

NIISÓ PARK

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

We wanted this park to be more than a playground and beyond the typical urban oasis. We wanted this park to be a watershed in Calgary history, where we challenge the conventions of what a park is and how it is supposed to be utilized. This imperative began with the fact that we are reclaiming the undesirable space below the 4th Ave fly-Over, in an area that is notorious for vagrants and illegal activity. Furthermore, we were challenged to make a strong ecological consideration, by utilizing various storm water management techniques. Being so closed to the Bow River, on the cusp of downtown, this park can be a beacon for the promise of green infrastructure.

RESULT: THE FILTRATION TERRACES AND DRY POND THAT DIVERT STORMWATER FROM THE FLYOVER TO BE PURIFIED, AND A MULTIFACETED PLAY AREA TO STIMULATE KIDS OF ALL SORTS. IT WAS OUR MISSION TO COMPLIMENT THE OLD WITH THE NEW, THE TECHNOLOGICAL WITH THE NATURAL. SO WE DID AWAY WITH THE STEEL AND RUBBER CLIMBING STRUCTURES IN FAVOUR OF LOGS, TREES AND BOULDERS. WE VE RESPONDED TO THE FLYOVER S SHADOWS WITH INTERACTIVE LIGHT SCULPTURES. THIS FORMERLY REPULSIVE AREA HAS BEEN OPENED UP TO THE CITIZENS WITH PATHWAYS, GARDENS, AND OPEN SPACES.

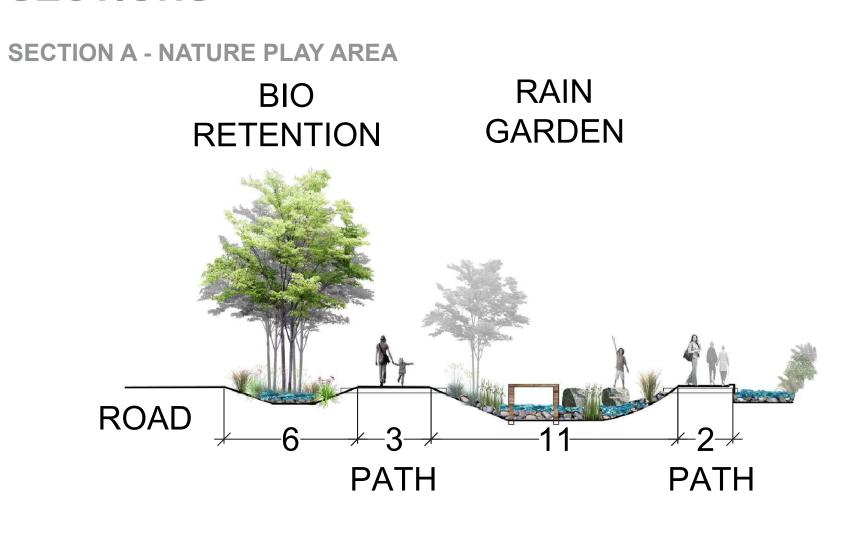
MULTIFUNCTIONALITY AND INCLUSIVITY WERE PRIMARY MOTIVATIONS FOR OUR DESIGNS. CLIENTS OF THE DI AND YUPPIES FROM CRESCENT HEIGHTS CAN ENJOY THE EXERCISE EQUIPMENT WHILE ELDERLY RESIDENTS AND WORKERS FROM THE MADISON BLOCK ENJOY LUNCH IN THE GARDEN. TEENS CAN CATCH SOME RAYS ON THE SUNNY HILL LOUNGE AS STUDENTS FROM LANGEVIN SCHOOL HUNT FOR GRASSHOPPERS OR PLAY MUSICAL BALL HOCKEY WHILE A JOGGER TAKES AN INTERESTING DETOUR ON HER RUN. WE WANTED AN AIR OF CELEBRATION AND A SENSE OF WONDER TO ENCHANT PARK VISITORS. WE BELIEVE THIS COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND TRYING TO APPEAL TO THE PLURALITY OF THE INNER CITY. WE HOPE THERE IS A UNIFYING PRIDE IN THIS PARK THAT REACHES ALL THE LOCALS; RECONCILING GROUPS THAT ARE TOO OFTEN PRESUMED TO BE AT ODDS.

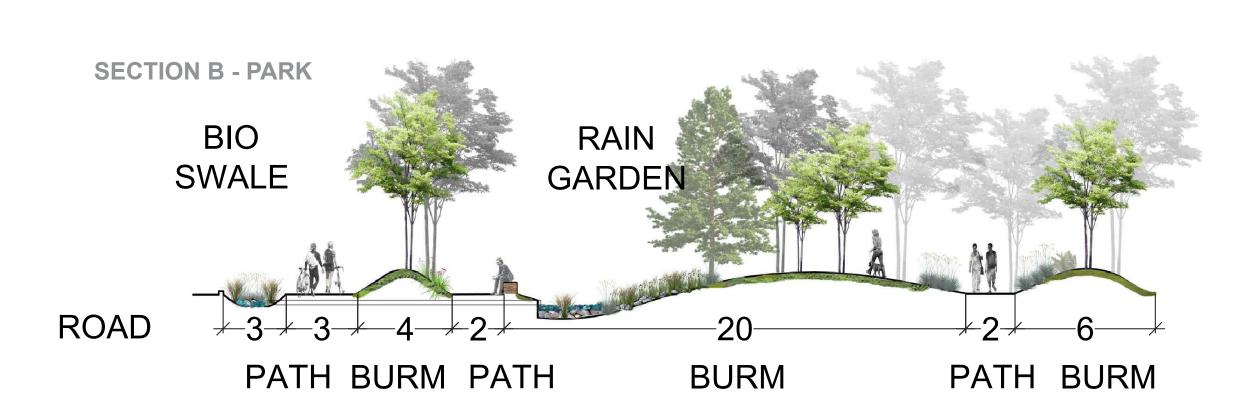


PERSPECTIVE - UNDER THE BRIDGE



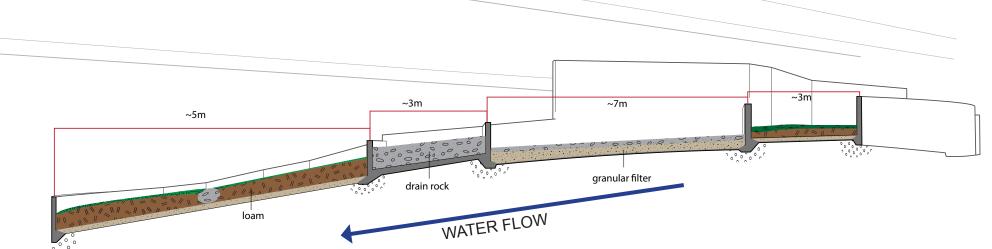
SECTIONS



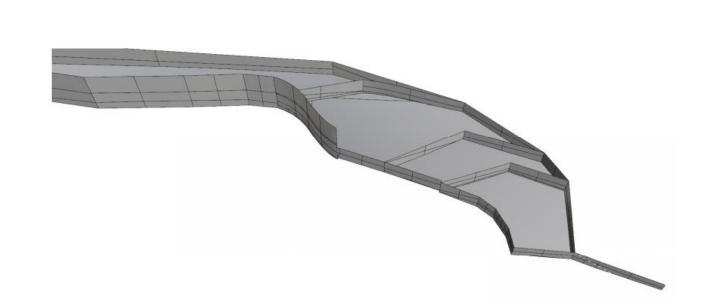


SECTION C - TERRACE BIOSWALE



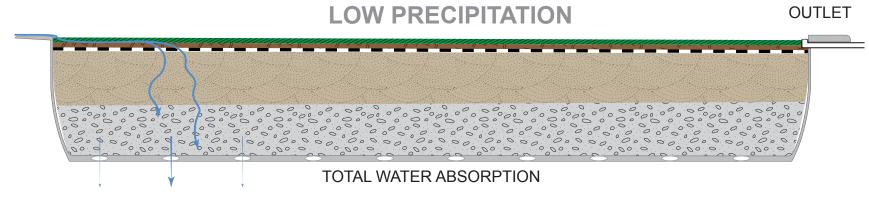


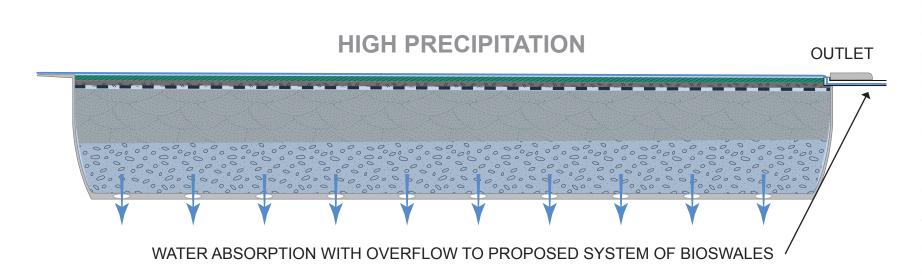
TERRACE BIOSWALE MODEL

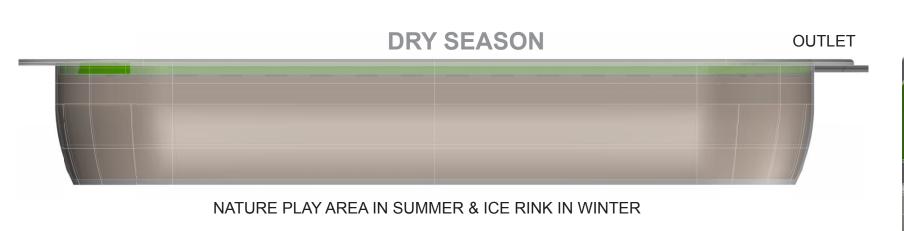




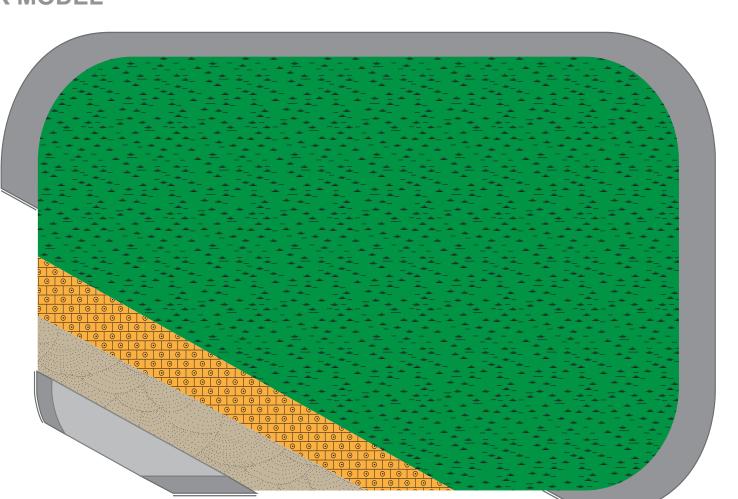
RINK SECTION - INFILTRATION MODEL

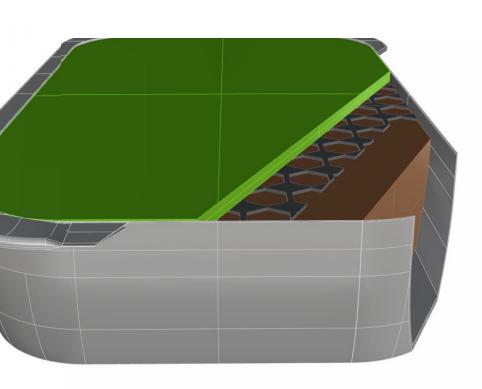


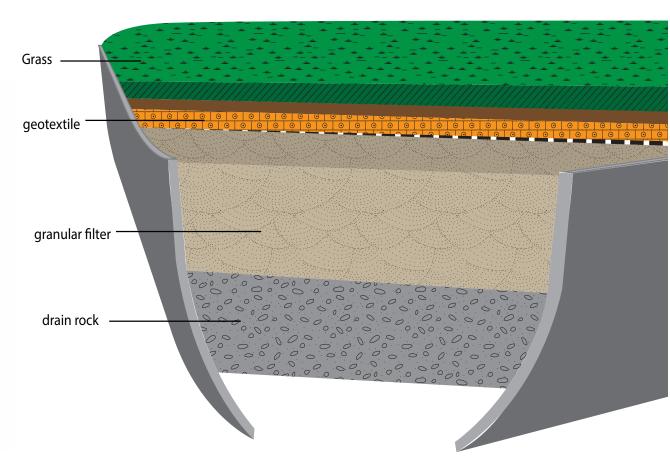




ICE-RINK MODEL

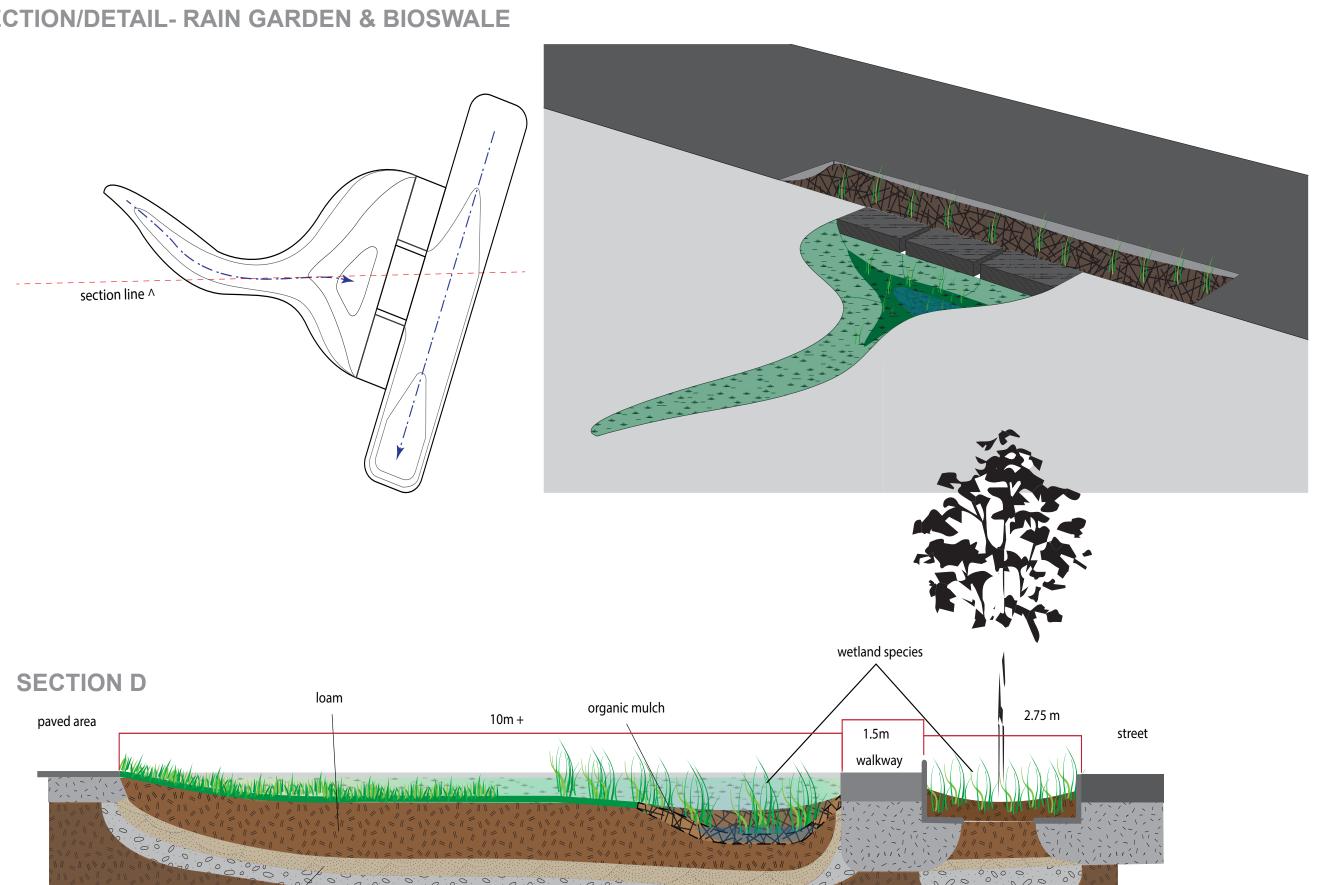






SECTION/DETAIL- RAIN GARDEN & BIOSWALE

granular filter



drain rock

RIVER-FRONT CONNECTION



