TARKINGTON PARK MASTER PLAN

an urban park with a distinctive sense of place that celebrates the community's diverse history and culture, attracts a wide variety of users, and provides a unique park experience

INDY PARKS & Recreation

Prepared By:

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URBAN DESIGN + LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | www.reasite.com

AXIS

November 20, 2012

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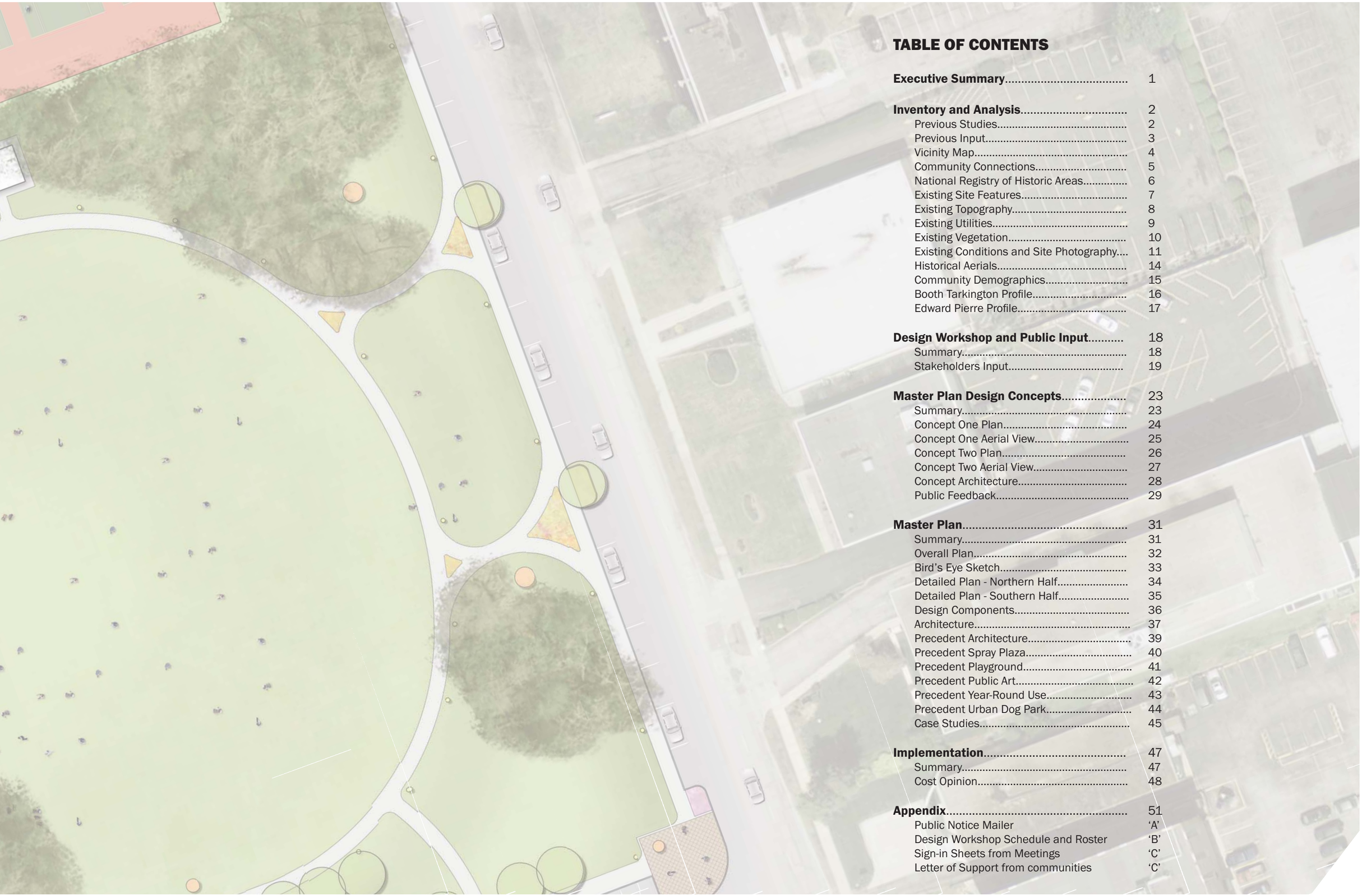

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INDY PARKS & Recreation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tarkington Park is a 10.5 acre city park located in the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood, just north of historic Maple Road (38th Street) at 45 East 40th Street on the north side of Indianapolis. Bounded by Meridian Street, Illinois Street, 39th and 40th Streets, the park is surrounded by diverse, unique and historic neighborhoods with highly engaged community organizations.

Since the completion of a master plan in 1985 by Indy Parks, there has been a growing interest in what the park could become. Most recently, Midtown Indy Inc., led a series of visioning sessions in 2010 which included the development of conceptual ideas for the park. In 2011, a tennis shelter in the park was demolished due to its highly deteriorated condition; the shelter was designed by renowned local architect Edward and its removal sparked a great deal of community outcry. With this renewed interest in the park, Indy Parks decided that a new master plan was needed to give residents the opportunity to define the future for Tarkington Park.

In the spring of 2012, Indy Parks, along with their consultant team of Rundell Ernstberger Associates (Landscape Architecture + Urban Design) and Axis Architecture, began a master planning process in partnership with the community to formally update the 1985 Indy Parks Master Plan for Tarkington Park. The resulting master plan defines a collective vision for the future redevelopment of Tarkington as one of the City's premier urban parks, providing a blueprint for the implementation of the community's desired park improvements by a public-private coalition comprised of the City of Indianapolis, Indy Parks, and neighborhood organizations, who see the park as the catalyst for the revitalization of the surrounding area.

The Design Process

The master planning began with a comprehensive inventory and analysis of the community, the existing park features, previous and current studies and initiatives in the area, and the opportunities and constraints for redevelopment of the park. Informed with the inventory and analysis information, Indy Parks and REA/Axis facilitated a multiple-day community workshop in the summer of 2012 to engage the community, key stakeholders, surrounding residents and businesses, municipal departments, interested organizations, and the general public in crafting a vision for the future of Tarkington Park.

The design workshop began with a series of listening sessions to determine the community's needs and desires for the park. The master planning team then synthesized the community's input into a program of major themes and design elements for the redesign of the park. Over the course of the following three days, the design team, working closely with Indy Parks staff, developed two separate design concepts for the park. On the fourth day, the concepts, along with supporting plans, sketches, and imagery, were presented to the community at a public forum to complete the workshop. At the meeting, community members were invited to review and respond to the proposed conceptual design, which was also posted to the project website for review and input. Following the workshop, additional meetings were held with community groups to allow for further comment and input on the conceptual alternatives.

After a four week comment period, the master planning team synthesized the public comments from emails, phone conversations, letters, website comments and meetings to assist in determining the conceptual direction for the final park master plan. A draft master plan was then presented in a public meeting and posted on the website for additional public comments. At the conclusion of the public input period, additional comments were addressed and the master plan was finalized.

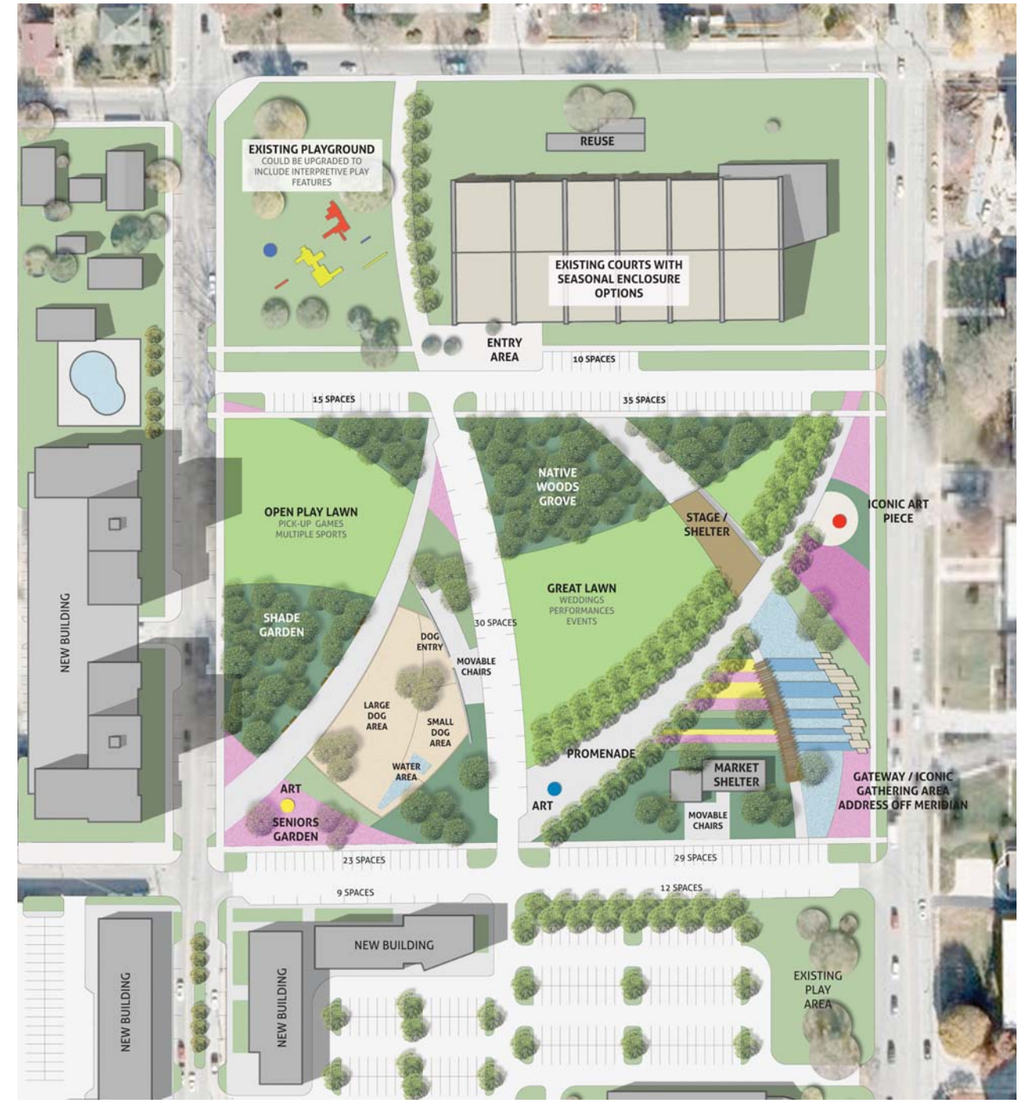
The Plan

The Tarkington Park Master Plan establishes a vision for a vibrant urban park with a distinctive sense of place that celebrates the community's diverse history and culture, attracts a wide variety of users, and provides a unique park experience.

Combining preferred features identified and supported by the community from preliminary design concepts into one cohesive design, the proposed master seeks to define a new model for an urban park in the Indy Parks system – a park that celebrates urban living and catalyzes revitalization and economic development within the surrounding community.

It is understood that this master plan can only be realized through a collaborative public/private partnership model. Beyond the funding of design and construction of the new park, it will be critical that a plan is established for the continued park programming and operations to ensure a level of management and maintenance consistent with the community's vision for the park. Based on case studies from similar communities across the country, Indy Parks believes that a partnership with a community organization whose sole focus is the programming and operation of the park would ensure the park's continued success.

Excerpts from
Indy Parks 1985 Master Plan



Midtown Indianapolis Inc. 2010 Plan

Past Studies Summary

The last master plan completed by Indy Park for Tarkington Park was in 1985. Though the existing park has not changed significantly in the intervening years, the surrounding community has continued to evolve with renewed interest in the park. While certain features of Tarkington Park appear to be well used by the surrounding community, it is often referred to as underutilized as a whole and in need of long overdue upgrades to meet the area's growing recreational needs.

In 2010, Midtown Indianapolis Inc., in partnership with the Department of Metropolitan Development, hosted a series of visioning sessions for the area. Tarkington Park was the focus of one of these sessions. Midtown received a great deal of community input and engaged a consultant to prepare a "vision plan" for Tarkington Park (above) based on this input. This plan was not formally reviewed or adopted by Indy Parks, but the ideas generated served as a basis, in part, for Indy Park's decision to update the park master plan.

Midtown Indianapolis Inc. Gathered Comments

In your "environment," what activities could happen there: What is the park designed to accomplish?

- Green space is an asset
- Splash pad
- Youth activities
- Need to ask apartment residents
- Dog park
- Urban respite
- Stimulate neighborhood activity
- Universal "3rd place"
- Support private/public programs
- Outdoor rooms that are furnished
- Shelter/shade
- Private/semi-private
- Public separated by grade/elevation changes
- The mid-block connection and gateway
- Work with farmer's market

As you walk through the park, what should be your ideal experience?

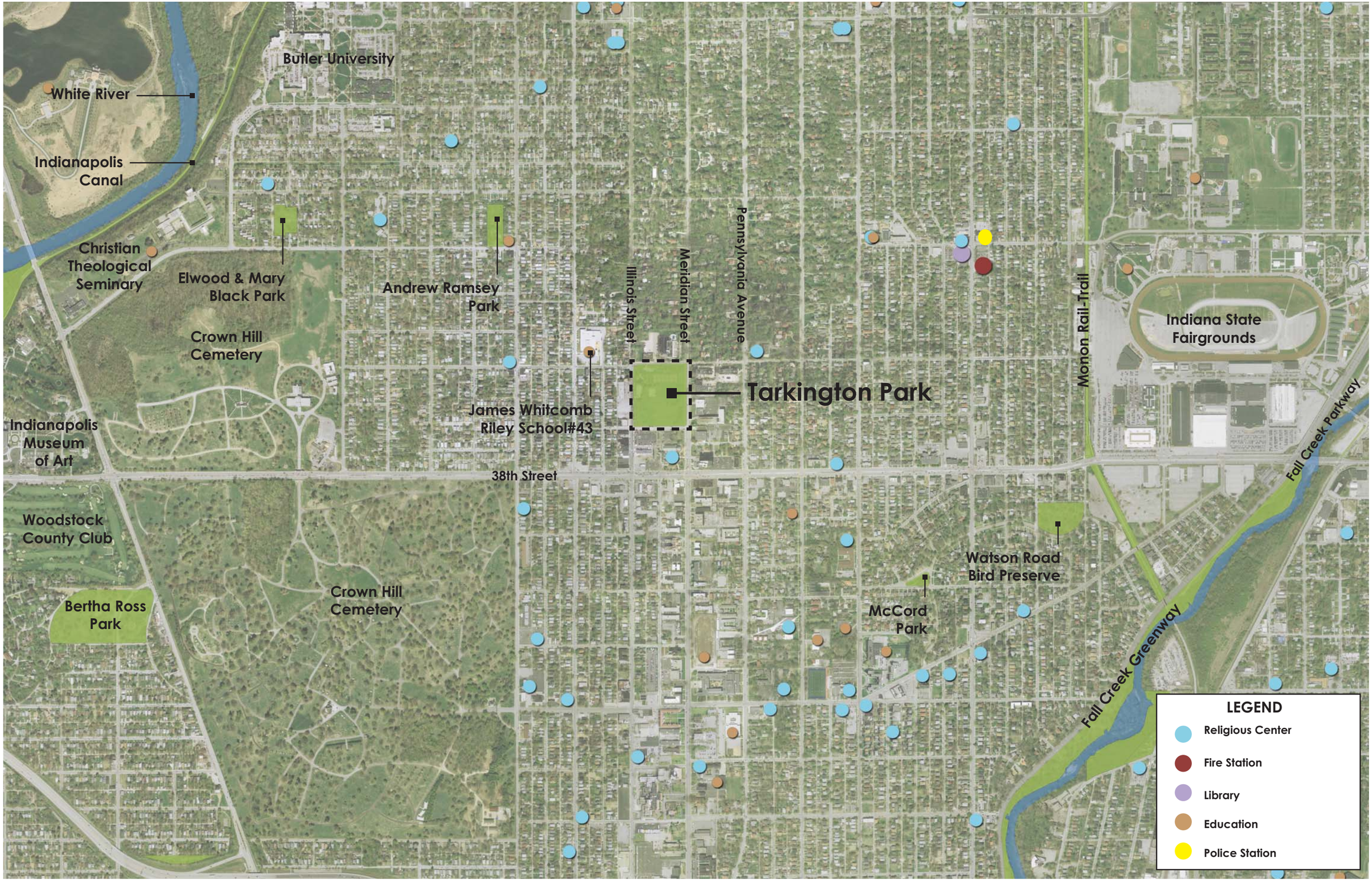
- More inviting
- Public art
- Meander - different pathways and destinations
- Security
- Place for shade/protection
- Family-oriented
- Music, events, farmer's market
- Related to the context - enhance the neighborhood
- Good lighting
- Neighborhood park, not regional draw
- Active parts of park are very important to keep
- Pavilion and playground used often
- Basketball used more; tennis used less
- Frisbee
- Shakespeare in the Park
- Playground
- Pick-up basketball
- Passive - sit&chat/read
- Balance of active/passive

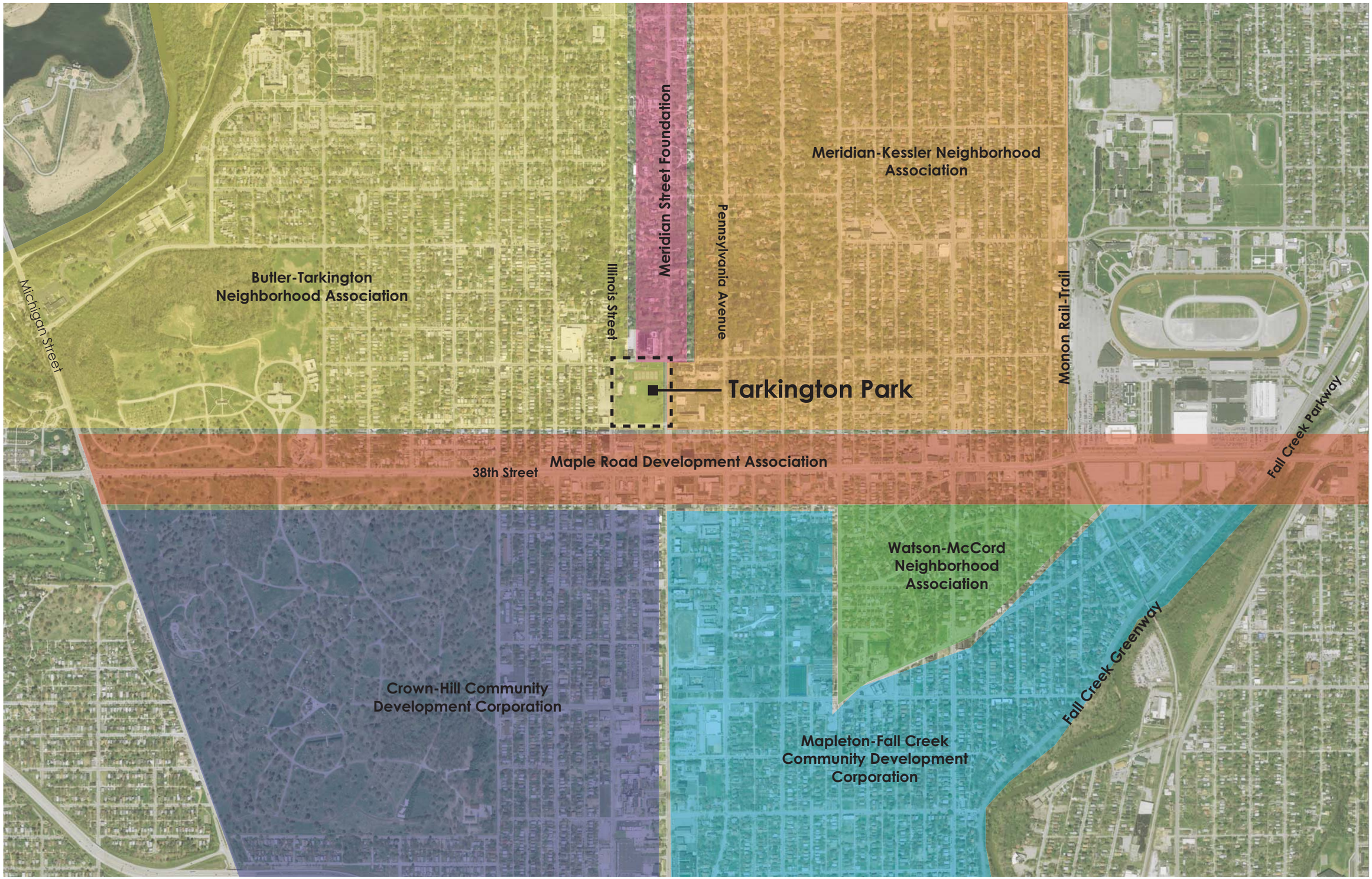
How could the park encourage the surrounding area "mixed use" ideas that have been previously recommended by the groups? How could the park help an expanded residential business district thrive?

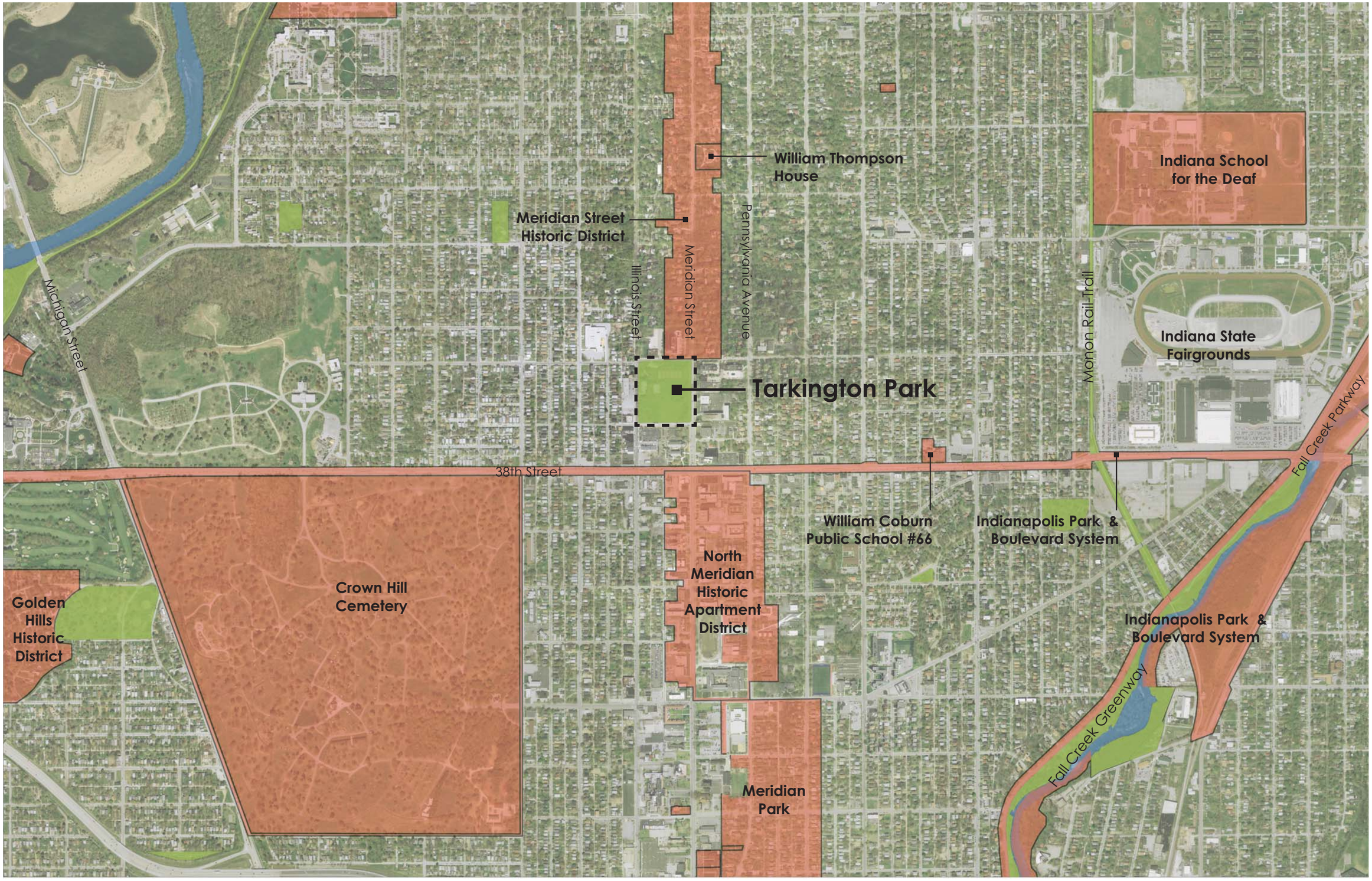
- Tennis courts
- Create a gateway
- Park may not a factor
- Needs to be hot spot - a celebration
- Establish it as a civic place with flexible space
- Symphony in the park or similar venue
- Phase use for entrances
- The "front porch" for all the businesses from 38th & 40th Streets
- Connect with 38th & 40th Street - see views from 38th Street
- Expand perception of boundary to include MLK Center and church
- Utilize 39th & 40th Streets as part of park - new brick paving - close them down for events
- MLK Center and church are community anchors in/for the park
- Create lush garden edges and park "rooms." furnished with urban elements
- A commercial/dining experience in the park to generate activity - Bryant Park, NYC
- Meridian and Illinois architecture from 38th _40th Streets should complement the park
- Neighborhood park - minimize parking
- Create outdoor rooms in park so that people have destinations and reasons to walk and meet with people

Other ideas:

- Skate park
- Great, feel good relationship with multi-service center
- Possibly replicate 38th Street median work to help brand the park
- Poetry reading area
- Reading theme based on area I Booth- Tarkington | Indiana history Booth Tarkington - author
- Carve seating into side of berms
- Ask tennis pros by Illinois Street Emporium
- Think about limited access on 40th and 39th Streets • Tree and flower planting
- Impact fee for developers
- "Central Park" for 38th Street, along with Community Center
- Green Space advisory group
- Turn vacant lots into community gardens and pocket parks
- IMA partnership to have rotating art/sculpture program
- Landscaping contest for landscaping contractors


Butler University
White River
Indianapolis Canal
Christian Theological Seminary
Elwood & Mary Black Park
Andrew Ramsey Park
Crown Hill Cemetery
Illinois Street
Meridian Street
Pennsylvania Avenue
Monon Rail-Trail
Indiana State Fairgrounds
Tarkington Park
James Whitcomb Riley School#43
Indianapolis Museum of Art
38th Street
Fall Creek Parkway
Woodstock County Club
Watson Road Bird Preserve
Bertha Ross Park
Crown Hill Cemetery
McCord Park
Fall Creek Greenway
LEGEND
Religious Center
Fire Station
Library
Education
Police Station


Meridian-Kessler Neighborhood Association
Meridian Street Foundation
Pennsylvania Avenue
Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association
Illinois Street
Michigan Street
Monon Rail-Trail
Tarkington Park
Fall Creek Parkway
Maple Road Development Association
38th Street
Watson-McCord Neighborhood Association
Fall Creek Greenway
Crown-Hill Community Development Corporation
Mapleton-Fall Creek Community Development Corporation


William Thompson House
Indiana School for the Deaf
Meridian Street Historic District
Pennsylvania Avenue
Meridian Street
Illinois Street
Michigan Street
Monon Rail-Trail
Indiana State Fairgrounds
Tarkington Park
Fall Creek Parkway
38th Street
William Coburn Public School #66
Indianapolis Park & Boulevard System
North Meridian Historic Apartment District
Crown Hill Cemetery
Golden Hills Historic District
Indianapolis Park & Boulevard System
Fall Creek Greenway
Meridian Park

Martin Luther King Community Center
Tarkington Tower
40th Street
Picnic Shelter
Parking (22 Spaces)
Former Tennis Shelter Location
40 North Tower
Multi-Age Playground
Resurfaced Tennis Courts
Nuvo
Tree Grove
Parking (26 Spaces)
Basketball Court
Large Hill top
Commercial Strip
Kenwood Avenue
Illinois Street
Tarkington Park
Shade Tree Plantings & Berm
Meridian Street
United Way
Open Grass Field
Former Baseball Diamond
Double 8 Foods
Shade Tree Plantings
39th Street
Commercial Node
North United Methodist Church

Martin Luther King
Community Center
Tarkington Tower
40th Street
40 North Tower
Nuvo
United
Way
Meridian Street
Tarkington Park
Kenwood Avenue
Illinois Street
Double
8 Foods
Commercial
Node
39th Street
North United
Methodist Church
730
732
734
736
738
740
742

Martin Luther King Community Center
Tarkington Tower
40th Street
40 North Tower
Nuvo
Commercial Strip
Kenwood Avenue
Illinois Street
Tarkington Park
Meridian Street
United Way
Double 8 Foods
39th Street
Commercial Node
North United Methodist Church
LEGEND
Hydrant
Water Line
Sanitary Man Hole
Sanitary Line
IPL Power or Light Pole
IPL Power Easement

Martin Luther King Community Center
Tarkington Tower
40th Street
40 North Tower
Nuvo
Tarkington Park
Kenwood Avenue
Illinois Street
Meridian Street
United Way
Double 8 Foods
39th Street
Commercial Node
North United Methodist Church
LEGEND
Ash
Sycamore
Red Oak
Sweet Gum
Hackberry
Sugar Maple
White Pines
White Spruce
Austrian Pine
Red Bud
Crabapple

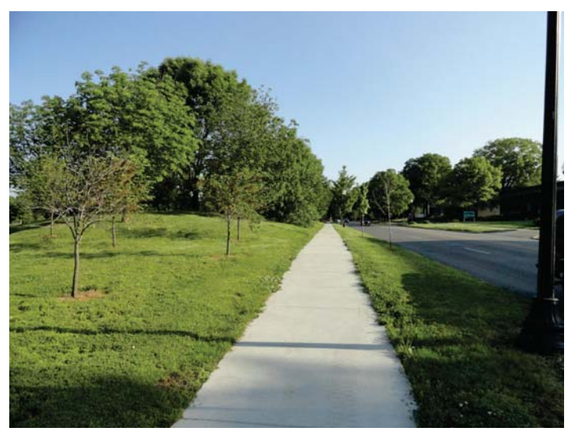
Looking Northeast into the park on 39th Street
- Ash Trees - Emerald Ash Borers
- Existing lighting along perimeter
- Wide road with non-regular use except for church events and farmer's market

Looking North from the southwest corner
- Ash Trees - Emerald Ash Borers
- Remnants of a baseball diamond
- Average to quality turf conditions

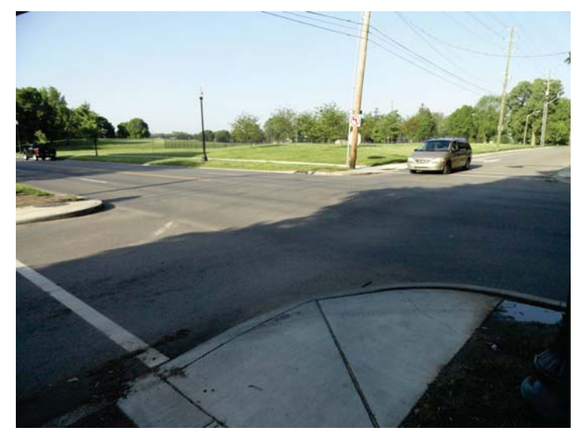
Looking North from the southeast corner
- Ash Trees - Emerald Ash Borers
- Recent shade tree plantings
- Berms give enclosure and hide views into the park along Meridian Street

Looking South at 39th St. & Meridian St.
- Non-ADA crosswalks
- Intimidating traffic patterns for pedestrian crossings

Looking Northwest at 39th St. & Meridian St.
- Ash Trees - Emerald Ash Borers
- Existing street light fixtures along Meridian St.
- Berms hide views into park
- No park signage



Looking North along Meridian St.
- Ash Trees - Emerald Ash Borers
- Recent ornamental tree plantings
- Recent street tree plantings
- Berms give enclosure and hide views into the park along Meridian St.



Looking Southwest from 40th St. & Meridian St.
- Non-ADA crosswalks
- Intimidating traffic patterns for pedestrian connections
- Yellow flashing signal
- No park signage

Looking west along 40th Street
- Unsightly utility lines
- Vicinity of demolished Edward Pierre tennis shelter location
- Recent ornamental tree plantings

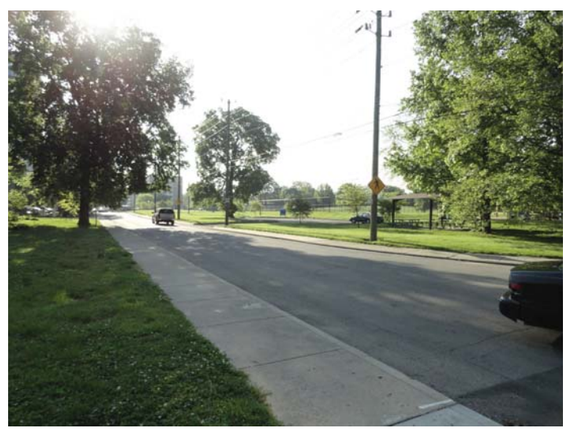
Looking Southeast from Tarkington Tower
- Resurfaced tennis courts
- Former location of Edward Pierre Tennis Shelter Building

Looking Southwest from Park High Point
- Ash Trees - Emerald Ash Borers
- Good elevated views of park
- Large open grass space good for flexible programming

Dedication Plaque
- Located in the northeast corner of the park

Looking Northeast in the northwest corner of the park
- Existing 40th St. parking area needs resurfacing
- Playground is pre-2010 ADA Guidelines
- Mature trees - some are Ash

Existing Playground
- Playground is pre- 2010 ADA Guidelines
- Existing vandalism
- Faded, chipped and peeling paint



Looking southeast from 40th Street
- Existing picnic shelter undersized
- Unsightly utility lines

Looking South at 40th St. & Illinois St.
- ADA crosswalks
- Wide intersection crossings
- Intimidating traffic patterns for pedestrian connections
- Bike lane
- No park signage

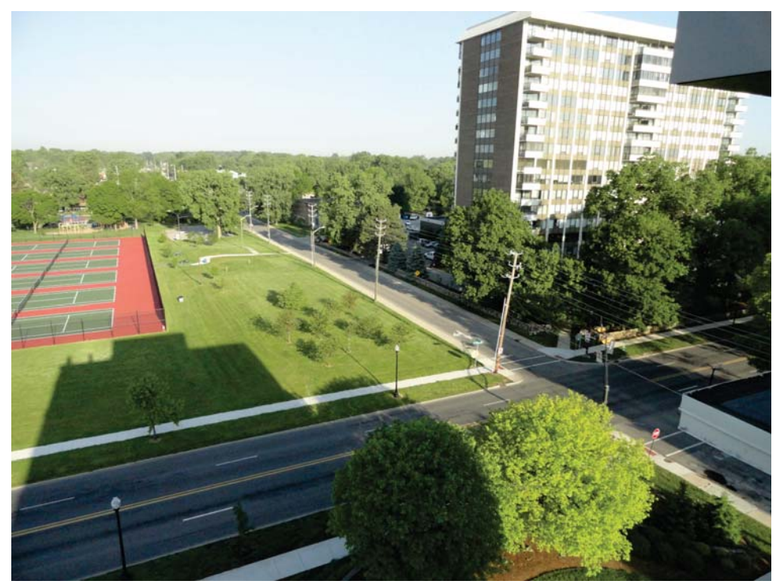
Looking south along Illinois Street
- Recently updated ADA ramps
- Rusty chain link fence

Looking West From 40 North Tower

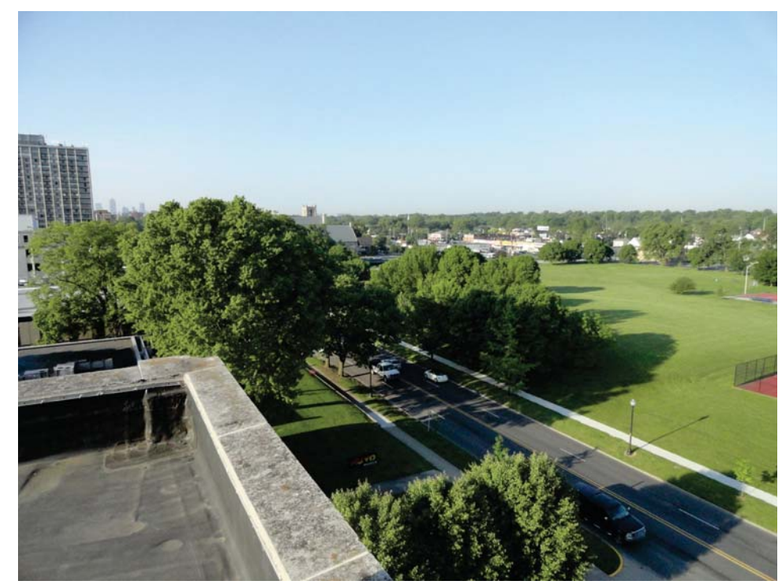
Looking Northwest From City View Tower

Looking South from Tarkington Tower

Basketball Court & Former Baseball Diamond Location



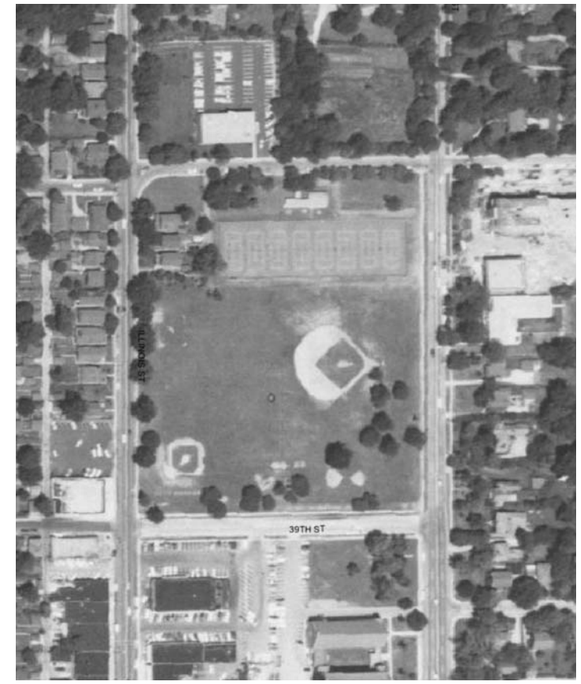
Former Edward Pierre Tennis Shelter Location & View of the 40th Street Corridor



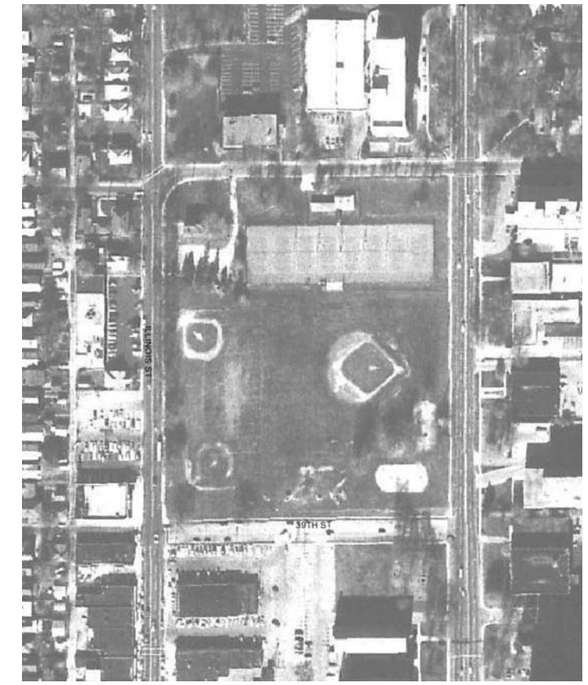
Looking Southwest at the Meridian Street Corridor

1937

1956



1961



1976

1986

1995

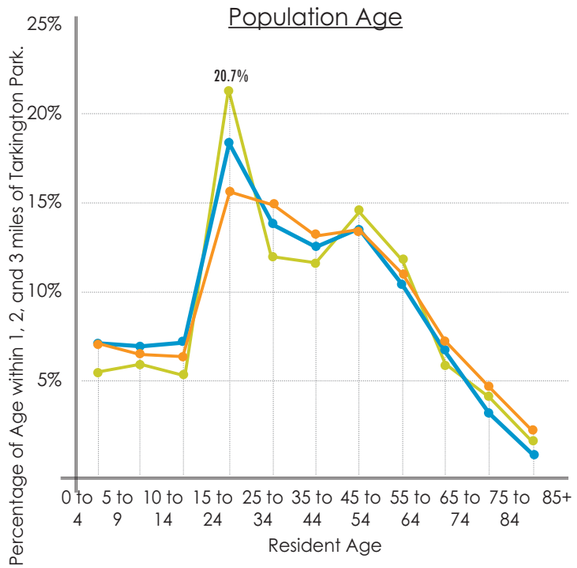
2002

2010

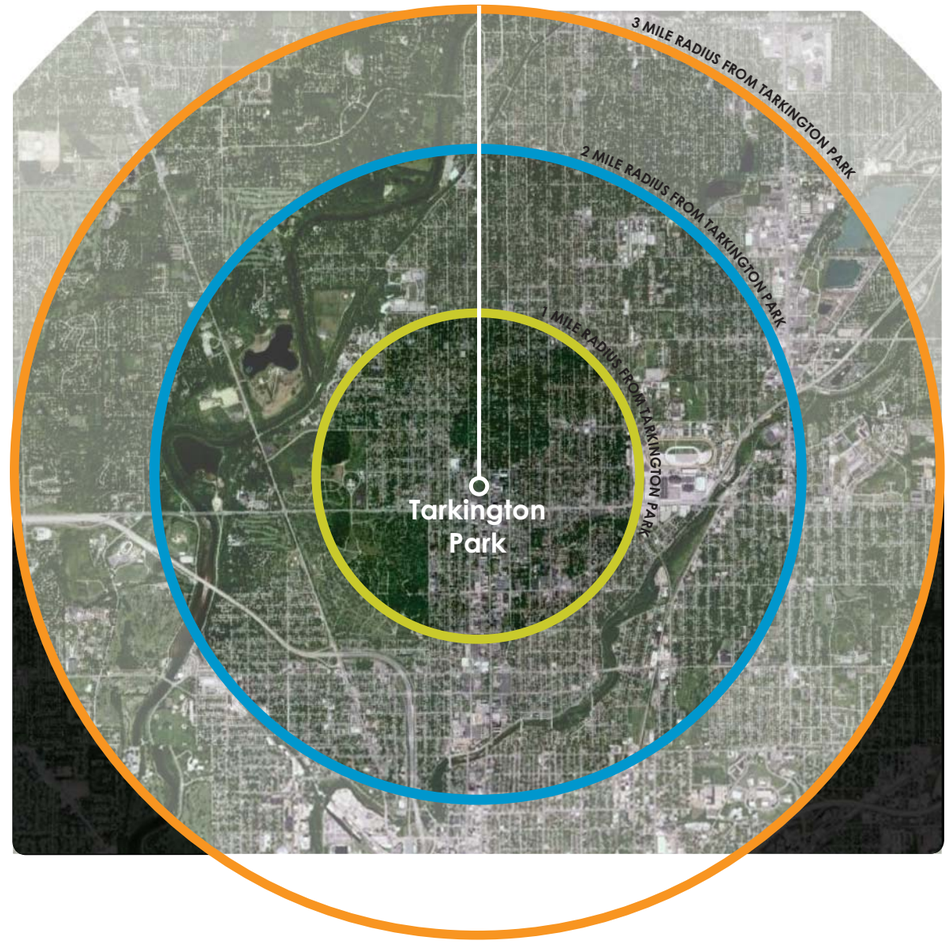
67% of residents are black

2.3 average houshold size

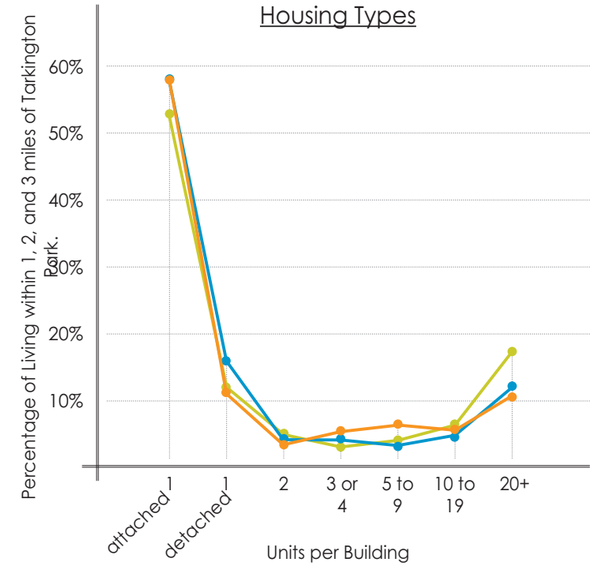
49% of residents are under 35



The median age is 33.4 and nearly half the surrounding population is 35 or younger.



Study area shown within 1, 2, and 3 mile radius from Tarkington Park.

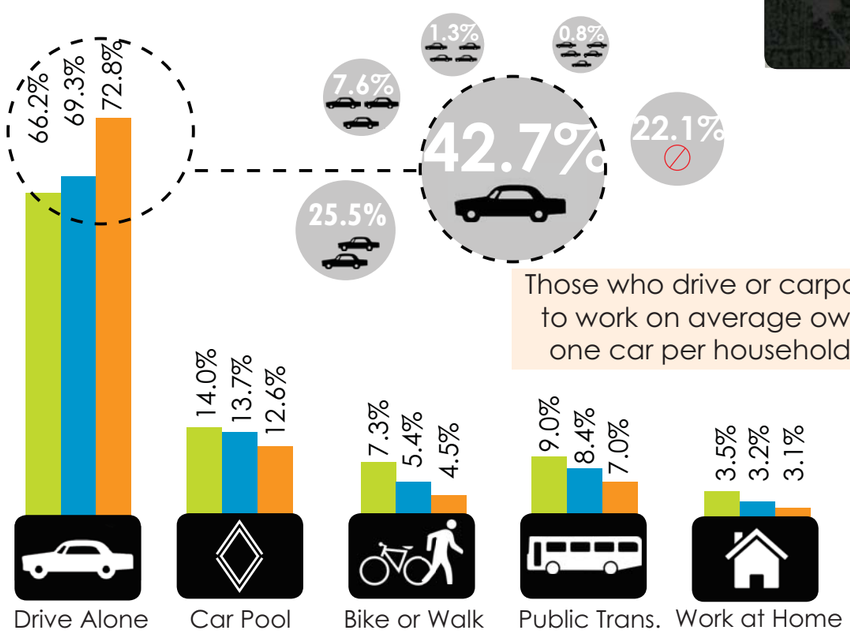


77% live in units 4 or less

68% live in a one unit house

1969 90% of homes built before

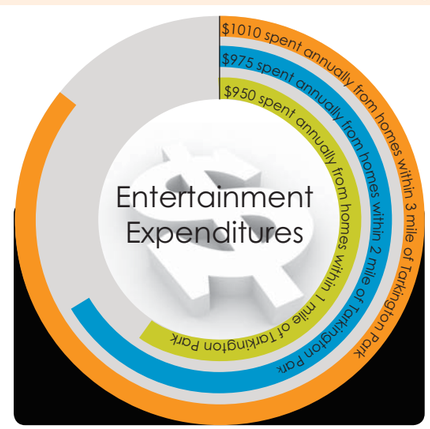
The majority of housing types near Tarkington Park are single unit homes built before 1969. 20+ unit apartments are 2nd most common.



Those who drive or carpool to work on average own one car per household.

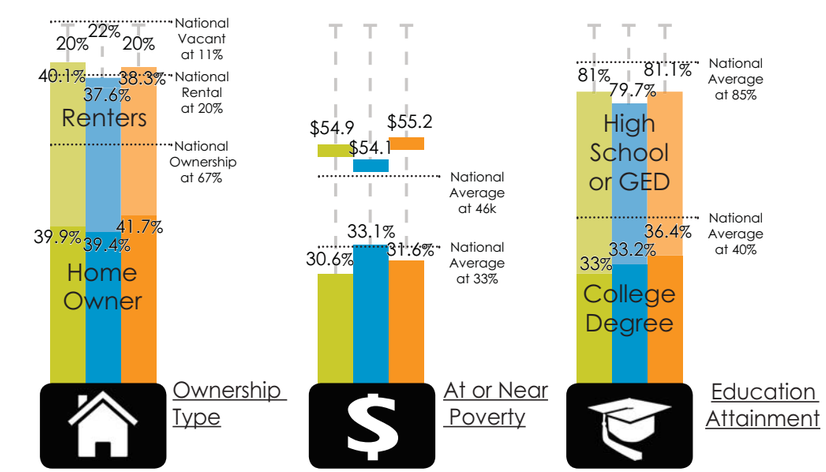
Transportation Modes to Work

Those who live closer to Tarkington Park drive alone less, and carpool and use alternative transportation types more than those who live within 2 or 3 miles from the park.



Cost of Entertainment

Those who live closer to Tarkington Park spend slightly less on entertainment every year.



The study area is a split between rental and ownership households. Further, 1 out of 3 live near poverty but 80% graduated high school.

Newton Booth Tarkington

(July 29, 1869 – May 19, 1946)

"…in the matter of human character the people of such an out-of-the-way midland village were as estimable as any others anywhere…This, in my sensitive young fervor, was my emotional tribute to the land of my birth."

Born in Indianapolis to a family of moderate wealth and with important political connections, Booth Tarkington is best remembered for his two Pulitzer Prize-winning novels, ***The Magnificent Ambersons*** and ***Alice Adams***. Having started writing plays and short stories at an early age, he continued his writing into adulthood, eventually becoming one of the most popular American novelists of his time. His published works include over 50 novels, plays, essays and short stories. Many of his novels have been adapted for the stage and screen, including ***The Flirt*** and ***Seventeen***, both originally published as serials in popular magazines. His first novel, ***The Gentleman from Indiana***, was also published in installments before eventually being reprinted and translated into six languages. Two of his novels were annual best-sellers nine times, and ***The Magnificent Ambersons*** (the second book of his ***Growth*** trilogy) was named one of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century.

Through the ***Growth*** trilogy (***The Turmoil***, ***The Magnificent Ambersons***, and ***The Midlander***), Tarkington portrays the changes that occurred in the American social landscape between the Civil War and World War I, a period of rapid industrialization. The declining fortune of the aristocratic Amberson family is contrasted with the "new money" of the industrial tycoons.

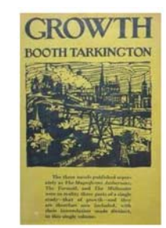
Believable characters and a focus on typical middle-class families were the result of a shift in Tarkington's writing from romance to realism. His stories depicted people and society as they really were, often dealing with the foibles of the American class system. The comical adventures of young Penrod Schofield in the ***Penrod*** novels, were based on the antics of Tarkington's nephews and his own boyhood memories.

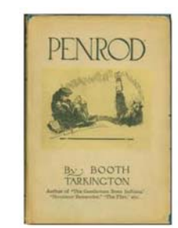
Small towns in Indiana were the setting for many of his novels. Woodruff Place, the Indianapolis neighborhood where he once lived, was the inspiration for ***The Magnificent Ambersons***. Designed to provide residents with a park-like setting, the affluent neighborhood began to experience a gradual decline in the late 1910s as a result of increased automobile use. Tarkington's forward-thinking on the impact of automobiles upon society was expressed through the dialogue of characters in the novel: ***"But automobiles have come, and they bring a greater change in our life than most of us suspect. They are here, and almost all outward things are going to be different because of what they bring." (The Magnificent Ambersons, p. 137)***

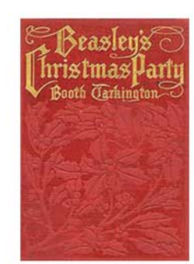
In addition to being an author and playwright, he was also an actor, illustrator, editor, art collector and Indiana legislator. He viewed public service as a responsibility of gentlemen in his socioeconomic class; and, although he served only one term in public office, he maintained a political presence his entire adult life. His political experiences were the basis for ***In the Arena: Stories of Political Life***, a collection of short stories.

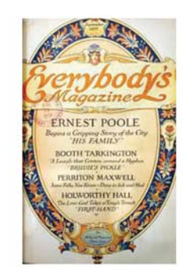
He attended Purdue University and Princeton University, and was awarded honorary degrees from both institutions, as well as from Columbia University and several others. Buildings named in his honor include Indianapolis Public Elementary School #92, Purdue University's Tarkington Hall, and the Booth Tarkington Civic Theater in Indianapolis.

As a writer, Tarkington was both prolific and persistent. When he began losing his eyesight, he dictated to his secretary, and continued writing the rest of his life. Although he spent many of his later years at Seawood, his home in Kennebunkport, Maine, he maintained a home at 4270 N. Meridian Street in Indianapolis from 1923 until his death. His long-term residency there, and the fact he is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery, which lies on the southern boundary of the Butler-Tarkington area, make it very befitting that a neighborhood park would be named in his honor.









EDWARD D. PIERRE

(May 22, 1890-1971)

Edward D. Pierre, born May 22, 1890 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, briefly attended Valparaiso University, then transferred to Illinois Institute of Technology (formerly Armour Institute), where he earned a degree in architecture in 1915. After working two years in Detroit, he served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during World War I, then moved to Indianapolis where he practiced until his retirement.

The principles Pierre championed are perhaps most accurately described by his own words written in the **"All American Resolution,"** a program he developed in response to President Dwight D. Eisenhower's challenge in 1960 to define long-range goals for America. In this resolution, Pierre sought to **"impress upon young people the progress that free men can make by intelligent planning;" to encourage "full participation by all Americans in an effort to erase slums and blight from the nation's cities and country-side;"** and to concentrate on **"solving the big decisions which face every community, as well as those of the nation."** His personal efforts to meet these goals were apparent in the work he performed throughout his professional career as an architect, as well as in his civic involvement in public service activities. Throughout his life, he successfully integrated good design with good citizenship.

His architectural works include not only grand up-scale homes such as those in Meridian Kessler and Williams Creek Estates, but also small, affordable housing for lower-income families. During his partnership with George Wright **(Pierre & Wright, 1925-1944)**, he designed several commercial and public buildings, including Indianapolis-area fire stations, public schools, Bush Stadium, the Sears Roebuck building, the Old Trails Insurance building, and the elegant Indiana State Library and Historical Building. Many of the buildings Pierre & Wright designed are now landmarks listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The partnership was also responsible for initiating the now-traditional "Christmas on Monument Circle" – decorating the circle and monument with lights.

In 1944, the partnership with Wright was dissolved, and Pierre established his own firm, **Pierre and Associates**. From this time until his retirement, Pierre continued doing significant architectural work in Indianapolis, which included the master plan for downtown development in 1953, and the Tarkington Park tennis shelter, built in 1957.

He has been described as "one of the most significant and imaginative thinkers in regard to the beauty of Indianapolis" (by former mayor, Richard Lugar), and "the greatest architect the state of Indiana ever produced and probably the greatest visionary architectural professional Indiana has ever known" (by an executive director of the Indiana Society of Architects).

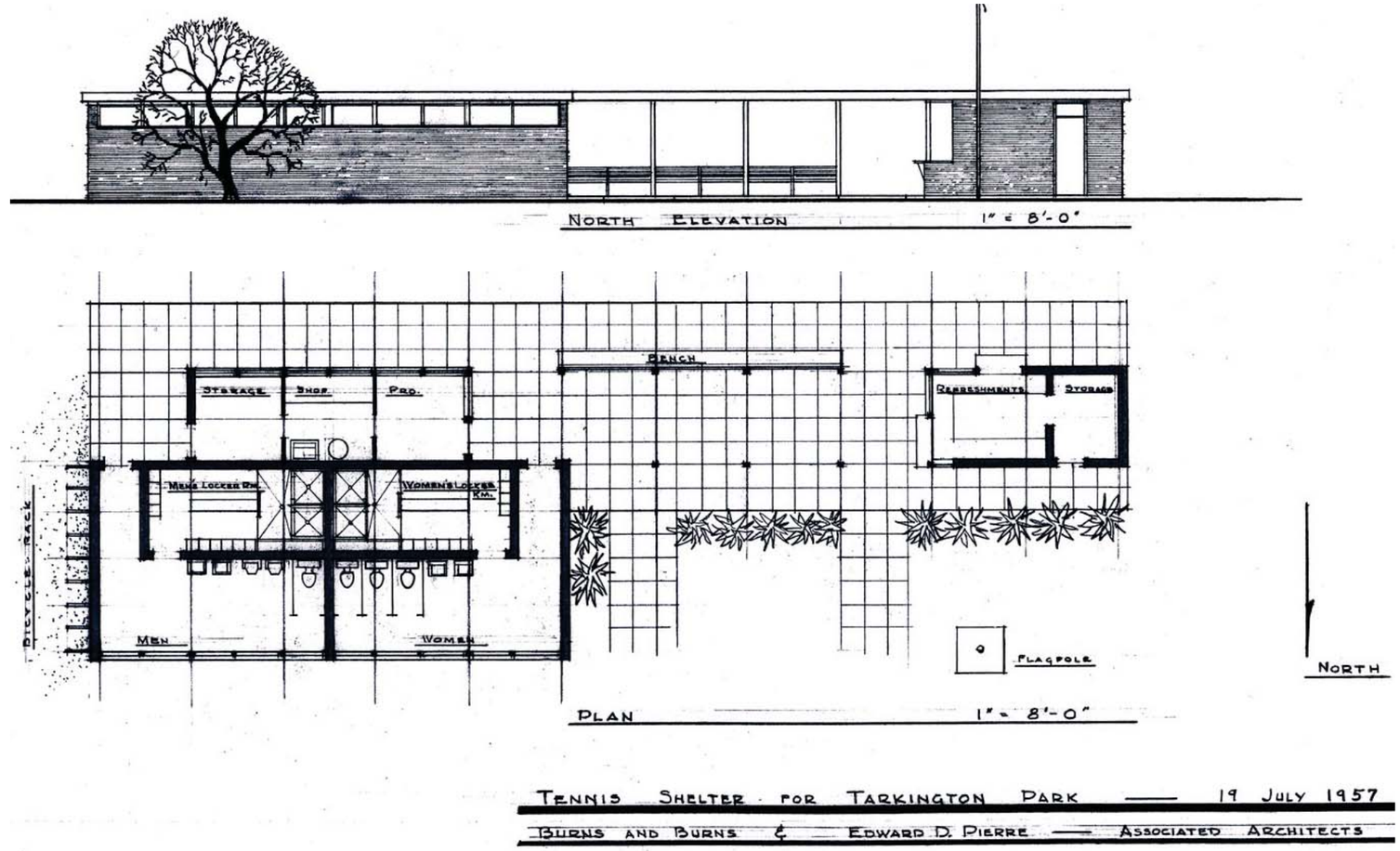


Image: Pierre & Wright Collection, Drawings + Documents Archive, Ball State University Libraries

Photography: Vess von Ruhtenberg

PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

Public Input played a vital role in guiding the master planning team. Prior to the design workshop, specific stakeholder groups, including neighboring property owners, non-profits, educational institutions, state agencies, municipal departments and elected officials, were identified and invited to participate in the design workshop. In addition, an invitation to participate in the workshop was sent to all property owners within a one mile radius of Tarkington Park. Phone calls, emails, letters and personal conversations with Indy Park's staff and the design team members were also collected.

A majority of the public input was given within the design workshop input sessions. These sessions were a series of listening meetings hosted by Indy Parks and the design team. Participants were given some questions in advance to help generate discussion and afforded the opportunity to voice any comments or concerns.

After the design workshop, a project website was launched to host all design information and provide further access to the process. This website enabled participants to view the presentation graphics and comment online on the proposed design.

All comments and opinions were recorded by the design team and synthesized into major themes and ideas voiced by the participants during the listening sessions. These major themes and ideas largely reinforced the input received by Midtown Indianapolis Inc., during their 2010 initiative. These comments directly help shape the design concepts and the master plan.

Invited Stakeholders and Participants:

- MLK Community Center
- North United Methodist Church
- Tarkington Tower
- 40 North Tower
- Midtown Indianapolis Inc.
- Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association
- Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association
- Meridian Street Foundation
- Mapleton-Fall Creek Development Corporation
- Watson-McCord/Historic Watson
- Crown Hill Development Corporation
- Indianapolis Museum of Art
- Butler University
- Children's Museum
- Indiana State Fairgrounds
- Central Indiana Community Foundation
- Indiana Landmarks
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Public Works
- Indy Parks & Recreation
- Department of Economic Development
- Department of Metropolitan Development
- Mayor's Office
- City County Council
- Parks Board
- General Public and Community Residents

Community Input Received By:

1. Stakeholder Interview Sessions
    a. Park Neighbors
    b. Community Groups
    c. Potential Partners
    d. City Employees

2. Open Public Session

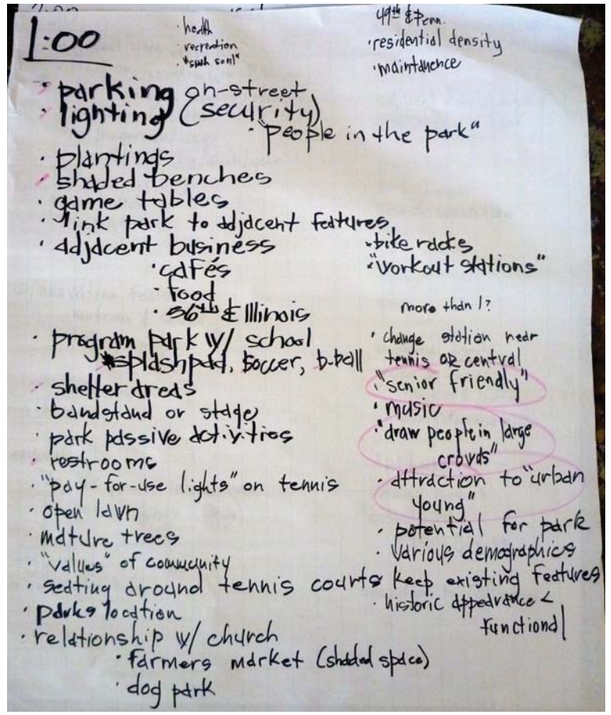
3. Emails, phone calls and letters to give input

The Design of Tarkington Park should incorporate these Major Themes....

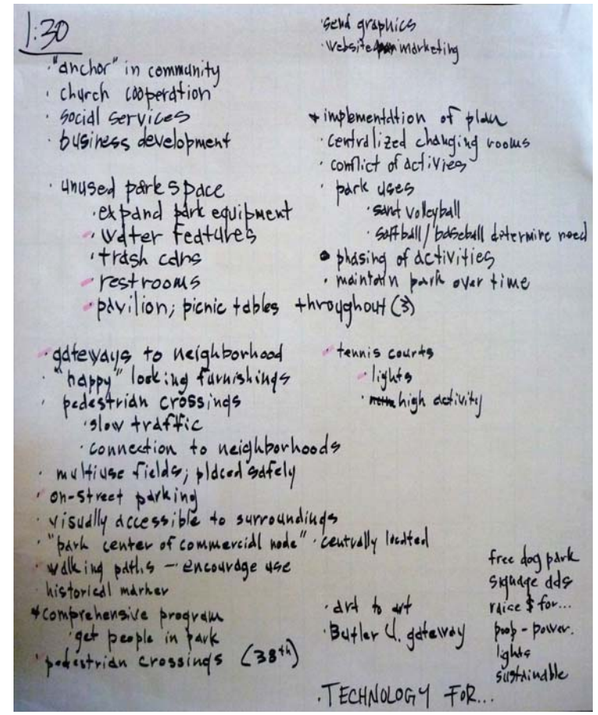
- Have a Distinctive Sense of Place
- Provide a unique urban park experience
- Build upon and support ongoing efforts of Midtown
- Celebrate Booth Tarkington & Edward Pierre
- Be welcoming to all ages & user groups
- Celebrate Diversity of the Community
- Incorporate Public Art and Programs
- Build Partnerships with the Farmers Market, the Church, MLK Center, Young audiences, others
- Inspire the creation of Friends of Tarkington Park
- Green Infrastructure

Design features of Tarkington Park should include....

- Innovative, Modern Playground
- More Shelters & Picnic Space
- Interesting Walking Paths & Circuits
- Multi - Purpose Events Lawn
- Performance Space
- Water Features, Creative Splash Pads, Interactive Water Elements
- Centralized Restroom Facilities
- Urban Dog Park
- Art Integration & Programs
- Drinking Water
- Year Round Facilities & Activities
- More Shaded Sitting Areas
- More Trees & Attractive Landscape
- Wi-fi Connectivity
- Tennis Courts
- Additional Basketball Courts
- Lighting
- Parking
- Pedestrian Connectivity/Safe Access
- Traffic Calming
- Traffic Signal at 40th & Meridian Street
- Views into the park



Documentation of Session 1



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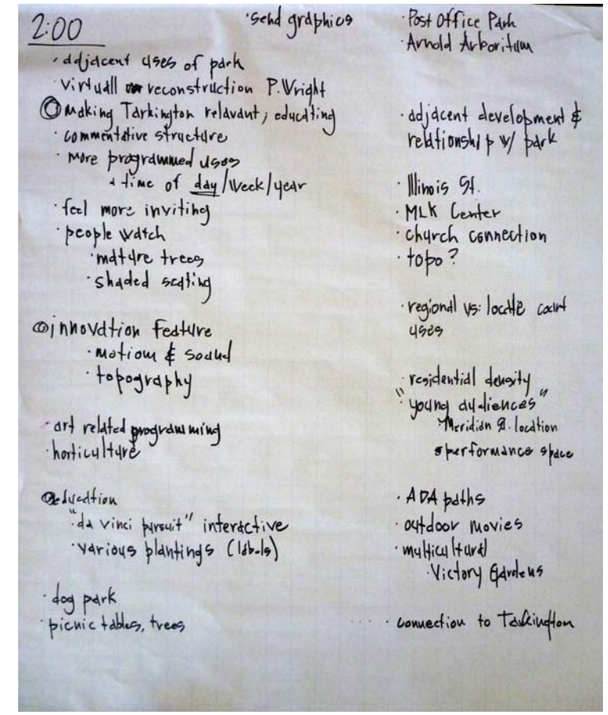

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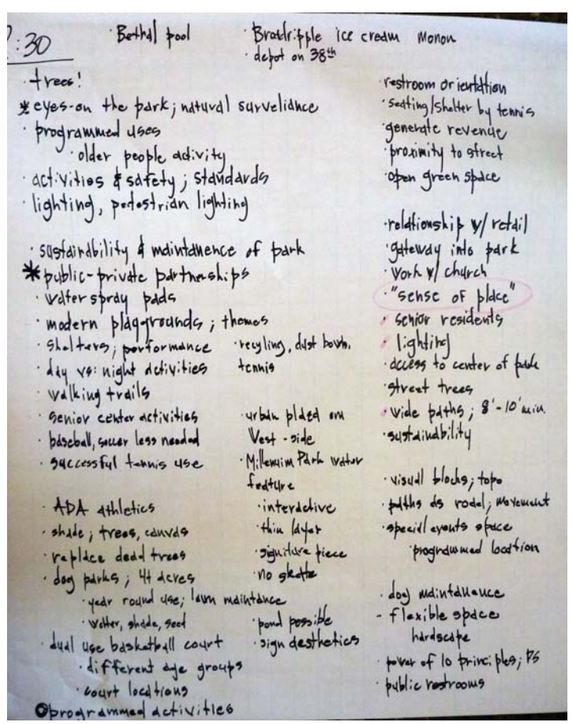

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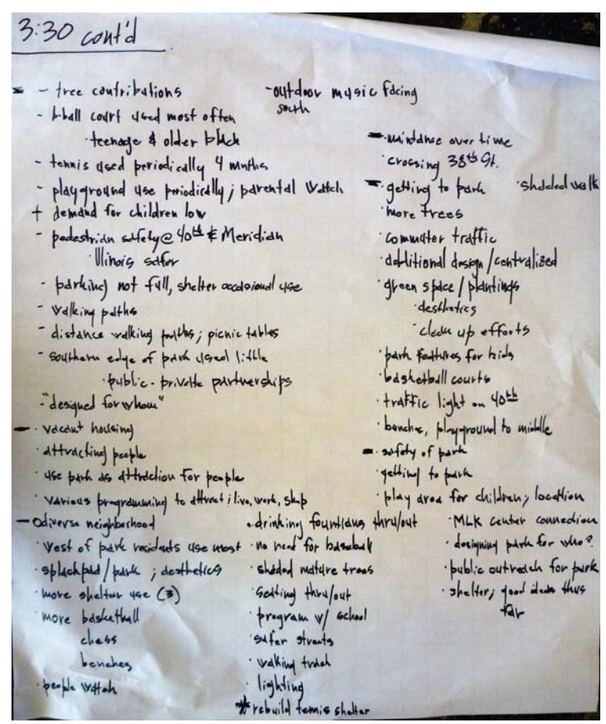

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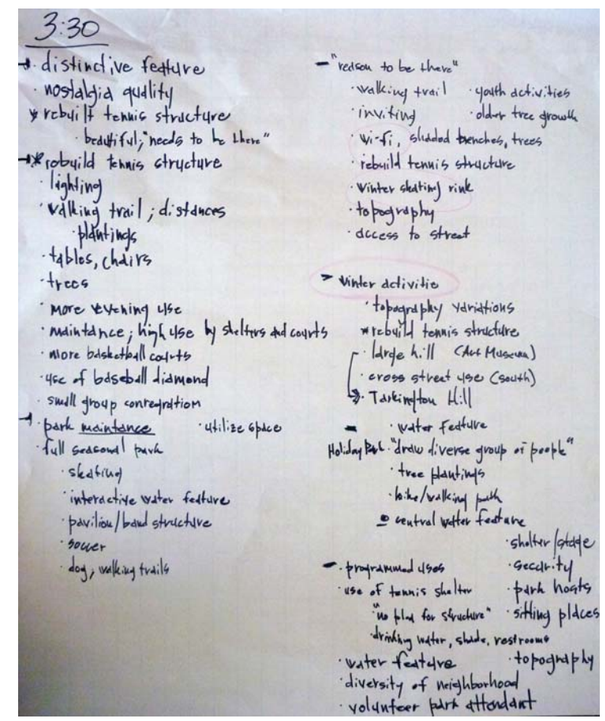

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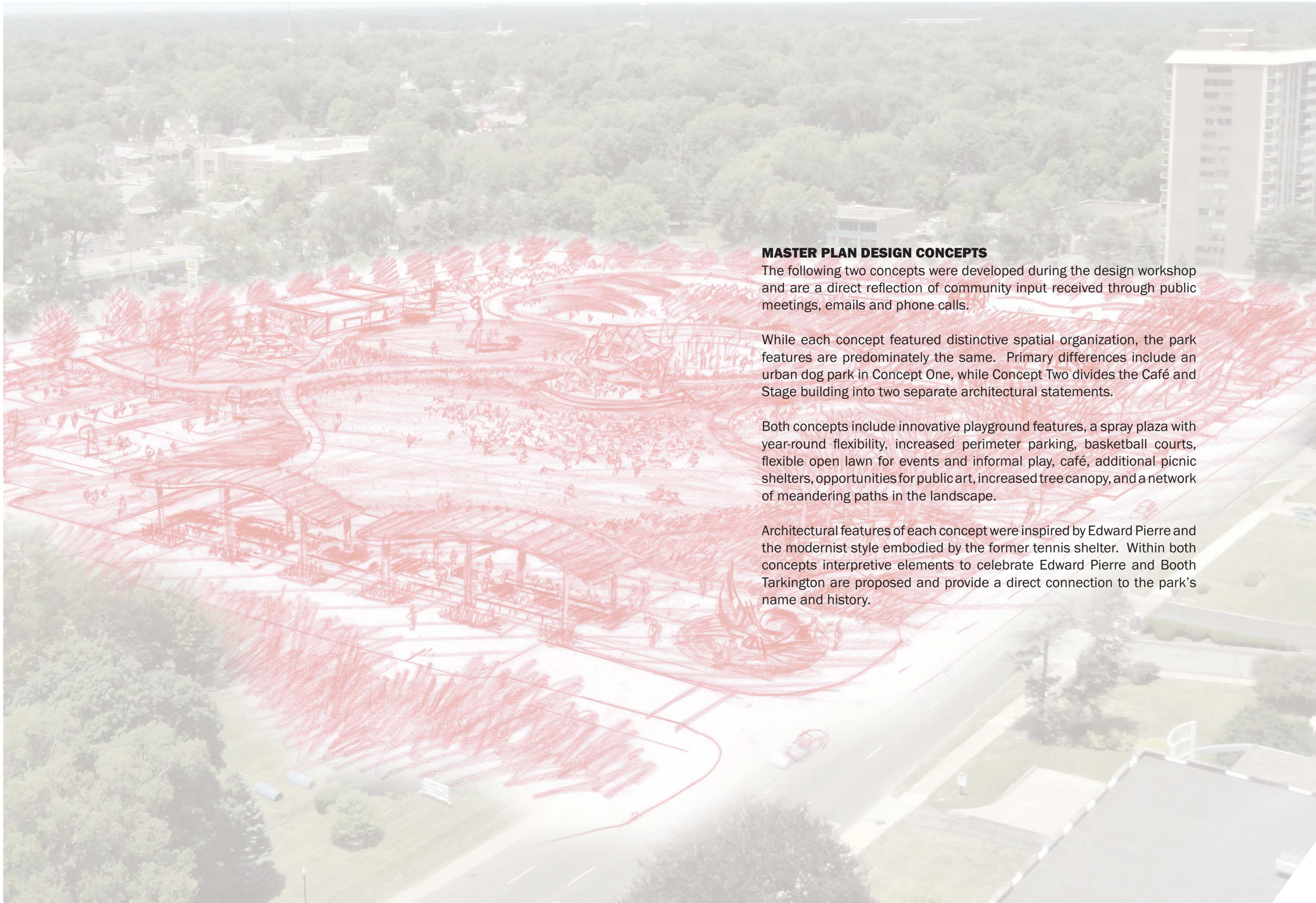


MASTER PLAN DESIGN CONCEPTS

The following two concepts were developed during the design workshop and are a direct reflection of community input received through public meetings, emails and phone calls.

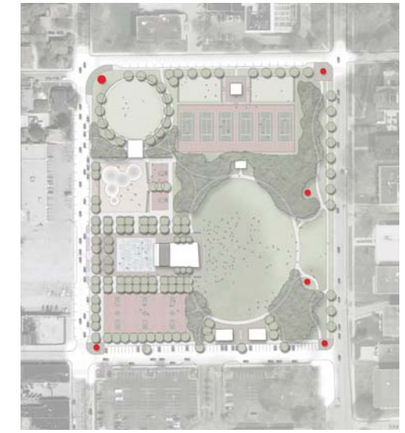
While each concept featured distinctive spatial organization, the park features are predominately the same. Primary differences include an urban dog park in Concept One, while Concept Two divides the Café and Stage building into two separate architectural statements.

Both concepts include innovative playground features, a spray plaza with year-round flexibility, increased perimeter parking, basketball courts, flexible open lawn for events and informal play, café, additional picnic shelters, opportunities for public art, increased tree canopy, and a network of meandering paths in the landscape.

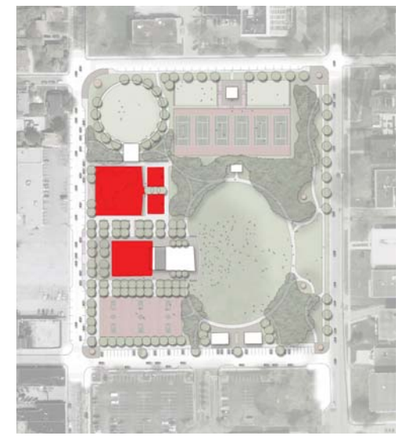
Architectural features of each concept were inspired by Edward Pierre and the modernist style embodied by the former tennis shelter. Within both concepts interpretive elements to celebrate Edward Pierre and Booth Tarkington are proposed and provide a direct connection to the park's name and history.

CONCEPT ONE | OVERALL SITE PLAN

Circulation

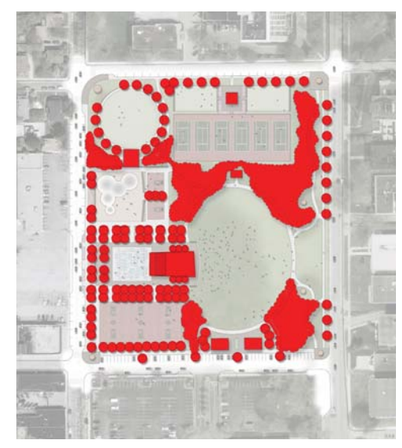


Public Art



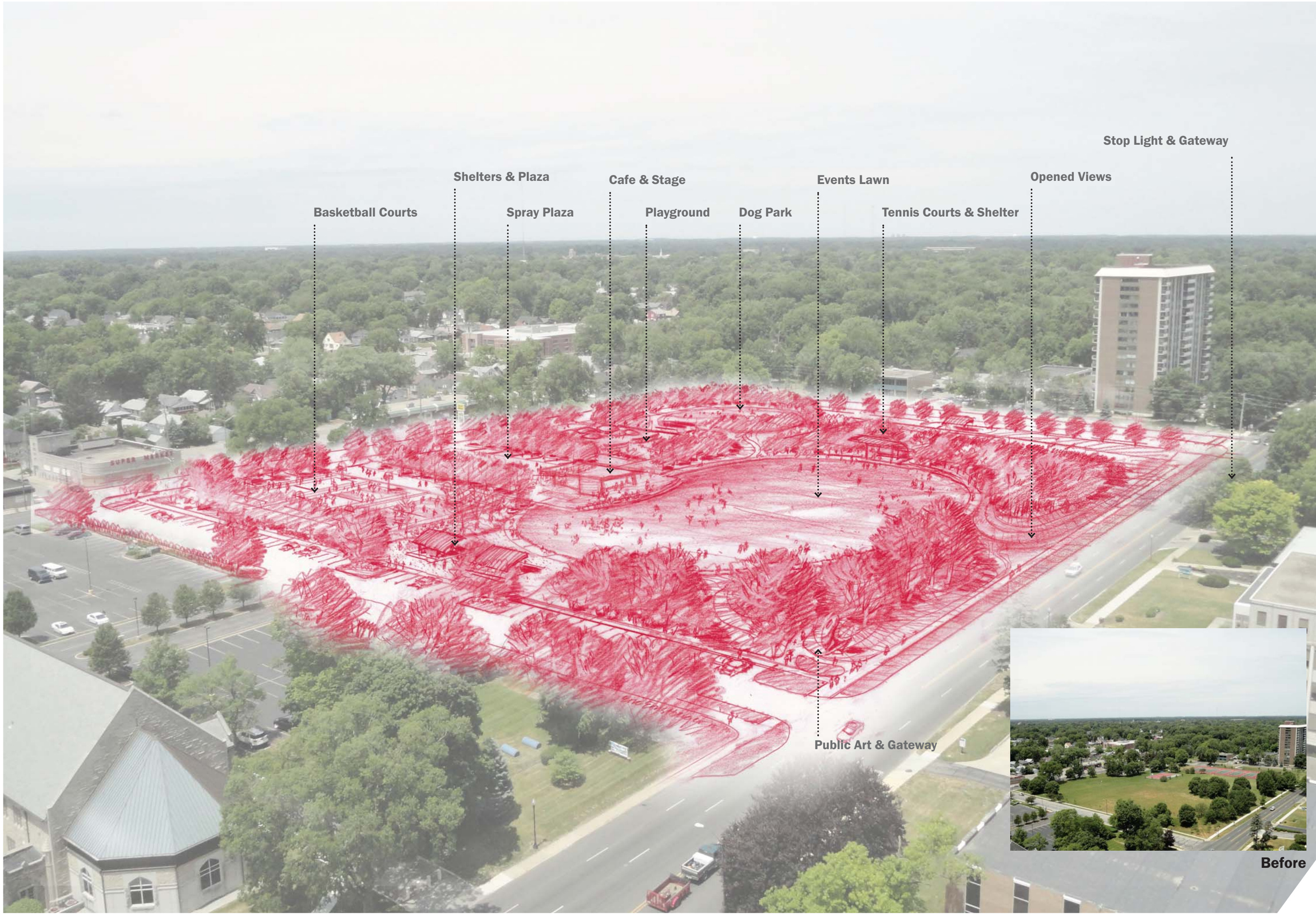
Structured Play Areas

Sports & Recreation



Shade

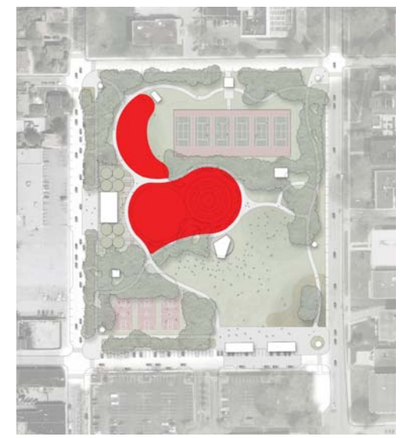
Shelters and Structures


Stop Light & Gateway
Shelters & Plaza
Cafe & Stage
Events Lawn
Opened Views
Basketball Courts
Spray Plaza
Playground
Dog Park
Tennis Courts & Shelter
Public Art & Gateway
Before

CONCEPT TWO | OVERALL SITE PLAN

Circulation

Public Art

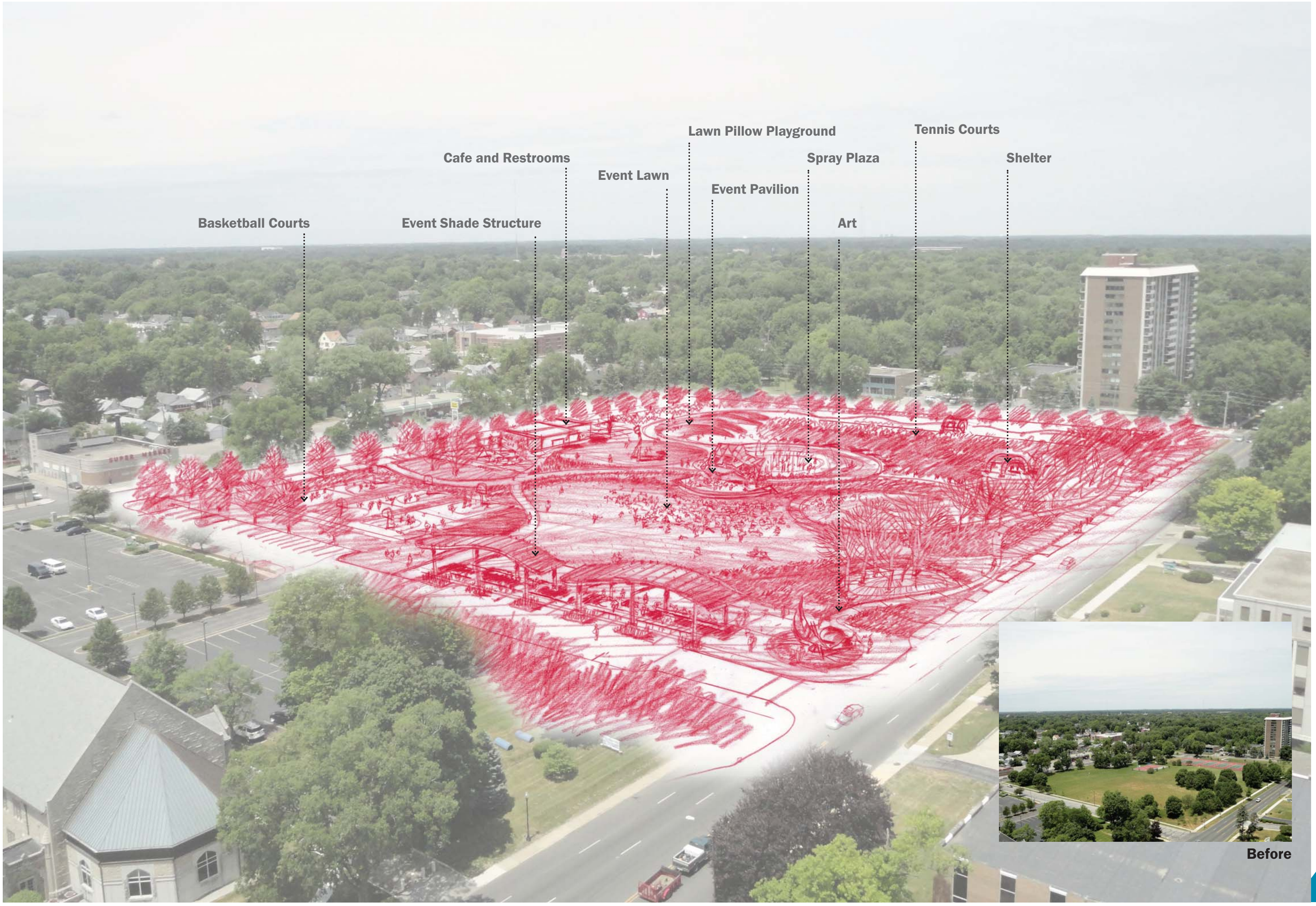


Structured Play Areas

Sports & Recreation

Shade

Shelters and Structures


Lawn Pillow Playground
Tennis Courts
Cafe and Restrooms
Spray Plaza
Shelter
Event Lawn
Event Pavilion
Basketball Courts
Event Shade Structure
Art
Before

Concept One | Pavilion Concept - Northwest View

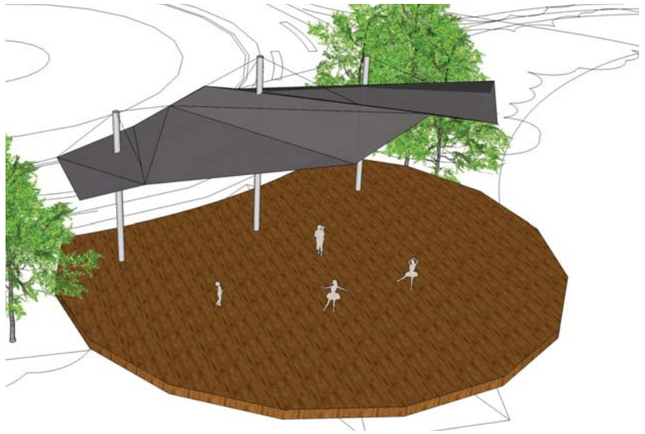
Concept One | Pavilion Concept - Northeast View

Concept One | Pavilion Concept - Southeast View

Concept Two | Cafe Concept - Northwest View

Concept Two | Cafe Concept - Southwest View

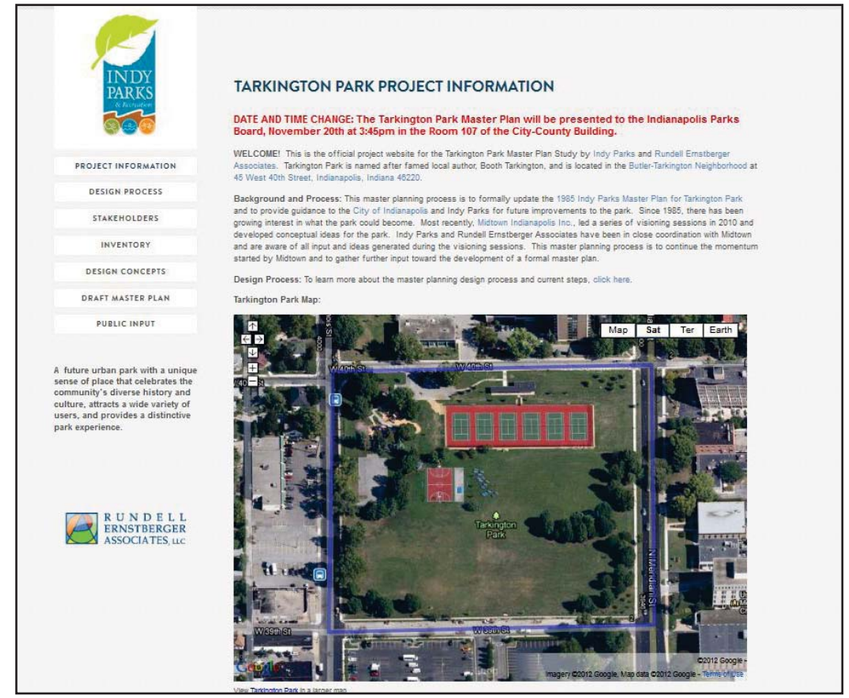
Concept Two | Cafe Concept - Southwest Aerial View



Concept Two | Pavilion Concept 'A'

Concept Two | Pavilion Concept 'B'

Concept Two | Pavilion Concept 'C'



INDY PARKS & Recreation

PROJECT INFORMATION
DESIGN PROCESS
STAKEHOLDERS
INVENTORY
DESIGN CONCEPTS
DRAFT MASTER PLAN
PUBLIC INPUT

A future urban park with a unique sense of place that celebrates the community's diverse history and culture, attracts a wide variety of users, and provides a distinctive park experience.

RUNDELL ERNSTBERGER ASSOCIATES, LLC

TARKINGTON PARK PROJECT INFORMATION

DATE AND TIME CHANGE: The Tarkington Park Master Plan will be presented to the Indianapolis Parks Board, November 20th at 3:45pm in the Room 107 of the City-County Building.

WELCOME! This is the official project website for the Tarkington Park Master Plan Study by Indy Parks and Rundell Ernstberger Associates. Tarkington Park is named after famed local author, Booth Tarkington, and is located in the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood at 45 West 40th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46220.

Background and Process: This master planning process is to formally update the 1985 Indy Parks Master Plan for Tarkington Park and to provide guidance to the City of Indianapolis and Indy Parks for future improvements to the park. Since 1985, there has been growing interest in what the park could become. Most recently, Midtown Indianapolis Inc., led a series of visioning sessions in 2010 and developed conceptual ideas for the park. Indy Parks and Rundell Ernstberger Associates have been in close coordination with Midtown and are aware of all input and ideas generated during the visioning sessions. This master planning process is to continue the momentum started by Midtown and to gather further input toward the development of a formal master plan.

Design Process: To learn more about the master planning design process and current steps, click here.

Tarkington Park Map:

View Tarkington Park in a larger map

Project Website

Public Input on Park Design Concepts:

1. Public Presentation of Concepts (July 16th)
   a. Stakeholders
   b. General Public
2. Project Website (www.reasite.com/tarkingtonpark)
3. Media Coverage
4. Emails, phone calls, letters and website comments
5. Additional Meetings with Stakeholder Groups and City Departments

Major Themes from Public Comments on Design Concepts:

- Concept One is preferred
- Reshape mounds for views - Don't completely remove mounds
- Open view at the corner of 39th Street and Meridian Street
- Cafe and Stage should become separate buildings
- Cafe should sit along Illinois Street and be operated by a private entity
- Open lawn area should be flexible and accommodate a variety of uses
- Concerts, movies and plays would be programmed in partnership with the local community
- Only two basketball courts are needed
- More security and lighting
- Integrate bus stop and bike lanes along Illinois Street
- Plan for ongoing park management and maintenance

Master Plan Summary

The final master plan is a representation of the public input received on the concept master plans and the draft master plan. Major features of the plan include:

The Central Plaza Space: This is the central hub of activity within the park and includes the Café and Stage structures. The café structure sits along Illinois Street and engages the streetscape enhanced for increased visibility, access and walkability. The plaza space around the café provides adequate seating for patrons and park users. To the east of the café is the spray plaza. This dynamic, interactive water feature acts as an inviting, architectural element within the park as well as a refreshing play feature on hot summer days. The spray plaza space transforms into an ice skating rink for year-round activities within the park. The spray plaza is engaged on the east end by a multipurpose park structure containing park restrooms, picnic and sun shelter, and an events stage. This all-in-one structure can be used by Indy Parks for vendor space, movies and concerts in the park, and picnic shelter rentals for parties and family reunions. The design of these structures is inspired by Edward Pierre and his legacy within the park and includes interpretive elements for Pierre and Booth Tarkington integrated into their design.

Open Lawn: At the center of the park lies a large open lawn, or greensward, to serve a variety of programmed and informal uses. The 2.25 acre lawn is large enough to contain a sports field and could be used for informal soccer, baseball, and football, as well as Frisbee, kite flying, picnics, and community gatherings. When a performance or movie takes place on the stage, the lawn can be used for seating. A graceful terrace from the central plaza engages the lawn on the west, while an approximately 1/4 mile walking circuit wraps the greensward and connects with the other walking paths throughout the park.

Urban Dog Park: A first of its kind for Indianapolis, this unique space for sociable canines and their owners would have an undulating artificial turf surface that can withstand heavy use and would be rinsed daily to provide a clean play environment for both canines and humans. Some of the large existing trees are preserved for shade, supplemented by a small picnic shelter. A short walking loop provides the ability to use the space for walking exercises and training. A fence enclosure surrounds the dog park, accessed by electronic key - a paid service similar to Indy Park's other dog parks. A series of dog play structures are included to enhance the canine recreational experience.

Playground: The playground is shifted south, away from the busy 40th and Illinois Street intersection. Surrounded by lush plantings and seatwalls to provide an abundance of shaded seating opportunities for watchful parents, the playground features a highly innovative play experience unlike any playground in the region, with imaginative slides, climbing mounds and walls, rope structures, and swings. Two half-court basketball courts sit just east of the playground give younger kids another recreational opportunity within the safe environment of the playground. The playground provides opportunities for all ages and abilities, with 2-5 year-old, 6-12 year-old, and ADA play opportunities.

Northern Shelter and Recreation Area: Along 40th Street, the master plan proposes a new recreational area to serve the nearby apartment communities developed around the recently restored tennis courts. As a gateway to the tennis center, a community gathering space with a picnic shelter, plaza space with seatwalls, and a drinking fountain sets between two new recreational court spaces, programmed for a combination of bocce ball courts, badminton courts and sand volleyball courts.

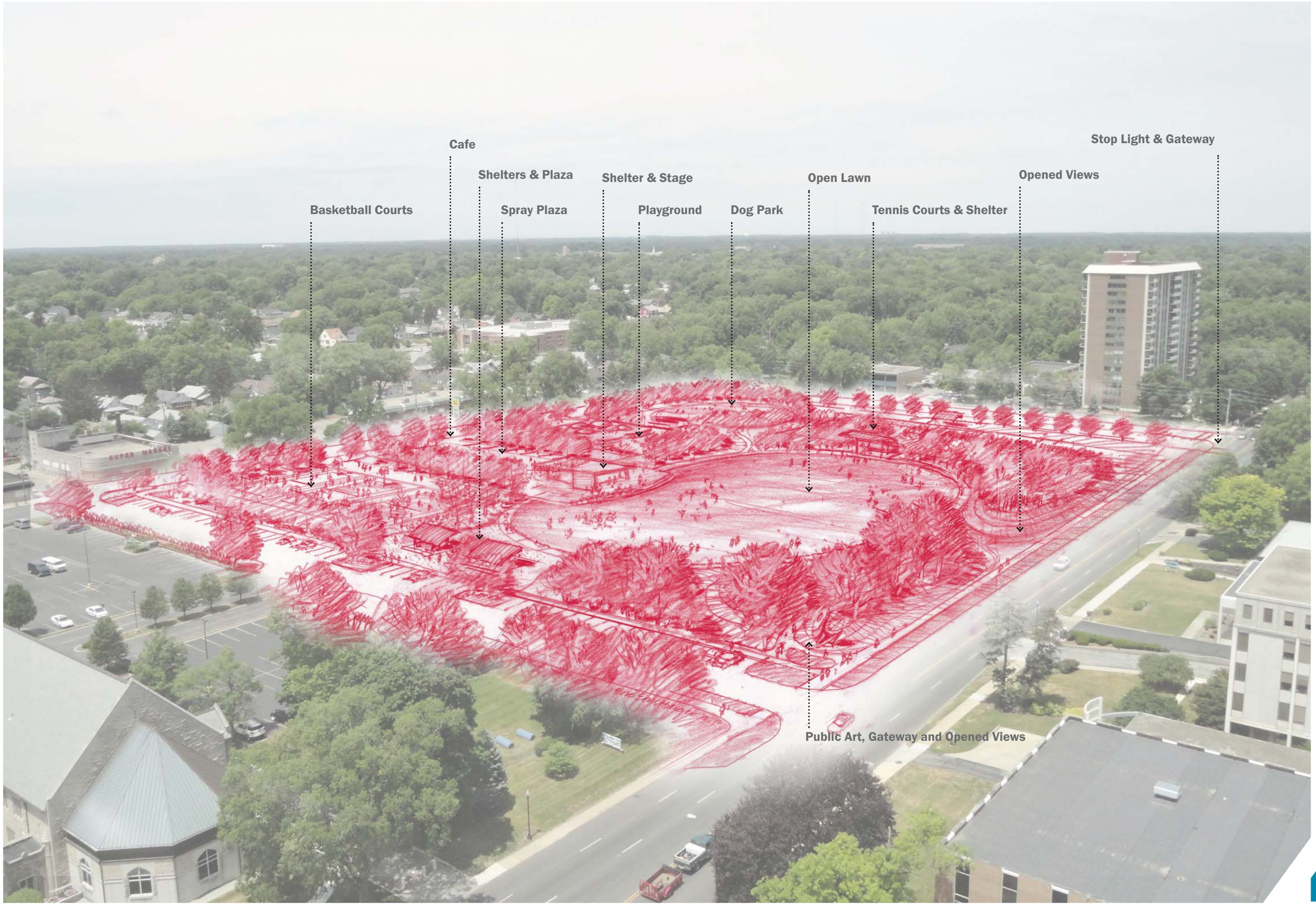
39th Street Farmer's Market Space: Along 39th Street, two multipurpose shelters prominently occupy a plaza on axis with the open lawn. These shelters will serve as the centerpiece for the Farmer's Market activities, as well as community picnic shelters. 39th Street is designed to be easily closed to vehicular traffic during market days or other community events.

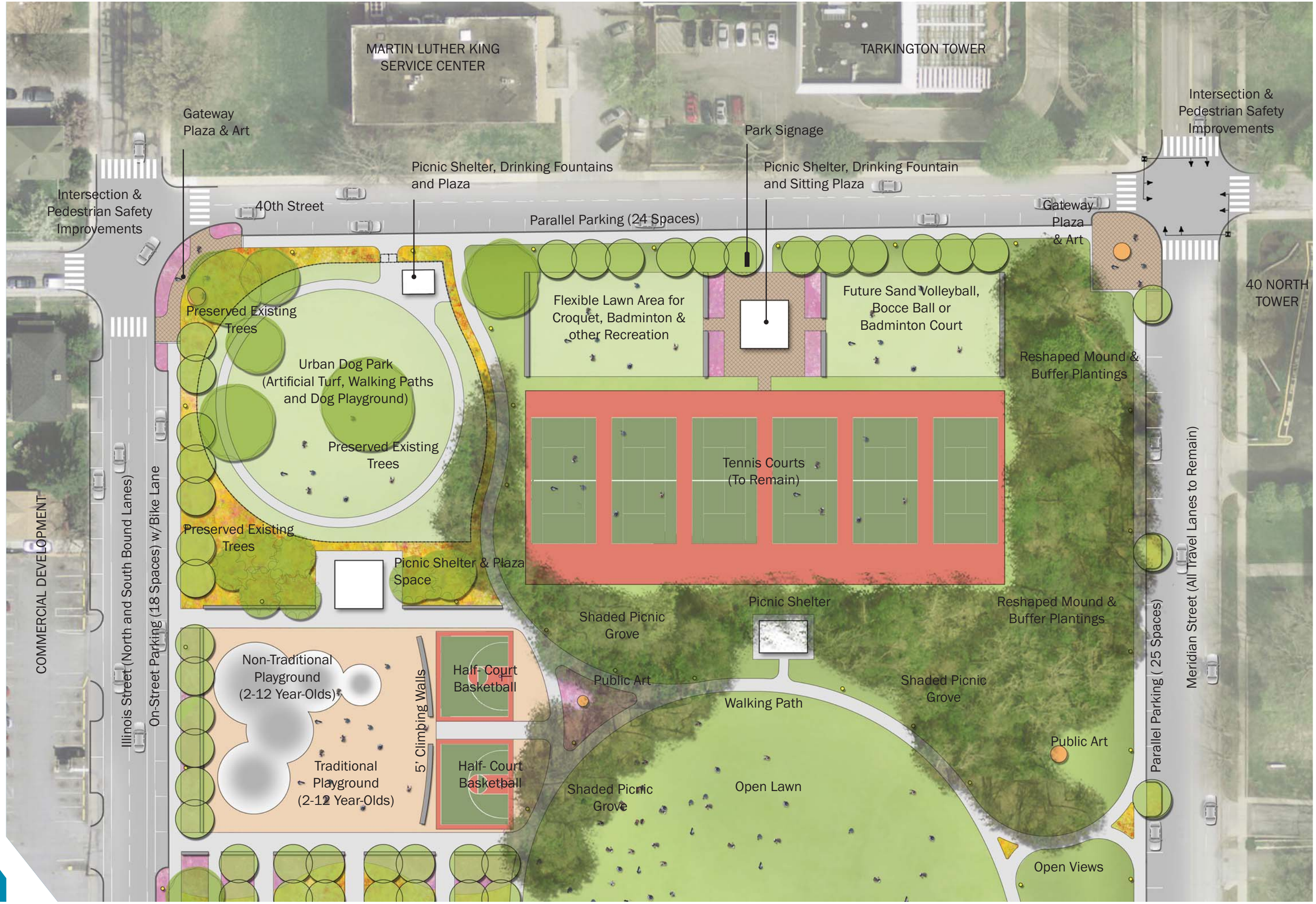
Perimeter Treatments: New sidewalks are proposed along all edges of the park to facilitate pedestrian access. Bump-outs (or curb extensions) are proposed at all intersections to foster safe pedestrian crossing and provide traffic calming. A signalized intersection is proposed at the 40th and Meridian Street intersection to help pedestrians from the neighborhoods east of Meridian safely cross the street and slow traffic. All parking has been relocated from the interior of the park to its exterior edges along the surrounding streets, allowing for greater visibility and security, while increasing available parking from 46 spaces to 136 spaces. Along Illinois Street, a bus shelter and integrated bike lanes are included. The existing berm along Meridian Street will be reshaped, inviting views into the park by commuters and pedestrians.

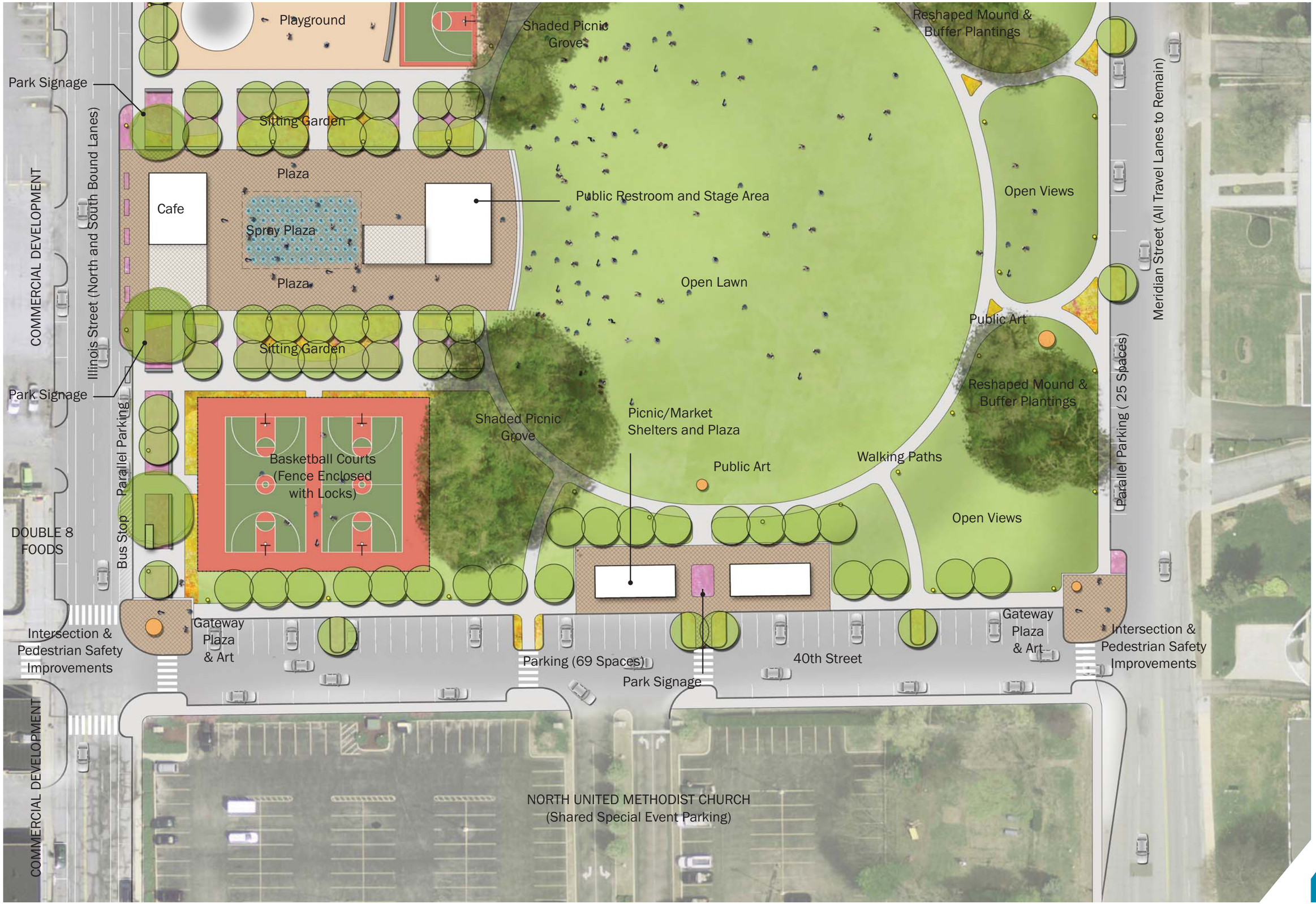
Public Art: A major sculpture piece is proposed as a gateway into the park at each corner. The provision of these artworks is envisioned as a partnership with the Indianapolis Museum of Art and other local arts organizations and could potentially occur on a rotating basis. Other artworks would be placed at major pedestrian paths and integrated as smaller pieces throughout the park's landscape.

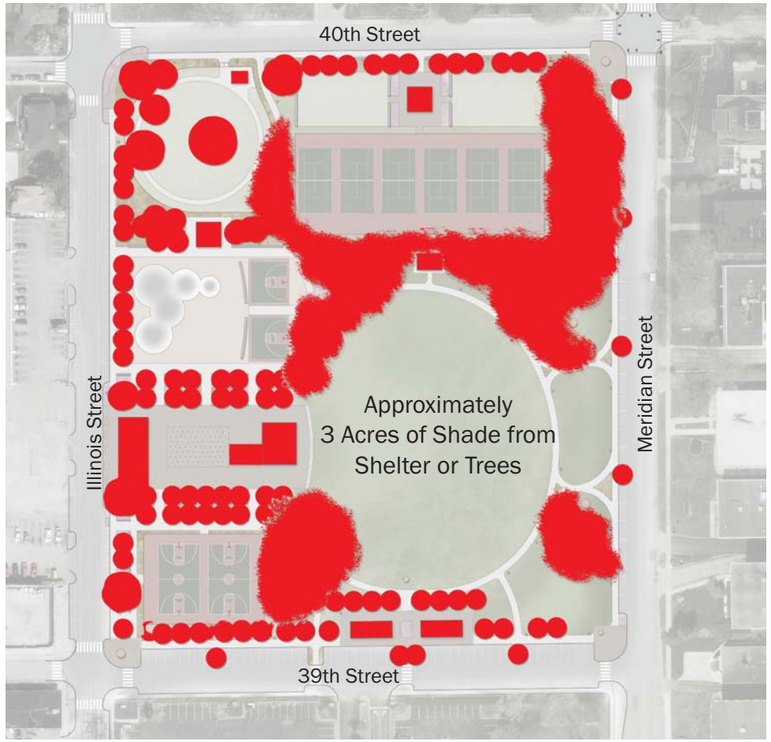
Sustainability: Aligned with the project goal of establishing a model for urban parks in Indianapolis, the integration of sustainable infrastructure and building solutions is a key component of the proposed master plan, Low impact development practices, including green roofs, stormwater planters, permeable pavers, storm water collection and reuse, native plantings, water efficient irrigation systems, LED lighting and recycled materials will be employed to reduce the park's energy consumption and promote green development in our community.

Gateway & Pedestrian Safety Improvements
40th Street
Park Signage
On-Street Parking
Gateway, Pedestrian Safety Improvements and Traffic Signal
Shelter
Flexible Lawn Area
Flexible Lawn Area
Urban Dog Park
Shelter
Tennis Courts (To Remain)
Reshaped Mound & Buffer
Shelter
Shelter
Reshaped Mound & Art
Illinois Street
On-Street Parking w/Bike Lane
Playground
Park Signage
Cafe
Spray Plaza
Public Restroom & Shelter
Stage Area
Open Lawn
On-Street Parking
Meridian Street
Park Signage
Basketball Courts
Bus Stop
Reshaped Mound & Open Views
Market/Picnic Shelter & Plaza
Gateway & Pedestrian Safety Improvements
39th Street
Park Signage
On-Street Parking
Gateway & Pedestrian Safety Improvements

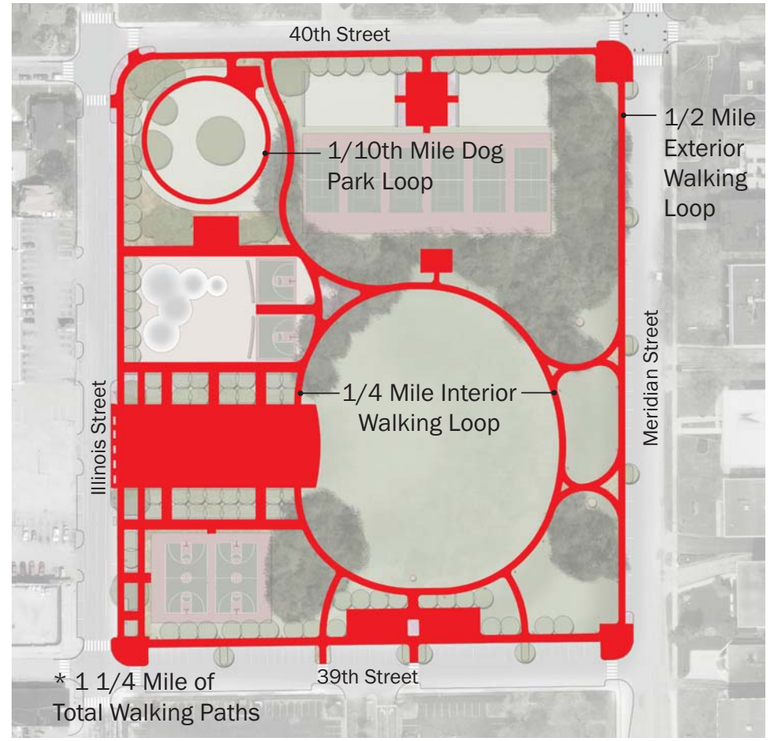

Cafe
Stop Light & Gateway
Shelters & Plaza
Shelter & Stage
Open Lawn
Opened Views
Basketball Courts
Spray Plaza
Playground
Dog Park
Tennis Courts & Shelter
Public Art, Gateway and Opened Views


MARTIN LUTHER KING SERVICE CENTER
TARKINGTON TOWER
Gateway Plaza & Art
Park Signage
Intersection & Pedestrian Safety Improvements
Picnic Shelter, Drinking Fountains and Plaza
Picnic Shelter, Drinking Fountain and Sitting Plaza
Intersection & Pedestrian Safety Improvements
40th Street
Parallel Parking (24 Spaces)
Gateway Plaza & Art
Flexible Lawn Area for Croquet, Badminton & other Recreation
Future Sand Volleyball, Bocce Ball or Badminton Court
40 NORTH TOWER
Preserved Existing Trees
Urban Dog Park (Artificial Turf, Walking Paths and Dog Playground)
Reshaped Mound & Buffer Plantings
Preserved Existing Trees
Tennis Courts (To Remain)
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Illinois Street (North and South Bound Lanes)
On-Street Parking (18 Spaces) w/Bike Lane
Preserved Existing Trees
Picnic Shelter & Plaza Space
Meridian Street (All Travel Lanes to Remain)
Parallel Parking (25 Spaces)
Picnic Shelter
Shaded Picnic Grove
Reshaped Mound & Buffer Plantings
Non-Traditional Playground (2-12 Year-Olds)
Half- Court Basketball
Public Art
Shaded Picnic Grove
Walking Path
5' Climbing Walls
Public Art
Traditional Playground (2-12 Year-Olds)
Half- Court Basketball
Shaded Picnic Grove
Open Lawn
Open Views

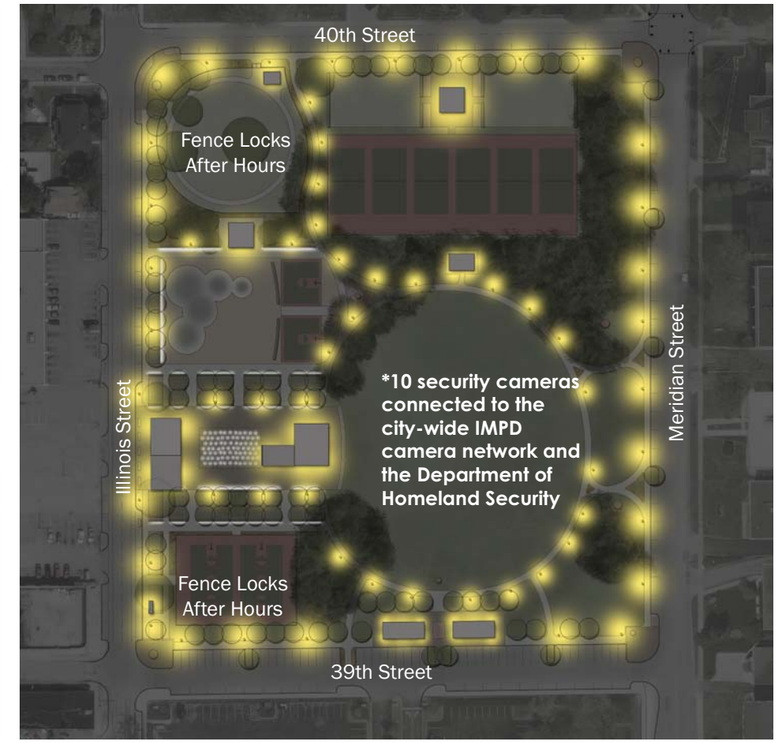

Playground
Shaded Picnic Grove
Reshaped Mound & Buffer Plantings
Park Signage
Sitting Garden
Plaza
Cafe
Spray Plaza
Plaza
Sitting Garden
Public Restroom and Stage Area
Open Views
Open Lawn
Public Art
Reshaped Mound & Buffer Plantings
Park Signage
Shaded Picnic Grove
Picnic/Market Shelters and Plaza
Public Art
Walking Paths
Open Views
Basketball Courts (Fence Enclosed with Locks)
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Illinois Street (North and South Bound Lanes)
Parallel Parking
Bus Stop
DOUBLE 8 FOODS
Meridian Street (All Travel Lanes to Remain)
Parallel Parking (25 Spaces)
Intersection & Pedestrian Safety Improvements
Gateway Plaza & Art
Parking (69 Spaces)
Park Signage
40th Street
Gateway Plaza & Art
Intersection & Pedestrian Safety Improvements
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
NORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
(Shared Special Event Parking)



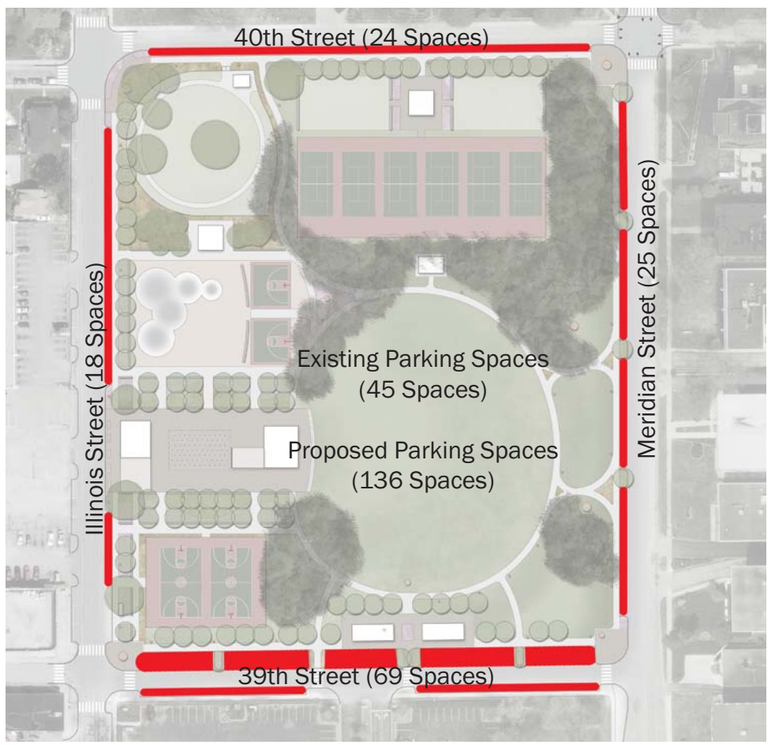
Shade



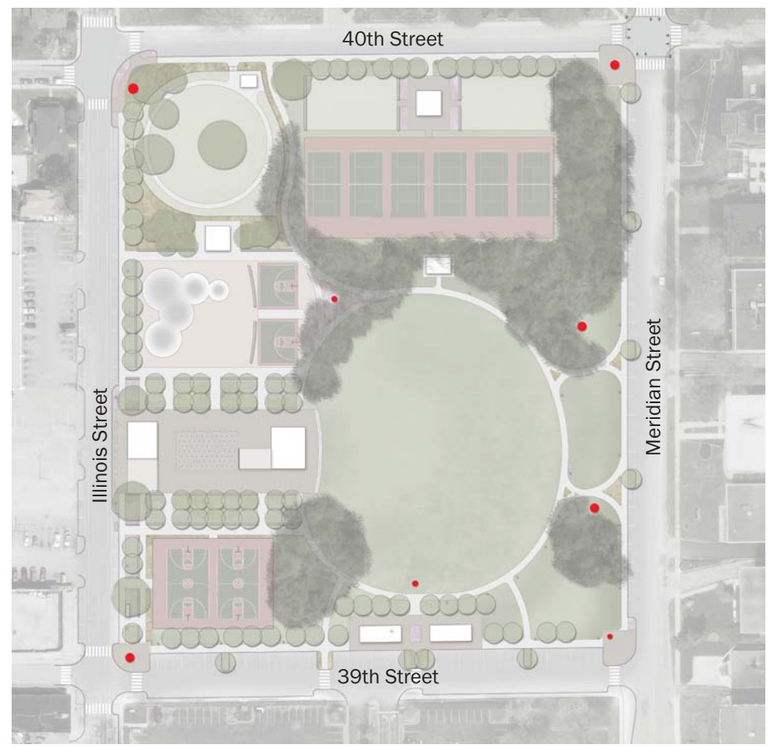
Circulation



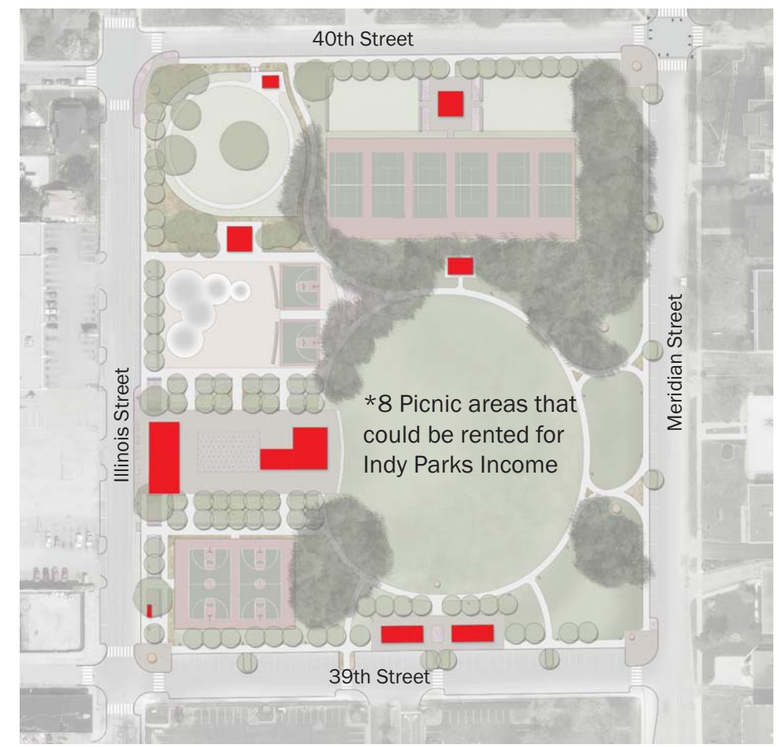
Lighting and Security



Parking



Public Art



Shelters and Structures

Central Plaza
As part of the master plan study, two specific structures were identified to be programmed and designed. One is a café pavilion that will be in operation the entire year and the second, a multi-purpose picnic and performance shelter that will also house the main restrooms for the park. Both structures will frame and support a spray park that will also have the ability to be converted to a skating rink in the winter time. The architecture is intended to be an extension of the ground plane that continually folds up, around, and over each structure. With the addition of green roofs, the buildings and landscape become one.

Café Building
The café structure is located parallel to Illinois Street and serves as the Park's western gateway. This view shows how the ground plane extends up and over the café, framing the interior space but also providing shade and shelter for outdoor dining and seating areas. The strong horizontality and large overhangs pay homage to the park pavilions originally designed by Edward Pierre.

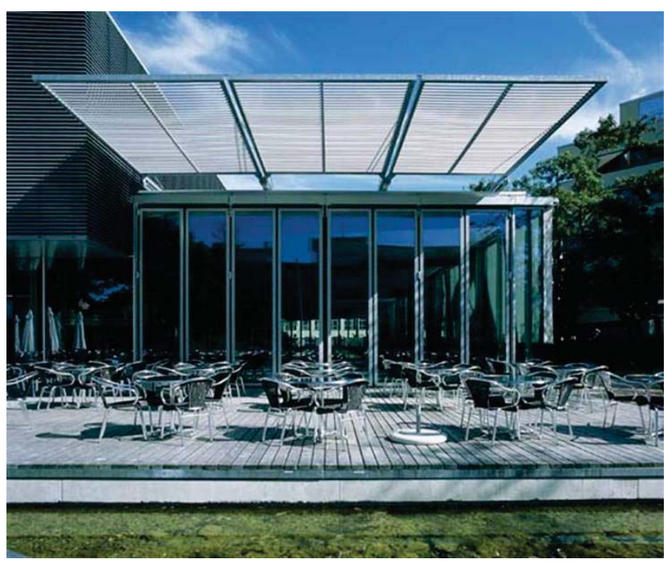
Multi-Purpose Structure
The multi-purpose structure houses the parks main restrooms but also serves as a picnic shelter that can become a performance shelter. A series of sliding and pivoting wall planes will provide some flexibility for performance settings but also provide enhanced acoustics. In this view, you can see how the extended ground plane begins as the stage platform and then folds up and over, framing the performance area.

Restroom and Shelter
As the ground plane folds to frame the stage, it turns and extends to the west to become integrated with the spray park. The extension becomes an open shade structure that also frames views to other areas of the park. Restrooms and a snack bar face the spay park and are integrated under the fold.

Tom Leader Studio and HKW | Railroad Park, Birmingham Alabama

Bus Shelter, | Wake Technical Community College | Raleigh, NC

Virginia Tech School of Architecture + Design | Covington Farmer's Market



Best Design Home | Carmenzind Evolution
Sieman's Restaurants, Zurich, Switzerland

Ester Havel | Light4Space | Park Café, J.M. Hurbana Park, Slovakia

Hewitt Studios | Straw Bale Café, Herefordshire, UK

Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects | City Garden, St Louis, Missouri

Rundell Ernstberger Associates | Main Street Square, Rapid City, South Dakota

Hargreaves Associates | Cumberland Park, Nashville, Tennessee

Human Nature | Washington Park, Cincinnati, Ohio

Ross Recreation | Landscape Structures Evo

Playworks | LaLa Gnar Photography | Assiniboine Park

Landscape Structures Mobius

Hargreaves Associates | Cumberland Park, Nashville, Tennessee

Takano Landscape Planning | Showa Memorial Park

Hargreaves Associates | Cumberland Park, Nashville, Tennessee

Mark Di Suvero | Aesope's Fables

Type A | Align

Bernard Venet| 2 Arcs

Zaha Pavilion | Burnham's Pavilion

Rundell Ernstberger Associates | Campus Martius Park | Detroit, Michigan

Rundell Ernstberger Associates | Campus Martius Park | Detroit, Michigan

Rundell Ernstberger Associates | Main Street Square | Rapid City, South Dakota

Rundell Ernstberger Associates | Main Street Square | Rapid City, South Dakota

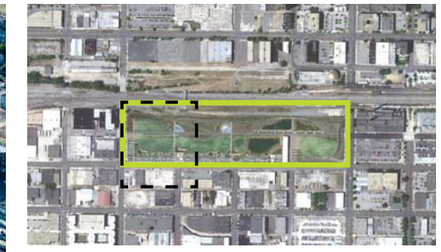
Tarkington Park
Size: 650’x750’, 10.5 acres

Discovery Green - Houston, Texas
Size: 800’ x 900’, 16.5 acres
Budget: $125 Million

Features: Splashpad and fountian, dog runs, lake, stage, promenade, jogging trail, art, and native gardens.

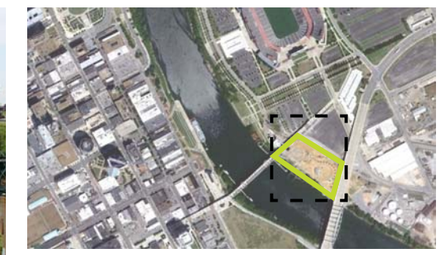
City Garden - St. Louis, Missouri
Size: 250’ x 600’, 3.5 acres
Budget: $30 Million

Features: Waterwall and splash pad, outdoor cafes, art, rain gardens, and extension of mall.



Railroad Park - Birmingham, Alabama
Size: 425’ x 1850’, 18 acres
Budget: $17.5 Million

Features: Open lawn, terraced seating areas, lake, walking pionts, covered plaza, skate park, and playgrounds.

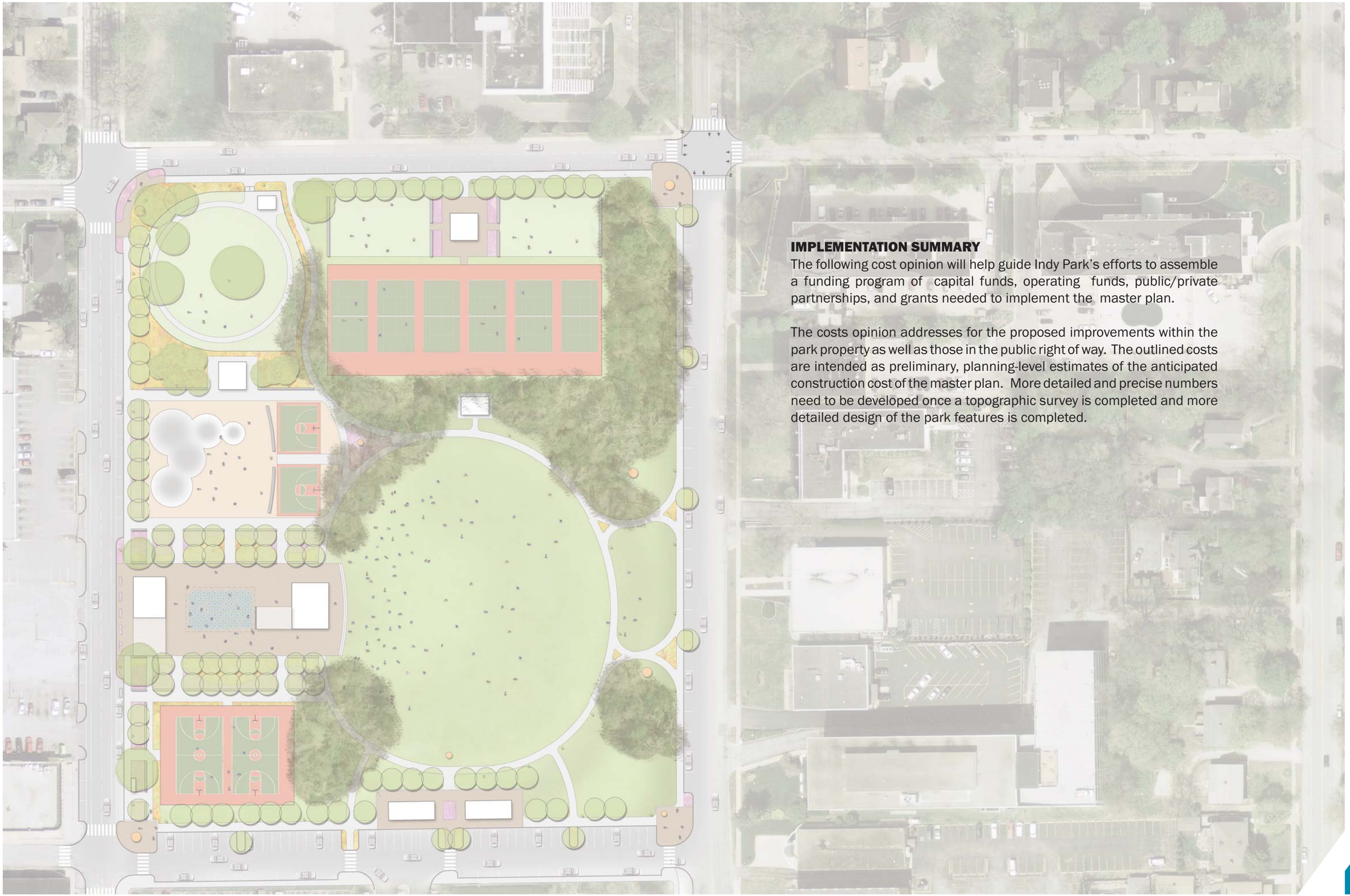


Cumberland Park - Nashville, Tennessee
Size: 700’ x 375’, 6.5 acres
Budget: $11 Million

Features: Interactive playground, esplanade, trail system, canopy and lawn.

Washington Park - Cincinnati, Ohio
Size: 425’ x 820’, 8 acres
Budget: $48 Million

Features: Parking garage, stage, event lawn, urban dog park, interactive fountain, public art and playground



IMPLEMENTATION SUMMARY

The following cost opinion will help guide Indy Park's efforts to assemble a funding program of capital funds, operating funds, public/private partnerships, and grants needed to implement the master plan.

The costs opinion addresses for the proposed improvements within the park property as well as those in the public right of way. The outlined costs are intended as preliminary, planning-level estimates of the anticipated construction cost of the master plan. More detailed and precise numbers need to be developed once a topographic survey is completed and more detailed design of the park features is completed.

Cost Opinion

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
DEMOLITION / FACILITIES and CONTROLS				
Site Clearing of Vegetation	1	LS	$ 20,000.00	$ 20,000.00
Site Demolition	1	LS	$ 50,000.00	$ 50,000.00
				$ 70,000.00
NEW CONSTRUCTION				
EARTHWORK				
Erosion Control	1	LS	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00
Excavation (General Cut and Fill)	10,000	CY	$ 10.00	$ 100,000.00
Topsoil	500	CY	$ 35.00	$ 17,500.00
				$ 127,500.00
SITE UTILITIES				
Sanitary Sewer - Stage & Café	1	LS	$ 80,000.00	$ 80,000.00
Site Electrical	1	LS	$ 150,000.00	$ 150,000.00
Storm Drainage	1	LS	$ 100,000.00	$ 150,000.00
Water Service	1	LS	$ 40,000.00	$ 40,000.00
				$ 420,000.00
PAVEMENTS				
Asphalt Vehicular Pavement	34,000	SF	$ 4.50	$ 153,000.00
Concrete Band	600	LF	$ 15.00	$ 9,000.00
Speciality Pavers	40,000	SF	$ 12.00	$ 480,000.00
Concrete Curb	2,930	LF	$ 15.00	$ 43,950.00
Concrete Pavement Sidewalks	40,000	SF	$ 5.00	$ 200,000.00
Concrete Terrace Steps	300	SF	$ 10.00	$ 3,000.00
Dog Park Artifical Turf	23,000	SF	$ 8.00	$ 184,000.00
Basketball Court	3	EA	$ 25,000.00	$ 75,000.00
				$ 1,147,950.00
STRUCTURES				
Café Building	1	EA	$ 562,500.00	$ 562,500.00
Stage & Restroom Building	1	EA	$ 695,600.00	$ 695,600.00
50x20' Market Shelters	2	EA	$ 115,000.00	$ 230,000.00
30x30' Picnic Shelter	2	EA	$ 60,000.00	$ 120,000.00
20x30' Picnic Shelter	1	EA	$ 40,000.00	$ 40,000.00
15x20' Dog Park Shelter	1	EA	$ 20,000.00	$ 20,000.00
5x15' Bus Shelter	1	EA	$ 20,000.00	$ 20,000.00
Seatwalls	890	LF	$ 300.00	$ 267,000.00
Playground	1	LS	$ 400,000.00	$ 400,000.00
				$ 2,355,100.00
AQUATIC				
Interactive Fountain and System	1	LS	$ 800,000.00	$ 800,000.00
				$ 800,000.00
SIGNAGE				
Park Sign - Primary	3	EA	$ 10,000.00	$ 30,000.00
Wayfinding Signage	10	EA	$ 5,000.00	$ 50,000.00
Interpretive Signage	5	EA	$ 8,000.00	$ 40,000.00
Booth Tarkington & Edward Pierre Interpretive Walls	2	EA	$ 15,000.00	$ 30,000.00
				$ 150,000.00
SITE LIGHTING & SPECIALITY ELECTRICAL				
16' Light Pole & Foundation *(Single Luminaire)*	40	EA	$ 5,000.00	$ 200,000.00
LED Speciality Architectural Lighting	150	LF	$ 1,000.00	$ 150,000.00
WIFI Connectivity	1	LS	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00
Security Cameras	10	EA	$ 10,000.00	$ 100,000.00
9' Emergency Call Towers	5	EA	$ 8,000.00	$ 40,000.00
Street Lights	27	EA	$ 10,000.00	$ 270,000.00
				$ 860,000.00

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bike Racks	30	EA	$ 500.00	$ 15,000.00
Drinking Fountain	1	EA	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,000.00
Dog Park Drinking Fountain with Dog Bowl	3	EA	$ 4,500.00	$ 13,500.00
Picnic Tables (in shelter)	65	EA	$ 900.00	$ 58,500.00
Trash Receptacles	25	EA	$ 1,000.00	$ 25,000.00
Doggie Bag Receptacles	6	EA	$ 600.00	$ 3,600.00
Plaza Table and Seating	50	EA	$ 3,000.00	$ 150,000.00
Bench	30	EA	$ 1,200.00	$ 36,000.00
Dog Park Playground Amenities	1	LS	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00
Dog Park - Ornamental Fence & Magnetic Locks	650	LF	$ 55.00	$ 35,750.00
Basketball Ornamental Fence & Magnetic Locks	550	LF	$ 55.00	$ 30,250.00
Exterior Game Tables	8	EA	$ 1,500.00	$ 12,000.00
				$ 392,600.00
LANDSCAPE WORK (Includes Warranty and Maintenance)				
Dog Park Irrigation	23,000	SF	$ 1.50	$ 34,500.00
Lawn (Sod) Irrigation	78,000	SF	$ 1.50	$ 117,000.00
Plant Beds Irrigation	18,000	SF	$ 2.00	$ 36,000.00
Lawn (Sod)	8,666	SY	$ 5.50	$ 47,663.00
Lawn (Seeded)	4	ACRES	$ 2,500.00	$ 10,000.00
Sport Activity	1	LS	$ 50,000.00	$ 50,000.00
Plant Beds (Perennials, Grasses, Plugs)	18,000	SF	$ 15.00	$ 270,000.00
Shrubs	600	EA	$ 50.00	$ 30,000.00
Trees - Ornamental - 2.5"	100	EA	$ 250.00	$ 25,000.00
Trees - Shade - 3"	200	SF	$ 750.00	$ 150,000.00
Trees - Speciment - Spaded	30	EA	$ 2,000.00	$ 60,000.00
				$ 830,163.00
SUBTOTAL				**$ 7,153,313.00**
General Conditions (5%)				$ 357,665.65
Mobilization/Demobilization (5%)				$ 357,665.65
Contingency (20%)				$ 1,430,662.60
GRAND TOTAL				**$ 9,299,306.90**

Optional Costs (Not Included Above)

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
Water Wall and System	1	LS	$ 350,000.00	$ 350,000.00
Ornamental Light and Sound Tower around Open Lawn	15	EA	$ 40,000.00	$ 600,000.00
Stage - Audio & Visual System	1	LS	$ 120,000.00	$ 120,000.00
Public Art Commissions	8	EA	$ 100,000.00	$ 800,000.00
SUBTOTAL				**$ 1,870,000.00**
General Conditions (5%)				$ 93,500.00
Mobilization/Demobilization (5%)				$ 93,500.00
Contingency (20%)				$ 374,000.00
OPTIONAL COSTS TOTAL				**$ 2,431,000.00**

Off-Property Improvement Costs (Not Included Above)

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT COST	TOTAL
Traffic Signal and Pedestrian Safety Improvements (40th Street and Meridian Street)	1	LS	$ 225,000.00	$ 225,000.00
Pedestrian Safety Improvements (40th Street and Illinois Street)	1	LS	$ 50,000.00	$ 50,000.00
Pedestrian Safety Improvements (39th Street and Illinois Street)	1	LS	$ 60,000.00	$ 60,000.00
Pedestrian Safety Improvements (39th Street and Meridian Street)	1	LS	$ 40,000.00	$ 40,000.00
Resurfacing Meridian Street (40th Street to 39th Street)	1	LS	$ 165,000.00	$ 165,000.00
Resurfacing Illinois Street (40th Street to 39th Street)	1	LS	$ 200,000.00	$ 200,000.00
Resurfacing 40th Street (Meridian St to Illinois St)	1	LS	$ 80,000.00	$ 80,000.00
Resurfacing 39th Street (Meridian St to Illinois St)	1	LS	$ 80,000.00	$ 80,000.00
SUBTOTAL				**$ 900,000.00**
General Conditions (5%)				$ 45,000.00
Mobilization/Demobilization (5%)				$ 45,000.00
Contingency (20%)				$ 180,000.00
OFF PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT T'OTAL				**$ 1,170,000.00**

Perimeter Improvements and Associated Work ($710,000)

Dog Park and Associated Work ($360,000)

Offsite Pedestrian Improvements, Roadway Improvements, Signal Work and Associated Work ($1.17 Million, By Others)

Playground and Associated Work ($1 Million)

Cafe, Stage and Spray Plaza and Associated Work ($4.9 Million)

Market Shelter, Plaza, Open Lawn and Associated Work ($2 Million)

Basketball Court and Associated Work ($460,000)

YOU ARE INVITED!
You have been identified by Indy Parks and the Master Plan Team as a local resident to participate in the development of a Master Plan for Tarkington Park. The park, named after famed local author, Booth Tarkington, is located in Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood at 45 West 40th Street. We are inviting you to an open public session to share your ideas and opinions on the park. The session will be held in the Club Room of North United Methodist Church located at 3808 N. Meridian Street, July 10th from 3:30-4:30pm.

Background and Process:
This master planning process is to formally update the 1987 Indy Parks Master Plan for Tarkington Park and to provide guidance to the City of Indianapolis and Indy Parks for future improvements to the park. Since 1987, there has been growing interest in what the park could become. Most recently, Midtown led a series of visioning sessions in 2010 and developed some conceptual ideas for the park. Indy Parks and the Master Plan Team have been in close coordination with Midtown and are aware of all input and ideas generated during the visioning sessions. This master planning process is to continue the momentum started by Midtown and gather further input toward the development of a formal master plan.

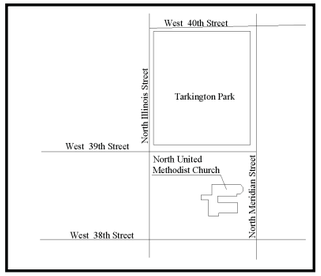
What to Expect:
The master planning process will include a series of stakeholder group and public input sessions on Tuesday, July 10th. Members of the public are invited to give their opinions on the park at 3:30pm. The session will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and members of the public will be asked to sign-in to be on the list of speakers. Individuals will be given a maximum of 2 minutes to provide the master plan team with their thoughts, hopes and dreams for the park space. Input received will be documented and used by the Master Plan Team to inform the development of design concepts. These concepts will be presented back to the project stakeholders and members of the public on July 13th at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall of North United Methodist Church . If you can not participate, visit www.indyparks.org for ways to give your input or contact Andre Denman with Indy Parks at andre.denman@indy.gov or 317-327-5725.

How to Prepare:
Participants are encouraged to visit the park and think about the following questions:
What do you like about the park today?
What is missing in the park?
What existing features of the park should remain?
What features and activities would you like to see in the park?
Describe your ideal visit to the park.
What should the park look like in 20 years?

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you on July 10th, 2012 at 3:30pm!

Sincerely,

Indy Parks
Rundell Ernstberger Associates



Questions? Please contact Andre Denman ~ Principal Parks Planner Indy Parks (317) 327-5725 or at andre.denman@indy.gov

Public Notice Page One

Indy Parks and Recreation
200 E. Washington St. Suite 1868
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Live. Learn. Explore.
www.indyparks.org

Public Notice Page Two

RUNDELL ERNSTBERGER ASSOCIATES, LLC
email | reaindy@reasite.com internet | www.reasite.com

design workshop schedule

meeting date: July 10th-13th, 2012
meeting time: Varies – See Schedule
meeting location: Varies – See Schedule
project number: 1255
project name: **Tarkington Park Master Plan**

DAY ONE | Tuesday, July 10th, 2012 | North United Methodist Club Room

12:00 pm – Arrive, set-up space and prepare for Stakeholders

1:00 pm – Stakeholder Group One (Park Property Neighbors)

1. MLK Community Center
   a. *Joni Collins, Executive Director*
   b. *Tawanna Lewis*
2. North United Methodist
   a. *Darren Cushman Wood, Senior Pastor*
   b. *Brian Williams, Outreach Pastor*
3. Tarkington Tower
   a. *George Wildman, Board of Directors*
4. 40 North Tower
   a. *Jean Dugan, President of the Home Owners Association*

1:30 pm – Stakeholder Group Two (Community Groups)

1. Midtown
   a. *Deborah Stoll, Deputy Director*
   b. *Michael McKillip, Maple Road*
2. Meridian-Kessler Neighborhood Association
   a. *Caroline Farrar, Executive Director*
   b. *Judy Goldstein, Board President*
3. Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association
   a. *Jeremy Stewart (A2S04), Board President*
4. Meridian Street Foundation
   a. *Sheila Little, Board President*
5. Mapleton-Fall Creek Development Corporation
   a. *Joni Collins will represent MFCDC in 1pm session*
6. Watson-McCord/Historic Watson
   a. *Martha Baker-Blue, Board President*
7. Crown Hill Development Corporation
   a. *Reverend Solomon*

618 E. MARKET STREET INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46202 [317] 263.0127 FAX: [317] 263.2080
MUNCIE OFFICE: TE [765] 747.9737 FX [765] 747.5053
LOUISVILLE OFFICE: TE [502] 561.8676 FX [502] 561.9076

Schedule Page One

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email | reaindy@reasite.com internet | www.reasite.com
design workshop schedule

2:00 pm – Stakeholder Group Three (Potential Partners)

1. IMA
   a. *Mark Zelonis, Director of Environmental & Historic Preservation*
   b. *Cynthia Rallis, Director of Development (unconfirmed)*
2. Butler University
   a. *Benjamin Hunter (City County Councilor), Chief of Staff (unconfirmed)*
   b. *Richard Michal, Campus Engineer*
3. Children's Museum
   a. *Anthony Bridgeman, Mid-North Plan & Director of Community Initiatives (unconfirmed)*
   b. *Karen Miller, Mid-North Plan & Community Organizer (unconfirmed)*
4. State Fair Grounds
   a. *Cindy Hoye, Executive Director*
5. CICF
   a. *Alphons Van Adrichem, Community Director*
6. Indiana Landmarks
   a. *Marsh Davis, Executive Director*

2:30 pm – Stakeholder Group Four (City Employees)

1. Public Safety
   a. *Paul Ciesielski, Captain- North District*
   b. *Dale Braun, Lieutenant – North District*
2. DPW
   a. *Andy Lutz, Chief Engineer (Unconfirmed)*
3. Indy Parks
   a. *John Williams, Director of Indy Parks*
   b. *Will McClendon, Senior Park Manager*
4. Economic Development
   a. *Michael Huber, Deputy Mayor*
   b. *Kris Butler, Deputy Director – Bond Band*
5. DMD
   a. *Kathleen Blackham – Rezoning Specialist (worked with Midtown)*

3:00 pm – Stakeholder Group Five (Elected and Appointed Officials)

1. Mayor's Office
   a. *Ryan Vaughn, Chief of Staff (former City County Councilor for MKNA area)*
   b. *Olgen Williams, Deputy Mayor of Neighborhoods (unconfirmed)*
2. City County Council
   a. *John Barth, At Large City County Councilor*
   b. *Monroe Gray, District 8 & Parks Committee (unconfirmed)*
   c. *Joe Simpson, District 9 (unconfirmed)*
   d. *Will Gooden District 3 (unconfirmed)*
   e. *William Oliver, District & Parks Committee (unconfirmed)*
   f. *Maggie Lewis, President & District 7*
3. Parks Board
   a. *Joe Wynns, Parks Board Member & Former Director of Indy Parks*

3:30 pm –Open Public Session (2 minutes max per person)

4:45 pm – Tear Down

5:00 pm – Church Closes – End of Day

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Schedule Page Two

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design workshop schedule

DAY TWO | Wednesday, July 11th, 2012 | Rundell Ernstberger Associates Office

8:00 am – What We Heard Session (Indy Parks and Design Team)

9:00 am – Big Ideas and Conceptual Brain-Storming Session

10:00 am – Begin Concept Production

12:00 pm – Working Lunch

1:00 pm – Present Concepts (Indy Parks and Design Team)

2:00 pm – Concepts are selected, production work begins

5:00 pm – Working Dinner – Review of progress –

?:?? pm – End of Day

DAY THREE | Thursday, July 12th, 2012 | Rundell Ernstberger Associates Office

8:00 am – Continue production

12:00 pm – Working Lunch & Review (Indy Parks with Design Team)

1:00 pm – Continue production

5:00 pm – Working Dinner – Outline Presentation

?:?? pm – End of Day

DAY FOUR | Friday, July 13th, 2012

8:00 am – Continue presentation production | Rundell Ernstberger Associates Office

11:00 am – Arrive, Set-up Room and Test Presentation | North United Methodist Fellowship Hall

12:00 pm – Working Lunch and Presentation Run Through | North United Methodist Fellowship Hall

1:00 pm – Present Concepts to the public | North United Methodist Fellowship Hall

2:00 pm – Open up for group discussion or input | North United Methodist Fellowship Hall

3:00pm – Tear down and End of Day | North United Methodist Fellowship Hall

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Schedule Page Three

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
Sheila P. Little	MERIDIAN STREET FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
Jeremy Stewart	BTNA
Jim Garretson	MKNA
Brian Williams	North VMC

Input Session One

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
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Input Session Two

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
Sheila P. Little	MERIDIAN STREET FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
Jeremy Stewart	BTNA
Jim Garretson	MKNA
Brian Williams	North VMC

Input Session Three

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
Sheila P. Little	MERIDIAN STREET FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
Jeremy Stewart	BTNA
Jim Garretson	MKNA
Brian Williams	North VMC

Input Session Four

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
Sheila P. Little	MERIDIAN STREET FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
Jeremy Stewart	BTNA
Jim Garretson	MKNA
Brian Williams	North VMC

Input Session Five

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
Sheila P. Little	MERIDIAN STREET FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
Jeremy Stewart	BTNA
Jim Garretson	MKNA
Brian Williams	North VMC

Input Session Six

NAME	ORGANIZATION
George Wildman	Tarkington Tower ad
JEAN NUGAN	HO NORTH ON INDIANA
Sheila P. Little	MERIDIAN STREET FOUNDATION, PRESIDENT
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
Jeremy Stewart	BTNA
Jim Garretson	MKNA
Brian Williams	North VMC

Concept Presentation

Name	Apt #
MERLE LAMBERT	10 J
Samuel H [illegible]	2 A
FRED EVANS	15 J
[illegible]	4 E
[illegible]	9 E
[illegible]	5 A E
Charles Thompson	6E
Steve, Kris Duncan	12GF
[illegible]	7 H
[illegible]	9 E
[illegible]	3 J
[illegible]	14 H
[illegible]	
George E. Screes	11F
Steven Gudorf	11 A
Wells M. Richardson	8-H
MARK FLUMER	8 H
[illegible]	16 A
Janet Knoll	6 A
Susan Apple	15 H

Tarkington Tower Meeting

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Merle Lambert	Tarkington Tower
Bernie Frechtman	" "
Sarah Kuperstein	Double Stalks
Martha Baker Blue	Watson Park
Deborah Stoll	Midtown
ADAM GARVEY	NEIGHBOR
CHUCK CARMAN	MIDTOWN
Guy Russell	KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY
MARA A. STUART	STUART MORTUARY

Draft Master Plan Presentation

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Jane Conley	Tarkington Tower
FRANK JR ROGERS	MUMC 11th ST. TASK FORCE
Mina Antonopoulos	Tarkington Tower
Ann Burkhart	Tarkington Tower
Athena Wright	Tarkington Tower
ANDREW SMITHEW	DPR
LEN PILUTSKI	
Bo Jackson	DPR
Don Colwin	INDY PARKS
FRED EVANS	TARRINGTON TOWER
Mary Carol Shea	Tarkington Towers
Charles + Wanda Thompson	Tarkington Tower
Richard E. Maintel	" "
KRIS DUNCAN	TARKINGTON TOWER
STEVE DUNCAN	" "
LUCY RIEGEL	4031 BOULEVARD PL
BOB RIEGEL	" "
Michael McGinnis	Midtown MFL
Marilyn Meadowlake	North Chase MSF neighbor
Lorene Burkhart	Tarkington Tower
Adam Gibson	
DERESSA BREITFIELD	MFCDC
JAMES MCCOMBS	JAM Architects
JOHN KERWIN	MFC
GARRETSON	MKNA
Caroline Kennan	Dir. - MKNA
Jim Harmon	Neighbor
Dianne Montgomery	Watson-McFord

Draft Master Plan Presentation

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Leah Evans	MFCDC
John BARTH	BTNA
Kay Buckpitt	TT Condo
Elaine Klein	MSF
Sheila P. Little	MSF
Joni Collins	MLK
Judy Gladstein	MKNA
Robert O. Hill	Indy Parks
LAURA K FITZGERALD	BTNA
Tom Gallagher	MIDTOWN
Ashley Lock	North
[illegible]	Mid Town
Darren Wood	NUMC
P. Spiegel	

Draft Master Plan Presentation

Joe,

This comes as reaffirmation of our telephone conversation today confirming strong support by Meridian-Kessler Neighborhood Association of the efforts in developing a Master Plan for Tarkington Park. Giving consideration to park elements that would answer seniors, youth and the general public seems to be a central theme in development deliberations. Retaining existing valuable assets, enlarging some, altering placement of others for convenience of use, building in new additions to draw in much greater public participation, also with thought given to adjacent business revitalization is such a worthy undertaking and a tremendous opportunity for not only the two large neighborhoods for which Tarkiongton Park is a gateway, but for the several near neighborhoods and the surrounding area in general.

I am here attaching the article I submitted for the current issue of the MKNA Newsletter. We would be pleased to use this publication and our website to be helopful in any way.

Judy Goldstein, president of MKNA, and I both send congratulations to you and all involved in this major effort. We look forward to being in attendance at the next scheduled meeting.

Best regards,

Caroline Farrar

Caroline Farrar
Executive Director
Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association
526 E. 52 nd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205
meridiankessler@aol.com
Office: 317-283-1021
Cell: 317-695-8272
Fax: 317-283-6061

Letter of Support from Meridian-Kessler Neighborhood Association - received on August 7, 2012

MIDTOWN
INDIANAPOLIS

Indianapolis Board of Parks and Recreation
Mr. John Williams, Chair
200 E Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Mr. Williams,

This letter is to indicate the strong support of Midtown Indianapolis, Inc. and its partnering neighborhood organizations for the development of Tarkington Park according to the Master Plan recently completed by Indy Parks and Rundell Ernstberger.

Midtown Indianapolis, Inc has been a partner in community planning for the past five years. In 2010 we completed the Midtown Master Plan, after 3 years of community visioning sessions. Through the planning process Tarkington Park and the surrounding area was identified as one of the 4 targeted catalyst sites in Midtown for positive growth, quality of life, and economic redevelopment. During the visioning process, residents and business owners in the radius surrounding the park provided several iterations of plans and charettes that dated back to the 1980's detailing the community's hopes for the park to become an outstanding community asset and a gathering space for all in our diverse neighborhoods.

The neighborhoods of Midtown are extremely excited and encouraged to see that Indy Parks and Rundell Ernstberger considered the previous work and listened to the community, and that the Master Plan takes into account the objectives that have been voiced over all those years. Specifically, we are very pleased to see the elements included are urban in scale and feel, yet offer appeal to people of a variety of ages. The amenities in the park are precisely those desired by residents and those needed to draw users into the park.

It is clear to us that the new design would do more than just beautify and enhance the outdoor experience available to residents. The implementation of this Master Plan offers the potential to leverage additional private investment in the surrounding underutilized developments. Potential investors in the area have indicated to us that a commitment to move forward with the park would make them more confident about undertaking business or potential mixed use projects in the area.

Most importantly, if implemented, the plan would create a truly "inspiring place" that is unique and fits with the needs, character, and design of the neighborhoods which would use it. The Indy Parks Master Plan for Tarkington Park is truly the culmination of decades and hundreds of hours of thought and planning and reflects a park Midtown, Inc. and its neighborhood partners stand ready to support in every way possible.

Sincerely,

Michael McKillip, Executive Director - Midtown, Inc
Joni Collins, Executive Director, Martin Luther King Community Center
Leigh Riley Evans, Executive Director – Mapleton Fall Creek CDC
Brooke Klejnot, Executive Director – Broad Ripple Village Association
Martha Baker Blue, President – Historic Watson McCord Neighborhood Association
Jeremy Stewart, President - Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association
Judy Goldstein, President – Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association
Sheila Little, President – Meridian Street Foundation

c/o Central Indiana Community Foundation · 615 N. Alabama, Suite 119 · Indianapolis, IN 46204 · midtownindy.org

Letter of Support from surrounding community organizations - received on November 9. 2012

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