. One factor is good drop in locations so it doesn't get over crowded.
- make it smooth
- Make it smooth concrete
- Go bigger
- Bigger concrete pump track! More transitions!!!
- Increase size
- Add stairs and more rails
- As I said above, I think building the pumptrack soon would be super great idea! Probably the nearest one is in Broomfield and people love it, but it is quite far, having one in Valmont would be such a great idea to supplement all other trails in Valmont. Thanks for working on it!
- I'm sure it's been considered, but the Mesa area adjacent to the Mesa pumptrack seem larger and might afford the area for a more extensive pumptrack. Regardless of location, I'd like to see this track be the premier track in the area ("better" than the Broomfield one)
- It looks great, can't go wrong in my opinion!
- I think this is going to be super rad.
- Would much rather see concrete than asphalt.
- Please build the paved pump track and more open space trails
- I did not see any details for the pump track, only the over head schematic of the whole project
- I think this is an add on that isn't really necessary as the original intent was to add a sk8 Park not more area for bikes which we can agree is already completely lopsided.. but if you have the funds and the donor .. go for it, just don't let it delay or hinder the skateboarders
- Make it as smooth as possible.

## NORTH VALMONT CITY PARK CONCEPT PLAN

**5. The concept plan shows everything we'd like to build in the park, but because we have limited funding, we will have to build in phases. For example, Valmont's existing parking lot needs to be renovated before any of the new features can be built. In addition to providing the necessary room for the new features, pothole and drainage problems will be fixed by paving the lot, striped parking spaces will help with parking efficiency, and circulation through the parking lot on busy days will be improved. The next priority will be to build the pumptrack and skatepark, but there are other features that we**

North Valmont City Park  
FULL CONCEPT PLAN



**The labeled site plan was provided in the survey in high resolution.**

would like your opinion on as well. Please help us what should be built first, after the parking lot, skate park, and pumptrack, by providing your opinion below.

Please sort these options in order of what should be built first, but know that each item has an approximate cost associated with it (\$=lower cost, \$\$\$\$=very high cost). Please consider pricing when putting your choices in order.



For example, more expensive things will take up more of the budget, limiting how much more can be built at the same time. Permanent restrooms (\$\$\$\$) and Parkwide lighting (\$\$\$\$) are both important, but it is unlikely we could build at the same time due to costs. However, less expensive things may fit better in to the first or second phases because of their lower costs.

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Drinking fountains - \$	1		710	84
Permanent restrooms (in place of current temporary restrooms) - \$\$\$\$	2		577	81
New shade structure near pump track - \$\$\$	3		522	81
Park-wide lighting - \$\$\$\$	4		479	79
Tables/chairs/bar tops for gathering in pavilion - \$\$	5		417	78
Nature play / children's small play area - \$	6		405	77
Splash pads/ water play feature - \$\$	7		395	77
Playground or stone play structure - \$\$	8		373	77
Solar Panels on the pavilion (in place of roofing, which cannot be done) - \$\$\$	9		346	71
Access to the pavilion from the large and small dog park areas - \$\$	10		252	72

Lowest Rank      Highest Rank



### ***What other comments do you have about the North Valmont City Park site design?***

- I really think what started as a new skatepark, for the very large community of skaters in Boulder, turned into something for the entire community and the bikers specifically. Its a shame to see that tiny little towns like Greeley will build 3 brand new parks for their small skate community, even though they have a good park there thats no older than 10 years, because they care for that community but Boulder, a city with a huge skate community, won't even give us the funding to hire a park builder that will make a park that we like. I hope that I'm proven wrong but I'm really saddened to see how little this town cares about skateboarders.
- Please please leave the Pavillion alone- don't let the successful repurposing of a dead slab of concrete be ruined by overwrought civic design. The picnic tables will be ruined by people skating on them, gather trash, and not be used.
- It seems like a large waste of money to add a play structure, rock wall, and splash pad. Boulder already has plenty of other options for these, and money should not be allocated for these things in this area. Help Boulder get the skatepark it actually deserves.
- Don't change the pavilion, don't take away from the Green Block
- A comment related to the order of construction: It would be nice to have an actual bathroom/water fountain on this side of the park (not a Porta Potty). Other than that, Great job- the plans look really great! Yet another reason we love living here!
- I am very excited and cannot wait until I can skate It.
- I'm assuming with the added parking lot entrance it will be come a separate entrance and exit to help with traffic flow out on to Valmont, with the exit having a dedicated left and right turn out of the parking lot.
- It really needs a running track.
- I like it a lot, and I hope that using the skate park/pumptrack can be allowed after dark because of the lights. I think that that could also assist with spacing out people using them, making it less crowded.
- Seems like a lot of "niceties", half of which I wouldn't do at all. One thing not on the list is better signage at the features. There are sometimes dangerous encounters when children are going the wrong way on a track (and approach a high speed rider).
- Keep it simple stupid
- put a roof on green block
- Go bigger build it all
- Hope it all works out!!!!
- Thank you for pushing this project forward in those difficult times. I would hope that pumptrack will be built soon and velosolutions will sponsor it at least a little bit.
- Excellent. Let's do it!. As I said before need more shade shelters
- Keep it as natural as possible. Not a fan of things like the paved pump track, concession stands, park wide lighting, and paved parking lots
- No need to add lighting. Dawn to dusk is reasonable for open hours. Use those funds to make the paved pumptrack bigger.
- Splash park with little kids right next to the dog park entrance is not ideal (this would be fine if all dogs were amazingly behaved all of the time, which very few dogs are)
- BMX track on the south side.
- Safety and human needs first. No water features unless City is willing to spray for mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are already out in force in northeast Boulder (we live a mile west of airport) and we already can't sit out at night without being feriosously bitten. This is dangerour!
- I would like to see resources directed at improving skateboarding facilities as the skateboarding community has long been neglected and underserved in Boulder. Facilities for cyclists, dog owners and children's play areas are well established throughout the city and each of those groups has many existing options.
- Keep the bike jumping arreas and riding areas close to how they currently exist.
- Just build it.
- As for the rest of these ideas you are loosing 50% of the sk8 space and wasting tax dollars on seating and concessions ... splash pad? All not necessary at a sk8 Park .. this park was fine without that stuff before



Green Block became a thing outside of bathrooms and drinking fountains you're talking about money that the city needs to spend in money other municipalities primarily trash at Eben G fine and pretty much everywhere along the boulder creek

- Please leave green block as it is. Nobody cares about 20 picnic benches that will never be used. But they do care about a park used daily by all ages
- It seems like a very good idea
- All Ideas sounds great, it's just what is viable
- just want to throw more focus on the "hangout" area in the middle of the skatepark. Not a good idea. There will be plenty hangout area throughout the whole park.
- Children and splash pads near a skatepark are not a good idea. Commerce City has a water park a few hundred feet from the skatepark and all summer long its a battle between people trying to use the skatepark for its purpose, and all the little kids running around wet inside the skatepark
- The dog parks have so much existing space that I don't see why there would need to be access from the dog parks into the pavilion and take away space from the pavilion/Green Block. The current separation allows for less conflict between skateboarders and dogs (not all dogs are OK with skateboards.) Having potential gravel/dog waste run into the Green Block would be detrimental to skateboarding in that space. Also dogs barking at skateboarders. I say this as a dog owner that uses both spaces. I think the current space that Green Block uses (the whole length of the pavilion north/south) allows for the space needed for the street obstacles that exist there. Taking away that runway space can make things feel very cramped.

## OTHER COMMENTS

### COMMENTS RECEIVED THROUGH OPEN COMMENT BOX

- **April 22:** It's looking good and I appreciate the city working with us for feedback. I'm stoked that this is happening, so please remember that I give feedback with the interest of making this successful, not just to be critical. My first thing I want to point out is that some of the other skateparks evergreen has built, notably the one I have skated in fort Morgan, have too many conflicting lines and while that's fun when you have the park to yourself, it turns into a demolition derby with just 5 people. A public skatepark needs lines to be separated, like at Erie, where there are 3 distinct lines across the park. Their design fro Valmont looks decent, as there's no opportunity to figure 8 through the middle. I would request a retooling of the euro gap, and maybe a rail that actually goes down something. Other than that, it's good. The Howard Heuston park, on the other hand, looks a bit like the Fort Morgan park, and I think is just going to have children running into each other. If that's the design scooter kids want and they will congregate there, then listen to their input. However, beginner skateboarders need just a small halfpipe, basic rail, some curbs of varying height, a mellow bank and a mellow hip. Maybe a down rail that isn't very big. I strongly encourage you to take a second look at that whole design. Thanks for listening. Feel free to contact me for further input.
- **April 22:** Pump track looks awesome! Thank you city of Boulder.
- **April 28:** The seating features in the middle of the Valmont park should just be made skateable.
- **May 4:** Hi! I'm super excited to have a paved pump track here in boulder- have been enjoying the Superior and Broomfield pump tracks since they opened. Having ridden these many times, I'd like to encourage the designers of the Boulder track to consider focusing on a staging area as well as a smaller beginner loop separate from the main track, 2 things the Broomfield track does well but the Superior track does not. The superior pump track is elevated from the ground, and there's just a small stretch where people gather while 1 or 2 people use the track, and it can get really crowded and overwhelming quickly. The Broomfield pump track is sunken in to the ground and has lots of space to hang out and tends to be a really fun gathering of different folks! This track also has a smaller, very beginner loop that is essential for allowing the younger ones to practice in a safe space. I've been at the superior track many times when a kid on a strider or scooter turned back because the speed and level of riding from others in the track were too intimidating. Valmont does such a good job of offering different levels of riding in each section I would love to see that carried over here. Thanks so much for your time and consideration!
- **May 15:** I have been skateboarding in boulder since I was 10 years old! I grew up with the Scott Carpenter skatepark as a second home for the past 12 years. The formative years of my adolescence. Seeing boulder finally get around to building a new skatepark is huge news and I would love to be more in the loop when it comes to the design of the park. Is there an email list or a way to join in on zoom/Skype calls. This project is near and dear to my heart and something our community has been fighting for for years and years. Is team pain involved?
- **May 16:** Scott carpenter skatepark doesn't have any plain, flat, medium height, ledges for newer skaters who are just learning how to do grinds and tricks. All of the pre-existing ledges either have a bank leading up to or out of them, which is fine for more experienced skaters. But I think adding a small flat and wide concrete ledge to the current proposed area for renovation would really help with the kids (or any inexperienced skateboarder) that wants to learn how to grind or do manuals without having to get in the way of all the bikers that like to do big jumps in the middle of the park. Thanks for listening!
- **May 17:** When will construction start
- **May 19:** Please consider holding another town hall meeting and do more advertising for it. It could even be a zoom meeting. Most users will agree that the majority of additions are a waste of money that could be better used to actually create a better Boulder skate park
- **May 21:** My name is Ian Fuller and I believe that this new design for Valmont park is not only completely missing the mark of what needs to happen here, but is mindlessly stamping out a strong, organic community hub that has just budded into life at Valmont, the Green Block Skatepark. As a fresh graduate from the Landscape Architecture program at CU's school of Environmental Design, i can say confidently that most of the programmatic elements being introduced to the site are not catering to any existing park goers, and would be much more successful in

a more developed environment, not in a random lot that is miles from downtown. I understand the desire to broaden user groups, but is that really a thing you want to do where experienced bikers and skaters are zooming around and jumping in the air? The “one of everything” approach to park programming in the context of Valmont Park is not only convoluted clutter, it has the potential to be dangerous. It works in a lot of places, but not here. It’s a VERY ambitious move putting a play area smack in the middle between two skateparks (what would a concerned parent think of that?) programs such as the splash pad and nature play are way more successful in urban or residential settings anyway, where they will actually get used. there’s redundancy and contradictions of other programmatic elements as well, such as food trucks AND permanent concessions (???) and a gathering space where NO productive meetings/events could ever take place because there is a noisy skatepark right next to it. And, as icing on the cake, this plan is spatially mutilating the existing skatepark by slicing it up with walls and fences (not to mention shrinking it by over 50%, lots of people who not only loved skating here but put blood, sweat, and tears into its manifestation are going to be VERY blatantly upset about this), arbitrarily allocating areas of the concrete pad to dog park users (i can already visualize an old lady sitting there and a skateboard loudly crashes into the fencing, giving her a heart attack). is there not already pretty nice central seating IN the dog park, not distant and disjunct squares shoved into the skatepark? Dog park users will dislike that too. If the city truly is trying to curb spending, this is so obviously NOT the way to do it. If parents really want to take their kids to a place with a splash pad and nature play opportunities, there are several existing parks actually IN the city, that exceed this plan in every design standard. I highly recommend a) scrapping this plan and trying again (a process in which I am more than happy to contribute to) and b) prepare for the inevitable community backlash you’ve just invited. Green Block and Valmont Park is already a successful site for what it was meant to be. the city ignored this vacant lot for years on end and it is totally unfair to the people who truly cared about it to suddenly see this ill-informed, top-down design now that the city decides to “care” about it. Something natural and healthy in the community has happened because of Green Block and if i learned anything as a designer it was to not only preserve but to bolster those systems.

Please reconsider. I know your jobs are hard, but on a very fundamental level it is the job of designers, landscape architects, and city planners to make sure they are doing the right thing for everyone.

Feel free to reach back out via email or call me at ([removed]), as I mentioned I am able to contribute to any design dilemmas and/or to advocate for current and future site users.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns.

-Ian Fuller

- **May 29:** Why are you wasting resources building a skate board park and a so-called “pump track”? Does the demographic interested in using it pay enough taxes to justify it? Why not a facility that’s more useful to more residents, namely a 400m running track? Runners use inside lanes; walkers outsider lanes. Otherwise don’t waste the money. Taxpayers work too hard to have it squandered.
- **May 30:** I’m a boulder resident and avid skateboarder. I would like to say that Scott Carpenter skate park desperately needs improvements. I’ve talked with hundreds of skatepark goers and the top item everyone agrees on is the park needs more street style features. I’ve met countless new skaters who feel overly intimidated by the ramps and bowls and leave the park after just a few minutes. please please please add a street style section to the park!

## YOUTUBE COMMENTS

- Shane Farns in response to the Skate Park and Pump Track design video: “I’m so stoked for a new skatepark in Boulder!”
- Finlay Boydston in response to the Evergreen Skate Park design video: “This is sick”

## EMAIL COMMENTS

- **May 19:** Thanks for sharing and trying to balance all of the different uses for this. One of my biggest concerns with the small area allocated to green block now is the two rows of crossbeams not shown in the diagrams. Are they going to be removed? Also I think the concession area is way too large for how little it will be used.
- **June 5:** Hi Morgan and Tina,  
I see you've been collecting feedback on the latest version of the plans and I just wanted to reach out and see if there is anything needed from the cycling community right now.

I believe I met you both at the meeting many months ago, but I was the lead designer for the bike park more than 10 years ago when I worked for IMBA. Now I'm with Boulder Junior Cycling. I'm involved with most races that happen at the park.

The shift in location of the pump track from the first concept seems positive to me but I can't really tell precisely where it will be located. Moving a couple singletracks shouldn't be a problem tho.

My biggest concern is how the new layout of the parking and skatepark will effect some of the races and cycling camps and clinics. The area where the existing shade shelter sits is a major hub of activity during the summer short track races, during camps and clinics, and during the 2-3 cyclocross races that happen each fall. It is a major circulation corridor, meeting place, spectator zone, and entry/exit.

The new amenities are a major plus, but they'll create a different dynamic for cycling events because they create a barrier of sorts between the park entrance & parking lot with the existing shade shelter and Belgian Steps and the gravel road in that area which is the start/finish for short track races and one of the premier spectator spots for cyclocross races.

The start/finish of the short track races has never been ideal. That area was not designed to have start/finishes, but they evolved to occur there for a few reasons. Proximity to parking probably the biggest one, but also to separate them from the other side of the park where the dirt jumps etc are. To a large degree, Skyler wanted these races to start/finish away from the dirt jumps but it never seemed ideal to me.

I feel there are certain problems with having the short track races start/finish there: no restrooms, cramped, no shade, no infrastructure. The biggest issue is that the gravel road is far too short for a proper start straight-away, and there's no room for staging of the riders prior to each wave start. If you've ever watched the short track races, I think you can picture what I'm talking about.

There may be an opportunity to explore ways to fix these problems, at the same time the new amenities are designed and built. I have some ideas and would love to hear other suggestions.

None of these issues are unsolvable, but they deserve a closer conversation.

## Q&As

April 28

**When are the expected completion dates for each part of the project? When is the final completion date expected?**

**Answer:** This current phase is only the “design and cost estimating”, not construction. We have carefully evaluated the feasibility of this project continuing considering the current COVID-19 situation and determined that it should proceed through design and cost estimating. The construction budget and timeline will be re-evaluated as more information regarding the financial impact of the pandemic is available.

May 19

**When will construction start?**

**Answer:** This current phase is only the “design and cost estimating”, not construction. We have carefully evaluated the feasibility of this project continuing considering the current COVID-19 situation and determined that it should proceed through design and cost estimating. The construction budget and timeline will be re-evaluated as more information regarding the financial impact of the pandemic is available.

**How can I get more involved in the design process?**

**Answer:** Please sign up for email updates! We will send out updates or opportunities for providing input through this website and the email notifications.



## GRAPHICS

1. Public Meeting #2 Engagement Timeline
2. Scott Carpenter Skate Park- Allowed Area for Construction
3. Boulder Skate Park System Map
4. Scott Carpenter Skate Park- 3D rendering of new beginner's area and street-style skating
5. Howard Heuston Park- 3D rendering of new skate area
6. Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of new skate area
7. Valmont City Park- Renderings of paved pump track by Velosolutions
8. North Valmont City Park Full Concept Plan
9. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of park entrance
10. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the Green Block in the pavilion
11. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of another view of the Green Block.
12. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of electric vehicle parking, the event lawn, and skate park
13. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the food truck area and event lawn
14. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the pump track and the rest of the park.
15. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of a view of the splash pads, skate park, and pavilion.
16. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of another view of the splash pads, play area, and pavilion
17. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the restrooms, concessions, and seating in the pavilion.
18. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the fenced-in dog park area of the pavilion
19. North Valmont City Park- Future Parking Lot Options

## VIDEOS

April 15 Update: Launching Public Meeting #2 (<https://youtu.be/xa6Ub0Tq5zk>)

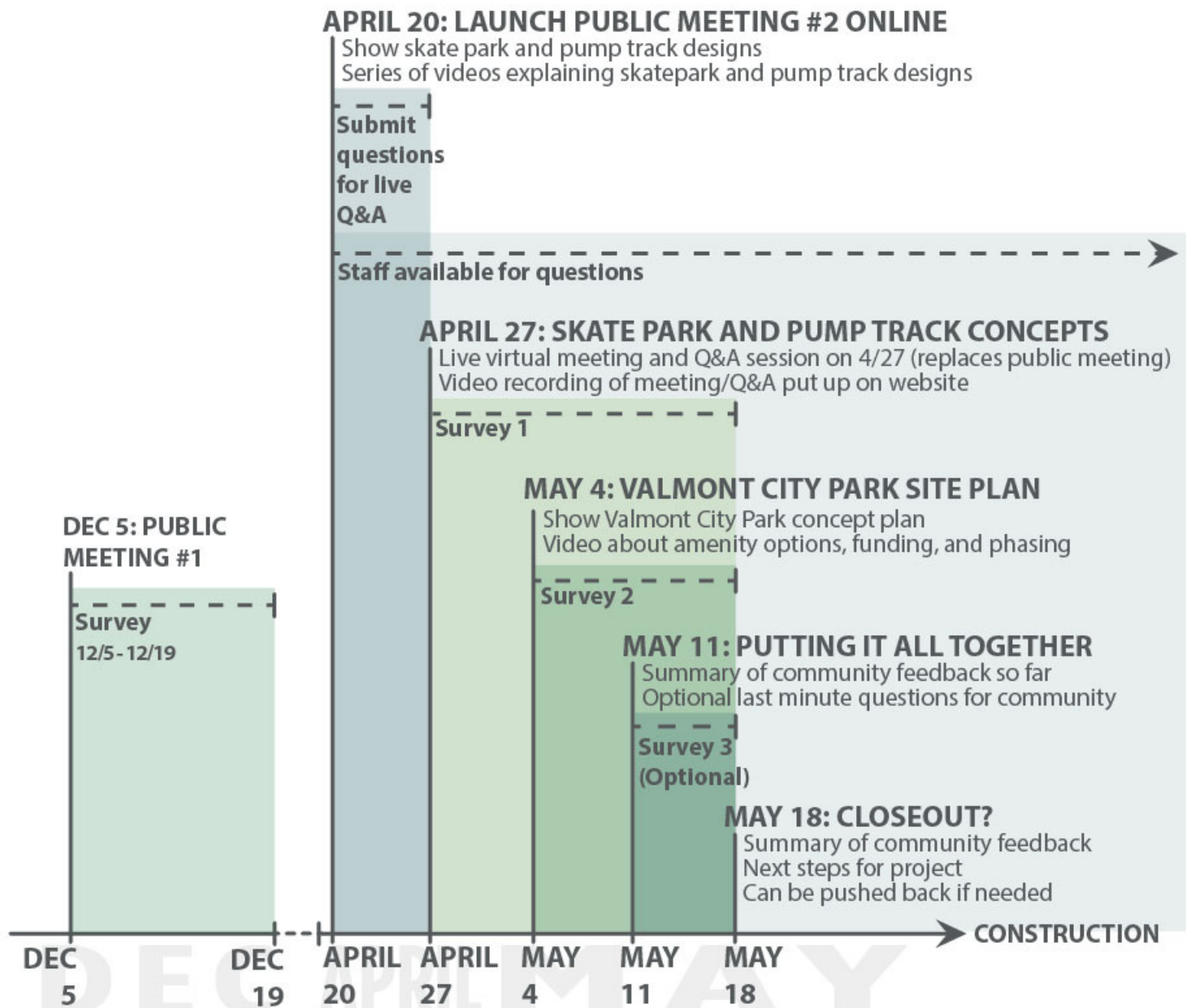
April 21 Update: Preferred Concept Designs (<https://youtu.be/ogGSZDZBpsk>)

Evergreen Skate Parks: Skate Park Designs (<https://youtu.be/HOVLQM8JVLl>)

May 19 Update: North Valmont City Park Concept Design (<https://youtu.be/wYBC1Gs2S8c>)

## 1. Public Meeting #2 Engagement Timeline

# PUBLIC MEETING #2 ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE



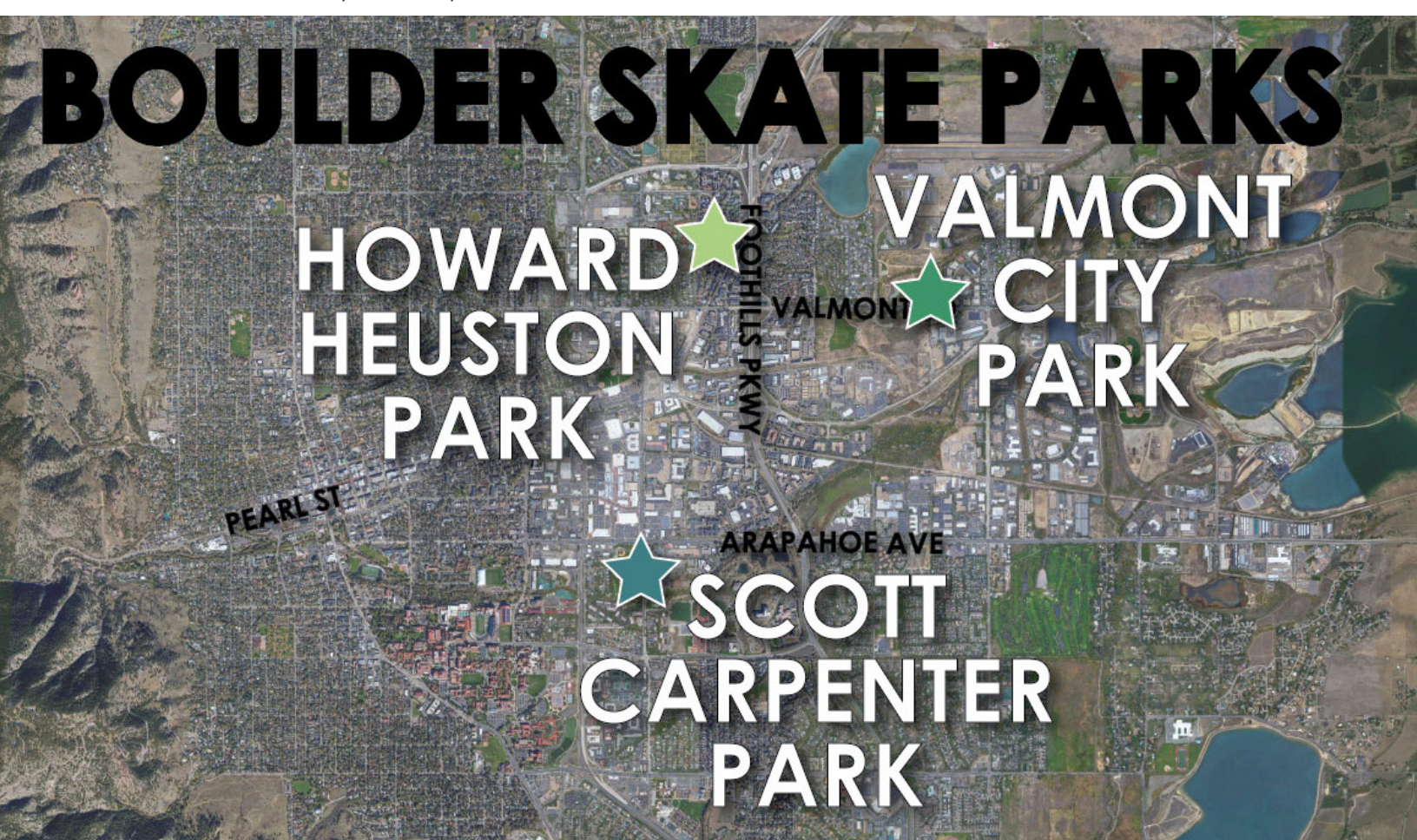
\* Timing and video/survey topics are flexible and can be adjusted as needed



2. Scott Carpenter Skate Park- Allowed Area for Construction



3. Boulder Skate Park System Map





4. Scott Carpenter Skate Park- 3D rendering of new beginner's area and street-style skating



5. Howard Heuston Park- 3D rendering of new skate area





6. Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of new skate area



7. Valmont City Park- Renderings of paved pump track by Velosolutions

WHICH PUMPTRACK STYLE DO YOU LIKE?

A

B

C

	Votes from Online Survey	Dots Placed on Boards At Meeting	Total	Percent
A	11	6	17	21%
B	14	12	26	32%
C	27	11	38	47%

COMMENTS

- STRAIGHT SHOTS/SPEED!
- SIZE/VARIETY OF FEATURES
- TRANSFERS/JUMPS POTENTIAL
- SYMMETRY/RACING

ARC/VELO NOTES: YES! INTEGRATED INTO THIS DESIGN

- ROLLERS THAT CAN BE DOUBLED/TRIPLED
- CURVES ARE FAST/SMOOTH
- THE FLOW
- UNIQUE/CUSTOM

YES! STANDARD WITH ALL VELOSOLUTIONS CUSTOM DESIGNS

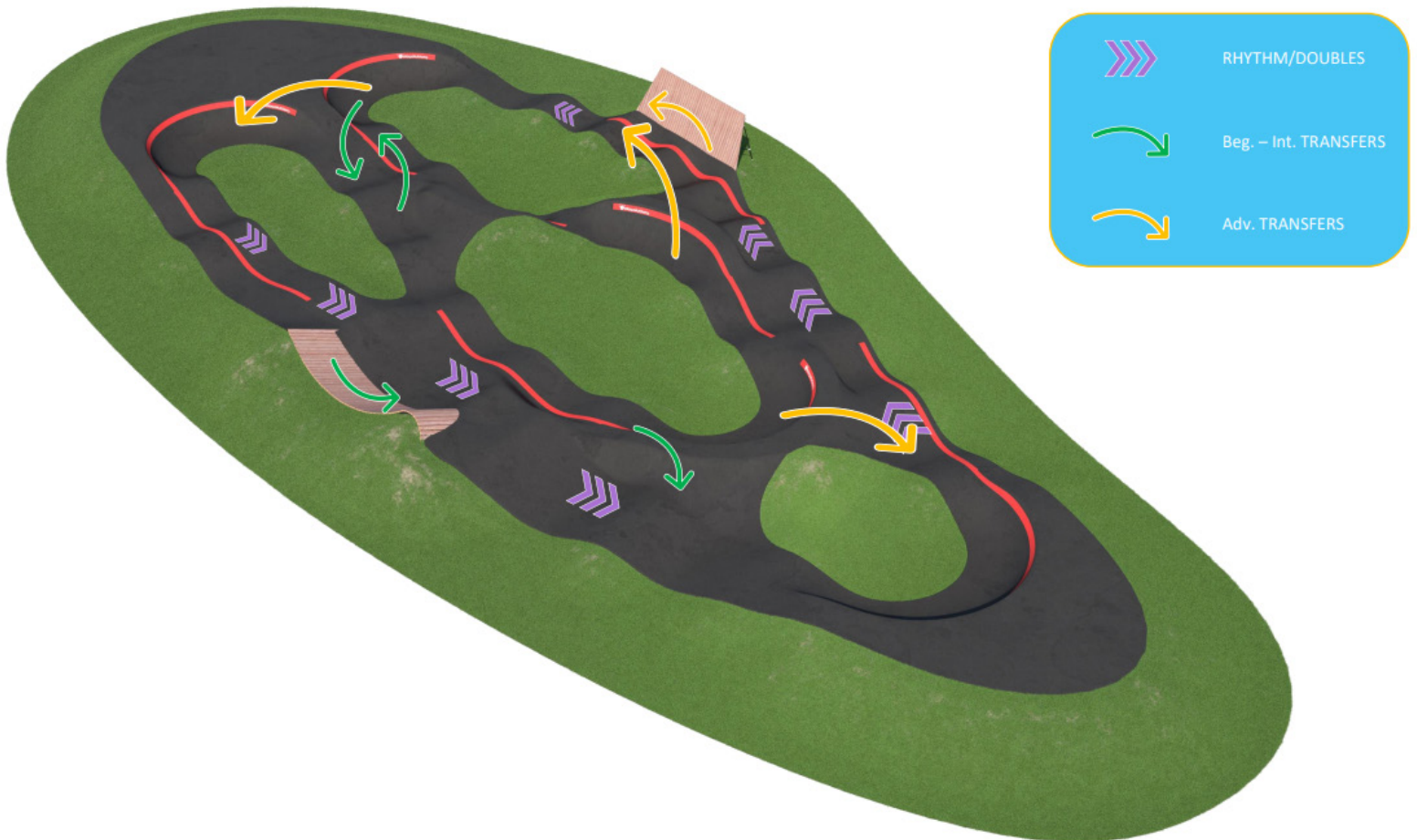
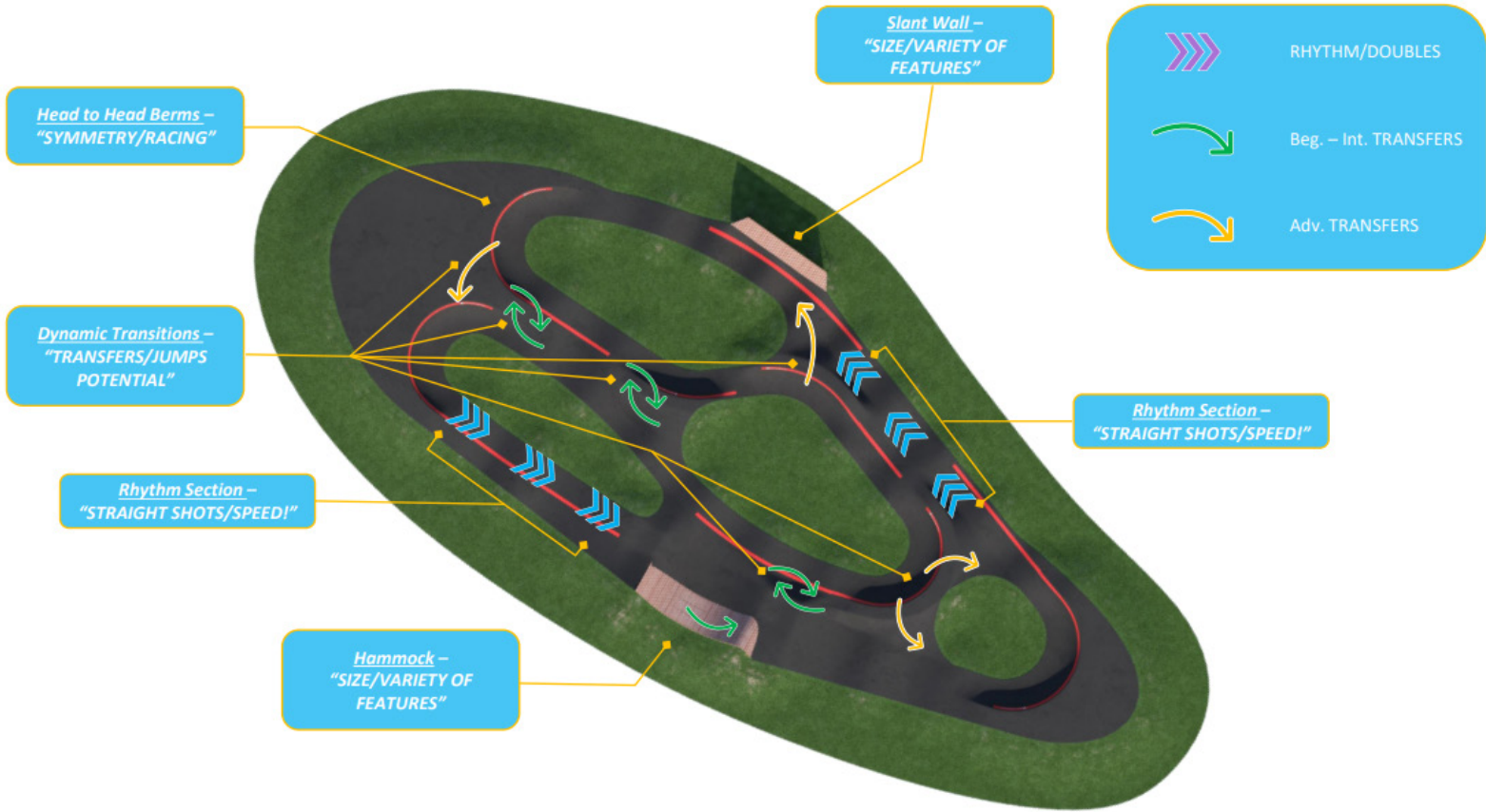
PERSPECTIVE RENDER



TOP VIEW RENDER



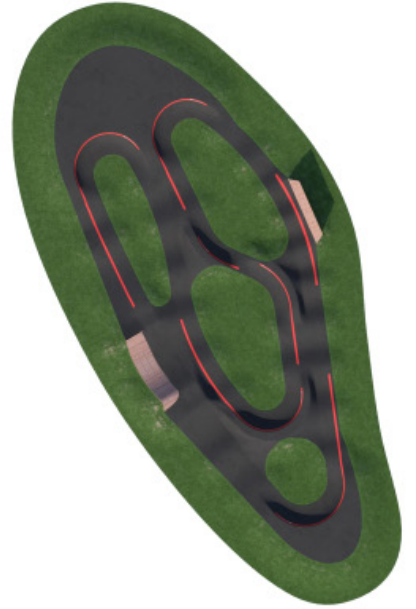




PERSPECTIVE RENDER



TOP VIEW RENDER





# North Valmont City Park FULL CONCEPT PLAN





9. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of park entrance

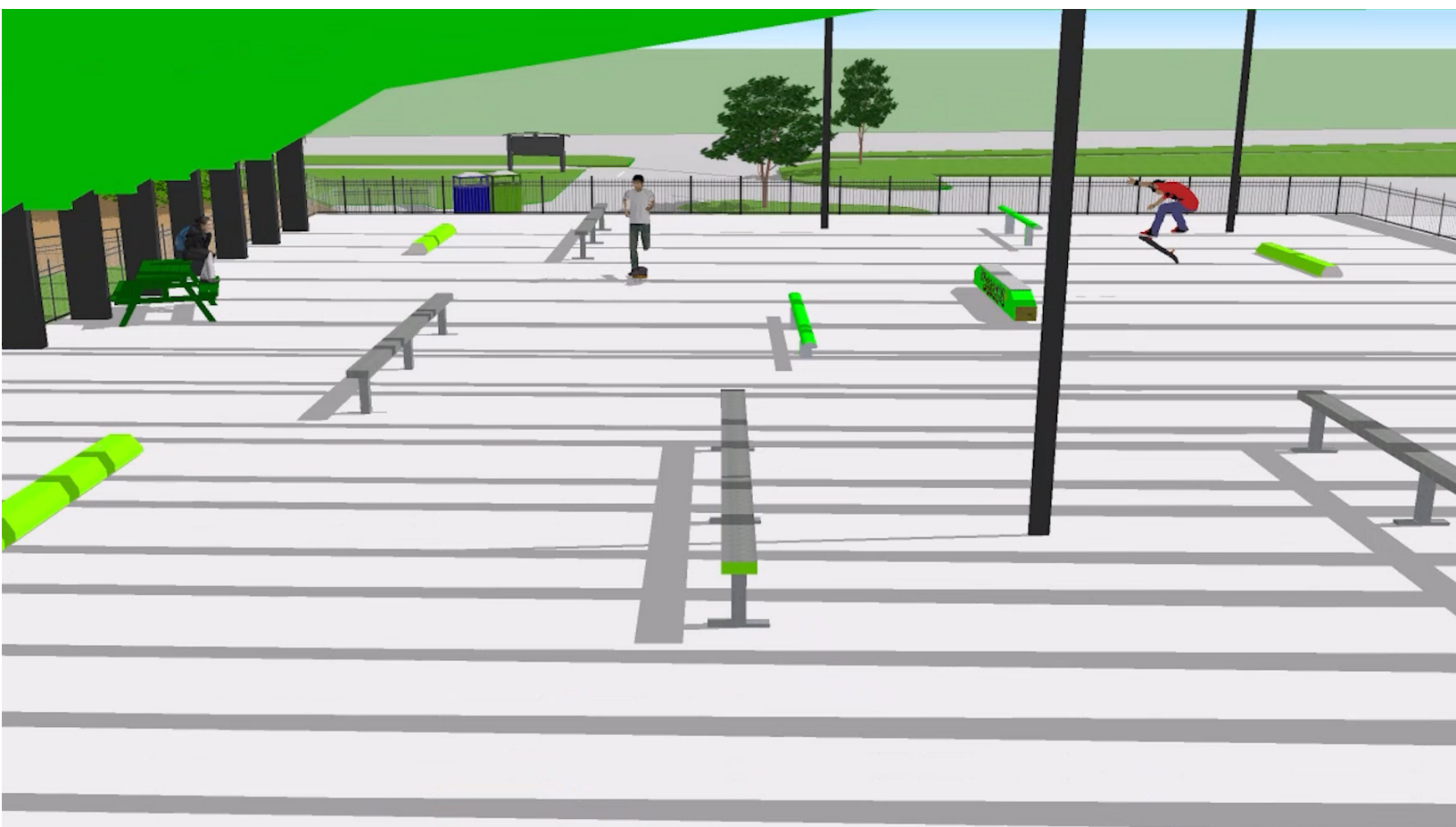


10. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the Green Block in the pavilion





11. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of another view of the Green Block.



12. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of electric vehicle parking, the event lawn, and skate park





13. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the food truck area and event lawn



14. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the pump track and the rest of the park.





15. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of a view of the splash pads, skate park, and pavilion.

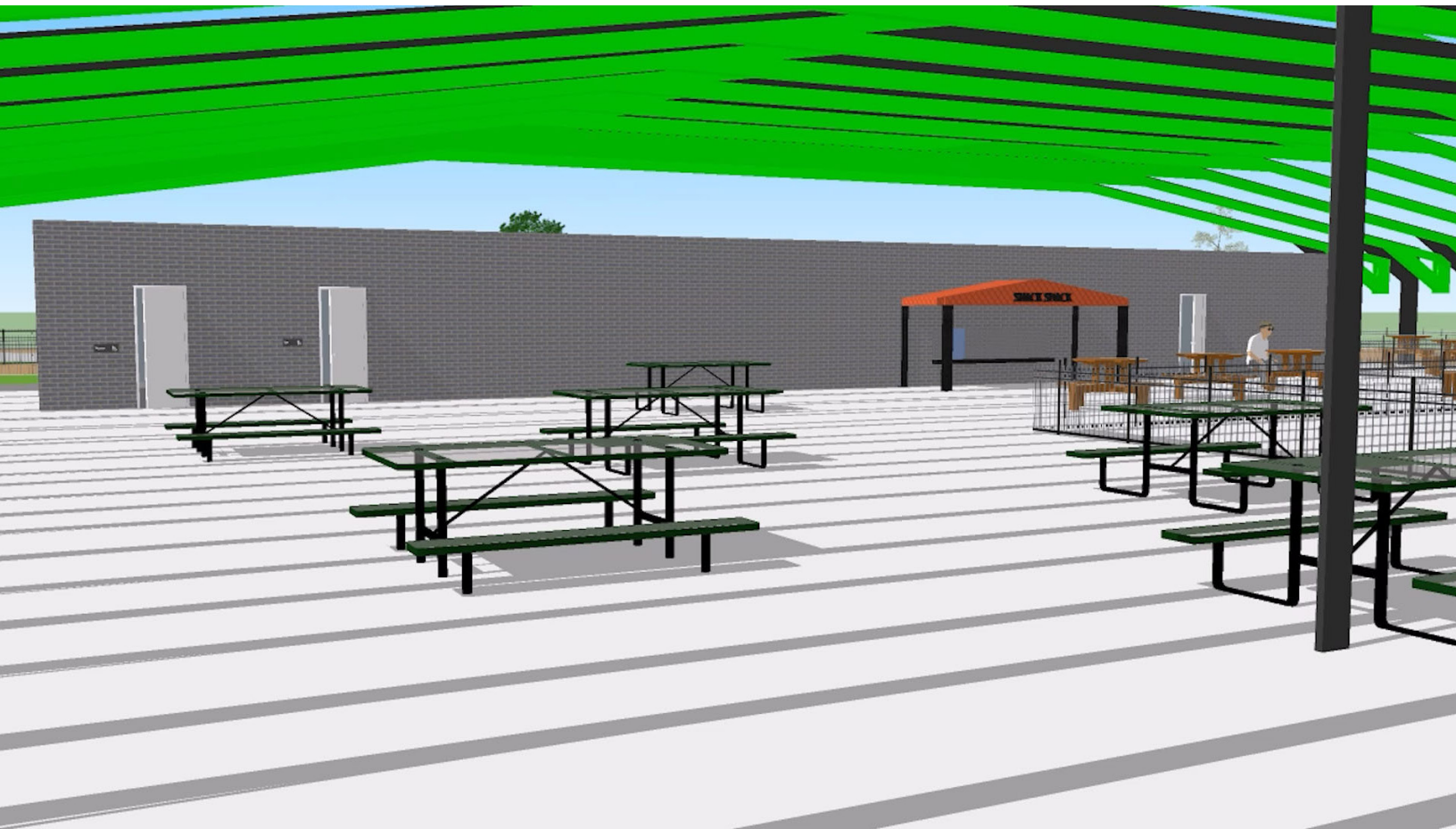


16. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of another view of the splash pads, play area, and pavilion





17. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the restrooms, concessions, and seating in the pavilion.



18. North Valmont City Park- 3D rendering of the fenced-in dog park area of the pavilion





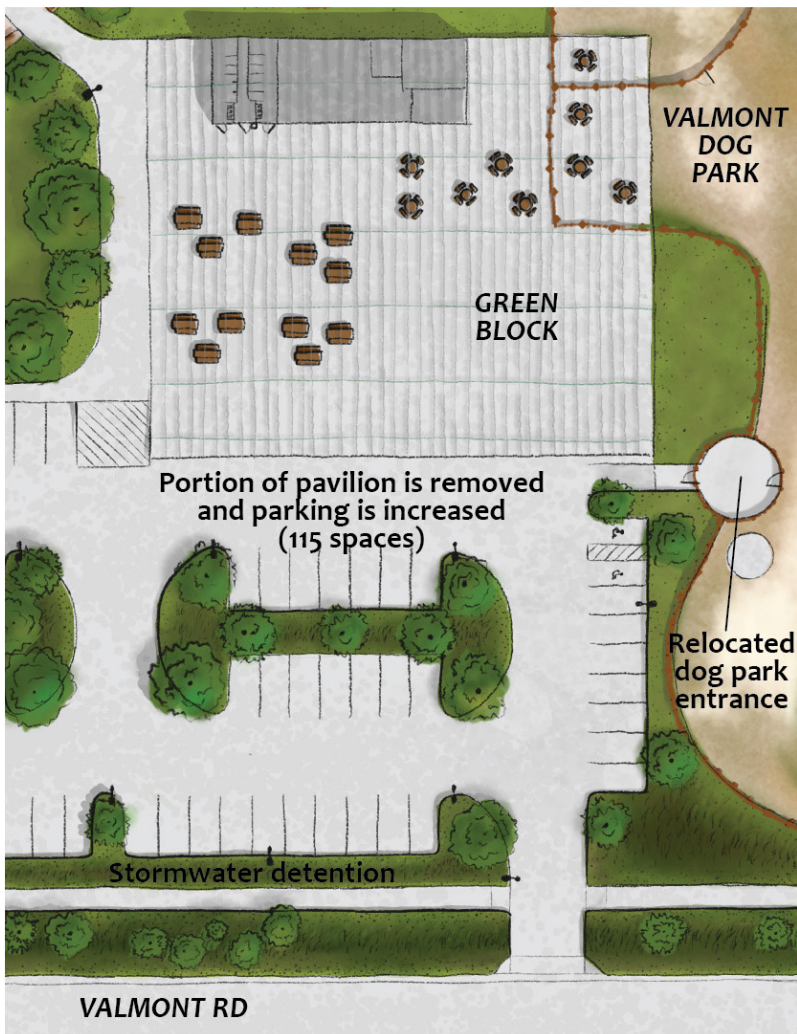
# North Valmont City Park FULL CONCEPT PLAN

## Alternate Parking Lot Options

There are two alternate options for the design of the east side of this parking lot from the design presented in the full site plan. Both options would provide 16 additional parking spaces, move the location of the dog park entrance slightly, and require the removal of portions of the existing pavilion. These options would be more expensive, but increase the amount of parking and services provided in the park.

### Alternate 1

Alternate 1 would remove the least amount of pavilion while providing additional parking.



### Alternate 2

Alternate 2 would remove more of the pavilion, but provide a drop-off area for guests and electrical hook-ups for food trucks.

