

Moscow City Council



Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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Laurie M. Hopkins
City Clerk

208.883.7015

**Monday, December 16,
2024**

7:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Art Bettge, Bryce Blankenship, Drew Davis, Sandra Kelly, Hailey Lewis, Julia Parker, Gina Taruscio

STAFF: Bill Belknap, Mia Bautista, Cody Riddle, Scott Bontrager, Anthony Dahlinger, Laurie M. Hopkins

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. All Consent Items (ACTION ITEM)

A. Approval of Moscow City Council December 2, 2024 Minutes - Laurie M. Hopkins

B. Approval of Claims - Sarah Decker

C. Disbursement Report for November 2024 - Sarah Decker

Staff presented the November 2024 Accounts Payable Report to Public Works / Finance Committee on December 9, 2024. The Committee received the report and approved the disbursements as presented.

ACTION: Accept the Disbursements Report for the month of November 2024.

D. Task Order No. 1 City of Moscow Palouse Mall Lift Station Rehabilitation Project - Evan Timar

The Palouse Mall Lift Station was originally constructed in 1976 and pumps on average 68 million gallons of wastewater per year into the Water Reclamation Facility. Task Order No.1, pursuant to the Master Agreement for Professional Services between City of Moscow and Ardurra Group, consists of design phase services for the rehabilitation of the Palouse Mall Lift Station. The station requires updates and improvements due to its age and increased operational volumes. Proposed enhancements include the rehabilitation of the existing wet well, the installation of a new valve vault, the replacement of the wet well cover and hatch, the replacement of the dry-well pumps with submersible pumps, the installation of new guide rails, new electrical and control systems, the addition of a flow meter, and the replacement of the existing force main that runs across State Highway 8 to the Headworks building. The Palouse Mall Lift Station is relied upon to maintain a seamless and consistent operation by moving a large area of Moscow's wastewater to the Reclamation Facility. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on December 9, 2024 and recommended for approval.

ACTION: Accept Task Order No. 1 and award the Agreement in the amount of \$215,114.00.

Kelly moved and Davis seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Mayors Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

Mayor Bettge presented to the City Council for consideration a list of members for re-appointment to their respective commissions. See attached list. Lewis asked for information regarding the appointment of Council members to the MURA. Bettge explained when someone is appointed, they historically stay on the Board while they are part of the Council. Some discussion ensued. Parker moved and Kelly seconded, approval of the re-appointments. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Five (5). Nays: One (Lewis). Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment and Mayor's Response Period (limit 15 minutes)

Terry Jane and Renee Skrzypchak members of the Palouse Pickleball Club. They spoke about the popularity of pickleball in the community. Moscow is behind on pickleball structure. The Club is a non-profit which means the club can apply for grants which could help fund pickleball infrastructure although the projects would need to be shovel ready. They were looking for the best way to interact with the City to collaborate and enhance the courts. Mayor Bettge suggested speaking with David Schott, the liaison to the P&R Commission. Belknap said there are many user groups with a lot of priorities and the City has limited funding and staff time for projects. Schott had said courts were scheduled for 2031 and Belknap confirmed. The P&R Commission should be updating their capital improvement plan soon and prioritizing the facilities needs across the community.

4. City Limits Ordinance (ACTION ITEM) - Scott Bontrager

Idaho Code Section 63-215 states that taxing districts that alter their boundaries must prepare and file the legal description and map of the new district boundary within 30 days of the amendment or no later than the tenth day of January of the year following the alteration. The City recently amended the City boundary through the annexations of Pine View subdivision (Juscen) property on May 6, 2024, Wildrose Court Addition subdivision property on May 6, 2024, and South Moscow Business Park (SOMO) property on October 7, 2024. Staff has prepared a new City Limits ordinance which includes the updated legal description and boundary map for the Council's approval and transmission to the State Tax Commission and Latah County Recorder and Assessor offices. This was reviewed by the Public Works/Finance Committee on December 9, 2024 and recommended for approval.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the Ordinance under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that it be read by title and published by summary; or consider the Ordinance on first reading and that it be read by title; or reject the Ordinance; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Bontrager introduced the item as written above. Having discussed at the committee meeting and no questions, Lewis moved to approve the Ordinance under suspension of the rules requiring three complete and separate readings and that it be read by title and published by summary. Kelly seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

5. Human Rights Commission Martin Luther King Human Rights Community Breakfast Sponsorship Request (ACTION ITEM) - Anthony Dahlinger

The Human Rights Commission is seeking approval to provide a \$750 financial sponsorship to the Latah County Human Rights Commission's 2025 Martin Luther King Human Rights Community Breakfast that is scheduled to occur on January 25th at the 1912 Center. The Commission has historically sponsored this event each year. In accordance with the recently adopted Procurement and

Purchasing Policy, financial sponsorships or donations to outside entities of \$500 or more are required to be approved by the City Council. The sponsorship will be funded from the Human Rights Commission budget line item.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Approve the sponsorship request; deny the sponsorship request; or take other action as deemed appropriate.

Dahlinger introduced the item as written above. Lewis said she appreciates this breakfast is budgeted and the extra visibility and opportunity to discuss. Parker moved to approve the sponsorship request. Blankenship seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

6. East City Park Stage Project Update (ACTION ITEM) - Cody Riddle

On May 6, 2024, City Council approved a contract with Design West Architects to develop a 30% conceptual design and cost estimate for replacement of the East City Park Stage. The design was to build upon a previous design and outreach effort that concluded in 2012, and the subsequent construction of the existing restroom building that was completed in the spring of 2013. The original design effort, and restroom construction, was based on an extensive public outreach effort that dates back to 2010. Staff and the Project Architect, Ned Warnick with Design West Architects, provided the Council with a project update on June 3, 2024. Much of the discussion that followed focused on the need for additional engagement with key stakeholders and outreach with the public, while honoring the Council's May 6th decision. That decision was to proceed with the development of a 30% concept design and cost estimate for a new stage attached to the existing restroom building. On November 15, 2024, Staff met with a group of stakeholders comprised of the primary users of the stage for some of the community's larger events. Staff will provide a summary of that meeting, feedback received, and a plan for additional outreach.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Accept report and provide feedback as appropriate.

Riddle introduced the item as written above and provided a background. At the stakeholder meeting, staff provided floor plan for a new stage connected to the restrooms and a new stand-alone stage. The bulk of the meeting was the siting and orientation including pros/cons. Ned Warnick, Design West, went through pros and cons of both the existing location and the orientation attached to the restrooms. See attached. One of the difficulties with the existing location is there is no paving around the stage. Riddle said there was unanimous support for the location and orientation for the stage. Riddle said the stakeholder group also discussed particular details about accessibility, loading/unloading, lighting, etc. The new location provides more seating which is flatter. Further outreach will be another meeting with the stakeholder group, open house/public meeting, spring Farmers Market, and other events at the park.

Lewis asked for further information on paving, load-in, and lighting. Warnick responded there will be additional paving and vehicle movement space on the southwest side of the restrooms. There will be a sound booth, most likely a permanent pedestal. The current stage has the most exposure to the weather. The new location will gain a little protection from the weather but is still an open-air stage. There will be some realignment of the path and will still be a predominantly lawn amphitheater space. There will need to be an all-weather surface to avoid a large mud pit in front of the stage. Rendezvous was enticed at the possibility of putting risers and using this new stage but is not ready to commit to use. Lewis said she has walked the park and feels more comfortable with the idea of moving the stage. However, the concerns she is hearing from the community are what the stage may look like. She is happy to hear that more public engagement is on the docket. She would like to see what opportunities there may be to honor the previous volunteers and stage materials. Riddle said he has spoke with Parks and Arts about the possibility of reusing the current stage materials in some way.

Blankenship also walked the park today. Seeing the visual of the park and the renderings gave

him excitement to continue this route. He likes the feasibility of having parents watch their children on the playground and still be able to see the concert. What is important for Blankenship is an open community forum and open feedback to community input while also showing direction and why.

Davis said staff delivered on bringing in the active stakeholders which is what Council asked for. He hasn't felt this concept is meant to take away from anything in the past. It's only to enhance the future. He felt providing a more accessible stage and modernized standards would bring other stakeholders in our community to the park. He loves the idea of having a history with the repurpose of materials. He doesn't want to lose history of the stage but it needs to balance with the future needs of the community. He appreciates not having to take out three large trees. This is something to be excited about because it benefits all of us in the community.

Taruscio fully agrees with not wanting to remove trees. There should not be a moment where trees are sacrificed. And that's what it is. She feels it is great that it will be more accessible for differently-abled and disabled as well as parents being able to see the concert while still watching their children. She is excited to hear other little details and design ideas as it is the right time to update the stage.

Parker felt this stage helps move forward as a community. It provides a bigger space and a better stage. It's time to let change happen. East City Park used to house the community pool. It is a living, breathing part of this community and will to grow and evolve over time. She loved the idea that the playground is more accessible for families to see the stage.

The design will come back to the Council with a design that's evolved to 30% stage, the cost associated with that and the summary of all the feedback we received. At the 30% design level the loading/unloading and topography will have been addressed. The construction level would require Council approval of additional agreements and then planning for construction. Kelly wanted to be sure this was not presented as a "done deal" at the public outreach events and only asking how to progress with this design.

Belknap said the agreement with Design West was to do the 30% design at the 2010 location. Council requested Staff to verify with stakeholder groups that the input received in 2010 is still current today. The stakeholders confirmed. Staff will be proceeding at the new location for the reasons discussed. The public forums will be asking the public about design elements, colors, materials, feature, roof structure, things that can help shape the project as it moves forward. Lewis said she felt a lot better about the project than she did in May now that we reengaged the community stakeholders.

Public outreach will most likely go into spring and there will be notice for those events.

Belknap confirmed that the Council's action by approving the agreement was to review the stage in this new location. The Council desired to go back and validate the input they got in 2010 from the stakeholders, which has been done. This new location is the focus.

Parker moved to accept the report. Lewis seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

REPORTS

City Council

Moscow Tree Commission – Taruscio said the Commission is drafting an article for the water newsletter on how to properly care for new trees.

Historic Preservation Commission – Kelly said they had Orchid awards and still discussing future plans for a University District.

Farmers Market Commission – Parker said the Commission honored Jamie Hill at their last meeting and discussed the training.

Sustainable Environment Commission – Parker said the high school environmental club attended and spoke about prioritizing their climate efforts.

Clearwater Economic Development Association – Parker said they discussed the years accomplishments.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Davis said the pickleball group attended their meeting.

Moscow Urban Renewal Agency – Davis said the Agency has an upcoming joint meeting with the Council to talk projects.

SMART Transit – Lewis said the group is discussing marketing ideas.

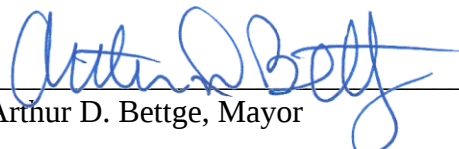
Council members spoke on other meetings and events they attended.

Mayor

Mayor Bettge said the Mayor's arts award ceremony took place; attended a Stepping Stones meeting; attended a Safe Routes to School meeting; and other community events. He went to Boise for the AIC legislative summit and spoke at the Chamber Leadership Moscow.

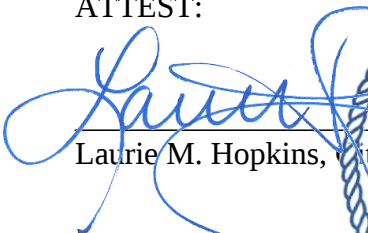
ADJOURN

It was mutually agreed upon to adjourn at Lewis moved Blankenship 8:25 p.m.



Arthur D. Bettge, Mayor

ATTEST:



Laurie M. Hopkins, City Clerk





Memo

To: City Council
From: Arthur Bettge, Mayor
Date: December 10, 2024
Re: Commission Appointments

The following are re-appointments I intend to propose at the December 16th, 2024 City Council meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me to discuss them. If I haven't heard from you, I will anticipate that they will be approved.

Re-Appointments

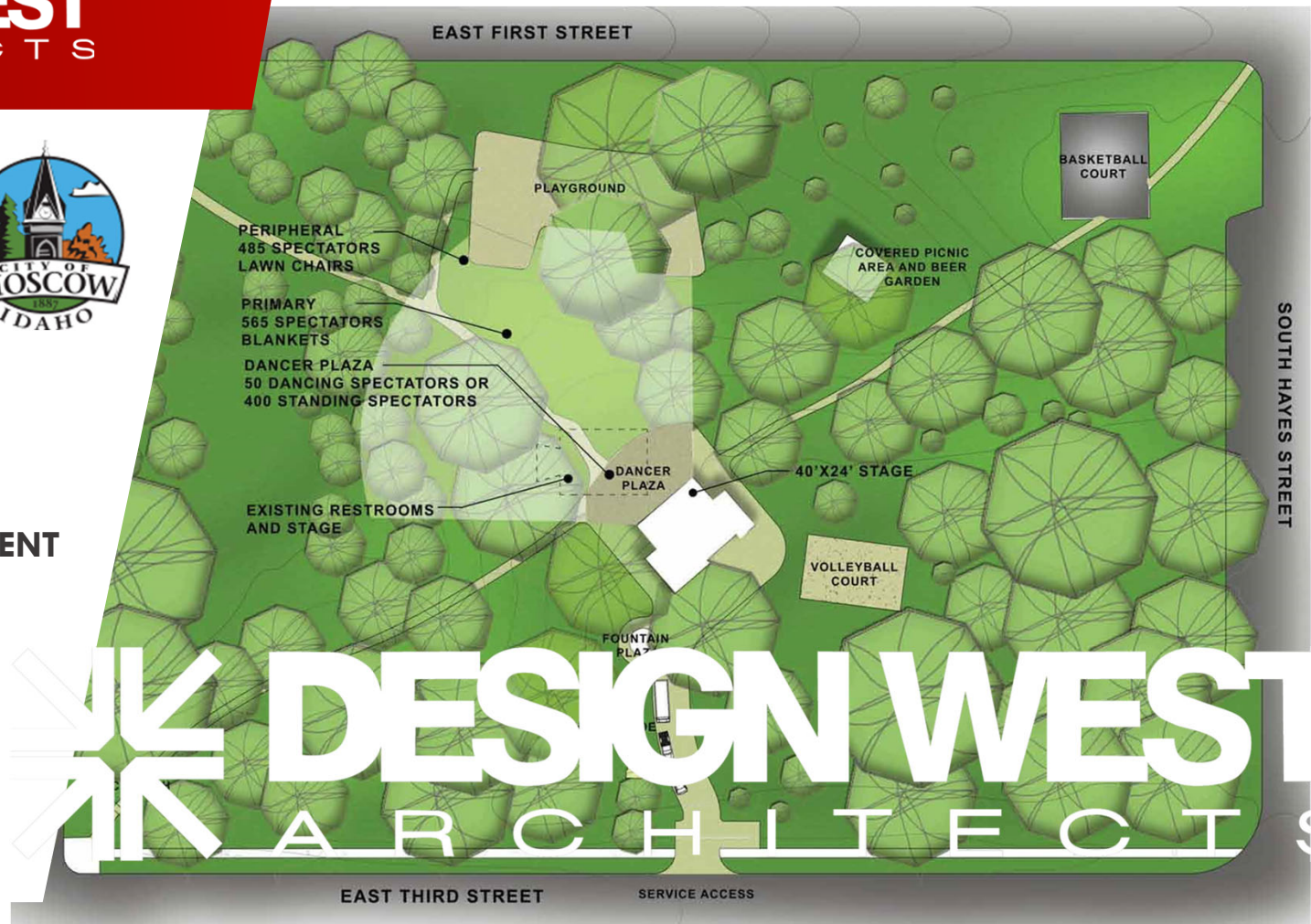
Marshall Comstock	Board of Adjustment	Exp: 12/31/2029
Tim Kinkeade	Board of Adjustment	Exp: 12/31/2029
Eija Sumner	Fair & Affordable Housing Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Jennifer Wallace	Fair & Affordable Housing Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Phillip Blankenship	Farmers Market Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Samantha Martinet	Farmers Market Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Steve Taylor	Historic Preservation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Shelley Harmon	Historic Preservation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Jack Porter	Historic Preservation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Laurabeth Kowalick	Historic Preservation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027

Rula Awwad-Rafferty	Human Rights Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Erin Agidius	Human Rights Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Elizabeth Stevens	Human Rights Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Sonja Foard	Moscow Arts Commission	Exp: 12/31/2028
Cindy Barnhart	Moscow Arts Commission	Exp: 12/31/2028
Robert Heckendorn	Moscow Pathways Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Erin Bacon	Moscow Pathways Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Sandra Kelly	Moscow Urban Renewal Agency	Exp: 12/31/2026
Alison Tompkins	Moscow Urban Renewal Agency	Exp: 12/31/2029
Tom Lamar	Moscow Urban Renewal Agency	Exp: 12/31/2026
Richard Gayler	Parks & Recreation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Theodore Kisha	Parks & Recreation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Rich Beebe	Planning & Zoning Commission	Exp: 12/31/2029
Sophie Gilbert	Sustainable Environment Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Garrett LaCivita	Sustainable Environment Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Victoria Seever	Sustainable Environment Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Mike McGahan	Transportation Commission	Exp: 12/31/2029
Jeanne Leffingwell	Tree Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027
Ellis Eifert	Tree Commission	Exp: 12/31/2027

City of MOSCOW



EAST CITY PARK STAGE REPLACEMENT



City Council Update-December 16, 2024

WHY WE'RE HERE...

2010 – East City Park Stage & Restroom Planning & Design

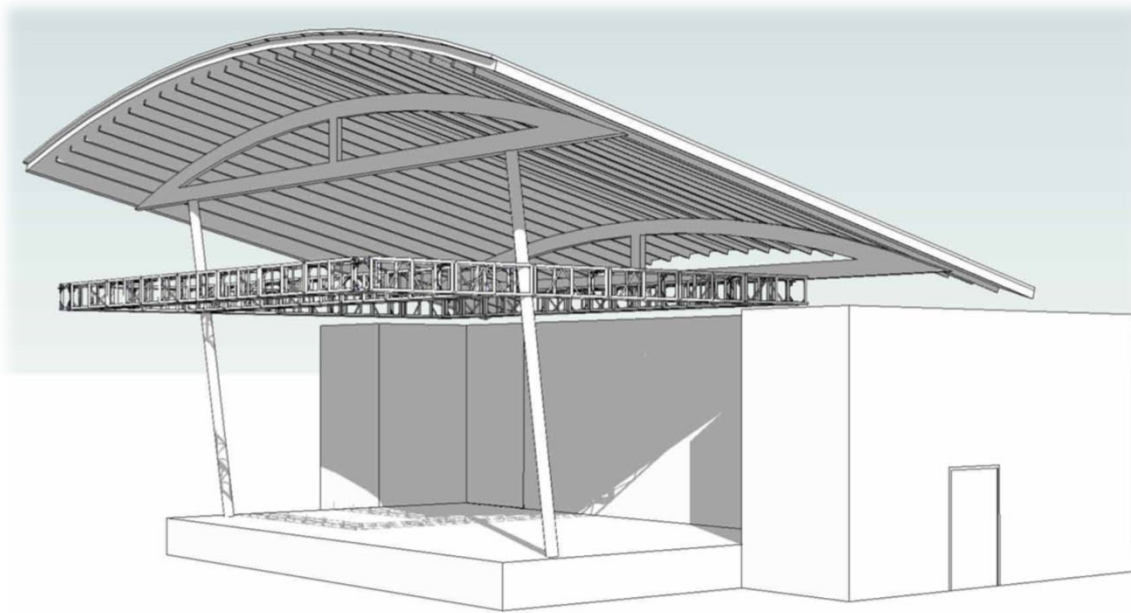
- 08/18/10; Stakeholder workshop #1
- 08/25/10; Stakeholder workshop #2
- 09/04/10; Farmer's Market display #1
- 09/07/10; Council Chambers open house
- 09/07/10 – on; City Website display
- 09/07/10 – on; East City Park display
- 09/08-10/10; Hamilton-Lowe Rec. Center display
- 09/11/10; Farmer's Market display #2
- 09/15/10; Stakeholder workshop #3
- 09/20/10; City Council Presentation

2012 – East City Park Restroom Replacement

- 08/03/12; Direction to proceed on restroom
- 04/18/13; restroom construction complete



WHY WE'RE HERE...



WHERE WE'VE BEEN...

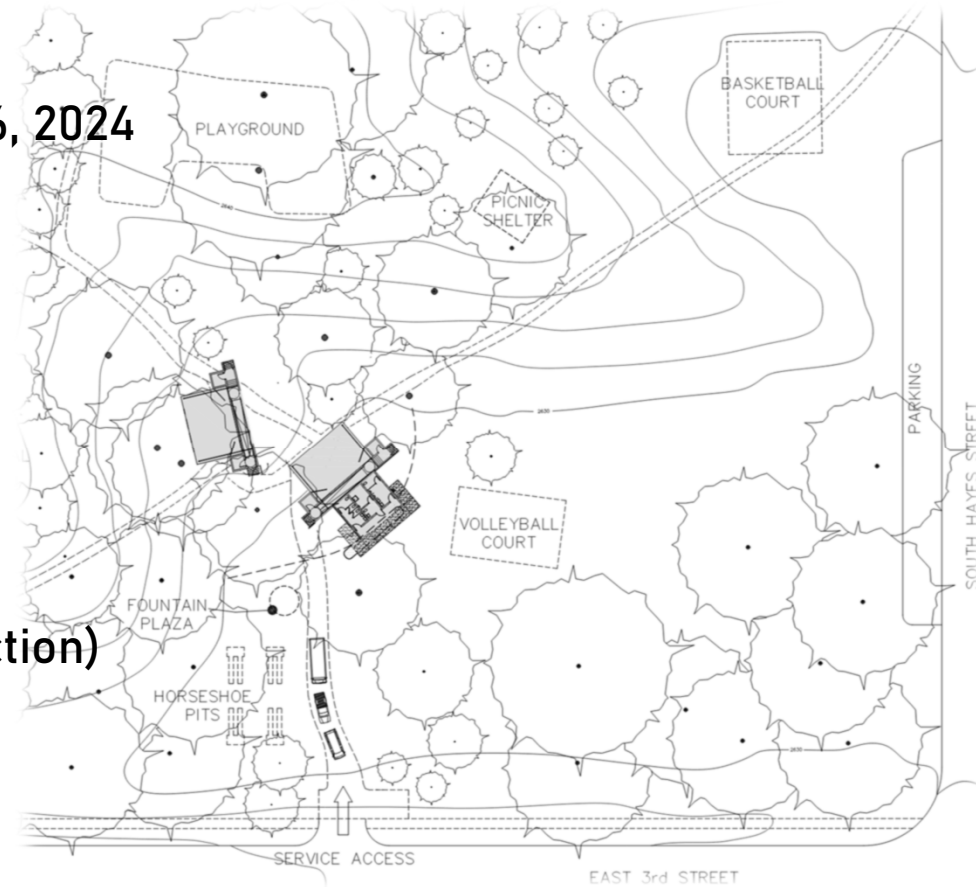
Professional Services Agreement-Approved May 6, 2024

30% Concept Design & Cost Estimate

Build Upon Previous Design & Outreach Effort

Inform Future Budget Request (Design & Construction)

Council Update-June 3, 2024



NOVEMBER 15, 2024 STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Rendezvous in the Park

Renaissance Fair

Earth Day

Hemp Fest

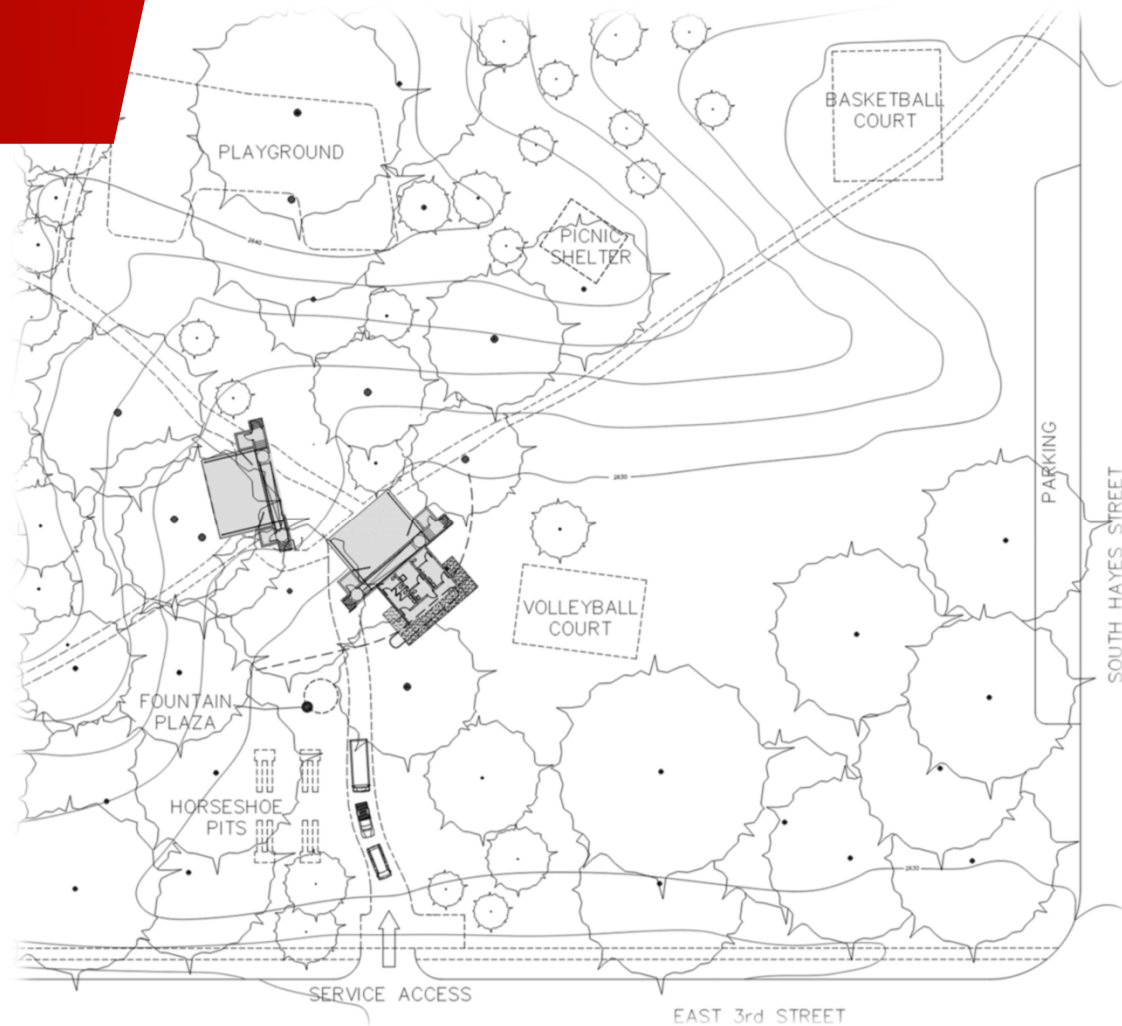
Palouse Pride

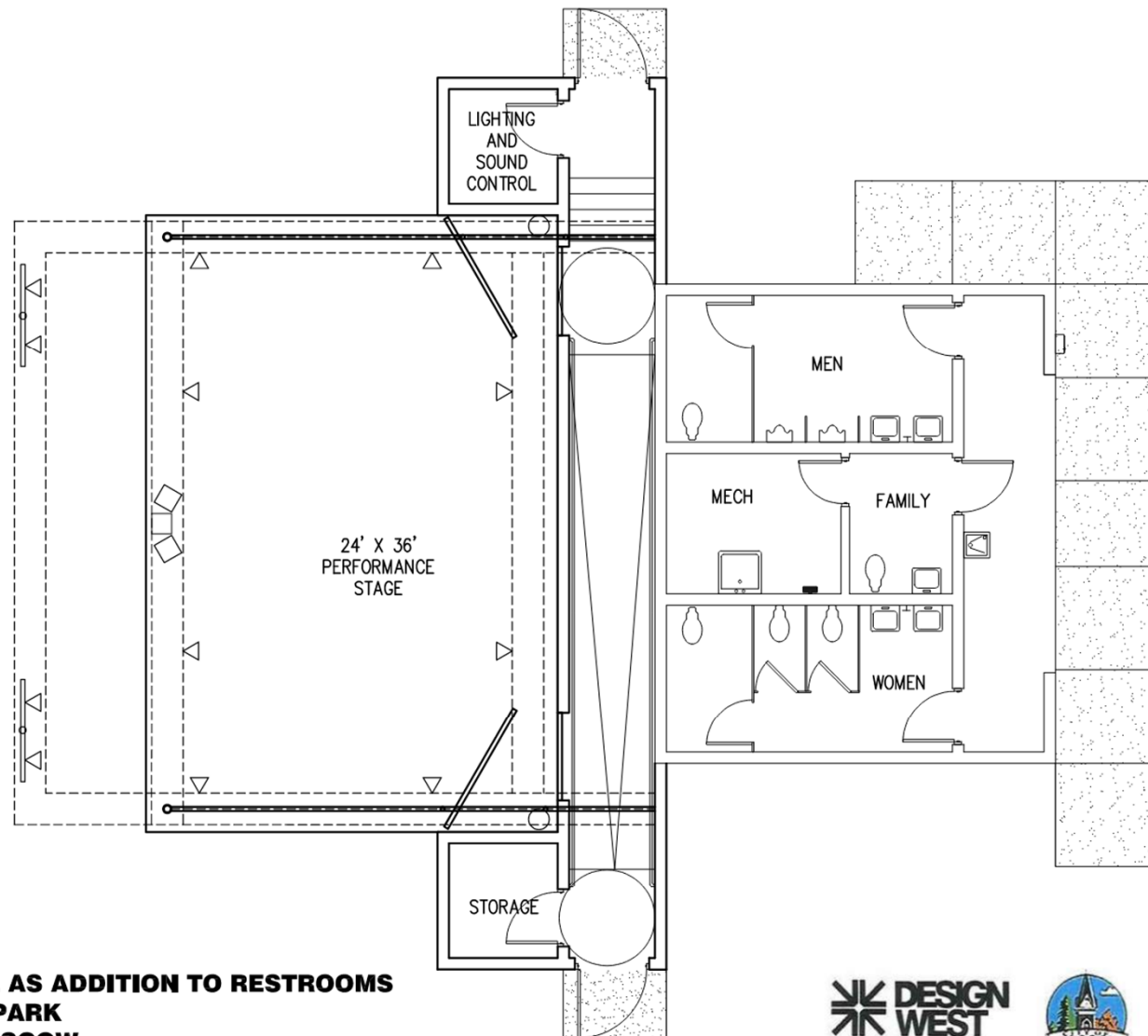
Moscow Community Band

Festival Dance

Latah Recovery Festival

City Staff

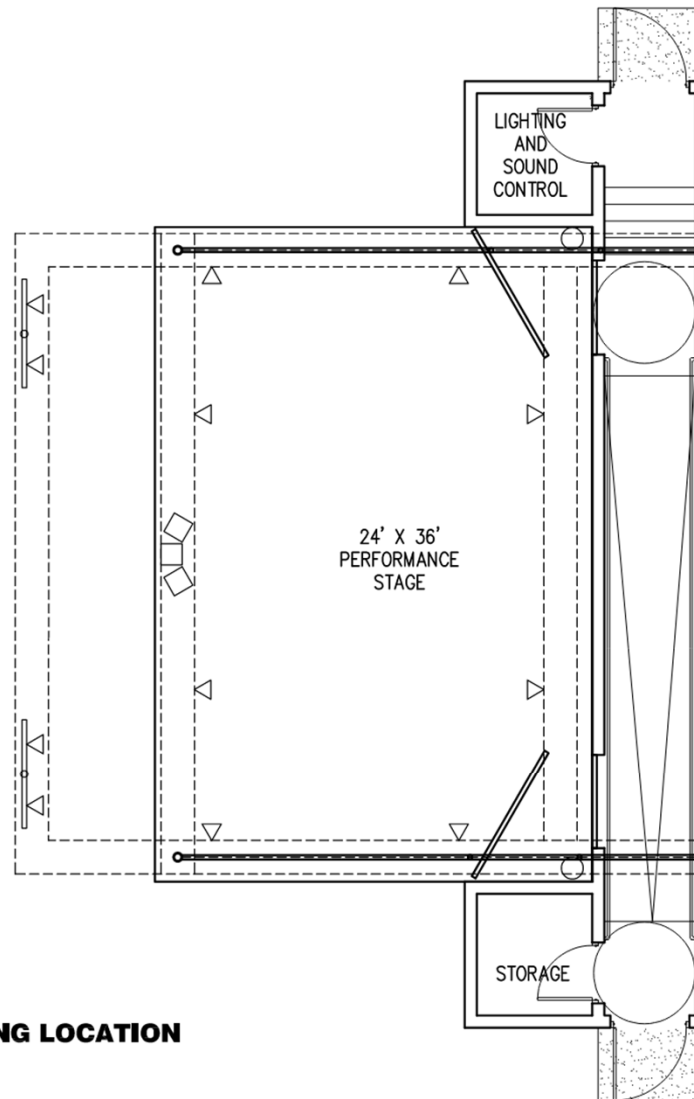




**NEW STAGE AS ADDITION TO RESTROOMS
EAST CITY PARK
CITY OF MOSCOW**

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" DATE: 08/08/24





**NEW STAGE IN EXISTING LOCATION
EAST CITY PARK
CITY OF MOSCOW**

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0" DATE: 08/08/24





New Stage as Addition to Restrooms
(West View)





New Stage as Addition to Restrooms
(East View)





New Stage as Addition to Restrooms
(North-East View)





New Stage in Existing Location
(North-West View)

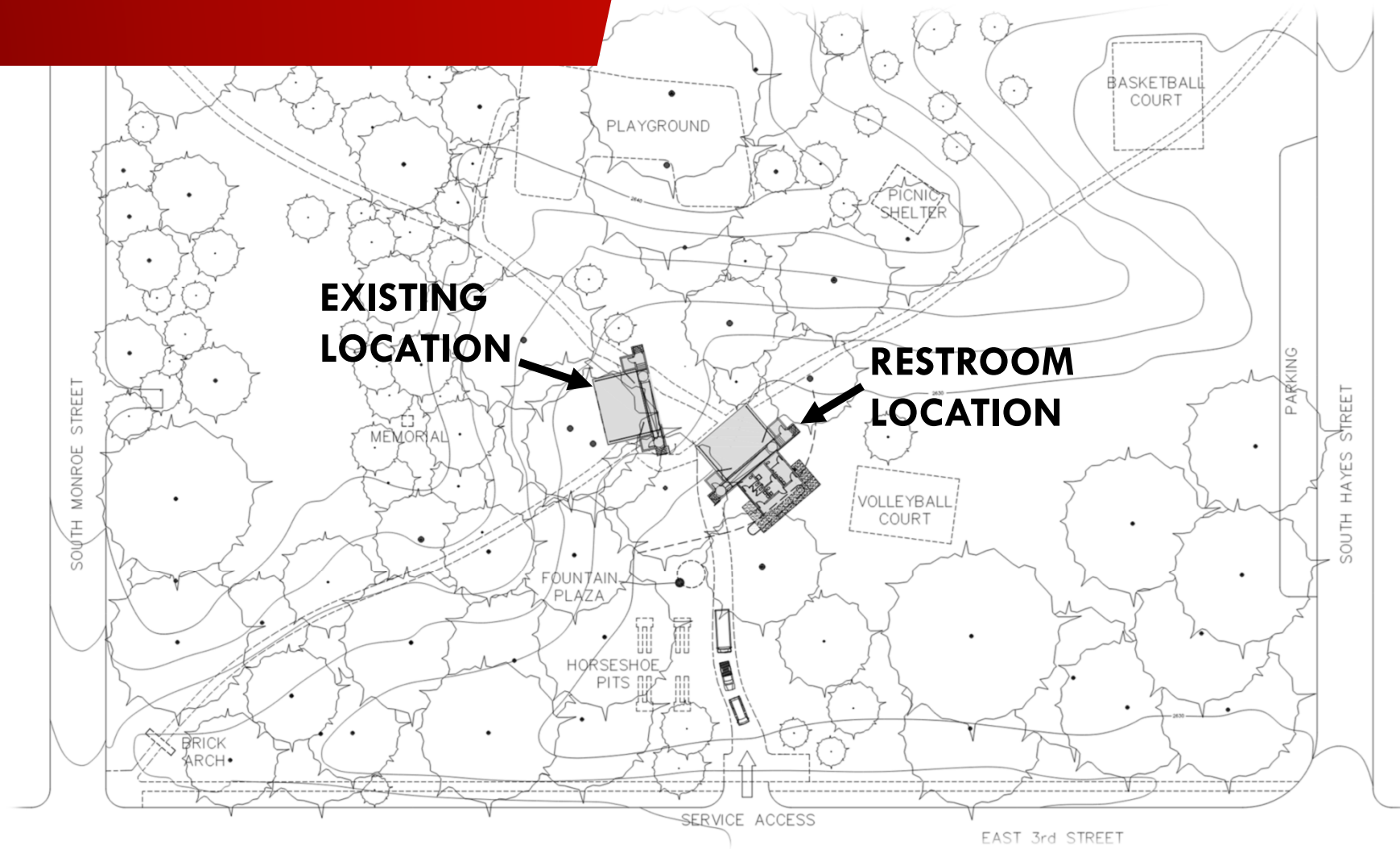




New Stage in Existing Location
(North View)



LOCATION STUDY



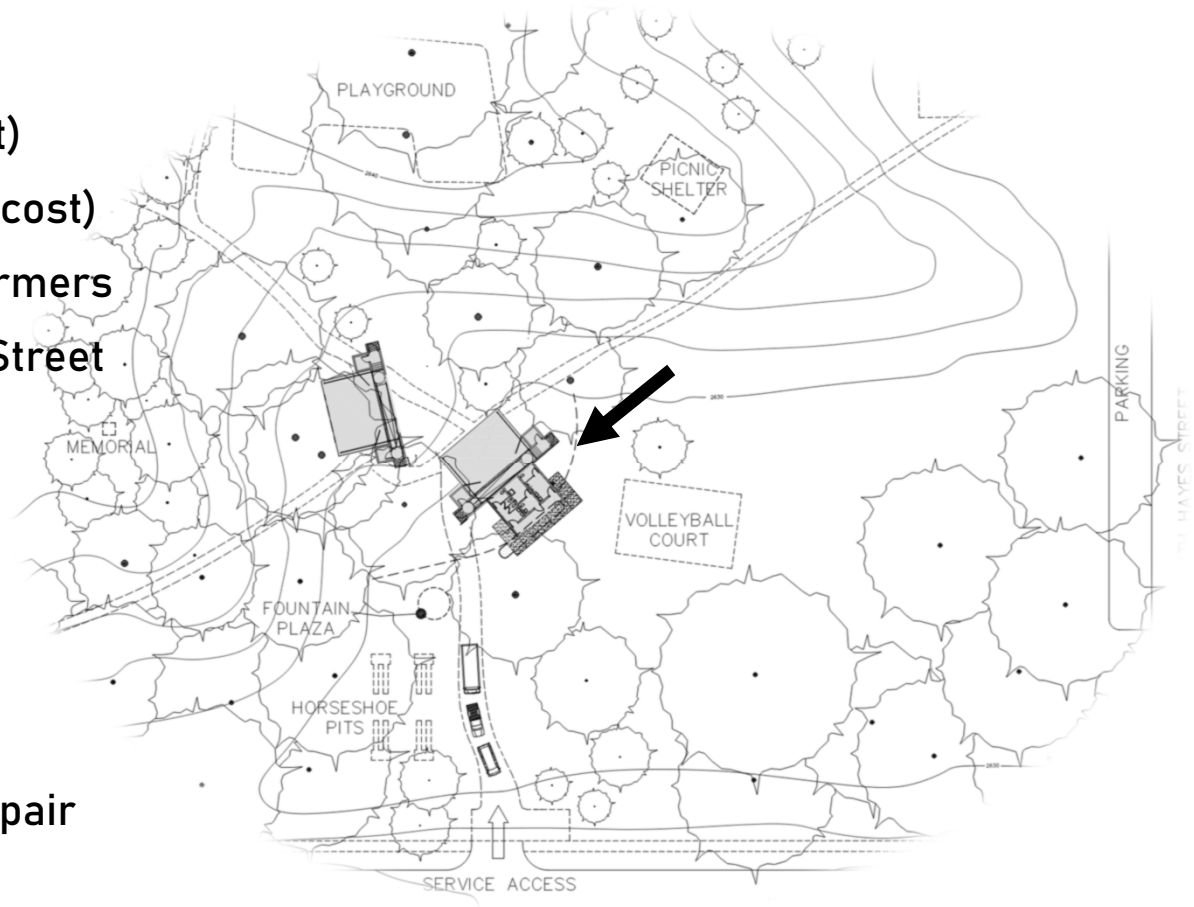
RESTROOM LOCATION

PROS

- Only requires removal of one small tree
- Utilizes back wall of restroom (reduced cost)
- Electrical service already in place (reduced cost)
- Eliminates issues with setting sun for performers
- Minimizes noise and distraction from Third Street
- Increased amphitheater seating space
- Improved site lines
- Accommodates larger audiences
- Single structure minimizes paving

CONS

- Will require additional grading/landscape repair
- Removal of paving required for new stage



EXISTING LOCATION

PROS

Reduced disturbance of landscape (turf)

Less paving removed

CONS

Requires removal of three large trees

Cannot use existing restroom wall (increased cost)

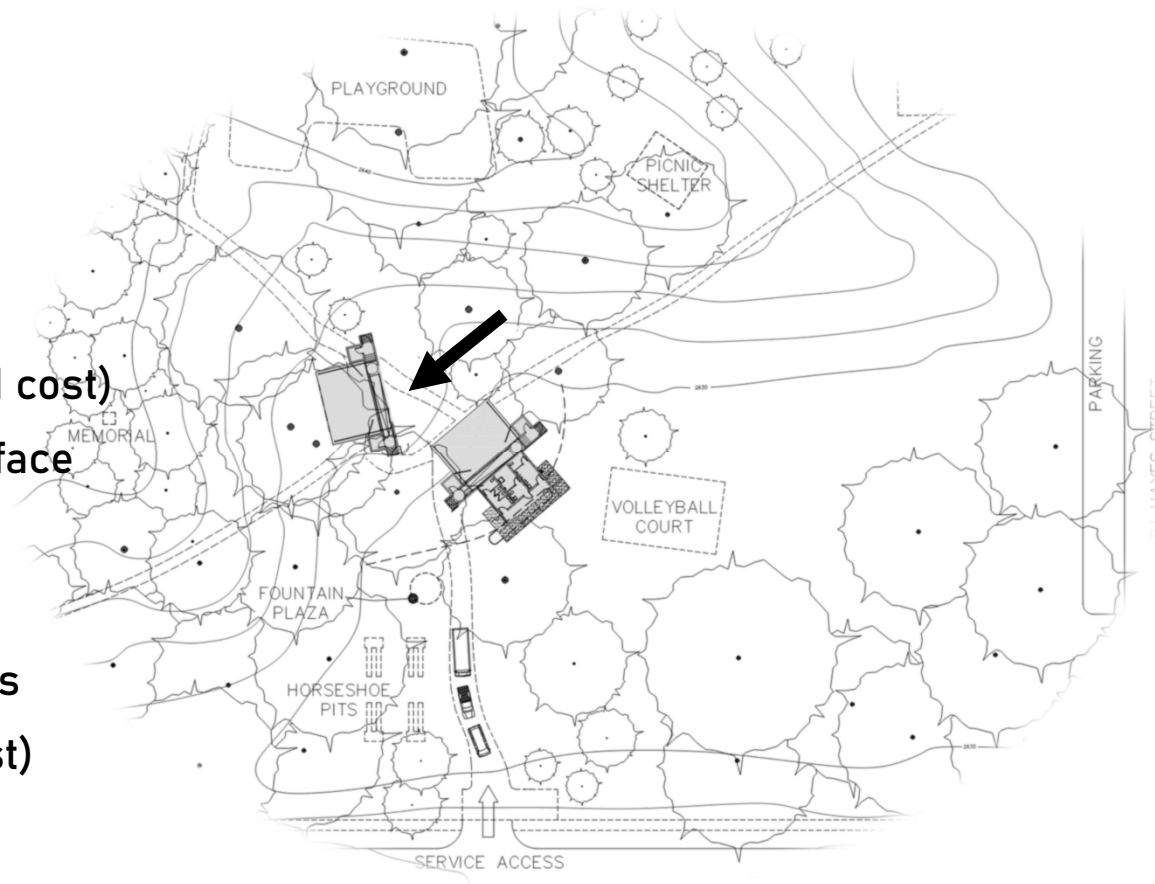
Orientation places setting sun in performers face

Reduced visibility

Smaller seating area

Paving required to access separate structures

Extension of electrical service (increased cost)



WHAT WE HEARD...

Unanimous Support for Location & Orientation*

Power (Events & Performances)

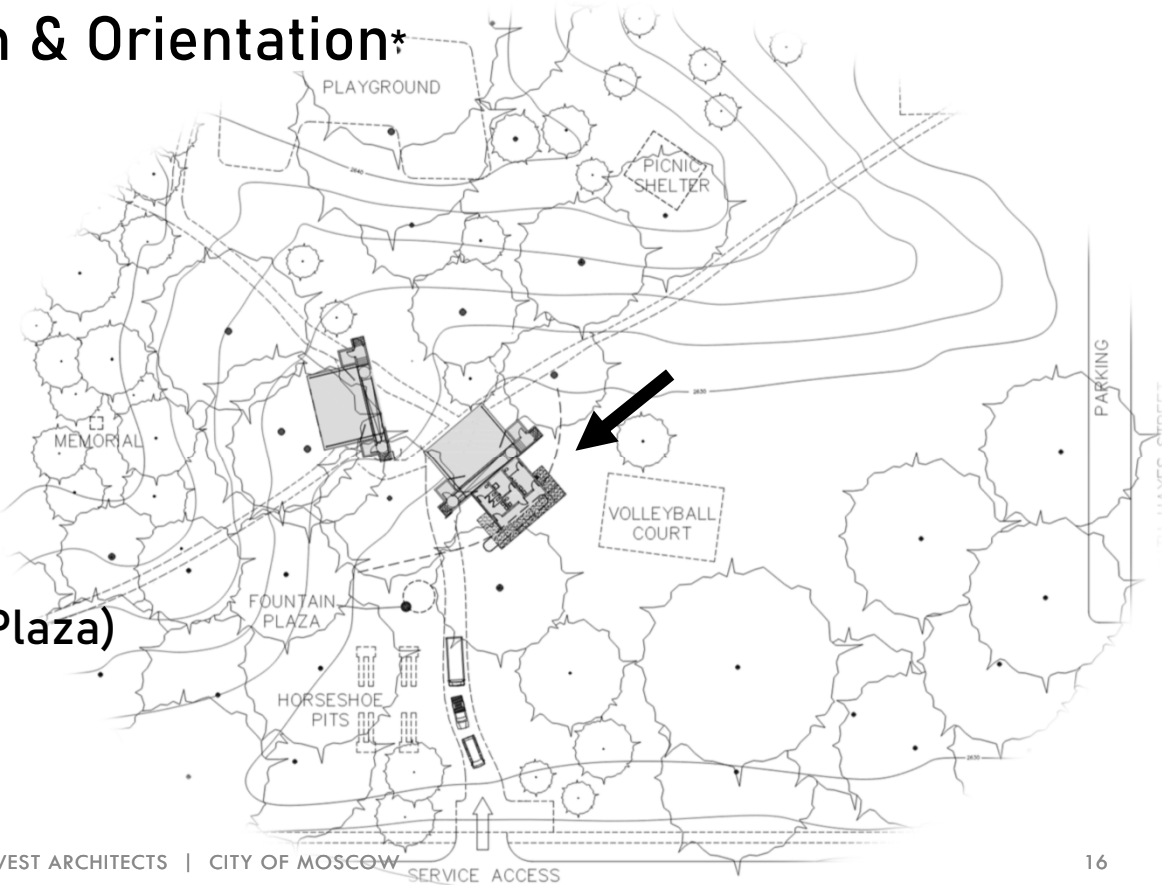
Loading & Unloading Space

Accessibility

Maintain/Enhance Pedestrian Circulation

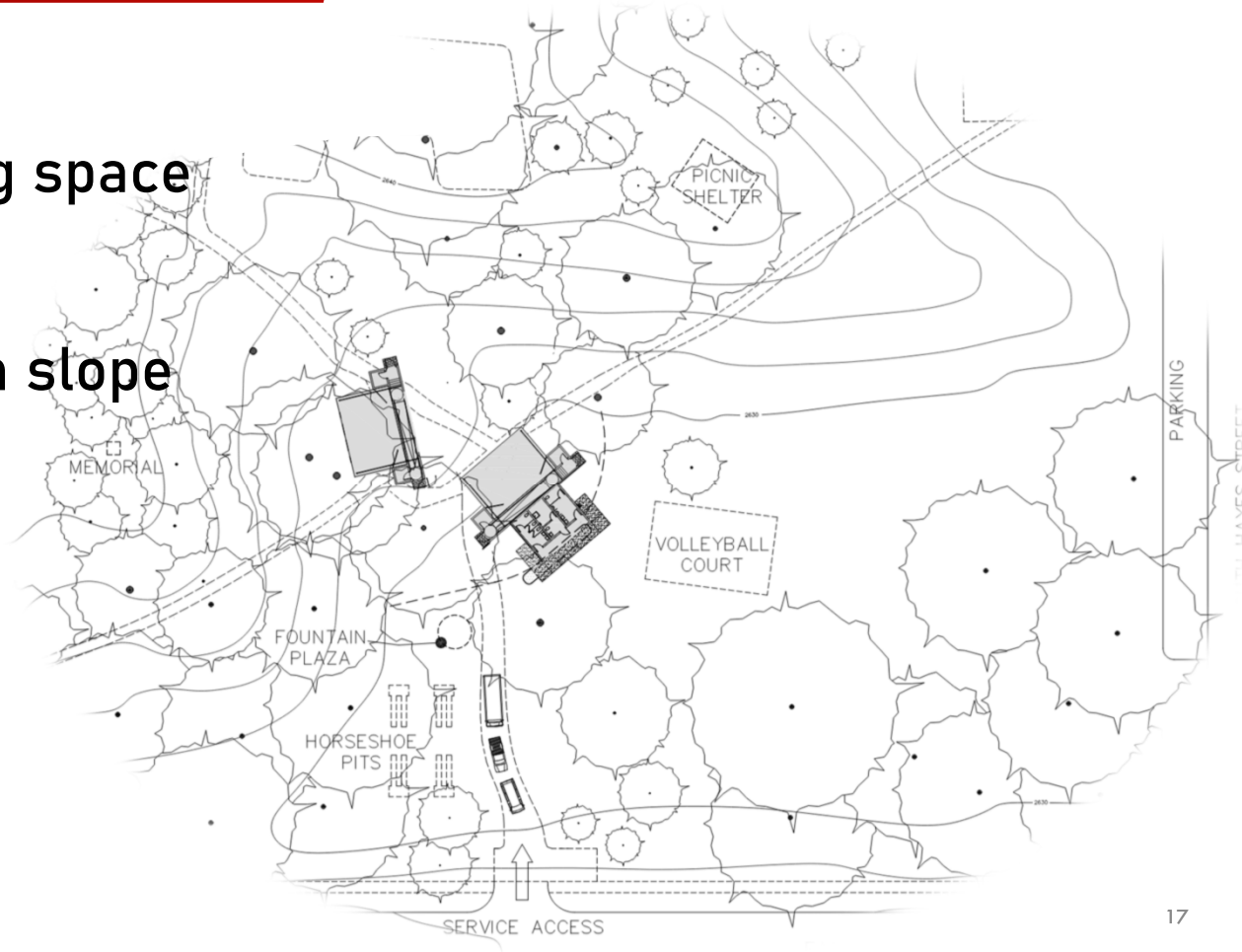
Durable Surface for Audience (Dancers Plaza)

Flexibility for Lighting & Sound

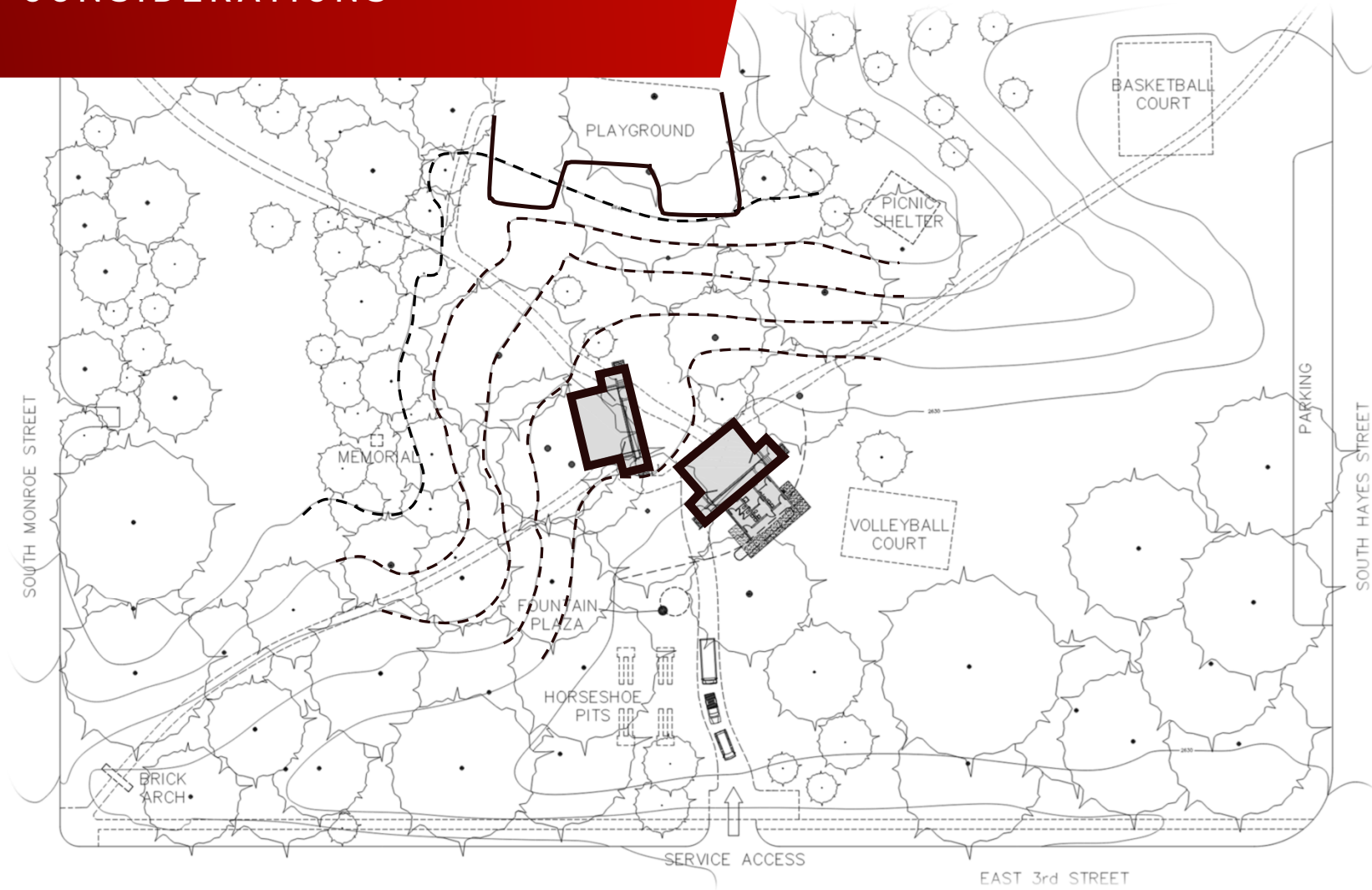


WHAT WE HEARD (INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS)...

- Loss of community gathering space
- No longer centrally located
- Accessibility challenges with slope
- Reduced seating
- Space for vendors/booths



DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



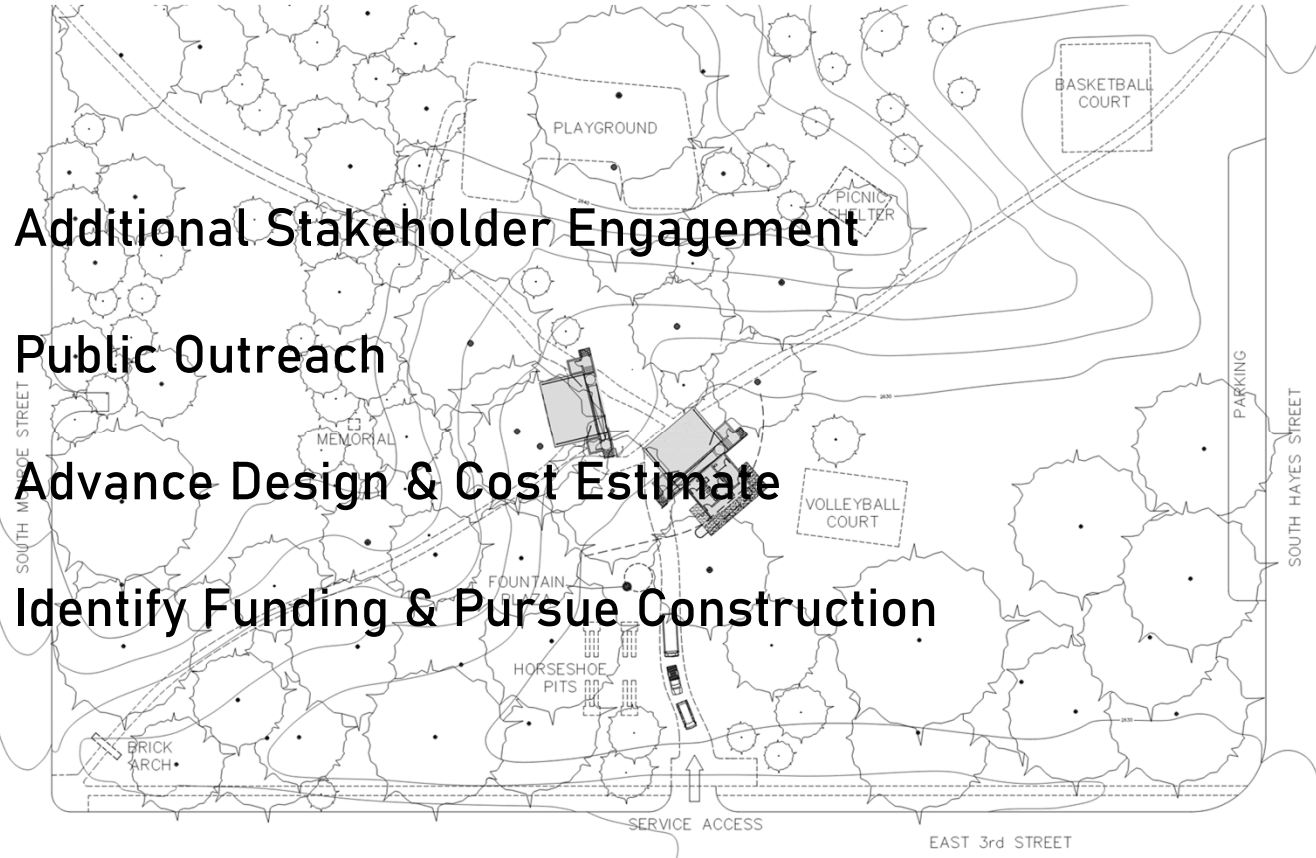
WHAT'S NEXT?

Additional Stakeholder Engagement

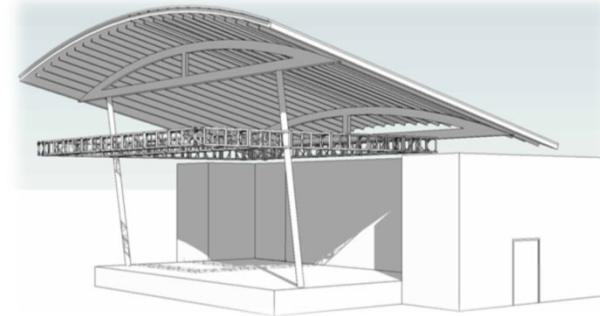
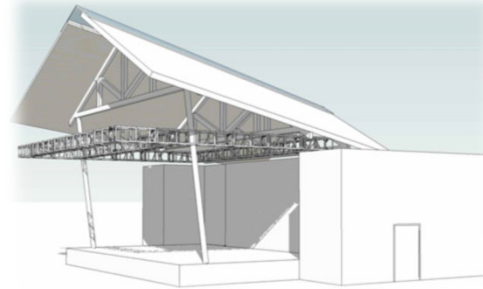
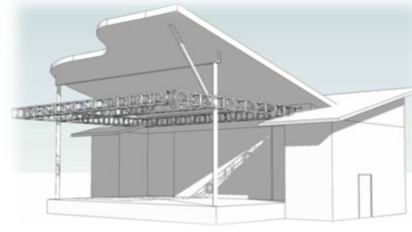
Public Outreach

Advance Design & Cost Estimate

Identify Funding & Pursue Construction



DESIGN WEST ARCHITECTS | CITY OF MOSCOW



ADDITIONAL PUBLIC OUTREACH

Stakeholder Group Meeting

Open House/Public Meeting

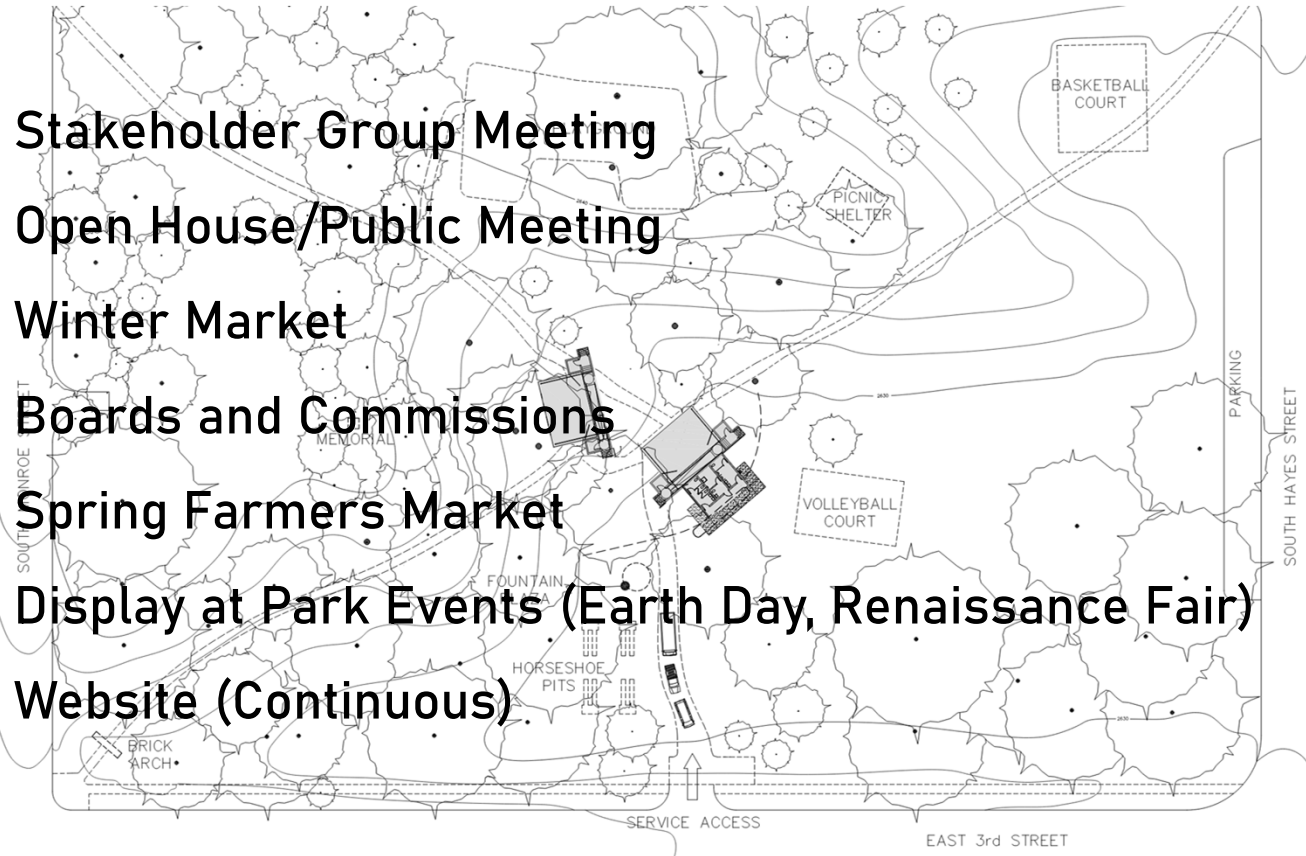
Winter Market

Boards and Commissions

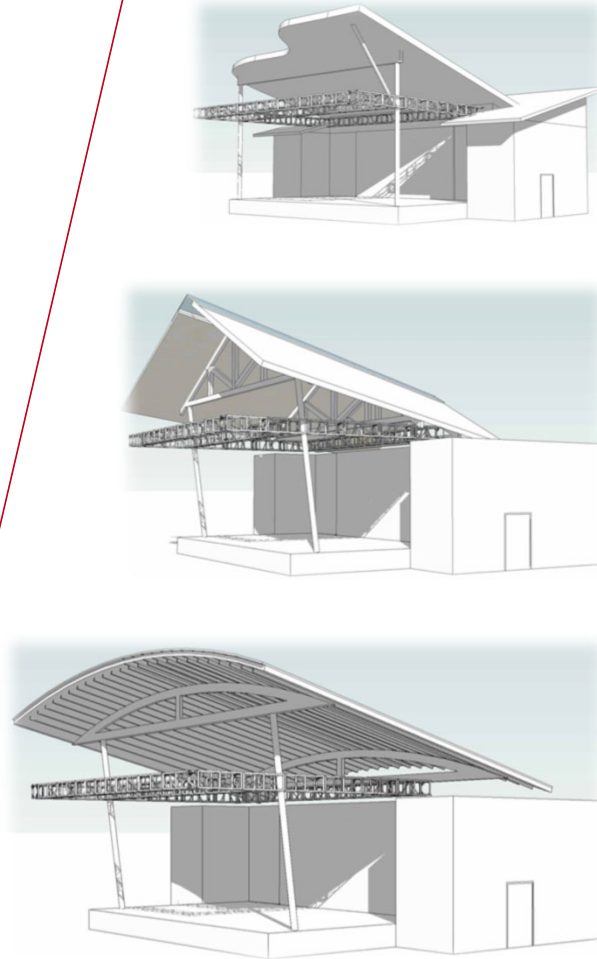
Spring Farmers Market

Display at Park Events (Earth Day, Renaissance Fair)

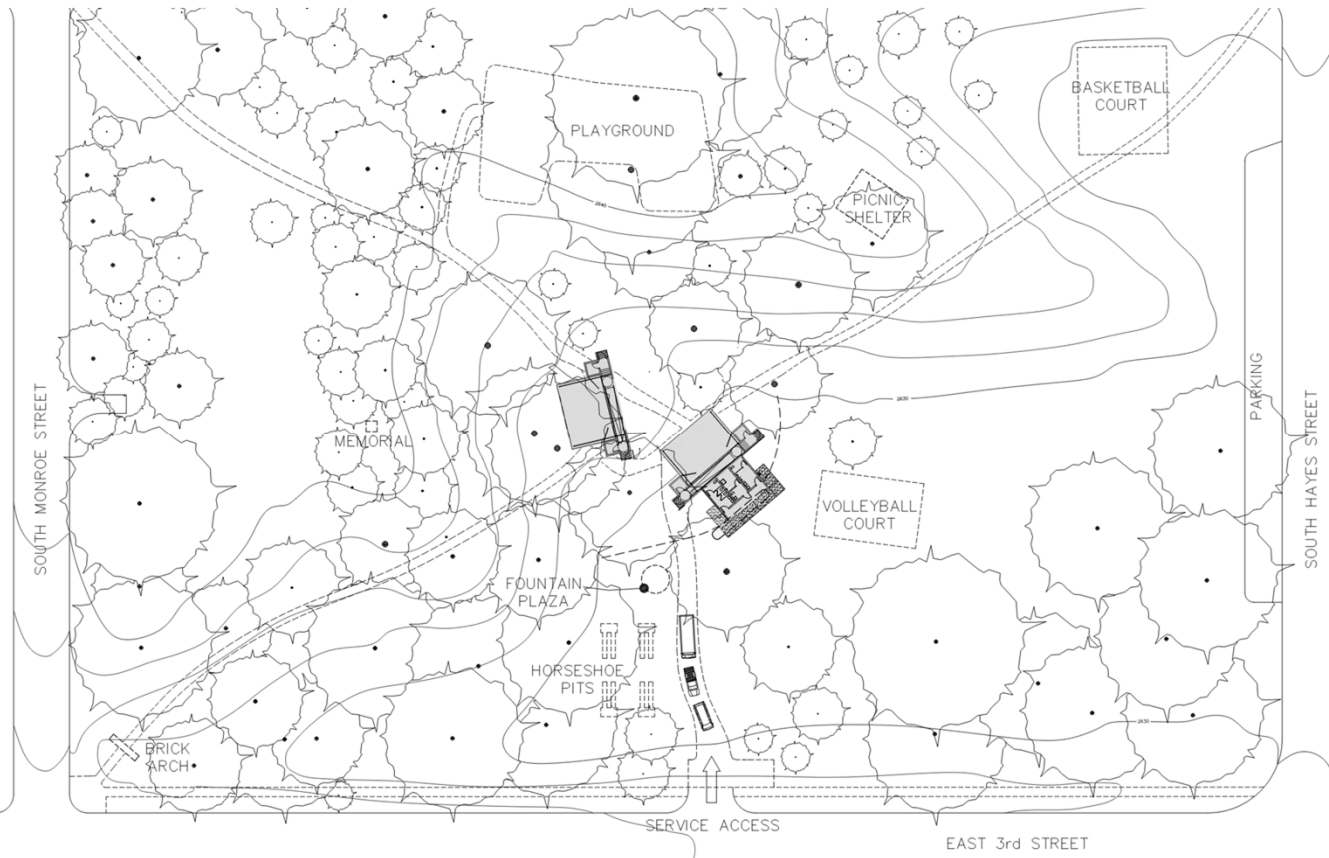
Website (Continuous)



DESIGN WEST ARCHITECTS | CITY OF MOSCOW



QUESTIONS?



DESIGN WEST ARCHITECTS | CITY OF MOSCOW

