## **Brawn Family Foundation Rotary Mental Health Park**

In early 2020, Rotary Centennial, Rotary East and Rotary North began working with the Parks Foundation Calgary and the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation to develop a park adjacent to the new Alberta Health Services new children and adolescent mental health day hospital on 17 A Street NW in Calgary. The concept was to develop the park as a District 5360 project as the catchment area for the hospital is southern Alberta the same as for District 5360. The hospital is currently under construction with completion scheduled for late 2022.

Prior to COVID it was estimated that there were over 80,000 Alberta children and adolescents requiring help for mental issues such as depression. COVID has only made mental health even more prevalent in children. Research has shown that mental health is improved by taking walks in parks or beside water.

A landscape architect was engaged to develop a conceptual plan to transform a green space owned by the City of Calgary located just north of the hospital into a purpose-built mental health park. Discussions were held to get input from the local communities. Once the conceptual design was completed a fund raising was undertaken focussing on District 5360 Rotary clubs.

The drawing below shows 7 distinct zones within the park to help offer tranquility, exercise facilities to burn off stress and energy, areas for relaxation and more that can be prescribed by the staff of the hospital for the young people.

The Brawn Family Foundation was impressed by the concept and committed a significant donation such that the naming rights for the park were awarded to the Foundation.

Funding for the construction of the park was estimated at about \$925,000 and a sustainability fund of at least another \$200,000. Funding was completed in February 2022. Applications for development and construction have been submitted to the City of Calgary. Tenders for construction will be requested in April 2022, with construction to be started in late May and completion in October 2022.

## PARK FEATURES SEVEN DISTINCT ZONES TO SUPPORT FAMILY & YOUTH NEEDS

## **Master Plan**

Pavilion
Formal Planting
Informal Seating
CCAMH Signage

Pavilion Flex Space
 Informal Seating Node
 Central Node of the Site
 Room for Small to Medium Groups

Garden Space
 Edible Garden Border
 Frairie Garden Middle
 Infinity Loop Walking Path

4 Labyrinth

Community Pathway
 Den Width Asphalt Community Pathway
 Mixed Screen Planting to Adjacent Properties
 Multi-Use
 Through-site Access

6 Retaining Seat Walls
Slope Retained to Create an inviting Space
Informal Seating
Stacked Gandstone
Interspersed Planting
Retain Surrounding Easting Vegetation

Activity Area
 Low Screen Planting to Community Pathway
Three Point Busketball
 Climbing Structure
 Bosque Planting
 Bench Seating

Activity Area
 Lawn Tightrope Slack Line
 Hämmook Sculpture

9 Prairie Garden

(10) Mountain Garden

(1) Landscaped "Bowl" Slope Slope Creates a Feeling of Presentation Trees Line Sides, Creating Sense of Entry

(12) PFC Swing Bench

(13) Curvilinear Seating

(14) Picnic Tables





