

**PARKS COMMISSION  
Heman Park Community Center  
975 Pennsylvania Ave.**

**Tuesday, October 21, 2025  
6:30 p.m.**

**Agenda**

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**B. ROLL CALL**

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. September 16, 2025

**E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**F. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

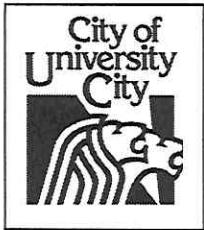
**G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

**H. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Annual Report – Lisa Hummel, Amy Gascon, TBD
2. Rules & Regulations – Josh Winstral, James Wilke, TBD
3. Budget – John Solodar, Amy Gascon, TBD

**I. PARKS REPORTS**

1. Flynn Park – Josh Winstral
2. Janet Majerus Park – Josh Winstral
3. Metcalfe Park – Josh Winstral
4. U City Dog Park – Josh Winstral
5. Fogerty Park – John Solodar
6. Greensfelder Park – John Solodar
7. Joseph Adams Park – John Solodar
8. Ruth Park Golf Course – John Solodar
9. Millar Park – Lisa Hummel
10. Rabe Park – Lisa Hummel
11. Ruth Park Woods – Lisa Hummel
12. Lewis Park – Amy Gascon
13. Shelly Welsch Park – Amy Gascon
14. Mooney Park – Amy Gascon
15. Ackert Park/ Greenway South – James Wilke
16. Heman Park – James Wilke



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17. Mona Trail – James Wilke
18. Centennial Commons - TBD
19. Heman Park Pool - TBD
20. Community Center - TBD
21. Eastgate Park - TBD
22. Kaufman Park - TBD

**J. OLD BUSINESS**

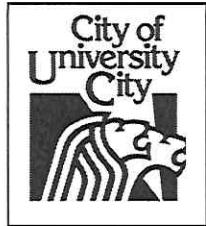
1. Golf Course Driving Range – project/schedule update
2. Heman Park Improvement – parking lot barriers options

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Review and Discussion of Existing Park Master Plans – see attachments summaries. Full Master plans can be found on the City Website.
2. Review and Discussion of Park Priorities – see attachments from Commission Member Gascon

**L. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

**M. ADJOURNMENT**



**PARKS COMMISSION**  
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**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by James Wilke at 6:36.

**B. ROLL CALL**

In attendance: Commission President James Wilke, Commission Members Amy Gascon, Josh Winstral, John Solodar, Lisa Hummel. Also, in attendance was Councilman Steve McMahon, Deputy Director of Parks Maintenance Todd Strubhart, Deputy Director of Recreation Lynda Euell-Taylor, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Jim Krischke.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Josh motioned and John seconded, all in favor

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. March 18, 2025 - revised version from September 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:05am, Todd pointed out that Round 25 should be Round 26. John motioned to approve, and Josh seconded, all in favor
2. April 8, 2025 Special – previously approved
3. May 20, 2025 – previously approved
4. July 15, 2025 – Edit to #3 to fix the typo in Park Master Plan, Lisa made a motion to approve, Josh seconded

**E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

None

**F. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Jim Krischke is the Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. He provided a Monthly Director Report in the commission packet. The city is working on hiring a permanent Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Jim plans to provide a monthly Directors Report for each meeting.

**G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

Steve McMahon was not at the meeting so no council liaison report.

**H. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Annual Report – Park priorities report needs to be updated and this was something specifically mentioned in the passing of the St. Louis County



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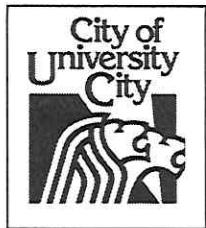
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Municipal Park Grants Round 25 by City Council. The recreation goals were not in the park priorities. Todd brought up that the overall comprehensive park master plan was last updated in 2008. This committee needs to be the first draft of the park priorities. Then the committee will need to determine if another Park Master Plan needs to occur. Lisa Hummel and Amy Gascon will be on this committee.

2. Rules & Regulations – Collect all the regulations exist in the Parks Department, determine which ones are “real” rules because the regulations need to be approved by city council and not all regulations that were found were approved by the city council. This committee needs to make sure the regulations are up to date and then get approved by council. James mentioned that after the rules and regulations are finalized and approved by council, these can be posted online. Josh Winstral and James Wilke will be on this committee.
3. Budget – Parks commission should review the Parks Department budget before it goes to city council. The budget process will start in January and February. Amy Gascon and John Solodar will be on this committee.

**I. PARKS REPORTS**

1. Flynn Park – Josh Winstral – looks great
2. Janet Majerus Park – Josh Winstral – haven’t been to recently, update from
3. Metcalfe Park – Josh Winstral – no update
4. U City Dog Park – Josh Winstral- looks great, utilizing it frequently and loves it
5. Fogerty Park – John Solodar – looks good, forgot to check if the drinking fountain was leaking
6. Greensfelder Park – John Solodar – whole bunch of live trees with hanging down limbs. Per Todd, it should be addressed in November.
7. Joseph Adams Park – John Solodar – good shape
8. Ruth Park Golf Course – John Solodar – it’s been too hot for John to be out there
9. Millar Park – Lisa Hummel – a giant limb fell on the new fence, women’s bathroom needs some attention, rust on the toilet, and rust on the changing table, the women’s restroom needs trash cans for women’s menstrual products, hornets/bees around playground
10. Rabe Park – Lisa Hummel – plenty of wood chips, drinking fountain working
11. Ruth Park Woods – Lisa Hummel – shelter took some damage from tornado and graffiti on the artwork
12. Lewis Park – Amy Gascon – wood chips put down recently, wall around pond needs repairs, missing stones, fountain in pond not working
13. Shelly Welsch Park – Amy Gascon – no update
14. Mooney Park – Amy Gascon – hornet nest in fire truck
15. Ackert Park/ Greenway South – James Wilke – splash pad was working



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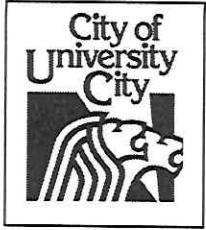
16. Heman Park – James Wilke – need clay for field for girls softball, can we make sure the trash cans get emptied the day before a game, tree down on Midland, soccer field on Olive side gets set up on infield dirt of baseball field, the field becomes unplayable if it rains, there is also a swell in the field that needs to be filled, one of digital signs near Midland and Vernon wasn't working
17. Mona Trail – James Wilke – giant bump in paved trail
18. Centennial Commons
19. Heman Park Pool – Josh Winstral – pool was wonderful this year, volleyball was well used, splash pad was well utilized
20. Community Center
21. Eastgate Park – James Wilke – fence needs to be looked at
22. Kaufman Park – Lisa Hummel – drinking fountains working, benches by playground, one of the slates is broken

**J. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Golf Course Driving Range – five (5) year revenue review and discussion – revenue from fiscal year 23-24 for the driving range was \$324k. Driving range closed from Labor Day 2022 until April 2023 for the first phase of the driving range construction adding in pipes for drainage. Driving range closed July 29, 2024, through current due to dirt and leveling issues (dirt received from the Target construction project on Olive). James inquired about the overall golf course revenue work, the enterprise fund, and expenses for the golf course. Jim has these items on his to-do list, and he will get back to the commission.
2. Golf Course Driving Range – staff update - conference call this past Friday with Navigate (new project manager for the driving range). Navigate is starting the process of producing an RFQ to get a design and engineering firm, which will have completed by Jan/Feb 2026. Then they will go out to bid to identify a company to complete the work at the driving range. Estimating the driving range will be back open in fall of 2026. Lighting on the driving range was brought up and James mentioned there was a lawsuit around lighting/driving range usage.

**K. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Jack Buck Field in Heman Park - recommendations to utilize open space – the Parks Department staff is recommending the outfield of Jack Buck field would be best utilized for soccer fields. Could be used for youth soccer, 6 vs 6 or 9 vs 9 size fields. The old fence is grandfathered in as it is a flood plain, the right field fence was put up with FEMA funds. There are 3 points of entry to the field, they are currently locked but would be unlocked to allow teams to practice soccer there. Will need to purchase goals for the field. Discussion was held around holding off on the soccer fields while reviewing the park priorities. Jim suggested



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that we move forward with soccer fields there for now because it is a minimal cost and we can always change the usage of the area down the road. John motioned to leave fence up, Josh seconded, all in favor to leave fence up. John motioned to use temporarily as soccer field, Josh seconded, all in favor.

2. Heman Park – recommendation to remove and replace parking lot barriers in FY 26/27 – Champs will take the old telephone poles then the city could replace the telephone poles. The city could replace the telephone poles with stone pavers/wall. Amy inquired as to why there is discussion of replacing the telephone poles with stone pavers and not paving the parking lot and putting in parking barriers. There was discussion about flooding and if the paving could even happen in the park. James recommended replacing the broken telephone poles, which does not need to be approved by the commission. Todd suggested checking with the Land Water Conservation and D&R to see if the road and parking lot can be paved to see if that would be something to include in the park priorities for Heman Park.

**L. COMMISSION COMMENTS**

None

**M. ADJOURNMENT**

Lisa motioned to adjourn at 8:09, John seconded, all in favor.

## PARK COMMISSION MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2025

### HEMAN PARK – PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS

This matter is a carryover from last month's Park Commission meeting. Three options were discussed at last month's meeting for the removal and replacement of the deteriorating/existing utility pole barriers throughout Heman Park. The following is information on those options.

#### **OPTION 1**

Replace existing deteriorating/damaged utility poles and replace with like kind and quality.

- 3,220 feet of utility poles need replacement – approximately 40 foot poles, 80.5 poles in total
- Utility poles can be obtained for free through Ameran program – limited availability
- Utility poles would be removed and replaced via in-house staff
- Disposal fee of deteriorated poles - \$43.00 per ton
- Existing deteriorated poles weigh approximately 0.6 tons per pole
- Disposal cost – 80.5 poles x 0.6 tons = 48.3 tons @ \$43.00 per ton. Total Disposal cost - \$1,932.00

#### **OPTION 2**

Replace existing deteriorating/damaged utility poles and replace with decorative boulders.

- Existing utility poles would be removed by in-house staff and new boulders would be placed via in-house staff
- Spacing of decorative boulders would be at the discretion of city – three spacing options would meet the needs of the park. Six (6) feet, eight (8) feet, or ten (10) feet.
- Boulders are sized five (5) feet x two (2) feet x 15". Each boulder weighs ~1,400 pounds
- Boulders cost \$140.00 per boulder.
- Six (6) feet require 530 boulders at a cost of \$74,200, eight (8) feet require 400 boulders at a cost of \$56,000, or ten (10) feet require 300 boulders at a cost of \$42,000.
- Disposal cost – 80.5 poles x 0.6 tons = 48.3 tons @ \$43.00 per ton. Total Disposal cost - \$1,932.00

### **OPTION 3**

Replace existing deteriorating/damaged utility poles and blacktop parking lot(s).

- Blacktop paving for five (5) gravel parking lots and park drive/service road equates to approximately 110,000 sq ft of blacktop (asphalt) paving.
- Average commercial blacktop paving is approximately \$7.00 per sq ft. Total cost would be \$770,000.00
- Blacktop paving does not include parking lot stripping or parking spot bumpers. Estimated cost for stripping and parking lot bumpers - \$\$200,000.00
- Blacktop paving will require Floodplain permits
- Disposal cost – 80.5 poles x 0.6 tons = 48.3 tons @ \$43.00 per ton. Total Disposal cost - \$1,932.00
- Paving may require additional site preparation costs and more expensive long term maintenance expense.

## PARK MASTER PLAN SUMMARIES

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# Parks Master Plan

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Adopted by Park Commission

November 25, 2008

# Overview of Parks

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## I. Parks Division Summary

The Parks division is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all city parks and a number of parcels throughout the city such as medians and public spaces like the Library and City hall grounds. In addition, the division supports the community in a variety of ways with labor and equipment. For 2007 the division spent the following hours performing these tasks.

<b>Mowing, Trimming and Litter Removal</b>	<b>6,946.50</b>	<b>25.97%</b>
<b>General Outdoor Maintenance</b>	<b>10,443.00</b>	<b>39.05%</b>
<b>General Indoor Maintenance</b>	<b>5,268.00</b>	<b>19.70%</b>
<b>Gardening and Forestry Activities</b>	<b>4,088.50</b>	<b>15.29%</b>

### a. Distribution of parks

The University City Code identifies 32 locations as designated parks. However 11 of these locations are really open space medians. The remaining park locations are spread throughout the city. As with any older city, the distribution is not the same in all areas. In the east part of the city the parks are smaller reflecting the difficulty of acquiring park land after an area was already developed. There are also areas of the city which are not served by certain types of parks at all.

### b. Types of Parks

Type	Service Area Radius	Size	Acres per 1000 population
Mini	Less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile	Less than 5 acres	.25 to .5 acres
Neighborhood	$\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile	5 – 25 acres	1 to 2 acres
Community	1 to 2 miles	25 acres or more	5 to 8 acres

There is no official national standard for park acreage. The above chart represents the standard most communities use.

In addition to designating types of parks by size there are special areas such as open space, linear parks, trails and unique parks such as a golf course. The City Municipal Code also defines 11 medians as parks as they are used as common spaces for the residents. Based upon the typical standards the following charts shows the type of park, acreage, and how it compares to the standards noted above.

Mini Parks	Acres
<b>Eastgate Park</b>	.93
<b>Janet Majerus Park</b>	4.50
<b>Kingsland Park</b>	1.35
<b>Lewis Park</b>	4.00
<b>Mona Terrace Park</b>	2.00
<b>Northmoor Park</b>	1.60
<b>Rabe Park</b>	2.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.38</b>

Neighborhood Parks	Acres
<b>Flynn Park</b>	6.61
<b>Fogerty Park</b>	11.8
<b>Greensfelder Park</b>	6.75
<b>Kaufman Park</b>	7.80
<b>Metcalfe Park</b>	5.60
<b>Millar Park</b>	12.10
<b>Mooney Park</b>	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.66</b>

Community Parks	Acres
<b>Heman Park</b>	<b>85.26</b>

Special Use Parks	Type	Acres
<b>Ackert Walkway</b>	Linear Park	3.49
<b>Greenway South</b>	Linear Trail	.81
<b>Oakbrook Lane</b>	Linear Greenbelt or esplanade	2.50
<b>Ruth Park Golf Course</b>	Golf Course	93.50
<b>Ruth Park Woods Park</b>	Natural Area	23.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>123.298</b>

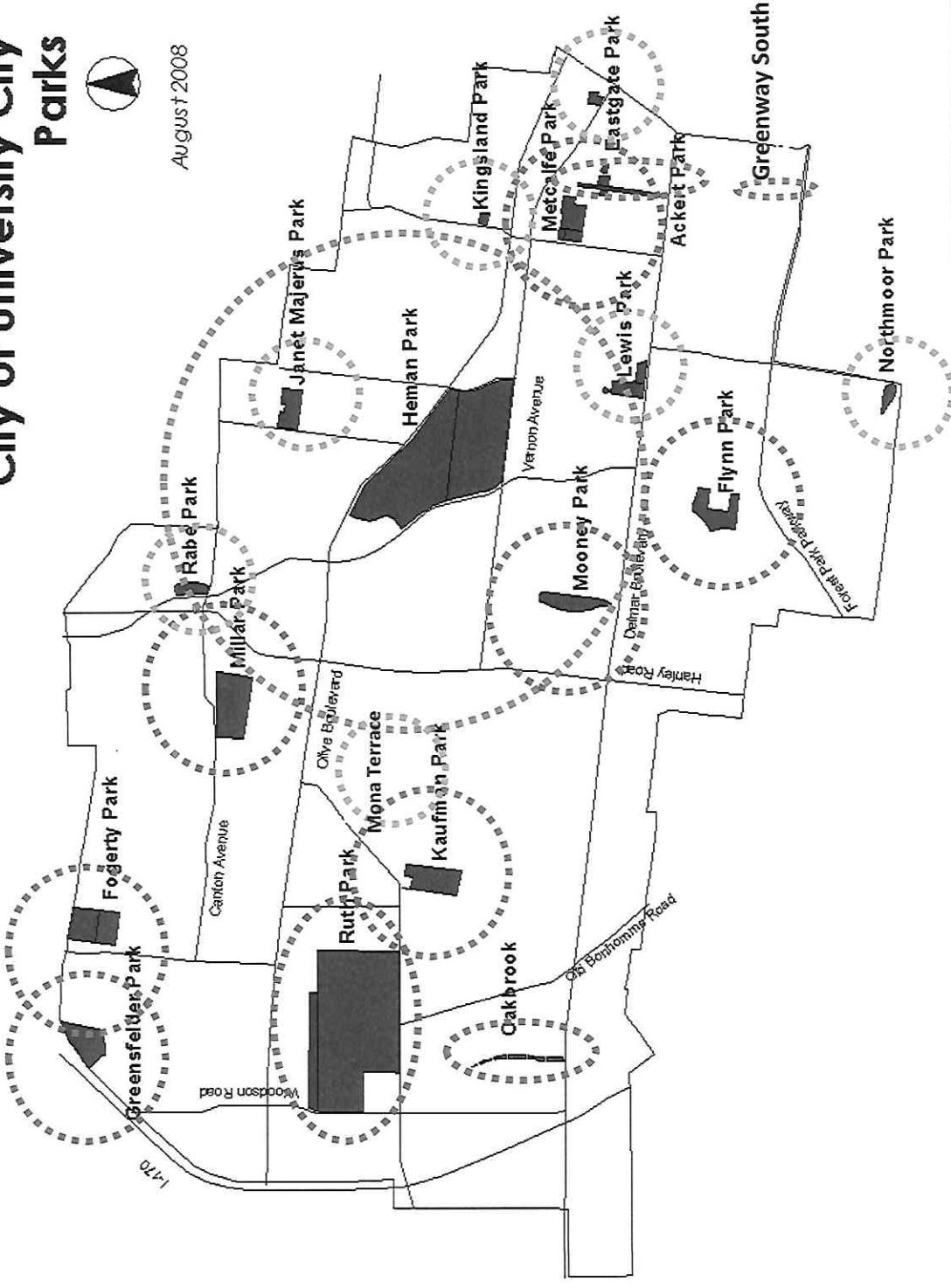
### **Grand Total 280.6 acres**

Based upon the 2000 census University City's population is 37,644. The City should then have 9.41 to 18.82 areas of mini parks, 37.64 to 75.28 acres of neighborhood parks and 188.2 to 301.12 acres. The City has sufficient mini and neighborhood parks but is deficient in Community parks. The following map shows the service area radius of the mini, neighborhood and community parks in University City.

# City of University City Parks



August 2008



Community Parks      Neighborhood Parks

8      Mini Parks      Neighborhood Parks



c. Non Park grounds maintenance

Including the 11 medians identified in the City Municipal Code there are 129 parcels or 33.02 acres of city land the division maintains. These parcels include medians, traffic islands, city building grounds, right of ways and parking lots. Work in these areas includes trash removal, mowing, trimming, pruning and at a few locations maintaining the irrigation system. Appendix 2 is a chart of these properties.

d. Miscellaneous responsibilities

Other responsibilities include the Heman Park Swimming Pool which involves preparation for the Memorial Day opening, by cleaning the pool basin, caulking and painting where needed, getting the pumps and filtration system working, preparing the pool grounds, deck, and the bathhouse. During the pool season, work continues on water quality, equipment, miscellaneous repairs, and support for the swimming pool.

Throughout the summer, the staff provides assistance to neighborhoods throughout the city for block parties. There is an average of 59 block parties each summer and staff delivers and picks up tables, benches and trash containers.

Special events are primarily held in Heman Park and in the Delmar Loop. The Parks Division supports these events by providing the portable stage, extra trash containers, benches and tables.

e. Forestry

Forestry is a separate division in the department. However the Parks Division assists Forestry by providing staff and equipment to plant trees, removal of approximately 250 stumps each year, and the removal of forestry debris from seasonal storms.

f. Other City Departments

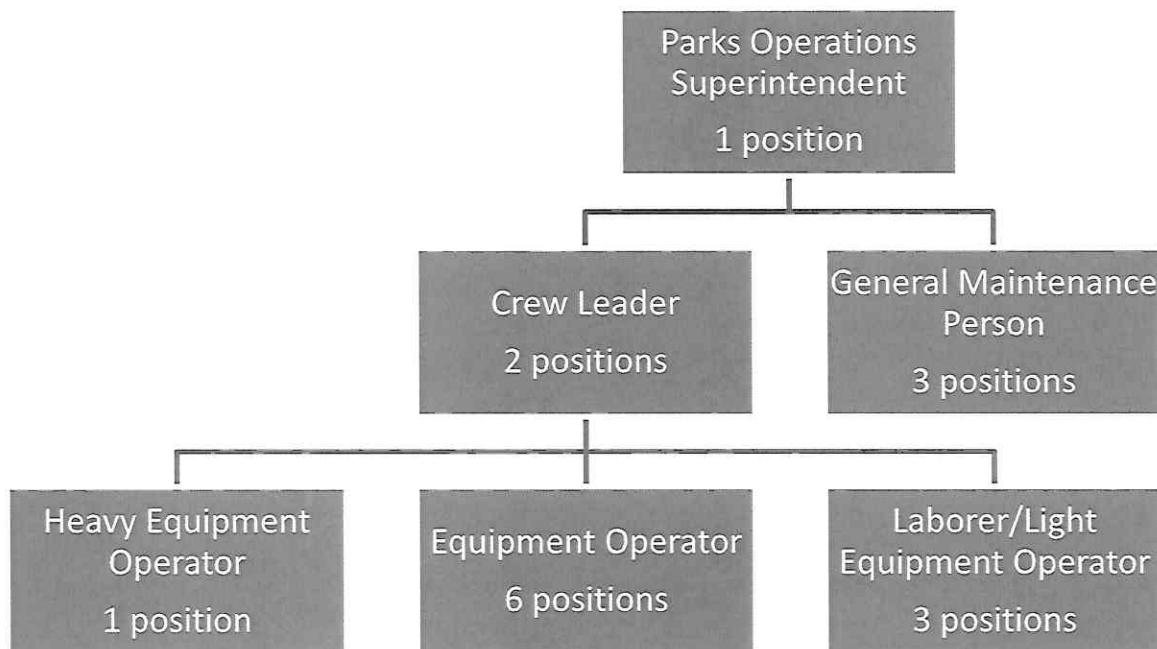
The Parks Division assists other city departments by boarding up an average of 25 vacant buildings each year, maintains the grounds of the Sutter-Meyer house, assists the Public Works department during fall leaf collection and provides equipment and technical staff for special projects throughout the year.

g. Interdepartmental

The Parks Division is responsible for the non-custodial maintenance of the Community Center and Centennial Commons. This includes all preventative maintenance of the HVAC systems and all repairs to the building and equipment. The Parks Division also provides maintenance support for the Ruth Park Golf Course club house and, as needed, to the golf course groundskeepers.

## h. Staffing

The Parks Division is comprised of 15 persons. The average number of years on staff is 10.5 with an average of .25 vacancies each year. The division supplements the full-time staff with a mowing contract to maintain 21 parcels 18 times per year and (lawn care for Jack Buck field \$5000, miscellaneous properties \$20,070, lighted soccer field \$5000).



## i. Equipment

The Parks Division has 10 trucks, 4 large tractors, a high-lift front loader, stump-cutter, utility vehicle, sweeper and small brush chipper, which are owned and maintained by the Public Works Department Fleet maintenance. As needed throughout the year, the department uses other heavy duty maintenance vehicles and equipment from Public Works.

The Division owns and maintains 5 riding mowers, 2 - 13.5" mowing decks, 2 - 80" mowing decks, a post hole digger and back hoe attachments, ball field groomer, several 20" push mowers, an edger, field marker stiper, walk behind blower, 3 back pack and 4 hand blowers, 4 line trimmers, 2 chain saws, a power washer, a 50 gallon sprayer, a portable generator/welder, a gas powered water pump, a pick-up truck salt spreader, 2 walk behind snow blowers and a variety of hand and power tools.

Division owned equipment is on a regular replacement schedule.

j. Office and maintenance building and area

The Division is housed in the public works complex at the corner of Pennsylvania and Olive. There is one office area shared by the Parks Operation Superintendent and the Forester. The other spaces are used for equipment maintenance, paint and carpentry rooms, storage, employees break room, lockers and restroom, secured storage for hand tools and other items. The work area is difficult to keep clean and organized because of the way the space is allocated. At this point there are no females on staff but in the future an accommodation for privacy in the restrooms and locker areas will be needed.

k. Budget

The Parks Division budget varies from year to year because of city and grant funded capital improvements. Below is a chart for the FY 07-08 division budget.

Personnel & Benefits	\$873,386
Contractual/Utilities	\$281,083
Commodities	\$ 50,840
Capital	\$ 65,925
Total	\$1,271,234

l. Collaborations and partnerships

- i. U City in Bloom – a community based program with 200 volunteers which plants and maintains floral garden of over 200 flower beds at over 90 locations. Many of the gardens are in public parks and right of ways the Parks Division maintains. The Division collaborates with U City in Bloom to provide a source for watering, use of city equipment for annual bed preparation, land for growing plants, and space at the Community Center for a plant sale each spring.
- ii. Green Center – a 501c3 organization which leases the house and ground adjacent to Kaufman Park. The Green Center is a natural laboratory and cultural gathering place which partners with the City on environmental issues. The Green Center manages and maintains the grounds surrounding their building with prairie grasses; nature walks ways through the woods and has installed a new green house. They manage the Ruth Park Woods, an old growth forest between Ruth Park Golf Course and the River des Peres. Ruth Park Woods has a loop trail system with plant and tree identification markers as well as a shelter for environmental classes. The Green Center has worked with the City on the removal of invasive Japanese Honeysuckle and on clean-up of the River des Peres and water quality monitoring.

### iii. Athletic Organizations

University City Sports Association organizes volunteer coaches to provide youth sports: spring (t-ball, machine pitch, baseball and softball) and fall (football and cheer leading). They use City of University City fields for practices and games; and use the old restrooms building by the Heman Park tennis courts for storage. All youth participating in the sports are entered into the City's registration system and pay a nominal fee (\$2/residents and \$5/non-residents per sport) in lieu of the organization paying for field rentals. The City offers the same spring sports programs and we coordinate field scheduling and have merged teams to make sure the programs take place. The Sports Association is limited to 3 teams per lighted field for football practices in order to help retain turf on the fields. There is a Memorandum of Understanding between the Sports Association and the City of University City.

The University City Soccer Club offers fall outdoor and winter indoor soccer leagues. The teams are organized by school (public and private) and play games on city fields. Practices are scheduled by the individual coaches at various locations. All youth participating in the sports are registered into the City's registration system and pay a nominal fee (\$2/residents and \$5/non-residents per sport) in lieu of the organization paying for outdoor field rentals. The Soccer Club pays for indoor field rental at a reduced rate.

For the fall outdoor soccer and football season the two organizations alternate days they may use city fields. This has significantly reduced conflicts.

- iv. School District – The School District uses City facilities for baseball, cross county, tennis, softball, soccer and golf. The swim team and water polo teams have used the Heman Park pool on occasion. The School District gets free use of city picnic shelters and Community Center for school sponsored events. The City has assisted the District in preparation for track meets, lending of maintenance equipment, delivering and spreading wood chips for school playgrounds, mowing of the prairie at Brittney Woods and assisting with PTO and school picnic. The City uses the Natatorium at the high school for 9.5 hours per week from September thru May. The City also uses Flynn and Delmar-Harvard elementary schools for 8 weeks for a summer day camp.
- v. Businesses – the department assists the Loop Business District in special events and hanging holiday decorations.

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# Major Conclusions and Recommendations

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While all of the projects listed in the Prioritization of Capital Projects are important the following projects should be pursued by the City of University City in the next five years.

## **Beautification**

University City is fortunate to have U City in Bloom provide numerous flower beds throughout the City. There is citizen interest in seeing the expansion of the beautification efforts throughout the city. The City, U City in Bloom, the school district, neighborhood and business organizations need to work together to develop a plan.

## **Centennial Greenway**

Completion of a fully contiguous trail through University City with the capital funding coming through the Great Rivers Greenway and future state and federal grants was desired by the residents. There are challenges in acquiring access for the trail in a few locations and the community should work together to find compromises that assure that the trail plan is fully completed.

## **Community Center**

The City is currently studying the development of a Municipal Operations Facility that may require the space where the Community Center is located. The primary weekday use of the Community Center is the senior programs operated by Mideast Area on Aging (MEAAA). These services could be located in Centennial Commons. The weeknight use is primarily community meetings and small organizations. If the Municipal Operations Facility included some meeting rooms these functions could continue. The primary weekend use is for wedding receptions. This service could be accommodated in a new club house building at the golf course.

If the Community Center is retained it should be known that it is not energy efficient, would be costly to remodel, and needs to be upgraded so it has less of an institutional feel. As long as the current uses can be transferred to other locations the space could be readily used for the Municipal Operations Facility.

## **Golf Course**

Stabilizations of revenues and expenses will provide the resources needed to complete the concrete cart paths and to maintain the replacement schedule for maintenance equipment. The club house needs to be replaced and if banquet facility space is allocated it could serve the function of the Community Center on weekends as well as support other community events and generate additional revenues.

## **Indoor Pool**

The Natatorium at the high school needs to be replaced. The residents have responded that they would like to see a new indoor pool but not necessarily pay for it with taxes. The City, School District and the citizens need to develop a plan to build a new pool. The major decision will be what type of pool: competitive, leisure or a combination. Determining the location, financing, and management will also need to be determined. Finally, the operation costs will need to be clearly understood and a stable funding source secured.

## **Redesign of Three Parks**

Based upon the park evaluations the 3 parks within the Parkview Garden neighborhood were determined to be the most in need of redesign. Through collaboration with neighbors, Washington University, the School District, businesses, Great Rivers Greenway and other stakeholders develop new designs for Eastgate, Ackert Walkway and Metcalfe Parks that reflects the changed and changing demographics, optimizes the space to serve current and future users and serves as an economic stabilizer or enhancement to nearby properties.

## **Replacement and Enhancements of Park Features and Amenities**

Through a combination of City capital funds and grant funds the playgrounds and tennis courts should be on a regular replacement or resurfacing schedule. All playgrounds should be built on poured-in-place safety surfaces. Restroom buildings at Millar and Fogerty Park need to be replaced with ones similar to the new restrooms in Heman Park. Athletic fields are in a time of transition. The interest in baseball and softball has significantly declined while the interest in soccer has grown. University City hosts a large football program in which 80% of the participants are not University City residents. Prior to the expenditure of capital funds for dugout, irrigation or additional lighted fields an analysis of the long term need for which type of fields needs to be completed.

## **Ongoing Maintenance**

With the current staffing level the existing parks can be maintained at the current level with regular intensive maintenance at selected parks each year. Adopting best maintenance practice and green practices can help improve our efficiency and help lower costs. Any reduction in staffing will require the trade off in loss of specific services. Maintenance deferred will result in greater capital costs in the future.



## HE-MAN PARK MASTER PLAN

CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY

SEPTEMBER 2014



# EXISTING CONDITIONS

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## CHAPTER TWO

Heman Park was evaluated in two manners: by visual inspection and a review of existing site data collected by the design team. Areas of review included: vegetation and surrounding context, topography and hydrology, and, vehicular and pedestrian circulation. The study did not include a formal environmental impact review, or hydrologic study of the creeks. The following pages contain a site analysis summary as well as an inventory of existing conditions.



Existing mature Trees

### VEGETATION AND SURROUNDING CONTEXT

Heman Park is the "Community Park" for University City. Centrally located, the 85 acre park is the largest park in the University City parks system, and is bounded by Midland Boulevard, Purdue Avenue, Olive Boulevard, Pennsylvania Avenue, and Vernon Avenue. The park is highly used for a variety of active and passive recreation activities throughout the year. The existing vegetation reflects these uses with a mix of open, mowed lawn and mature, old growth tree cover. A significant amount of the tree cover is located along the park boundaries and along the banks of River Des Peres and the south stormwater feeder. The largest stand of tree cover within the park is a 3.25 acre area located on the south side of River Des Peres. This stand is composed of mature cottonwood, sycamore, oak and others with mowed lawn understory. Mowed lawn is the dominate landscape type throughout the park, in active recreation areas as well as lesser used passive areas of the park.

The park is divided by River Des Peres which runs through the park from Northwest to Southeast creating what is currently a significant physical barrier within the park. The vegetation along River Des Peres and the south feeder is thick with invasive plant material including bush honeysuckle and wild grape. This dense growth prevents native diversity, restricts visibility, and access along the waterways and will eventually choke out the mature trees along the creek edges. River Des Peres and the south feeder are discussed further in the Topography and Hydrology sections.

The park is bordered on all sides by the streets noted above, and has no property directly abutting the park property with the exception of the City owned public works and transfer station located on Pennsylvania Avenue. Beyond the bordering roads the park is neighbored by residential development to the south and west. There is a significant amount of retail and commercial development along the park to the north and east, but beyond the street edge these areas transition to residential neighborhoods as well.



Turf Fields



Poor Riparian Vegetation



Adjacent Development



Elevation Change on Site

## TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGY

Topography within Heman Park is not significant, but does define several areas within the park. The most significant change in elevation is found along the Olive Boulevard edge of the park with a 10-15 feet drop in elevation from Olive Boulevard to the ballfields, parking lot, and tennis courts north of River Des Peres. There is a slight change in elevation of approximately 5-6 feet on the south side of River Des Peres that runs west-east just south of Jack Buck Field and the softball and open field. This rise may be the result of the park land having been a landfill for construction materials for a time prior to being developed as a park. It was described by staff that excavation above this rise is difficult and results in unearthing considerable amount of construction materials and debris.



River Des Peres

The River Des Peres and the south feeder are the defining elements within the park related to topography and hydrology. These elements are the low points in the park, with the surrounding parkland having an overall drainage pattern to these elements. In addition, during times of significant rainfall these waterways experience regular flash flooding and will overflow their banks into the low lying areas adjacent to the creeks. As a part of the overflow combined sewer system within St. Louis the flooding of River Des Peres and access to the water is both a safety as well as health concern. The south feeder stream is fed by drainage from adjacent developments and collects surface runoff from adjacent park space. While daylighting this water is beneficial to the overall sewer system it lends itself to high velocity and erosion. Stabilization efforts are needed in this drainage. The confluence of the two waterways is located near the southeastern corner of the park property, just west of the Heman Park Community Center and city transfer station.



Erosion on Site

Due to the presence of these creeks the limits of the floodway/floodplain on the property were assessed. Based on the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate (FIRM) maps, approximately 31 acres (36%) of the site is located within the floodway, while approximately 63 acres (74%) of the site is located within the floodplain. Although development within the floodway and floodplain is possible, there are restrictions on the types of developments and structures that can exist within floodway/floodplain areas. Grading activities within the floodway/floodplain are allowed, but off-site fill materials are not to be placed in the floodplain, as it would alter the flooding storage capacity on the floodway/floodplain area. In addition, the bottom floor of any buildings that are to be constructed within the floodway/floodplain must exist above the base flood elevation (BFE) and that the buildings must be constructed to allow flow through the areas that exists below the BFE. While these restrictions will impact the level and cost of improvements that can occur within these areas of the park there are many options for improvements for both passive and active recreation.



Water Quality Concerns

Additional studies will be required prior to development and improvements along the creeks and within the floodway/floodplain to determine the permitting required along with the design restrictions and requirements specific for this location along the creeks.



FEMA Flood Map (Blue area indicates floodway, hatch area indicates 100 year flood)

#### VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

Vehicular access and circulation within the park is divided by River Des Peres. The south side of the park contains a single vehicular entry along Midland Boulevard. This entry has limited definition or signage to alert motorists that this is the entry to Heman Park. This entry provides access to the parking on the south side of the park. Consisting of four gravel lots and gravel parking along the east end of the drive the parking is adequate for day use, but during special events or busy days during sports seasons the unmarked parking areas are inefficient and inadequate to meet the demand. Safety is also a concern in this drive and parking configuration. Consideration should be given to removing the parking from along the entry drive as it is a concern to have visitors backing out into the main park drive. The drive is a dead end at the mulch pile just beyond the large gravel lot at the basketball court compounding issues with parking and vehicular circulation.

The north side of the park includes multiple points of vehicular entry with two entries at the Centennial Commons parking lot and an entry at the tennis courts and ballfield parking lot further east along Olive Boulevard. Similar to the west side entry these entries are nondescript, with the exception of the signage for Centennial Commons at the north parking lot entrance. These lots are paved and striped, and provide defined parking within Heman Park. Similar to the parking on the south side of the park, this parking is adequate for day use, but during special events or peak swim and activity seasons the number of parking spaces can be inadequate to meet the demand.

The Heman Park Community Center has a separate entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue with an additional exit on to Vernon Ave (but no entry from Vernon). This entry is shared with staff parking for public works and the transfer station located



Existing Parking

north of the Community Center. This entry provides access to the front of the building and the Community Center parking lot located west of the building with parking for approximately 60 vehicles. This entry and parking are not connected to any of the entries or drives within the park.

Pedestrian and bicycle connectivity throughout University City has been an important focus in recent years, and is now defined by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan adopted by the City Council on October 14, 2013. Heman Park is interwoven into this network through a variety of bicycle and pedestrian facilities including bike lanes along Olive Boulevard and pedestrian and streetscape enhancements along the other sides of the park. This plan will also increase the use of bike and pedestrian facilities as a means of access to the Heman Park.

Currently pedestrian and bicycle entries and circulation have many of the same issues as vehicular entries and circulation. Identification of these entries is limited and not well defined, and once in the park River Des Peres are still significant obstacles for pedestrian and bike circulation throughout the park.

Internal circulation is provided by perimeter sidewalks along the park edges and a series of internal walks that run along the north and south sides of River Des Peres linking to parking, amenities, and the perimeter sidewalks. These trails only connect at the north end of the park at the Purdue pedestrian bridge. A second crossing of River Des Peres is located towards the southern half of the park, but is not ideal for pedestrian usage. This low water crossing is used mainly for park vehicles and transferring mulch from the public works facility north of the creek to the mulch pile on the south side of the creek.

Heman Park plays a role in the regional connectivity plan with a section of the Centennial Greenway passing through the park along Purdue Avenue, and a proposed alternate route for the Greenway running the length of the park along the newest section of trail with a bridge crossing of the south feeder from Vernon Avenue to the Centennial Greenway at the Purdue bridge. This section of trail should be the standard for primary multiuse trails within the park. Narrower walks can be used for secondary access within the park and pedestrian only connections.



Existing Entry Drive



Existing Circulation Conflicts



Existing Pedestrian Bridge

# PROGRAM

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## CHAPTER THREE

Program development for the park concepts began with a review of the park property and existing development constraints, identification of recreation opportunities within the existing parks system, and discussion of parks and recreation needs. This analysis formed a foundation for the development of a park vision statement. A public survey and public input workshop further developed the vision statement and identified desired program components for the park. Combined, this analysis and input information was the basis for the concept designs developed for the park.

Combined input from the public

workshop and the community survey provided significant direction in further developing the Heman Park programs. The final master plan does not include every issue brought up in these meetings and on the survey, but these items were recognized and included in the concept design development process and are listed in the program statement on the following pages. Copies of all written input received during the planning process are included in the appendix of this report. Each community and parks system is unique. While benchmarks can validate a need for park land or a specific component, a community should consider which improvements

will meet the greatest needs and are economically viable for construction and maintenance when determining need and priority of park improvements. For the improvements proposed within Heman Park, a vision was defined based on the needs and desires of the community. This vision is to provide a community park for everyone with destination amenities that compliment the overall parks system and meets identified needs of the community. The master plan serves as the framework for this vision and dictates priorities for the implementation of the improvements.

### PROGRAM ELEMENTS

To achieve this vision, a list of potential program components was developed based on community, Park Commission, and staff input. Below are the program items identified for the master plan, in no particular order or hierarchy:

- Walking / bike trail (loop)
- Improve landscape
- Accessible Playground
- Enhance River Des Peres
- Nature settings – butterfly garden and bird watching
- Renovate athletic fields
- Wildlife area
- Connections to other trails / neighborhoods / greenways
- Additional parking
- Destination playground
- Expanded trail system with trail markers
- Exercise stations
- More passive recreation areas
- Additional shelters
- Keep natural / wildlife
- Skate Park
- Enhanced entry with new signage
- Improve parking and site circulation
- Restore riparian vegetation
- Pools and riffles along creek
- Shelter adjacent to parking
- Dog park
- Velodrome (Bicycle Track)
- Nature trail
- Bandstand
- Accessibility of entire park
- Make the creek safer and enhance appearance
- Renovate pool & bathhouse
- North South connections throughout park
- More bridges across River Des Peres
- Indoor Aquatics
- Renovate indoor Soccer
- Move Community Center to Centennial Commons

The following page contains images from the public workshop and an example of the online community survey.



Community workshop

HEMAN PARK MASTER PLAN 2014

1. Counting yourself how many people live in your household?

Number of People

2. How many persons in your household (counting yourself) are?

Under 5 years old  
 5 - 9 years old  
 10 - 14 years old  
 15 - 19 years old  
 20 - 24 years old  
 25 - 34 years old  
 35 - 44 years old  
 45 - 54 years old  
 55 - 64 years old  
 65+ years old

3. What is your gender?

Male  
 Female

4. What is your age?

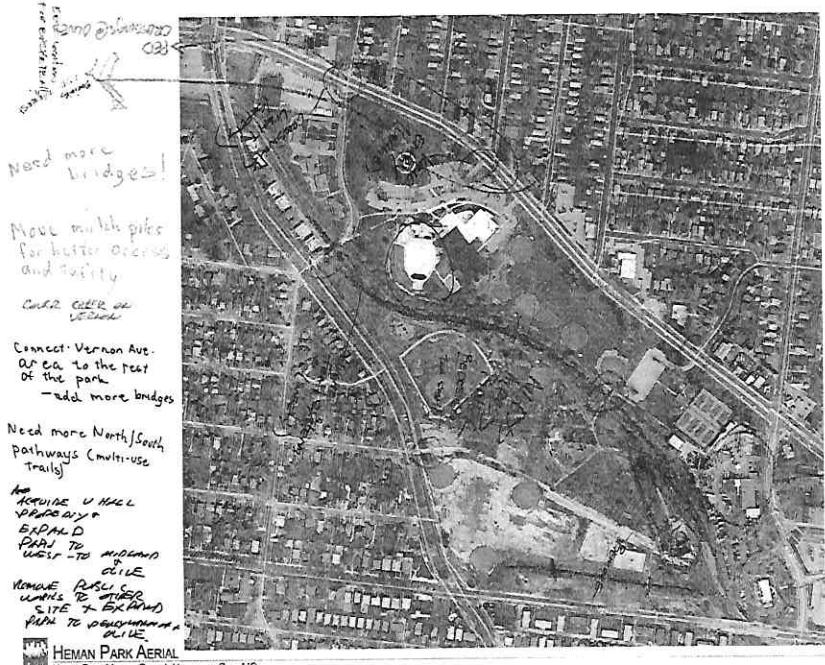
Under 12  
 13 to 24  
 25 to 34  
 35 to 44  
 45 to 54  
 55 to 64  
 65 or older

5. In which Ward do you live? (see map below)

Ward One  
 Ward Two  
 Ward Three  
 Not a Resident of University City

Page 4

Online Community Survey



Results from community workshop

Milan Ave

# Millar Park

## Master Plan

Calhoun Ave

Wellington Ave



Prepared for  
**CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY**  
Department of Public Works & Parks  
6801 Delmar Avenue University City, Missouri 63130



Prepared by  
**PLANNING DESIGN STUDIO**  
727 North First Street—Suite 360 St. Louis, Missouri 63102

October 2012



- ◆ **Community Meeting #1:** The first community meeting was held as an “On-Site Open House” type meeting held in Millar Park at the existing pavilion in the park from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM, during which time park planners and city staff were present to discuss the concepts and answer questions. A 20-minute overview presentation was conducted at 6:30 PM. Materials presented included a summary of the proposed facility program, site analysis and plan alternatives. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit citizen input. The meeting was very well attended not only by neighbors and regular users of the park, but also by attendees coaches, parents and children that were participating in football and cheerleading practices that night at the park.
- ◆ **Draft Master Plan:** Based on the input received, a refined Draft Plan was prepared including a Site Plan, Cost Estimate and Summary Description. This plan was reviewed by City Public Works & Parks staff.
- ◆ **Community Meeting #2:** The second community meeting was also held as an “On-Site Open House” type meeting held in Millar Park at the existing pavilion in the park from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM, during which time park planners and city staff were present to discuss the concepts and answer questions. A 20-minute overview presentation was conducted at 6:30 PM. Materials presented focused on the refined draft Master Plan. The purpose of the meeting was to communicate the proposed improvements and confirm direction from the public.
- ◆ **Park Board Review Meeting:** The draft Master Plan including cost estimates and phasing options were presented to the Park Board. During that meeting the Board voted to approve the Millar Park Master Plan.
- ◆ **City Council Meeting.** The Master Plan was distributed to the City Council prior to their October 22 meeting. During that meeting the Council approved the Millar Park Master Plan.
- ◆ **Master Plan Summary Report.** A summary report of the Master Plan was prepared to summarize the process and recommendations, including the final Master Plan drawing, Summary Description and Cost Estimate.

## What we heard from YOU!

- Don't Remove any Parking.
- Upgrade Restrooms – Separate from Picnic Shelter
- Playground should be near Picnic Shelter
- New Picnic Shelter
- Improve Trail and Provide More Lighting
- Site Furnishings & Seating Areas

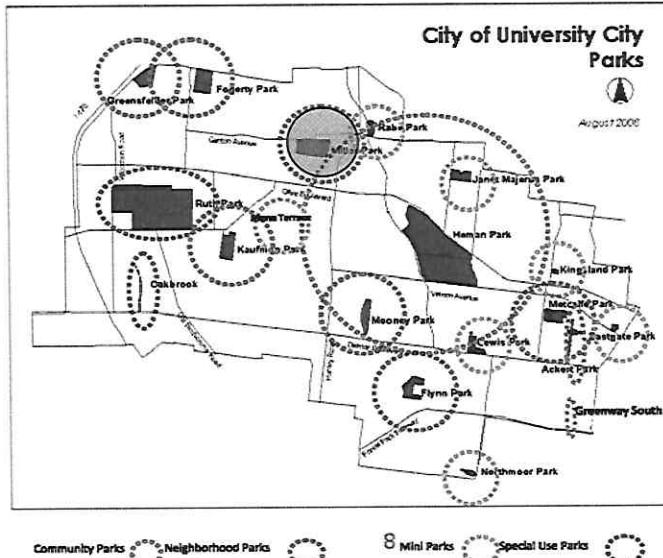
PDS



Existing sign at Canton Avenue and North-South Avenue Rd.



Existing softball field backstop and Oak Trees that help to define the park



Millar Park Highlighted in green onto a Citywide Parks Plan graphic.

## Park Context & Site Analysis

Millar Park is a 12.1 acre neighborhood park with some sports field community use. It's located along North South Road between Carleton and Carlton, about three blocks north of Olive Boulevard. The park was acquired by University City in 1928.

The Citywide Park System map illustrated to the left illustrates the Millar Park's context within the City. The aerial photograph below illustrates the residential neighborhood setting of the park. Homes are generally single family brick structures, with drives and garages. Hawthorn School (University City School District) is located just to the east of the park. The school currently is not being used, but has been used while other buildings were being renovated or rebuilt. The School District indicated they have no plans to dispose of the property. They are evaluating several optional uses for the facility.





# Millar Park Site Analysis



NW Corner of Park (North South Road and Canton)



SW Corner of Park (North South Rd and Carleton)



View along North South Road - east side of park



View along Carleton - south side of park

## Millar Park Master Plan

University City, Missouri

## Park User &amp; Community Survey Questions

- How often do you go to Millar Park?  
(More than once a Week) (Weekly) (Monthly) (Seldom)
- Do you typically arrive by:  
a.  Walking or Biking      b.  Automobile
- Are there any parking issues associated with facilities and/or activities within Millar Park? \_\_\_\_\_
- What facilities do you use in Millar Park and how would you rate those facilities?  

Facility	Do you Use?	Rate the Facility
Playground	Yes / No	
Football/Soccer Fields	Yes / No	
Soccer/Basketball Fields	Yes / No	
Perimeter Walk/Trail	Yes / No	
Picnic Tables	Yes / No	
Picnic Shelter	Yes / No	
Restrooms	Yes / No	
- What are the most positive and negative aspects regarding Millar Park?  
 a. Positive: \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. Negative: \_\_\_\_\_
- What would be your top five priorities for improvements and/or new facilities in Millar Park?  
 a. \_\_\_\_\_  
 b. \_\_\_\_\_  
 c. \_\_\_\_\_  
 d. \_\_\_\_\_  
 e. \_\_\_\_\_
- Are there any facilities that if built would concern you? (ie. Sports Field Lighting)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What other comments or suggestions do you have regarding Millar Park?  
\_\_\_\_\_

PLANNING DESIGN STUDIO



## Community Survey & Engagement

The Master Planning process included significant Community Engagement, including a survey of adjoining neighborhoods as well as park users and the larger University community. This input has provided significant guidance that has been incorporated into the final Master Plan for Millar Park. The Community Engagement included the following activities.

The Community Survey task started by developing a survey instrument (form) was prepared, reviewed with City staff and refined. A copy included in the appendices. City summer interns administered this survey via personal interviews with park users and residents in the surrounding neighborhood during June and July. In addition the survey was handed out at Park Board and public meetings on the Master Plan. The results of the survey were presented to the Park Board, at the public meetings and included with this submittal. While nearly fifty survey responses were received, even more meaningful was the fact that 79% use the park at least once

## Park Survey – User Summary

- ▶ 48 Respondents
  - 79% use park at least once a week.
  - 76% Walk or ride a bike to the park.
- ▶ Park Facilities Used
  - Walk/Trail – 93%
  - Picnic Shelter or Tables – 56%
  - Restrooms - 41%
  - Playground - 27%
  - Sportsfields - 20%



a week. This is interpreted as respondents who use and understand the park and its needs. Additional characteristics are included in the slide below.

Key Community Engagement Meetings and Workshops conducted are listed below:

- 7/24/12 Park Board Meeting (Park Board meetings are open to the public.)
- 8/15/12 Public Meeting
- 9/13/12 Green Practices Commission
- 9/19/12 Public Meeting
- 9/27/12 Park Board Presentation Slides

## Summary of Survey Responses

### What we heard from YOU!

- Don't Remove any Parking.
- Upgrade Restrooms – Separate from Picnic Shelter
- Playground should be near Picnic Shelter
- New Picnic Shelter
- Improve Trail and Provide More Lighting
- Site Furnishings & Seating Areas

PDS

### Other Things we heard from YOU!

- Protect Existing Trees – Involve City Forester
- Separate Playground Areas "2-5 yrs" and "6-12 yrs."
- Visually Relate New Buildings to Neighborhood
- Picnic Shelter Size – 12 to 16 Tables
- Improve Sportsfield turf – Field Lighting would be nice.
  
- Install Sidewalks along North-South and Carleton
- More Police Security in Park

PDS

### MOST POSITIVE ASPECTS OF MILLAR PARK

- Could be Great Neighborhood Park
- Good Location
- Always Clean & Safe
- Well Maintained, Vibrant, Convenient & Friendly
- Great Walking/Running Trail
- Trees – provide shade
- Peaceful
- Attracts People
- Family Friendly
- Good play space for kids
- Clean Restrooms

### MOST NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF MILLAR PARK

- Picnic Shelter & Restrooms
  - Scary (with Drug Users) & Hangout for "bad" use
  - Need Daily Cleaning and Closed in Winter
- Walk / Trail Comments
  - Needs Upgrades & Lighting
- Issues with Park Users
  - Persistent Loitering & Loud Music
  - Congested Streets during games
  - Golf Ball Hitting
  - Excessive Alcohol Consumptions
  - Drug Use
  - Unleashed Dogs
  - Some Activities Incompatible w/Neighbors
- Unsafe Feeling at Night
- Abandoned Homes near Park
- More Picnic Tables
- Upgrade Drinking Fountains

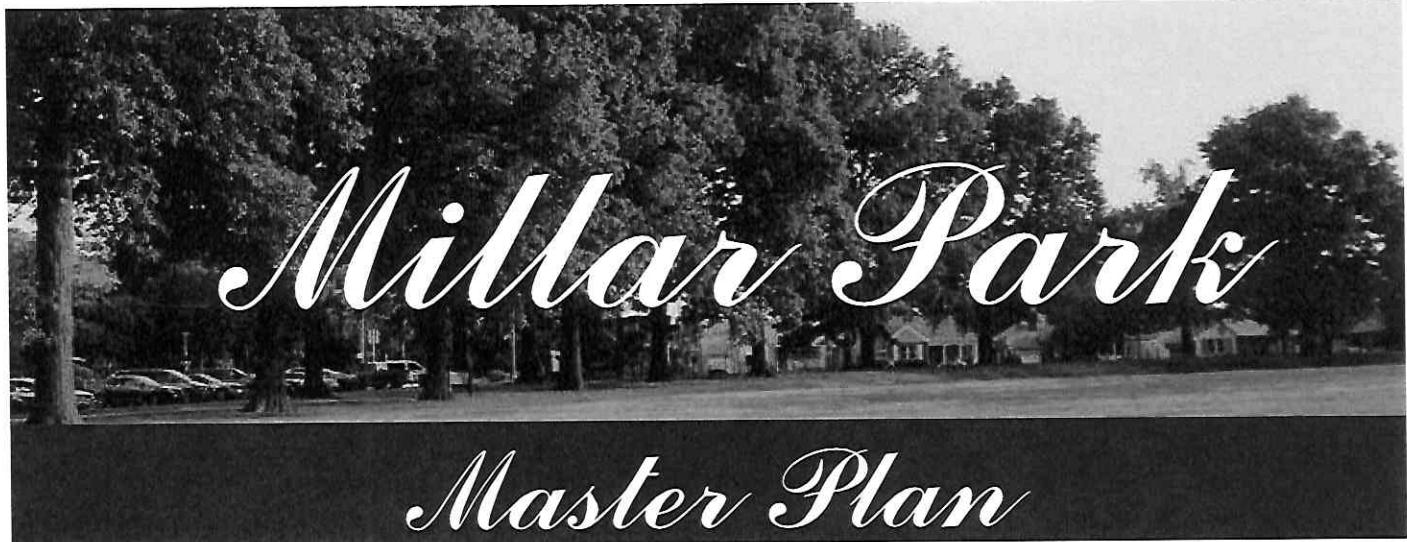


### SURVEY RESULTS - TOP PRIORITIES

- Upgrade Restrooms
- Playground (for 2-5 and 5-12 year old)
- Larger Shelter
- Wider Walk w/Centerline
- Site Furnishings/Amenities: Benches, Trash Cans, BBQ Pits, Bike Racks, Pet Bag Dispensers
- Better Parking
- Better Lighting
- Sportsfield Area Seating
- Dog Workout Facilities

### Community Preference: Concept #4

- Generally Concept 4 was Preferred
  - Kept N-S Parking and Upgraded Shelter Area Parking
  - Redeveloped Core: Shelter – Playground - Restroom
  - Separated Restrooms from Shelter & Playground
- Preferred Aspects of Other Concepts
  - NW & SW Park Entry Feature on Alt 3



*Millar Park*  
*Master Plan*



## Park Master Plan

The Millar Park Master Plan was developed based on site conditions, Park Board and City staff input, but particularly the community input received during the Public Engagement process. The following Facility Program Summary describes the five areas of proposed improvements to the park.

- Core Area Improvements
- Trail Improvements
- Parking Improvements
- Sports Field Improvements
- Other Miscellaneous Improvements

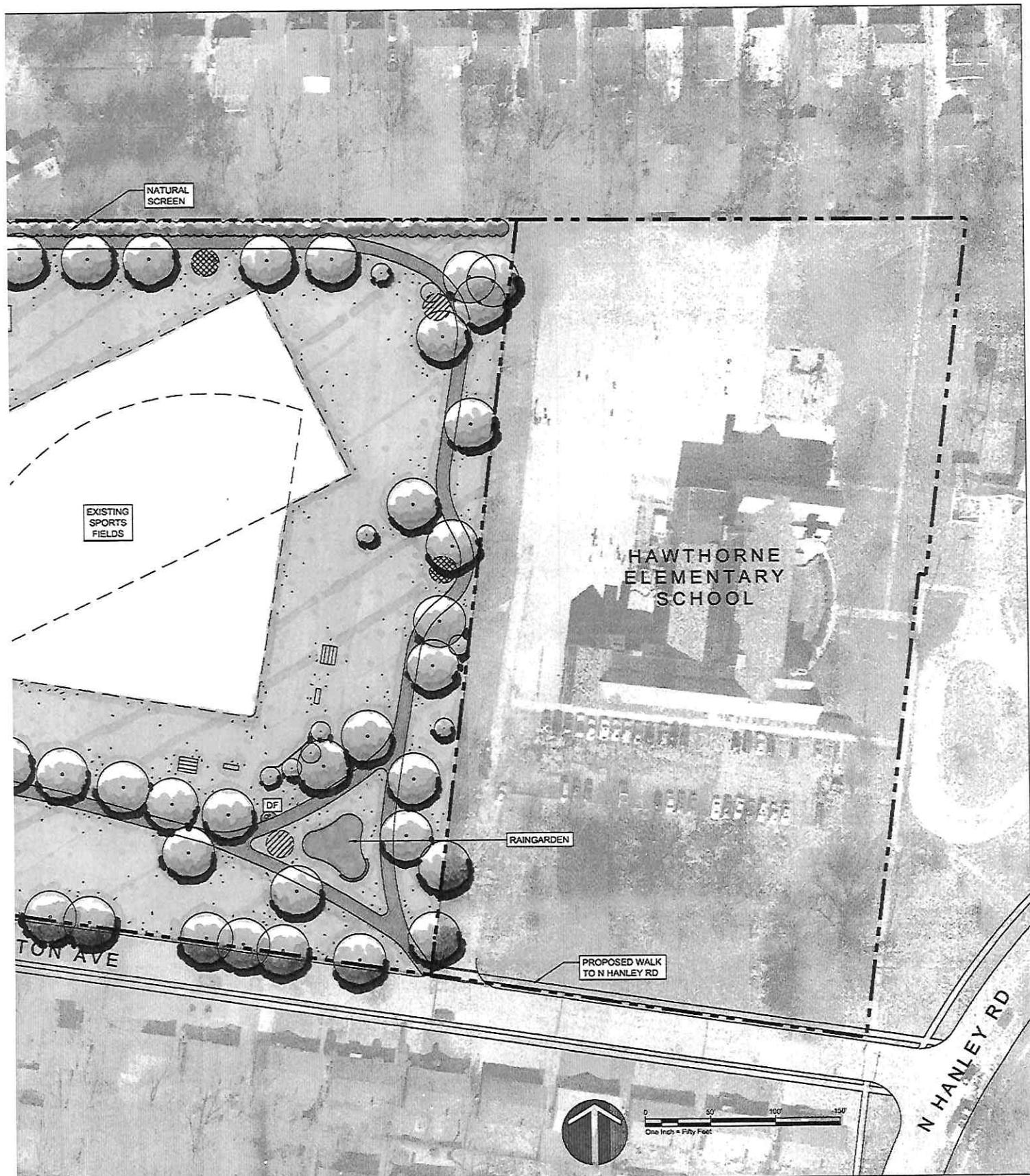
### CORE AREA IMPROVEMENTS

The Core Area is viewed as the higher use and focal point of activity in the park. There was strong consensus of almost all participants of the Public Engagement process to redevelop the core area to include the following new facilities:

- Picnic Shelter — More open style than the existing shelter would be preferred. Preferred it on higher north side with higher and better views around park. Shelter should be sized to hold tables to seat about 120, include lighting and electric service.
- Comfort Station/Restroom Facility — ADA accessible, 1 Lavatory each side; Women - 2 toilets; Men – 1 toilet and 1 urinal). No request for separate family restroom. Some storage would be very useful within the building.
- Playground — separate areas for younger children (2



## MILLAR PARK





-5 yrs.) and older children (6-12 yrs.). Safety surface. Locate in area close to and visible from picnic shelter and seating area. Try to incorporate around trees that would provide shade.

- Seating area overlooking playground and sport fields. Incorporate benches, trash receptacles, bike racks and related site furnishings. Tie the "look" to the building design theme.
- Drinking fountain – existing fountain doesn't work well and is not ADA accessible.
- Generally the preference was to locate facilities from north to south in the following order: Picnic Shelter; Playground (2-5 yrs); Seating Area w/drinking Fountain; Playground (5-12 yrs); Comfort Station.
- All facilities designed around a common visual design theme – meaning to design facilities at a related scale, with similar materials, colors and texture.
- Select materials and systems that are low maintenance and the most vandal resistant – an example discussed was standing seam metal roofing.
- Maintain good visibility for safety, security and to minimize vandalism.

## Design Theme & Materials

- Follow a Consistent Visual Design Theme
- Brick Walls & Columns - Predominant Neighborhood Material
- Include a Pitch on the Roof – Use a Standing Seam Metal (Attractive, Vandal Resistant & Long Lasting) - Patina
- Buildings - Prefabricated Structure or Stick Built
- Trail & Walks – Consider Concrete as Alternative (Cost Competitive with Asphalt)
- Plaza – Exposed Aggregate Concrete
- Parking Lot – Permeable Pavers
- Site Furnishings – Metal with Fusion Color – Forest Green

**Comfort Station / Restrooms**



- Approx. 18' x 24'
- Women's – Lav + 2 Toilets
- Men's – Lav + 1 Toilet + Urinal
- Chase Area – but No Storage
- Low Maintenance, Secure & Vandal Resistant
- Electric (Lighting, Dryers & Heat)
- New Water & Sewer Lines
- Prefabricated or Contractor Built



**Picnic Pavilion**



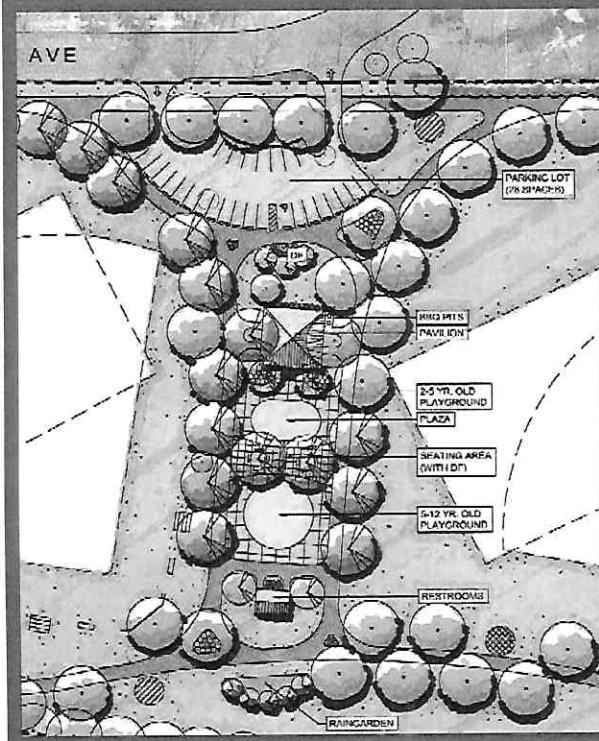
- 44' x 44' - 15 Tables (8')
- Keep Open for Visibility
- Prefabricated Metal Structure
- Lighting & Electric Service
- Drinking Fountain & Water



**Site Furnishings**

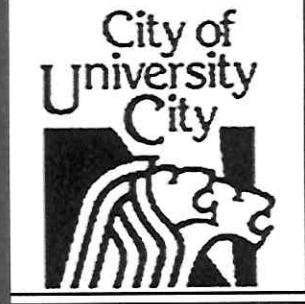
- Low Maintenance & Vandal Resistant
- Relate Style and Colors to Visual Design Theme



## Miller Park - Core Area

- Upgraded Parking Lot
- Picnic Shelter
- Playground
- Seating Area
- Restroom
- Raingarden



City of University City, Missouri

# Lewis Park – Needs Assessment Study

Final Concept Master Plan

REVISED August 23, 2013



# Lewis Park

## CONCEPT DESIGN MANUAL

### **INTRODUCTION**

Lewis Park located at 7035 and 7059 Delmar Boulevard was in need of an inventory and assessment of the current facilities and a proposed plan to address the current and future needs of park for the residents of University City. This historic park dating back to 1925 generally consists of narrow broken asphalt walking paths, a playground, benches, tables, and an old cast iron drinking fountain. There is also a pond that is the focal point of the park with the “Fish on a Bike” sculpture located within the pond. The pond was last dredged in 1988.

The goal of the study was to create a needs assessment report and conceptual master plan which will serve as a guideline for future planned improvements to the overall park space as well as serve as a supportive document for applying for future grant applications. Some of the planned park improvements would be but are not limited to the following;

- Dredging of the existing pond for better water quality
- New wider walkway/trail system
- Rain gardens for better storm water management
- Improved site lighting
- Overall improved pedestrian and ADA access
- New site furniture including benches, picnic tables, etc.
- New water fountains
- New Playground area with full ADA accessibility
- Sustainable native landscaping
- Removal of invasive honeysuckle shrubs along the west property line and replaced with new native landscape buffer planting

All the above listed improvements were contingent upon public input from the residents and pending future grant funding.

Enclosed in this manual you will find comprehensive recommendations for the concept master plan design of this park which is approximately 4 acres in size. The following pages outline recommendations for the design features and elements as part of this plan. This phase of the project is the direct result of a study which provided in depth research, analysis and preparation of concept design documents necessary to achieve the highest level of cost effectiveness and creativity for the benefit to the City of University City.

As part of the design process, Gateway Design Studio, Inc. (GDS, Inc.) conducted systematic analysis of the existing conditions and provided suggestions and options

through evaluation of potential site improvements related to such factors as wider walkways & paths, safe access to the park, improved site lighting, new site furniture, preservation of open space recreational areas, mitigating storm water management, improving water quality of the existing pond, enhancement of the existing landscape and future playground improvements. The GDS Team assessed the existing and impending proposed conditions through the study of existing documents and plans, thorough site analysis, inventory and timely meetings with City staff, residents and other relevant stakeholders in order to chart a course of action for the successful re-development of this park.

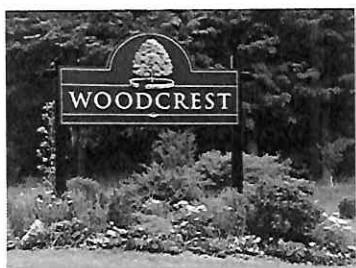
## **DESIGN INTENT STATEMENT**

We believe this park is unique in the sense that it truly defines a “neighborhood park”. Our approach for a park space is that it must be designed in the context of **“Community Identity and Sustainability Principles”** allowing for a clear appreciation by users while considering such design factors as protection of natural resources, clear and visible park identity and community pride, recognizing recreational use and value, accessibility and ongoing facility maintainability through the application of sustainable design principals related to site development.

Our goals were to fully understand the existing and potential uses for the site, to collectively recognize and utilize the maximum potential for the redeveloped park space with in-depth research and realistic design alternatives. Included in this manual are suggested recommendations that will propose unique and creative design solutions that still respect the character and feel of Lewis Park. We have considered the ramifications of each aspect of the project related to the City of University City’s goals and objectives, including but not limited to the location of park amenities such as the walking paths/trails, site furniture, quality of the existing pond, open space preservation, native landscaping, ADA access and a future new playground.

## **DESIGN ELEMENTS AND STANDARDS**

### **PARK ENTRANCE & IMPROVEMENTS**



This will park offers two primary entrances which are accessed from a new 6 ft. wide concrete stairway located at the southwest corner of the site along the Delmar Blvd. sidewalk and a 10 ft. wide asphalt drive/trail entrance off of Vassar Ave. to the north. The plan proposes two (2) monument park signs at each location. In addition, there will be LED site lighting, park information signs and bench seating off Delmar. In addition, a single Handicap parking stall will be offered along the street on Vassar Ave. for disabled park users. Both entrances will feature added new landscaping of native shrubs, perennials and ornamental trees.

## **EXISTING POND AND WATER QUALITY**

The improvement of the water quality for the existing and historic pond is a primary objective of the City. This pond features sculptural elements and offers a great amenity to the existing park space and neighborhood. Recommended improvements include dredging the pond to an acceptable depth in order to remove undesirable soils and reduce the growth of algae and other vegetative growth which has adversely affected the water quality. Other additional improvements are to install aerator fountains to replace the two existing spray fountains that are there now.



## **PARK SIGNAGE AND INFORMATION**



Park information signs are proposed in order to display park and recreation news, activities and map of the park. These signs will be clearly located at the entrances of the park. In addition, interpretive signs are planned for special areas of the park such as the nature playground and woodland garden. Other directional signs will be located throughout the park for orientation and information to park users. Signage should be readily visible and enhance the visual character of the site.

## **PLAYGROUND AREA**

A new and updated playground area is proposed as part of Phase 2 improvements. The playground area will feature play structures for various ages from toddlers to big kids. In addition, a nature playground area is proposed which will feature elements of outdoor nature play and exercise. Activities will be linked together so that many children can use the play area as desired. A new "6 swing" swing set area is also provided. Safety is important both within and outside of the playground. Protective surfacing is recommended. The play structure should be approved by the USGB council with LEED certified materials. Age groups will be from 5-under years to 5-12 years.



## OPEN SPACE RECREATION PRESERVATION



Preserving any available open space area for recreation is critical to the character and use of the existing park. Sledding down the existing slopes from Delmar has been a popular tradition within the community and remains an important pastime for residents of all ages. Therefore, preservation of the existing slopes along the south side of the site is recommended for this reason. The primary open space is located east of the park site which offers opportunities for unorganized games of soccer, Frisbee and softball.

The objective of the open field preservation for this park is to provide for popular enjoyment; therefore the area is to remain accessible to a wide range of use.

## ADA ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility on the site is achieved at several locations. Primarily the north entrance will be the main ADA access to the park. Also, the walkway connection from University Heights will offer ADA access for users as well. All built features of the site including trail/walkways and the playground will be connected based on universal design guidelines to permit flexibility with greater accessibility. Any needed ADA ramps will be constructed of concrete pavement. Ramp entrances will have features for both visual and textural cueing. All access points will be clearly marked for orientation by users.



## PARK TRAIL SYSTEM



### WALKING & JOGGING TRAIL

All the existing deteriorating asphalt walkway will be removed in order to provide for a new and improved widened walkway/trail system throughout the park. The trail is proposed to be 6 feet wide and constructed of asphalt with a minimum 2.5 inch wearing course on a 9 inch crushed rock base. The trail will be an opportunity for walking/jogging use with interpretive signs for orientation and natural features. The trail shall be designed for 2-way movement with a minimum 1:50 slope factor and little or no cross slope. This will be most suitable for persons with disabilities. As an alternate pervious concrete will be considered.

### TRAILHEADS

Two trailhead locations are proposed as part of the trail system which will be located at the Delmar Blvd. stairway and north entrance. Trailheads will allow for seating and rest for users of the park along with signage for orientation and interpretation of the park amenities. The main trailhead location will be at the location of the north entrance where many users will start from.

## **PICNIC AREAS**



Two (2) picnic areas are provided as part of the park space. These areas are strategically located by the playground area for patrons to use during recreation activities. Picnic areas will be of simple design defined by a concrete pad with an anchored picnic bench made of poly coated material and a complimentary trash receptacle. Picnic areas should be clearly visible and ADA accessible.

## **STORM WATER MANAGEMENT**

Traditionally, storm water management has involved the rapid conveyance of water via storm sewers to surface waters. The storm water management of this site will be controlled by rain gardens strategically located to mitigate on-site and off-site runoff. The design of the rain gardens will involve, among other things, regulating the hydrologic cycle, providing nonpoint pollutant treatment, resource conservation, and habitat creation. Beyond its use for storm water control and water quality, the rain gardens will provide encouragement of environmental stewardship and community pride.



## **NATURAL RESOURCE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT**



A portion of the site will feature the preservation of the vegetative buffer along the west property and existing trees along Delmar and numerous large trees throughout the park. Some trees which are dead or deemed in poor condition or undesirable will be removed as required. In addition, the City plans to have resident volunteers contribute to the removal of invasive Honeysuckle in the park. A naturalized woodland garden is planned along the walkway/trail located at the southwest section of the property which will feature an assortment of shade and native plants typically found in woodland conditions.

## **LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS**



Proposed landscape improvements include when possible, the use of native trees and shrubs suitable for the region and locally available. Special attention must be made to assure that the landscape materials be low maintenance and drought tolerant to conditions without the need for irrigation. It is important that the design of the landscape provide attractive seasonal color, shade opportunity and openness for security reasons.

Trees should have a raised branching habit and shrubs must be dwarf or compact in nature. Native perennial flowers and ornamental grasses will be featured for accent seasonal color along the west side of the park along the existing vegetative buffer and at the park entrances.

## **LIGHTING AND SECURITY**



Outdoor lighting provides safety, security, aesthetics, and economic development opportunities. There are many valid reasons to light the outdoors. However, it is important to understand how much outdoor lighting is enough and how to balance the need for light while minimizing light pollution and increasing energy efficiency.

Operative outdoor lighting design and equipment will provide cost-effective energy improvements and minimize wasted light, light pollution, glare, and trespass. Many different types of lights are available. As part of the overall improvements to the park, new light standards and LED fixtures will replace the old lights on the site. These lights will combine the latest technology available to provide years of reliable, low maintenance operation.

Neighborhood  
to the  
**World**



University City

# Fogerty Park Master Plan

University City, MO

2015

Prepared by:

**DG2 Design**  
Landscape Architecture

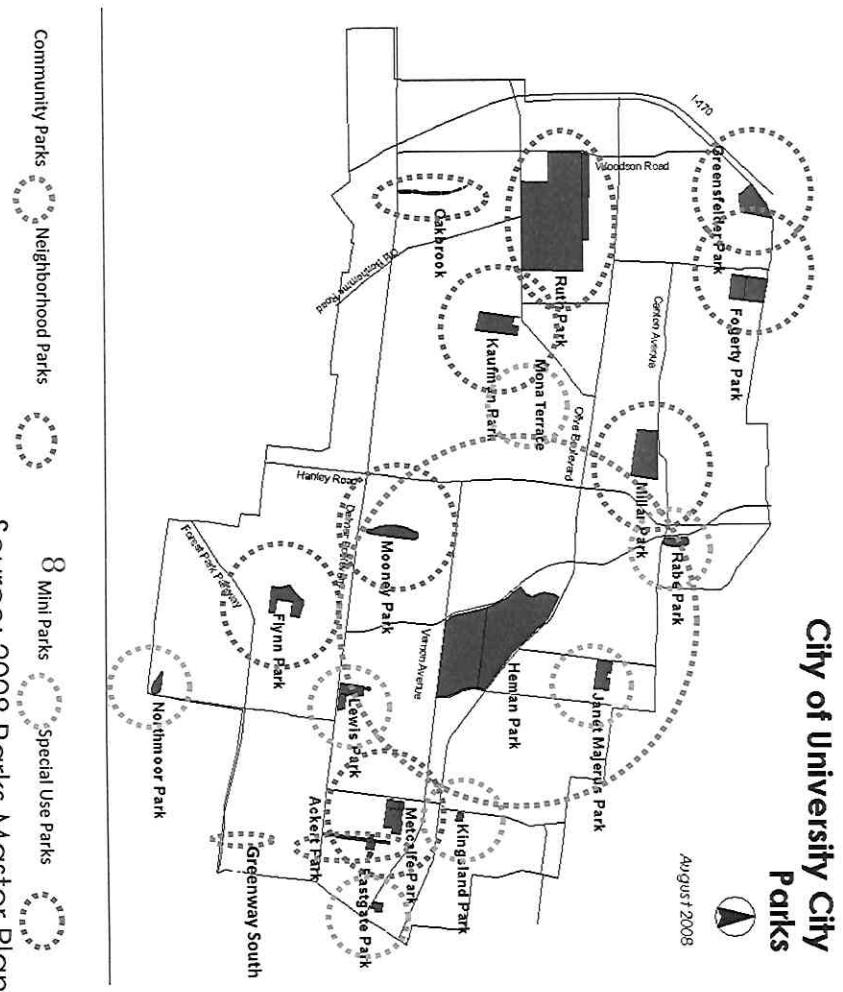
# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## University City Parks:

The City of University City has 19 parks. According to the 2008 Parks Master Plan adopted by the Park Commission, there are 7 mini parks, 7 neighborhood parks, 4 special use parks, and 1 community park.

Fogerty Park, which is considered a neighborhood park (5-25 acres), is located along the northern edge of the city limits - just east of I-170 and between Page Ave. & Olive Blvd. Other neighborhood parks in the vicinity of Fogerty Park are Greensfelder Park, and Millar Park



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## Park Service Area

Fogerty Park 1/2 Mile Radius



## Park History:

11.8 acres of land was acquired by the City of University City in 1928 for the construction of Fogerty Park. The park remained a fairly simple green-space with a 1/2 mile walking path until the construction of the tennis courts in the early 1980's. They have been resurfaced once in 2005. The current playground was first constructed in 1997, with a planned replacement in 2013.

The park also features a pavilion/picnic shelter which is frequently rented for gatherings and family reunions in the summer. The baseball diamond & soccer field are both used by local groups for games and practices. Fogerty Park is known for its large open space and shaded picnic areas along the north side of the park.

There are approximately 1,850 residences within a 1/2 mile of Fogerty Park. This park service area extends south to Olive Blvd, east to North and South Rd, north to Page Ave, and west to I-170. The average age of residents in this study area is 44 years. Other major stakeholders include Barbara C. Jordan Elementary School, The Freedom School, and City of Life Christian Church.



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## 2008 University City Parks Master Plan:

### Parks Master Plan

A Parks Master Plan was adopted by the City of University City Park Commission in 2008. The plan evaluated the condition of the City's 19 parks and prioritized the need for improvements at each park.

According to the 2008 Parks Master plan, the evaluation of Fogerty Park found the following needs:

#### Immediate Needs:

- Replace cracked walking path area behind shelter
- Stripe parking lot
- Trim Trees
- Paint shelter
- Check to see if light timers are correct

#### Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

- Replace playground with poured in place safety surface
- Resurface tennis courts and straighten net posts
- Replace sign
- Replace retaining wall



Adopted by Park Commission

November 25, 2008

Source: 2008 Parks Master Plan



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## Legend

- 1 Pavilion / Restrooms
- 2 Parking
- 3 Playground
- 4 Soccer Field
- 5 Baseball Diamond
- 6 Tennis Courts
- 7 1/2 Mile Jogging Path
- 8 Picnic Areas
- 9 Sidewalk along 82nd Blvd.
- 10 Raingardens



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## Pavilion / Restrooms:

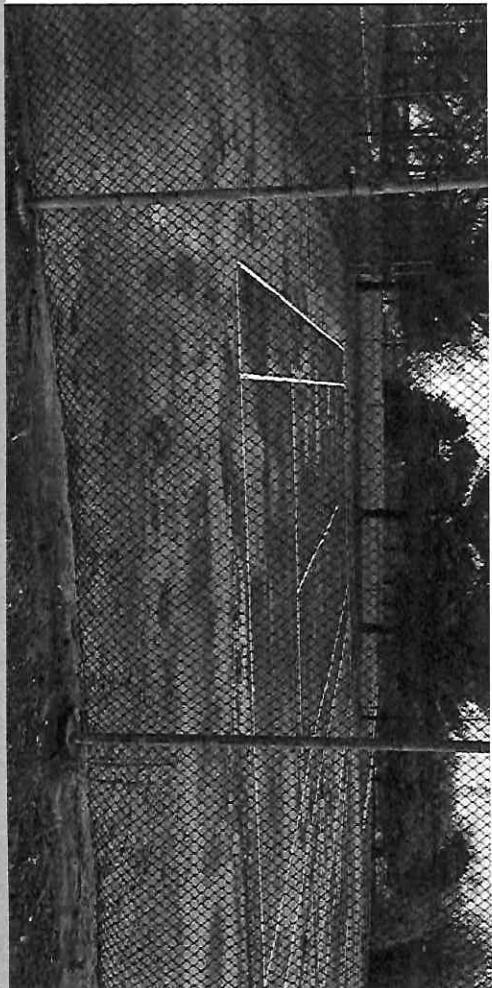
There are two small bathrooms within the existing park shelter. These restrooms are not well-lit, and do not fully comply with ADA regulations. As the only restrooms in the park, they are used by all park users - even when the pavilion is rented out for a private event. The pavilion itself is in fair condition and seats up to 50 people, but needs to be updated to better serve the needs of the park users.

## Recreation Fields:

The existing recreation fields at Fogerty Park are in good condition. They consist of one softball/baseball diamond and one football/soccer field. The fields are in close proximity to each other, which may prohibit their use simultaneously. Often a smaller soccer field is painted in the 'left field' area of the baseball field. The current turf is not irrigated and has many weeds, but seems to have held up well. Existing lighting in the area may need to be improved.

## Tennis Courts:

The two tennis courts at Fogerty Park were constructed in their current location sometime in the early 1980's. Although the courts were resurfaced in 2005, they are in poor condition currently not utilized by the residents. There is a considerable amount of surface cracking on the courts, and the fence post foundations are now exposed and threatened by freeze and thaw. Existing net posts for the courts are badly bent and in poor condition as well.



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## Playground:

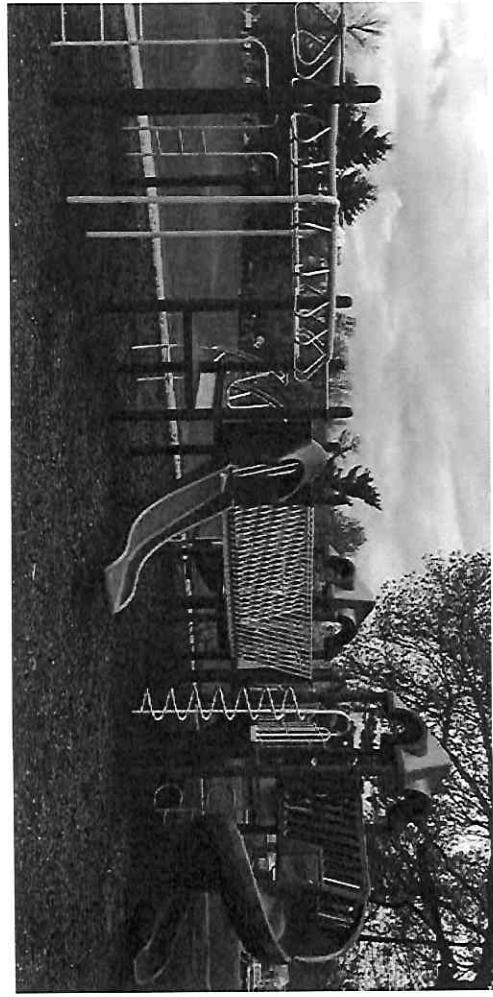
The playground at Fogerty Park was constructed in 1997 with a planned replacement in 2013. The playground has not been replaced as planned, and is in a state of disrepair. The current safety surface is wood chips. Overall, the playground needs to be upgraded and replaced with play modern play equipment that emphasizes the inclusion of multiple age ranges and play abilities.

## Site Furnishings:

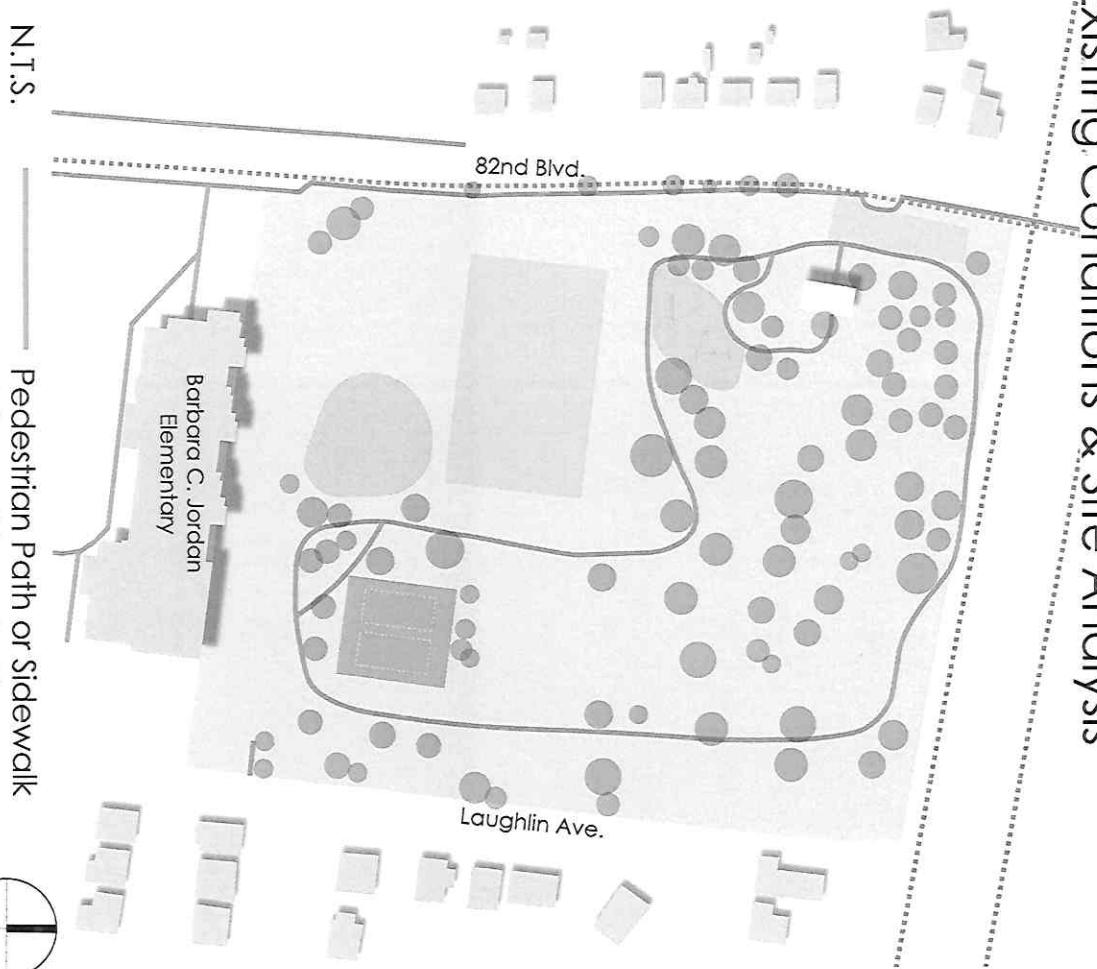
There seems to be an adequate amount of site furnishings throughout Fogerty Park, although their conditions are less than ideal. Currently, the park has both plastic and metal trash barrels. The drinking fountain near the tennis courts needs to be repainted, and the timber retaining wall in that area needs to be replaced. As suggested in the 2008 Parks Master Plan, a standard design for site furnishings should be implemented.

## Streetscape:

The streetscape along 82nd Blvd. provides great sight-lines into the park. Existing pear trees along the sidewalk have split and been pruned below electrical lines. These trees should be removed and replaced with native species that will not interfere with the electrical lines above. Installing new trees further back (into the park) will provide space for a larger sidewalk while at the same time eliminating conflicts with the overhead wires.



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis



## Pedestrian Circulation

Many park users enjoy using the 1/2 mile walking path that circles Fogerty Park. The 6' wide asphalt path has begun to crack in several areas - especially behind the pavilion. Narrow sidewalk access exists along 82nd Boulevard, but there is no direct access from Laughlin Avenue except for a staircase at the southeast corner of the park.

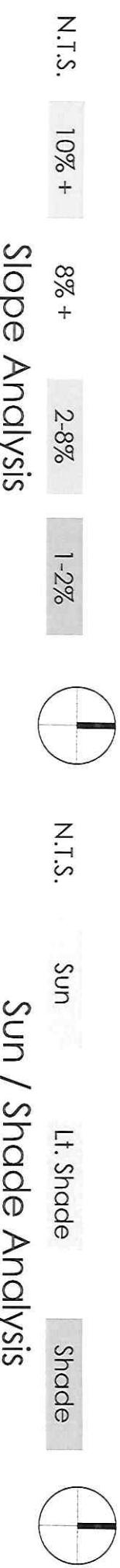


## Vehicular Circulation

Vehicular circulation is limited at Fogerty Park. Although at one time there was a vehicular connection running from east to west across the site just north of the school, access is now limited to one entrance on 82nd Boulevard. Parking on the site is limited to 14 spots - as a result many park users park on side streets. There is currently one ADA accessible parking spot at the park.

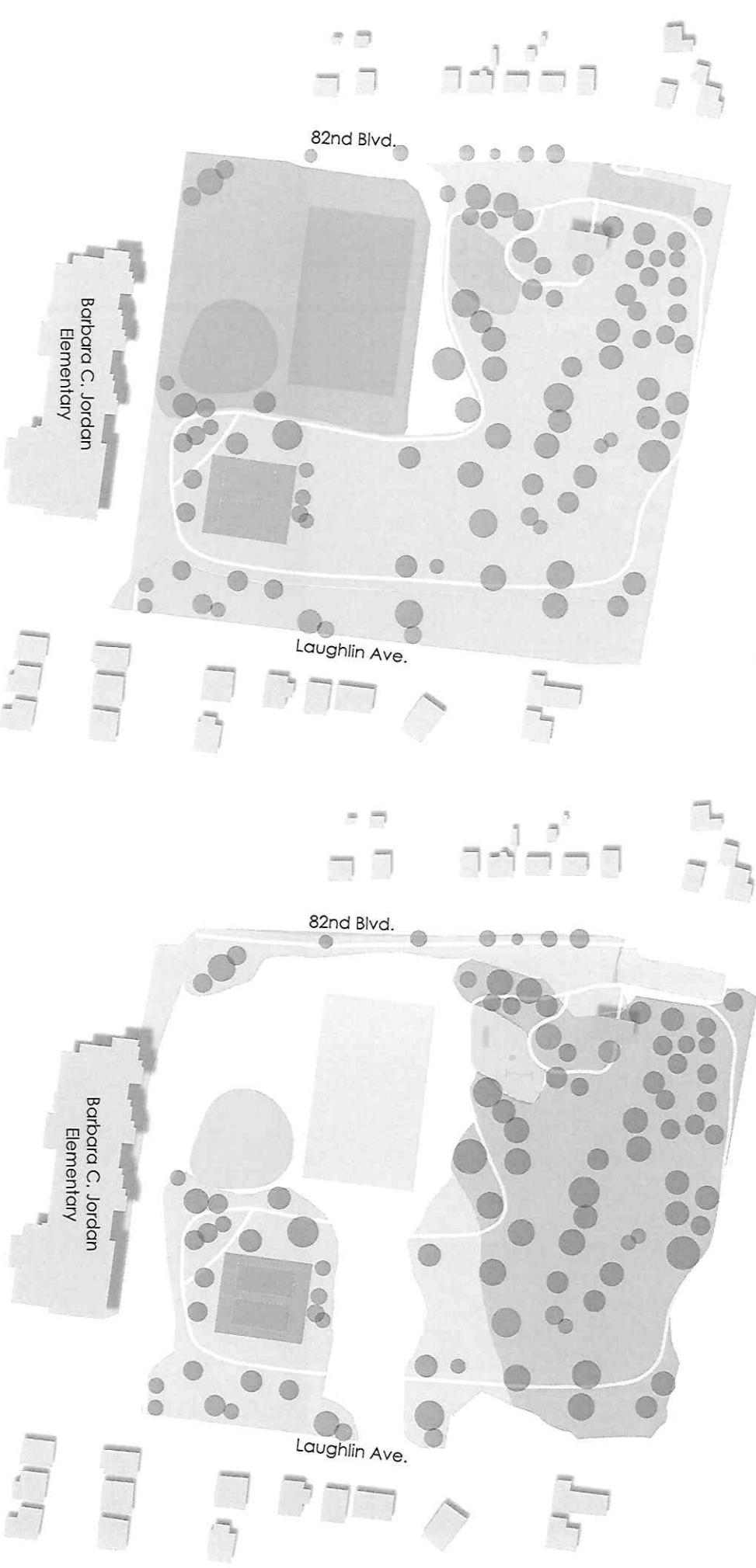
# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

dg2



## Slope Analysis

Fogerty Park slopes gently overall from west to east. The eastern edge of the park along Laughlin Ave. has the most severe slopes. The area between the playground and the fields also has some moderate slopes that may limit accessibility.



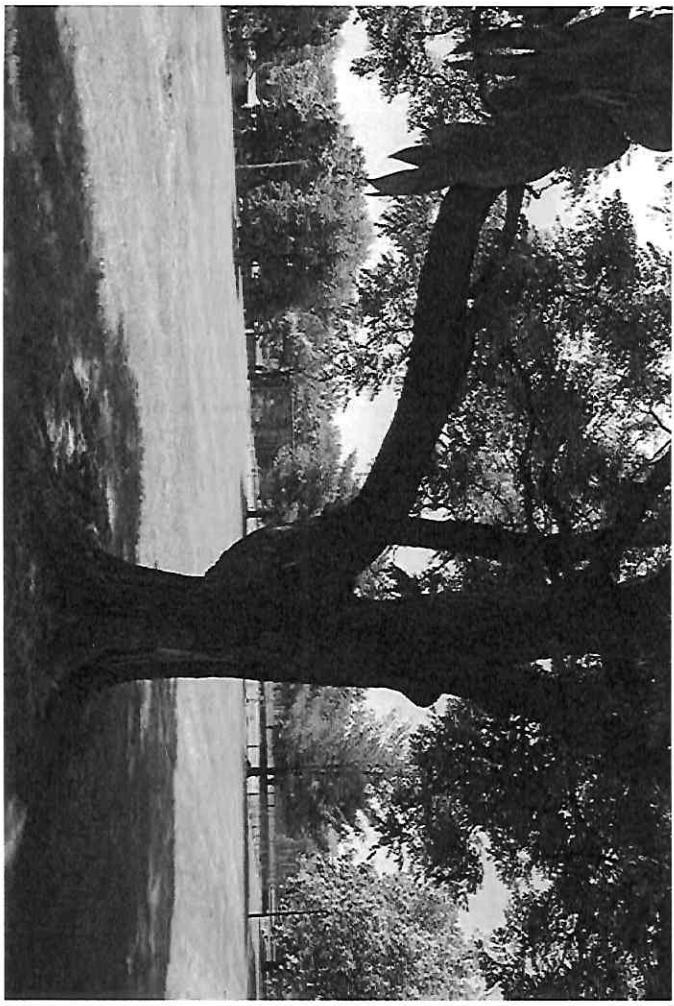
## Sun / Shade Analysis

A large portion of the park has great shade coverage from the large trees that exist on the site. Larger open areas such as the soccer and baseball fields, as well as the playground have limited shade. There is opportunity to improve the amount of shade at the playground.

# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## Vegetation:

The existing landscape at the park consists mostly of a traditional lawn with mature deciduous trees. The lawn is a well-established mixture of turf grass and common weeds - typical of a non-irrigated but mowed area. The existing trees vary in size and condition, but most are at least 12" or greater when measured in diameter. Tree species include White Oak (*Quercus alba*), Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), and several Sweet Gums (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). The Sweet Gums provide shade for the northern part of the site, but drop a lot of 'Gum Balls' which create a maintenance and safety concern in the winter and spring seasons when they typically drop. These trees surround much of the playground, pavilion, and paths.



N.T.S.

## Canopy Cover

The canopy cover provided by the existing trees is estimated to be between 35-45% of the total site.



# Existing Conditions & Site Analysis

## Soil Analysis:

According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey, the site at Fogerty Park is almost entirely a Urban Land-Harvester Complex. This type of soil complex is typical of the area, and the soil profile usually features 0-7 inches of silt loam, 7-31 inches of silty clay loam, and 31-80 inches of clay loam before bedrock. It is estimated that the water table in this soil complex is 30-36 inches deep, and is moderately well-drained. This soil complex does not have any limiting features for building or siting structures.

A very small portion (less than 1%) of the site contains a Fishpot-Urban Land complex which is typical of a poorly drained stream terrace. The water table in this area is estimated at 12-24 inches deep, which would not be recommended for siting structures.



Soil Map: USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey

N.T.S.

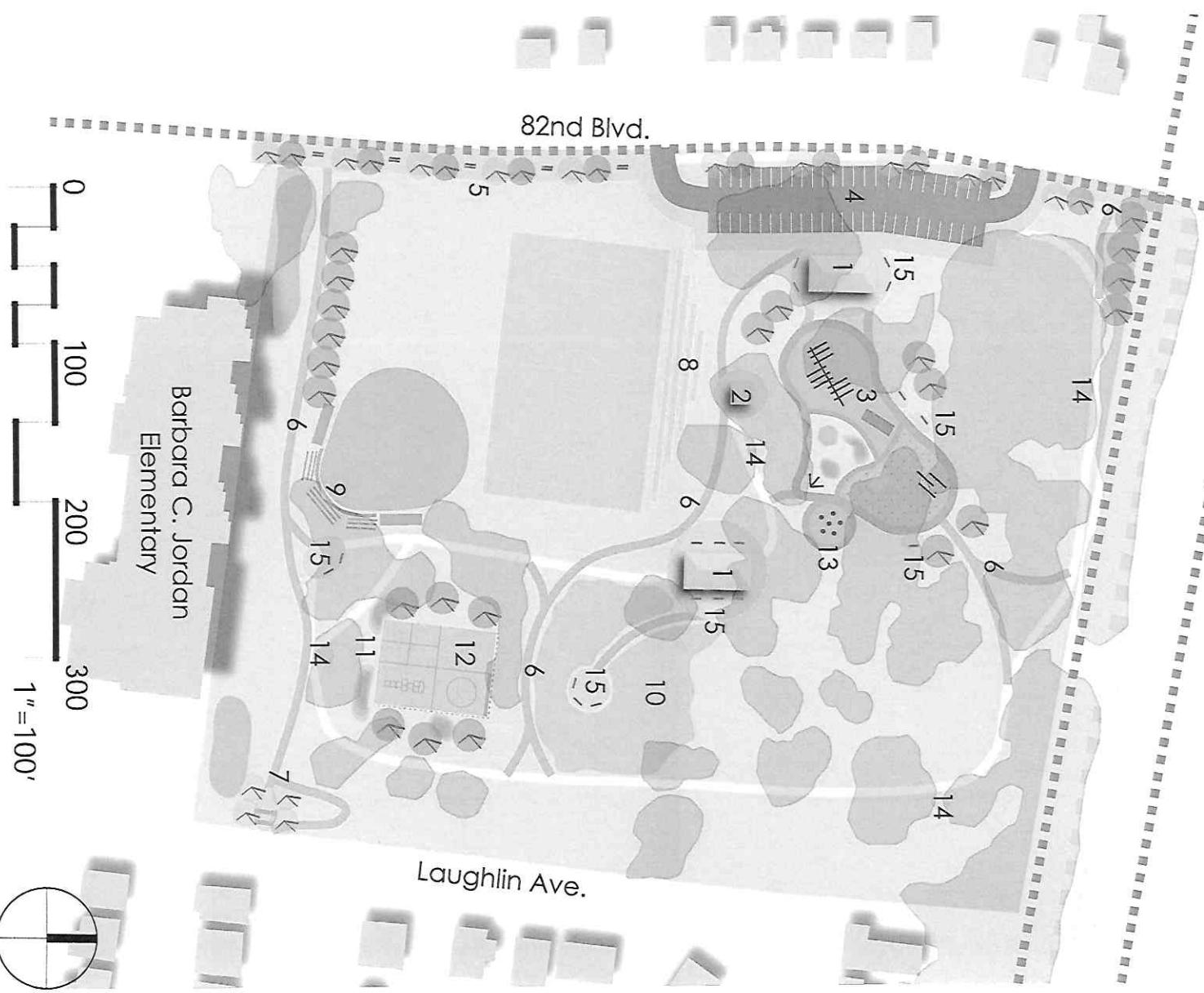
70% = 60025: Urban land-Harvester complex, 2-9% slopes  
29% = 60223: Urban land-Harvester complex, 9-20% slopes  
1% = 66092: Fishpot-Urban land complex, 0-5% slopes, rarely flooded

# Master Plan

# Master Plan

## Final Master Plan:

- 1 pavilions
- 2 restrooms
- 3 playground
- 4 expanded parking (52 spaces)
- 5 streetscape improvements
- 6 new path connections
- 7 improved pedestrian entrance
- 8 terraced seating
- 9 new bleachers, backstop, dugouts
- 10 native plant area
- 11 landforms with embankment slide
- 12 multi-use courts
- 13 splash pad
- 14 fitness stations (4)
- 15 site furnishings (bench, trash, lighting, etc.)



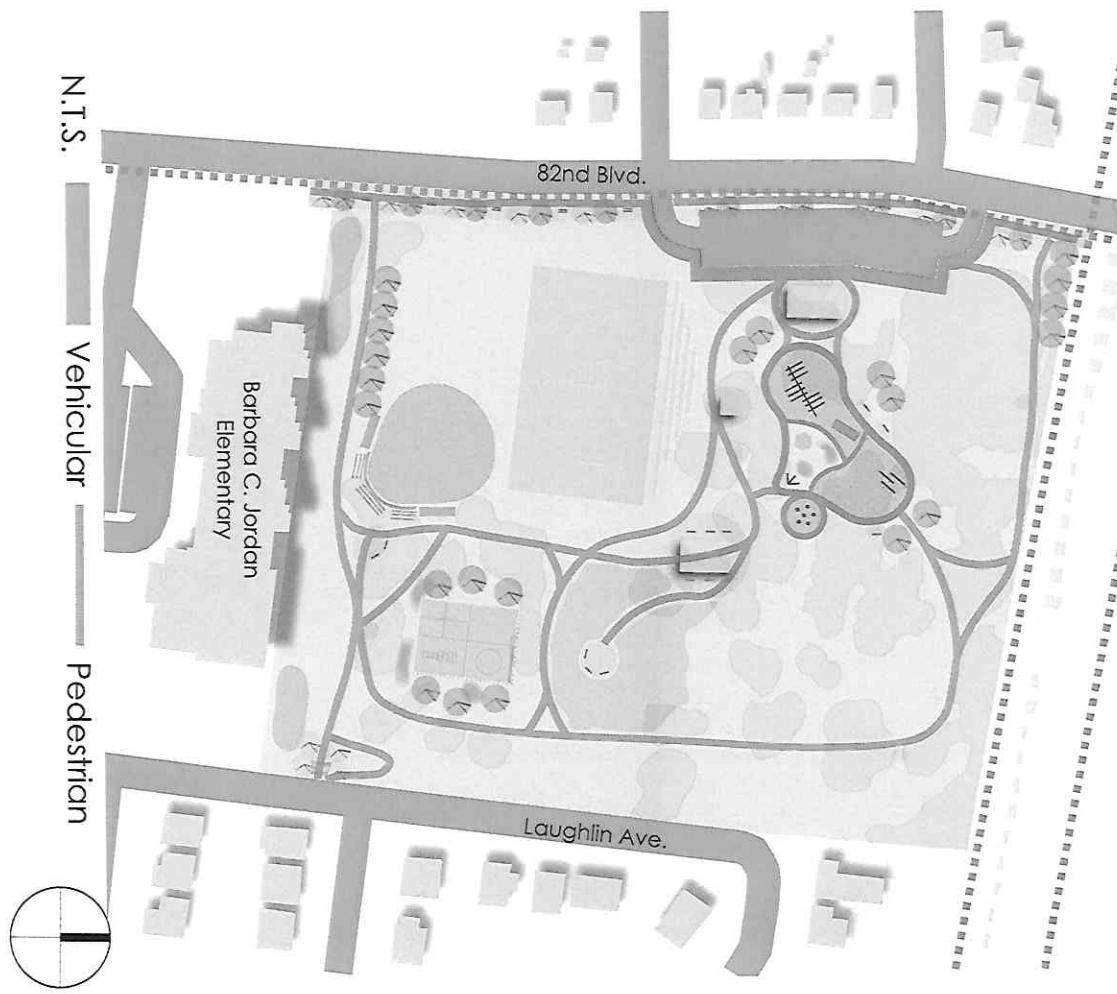
## Circulation & Connections

## Vehicular Circulation:

Both vehicular and pedestrian circulation will be improved at Fogerty Park. A new expanded parking lot with up to 52 spaces is proposed with a 2nd entrance along 82nd Blvd.

## Pedestrian Circulation:

walking trails will be improved, with multiple new connections throughout the park. A new east-west path just north of the elementary school will provide a valuable connection to park users. Additional trail connectors divide the existing circulation loop into smaller loops, providing options for walkers and runners.



# Program

## Active:

Several active elements are included in the final master plan for Fogerty Park. These include maintaining the existing soccer field, baseball diamond, and walking paths. Additional active features include the new path connections, multi-use courts, splash pad, and upgraded playground area.

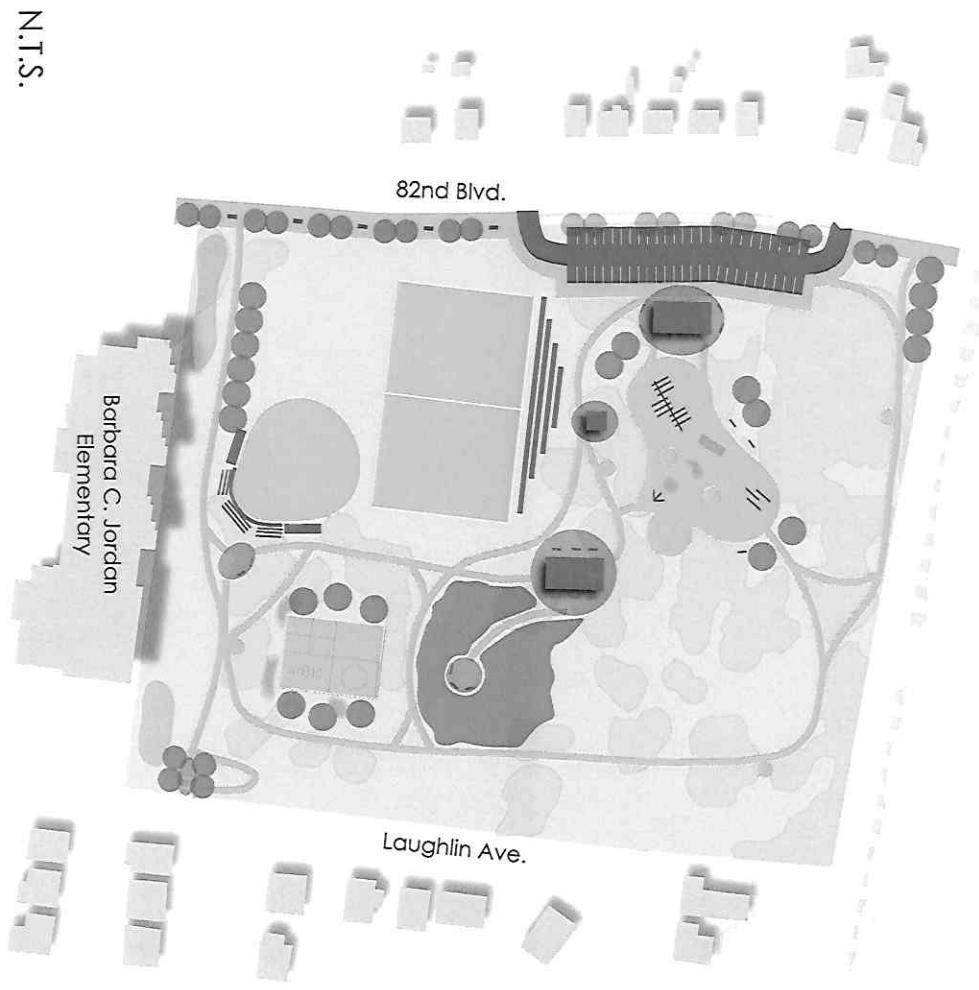
## Environmental:

Most of the existing trees at the park will be maintained.

Additional native trees will supplement the mature canopy throughout the site and along the 82nd Blvd. streetscape. A native plant area that features prairie grass and wildflower species will create a new park experience for Fogerty Park.

## Infrastructural:

The infrastructure at Fogerty Park will be greatly improved and updated as part of this master plan. A new expanded parking area and 2 new pavilions are the major improvements, with new hardscapes, site furnishings, baseball diamond improvements and lighting updated as well.













**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

**KEY/NOTES**

- A - 20x30' Park Pavilion
- B - 20x20' Playground Shelter
- C - Mens/Womens restroom/storage
- D - Parking Lot Rain Garden
- E - New Park Monument Sign
- F - Long Park Message Board
- G - Butterfly Pollinator Garden
- H - Rock check dam for drainage control
- I - Rock check dam for drainage control
- J - Rock check dam for drainage control
- K - 5 ft. wide permeable drainage swale
- L - Rock check dam for drainage control
- M - Native Meadow



BIO-RETENTION POND



LED PEDESTRIAN LIGHT POLE



PARKING LOT RAIN GARDENS

PARK CONCEPT DESIGN IMAGES

PARK MONUMENT SIGN



Prepared For:

**Neighborhood  
in the World**  
city of University City  
east boulevard  
University City, MO 63130  
University City

**GREENSFELDER PARK-  
Needs Assessment Study**

PRELIMINARY - FOR REVIEW ONLY

REVISION DATE COMMENT:

Sheet No.  
**CP-4**

Old Ver. 01/23  
Rev. 01/23  
On Date 01/23  
File No. 01/23  
Name: Environmental Design  
Project No. 01/23  
Phone: 314-703-1000  
Email: [www.gatewayllc.com](http://www.gatewayllc.com)  
Firm: **Gateway  
design  
studio, llc**  
Planning  
Landscape Architecture  
Environmental Design  
Interpretive/Educational Signage

# PARK. MASTER PLANS

ucitymo.org

Rollover      Government (at the top of the screen)

Click on      Boards and Commission (under City Council and City Clerk)

Click on      Boards and Commission Listing (left side of page)

Scroll down the left side list

Click on      Park Commission

Scroll down to the bottom of the page to find the Plans

PARK PRIORITIES

FROM AMY GASCON

Park Name	Commissioner	Park Master Plan	2020 Project or Improvement Short Description	2020 Project or Improvement Long Description	Estimated Completion Date	Completed?	If not completed, current status or reassessment of necessity
Heman Park Pool	Josh Winstral	No	No projects proposed	Trees have been cut down around tennis courts, eliminating shade for players and expose them to sun while they rest during and between matches.	2022		
Flynn Park	Josh Winstral	No	Canopies over benches on tennis courts	This project would implement the Metcalf Park Master Plan developed in 2010 by H3 Studio. The plan was vetted by community stakeholders but never implemented. It is part of the Parkview Gardens Master Plan. The project creates a highly visible destination park in close proximity to the Delmar Loop.			
Janet Majerus Park	Josh Winstral	No	No projects proposed				
Metcalf Park	Josh Winstral	No	Implement Park Improvement/ East-West Connector				2025 Park Master Plan isn't on city's website
U City Dog Park	Josh Winstral	Not listed in priorities	No projects proposed				

Criteria from University City's Comprehensive Plan

- A Preserve and enhance great places
- B Advanced shared prosperity
- C Connect community
- D Leverage assets
- E Strengthen livability
- F Improve collaboration

Park Name	Commissioner	Park Master Plan	2020 Project or Improvement Short Description	2020 Project or Improvement Long Description	Estimated Completion Date	Completed?	If not completed, current status or reassessment of necessity
Kaufman Park	Lisa Hummel	No	Replace ties	The Park slopes downhill from north to south. The tennis courts are probably 10 to 12 feet below the level of the playground surface. Presently, this change in grade is navigated by a set of stairs (with no handrails) made out of railroad ties. While serviceable, the ties show substantial wear and need to be replaced. The current stairway is probably not ADA compliant.	2021		
Kaufman Park	Lisa Hummel	No	Canopies over benches on tennis courts	Trees have been cut down around tennis courts, eliminating shade for players and expose them to sun while they rest during and between matches.	2022		
Kaufman Park	Lisa Hummel	No	Remove wood wall	Between the bottom of the stairs noted above and the north end of the tennis courts is an expanse of asphalt approximately 20 by 60 feet that has an old painted wooden wall along the north edge. New hitting walls were installed inside the fenced tennis courts that seem ample for the volume of use. Therefore, the recommendation is to remove the existing wooden wall and revisit the purpose of the flat surface for alternate use such as space for outdoor workout equipment, table tennis or something else.	2021		
Kaufman Park	Lisa Hummel	No	Upgrade three non-ADA neighborhood playgrounds to meet ADA standards. (Approved by City Council and submitted to St. Louis County in 2019. The grant was not approved)	This project will replace three neighborhood playgrounds in the greatest need of replacement. The playgrounds selected are outdated, ADA nonaccessible, and no longer meet CPS guidelines. The installation of a new safety surface will be included in the replacement project.	2021		
Kaufman Park	Lisa Hummel	No	No projects proposed				
Rabe Park	Lisa Hummel	No	Upgrade three non-ADA neighborhood playgrounds to meet ADA standards. (Approved by City Council and submitted to St. Louis County in 2019. The grant was not approved)	This project will replace three neighborhood playgrounds in the greatest need of replacement. The playgrounds selected are outdated, ADA nonaccessible, and no longer meet CPS guidelines. The installation of a new safety surface will be included in the replacement project.	2021	ADA non accessible	and no longer meet CPS guidelines. The installation of a new safety surface will be included in the replacement project.
Ruth Park Woods	Lisa Hummel	No	Improve trail	The trail has severe water damage and many of the signs need repair.	2021		
Millar Park	Lisa Hummel	Yes			2021		

Criteria from University City's Comprehensive Plan

- A Preserve and enhance great places
- B Advance shared prosperity
- C Connect community
- D Leverage assets
- E Strengthen livability
- F Improve collaboration

Park Name	Commissioner	Park Master Plan	2020 Project or Improvement Short Description	2020 Project or Improvement Long Description	Estimated Completion Date	Completed?	If not completed, current status or reassessment of necessity
Forgery Park	John Solodar	Yes	No projects proposed				
Greensfelder Park Joseph Adams Park	John Solodar	Yes No	Master plan 2019. Never implemented No projects proposed Enclosed cart storage yard and provide an indoor/outdoor seating area. Repair the golf shop exterior, and build an emergency shelter at the end of the driving range. The Commission voted July 2019 to apply for a planning grant in 2020.	The park currently consists of grass fields that often flood in heavy rain. A concept plan was presented to the community on November 19, 2019. Comments were received from the community and Park Commission members. This project will provide an enclosed storage area for the golf cart fleet at Ruth Park. The new roof for the enclosed storage area will provide a second story sun deck with an outdoor seating area for guests and tournament social activities. The cart fleet and provide a comfortable indoor/outdoor setting. Repair the exterior of the driving range. The Commission voted July 2019 to apply for a planning grant in 2020.	2022	No	Lots of items remain to be done, but new priorities seem more important.
Ruth Park Golf Course	John Solodar	Yes, 2019	Replace worn and damaged protective netting on the driving range	The current protective netting is beginning to wear; it is torn in several locations. Staff repaired the netting in 2018, but it is expected much of the netting will need to be replaced and/or repaired by 2023. This project will assure the safety of golfers and property and will reduce liability.	July 2023-2024	No	
Ruth Park Golf Course	John Solodar	Yes, 2019	Install lights for the driving range	Originally the driving range had lights. The lights should be reinstalled in such a way that they do not add lumens to the neighbors. The permit to install the lights still exists and the previously installed electrical conduit still exists. This should increase 16 usage of the range. The driving range is a moneymaker and the addition of lights should increase revenue. Consideration of the management of the range at night must be addressed if the lights are installed.	2023-2024, 2025	Jul-21	
Ruth Park Golf Course	John Solodar	Yes, 2019	Complete the shot game practice area at the driving range.	Currently the driving range offers no accommodation for shot iron play. The short game area was part of the overall master plan for the range but limited funding prohibited the installation in 2016. The project began in 2019 with \$30,000 funding. It needs to be completed. The addition would offer an amenity much sought after by golfers and increases teaching opportunities and revenue.	2020		
Ruth Park Golf Course	John Solodar	Yes, 2019	Install additional practice putting green near #1 tee	The addition of putting green east of Tee will give golfers a place to practice while waiting for their tee times. This will keep the golfers close to #1 tee and keep the tee times on schedule. The additional practice green will also provide more teaching opportunities, increase revenues, allow more accessibility and improve the pace of play.	2025		
Ruth Park Golf Course	John Solodar	Yes, 2019	Repair or replace parking lot	The parking lot is in poor condition and needs to be repaired.	2020-2021		

Park Name	Commissioner	Park Master Plan	2020 Project or Improvement Short Description	2020 Project or Improvement Long Description	Estimated Completion Date	Completed?	If not completed, current status or reassessment of necessity
Ackert Park/ Greenway South	James Wilke	Yes	Planning grant approved by St. Louis County	The project would implement the Ackert Park Master Plan developed in 2010 by H3 Studio. The plan was vetted by community stakeholders but never implemented. It is part of the Parkview Gardens Master Plan. The project will increase an accessible link through the neighborhood. Some funding may be possible from Washington Park.	2021		
Eastgate Park	James Wilke	No	Resurfacing, painting and striping basketball courts	This project will renovate the basketball court playing surfaces at Heman, Mooney and Eastgate parks. The work will include sealing cracks, patching, color coating and striping the current surfaces at all three parks. The renovation will improve the condition of the playing surfaces for safety and aesthetics.	Jul-22		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Resurfacing, painting and striping basketball courts	This project will renovate the basketball court playing surfaces at Heman, Mooney and Eastgate parks. The work will include sealing cracks, patching, color coating and striping the current surfaces at all three parks. The renovation will improve the condition of the playing surfaces for safety and aesthetics.	Jul-22		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Replace 1994 mobile stage	This new self-contained mobile stage unit will provide users with more platform area, better acoustics, open air and better sight lines for audiences. The mobile stage is used for many University City events and is rented to outside organizations for special events. The existing stage is a 1994 model that no longer meets the needs of regular events. A proposal from Park staff would eliminate the mobile stage and set up a performance pavilion in Heman Park.	2021		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Canopies over benches on tennis courts	Trees have been cut down around tennis courts, eliminating shade for players and expose them to sun while they rest during and between matches.	2022		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Trail Improvements	The existing park trail system is not well designed or maintained. Existing pathways used by walkers overlap with maintenance pathways and are in very bad shape, easily causing injuries to occur. No benches exist for walkers to rest and drinking fountains are nonexistent or in poor condition. Pathway design and connection points could be better developed with more and better signage.	2024		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Complete ADA Improvements/master plan	The existing facility has numerous barriers that prevent people with poor mobility from enjoying the full services offered by Heman Park. A complete ADA 2020 master plan needs to identify all existing barriers. This includes the surrounding public right-of-way sidewalks and curbs, non-accessible parking at facilities and recreational areas, pavilions, restroom access, picnic tables and individual sidewalks within the park. This item is only an ADA assessment and does not take into consideration broader design opportunities such as enhanced accessibility and universal design strategies.	2024		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Improve aesthetic appearance	As the regional city park Heman Park should set the example for park beautification through the site furnishings (benches, picnic tables, signage, trash cans, pathways, bike racks, drinking fountains, etc.). Currently the park does not have a consistent aesthetic appearance and in some areas falls short of acceptable appearance. Improving the overall aesthetic quality of the park through upgrading, improving, or adding/reducing amenities and site furnishings the park could grow the parks significantly.	2024		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Athletic Field Improvements in Heman Park	This project will improve playing conditions of skinned infields, reduce the need to call off games because of the effects of rain and include the installation of safety fencing along baselines and player dugouts. ADA accessibility will also be addressed during this project.	2024		
Heman Park	James Wilke	Yes	Replace current playgrounds with a new all inclusive playground	This project will replace a 20-year-old non-accessible playground with a new all-inclusive destination structure. The playground will be the largest in University City, ADA accessible, all-inclusive and attract patrons from all areas of the city. The project consists of reconfiguring the current route of the trail away from the existing playground. The new route will include new placement and repairs to the fence that runs alongside the trail. The bank erosion resulting in more closer to the asphalt trail and in time will impact the usefulness of the trail. The cost of maintenance will be reduced due to elimination of frequent fence post replacement and repairs.	2024		
Mona Trail	James Wilke	No	Improvements to the trail		2030		

Criteria from University City's Comprehensive Plan

- A Preserve and enhance great places
- B Advance shared prosperity
- C Connect community
- D Leverage assets
- E Strengthen livability
- F Improve collaboration