



THE CITY OF  
**HALF MOON BAY**  
CALIFORNIA

**John L. Carter Memorial Park Improvements  
Concept Design Study**

**Parks and Recreation Commission  
Presentation  
26 June 2019**

**els** architecture+  
urban design

## Half Moon Bay Parks Master Plan



### John L. Carter Memorial Park

*Vision: Well utilized cultural events park with performances and summer day camps*

#### Description

Carter Park includes a redwood grove with a small amphitheater and sculpture. It is used primarily for dog walking and the annual Shakespeare Festival. The Park is adjacent to Pilarcitos Creek. Sensitive habitat restricts creek access. This park accommodates local flooding events, which occur regularly during the winter. A coastal development permit is required whenever there is restricted access to the park and a fee charged, such as during performances. The park is adopted by Half Moon Bay Shakespeare Company. The adjacent business park allows parking for events. The park is not visible from Main Street, the nearest public roadway.



## 4. Recommendations: Existing Parks

### Recommended Improvements

There is an opportunity to transform this park into a more active and utilized space by implementing a number of improvements designed to facilitate performances and use as a summer day camp. Increasing programming and the ability for this park to be better used will also address some of the concerns related to homeless in the riparian areas.

- Develop permanent seating/amphitheater with stage and seating.
- Add restrooms, drinking fountain, storage and backstage/dressing space.
- Add safety and ambient lighting along stairs, pathways.
- Add electric outlets for stage lighting and sound.
- In consultation with a biologist, consider the appropriate habitat protection for the riparian area.
- If feasible, a seat wall along the west side of the park could act as an exclusion barrier and protect habitat and possibly eliminate the need for a temporary habitat protection fence during events.
- Improve signage on Main Street for the park.

### Other Considerations and Connections

Should be connected to downtown and surrounding schools with effective signage. If a community park is developed at the Peninsula Open Space Trust (P.O.S.T.) property, additional connections should be made to that facility.

Consider restoration projects along the creek corridor.

### Conceptual Ideas

#### Small Stage and Seating Area



#### Amphitheater with Permanent Seating



#### Partially Covered Amphitheater



# John L. Carter Memorial Park

## ***Master Plan Vision:***

*To create a more actively utilized cultural events park with improvements to facilitate greater opportunities for performances and day camps.*



## ***Recommended Improvements:***

- Appropriate Habitat Protection*
- Permanent Stage and Backstage Support Area*
- Seating/Amphitheater*
- Ambient Lighting for Improved Circulation*
- Improved Signage/Connection to Main Street*



# Summer's End Music Festival 2018





Concept On Display at Festival

## Overwhelmingly Positive Response

*"This looks great!"*

*"Fantastic, we really need this!"*

*"When is this going to happen?"*



## Performing Arts Group Representatives

Half Moon Bay Shakespeare Company

Coastal Rep Theater (invited)

Young Actors Workshop

## Immediate Neighbors

Cypress Cove Homeowners Association

Mariner's Church

Stone Pine Shopping Center (invited)

Stone Pine Commercial Center

102 Responses

Most respondents were very positive about the proposed project!

Review of Responses

Wishes Expressed:

- More Musical Performances

- Places to relax and picnic

- Playground

Concerns Expressed:

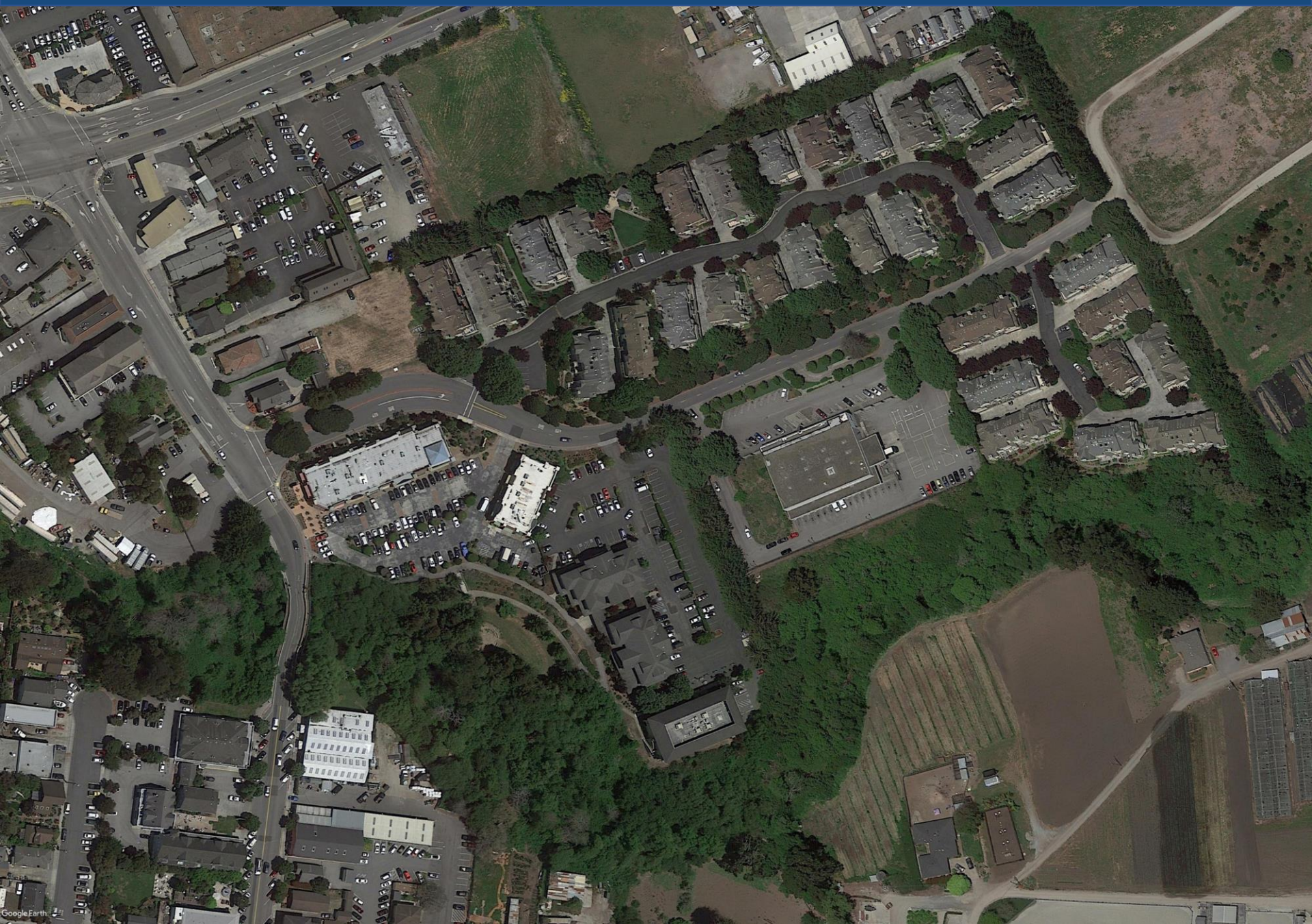
- Parking

- Traffic

- Noise

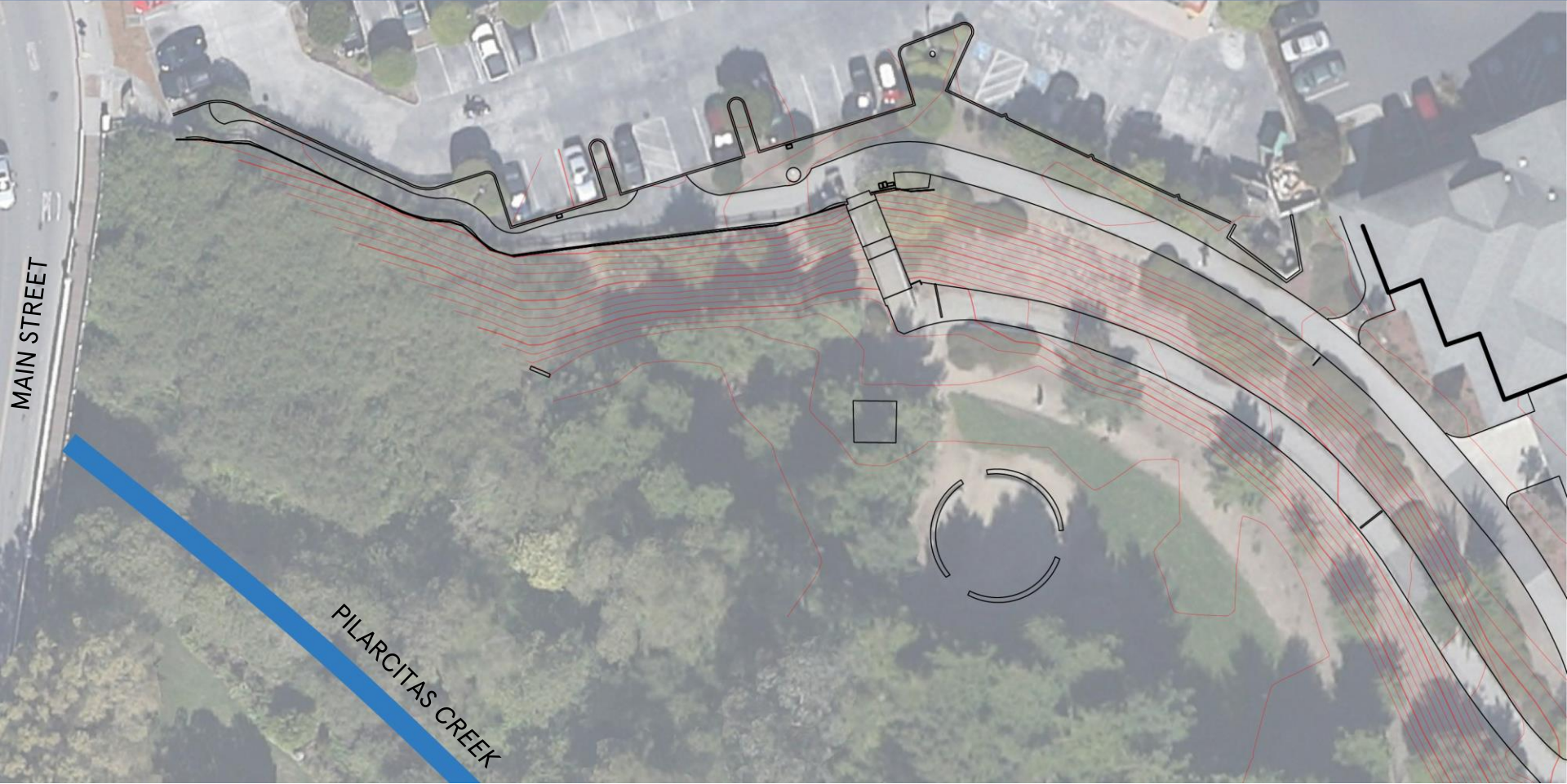
- Trash

# Carter Park Context





# Existing Park



# Existing Park Photos



Main Street



Sidewalk



Park Entry



Stairs Down To Park

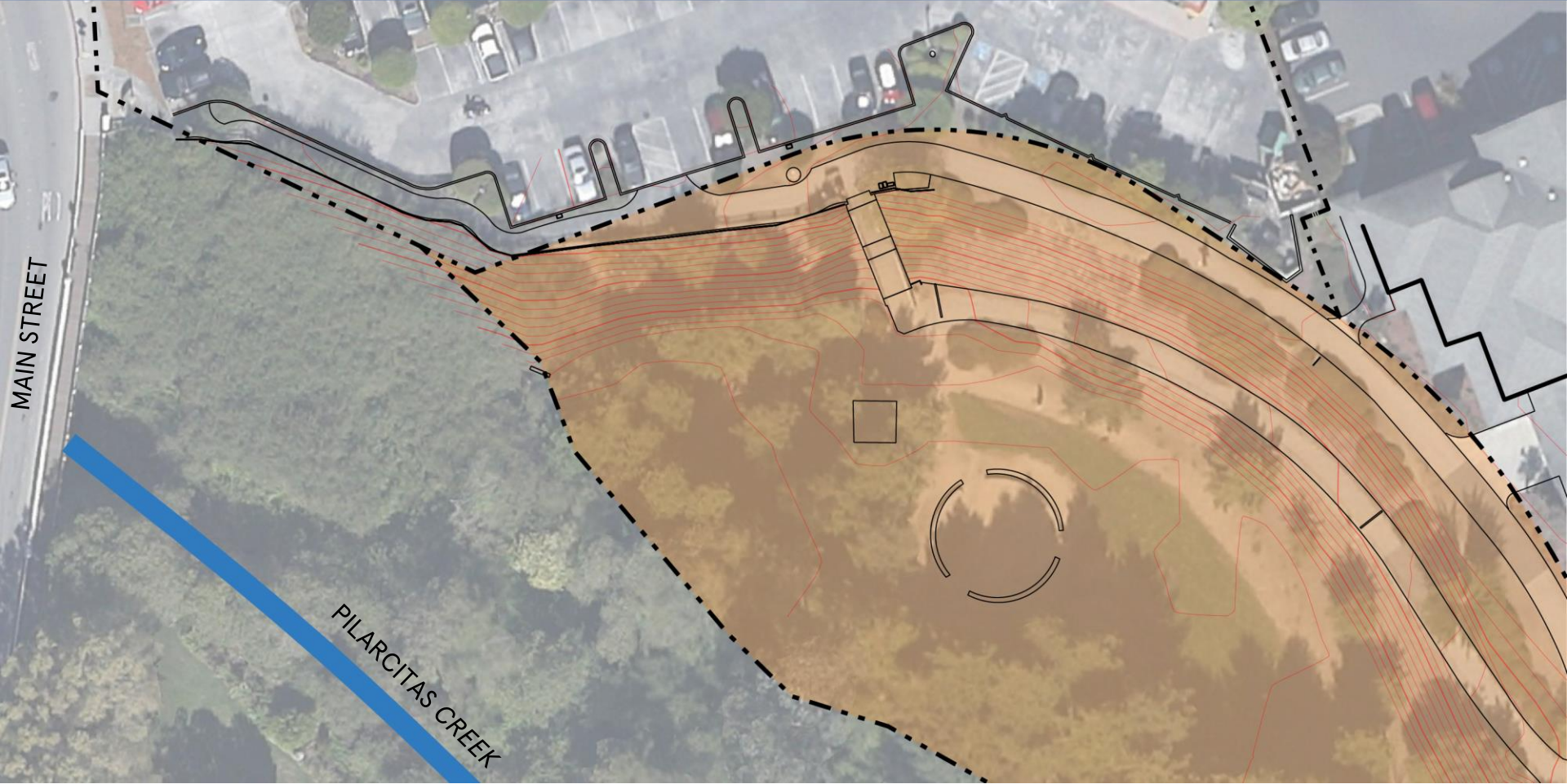


Topography Looking Northeast

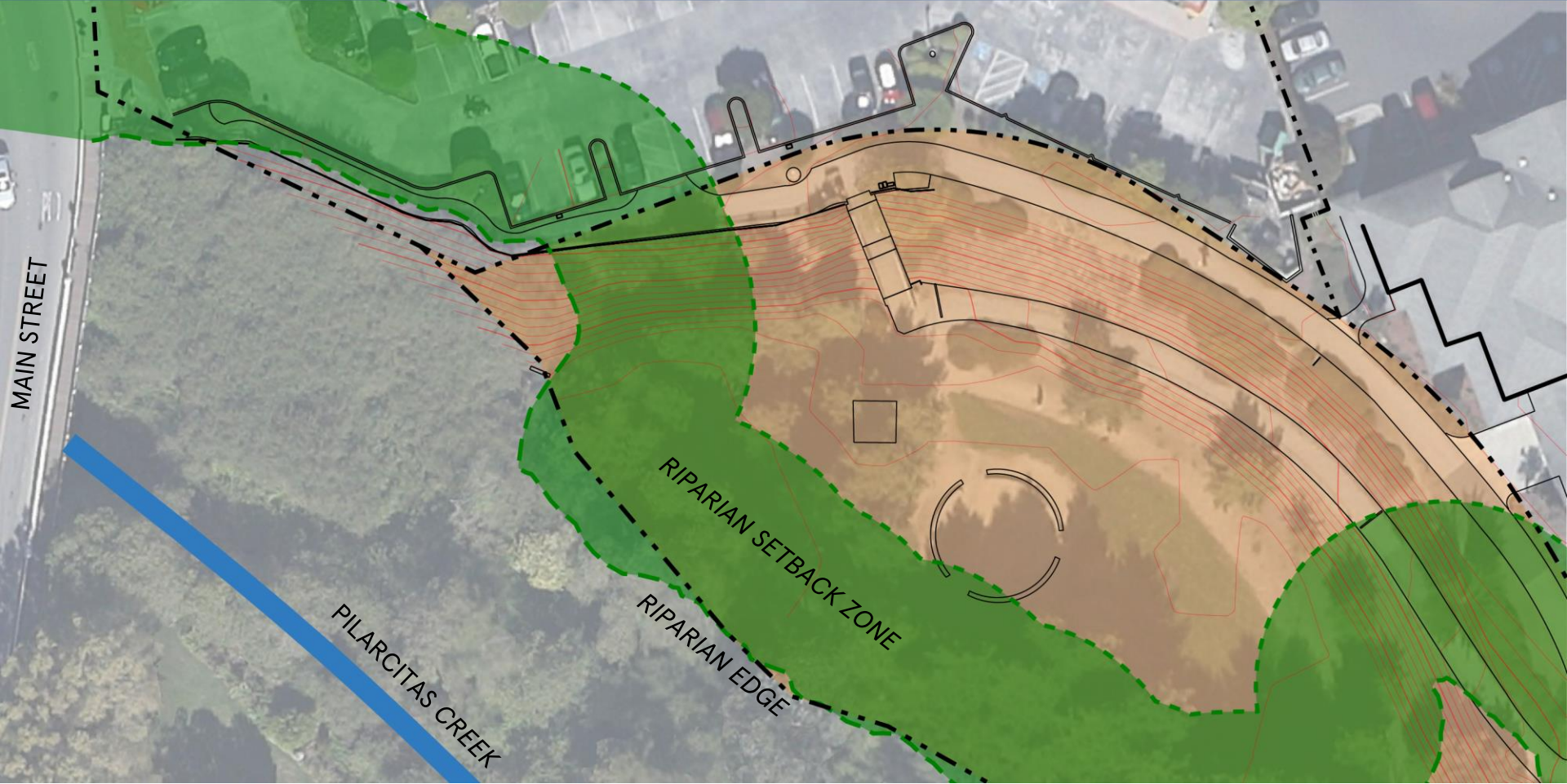


Redwood Grove Looking Southwest

# Existing Park



# Existing Park



# Concept: Earlier Design



1. Main Street Plaza: Signage and Visibility
2. Sidewalk Promenade: Improved Pathway/Lighting
3. Park Plaza: Unified Park Entry
4. Accessible Paths: Universal Access
5. Restrooms and Concession
6. Stage and Backstage Support Building

7. Flat Seating Area in Front of Stage
8. Tiered Seating Behind: Natural Amphitheater
9. Solidarity Redwood Grove/Commemorative Plaque
10. Picnic & Play Area/Future Improvements
11. Future Shade Structure

# Updated Concept Plan



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## CONCEPT PLAN

JOHN L. CARTER MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS

JUNE 26, 2019



# Natural Amphitheater

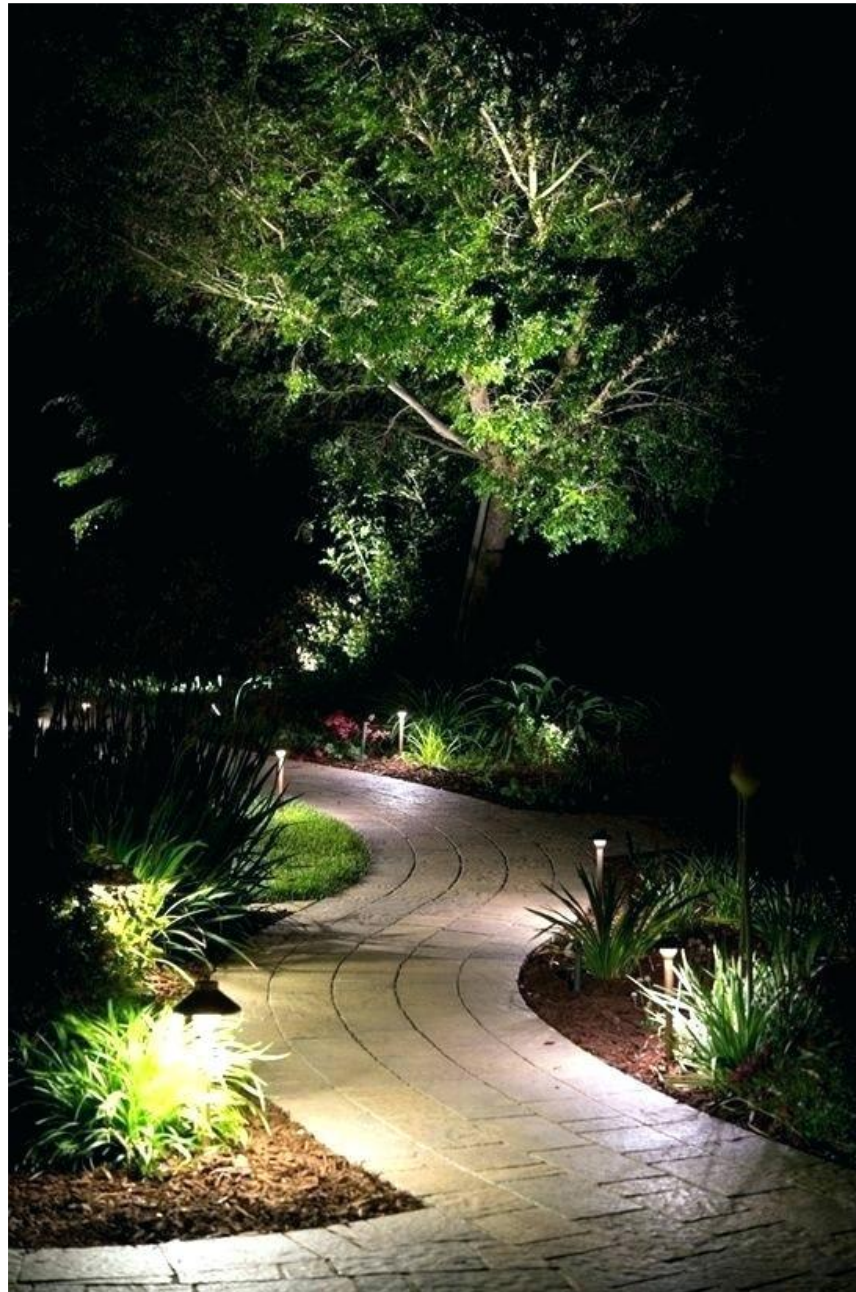


Concept: Welcoming Entry on Main Street





## Concept: Improved Pathways and Lighting



# Concept: New Permanent Stage Structure



# Concept: Ample Open Lawn Seating



# Concept: Natural Amphitheater



# Concept: Possible Shade Structures



# Concept: Children's Play Areas



# Concept: Children's Play Areas



# Concept: Picnic Areas





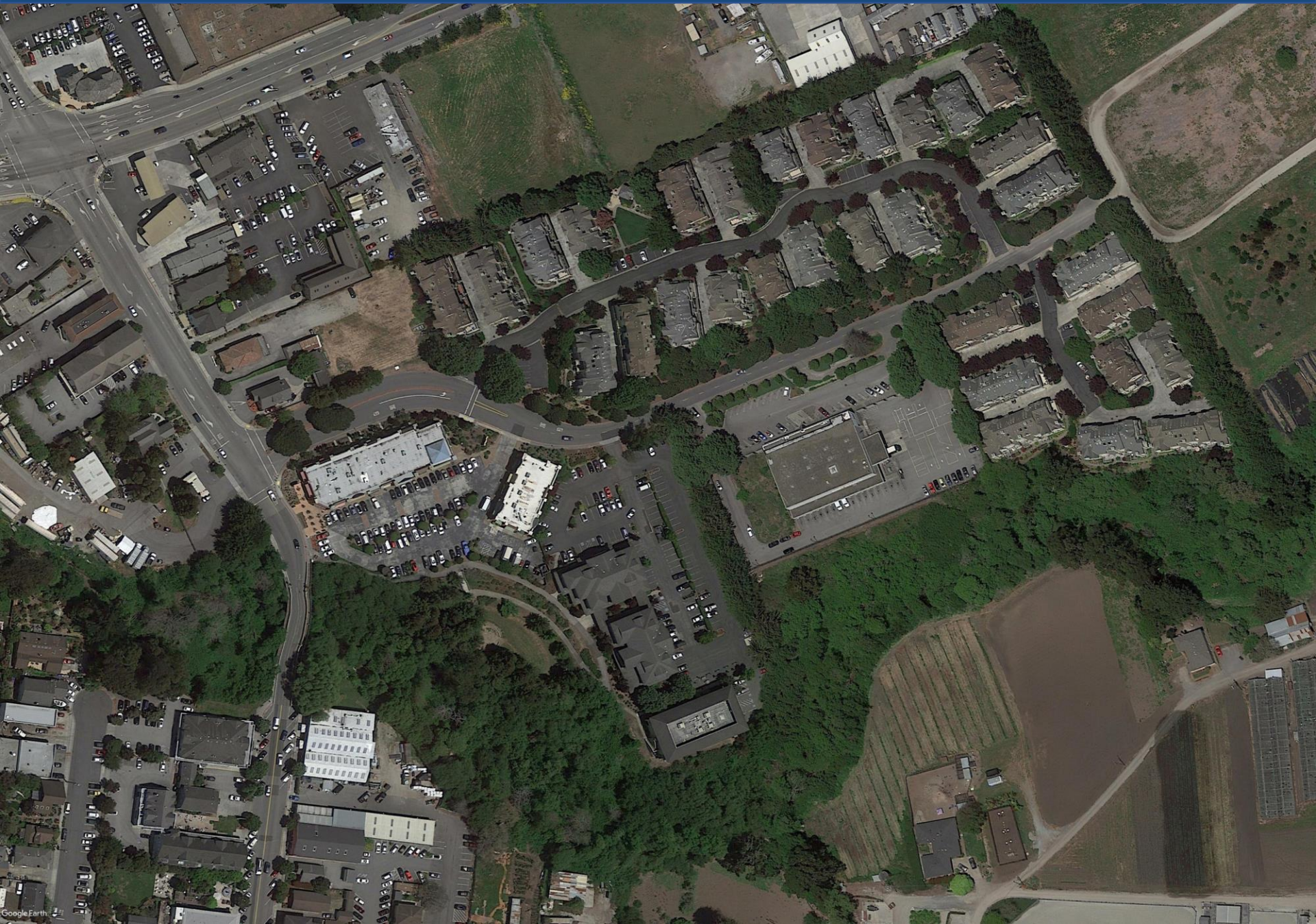
Concept: Picnic Areas



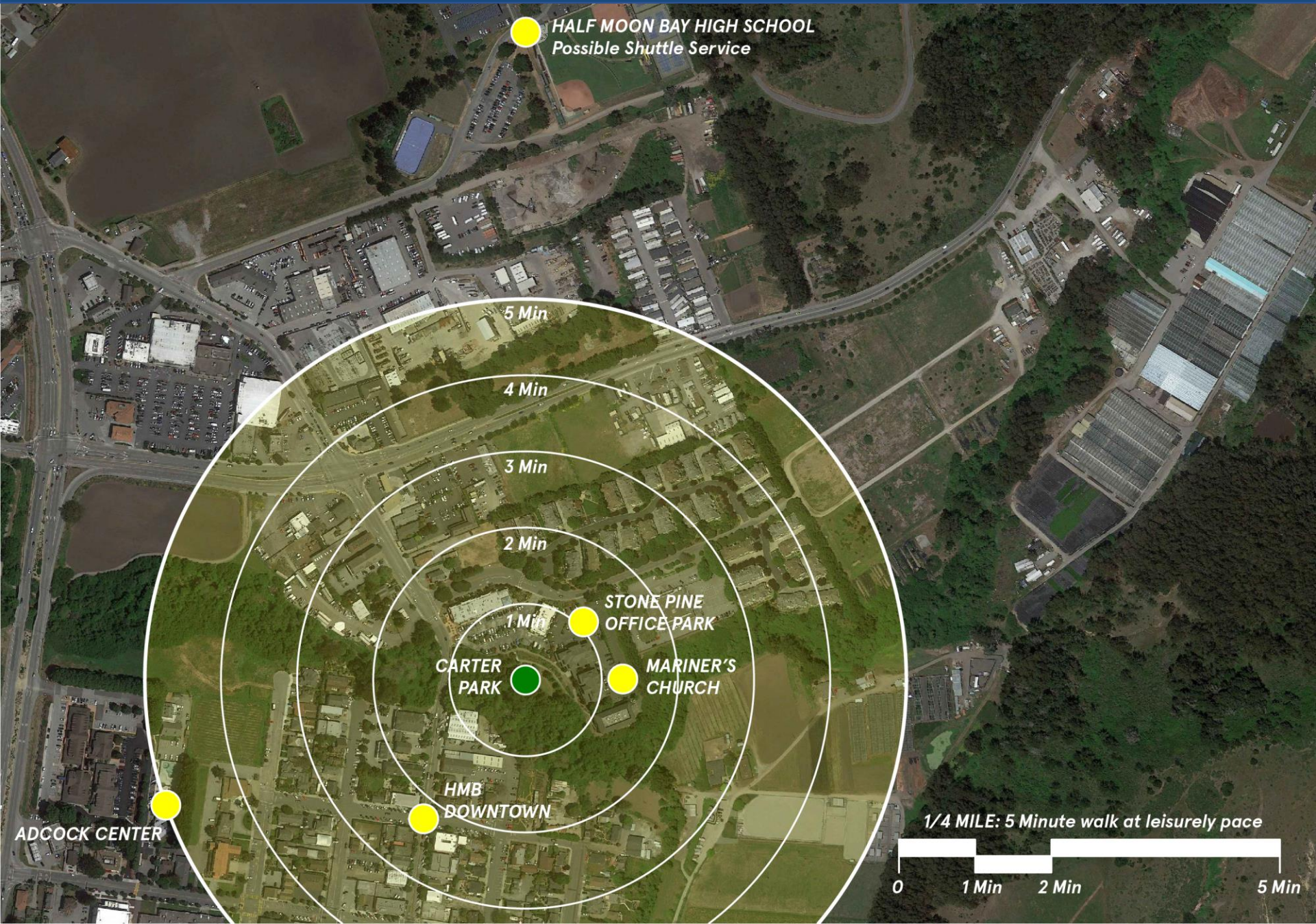
# Concept: Solidarity Trail through the Redwoods



# Addressing Neighborhood Concerns



# Proposed Parking Solution



**HALF MOON BAY HIGH SCHOOL**  
Possible Shuttle Service

5 Min

4 Min

3 Min

2 Min

1 Min

**STONE PINE OFFICE PARK**

**CARTER PARK**

**MARINER'S CHURCH**

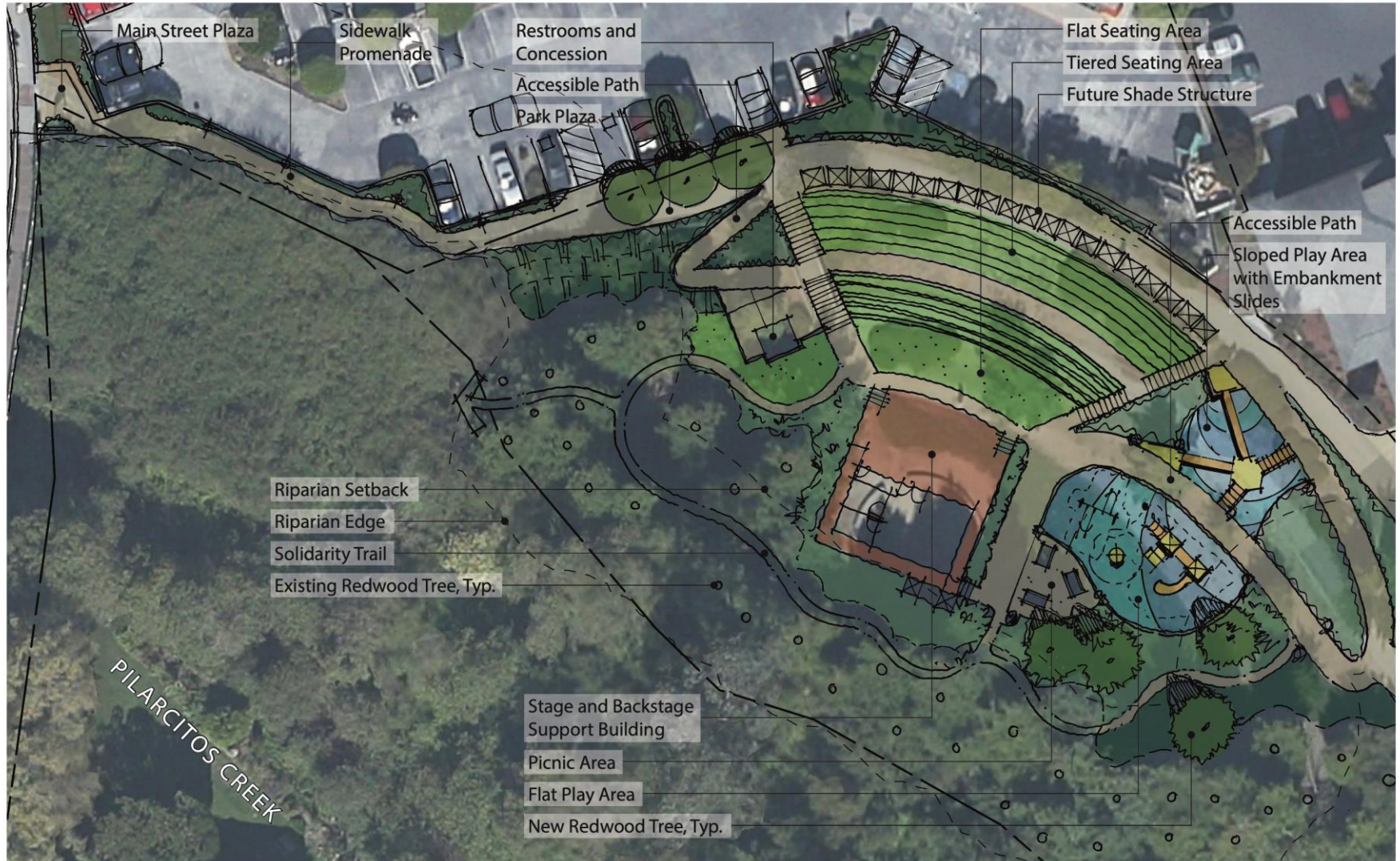
**HMB DOWNTOWN**

**ADCOCK CENTER**

1/4 MILE: 5 Minute walk at leisurely pace



# Noise, Light, and Public Safety



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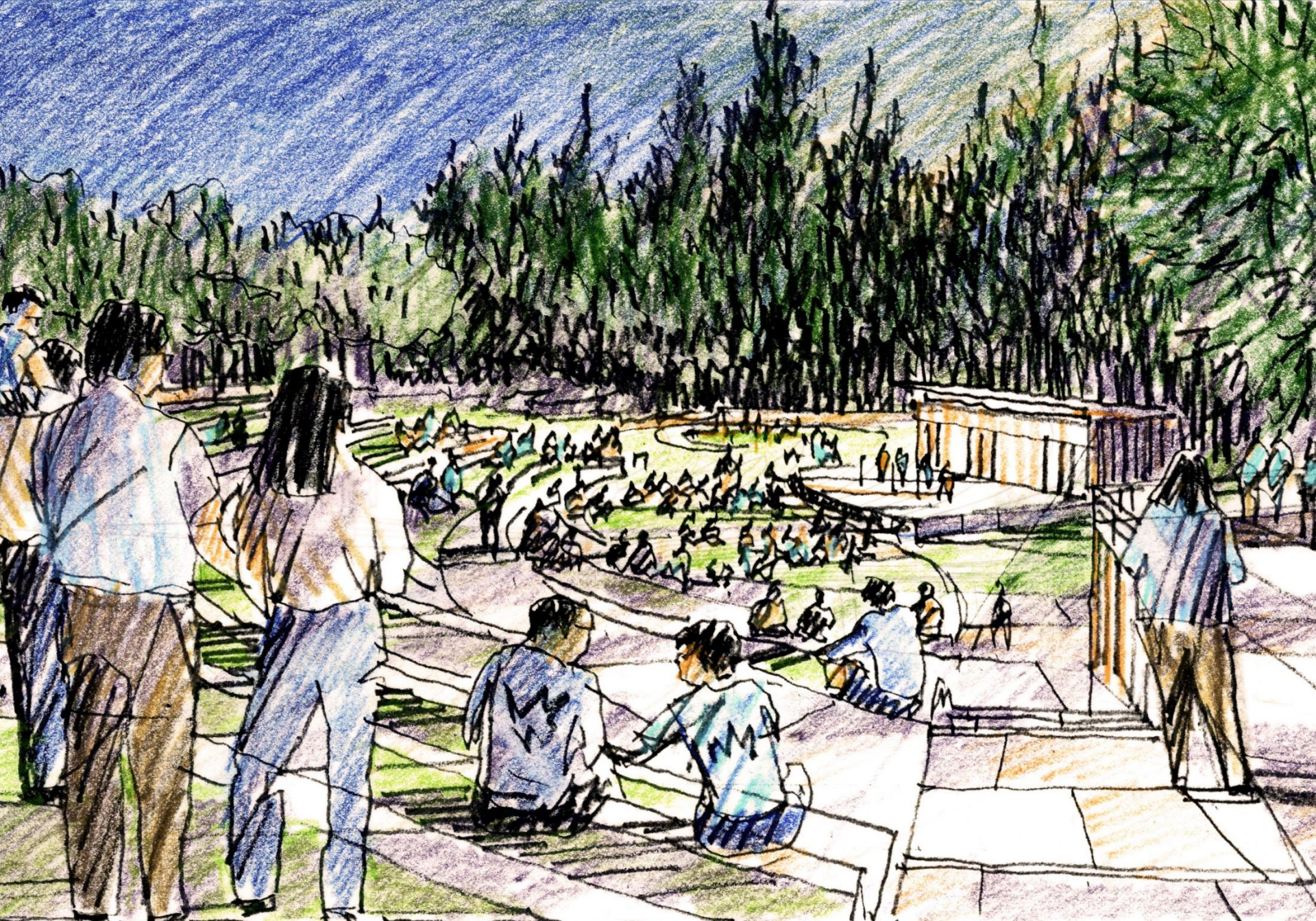
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Concept: Natural Amphitheater





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