

# MULTI-GENERATIONAL SPACE

TRANSFORM CASS GILBERT
MEMORIAL PARK INTO A MULTIGENERATIONAL SPACE FOR PLAY,
RECREATION AND VIEWS

Cass Gilbert Memorial Park's existing topography, sweeping views, and proximity to both neighborhoods and existing community assets (like the Capitol Building) make it a prime location for a public space that serves the broader community. As previously mentioned, the Capitol Mall fills a critical park gap in the City of Saint Paul. While the Upper and Lower Malls are great places to walk, picnic, and enjoy the outdoors, there is currently no space for young children to climb, swing, and play. Cass Gilbert Memorial Park can be this space and more. People of all ages and abilities can gather, play, and relax while gazing upon the Capitol Mall and Downtown. Gardens and iconic nature-based play features make Cass Gilbert Memorial Park a destination for those in the Twin Cities and beyond. Furthermore, a new discovery museum, interior event space, and cafe support additional Capitol Mall programming that was highly requested by community members and stakeholder alike.

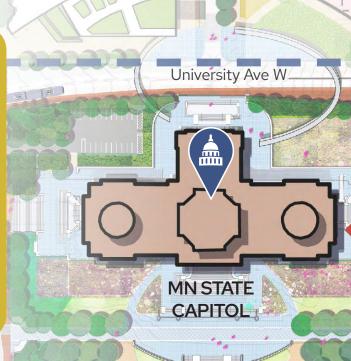
Sherburne Ave

Charles Ave

**PARK** 

### **TAKEAWAYS**

- Cass Gilbert Memorial Park's existing topography, sweeping views, and proximity to both neighborhoods and existing assets (like the Capitol Building itself) make it a prime location for a public space that serves the broader community.
- Integrating diverse programming such as a children's play environment, tree groves, walking paths, an overlook and park pavilions will create a destination for varied visitor groups.





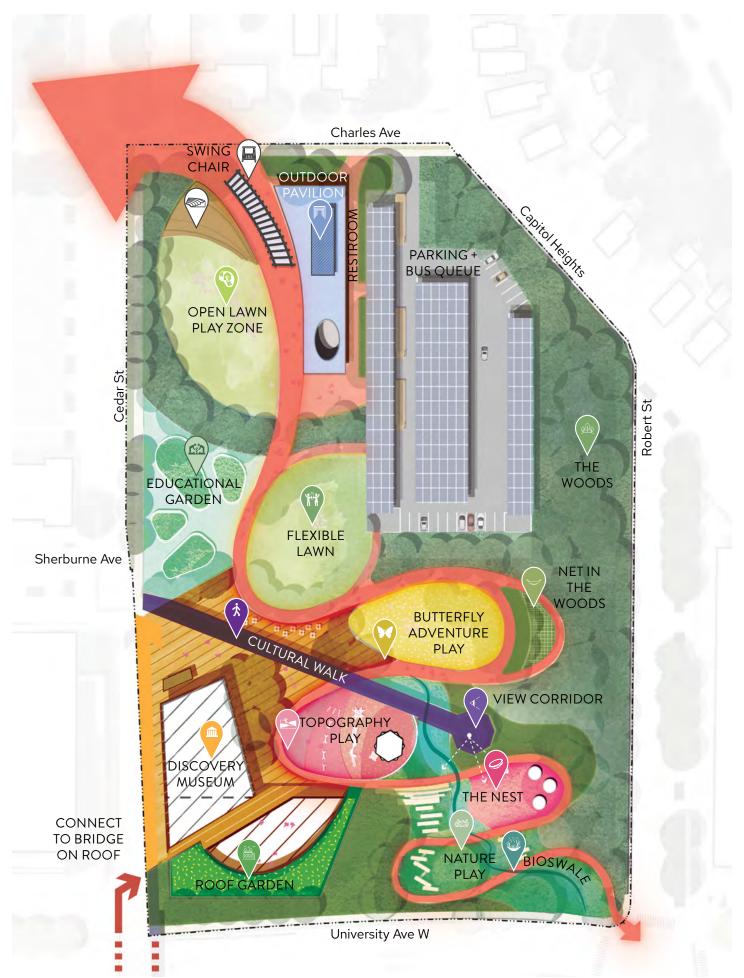
# SITE AMENITIES AND PROGRAMMING

#### SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

The various site amenities and programming opportunities within Cass Gilbert Memorial Park include the following:

- O Solar-shaded visitor and bus parking
- Outdoor pavilion with public restrooms and shade cover
- Outdoor swings for people of all ages
- Open lawns for play and events
- Educational gardens to demonstrate Minnesota's agricultural history
- Butterfly adventure and topography play with iconic, interactive play features
- Movable furniture and other flexible seating opportunities
- Cultural walk that terminates at the original overlook
- O Discovery Museum, cafe, and event space

Reference Parking Supply and Distribution in Right-Size the Roads for new parking strategies. A new parking structure should be considered to support the future expansion of Cass Gilbert Memorial Park. Furthermore, the loss of visitor, flexible, and contract parking at Lot Q (Cass Gilbert Memorial Park) can be captured within the proposed parking structure at the northeast corner of University and Rice Street (Lot C). Bus parking and queuing relocates to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and to Cass Gilbert Memorial Park.



## VISITOR AND ANNUAL PROGRAMMING

#### **VISITOR EXPERIENCE**

Take advantage of a walk to the neighboring park on a day trip to the Capitol for a variety of activities made to accommodate a large group of visitors such as residents and community members, office workers to sightseers who come far for a meaningful trip.

#### **SIGHTSEERS**

- Get a nice overlook to the Capitol Building and Downtown at the Overlook
- Trace the Cultural Trail from various access points, such as the Rice Station Hub



#### **OFFICE WORKERS**

- Place for gathering after work
- Lunch spot with a view
- Flexible space easily accessible from neighborhood



#### RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

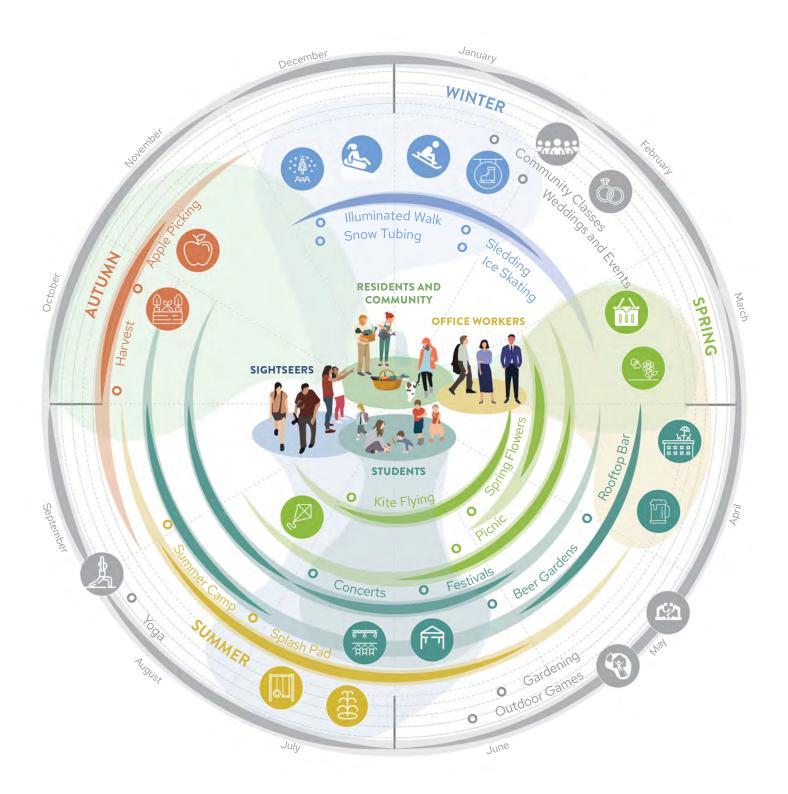
- Multi-use event spaces
- Various seating arrangements to accommodate large and small groups of users
- Connected network of pedestrian trails from Capitol Area to Capitol Heights



#### **STUDENTS**

- Engage and learn with the Discovery Museum and Educational Garden
- Play after class at the various flexible and play areas





#### **ANNUAL PROGRAMMING**

The proposed design incorporates existing topography to build a tiered outdoor space for overlooking the Capitol Mall and Downtown while also providing opportunities for various programming. The addition of a multi-use amenity building inserted into the hill of the site folds in another level of flexibility in visitor experience with seasonality.

## PARK PROGRAMMING

### PRECEDENT IMAGERY



Figure 181: Levy Park, Texas

Source: OJB. Levy Park, Texas. 24 Oct. 2018. OJB, www.ojb.com/work/levy-park/#lg=1&slide=4.



Figure 182: Sister Cities Park, Philadelphia Source: Studio: Brian Hanes. Sister Cities Park, Philadelphia. Party Space,



Figure 183: Biesbosch Museum, Netherlands

Source: Tilleman, Ronald. *Biesbosch Museum, Netherlands. Arch Daily,* www.archdaily.com/777852/biesbosch-museum-island-studio-marco-vermeulen.



Figure 184: Izzy's Playground, North Carolina Source: Teplov, Ilya. Izzy's Playground, North Carolina. Landezine,



Figure 185: Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Garden, Ohio Source: Schieber, Randall L. Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Garden.



Figure 186: Whiting Forest, Michigan Source: Lehoux, Nic. Whiting Forest. Caitlin Brady,



Figure 187: Clark Art Institute, Massachusetts Source: Cheang, Becky. Clark Art Institute, Massachusetts. Fathom,



Figure 188: Pier 26, New York

Source: Olin Studio. Pier 26, New York. Olin Studio, www.theolinstudio.com/news.

### **CASS GILBERT PARK**

RENDERING



234 Capitol Mall Design Framework

