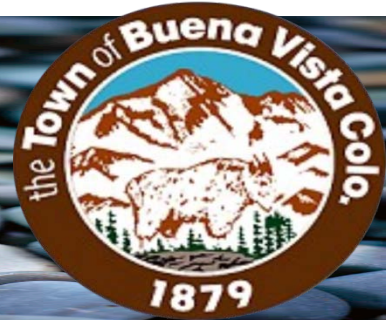


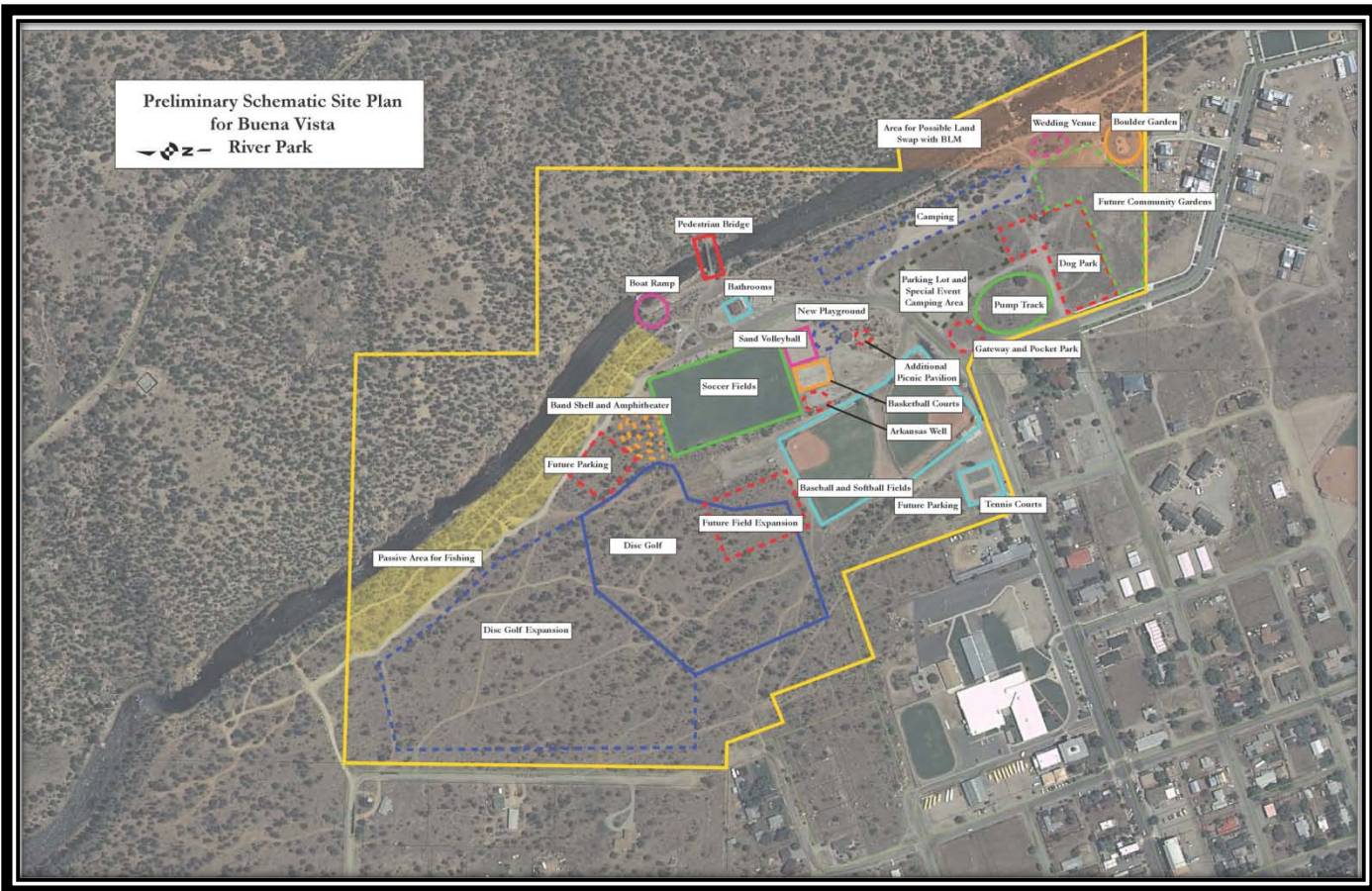
# Buena Vista River Park Site Plan



Approved by  
the Buena Vista Board of Trustees  
January 8, 2013

# Schematic Design

## Buena Vista River Park

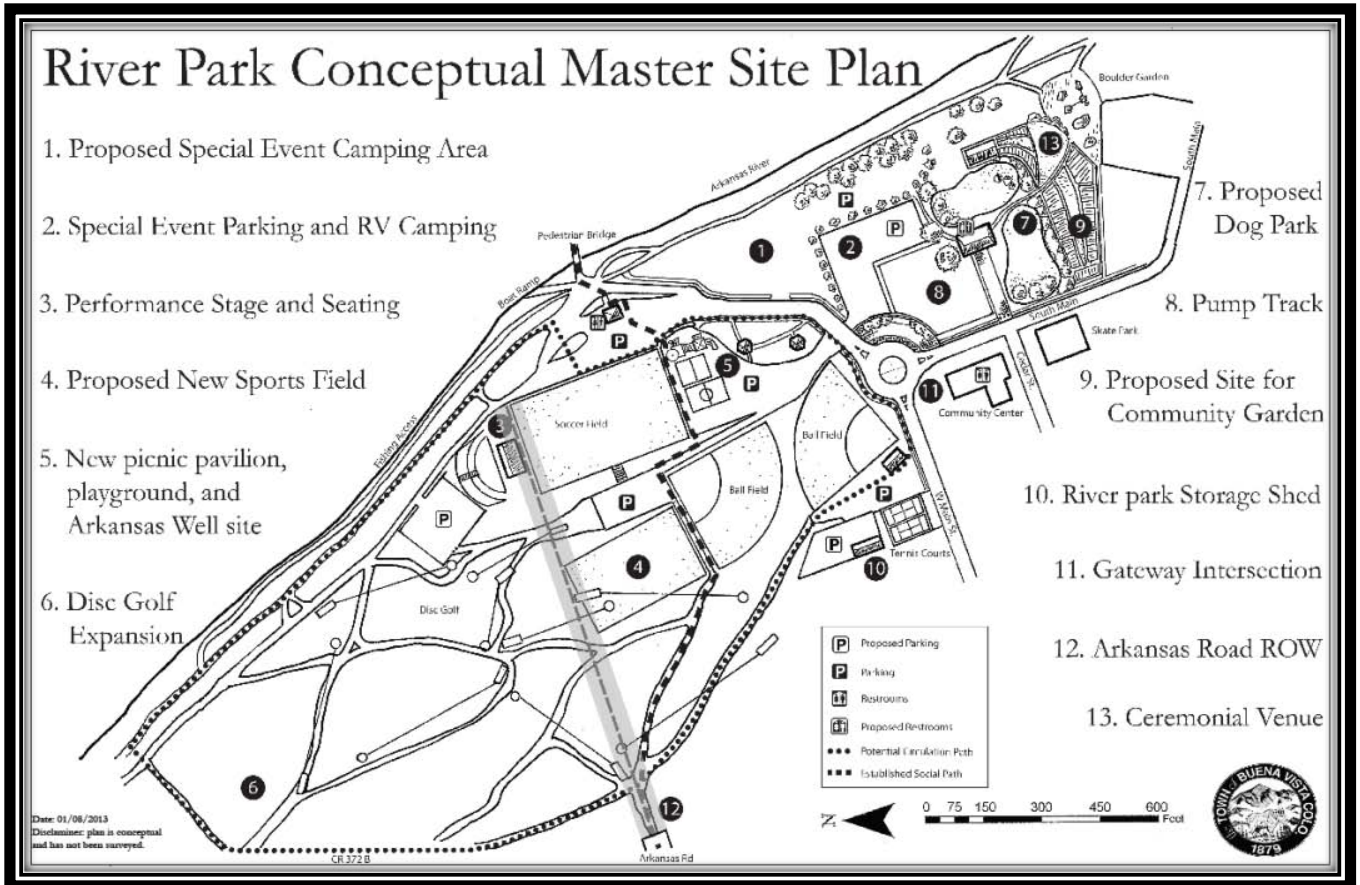


The Schematic Design for the Buena Vista River Park was developed in June, 2012. The purpose of this document is to provide a rough outline of uses and elements to be elaborated on later in the process. Pictured above are the different proposed recreation elements of the park (dotted lines), as well as existing amenities (solid lines), the Bureau of Land Management land and the Fishing is Fun overlays (shaded areas), and the Project Area (yellow bounding line).

The next step of the River Park design process is to create a Conceptual Master Site Plan. This plan will provide more detail for each element and help to establish a theme or vision for the park.

# Conceptual Master Site Plan

## Buena Vista River Park



### Identifying Elements

The purpose of this narrative is to establish context for the elements singled out in the River Park Schematic Design. These elements have been identified by the community, Town Staff, and Town Advisory Boards as key elements to transform our River Park into a Statewide, and potentially national, attraction.

### Creating Connectivity

Connectivity and access are also key factors in the River Park design. Primary access points for different modes of transportation must be identified and enhanced to accommodate Buena Vista locals and visitors of all ages and abilities.

### Achieving a Vision

Above all, the Buena Vista River Park must achieve its vision to become a destination for people pursuing a full spectrum of recreation activities. As the plan develops and becomes more concrete, this idea must be maintained: Buena Vista has something to offer to everyone.

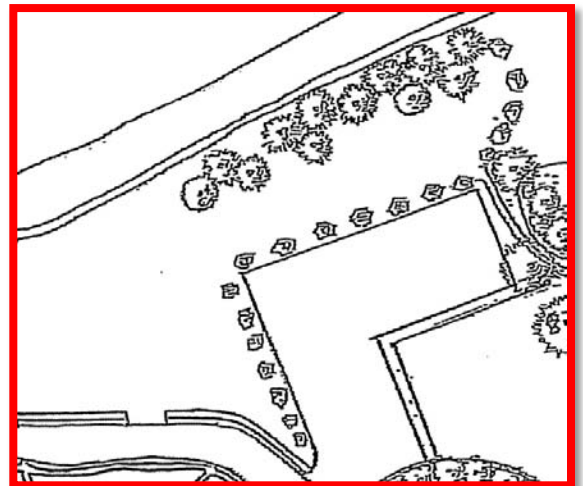
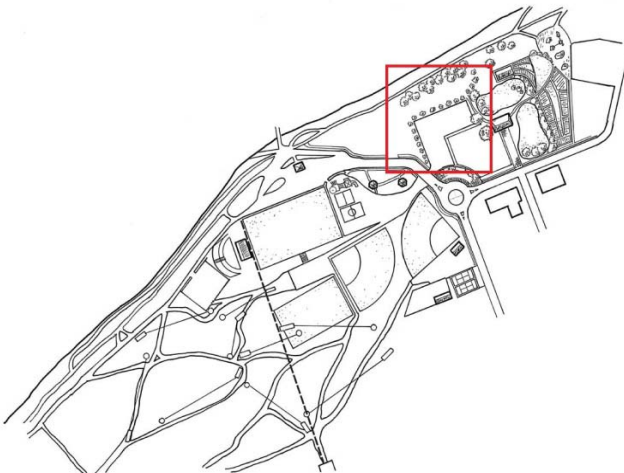
# Special Event Camping/Parking

## Buena Vista River Park

As the River Park develops and new uses are implemented, Buena Vista will see an influx of visitors, particularly to this area of town. To accommodate visitors to the various amenities of the park, additional parking will be required. The identified location below is central to several uses. It could also accommodate RV camping for large special events.

Special event camping also becomes a priority. The proposed pump track, sport fields, disc golf expansion, performance stage, and whitewater park all have potential to host special events, attracting a large number of visitors that may need to stay over night. Taking this into consideration, additional bathroom facilities located near the camping site would be desirable. The Conceptual Master Site Plan features proposed future bathrooms under the shelter that is central to the Dog Park, Pump Track, Community Garden, and Special Event Parking and Camping areas. This location would be ideal to serve multiple functions.

The Town should investigate amending a Fishing Is Fun agreement with the State Division of Parks and Wildlife to accommodate special event camping and other proposed uses within relevant boundaries.

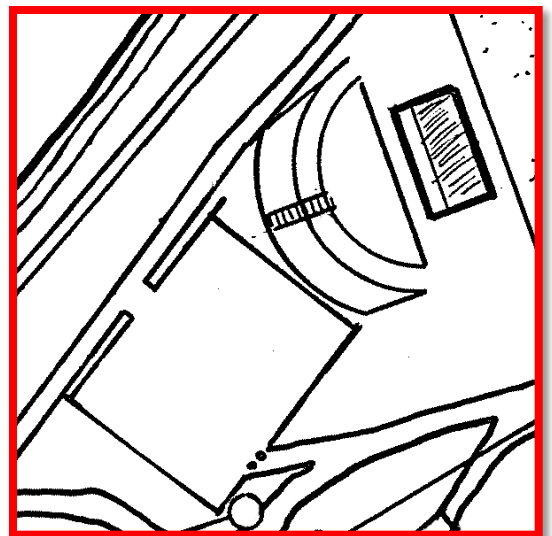
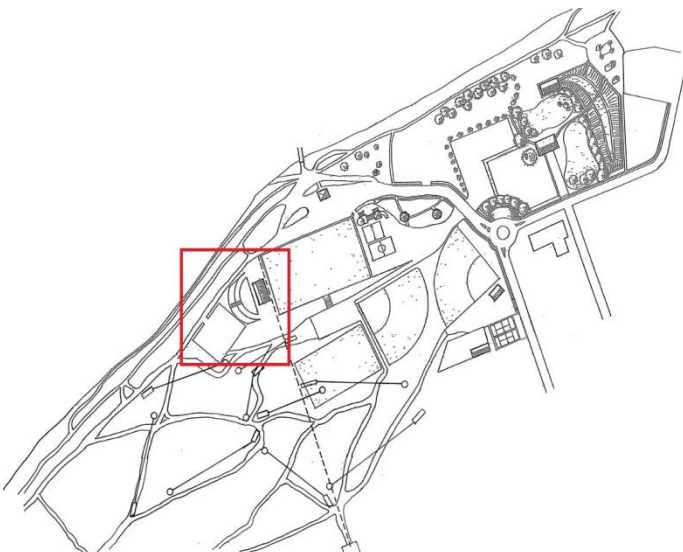


# Performance Stage

## Buena Vista River Park

Buena Vista is long overdue for a performance venue in one of its parks. There is no better opportunity to implement this idea than during a River Park discussion. This type of venue could host events of several different types and sizes, from High School plays to big name musical acts. Its placement at the north end of the soccer field would allow for a two-sided stage to better accommodate events of different sizes; the northern facing stage would host smaller audiences in an amphitheater-type setting, and the southern facing stage would host concert type events for larger audiences seated on the soccer field.

Also located in this area of the Conceptual Master Site Plan is additional parking. This parking could accommodate events on the soccer field, at the performance stage, or it could be used as overflow parking for other events. Depending on the future of the Arkansas Right-of-Way, this parking could also be accessible from another River Park entrance in the future.

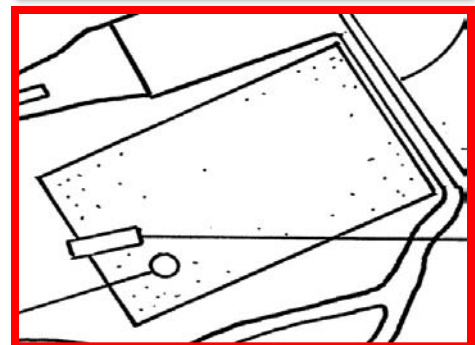
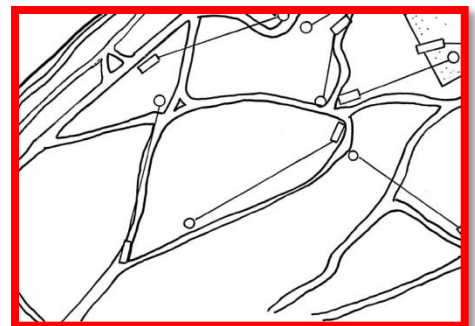
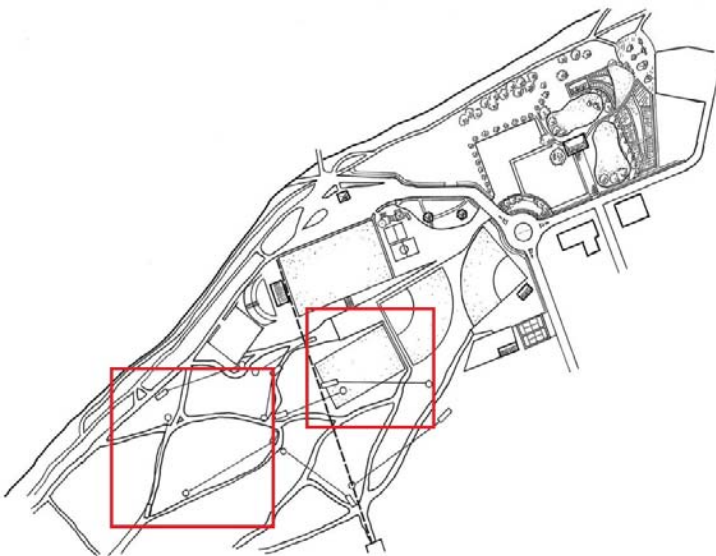


# Sports Field/Disc Golf Expansion

## Buena Vista River Park

The expansion of the sports fields may become necessary with the development of the River Park due to heavy use and more demand for green space. The proposed placement of this additional field would require less grading and has proximity to other sports fields and parking. Artificial turf may be more sustainable in terms of upkeep.

The disc golf course has room to expand in the northern end of the project area. Because of the flexibility of hole placement, the disc golf course may also be altered to accommodate other new uses, including but not limited to the field expansion, performance stage, and additional parking.



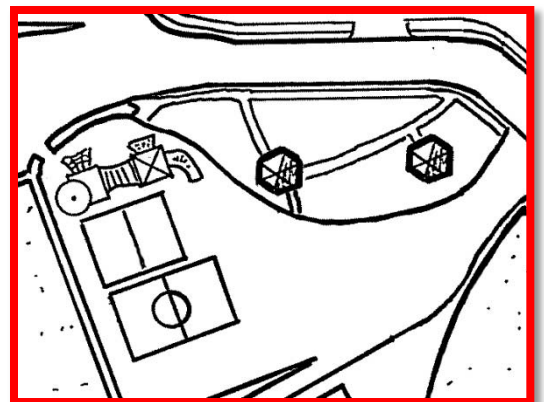
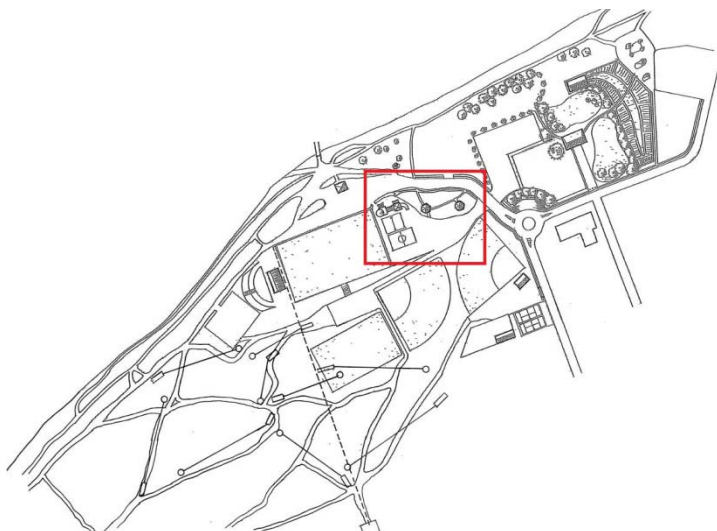
# Picnic Pavilion, Playground, and Well Site

## Buena Vista River Park

The current playground located next to the community center is dilapidated and relatively unused. The proposed site for a new playground is ideal because of its proximity to the current picnic pavilion, the proposed picnic pavilion, and the surrounding sports fields. It is far enough away from the Arkansas River to eliminate that as a safety hazard for small children, and it is close enough to the soccer field and picnic pavilions for parents to maintain a line of vision on their children without being at the playground.

The current picnic pavilion has seen heavy use. More shade structures are desired at the River Park in general, although an additional picnic pavilion at the site of the playground is appropriate due to expected high usage.

The planned Arkansas Well does not have a footprint on the current version of the Plan, however this site is ideal for such a use. Being a central location in the River Park, the Arkansas Well could pump non-potable water to all uses that require it; the Pump Track for maintenance, the Dog Park for water features, the Community Garden for irrigation, the fields for watering, etc. This amenity would enable enhanced use of all other featured elements of the River Park.



# Dog Park

## Buena Vista River Park

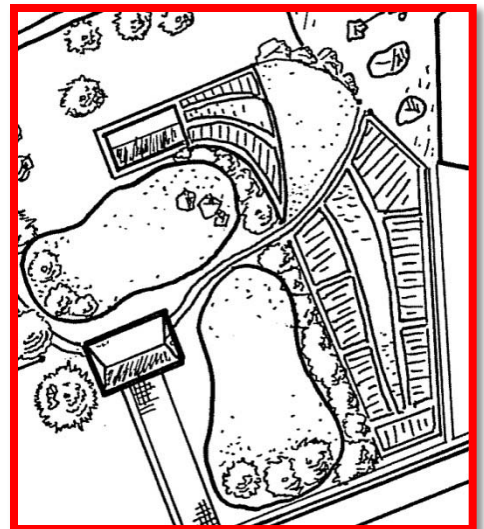
The Bark Valley Dog Club is the primary proponent behind the proposed dog park. The dog park would provide a place for dogs to be leash less and play in a safe controlled environment without harassing people or the environment. Two fenced-in areas are proposed, one for large dogs and one for small dogs, with double gated entrances and exits for each so that newly arrived dogs and owners will not be crowded by dogs that are already in the park, and so that dogs will not escape when additional visitors arrive. The design of the park also calls for a rounded fence footprint so that dogs do not feel cornered at any point.



The Bark Valley Dog Club has proposed that the Town build the park with some donated materials. The park will be maintained by the Town and by organized volunteers. Partners in this project include the Bark Valley Dog Club, the Ark-Valley Humane Society, Rocky Mountain Lumber, and the Department of Corrections (at the Town's request).

The Bark Valley Dog Club has already started fundraising for the park, and is open to organize clean-ups. The Ark-Valley Humane Society is also open to soliciting members for clean-ups. Rocky Mountain Lumber will provide at-cost construction materials.

Besides providing dog owners with a dog friendly environment, the dog park would also provide the town with another tourist attraction. Travelers with dogs gravitate towards destinations with dog friendly amenities.

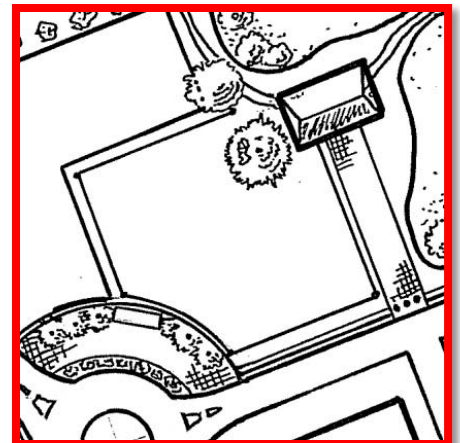
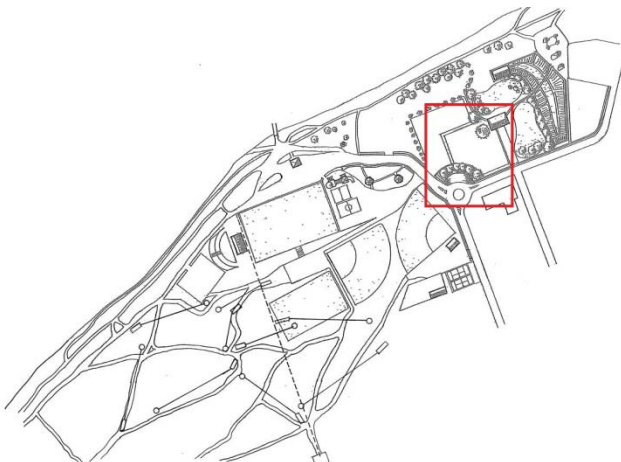




# Pump Track

Buena Vista River Park

The pump track has seen lots of use since its construction, but it has become overgrown with unattractive weeds. A viable plan for repairs, maintenance, and the possible addition of new features (e.g. a trials course, a picnic area, current track repairs, and an additional single track with obstacles) needs further consideration with the help of a committed community partner.

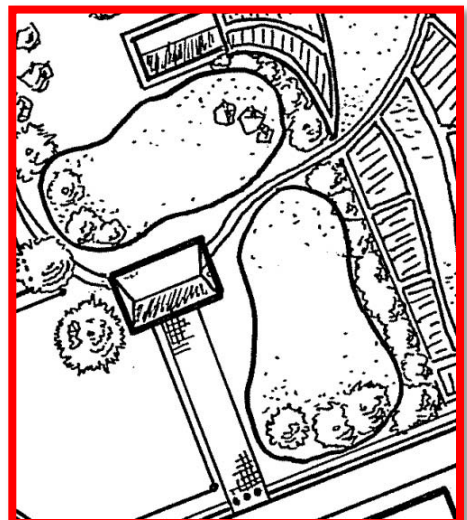
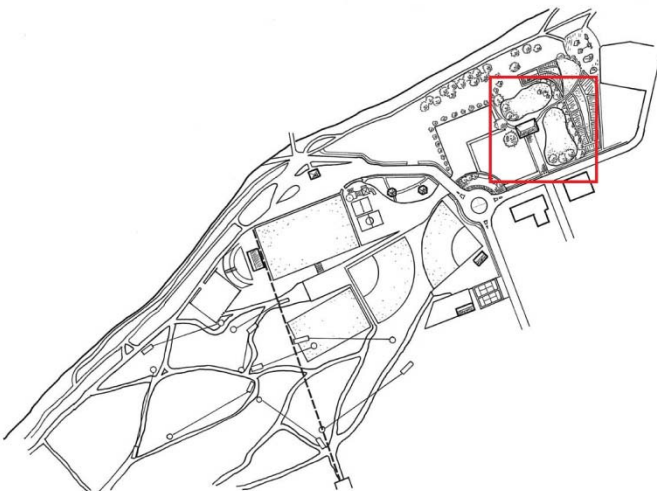


# Community Garden Site and Ceremony Venue

## Buena Vista River Park

The southern portion of the River Park could feature the footprint of a Community Garden. This element of the Master Site Plan could feature garden plots, a small orchard, and a structure for tool storage and possibly the vending of products from the garden. This project would be contingent on the establishment of an Arkansas Well in the center of the River Park.

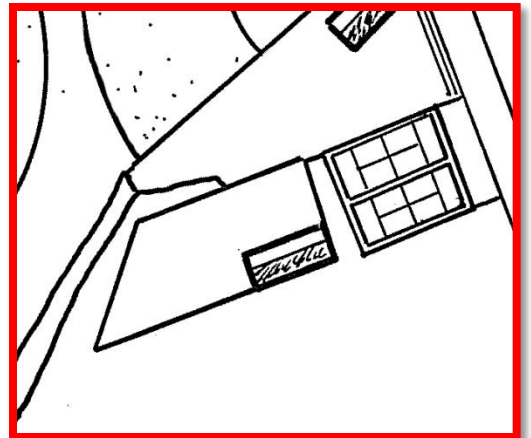
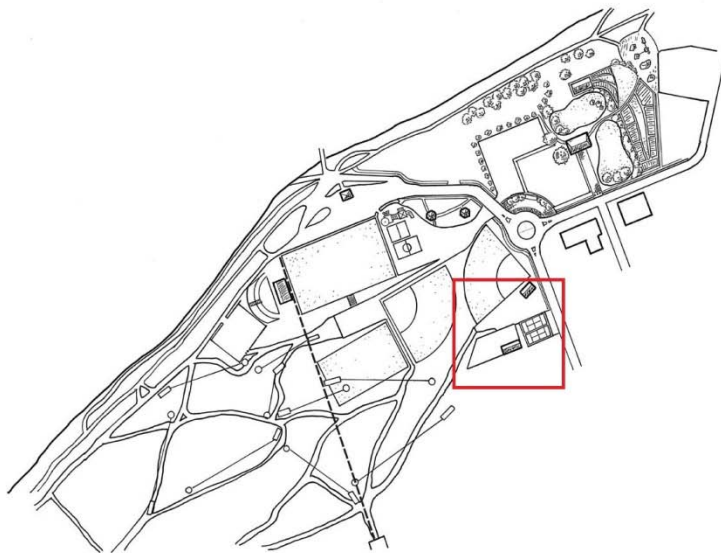
A Ceremony Venue is also sited in this footprint. The South Main Boulder Garden is bordered on the north end by large boulders. The Ceremony Venue would be located in the Community Garden on top of this plateau. The environment created by the orchard/garden and the views provided by the overlook would make an exceptional spot for a variety of ceremonies.



# River Park Storage Shed

Buena Vista River Park

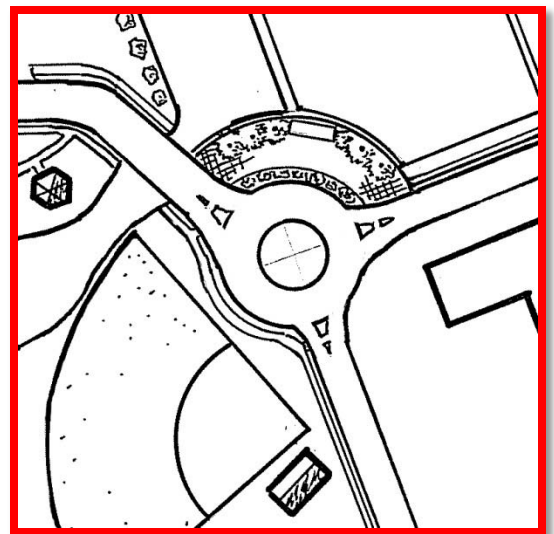
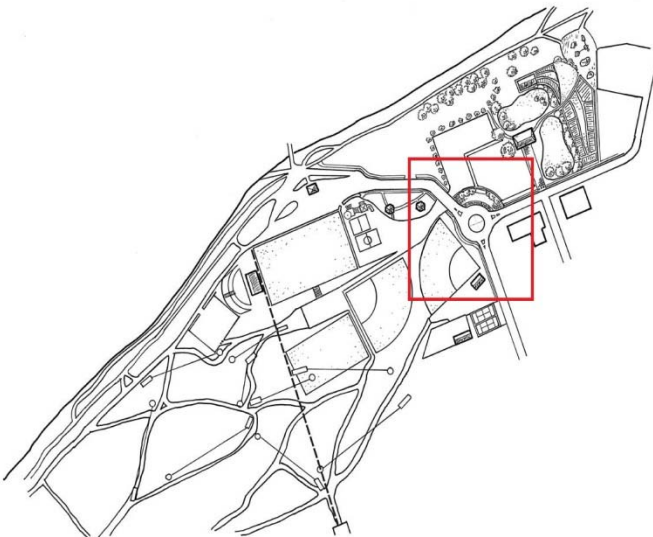
As the River Park adds more amenities and uses, maintenance will become more intensive. To accommodate this, it will be necessary to implement an on-site shed to house maintenance equipment. Event seating will also become an issue to address. One solution would be to house mobile seating or bleachers in a new storage shed. This would allow the seating to be “tractored” from storage to the site of an event with relative ease and short notice. This solution also calls for sufficient access and space for transportable seating throughout the site; this must be taken into consideration when laying down final use footprints.



# Gateway Intersection

## Buena Vista River Park

Paramount to the River Park's development is establishing an appropriate gateway with directional signage at the entrance to the park. The intersection at South Main and E Main Street will be completed with either a paved "T" intersection, or a roundabout. To the east of the intersection is the proposed site of a pocket park, visitor's kiosk, or other attractive monument in the view corridor from East Main Street. Such an area might include a site map, special event highlights, and public art.



# Other Concerns

## Buena Vista River Park

### Arkansas ROW

The Arkansas Street Right-of -Way has been a conversation without a decision for some time. It is crucial for the purpose of this project to decide on the future of this ROW. If it is to become another vehicular access point to the park, the park must be planned accordingly. If the ROW within the project area is eliminated, options for that area include additional parking or pedestrian and bike access. However, it must be taken into consideration that eliminating this ROW would be a permanent decision; another option would be to re-route the Arkansas ROW to accommodate uses and reserve the option to establish access to the River Park later on in the Plan.

### BLM Land Swap

The Bureau of Land Management owns the land in the southeast corner of the project area. Buena Vista would like to propose a land swap with the BLM to facilitate further development of the River Park. The proposed area to swap is located in the North East corner of the project area on the Preliminary Schematic Site Plan. This corner is across the river, and is vacant of any trails or uses. Therefore, it is an ideal candidate for a land swap..

### Fishing is Fun Area

The current Fishing is Fun grant area encompasses 400 feet from the center of the river onto the shore, from the northern boundary of the project area through the southern boundary. Buena Vista would like to renegotiate this contract to extend only to the slope of the hill above the river along the Arkansas River Trail. This would free up more area for River Park development in the future.

### Parking

As more uses are injected into the plan, parking becomes a greater issue. It is understood that the River Park currently has insufficient parking for the planned and proposed uses. The Town has already collected parking codes from other similar riverfront parks with similar uses. A parking inventory and analysis will be a necessity to move forward with implementation of River Park Master Site Plan components.

