NDC was hired by the City of Hyattsville in a competitive selection process to reimagine the City’s signature park, the 32-acre Magruder Park. A community-approved design concept for the park was the result of an eight-month design process by NDC, with the assistance of Bradley Site Design landscape architects and Rivera Group Spanish-language facilitators.

NDC conducted a multi-layered community outreach process that included small group conversations, bilingual in-person surveys of park users, park champion site walks and visioning sessions open to the larger community. The team sought to reach people who frequented the park for informal sports, play, jogging, and family gatherings, as well local teens and non-English speakers. The goal was to re-envision the park as a welcoming and accessible public space with innovative and relevant programs for a diverse array of users, especially teens, families, and active adults.

The final concept was selected through the use of online voting and ballot boxes set up at the City Hall. The design featured a tree-lined pedestrian and cycling central promenade that replaces a disjointed sequence of drives and parking areas. Sports fields, play areas and gathering spaces are arranged to provide adult fitness next to children’s play space. Colorful new basketball courts for teens and multi-use spaces are designed to attract new users.

**BENEFITS**

- Multi-layered engagement process reached 300 community members, many often excluded from planning
- Intensive on-site surveying of 560 discrete contacts contributed to deeper understanding of how people use park
- Resulting community-approved plan directly reflected people’s needs and desires