



HELEN DILLER CIVIC CENTER PLAYGROUNDS



ANDREA COCHRAN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
2325 Third Street #210
San Francisco CA 94107
415.503.0060

PROJECT GOALS

Functional Considerations

- Serve the hub of the City's cultural life by engaging with cultural institutions such as the Main Public Library, the Asian Art Museum, the San Francisco Symphony, the San Francisco Ballet, and many other institutions that have active programming for children
- Provide open space in an area where it is lacking to serve residents of the Tenderloin, Civic Center, Hayes Valley and South of Market neighborhoods
- Replace the existing 20 year old playgrounds and successfully serve current and future generations
- Provide a safe place for children and families, in a way that is engaging and not isolating, including for example fencing design that is artistic and permeable

Design Considerations

- Create a timeliness anchor for one of the great civic plazas in the world
- Activate and bring the civic space to life
- Employ a unique, inspiring and artful approach to playground design, to create a playground unlike any other in the country

Playground Experience

The design is inspired by nature with the goal of creating a warm and unique outdoor experience. Using extensive planting and natural materials, the playgrounds aim to inspire:

- surprise and delight
- retreat and escape
- explore and roam
- experiment and investigate
- challenge and thrill



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PROJECT TEAM

Helen Diller Family Foundation

The Helen Diller Family Foundation supports programs and institutions in both the Bay area and throughout the world with a focus on education, science and the arts. In 2003, the Foundation gave the University of California San Francisco a one-time gift, that at the time was the largest in the hospital's history from an individual donor. The \$150 million gift funded the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Care Center. The Foundation has given other major grants and gifts to UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, and the De Young Museum. It has also supported the renovation of Julius Kahn Playground and Mission Dolores Park, both located in San Francisco.

The Trust for Public Land

The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come. Every park, playground, and public space The Trust for Public Land creates is an open invitation to explore, wonder, discover, and play. The Trust for Public Land has been connecting communities to the outdoors-and to each other-since 1972. For this project the Trust for Public land is responsible for community outreach, design and implementation of the project in coordination with San Francisco Recreation and Parks.

San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department

San Francisco Recreation and Parks manages and maintains more than 220 parks, playgrounds, and open spaces in the city, including two outside the city limits—Sharp Park in Pacifica, Calif. and Camp Mather in the High Sierras. Our 4,100-acre system includes 25 recreation centers, nine swimming pools, five golf courses and numerous athletic facilities, including sports courts, ball diamonds, soccer fields and gymnasiums. Included in the department's responsibilities are Golden Gate Park, Coit Tower, the Marina Yacht Harbor, the Palace of Fine Arts and Lake Merced. More than 850 talented individuals are part of our team, from gardeners, foresters, and recreation leaders to park patrol officers, custodians, electricians, painters and more. Our core mission, as it has been throughout our history, is to provide opportunities for San Francisco residents and visitors alike to gather, play, learn, relax, and enjoy nature in the city. The department has been working to improve the experience of the Civic Center and is thrilled that the Helen Diller Family Foundation is investing in the heart of the city, improving the experience for kids from all over the Bay Area and local communities who depend on these playgrounds.

Design Team:

Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture

The work of San Francisco-based Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture sculpts space through a seamless integration of landscape, art and architecture. Established in 1998, the seventeen person firm is distinguished by its attention to detail and thoughtful response to site conditions across a diverse range of project types and scales. Andrea Cochran is the recipient of numerous national awards including the Smithsonian's Cooper Hewitt National Design Award in Landscape Architecture and the American Society of Landscape Architect's Design Medal.

Anticlockwise Arts

Anticlockwise Arts is a studio of designers and engineers that use art, science, and technology to create interactive experiences for many sites including cultural institutions and public spaces. Its collaborators include The Exploratorium, California Academy of Sciences, Google, The Tech Museum of Innovation, and Audi.

Endres Studio Architecture and Engineering Architecture and Structural engineering

BKF Engineers Civil engineering

Horton Lees Brogden Lighting Design Lighting design

FW Associates Electrical engineering

MK Engineers, Inc. Plumbing and Mechanical design

Mayer / Reed Signage design and graphics

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PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Over the course the project The Trust for Public Land and the project team have worked together to conduct an extensive community process to develop the design for the new playgrounds. The process included a user survey conducted in 2013, three community wide workshops and dozens of focus group meetings with stakeholders including parents, educators, children, institutions and city agencies.

Construction on the project is slated to begin in the Feb 15, 2017 with an anticipated opening December 2017



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DESIGN INSPIRATION



Inspired by the daily fog patterns that move through San Francisco and the unique cloud formations that drift over the Bay.

Light weight materials that evoke the foggy atmosphere include net climbing structures, steel poles and rings, ribboned climbing platforms and glowing lights.

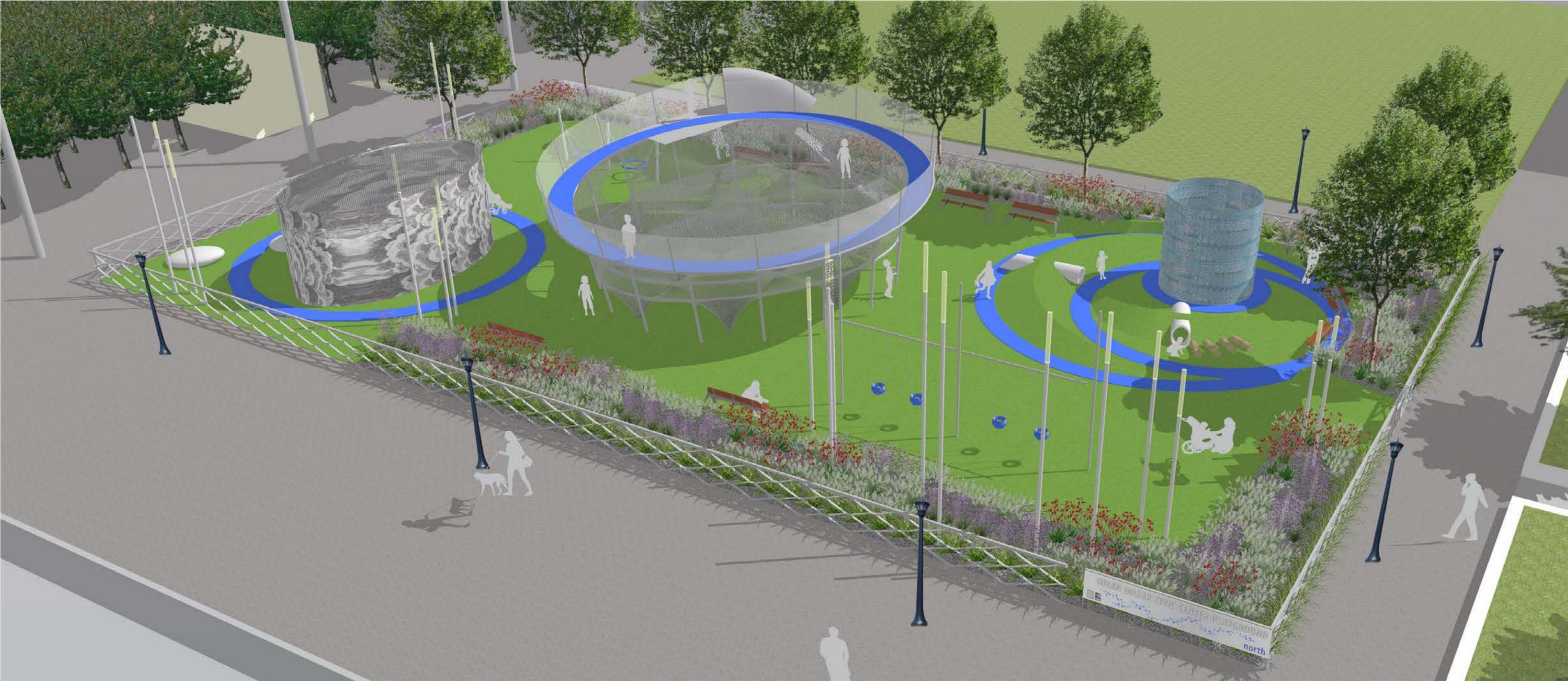


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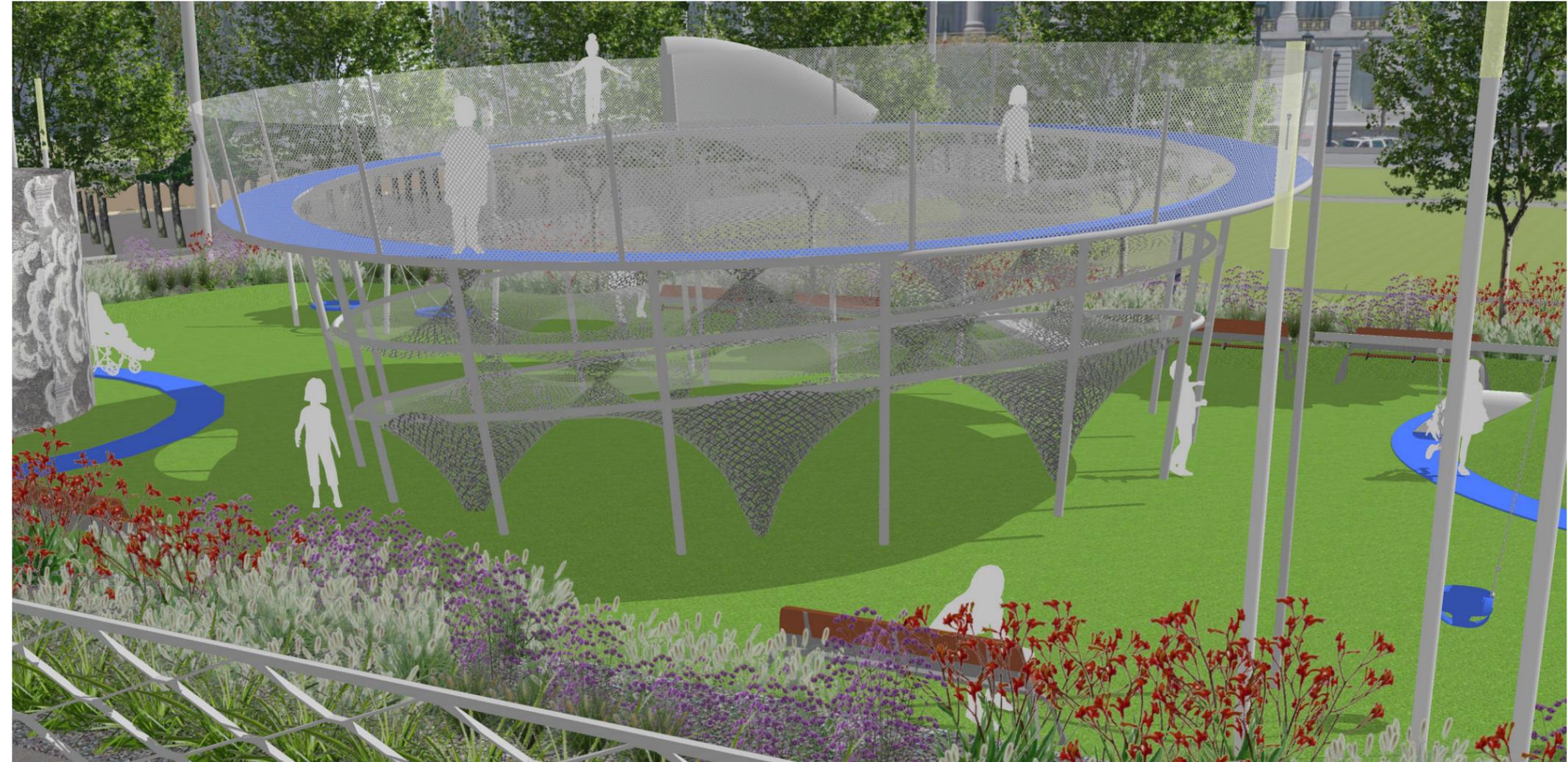
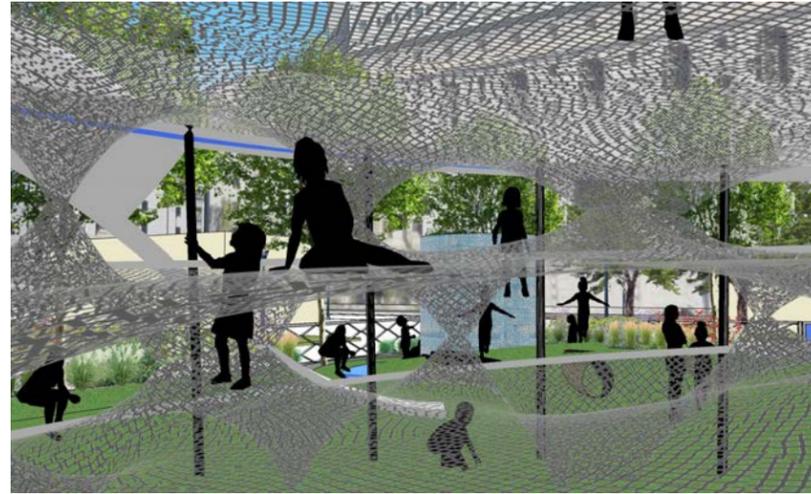
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NORTH PLAYGROUND OVERVIEW



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SKY PUNCH



This treehouse structure is designed to CHALLENGE children as they climb up through the clouds of nets and provide a sense of THRILL as they reach the top, taking in the views to the sky, before sliding back down to the ground.

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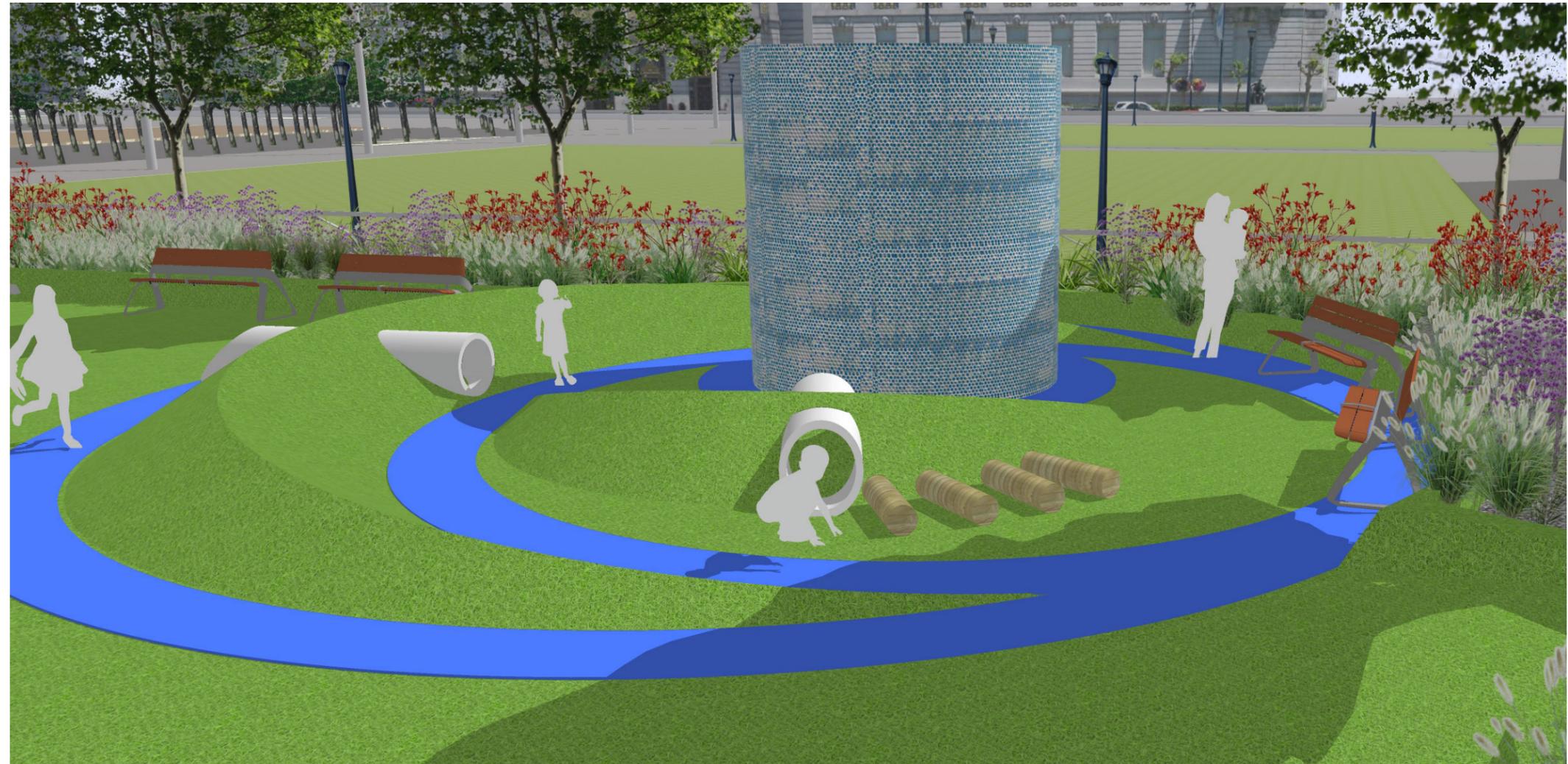


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RIPPLE POND



Land formations create little hills for kids under 5 to EXPERIMENT with climbing and INVESTIGATE crawl holes and bridges.



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SOUTH PLAYGROUND OVERVIEW



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LENTICULAR CLOUD



The spiraling play structure connects the ground path for children to ROAM along the colorful catwalk or EXPLORE using the twisting net.



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FOG VALLEY



Inverted semi circles creates a multi-use play structure to SWING on the climbing bars and BALANCE on the stretched membrane.

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CUMULUS CITY



A little city of climbing structures makes little play houses for children to ESCAPE and find a little RETREAT for imagination games.

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POLE FOREST AND FLUID FLOOR



A forest of poles and programmed light installations connect the playgrounds across the plaza. In the center, projected patterns on the ground give a feeling of SURPRISE as they respond to people's movements. Twinkling lights at the tops of the pole forest DELIGHT visitors of all ages with rhythm, pattern and color. Engaging visitors during the evening hours is unique to these playgrounds, adding to the vibrancy of the Civic Center plaza.

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