“Back Yard”



- Add welcoming vestibule at lower level door for public access to elevator and restroom
- Provide paved accessible route to Amphitheater
- Add seating and shade
- Provide amenities and points of interest (public art?)
- Add interior drinking fountain/ bottle filler
- Preserve river birch grove
- Enhance planting and provide neat edges

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Amphitheater

Frick Environmental Center

Vestibule

Stage deck

Back Yard

Bench swings with arbor and wheelchair spaces

existing rain garden

existing rain garden

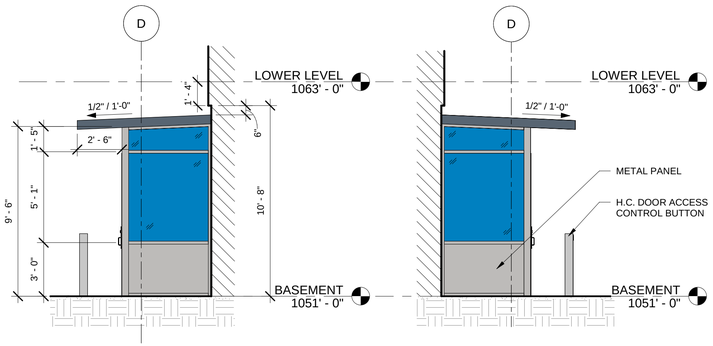
N

SHEET NOTES

1. NOTE
2.
3.

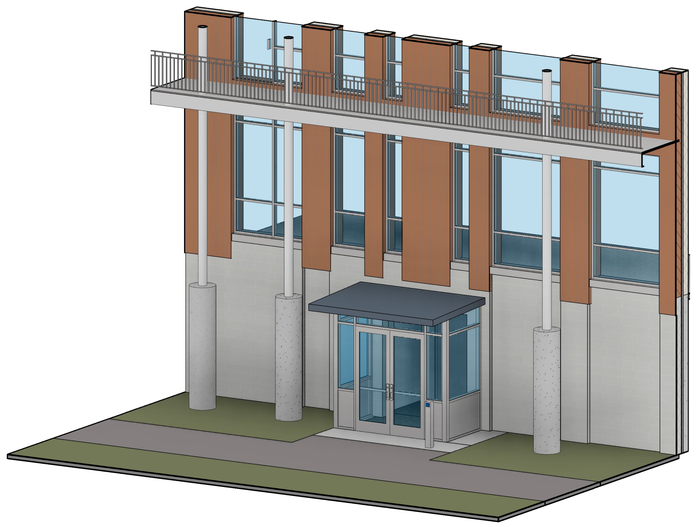
GENERAL NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS SHALL BE CONSIDERED "+/-". VERIFY ELEVATIONS AND DIMENSIONS IN FIELD.
2. EXISTING CONDITIONS TO BE VERIFIED IN FIELD PRIOR TO START OF CONSTRUCTION.



7 PROPOSED EAST ELEVATION
1/4" = 1'-0"

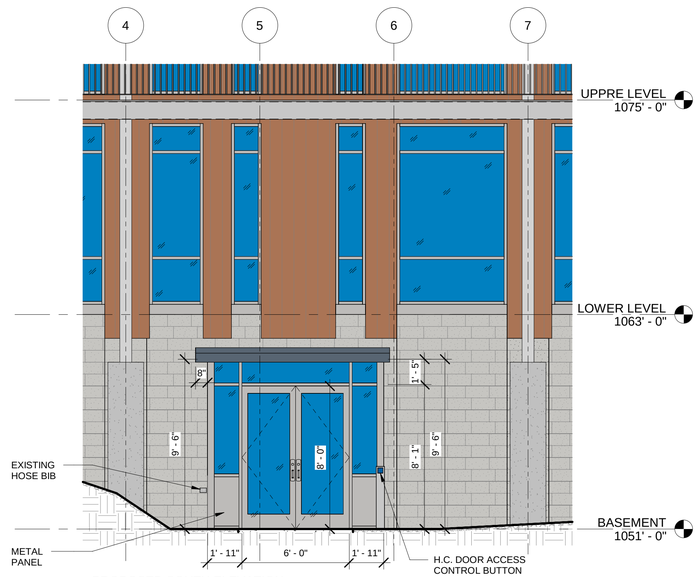
6 PROPOSED WEST ELEVATION
1/4" = 1'-0"



5 3D VIEW 2



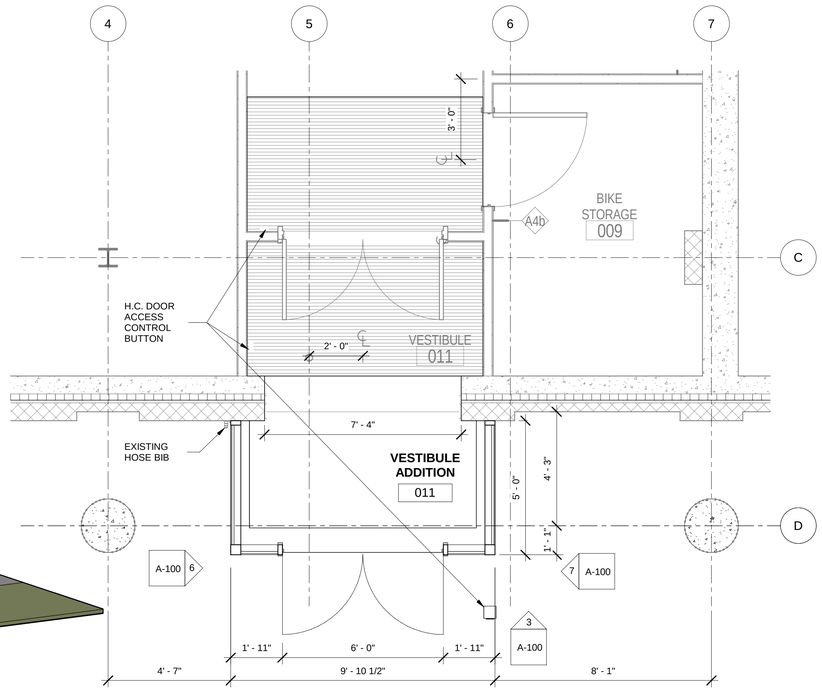
4 PERSPECTIVE VIEW



3 PROPOSED SOUTH ELEVATION
1/4" = 1'-0"



2 3D VIEW 1



1 FIRST FLOOR PLAN
3/8" = 1'-0"

lori@growarchitecture.studio

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PITTSBURGH, PA

FRICK CENTER -
BACK DOOR

2005 BEECHWOOD BLVD
PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

DATE: 11-13-2026

ISSUED/ REVISED FOR: DATE

BACK DOOR PLAN

SCALE: As indicated

SHEET NO.

A-100

Back Yard Swing & Shade Arbor



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Wayfinding & Signs

Improving Wayfinding

- More directional signs & maps needed at key waypoints
- Add identification signs at Frick Environmental Center building (on railing, overhead on the entry arbor, large sign at the doors, more info like hours of operation)
- Consider renaming the Barn to something more descriptive
- Signs should be a consistent regional parks style throughout the campus (except: consider using standard traffic signs at driveway/ parking)



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Improving Accessibility of Park Signs

- Sign colors must have sufficient contrast (minimum 70%, more contrast is better)
- Use sans serif type and avoid italics
- Height of lettering should relate to the viewing distance, height, and type of sign - bigger is better (follow ADA and NPS guidelines for the type of sign)
- Consider updating regional park standard for greater accessibility



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Improving Accessibility of Park Signs

- Keep interpretive information brief
- Signs intended for close viewing or touch should be on an accessible route (e.g. in paving not lawn)
- Text on sign should be at or above eye level
- Consider color blindness especially with map graphics and symbols (check contrast, don't rely on color coding)





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Improving Accessibility of Park Signs

- Tactile letters and braille can be useful if the sign can be easily located by blind individuals (per ADA, not required for directional signs; could be a nice addition to maps and interpretive signs)
- QR codes can provide additional information and can allow users to adapt the information to their needs - but need wifi
- Consider incorporating assistive technologies such as audio wayfinding apps; but need to be mindful of how widely available.



Resources:

- [Guide to the ADA Accessibility Standards, Chapter 7: Signs]
- [Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for National Park Service Interpretive Media]

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FRICK ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY

LEGEND

1. Beechwood Boulevard Accessible Path
2. Gatehouse Entrance
   - Accessible parking spaces (2)
   - Accessible drop off area (flush curbs)
   - Benches with wheelchair space (2)
3. Parking lot accessible path
4. Existing accessible parking spaces (4)
5. Arrival zone
   - Accessible park map and bike racks
   - Exposed aggregate paving
6. Gathering area
   - Accessible umbrella tables
7. Relocated FEC service yard
8. Barn Expansion
   - Accessible restroom with adult changing table
   - Trackchair & assistive device storage
   - Trackchair transfer & orientation area
9. Trackchair access
10. Relocated bike racks
11. Accessible route to upper level of amphitheater (via elevator to 2nd floor of FEC)
12. Amphitheater seating
    - Shade structure
    - Reconfigure stone benches
    - Wheelchair seating areas (9) with companion seating (movable)
    - Wall-top bench seats with backs and arms (8)
    - Hard surface paving on accessible routes
13. Stage deck
14. Accessible route to mid-level of amphitheater
15. Improve existing steps/ trail
16. Vestibule at lower level door; Accessible route to lower level of Amphitheater (via elevator to lower level of FEC)
17. Back yard
    - Preserve river birch grove
    - Hard-surface paving in lieu of gravel
    - Arbor with swings (3) and wheelchair spaces (2)
    - Boulders and rock mulch under overhang
    - Enhance meadow planting with mowed edges and colorful pollinator plants

Ⓑ Bench with wheelchair space (typ.)

