


## MEMORANDUM



**TO:** RANDY AULER, PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY  
DIRECTOR

**FROM:** TRACIE RINGLE, COMMUNICATIONS & RESOURCE  
DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR 

**SUBJECT:** FUERST PARK CONCEPTUAL PLAN PUBLIC INPUT

**DATE:** OCTOBER 2, 2008

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The Fuerst Park concept plan was presented to City Council at the September 22, 2008 Council meeting. The plan incorporated the input received from City Council, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, City, Library, and High School staff, as well as input gathered via community focus groups conducted in February, 2008.

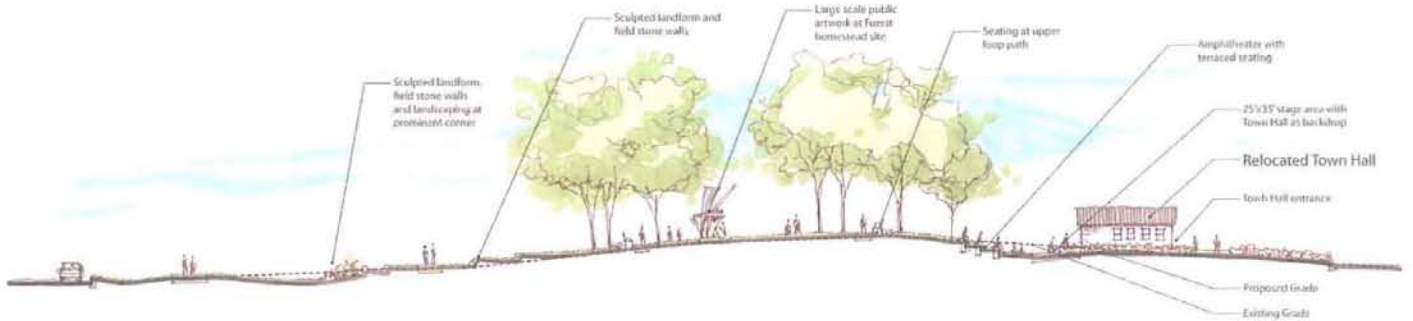
The October 9, 2008 Commission meeting will provide an opportunity for public input regarding the plan (attached), which will be presented at the meeting by staff. In addition to attending the Commission meeting, the community was encouraged to share their input via an online survey at [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org), and drop boxes at the Library, Civic Center and Senior Center.

A recommendation for the initial development, future phasing and cost estimates will be provided to City Council at the October 20, 2008 City Council meeting. A budget of \$347,250 was allocated for the project. To date, the expenses equal \$213,860 (this includes the structure removal, Township Hall relocation and professional design services), leaving \$133,390 available for the initial development.

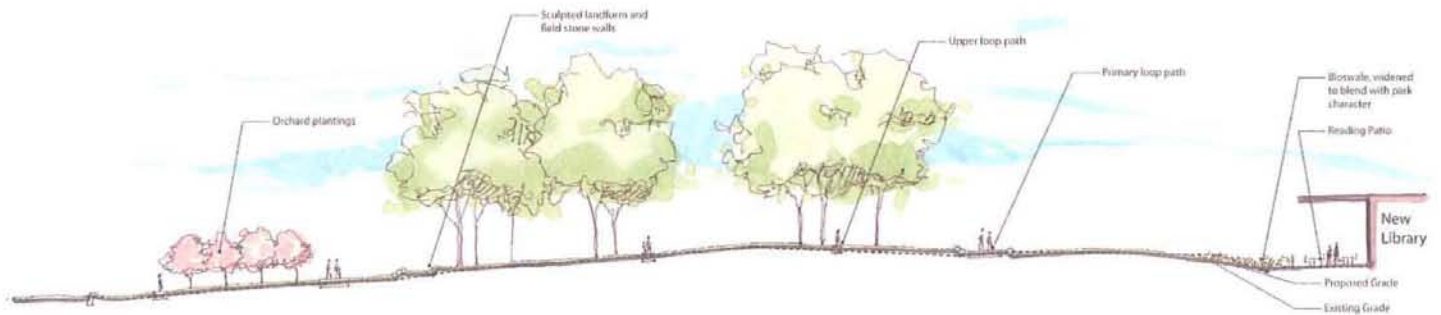
# NOVI

## Fuerst Park





SECTION THROUGH NEW TOWN HALL LOCATION AND AMPHITHEATER



SECTION THROUGH LIBRARY AND 'THE GROVE'



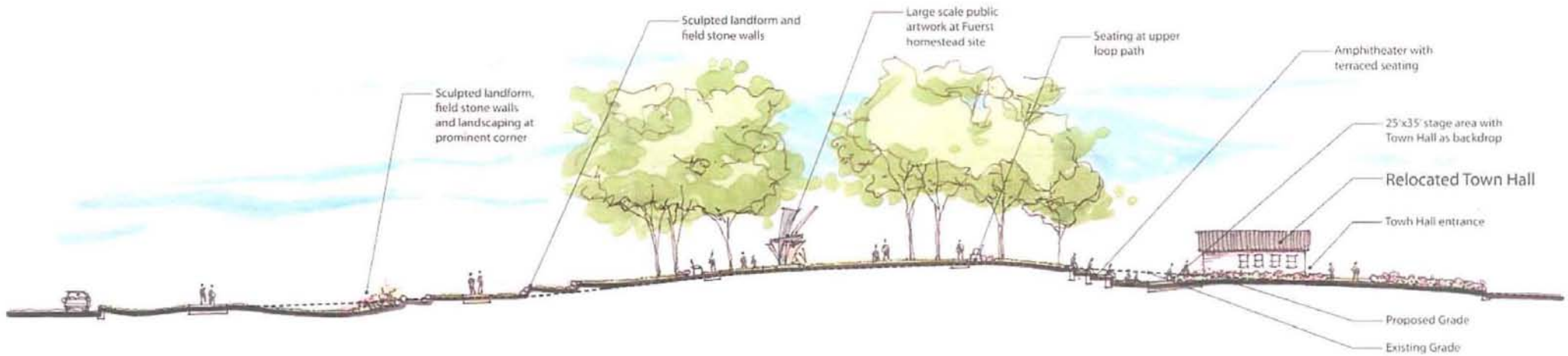
City of Novi  
Fuerst Park



## What we heard:

- Passive and contemplative program
  - Pathways, seating areas, informal play and family opportunities
- Amphitheater for small programmed events
  - Up to 150 people in formal seating area
  - Seatwall terraces preferred, not fixed seats
- Connection to civic campus, high school and library both physically and aesthetically
- Historic marker(s) to describe Fuerst and Novi history
- Subtle references to site's heritage, not re-creations of historic elements
- Potential for public artwork





SECTION THROUGH NEW TOWH HALL LOCATION AND AMPHITHEATER

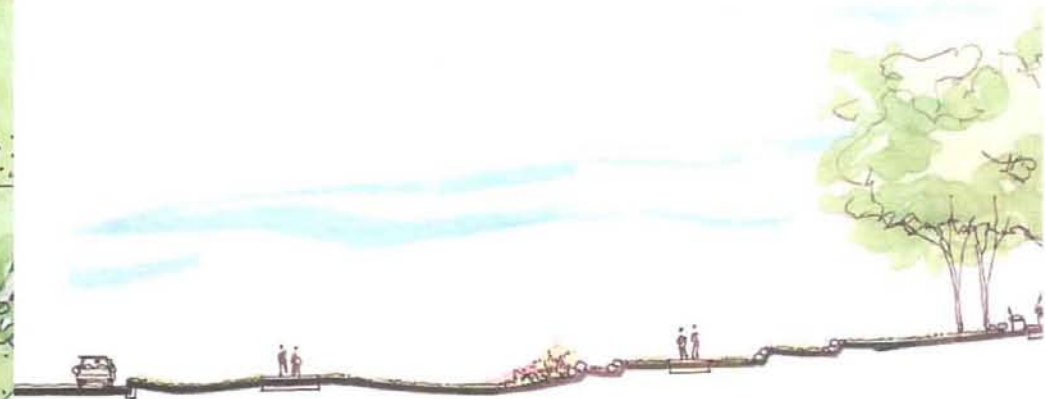


SECTION THROUGH LIBRARY AND 'THE GROVE'



## The Corner

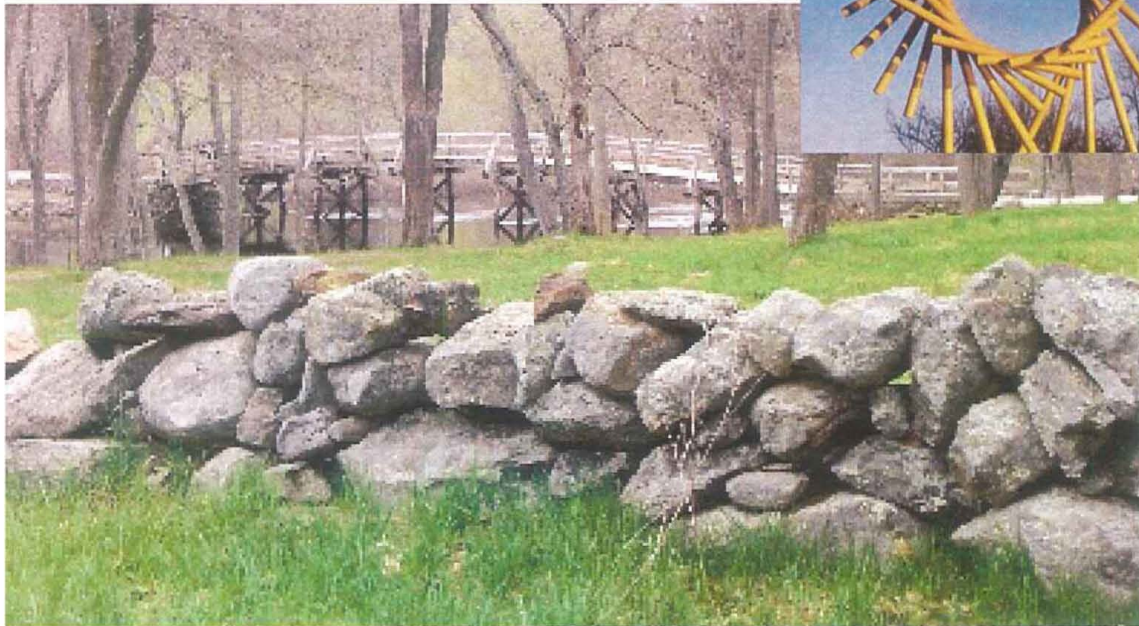
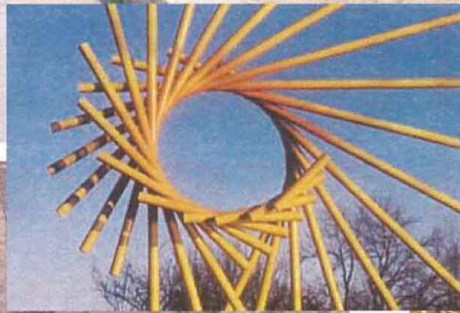
- Establishes identity for park and introduces Civic Campus
- Landform, stone terracing and broad strokes of landscaping set the tone for the park's character
- Public artwork reinforces culture and character of the community
- New orchard-like plantings frame views into the park and provide a subtle reference to farm heritage

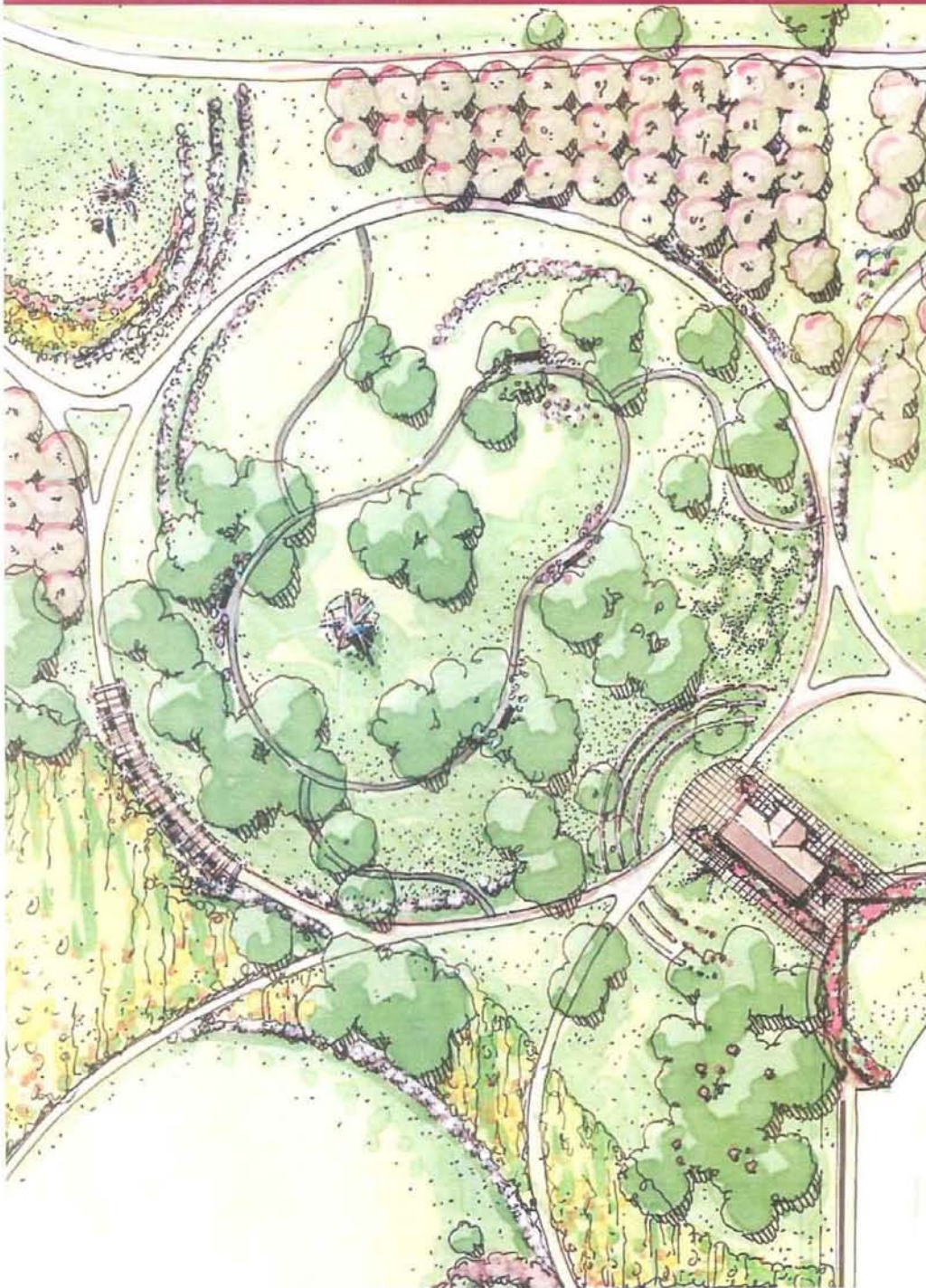




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Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission Meeting  
October 9, 2008





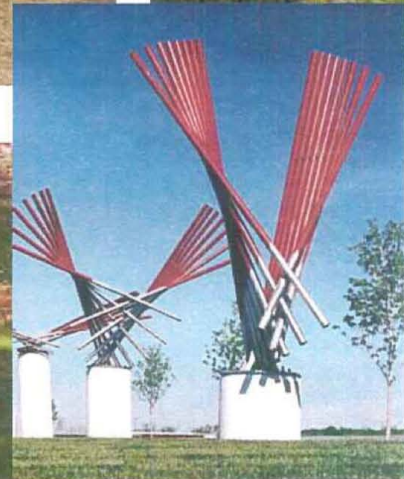
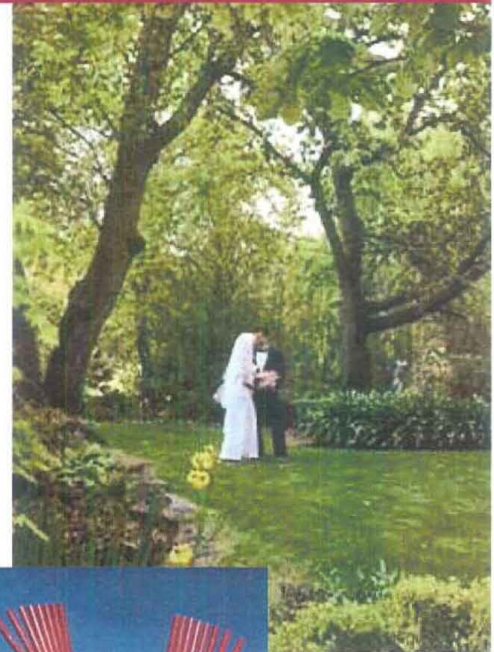
## The Grove

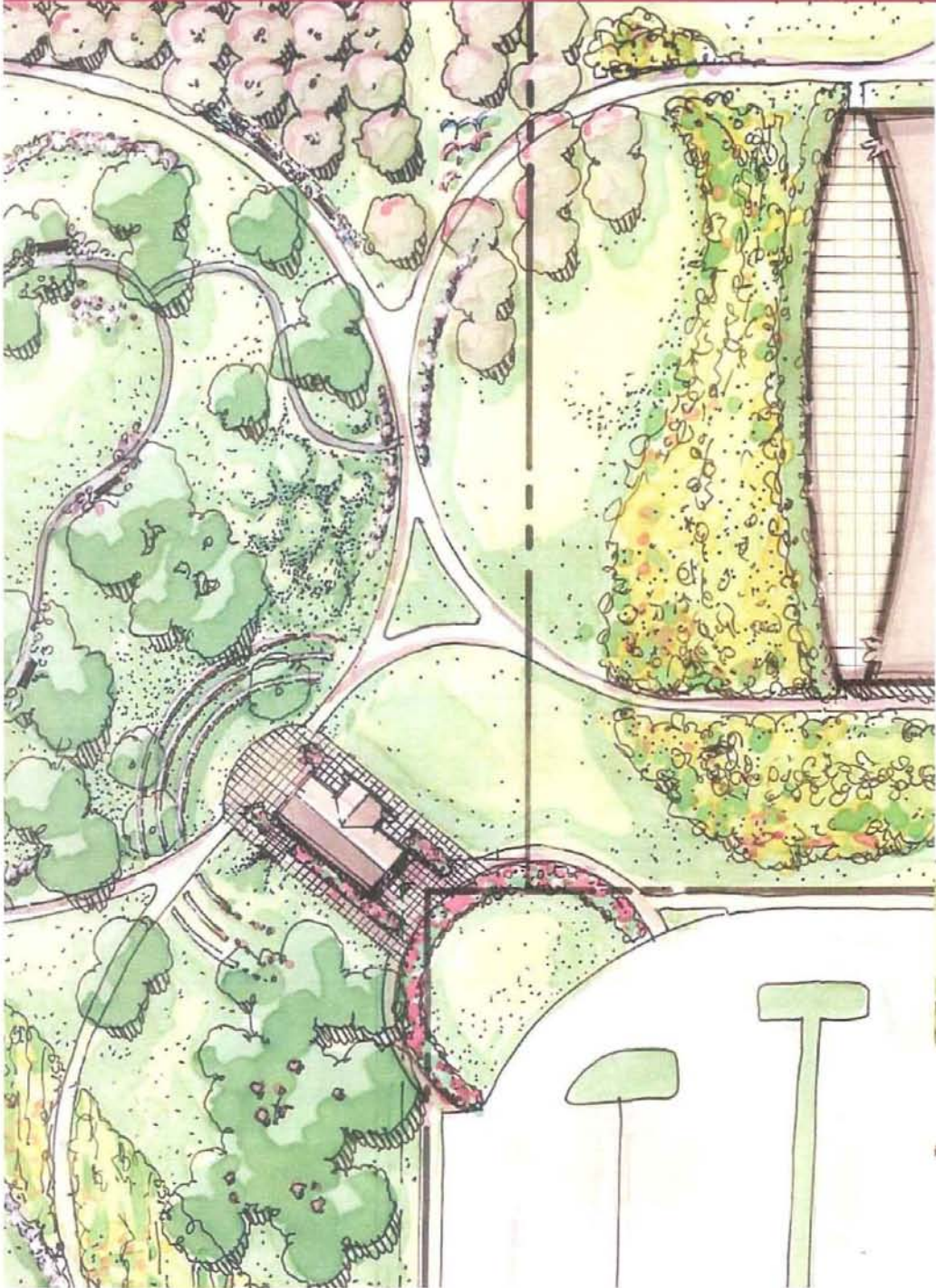
- Simple, graceful path network
- Opportunities for resting, reading, family activities
- Large scale public artwork celebrates high point and Fuerst homestead site
- Trellis over walkway and grape arbor expand the variety of experiences
- Earth shaping and fieldstone walls highlight existing landform and sculptural character of site overall



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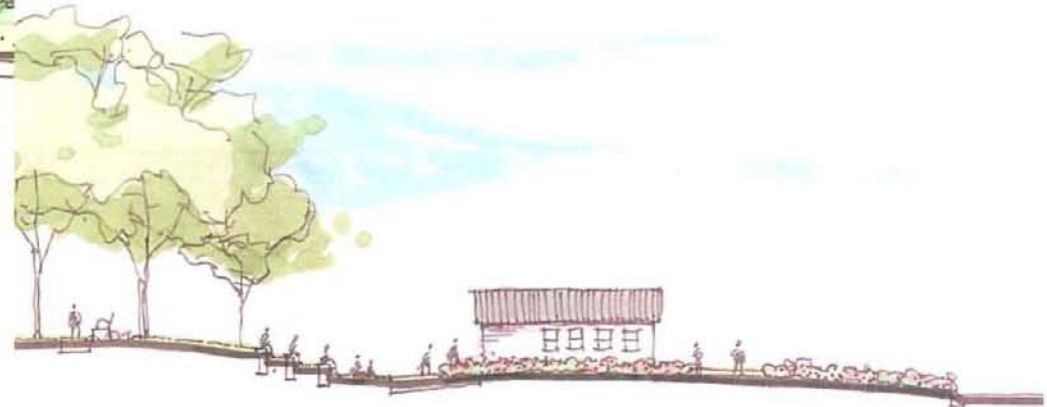
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October 9, 2008





## The Amphitheater and Township Hall

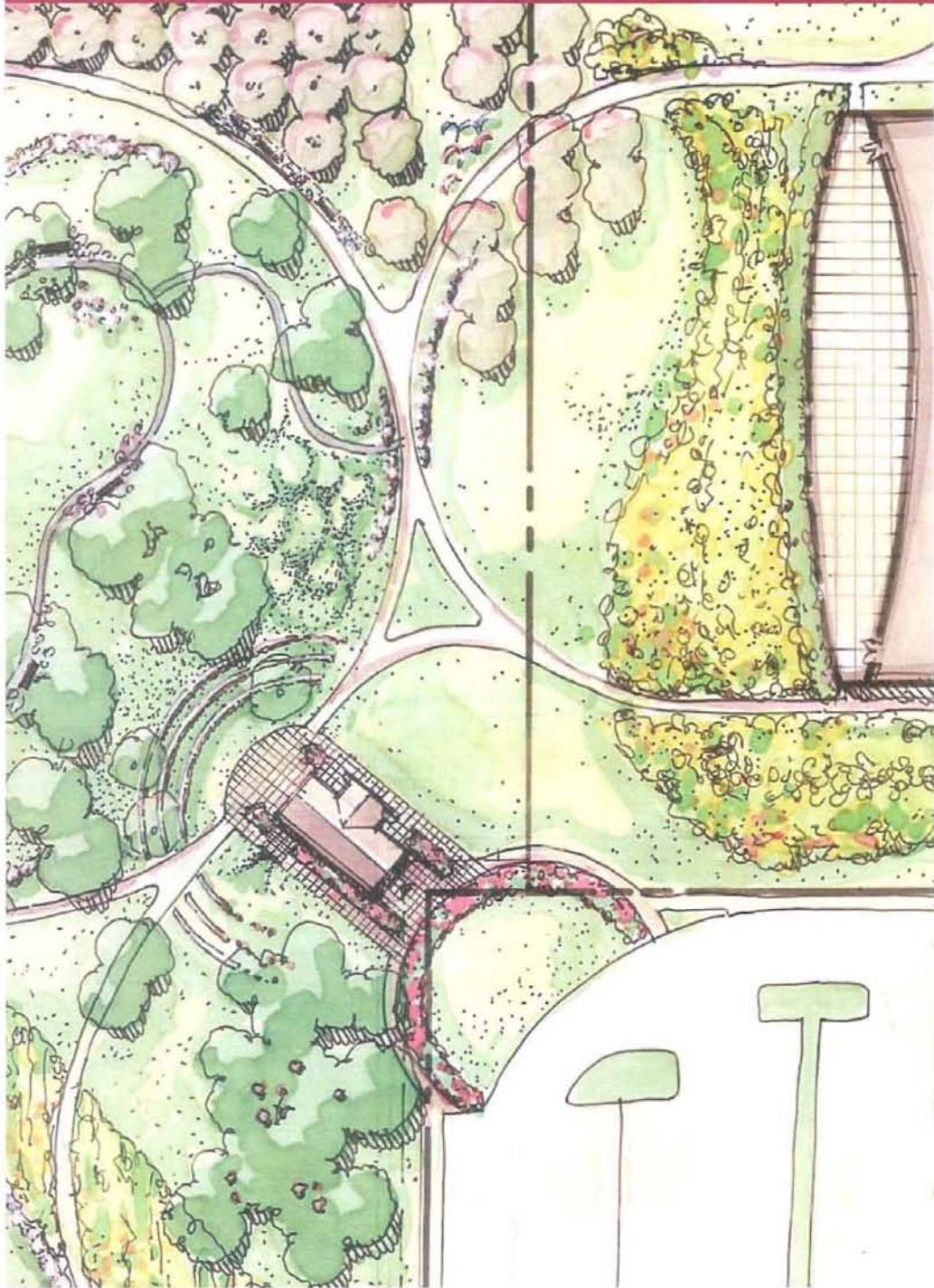
- Township Hall is renovated with air conditioning and a restroom addition
- Township Hall entrance off parking provides easy access
- Amphitheater utilizes Township Hall as backdrop for performances
- Seating area takes advantage of existing topography and close proximity to new Library



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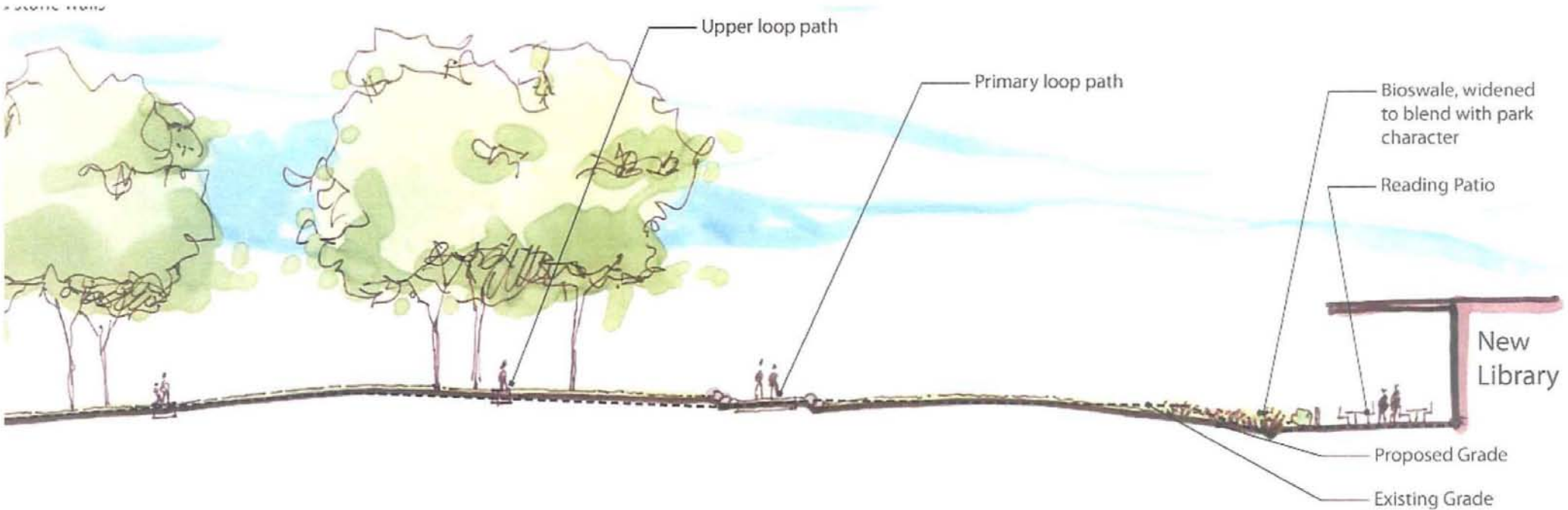
## Connection to Library

- Township Hall and amphitheater have close connection to Library for ease of programming and access
- Walkways from building tie directly in to park's path network
- Bioswale at Library could be expanded to create softer edge and stronger relationship to park's character



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Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission Meeting  
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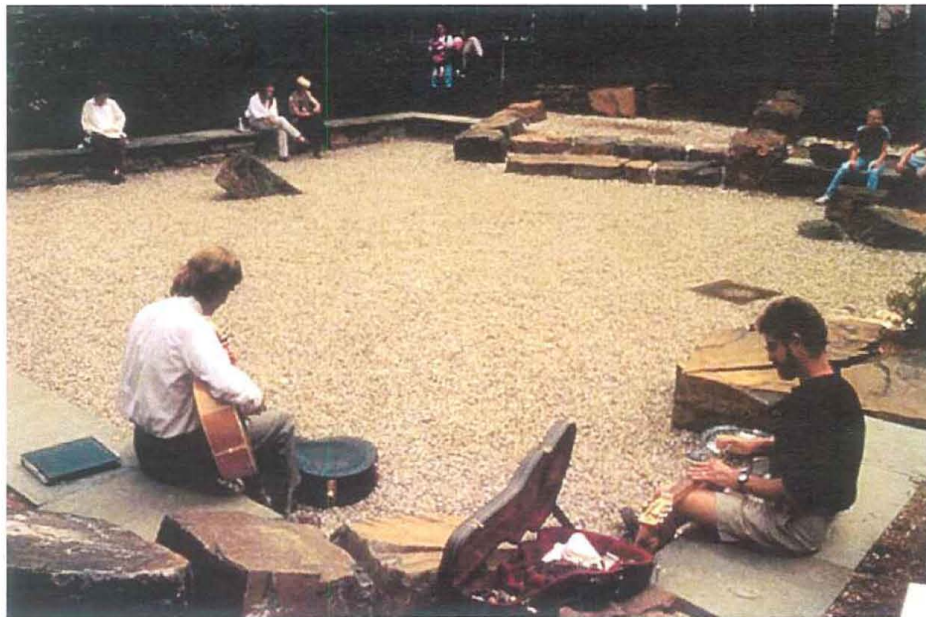
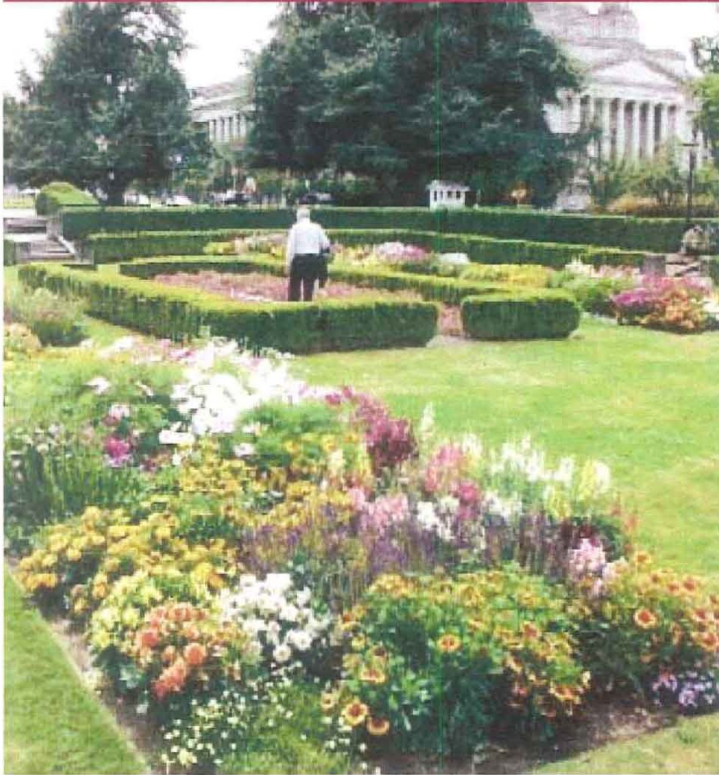
## The Gardens

- Demonstration planting of wildflowers, switch grass (biofuel), sunflowers or sweet corn creates ribbon across site and frames open space
- Salvaged barn foundations frame gardens potentially developed by community and ethnic groups or garden clubs
- Opportunity to program spaces for community events such as fall pumpkin festival etc.
- Interpretive displays describe Fuerst and Novi history
- Community fire circle expands programming opportunities into fall, spring and winter
- Loose arrangement of boulders under tree canopy provides informal opportunities for seating



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## The Concept

