

Glenn O' Swing Elementary School Playground



Glenn O' Swing Elementary School Playground

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Park Location & Access

This park is part of the Glen O' Swing Elementary School campus and is located north of West 21st between Jefferson Avenue and Center Street. There are three pedestrian entrances to the facility, which are located along Jefferson Avenue, East 20th Street, and East 21st Street. The facility is located in the Peasleburg neighborhood of the city.

Features & Amenities

- Ballfield
- Playground
- Multi-Purpose Area (Paved)
- Open Space

Park Character and Use

The Glenn O' Swing Elementary School Park sits on 4.8 acres and has a variety of active and passive recreation amenities. The park features a moderately sized playground, a paved multi-use area, and a baseball field.



There is a large open space located south of the ballfield. A majority of the open space has a steep topography providing scenic view of the school and surrounding neighborhood. The perimeter of the park activity centers is fenced. Park hours are restricted while school is in session



MLB Cincinnati Meinken All-Star Field

MLB Cincinnati Meinken All-Star Field was completely redeveloped in 2015. Neither PDS staff nor the City of Covington have access to current aerial imagery showing the new improvements made within the park at the time this written. As such this section will not feature aerial imagery of the current configuration of recreation location map for the park is shown below.



This park is not owned or maintained by the City of Covington. As such, this does not make recommendations for future improvements this facility. The does document the currently provided at this facility in order encompassing of all the recreation facilities and amenities provided within the city. In the event that major improvements are made within this park, the city and the owner(s) of the facility should coordinate to provide amenities that best address the recreation needs of the community and prevent the duplication of amenities.

Park Location & Access

MLB Cincinnati Meinken All-Star Field is located along the south side of Eastern Avenue where it intersects with Kentucky State Route 16. The facility is located in the Levassor Park neighborhood of the city. There is one entrance located along Eastern Avenue featuring pedestrian and vehicular access.

Features & Amenities

- Ballfield
- Benches
- Off-Street Parking (Paved)
- Playground
- Restrooms

Park Character and Use

MLB Cincinnati Meinken All-Star Field sits on 2.7 acres and is occupied primarily by active recreation amenities. The park has a small playground area and a ballfield. There is also a large off-street parking area. The perimeter of the park is fenced.



In 2015, after falling into disrepair, Meinken Field received a \$400,000 renovation through the Cincinnati Reds Community Fund. The renovation included a full synthetic ballfield, upgrades to the outdated scoreboard, refinishing of the dilapidated

MLB Cincinnati Meinken All-Star Field

fencing and netting, adding new batting cages, and dugout and lighting renovations.



The facility was renamed to MLB Cincinnati Meinken All-Star Field at the opening ceremony held in July of 2015. The ballfield is used by several teams including Holy Cross, Holmes High School and Crosstown Youth Baseball.



Park Recommendations – Community Parks

Two parks in the City of Covington are classified as Community Parks. They are as follows:

City Owned Parks

- Bill Cappel Sports Complex ≈ 54.8 acres

Parks Owned or Maintained by External Organizations

- Pioneer Park (Paw Park) ≈ 46.4 acres

Bill Cappel Youth Sports Complex



Bill Cappel Youth Sports Complex

Park Location & Access

The Bill Cappel Youth Sports Complex is located east of Decoursey Pike, west of Church Street, and south of East 43rd Street in the Latonia / Rosedale neighborhood of the city. It has three vehicular access points located along East 43rd Street, Decoursey Pike, and Church Street. The access points along East 43rd Street and Decoursey Pike are paved. The access point along Church Street is a gravel drive. All three access points provide informal pedestrian access into the park. The paved access points provide informal access for people with disabilities. There are currently no sidewalks connecting the park to the city sidewalk system.

Features & Amenities

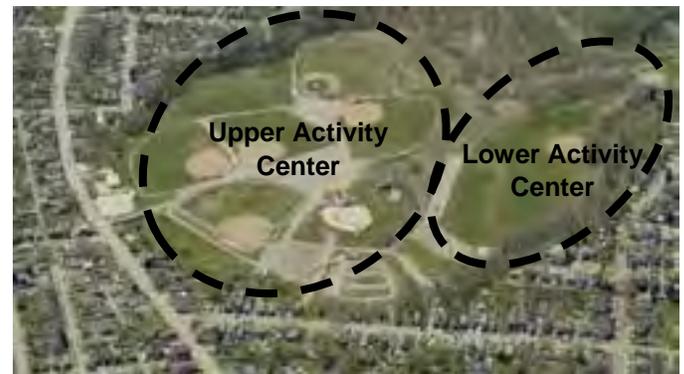
- Ballfields (7 total, 5 lighted)
- Benches
- Fitness Stations (3)
- Off-Street Parking
- Open Space
- Playground
- Shelter
- Soccer Fields (2)
- Splash Park
- Walking Trail (Paved)

Park Character & Use

This facility was named after Bill Cappel in recognition of the many contributions and countless volunteer hours he gave to the city and its residents. Bill Cappel was a World War II veteran whose achievements included organizing women's softball in Covington and co-founding the Northern Kentucky Umpires Association.

The complex is an expansive community park featuring a wide range of active and passive recreation amenities. The total area of the complex is approximately 54.8 acres of which approximately 15.4 acres are located in the city of Taylor Mill.

The topography of the facility breaks the complex into a two activity centers located at different elevations, one upper and one lower. The separation of the activity center is also visually reinforced by mature tree growth along the ridge separating the two areas of the park.



The upper activity center is primarily programmed for active recreation amenities with a few passive recreation opportunities dispersed throughout. The activity center features five ballfields with lighting, a soccer field, splash park, shelter, and playground with multiple areas designated for off-street parking. A paved walking trail with fitness stations lines the perimeter of the ballfields.



Bill Cappel Youth Sports Complex



The picture below show a view looking toward the lower activity center from the upper activity center.



A majority of the complex is located within a floodplain area or an area identified by the *Direction 2030: Your Voice. Your Choice.*, as a Developmentally Sensitive Area (DSA). DSA's are areas which may contain moderate or steep slopes, sensitive geology, or a combination of these characteristics, as well as soils that are subject to occasional or frequent flooding. Any improvements constructed within a DSA require a geotechnical evaluation to ensure proper construction of improvements made within them.



The lower activity center is much smaller in size and scale than the upper activity center. It currently features two ballfields, a soccer field, and an off-street parking area.



It should also be noted that the complex was built on a former landfill. In addition to the existing flood and geologic factors the underlying landfill adds significant time and costs to the construction of new improvements on the site.



Bill Cappel Youth Sports Complex

A substantial portion of the site has issues with stormwater drainage. After a significant rain event, many areas of the park complex will be flooded and rendered unusable. The addition of proper drainage systems could reduce the impact of these events and reduce the amount of time these areas are not usable.

The complex is currently programmed by Northern Kentucky Baseball (NKB) for softball and baseball tournaments and practice.

Recommendations

- *Ensure that park facilities and equipment are safe and maintained.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Conduct a public process to facilitate community input and buy-in for future park improvements.*

The Bill Cappel Sports Complex is one of largest parks in the city and has a substantial amount of open space for future improvements, which give it the potential to be a great asset for the city. Prior to investing in any new park improvements, the city should conduct a public input process to determine the types of amenities that the community would like to see provided.

- *Design or retrofit of the features and layout of new and existing park features to incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles and techniques.*

CPTED is a program that utilizes design and use of the built environment to reduce the potential for crime and other unwanted behaviors. Priority for implementation in the Bill Cappel Sports Complex should focus on increasing visibility throughout the park, increased lighting, and regular police patrols.

- *Look for ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

The Bill Cappel Sports Complex has significantly wparks in the system due to the time and financial resources required to upkeep a park of its size and scale. These problems are exacerbated by poor drainage and reoccurring vandalism.

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall maintenance recommendations of this assessment, which identify maintenance costs as one of the most significant expenditures in upkeep of the overall park system.

In doing so, the city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park through a maintenance agreement, lease, or transfer of the property. Possible partners may include a local neighborhood association, the Latonia Business Association, the Northern Kentucky Baseball league who currently use the facility for league activities, or Tigers Football Organization who currently as a practice field.

The city should also seek out ways to incorporate softscape elements into the park, which feature native plants in order to reduce the total area requiring maintenance.

- *Implement best management practices solutions to mitigate water runoff issues within the park.*

A substantial portion of the park is located within a floodplain and currently suffers from poor drainage making those areas unusable for a significant period of time following heavy rain events. The city should seek to partner with organizations such as Sanitation District No. 1 to identify the best water management practices to implement on the on the site to mitigate the current drainage issues and reduce the total areas requiring maintenance.

Pioneer Park



Pioneer Park

This park is not owned or maintained by the City of Covington. As such, this document does not make recommendations for future improvements to this facility. The document does document the amenities currently provided at this facility in order to encompassing of all the recreation facilities and amenities provided within the city. In the event that major improvements are made within this park, the city and the owner(s) of the facility should coordinate to provide amenities that best address the recreation needs of the community and prevent the duplication of amenities.

Park Location & Access

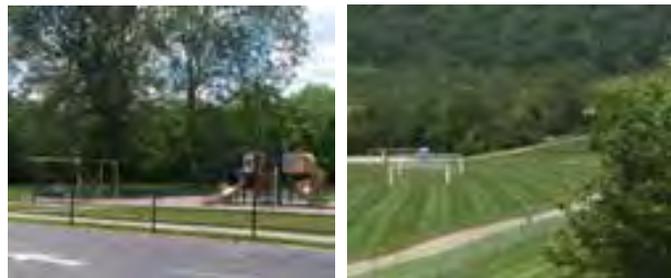
Pioneer Park is located along the west side of Madison Pike (KY 17) between Rolling Hills Drive and Mary Laidley Drive. The facility is located in the South Covington neighborhood of the city. The park has three vehicular access points located along KY 17. Only the most southern access point provides both ingress and egress. The park does not have pedestrian access as there is not currently a sidewalk along KY 17.

Features & Amenities

- Basketball Court
- Ballfields (2)
- Dog Park
- Off-Street Parking (Paved)
- Open Space
- Playground (2)
- Picnic Tables and Benches
- Shelter (2)
- Soccer Fields (2)
- Tennis Courts (2)
- Walking Trail (Paved)

Park Character and Use

Pioneer Park sits on approximately 46.4 acres. The facility features a wide variety of passive and active recreation uses. The park is currently operated by Kenton County Parks and Recreation.



The activity centers of the park are connected by a paved walking path. There are several areas for off-street parking located throughout the park.

There is mature tree canopy dispersed throughout the park and along the perimeter of the site, providing shade around the shelters and softening the boundaries of the park. The Banklick Creek also runs through park furthering connecting visitors to the natural character within and surrounding the park.



Park Recommendations – Regional Park

Devou Park is currently classified as a Regional Parks. The Devou Park Advisory Committee (DPAC) was established by Board of Commissioners Order/Resolution No. O/R-18-96. It provides oversight for future park improvements as well as the maintenance of the physical structures of within the park.

Devou Park



This park is not maintained by the City of Covington. As such, this does not make recommendations for future improvements this facility. The does document the currently provided at this facility in order encompassing of all the recreation facilities amenities provided within the city. In the event major improvements are made within this park, city and the owner(s) of the facility should coordinate to provide amenities that best address the recreation needs of the community and prevent the duplication of amenities.

Park Location & Access

Devou Park is an expansive park that occupies a large portion of the Kenton Hills neighborhood of the city. Additional portions of the massive park are located in the City of Ludlow and the City of

Fort Wright. Pedestrian and vehicular access to the park is provided from several streets located along the boundaries of the park.

Features & Amenities

- Amphitheater (Band shell)
- Art installations
- Event Center
- Golf Course and Clubhouse (Clubhouse Under Construction)
- Grill
- Monument and Dedication Plaque
- Sculptures
- Open Space and Natural Areas
- Lake
- Monument and Dedication Plaque
- Museum
- Playgrounds

Devou Park

- Restrooms
- Shelters
- Trails (Hiking and Biking)
- Walking Path (Paved)

Character & Use

Situated in the hills overlooking the cities of Covington and Cincinnati, Devou Park is a regional asset spanning over 700 acres. The establishment of the park can be traced to 1910 when William P. and Charles P. Devou donated 500 acres of property to the City of Covington.



The property was to be donated in memory of the brother’s parents, William P. and Sarah Ogden Devou. The transfer of land to the city was stipulated on the condition that the city would spend \$100,000 dollars improving the property within six years of receiving the land. Later that year, city officials placed a bond issue on the November ballot to raise the requested \$100,000 for park improvements. Covington residents voted

to approved the bond by a wide margin and the park was officially transferred to the Covington Park Board on November 28, 1910.

Following the transfer of property, an engineer named J.J. Weaver was hired by the Covington Park Board to conduct a topographical survey of the property. In addition to the survey, Weaver was also tasked with designing the original road traversing through the expansive park. Two roads were planned and completed in 1912. One connected Amsterdam Pike to Main Street in Covington. The other connected Western Avenue in Covington to Ludlow.

In 1916, the City Commission passed a resolution to establish a quarry in the park in an effort to reduce material costs associated with street construction and repair. City prisoners did most of the work at the quarry, which continued until approximately 1920. After the quarry’s closure, a lake formed on the site that was christened “Prisoners Lake” by area residents. Since that time, Prisoners Lake was been a popular location for fishing.

The bandshell was built as a Works Progress Administration project during the Great Depression. It opened in 1939 to enthusiastic crowds. It continues to host great events and is home to the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra's Summer Concert Series.



Devou Park

Since the original transfer of the property, Devou Park has grown to approximately 706.7 acres. The regional facility has several activity centers featuring a wide range of active and passive recreations amenities.

The activity centers and open space within the park are connected by a series of paved walking paths and streets. The park currently contains 12.6 miles of natural surface trails. The Devou Park Backcountry Trails, an 11.5 miles series of the existing trails, can be used for both hiking and biking activities.

Devou Park is home to the NKY Children's Home, Drees Pavilion at the Devou Memorial Overlook, and the Behringer-Crawford Museum.



The Devou Park Advisory Committee (DPAC) was established by the City Board of Commissioners in 1996. It provides oversight for the future improvements as well as maintenance of the physical structures in Devou Park.

Park System Recommendations

Resource based parks are oriented towards the preservation or protection of open spaces as well as the interpretation and promotion of natural and cultural resources. These types of parks play an important role in the park system as they provide numerous social, economic, and quality of life benefits to residents and visitors. There are currently three types of resource based parks in the City of Covington. They are as follows:

- Riverfront Commons
- Licking River Greenway and Trails
- Greenspace Parks

Riverfront Commons



Park Character & Use

Riverfront Commons is a planned 11.5 mile paved walking / biking path. The trail will run along the Ohio River traversing Campbell and Kenton Counties and connecting the cities of Fort Thomas, Dayton, Bellevue, Newport, Covington, and Ludlow.

Throughout the trail system there will be key areas, or nodes, which provide connections into adjacent communities. These node locations are determined by their proximity to entertainment and cultural assets of each river city. The Riverfront Commons master plan also identifies connections at the mouth of the Licking River to the Licking River Greenway and Trails.



Currently, some elements have been constructed in the cities of Bellevue, Covington, Dayton, Ludlow, and Newport.



In the City of Covington, progress includes the construction of an important node at the mouth of the Licking River and along the Ohio River east of the Roebling Bridge. This node includes an existing brick paver path running along Second Street in the Licking Riverside neighborhood of the city. The

Riverfront Commons

path features views of the Ohio River and surrounding urban areas. There are also additional trails and nodes that have been planned and funded in the central riverfront area of the city.



Recommendations

- *Improvements to Riverfront Commons should be made in accordance with the recommendations established by Southbank Partners.*

More detailed information about the project can be found at www.southbankpartners.com. The city should seek funding for future improvements through grant opportunities and partnerships with organizations.

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

Licking River Greenway & Trails



Currently, trailheads can be found behind Holmes High School at the corner of Levassor and Eastern Avenues, at the terminus of East 16th Street, and from within Clayton-Meyer Memorial Park. Informal access to the LRGT is provided along the Licking River levee south of East 8th Street.



Park Character and Use

The Licking River Greenway and Trails (LRGT) is an ambitious, multi-jurisdictional, multi-county project that when fully implemented will connect the cities of Covington, Taylor Mill, Wilder, and Newport. This connection will be accomplished through a green multi-use network of paved and unpaved trails located along both sides of the Licking River. When completed, the trail system will span 12-14 miles.

The greenway's master plan calls for the preservation of open space and natural lands within the project area. Plans for the Licking River Greenway include connections to Riverfront Commons, a planned multi-purpose trail along the Ohio River. To date, approximately 1.5 miles of nature trail, 0.75 miles of paved trails, and 2.5 miles of trail utilizing sidewalk and road infrastructure have been constructed.

Another component of the project calls out the Licking River as a blueway with multiple access points to water identified along the shores of the Licking River and Banklick Creek. An access point has been constructed at located at the intersection of 47th Street and Decoursey Pike to launch canoes and kayaks along the Banklick Creek, which feeds connects to the Licking River.



A series of 17 murals are featured along the Licking River Greenway and Trails. The theme of the series is a celebration of the Licking River, the ecosystem, and the people who enjoy its beauty. The artworks are painted on the exterior façade of gatewells, structures built into the river side of the levee to



Licking River Greenway & Trails

regulate water flow. These pieces of infrastructure are located along the trail system. The murals were created through a partnership between ArtWorks and SkywardNKY.



The Covington Parks & Recreation Department, in partnership with Skyward NKY and other partners, are currently working on expanding the Licking River Greenway and Trails system. The initial project in 2008 began as an initiative of Vision 2015 (now known as Skyward). More detailed information about the entire project and specific recommendations can be found at www.lickingrivertrail.org.



Recommendation

The Licking River Greenway and Trails is designated within this assessment as a high priority for targeted investment for the following reasons:

- The Licking River Greenway and Trails provides an important connection for neighborhoods to historical, educational, cultural institutions, and other recreation facilities located along the Licking River.

- The Licking River Greenway and Trails provides city residents with a large area of preserved continuous natural open space. These types of areas are particularly beneficial to residents living in the urban areas of the city, which currently have very limited access to natural open space for recreation activities.
- Development of the Licking River Greenway as an important asset to promote healthier living and lifestyles.
- The Licking River Greenway and Trails are an important asset to fostering revitalization of the residential neighborhoods in the eastside of the city.

Improvement Considerations

Improvements to the Licking River Greenway and Trails should be done in accordance with the recommendations made within the master plan adopted by the city in 2008. The city should seek funding for future improvements through grant opportunities and partnerships with organizations.



47th & Decoursey Greenspace Park



47th & Decoursey Greenspace Park

Park Location & Access

The 47th & Decoursey Greenspace Park is located immediately north of the Banklick Creek in the Rosedale neighborhood of the city.

The park has access from Victory Avenue and East 47th Street. East 47th Street allows for pedestrian access to the park via a set of concrete stairs. Victory Avenue provides both vehicular and pedestrian access via a gravel pathway.

Features & Amenities

- Open Space
- Benches
- Trash Cans
- Fencing
- Off-street Parking

Park Character & Use

The 47th & Decoursey Greenspace Park contains approximately 3.6 acres of open space. Almost all of the park space sits below the grade of the adjacent residential dwellings and it is located in a floodplain area. Trees line the perimeter of the park providing a strong visible connection to the natural environment.



The 47th & Decoursey Greenspace Park is capable of accommodating a wide variety of passive and active recreation activities. With benches and trash cans dispersed along the perimeter, the park features the proper amenities to accommodate organized recreation activities. It is currently

programmed by the Northern Kentucky Bengal Tigers Football Organization as a practice field.



Recommendations

- *Ensure that park facilities and equipment are safe and maintained.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Look for ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

The location of the park in a floodplain, along with the frequency of illegal dumping on the site, and its isolated location from other parks maintained by the city pose significant maintenance costs associated with the proper upkeep of the facility.

Additionally, the current condition of the trash cans and park benches increases maintenance cost associated with loose trash and the amount of time and materials associated with repair.



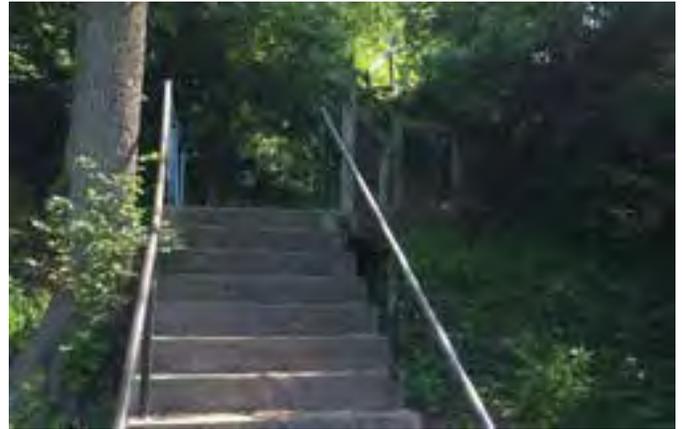
47th & Decoursey Greenspace Park

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall maintenance recommendations of this assessment which identify maintenance costs as one of the most significant expenditures in upkeep of the overall park system.

In doing so, the city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park through a maintenance agreement, lease, or transfer of the property. Possible partners may include a local neighborhood association, the Latonia Business Association or the Northern Kentucky Bengal Tigers Football Organization who currently uses the park as a practice field.

If partnerships are not available, the city should evaluate the viability of the park, through a public input process, to determine whether the park should be removed in order to save on overall park system maintenance costs. If through this process it is determined that the park is no longer viable to the community, the city should look to transfer the property to an organization associated with conservation of natural area and environments. Such organizations may include the Kenton County Conservancy or the Kenton County Conservation District.

Additional Park Pictures



View from the park looking toward the pedestrian access from 47th Street.



View of the park looking to the west from the southeast corner of the park.



View of the park looking to the east from the southwest corner of the greenspace located in the park.

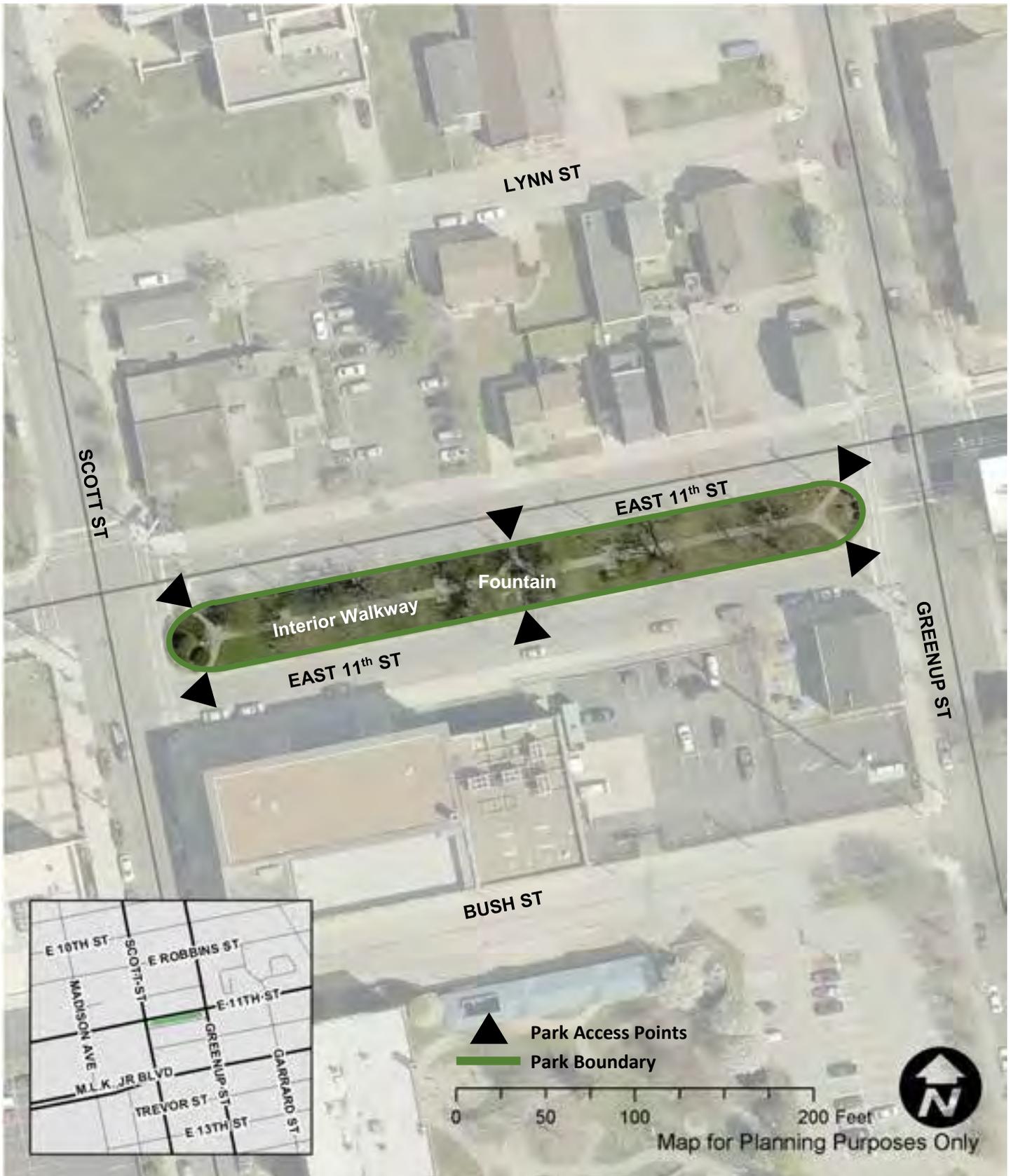
Park Recommendations - Median Parks

Median parks are linear parks located in the median area of a street. They typically have amenities such as paved walkways, benches, trash receptacles, memorials, and landscape features.

The size of a median park can range from small spaces for rest and contemplation to larger, wider medians used for social interaction and public gatherings. There are currently five median parks located in the city. They are as follows:

- BF Howard Memorial Commons ≈ 0.33 acres
- Clifford Street Islands ≈ 7,745 square feet
- George Steinfeld Park ≈ 0.9 acres
- Summit Island ≈ 0.3 acres
- 31st Street Island ≈ 0.3 acres

B. F. Howard Memorial Park



B. F. Howard Memorial Park

Park Location & Access

B. F. Howard Memorial Park is a median park separating eastbound and westbound traffic along East 11th Street. The park is located between Greenup Street and Scott Street. The park lies in the Eastside neighborhood of the city and has pedestrian access from both sides of East 11th Street.

Features & Amenities

- Benches
- Fountain
- Monument and Dedication Plaque
- Water Fountain
- Waste Receptacles

Park Character

B. F. Howard Memorial Park is a small linear greenspace. The park features a fountain surrounded by landscaping with benches located in multiple areas along the interior paved walkway.



Recommendation

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Seek out ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this assessment, which identify these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

The city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park. Possible partners may include the local neighborhood association or a resident group.

The city should also seek out ways to incorporate additional softscape elements into the park in order to reduce the total area requiring maintenance. Any new improvements such as a walkway or designated access point should be ADA accessible.



Clifford Avenue Islands



Clifford Avenue Islands

Park Location & Access

The Clifford Avenue Islands encompass a roadway median park that separates eastbound and westbound traffic along Clifford Avenue north of where it intersects with West Southern Avenue. The park lies in the West Latonia neighborhood of the city and has informal pedestrian access from both sides of Clifford Avenue.

Features & Amenities

- Open Space
- Waste Receptacles

Park Character

The Clifford Avenue Islands are a linear greenspace lined with trees. The dense tree canopy provides the surrounding residences with a shaded area for passive recreation opportunities.



Recommendations

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

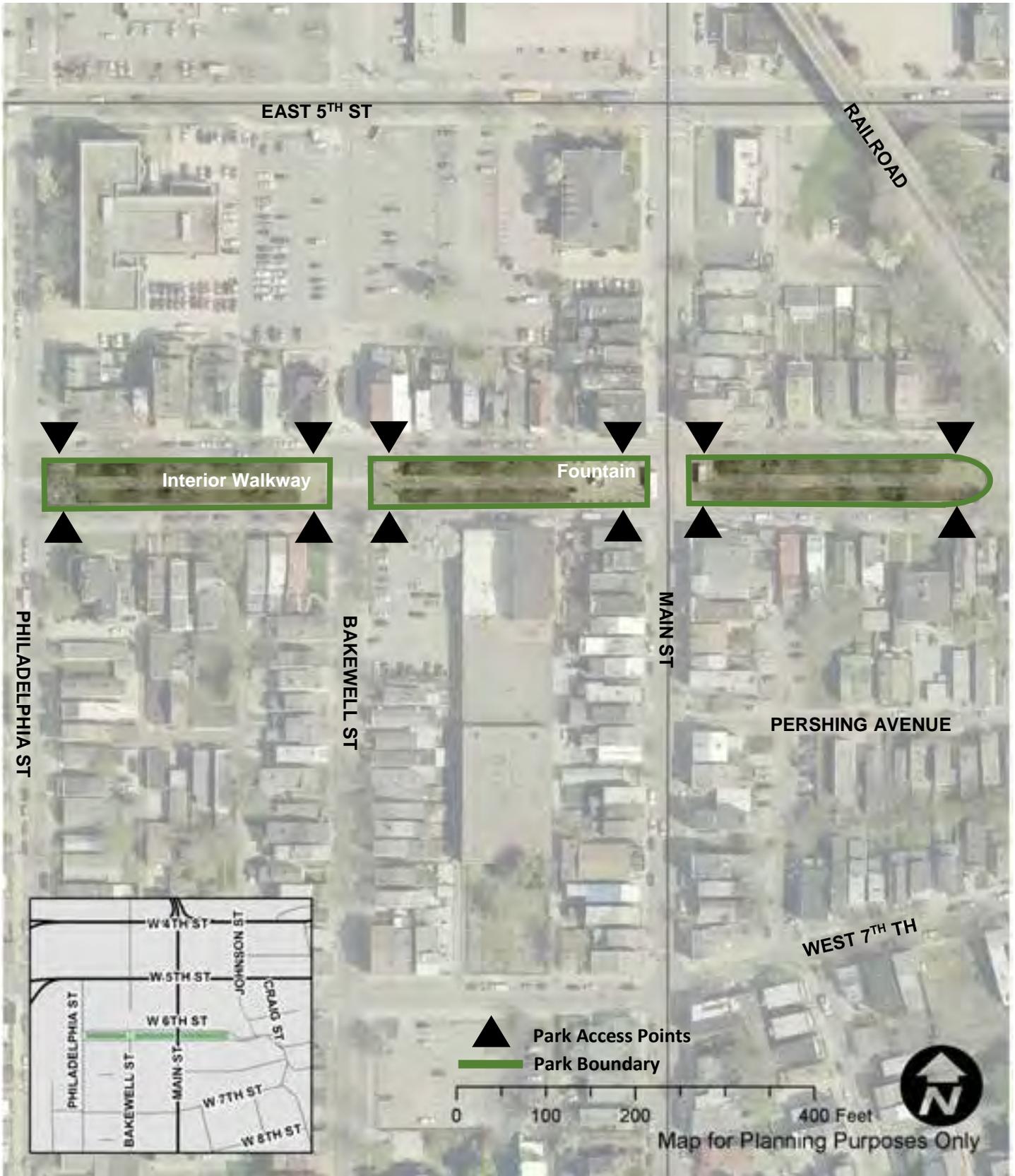
- *Seek out ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this assessment, which identify these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

The city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park. Possible partners may include the local neighborhood association, a resident group, or the Latonia Business Association.

The city should also seek out ways to incorporate hardscape and softscape elements into the park in order to reduce the total area requiring maintenance. In doing so the city should look to collaborate with Sanitation District No. 1 to evaluate the viability of incorporating stormwater best management practices into the site to decrease on long term maintenance costs associated with the upkeep of the facility.

George Steinford Park



George Steinfeld Park

Park Location & Access

George Steinfeld Memorial Park is a median park separating eastbound and westbound traffic along West 6th Street. The park is located between Philadelphia Street and Scott Street and lies in the Mainstrasse neighborhood of the city, adjacent to Goebel Park. It has several pedestrian access points along both sides of West 6th Street.

Features & Amenities

- Benches
- Bike Racks
- Fountain
- Monuments and Dedication Plaques
- Waste Receptacles

Park Character

George Steinfeld Park, also known as the Sixth Street Promenade, is a wide linear park that serves as the heart of outdoor activity in MainStrasse Village. The lush tree canopy and liveliness from the adjacent restaurant and retail establishments provide an exciting and picturesque environment to host events. It is a great place for residents to stroll with friends or walk their dogs.



The park also features the iconic "Goose Girl Fountain." The Northern Kentucky Convention and Visitor's Bureau commissioned noted Greek sculptor Eleftherios Karkadoulis to do the piece. Using his daughter as a model, he worked over one

and a half years and cast the Goose Girl using the "lost wax" method. The fountain was erected and unveiled in October of 1980. The Goose Girl fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm was the inspiration for the theme, representative of the culture of the area.

Recommendation

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Seek out ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this assessment which identify these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

The city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park. Possible partners may include the local neighborhood association, a resident group, or the Mainstrasse Village Association.

Summit Drive Island



Summit Drive Island

Park Location & Access

The Summit Drive Island is located in the middle of Summit Drive tucked along the northern boundary of the city's Ritte's East Latonia neighborhood. The park has seven pedestrian access points along both one way streets abutting the island. Two of the access points are ADA accessible.

Features & Amenities

- Bench
- Open Space
- Waste Receptacles

Park Character

The Summit Drive Island is a linear park featuring a walkway lined with trees and landscaping containing small pockets of greenspace throughout. Summit Drive is not a through street and is located at a topography much higher than the surrounding areas. As such the primary park users are from the residential areas immediately adjacent to the park.



Recommendations

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Seek out ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this assessment, which identifies these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

Much of the park is currently covered with softscape features, requiring little maintenance. However, the isolated location of the park can consume a significant amount of staff time getting to and from the park for the minimal maintenance that the park requires.

The city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park. Residents in the areas surrounding the island currently do some maintenance and upkeep of the facilities. The city should look to partner with this group to assume all maintenance of the park.

31st Street Island



31st Street Island

Park Location & Access

The 31st Street Island is a median park that separates eastbound and westbound traffic along West 31st Street west of the intersection with Decoursey Avenue. The park lies in the West Latonia neighborhood of the city and has informal pedestrian access from both sides of West 31st Street.

Features & Amenities

- Open Space
- Waste Receptacles

Park Character

The 31st Street Island is an linear greenspace lined with trees. The dense tree canopy provides the surrounding residences with a shaded area for passive recreation opportunities.



Recommendation

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Seek out ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this assessment, which identify these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

The city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park. Possible partners may include the local neighborhood association, a resident group, or the Latonia Business Association.

The city should also seek out ways to incorporate hardscape and softscape elements into the park in order to reduce the total area requiring maintenance. Any new improvements such as a walkway or designated access point should be ADA accessible.

Park System Recommendations

Urban Plazas are public areas within the city which serve as the focal point of a specific place or neighborhood. Typical amenities include monuments and dedication plaques, space for social interaction or events, landscape features, benches, and trash receptacles. There are currently four urban plazas located in the city. They are as follows:

- Duveneck Memorial Commons \approx 1,755 square feet
- Henry Farney Memorial Commons \approx 1,530 square feet
- Korean War Memorial \approx 2,820 square feet
- Police Memorial \approx 0.5 acres

Duveneck Square



Duveneck Square

Park Location & Access

Duveneck Square is located between West Pike Street, Washington Avenue, and West 7th Street in the Old Town / Mutter Gottes neighborhood. The park has two pedestrian accesses along Washington Avenue.

Features & Amenities

- Benches
- Overlook
- Trash Receptacles
- Monuments and Dedication Plaques

Park Character

Duveneck Square is a small public common area. The park features a seating area oriented toward a life-size bronze statue depicting Frank Duveneck. Duveneck is a world renowned artist born in the City of Covington in 1848. Some of his famous works include “*lady with the fan*,” “*the whistling boy*,” and “*the cobbler’s apprentice*.”



Duveneck passed away in 1919 and is buried in Mother of God Cemetery, which is located in the Latonia neighborhood of the city. Aside from upkeep associated with maintaining the trash facilities, the park is relatively maintenance free.



Recommendation

- *Pursue beautification efforts in the area between West Pike Street and West 7th Street behind the seating area.*

The area between West Pike Street and West 7th Street behind the seating area is currently empty and underutilized. The city should seek to install plantings and landscape to increase the visual appearance of this area. In doing so, the city could look to collaborate with local business community to provide the planting materials.

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

Henry Farny Park



Henry Farny Park

This park is not maintained by the City of Covington. As such, this does not make recommendations for future improvements to this facility. The does document currently provided at this facility in encompassing of all the recreation facilities amenities provided within the city. In the major improvements are made within this city and the owner(s) of the facility should coordinate to provide amenities that best address the recreation needs of the community and prevent the duplication of amenities.

Park Location & Access

Henry Farny Memorial Park is at the southeast corner of Banklick and West Robbins Streets. The facility is located in the Seminary Square neighborhood of the city. There are two pedestrian entrances to the facility location on Banklick Street and West Robbins Street.

Features & Amenities

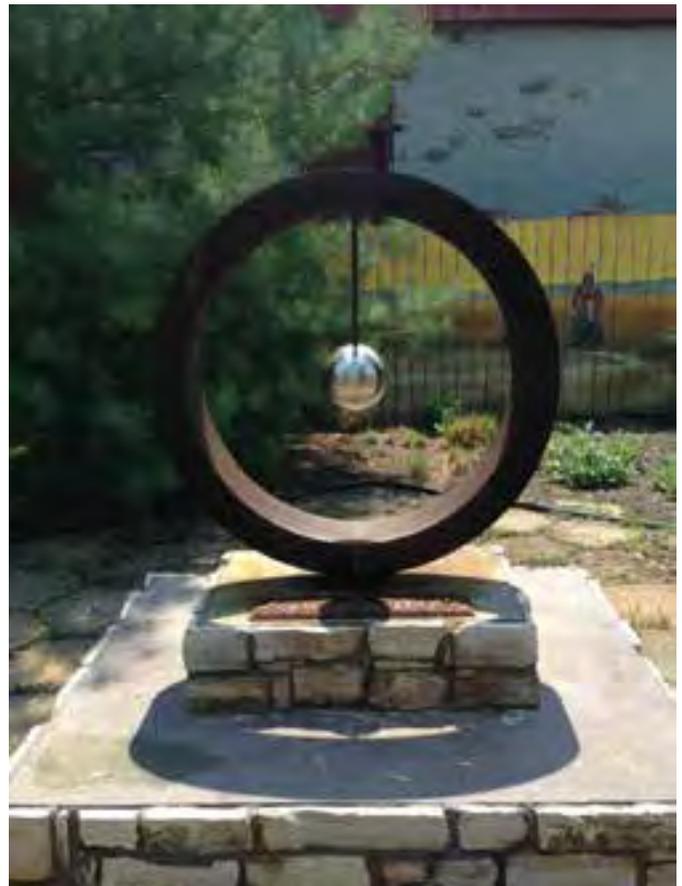
- Art installations
- Monument and Dedication Plaque
- Sculptures
- Walking Path (Paved)

Park Character and Use

Henry Farny Park is a small public common area. The facility features several art installations connected by a paved walking path. The park is dedicated to Henry Farny, an artist who had a home and studio in Covington from 1890 until 1907.



Best known for his realistic paintings of Native American culture, Farny resided and painted out of his home located at 1029-1031 Banklick Street, close to the location of the park today. Following his death in 1917, the house slowly fell into disrepair and was subsequently raised in 1987. Many of Farny's works are on permanent display at the Cincinnati Art Museum.



Korean War Memorial Commons



Korean War Memorial Commons

Park Location & Access

The Korean War Memorial Commons is located in the heart of the Ritte's Corner intersection between Winston and Decoursey Avenues. The facility is located in the Ritte's East Latonia neighborhood of the city. There are two continuous pedestrian entrances to the facility located along Winston and Decoursey Avenues.

Features & Amenities

- Benches
- Fountain
- Monument and Dedication Plaque
- Sculptures

Park Character and Use

Korean War Memorial Commons paved gathering area which sits on approximately 2,820 square feet. The site features a seating area oriented toward a 4-foot-6-inch tall cast iron, two-tiered fountain fountain.



The fountain was, donated by Covington real estate developer Oakley Farris in memory of his late brother, Clofus, who was killed in the Korean War. Korean in July of 1957.



The memorial also features a plaque with the names of Covington residents who lost their lives or served in the Korean War.



Recommendations

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Continue existing partnerships to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

The city currently partners with the Latonia Neighborhood Association to maintain the fountain and grounds of the facility. The city should maintain this partnership in order to reduce maintenance costs. Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this assessment, which identifies these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

Police Memorial Commons



Police Memorial Commons

Park Location & Access

Police Memorial Commons is located along the north side of East 3rd Street near the southern end of the Roebling Bridge. The park straddles the border of the Central Business District and the Historic Licking Riverside neighborhood. The park has pedestrian access from East 3rd Street.



Features & Amenities

- Benches
- Overlook
- Trash Receptacles
- Monuments and Dedication Plaques

Park Character

Police Memorial Park is a large urban plaza park dedicated to the men and women of the Northern Kentucky region that have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their communities. Located at the foot of the Suspension Bridge, the Northern Kentucky Police Memorial serves as a tribute to those law enforcement officials who have fallen in the line of duty.



Each year the Northern Kentucky Police Chiefs Association holds a Memorial Service in May to honor the fallen.

The park provides an overlook featuring city and river views. The facility also serves as a gateway into the city from Cincinnati featuring signage on the façade of the north facing retaining wall.



Recommendation

- *Future park improvements should be consistent with the recommendations of the Roebling Point Plan.*

The Roebling Point Plan was adopted by the city in September of 2010. The plan calls for the closure of the existing ramps along Roebling Way (see picture on next page) that currently separate the islands along from the Police Memorial Park into a larger area identified as the “Yoke” in the plan. The closure of the ramps would allow for clearer

Police Memorial Commons

marking of pedestrian crossings and create fewer conflict points to increase safety. It would also make better use of the island spaces, which are currently underutilized.

The city should also seek out ways to incorporate softscape elements into the park, such as additional plantings, in order to reduce the total area requiring maintenance.



The plan also calls for additional beautification of the park and the placement of wayfinding signage in the parking areas and activity centers located within close proximity to the facility.

- *Continue to maintain the park and ensure that park equipment and facilities are safe and well kept.*

Providing safe and maintained park facilities is critical to the viability of the facilities themselves as well surrounding neighborhood the park serves.

- *Seek out ways to reduce maintenance costs associated with upkeep of the park.*

Reducing maintenance costs is consistent with the overall recommendations of this plan, which identifies these costs as one of the most significant expenditures of the overall park system budget.

The city should seek out partnerships with an organization or group to assume some or all of the maintenance associated with the park.

Park Recommendations – Linden Grove Cemetery

The Linden Grove Cemetery, in operation since 1843, is located along the south side of West 13th Street in the Westside neighborhood of the city. Situated on 22.3 acres, the cemetery is the largest parcel of open space in the center city area of the city north of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The land is privately owned and provides passive recreation opportunities to visitors during limited hours.

Linden Grove Cemetary



Linden Grove Cemetary

This park is not owned or maintained by the City of Covington. As such, this assessment does not make recommendations for future improvements to this facility. The assessment does document the amenities currently provided at this facility in order to encompassing of all the recreation facilities and amenities provided within the city. In the event that major improvements are made within this park, the city and the owner(s) of the facility should coordinate to provide amenities that best address the recreation needs of the community and prevent the duplication of amenities.

Park Location & Access

The Linden Grove Cemetery and Arboretum is located along the south side of West 13th Street between Holman Avenue and Kavanaugh Street. The facility is located in the Westside neighborhood of the city. There is one entrance to the site located along Holman Avenue that allows for both vehicular and pedestrian access.

Features & Amenities

- Burial Grounds
- Monuments and Dedication Plaques
- Walking Path / Drive Aisle

Park Character & Use

Linden Grove Cemetery and Arboretum sits on approximately 22.3 acres. The historic cemetery was established in 1835 and consecrated in 1843. The cemetery was originally laid out on land owned by the Western Baptist Theological Institute. Over time, the growth of the City of Covington eventually surrounded the area with urban development.

The cemetery contains several memorial and monuments dispersed throughout the site. There are approximately 22,000 burials in Linden Grove, including some of the earliest settlers in the city, a notable congressman from Northern Kentucky, war veterans dating back to the War of 1812, and local citizens of the City.



Linden Grove Cemetery and Arboretum was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001. A permanent historical marker was placed in the cemetery near West 13th Street by the Kentucky Historical Society in 2010.

