The City of Pittsburgh is known for its dramatic slopes. Sheraden Park is no different. The series of parks examined in the master plan are characterized by dramatic topography. This was an indication of potential stormwater and park access issues, as well as unique potential amenities that take advantage of this grade change.
A goal of the master plan was to create a relationship to the nearby McGonnigle and Tuxedo Parks. Through GIS research, the design team was able to identify potential park connections through land acquisition and annexation, creating one unified park and allowing for greater community access.
Part of understanding the needs for the Sheraden community was to understand the context of the neighborhood within the rest of the City of Pittsburgh. This map indicates proximity to other parks and amenities such as playgrounds, football fields and swimming pools and the walking time to get there.
A presentation of an inventory and analysis of Sheraden Park and the adjacent community was a large piece of an early community workshop. This was a great way to help neighbors visualize their park through a lens that got them critically thinking about the needs of the park.
A “Graffiti Board” was a fun way to engage kids and unlock their potential to provide valuable feedback about needed improvements and fun interventions for Sheraden Park.
Interactive mapping activities at community workshops were a fun and effective way to get people thinking about the park through visualization. These types of activities revealed patterns that were key to subsequent design decisions.
PROPOSED CORE IMPROVEMENTS:

1. HIKING TRAILS
2. PARKING ADDITIONS & IMPROVEMENTS
3. PAVED BICYCLE LANE
4. PARK ROAD CONNECTION
5. BIO SWALE & STORMWATER FILTRATION
6. RAIN GARDEN
7. STORMWATER DETENTION BASIN
8. NATURE BASED PLAY AREA
9. FULL SIZE FOOTBALL & SOCCER FIELD
10. FLEXIBLE EVENT SEATING
11. BRILL AREA IMPROVEMENTS
12. SAND VOLLEYBALL COURTS
13. BASKETBALL COURT RELOCATION
14. ADULT REC. LEAGUE PROGRAMMING
15. FOREST EMBANKMENT SLIDE
16. MILLSIDE DOG PARK
17. ADA ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY GARDEN
18. APIARY
Much of Sheraden Park is steep, wooded hillside. The design team had to work with the community and stakeholders to strategically locate many desired amenities within the relatively small footprint at the core of the park.
Feedback from multiple master plan community workshops lead to the development of a multifaceted waterfront experience at Chartiers Creek, along with a proposed pedestrian and emergency vehicles bridge connecting the park to the growing McKees Rocks downtown.
The master plan introduces a series of new experiences along Chartiers Creek to take advantage of one of Pittsburgh’s few public waterfront access points. This includes a boardwalk paralleling the water that weaves through the creekbank and wetlands; kayak and canoe rentals; and a flexible pier to be used for fishing, birding exercise classes and other potential programming.
Currently, the core of Sheraden Park is underutilized with dated amenities. The master plan introduces sand volleyball, nature based play elements and much needed updates to the locked and unused park office, including new restrooms and concessions.
A series of proposed embankment slides that utilize the natural topography of Sheraden Park. The slides run in a continuous series that are gently situated within the wooded hillside, minimally invasive to the plant communities and root systems around them.

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:**
1. Forest Embankment Slides
2. Hiking Trails
3. Healthy Native Forest
A proposed overlook platform at one of the highest areas in elevation within the park expansion. This overlook is placed to give sweeping views over Chartiers Creek and McKees Rocks and is one of the only opportunities to capture long views.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:
1. OVERLOOK PLATFORM
2. HIKING TRAILS
3. NATIVE PLANTING RESTORATION
The master plan relocates the existing skate park from its current location in Tuxedo Park to the location of the existing defunct tennis courts. The consolidation of this amenity with other park features could lead to heavier use and more efficient maintenance.