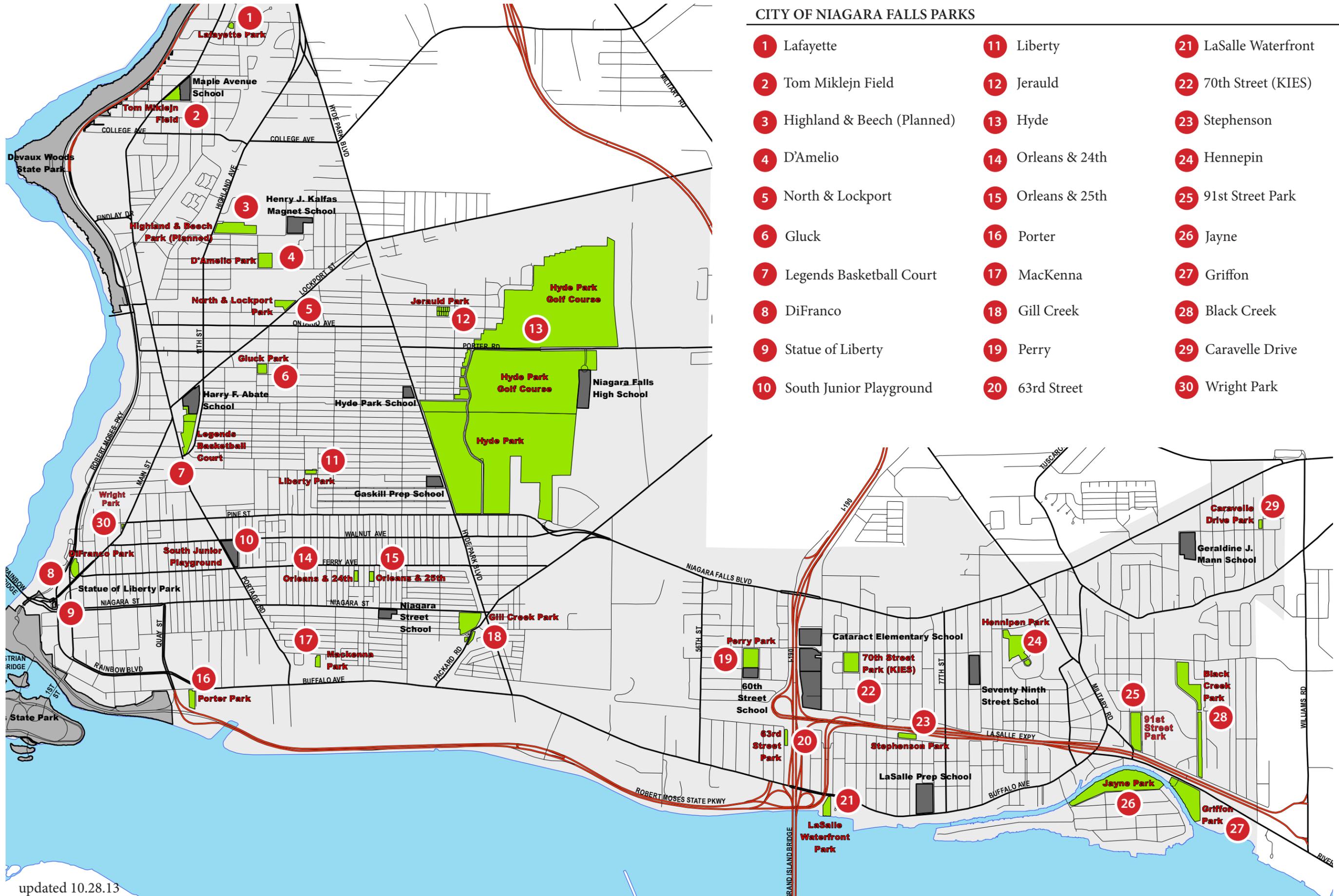


# individual park draft master plans

October 2013







**CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS PARKS**

- |                              |                   |                       |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Lafayette                  | 11 Liberty        | 21 LaSalle Waterfront |
| 2 Tom Miklejn Field          | 12 Jerauld        | 22 70th Street (KIES) |
| 3 Highland & Beech (Planned) | 13 Hyde           | 23 Stephenson         |
| 4 D'Amelio                   | 14 Orleans & 24th | 24 Hennepin           |
| 5 North & Lockport           | 15 Orleans & 25th | 25 91st Street Park   |
| 6 Gluck                      | 16 Porter         | 26 Jayne              |
| 7 Legends Basketball Court   | 17 MacKenna       | 27 Griffon            |
| 8 DiFranco                   | 18 Gill Creek     | 28 Black Creek        |
| 9 Statue of Liberty          | 19 Perry          | 29 Caravelle Drive    |
| 10 South Junior Playground   | 20 63rd Street    | 30 Wright Park        |

## short-term maintenance reduction parks





**Park Type:** Playground Park  
**Size:** .75 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Area

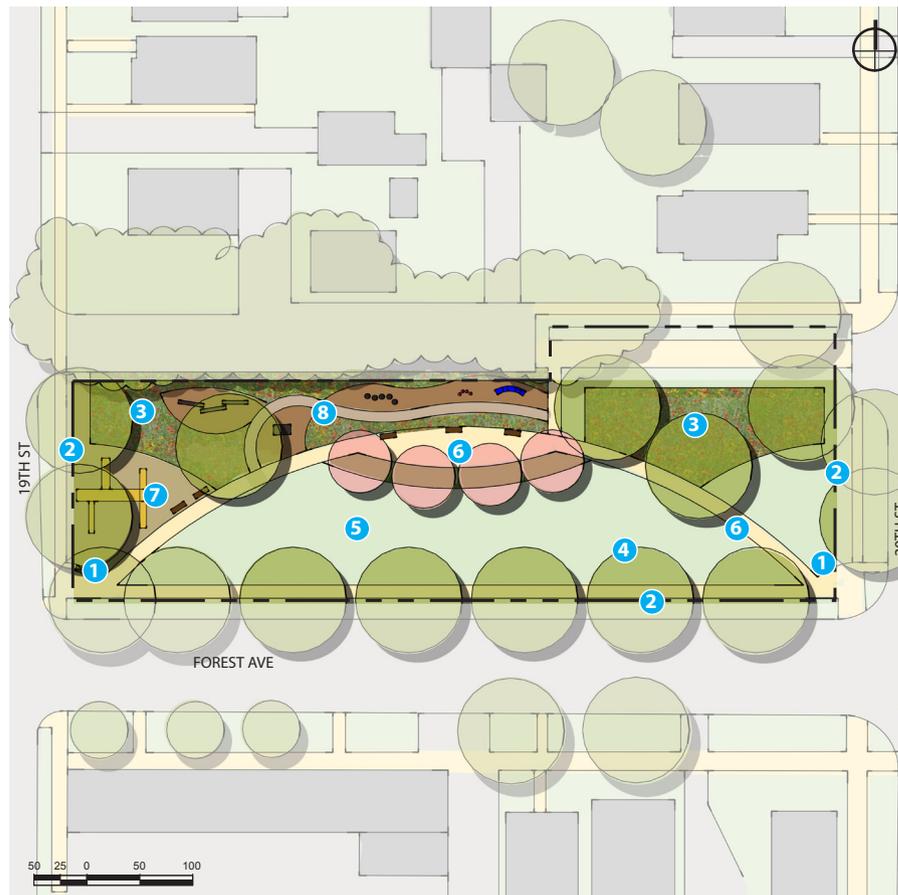
# Liberty Park

Park 11

## Park Description

Liberty Park is located in a residential neighborhood adjacent to a former alley. The east and west edges of the park are bordered by public sidewalks. The park is surrounded by chain link fence with entrances located on the north and east sides of the park. The park is largely open lawn with a few small trees and shrubs located throughout. There are large street trees located along the perimeter.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Replace fence with ornamental fence
- 3 Remove lawn and replace half of site with native meadow and wildflower plantings
- 4 Add shade trees
- 5 Maintain open lawn for informal recreation
- 6 Add internal park circulation and small plaza with seating
- 7 Replace traditional playground
- 8 Add natural play environment

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Liberty Park is currently in a state of disrepair and should be redesigned to provide more value to the surrounding residential properties. Improvements to the park will enhance the park as a neighborhood asset which provide passive and active recreational opportunities. Recommendations for the park include replacement of the existing chain link fence with an ornamental fence. The existing playground, which is in poor condition, should be replaced and a natural play environment should be included alongside the traditional play equipment. New pathways with lighting and seating areas are recommended to increase park accessibility and make the park more inviting. In an effort to reduce maintenance costs, portions of the lawn should be replaced with native meadow and wildflower plantings. Interpretive signage will provide educational opportunities focused on the value of native plantings and habitats.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Maintenance Reduction Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs in the immediate future (0-4 years). The parks in this category are typically underutilized and may contain amenities that are in disrepair. Additionally these parks may provide duplicative recreational opportunities to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Replace fence with ornamental fence	SHORT TERM	\$37,500
3 Remove lawn and replace half of site with native meadow and wildflower plantings	SHORT TERM	\$4,000
4 Add shade trees	SHORT TERM	\$9,000
5 Maintain open lawn for informal recreation	ONGOING	--
6 Add internal park circulation and small plaza with seating	MID TERM	\$161,300
7 Replace traditional playground	MID TERM	\$47,000
8 Add natural play environment	MID TERM	\$76,260
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$317,600</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Nature Park  
**Size:** 1.5 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

# Jerauld Park

Park 12

## Park Description

Jerauld Park contains a playground and athletic fields located in a residential neighborhood. The park is bound by residential properties to the east and west and residential streets to the north and south. Public sidewalks provide access to the park along the north and south boundaries. Park vegetation is mainly turf grass with a few small trees scattered along the park edges. *This park is located on City School District property and is maintained by the City of Niagara Falls.*

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain turf for informal recreation
- 3 Add shade trees
- 4 Naturalize area with wildflowers
- 5 Add fence and educational signage at edge of wildflowers
- 6 Add picnic tables and trash receptacles
- 7 Add pedestrian circulation
- 8 Improve basketball court surface
- 9 Add natural playground

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Jerauld Park is in poor condition with existing park amenities in a state of disrepair. It is recommended that the existing play structures be replaced with a natural play environment and the basketball court be replaced. To reduce maintenance associated with lawn mowing, it is recommended that much of the lawn be replaced with native meadow plantings. Remaining lawn will provide informal recreational opportunities. The meadow plantings can be installed in a pattern to interpret the former parcel lot lines which will also provide walking paths between the meadows. Fencing and signage along meadows will create a clean edge and provide educational information about sustainability, habitat restoration and native plants. The addition of shade trees and picnic tables will enhance the park as a neighborhood amenity.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a '**Short-Term Maintenance Reduction Park.**' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs in the immediate future (0-4 years). The parks in this category are typically underutilized and may contain amenities that are in disrepair. Additionally these parks may provide duplicative recreational opportunities to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$1,500
2 Retain turf for informal recreation	ONGOING	--
3 Add shade trees	SHORT TERM	\$11,400
4 Naturalize area with wildflowers	SHORT TERM	\$5,000
5 Add fence and educational signage at edge of wildflowers	SHORT TERM	\$3,150
6 Add picnic tables and trash receptacles	SHORT TERM	\$25,900
7 Add pedestrian circulation	MID TERM	\$17,000
8 Improve basketball court surface	MID TERM	\$22,000
9 Add natural playground	MID TERM	\$143,220
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$229,170</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

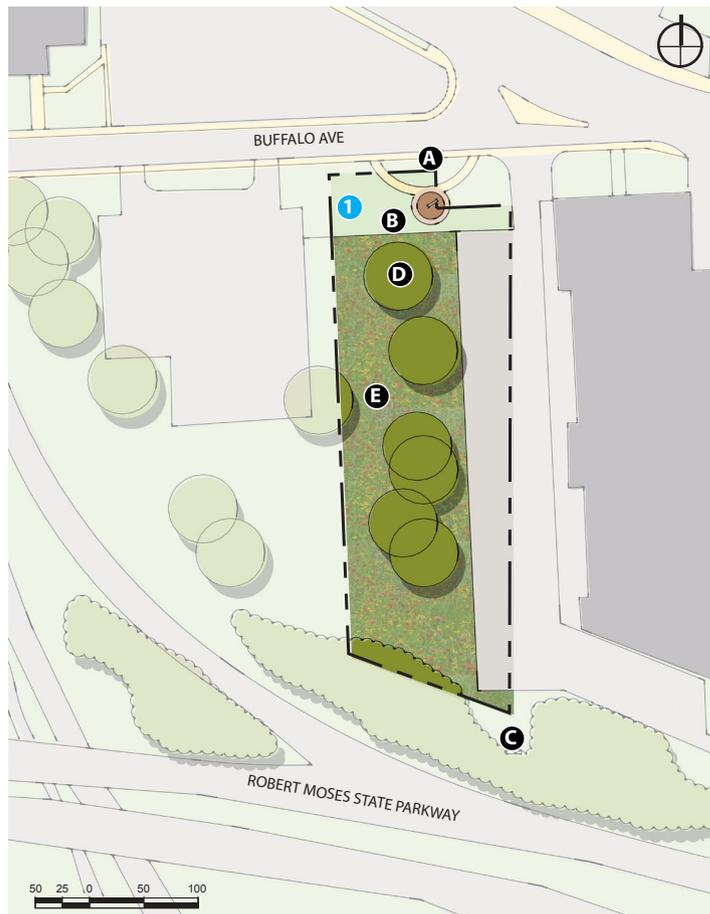
**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 1.7 Acres  
**Location Description:** Edge of former industrial area on Buffalo Avenue

## Park Description

Porter Park is located in a former industrial area on Buffalo Avenue. The park is comprised of open space, mainly vegetated with turf grass and several large shade trees. There is scrub growth along southern embankment to the Robert Moses Parkway. An asphalt parking lot, in very poor condition, is located along the eastern edge of the park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Land bank - maintain mowed lawn along Buffalo Avenue. Park to remain undeveloped until surrounding properties are considered for redevelopment

### Recommended Improvements to be Considered when Further Studied

- A Add park identification
- B Improve educational opportunities at historic cannon
- C Relocate historic Chimney to new location (to be determined)
- D Additional shade trees and plantings
- E Add dog park

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Until adjacent redevelopment occurs, it is recommended that Porter Park be land banked. The existing cannon monument should be preserved and a small park sign should be considered along Buffalo Avenue. The historic chimney at the south end of the site should be relocated to a more historically appropriate location. As part of land banking the site, a native meadow can be installed to increase biodiversity and reduce maintenance costs. It is recommended that the rich history of the park be incorporated in the future development.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Maintenance Reduction Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs in the immediate future (0-4 years). The parks in this category are typically underutilized and may contain amenities that are in disrepair. Additionally these parks may provide duplicative recreational opportunities to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
<b>I</b> Land bank - maintain mowed lawn along Buffalo Avenue. Establish wildflower on remainder of park. Park to remain undeveloped until surrounding properties are considered for redevelopment	SHORT TERM	\$26,425
<b>Recommended Improvements to be Considered when Further Studied</b>	LONG TERM	\$50,000 (Design) \$221,000 (Construction)
<b>A</b> Add park identification		
<b>B</b> Improve educational opportunities at historic cannon		
<b>C</b> Relocate historic Chimney to new location (to be determined)		
<b>D</b> Add dog park		
<b>E</b> Additional shade trees and plantings		
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$297,425</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Nature Park

**Size:** .8 Acres

**Location Description:** Located between industrial and residential areas

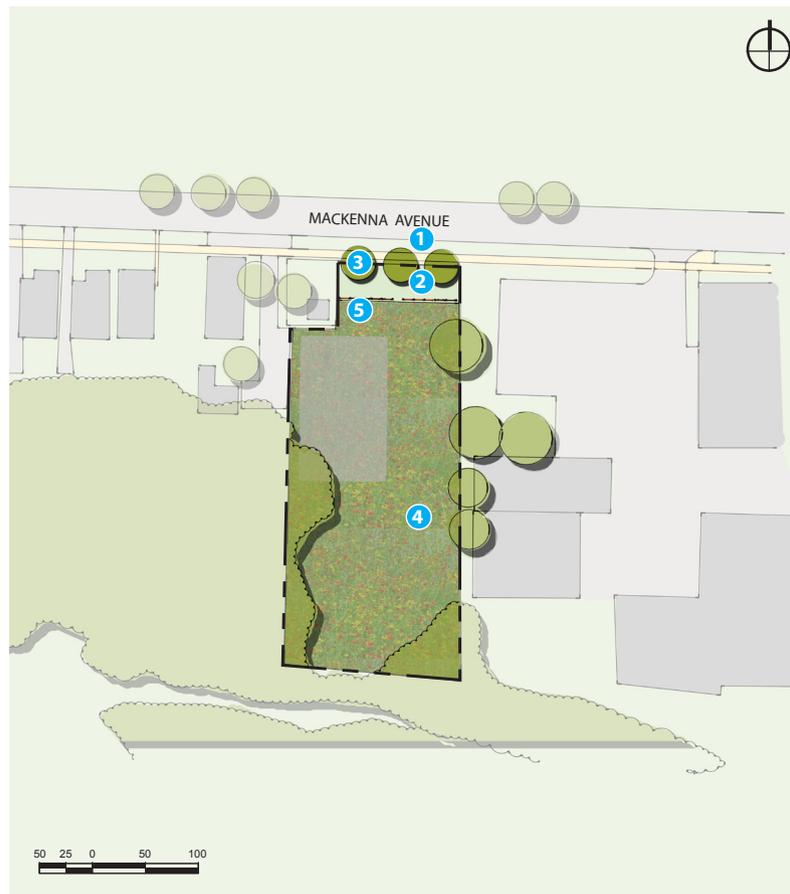
# MacKenna Park

Park 17

## Park Description

MacKenna Park is located between industrial and residential properties. The park is an open green space with remnants of a basketball court. The park is bordered by residential properties to the west and north, an active railroad corridor to the south and an industrial site to the east. Public sidewalks provide access along the north side of the park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain "front yard" turf area
- 3 Add street trees
- 4 Naturalize open area with wildflowers (let basketball court degrade)
- 5 Add fence and educational signage at edge of wildflowers

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Due to the low utilization of the park, other parks within close proximity and the need to reduce maintenance costs it is recommended that MacKenna Park be land banked until the demand for a park in this neighborhood increases. It is recommended that the basketball courts are left to degrade and the majority of the park be naturalized with wildflowers. Along the 'front yard' of the park a new fence should be installed to create a clean edge along the wildflower plantings. This installation will also provide an opportunity for educational signage focused on sustainability, ecology and native habitats.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a '**Short-Term Maintenance Reduction Park.**' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs in the immediate future (0-4 years). The parks in this category are typically underutilized and may contain amenities that are in disrepair. Additionally these parks may provide duplicative recreational opportunities to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$1,500
2 Retain "front yard" turf area	ONGOING	--
3 Add street trees	SHORT TERM	\$1,800
4 Naturalize open area with wildflowers (let basketball court degrade)	SHORT TERM	\$16,400
5 Add fence and educational signage at edge of wildflowers	SHORT TERM	\$5,800
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$25,500</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 4.5 Acres  
**Location Description:** Primarily Residential

# 70th Street (KIES) Park

Park 22

## Park Description

The 70th Street (KIES) Park is located within a residential neighborhood. The park is accessible by public sidewalk on all four sides. The park is primarily open green space with few recreational amenities. Large established shade trees line the south edge of the park and a small grouping of shade trees are located adjacent to the basketball court.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Install park identification
- 2 Restore baseball field for informal baseball / kickball
- 3 Naturalize area with wildflowers and reforest area
- 4 Plant shade and ornamental trees
- 5 Relocate basketball court
- 6 Add picnic tables
- 7 Add traditional playground
- 8 Add drinking fountain and lighting
- 9 Add plaza with shade structure and pedestrian paths
- 10 Add small plazas at intersections
- 11 Add focal feature in plaza
- 12 Add rolling knolls
- 13 Enhance pedestrian crossings

## Proposed Capital Improvements

70th Street (KIES) Park is a large open space located within a residential neighborhood. A community initiated proposal for park improvements was reviewed and refined in the development of recommendations for the park. The existing basketball court is in disrepair and should be replaced, however the existing baseball diamond is well-utilized and should be maintained. Recommendations to enhance the recreational opportunities and community programming needs in this neighborhood include: park identification signage, a central plaza with a shade structure or pavilion, picnic tables and seating, a traditional and natural play environment, and a pedestrian circulation path system through the park. It is also recommended that the adjacent crosswalks are striped to enhanced safety for children and pedestrians. In an effort to reduce maintenance costs a segment of the park will be reforested and replaced with meadow plantings, reducing the amount of turf to be maintained and increasing biodiversity in the park.

# 70th Street (KIES) Park

Park 22

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Maintenance Reduction Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs in the immediate future (0-4 years). The parks in this category are typically underutilized and may contain amenities that are in disrepair. Additionally these parks may provide duplicative recreational opportunities to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

	Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1	Install park identification	SHORT TERM	\$13,000
2	Restore baseball field for informal baseball / kickball	SHORT TERM	\$45,000
3	Naturalize area with wildflowers and reforest area	SHORT TERM	\$61,200
4	Plant shade and ornamental trees	SHORT TERM	\$27,000
5	Relocate basketball court	MID TERM	\$22,000
6	Add picnic tables	MID TERM	\$10,500
7	Add traditional playground	MID TERM	\$223,250
8	Add drinking fountain and lighting	MID TERM	\$69,500
9	Add plaza with shade structure and pedestrian paths	LONG TERM	\$322,300
10	Add small plazas at intersections	LONG TERM	\$30,000
11	Add focal feature in plaza	LONG TERM	\$50,000
12	Add rolling knolls	LONG TERM	\$119,000
13	Enhance pedestrian crossings	LONG TERM	\$1,400
<b>Total Cost:</b>			<b>\$994,150</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Nature Park  
**Size:** 6.8 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

# Hennepin Park

Park 24

## Park Description

Hennepin Park is located within a residential neighborhood. The park is primarily woodlands composed of mostly oak trees, which are showing signs of stress. Public sidewalks located at the northwest and southeast edges of the park provide the only points of access to the park. There are no park amenities and the park has poor drainage with wet areas.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain lawn at park entrances
- 3 Add natural playground
- 4 Naturalize areas
- 5 Add picnic tables
- 6 Add pedestrian circulation path
- 7 Add raised boardwalk and wetland interpretive signage

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Hennepin Park is underutilized due to poor drainage conditions and low visibility. Proposed improvements include the addition of park identification signage and improved park circulation. It is recommended that the wetland-like character of the site be enhanced with the installation of native wetland plantings. This planting installation will provide a more diverse ecosystem and reduce maintenance costs associated with mowing turf. With the addition of several trails, two at grade and one raised boardwalk, accessibility throughout the park will not be compromised by the wet soil condition. Installation of interpretive signage will enhance the ecological focus of the park providing educational opportunities for park visitors. Other improvements include the addition of picnic tables and a natural playground on the parcel south of Laughlin Drive.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Maintenance Reduction Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to reduce long-term maintenance and operational costs in the immediate future (0-4 years). The parks in this category are typically underutilized and may contain amenities that are in disrepair. Additionally these parks may provide duplicative recreational opportunities to the surrounding residential neighborhoods.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$7,500
2 Retain lawn at park entrances	ONGOING	--
3 Add natural playground	SHORT TERM	\$130,200
4 Naturalize areas	SHORT TERM	\$114,000
5 Add picnic tables	SHORT TERM	\$35,000
6 Add pedestrian circulation path	MID TERM	\$57,800
7 Add raised boardwalk and wetland interpretive signage	LONG TERM	\$42,400
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$386,900</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

## short-term investment parks





**Park Type:** Playground Park  
**Size:** .35 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

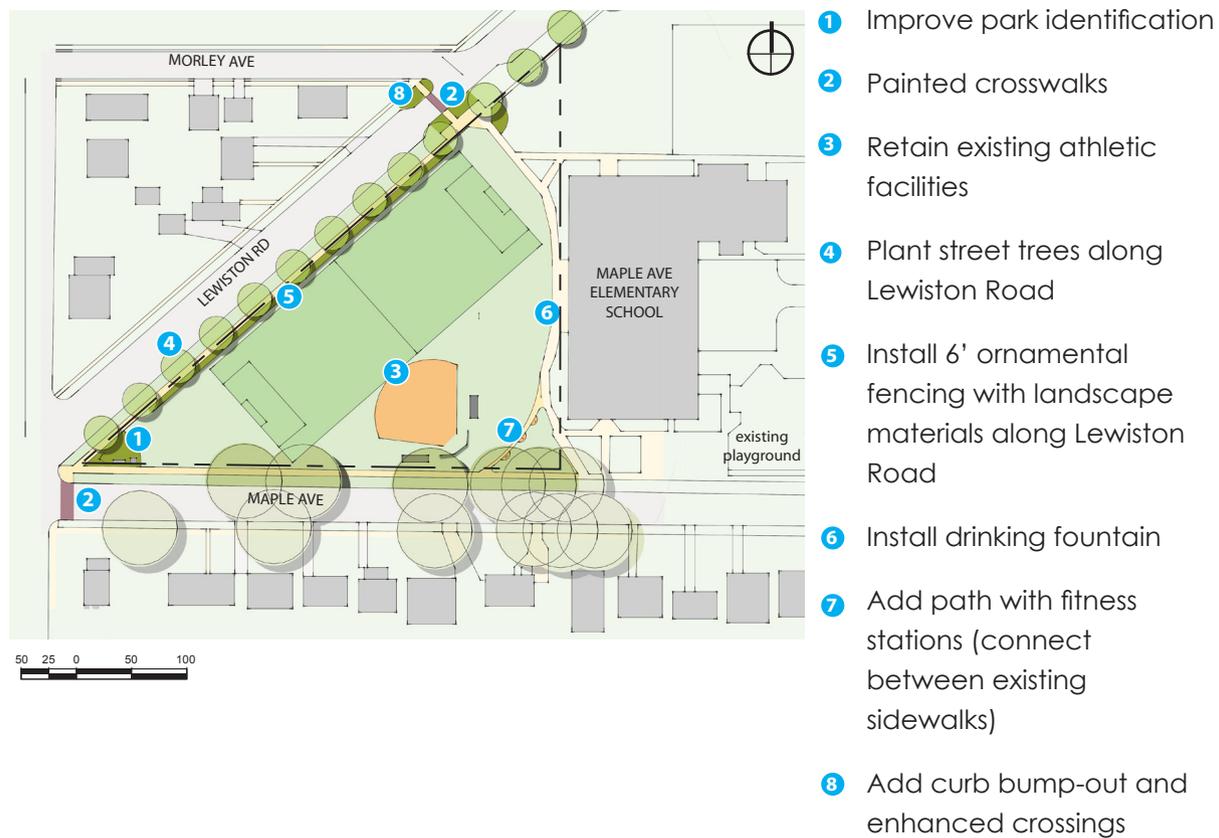
# Tom Miklejn Field

Park 2

## Park Description

Tom Miklejn Field is a large triangular green space with a multipurpose athletic field. Located in a residential neighborhood, Tom Miklejn Field is bordered by Maple Avenue Elementary School to the east and residential streets to the south and west. Shade trees line Maple Avenue along the south side of the park. A chain link fence lines the west edge of the park, along Lewiston Road. The park is bordered by public sidewalks to the south and west with a curvilinear pathway along the eastern edge that connects the two sidewalks. *This park is located on City owned property but is maintained by the City School District.*

## Park Master Plan



## Proposed Capital Improvements

Proposed improvements at Tom Miklejn Field will enhance the park's identification and improve pedestrian safety. Improvements include the installation of a six foot tall ornamental fence with landscape along Lewiston Road to prevent stray balls from entering the pedestrian and vehicular environment. The introduction of striped crosswalks on Lewiston Road and Maple Avenue will provide safe crossings for school-aged children and pedestrians. Other improvements include the addition of a path with fitness stations that connects two existing sidewalks and the installation of a new drinking fountain.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Improve park identification	SHORT TERM	\$10,000
2 Painted crosswalks	SHORT TERM	\$400
3 Retain existing athletic facilities	ONGOING	--
4 Plant street trees along Lewiston Road	SHORT TERM	\$7,800
5 Install 6' ornamental fencing with landscape materials along Lewiston Road	MID TERM	\$42,000
6 Install drinking fountain	MID TERM	\$15,000
7 Add path with fitness stations (connect between existing sidewalks)	LONG TERM	\$9,900
8 Add curb bump-out and enhanced crossings	LONG TERM	\$29,000

**Total Cost: \$169,100**

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 6.4 Acres  
**Location Description:** Industrial / Residential

# Highland and Beech (Planned)

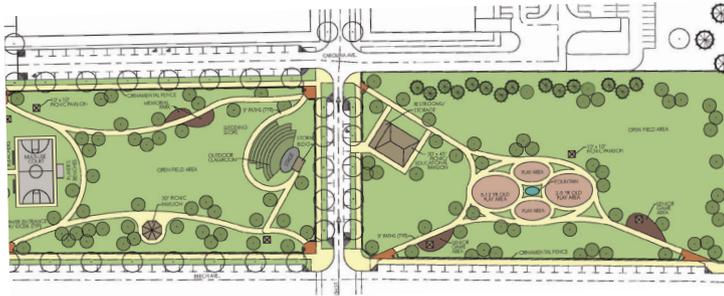
Park **3**

## Park Description

The planned Highland and Beech Park is located on a former industrial brownfield site on the corner of Highland Avenue and Beech Avenue. Functioning industrial buildings border the northern edge while residential development borders the remaining sides. The entire property is currently fenced off with no public access permitted and has the appearance of an abandoned industrial site. In 2011, concept plans for the site were developed by the community which included both passive and active recreational opportunities.

## Park Master Plan

Community Design Plan



- 1 Plant shade trees, landscape buffer and maintain open lawn
- 2 Add pedestrian circulation
- 3 Add park identification
- 4 Add utilities - drinking fountain and lighting

Recommended Master Plan



- 5 Add baseball field
- 6 Add playground and game tables
- 7 Add picnic pavilion
- 8 Add Multi-Use Gaming Area MUGA
- 9 Add small interpretive plaza with seating
- 10 Add amphitheater

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Proposed improvements at Highland and Beech will transform a former industrial brownfield site into a neighborhood park. The proposed park improvements include a picnic pavilion, open lawn and amphitheater for community events. Passive recreational opportunities will be available with the addition of new pedestrian paths, seating, game tables, and interpretive signage. Active recreational opportunities are proposed with the installation of open lawn for informal athletics, a baseball diamond, playgrounds, and a multi-use gaming area (MUGA). The improvements in this park should include water service and park lighting which will support greater event programming and increase park security. The improvements recommended in this master plan reflect and build upon the community needs expressed in the 2011 community design plan.

# Highland and Beech (Planned)

Park 3

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Plant shade trees, landscape buffer and maintain open lawn	SHORT TERM	\$170,000
2 Add pedestrian circulation	SHORT TERM	\$368,000
3 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$35,000
4 Add utilities - drinking fountain and lighting	SHORT TERM	\$290,000
5 Add baseball field	SHORT TERM	\$45,000
6 Add playground and game tables	MID TERM	\$282,250
7 Add picnic pavilion	MID TERM	\$75,000
8 Add Multi-Use Gaming Area MUGA	LONG TERM	\$380,000
9 Add small interpretive plaza with seating	LONG TERM	\$35,000
10 Add amphitheater	LONG TERM	\$230,060
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$1,910,850</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Large Park

**Size:** 460 Acres

**Location Description:** Located at the western edge of the original city center

# Hyde Park

Park 13

## Park Description

Hyde Park is the largest city owned public open space in the City of Niagara Falls. Hyde Park is bound on the west and south by residential neighborhoods, on the east by residential and industrial areas, and north by a rail corridor. The park is spatially arranged around internal natural features and vehicular circulation. There are active recreation elements throughout the park. The primary park entrance is off Pine Avenue and Robbins Drive is the primary bisecting park road. The golf course is accessed from Porter Road.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Maintain:  
Golf Course, Ball Fields, Pool, Splash Pad, Memorials, Rose Garden, Volleyball Courts, Ice Pavilion, (select) Tennis Courts, Bocce, Picnic Pavilions, Circulation Paths

- 1 Retain existing facilities, unless otherwise noted
- 2 Improve water quality through various projects (aeration with fountains, shoreline plantings, etc.)
- 3 Explore multi-season recreational opportunities on red golf course (nature trails and cross-country skiing)
- 4 Improve Duck Island (bridge, eroding banks, and pavilion)

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Hyde Park is centrally located and offers a wide variety of experiences and recreational amenities. The main recommendations for the park are to maintain the existing facilities, focus on improving the water quality of Hyde Lake, to promote expanded use and add additional amenities that will enhance the park as a destination for the City and region.

Hyde Lake is included in the Environmental Protection Agency, 2012 Section 303 (d) List of Impaired Waters Requiring a TMDL/Other Strategy. The pollutant documented is phosphorus and is suspected to be caused by stormwater runoff. The first step to mitigating the Lake's poor water quality is with the development of a water monitoring strategy. It is recommended that the City partner with a local water resource organization, such as the Buffalo Niagara River Keeper, for water monitoring. Because stormwater runoff is the cause of the water quality issues, recommended improvement strategies include;

- 1) Implement green infrastructure to filter stormwater before it enters the lake,
- 2) Install shoreline plantings to stabilize the banks of the lake and reduce erosion, and
- 3) Installing a fountain to oxygenate the water. Improvements in the water quality in Hyde Lake should also contribute to improved conditions at Gill Creek.

Various improvements are recommended to expand the recreation offerings in the park, including the addition of volleyball courts, restoration of tennis courts, and installing a new skate park. Several recommendations focus on the restoration of historic elements, such as the beach and bridle path around the lake. The bridle path could be reinterpreted as a trail, to aid in greater circulation, while the beach would provide access to water, which has been identified as a City priority (see enlarged park plan for location).

General park service improvements include the replacement of two picnic pavilions on the east side of the lake and the installation of a new picnic pavilion on the west side of the lake.

There is enormous opportunity for a public private partnership for two areas in the park, at the lake and Sal Maglie Stadium. With regard to the lake, a partnership to provide boat rentals and concessions at Hyde Park Lake would bring back water recreation to the park and provide a destination feature in the park.

As the High School implements their athletic facility improvements, they will no longer maintain Sal Maglie Stadium, and will transfer the maintenance responsibilities back to the City. This increase in maintenance will set the City's maintenance responsibilities even further beyond capacity. A partnership opportunity should be considered to continue the recreational use of the stadium. If this partnership cannot be identified, adaptive reuse strategies should be considered. The City should evaluate and consider adaptive reuse opportunities for Sal Maglie Stadium through a subsequent planning and feasibility process.

## Enlarged Park Master Plan



- 5 Add three picnic pavilions with drinking fountains and restrooms
- 6 Replace playground
- 7 Add two volleyball courts
- 8 Replace tennis courts with skate park
- 9 Add pedestrian looped path
- 10 Restore historic bridle path, as pedestrian circulation around Hyde Lake
- 11 Restore tennis courts for summer use and install seasonal outdoor ice rink for winter use
- 12 Restore historic beach
- 13 Improve existing baseball fields
- 14 Public-private partnership to provide water recreation rentals and concessions
- 15 Public-private partnership to manage Sal Maglie Stadium
- 16 Continue implementation of Veterans Memorial Master Plan (Entry path to memorial, vegetation, visitors center, etc.)

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a **'Short-Term Investment Park.'** It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

<b>Park Improvement</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
1 Retain existing facilities, unless otherwise noted	<b>ONGOING</b>	--
2 Improve water quality through various projects (aeration with fountains, shoreline plantings, etc.)	<b>SHORT TERM</b>	\$260,000
3 Explore multi-season recreational opportunities on red golf course (nature trails and cross-country skiing)	<b>SHORT TERM</b>	\$177,000
4 Improve Duck Island (bridge, eroding banks, and pavilion)	<b>SHORT TERM</b>	\$292,500
5 Add three picnic pavilions with drinking fountains and restrooms	<b>SHORT TERM</b>	\$553,000
6 Replace playground	<b>SHORT TERM</b>	\$258,500
7 Add two volleyball courts	<b>MID TERM</b>	\$20,000
8 Replace tennis courts with skate park	<b>MID TERM</b>	\$360,000
9 Add pedestrian looped path	<b>MID TERM</b>	\$564,000
10 Restore historic bridle path, as pedestrian circulation around Hyde Lake	<b>MID TERM</b>	\$325,000
11 Restore tennis courts for summer use and install seasonal outdoor ice rink for winter use	<b>LONG TERM</b>	\$304,000
12 Restore historic beach	<b>LONG TERM</b>	\$550,000
13 Improve existing baseball fields	<b>LONG TERM</b>	\$376,000
14 Public-private partnership to provide water recreation rentals and concessions	<b>LONG TERM</b>	--
15 Public-private partnership to manage Sal Maglie Stadium	<b>LONG TERM</b>	--
16 Continue implementation of Veterans Memorial Master Plan (Entry path to memorial, vegetation, visitors center, etc.)	<b>LONG TERM</b>	--

**Total Cost: \$3,631,000**

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** .7 Acres Each  
**Location Description:** Residential Area

## Orleans and 24th and 25th

Park 14 15

### Park Description

Orleans and 24th and 25th Park are miniparks located in residential neighborhoods. The open greenspace of both is surrounded by residential streets on all sides. The streets located on the east and west sides of the park provide access to rear vehicular entrances of the adjacent residential properties. The vegetation in the park is turf grass.

### Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Establish turf area for informal recreation
- 3 Plant shade trees
- 4 Locate boulders at park corners to restrict vehicular access



### Proposed Capital Improvements

Proposed improvements at Orleans and 24th and 25th Parks will address the park's identification as a community green space for the surrounding neighborhood. Improvements include installation of a park identification sign on Ferry Avenue, establishment of turf area for informal recreation, installations of shade trees around the perimeter, and placement of boulders at park corners to restrict vehicular access.

# Orleans and 24th and 25th

Park 14 15

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$6,000
2 Establish turf area for informal recreation	SHORT TERM	\$100,000
3 Plant shade trees	SHORT TERM	\$13,200
4 Locate boulders at park corners to restrict vehicular access	SHORT TERM	\$6,600
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$125,800 Per Park</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park

**Size:** 6.3 Acres

**Location Description:** Along Gill Creek at intersection of Niagara Street

# Gill Creek Park

Park 18

## Park Description

Gill Creek Park is dominated by open green space with several park amenities / structures and pedestrian circulation paths. The park is bordered by residential properties to the west and by roads to the north, south and east. Gill Creek flows north to south along the eastern edge of the park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain existing park features (gazebo, creek walk, memorial, planting beds, volleyball, and open lawn)
- 3 Restrict vehicular access to park with removable bollards
- 4 Clear viewsheds at fishing locations
- 5 Add security camera
- 6 Add traditional playground
- 7 Add pedestrian circulation
- 8 Rehabilitate comfort station
- 9 Incorporate public art mural on comfort station
- 10 Add natural play environment
- 11 Boat launch (requires improved water quality)
- 12 Add pedestrian trail to Hyde Park
- 13 Add pedestrian trail south along Gill Creek
- 14 Open utility bridge for pedestrian use

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Gill Creek Park is a well utilized community park that would benefit from several modest improvements. Proposed improvements will build upon existing park initiatives, including the addition of a new playground and improved fishing access. The existing comfort station is in need of renovations to bring it up to contemporary park standards which will better service current and potential park programming. Gill Creek is currently included on the DEC's 2012 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters Requiring a TMDL/Other Strategy, therefore recommendations for the addition of a new kayak launch should be considered after water quality is sufficiently improved. A final improvement, though outside of the park boundary, is to add a trail to the north and south of the park to improve trail connectivity within the City. A northbound trail would provide a valuable connection to Hyde Park along the creek and contribute to the citywide trail system.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$11,500
2 Retain existing park features (gazebo, creek walk, memorial, planting beds, volleyball, and open lawn)	ONGOING	--
3 Restrict vehicular access to park with removable bollards	SHORT TERM	\$5,400
4 Clear viewsheds at fishing locations	SHORT TERM	\$517
5 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$20,000
6 Add traditional playground	SHORT TERM	\$211,500
7 Add pedestrian circulation	MID TERM	\$50,000
8 Rehabilitate comfort station	MID TERM	\$60,000
9 Incorporate public art mural on comfort station	MID TERM	\$50,000
10 Add natural play environment	MID TERM	\$167,400
11 Boat launch (requires improved water quality)	LONG TERM	\$35,000
12 Add pedestrian trail to Hyde Park	LONG TERM	\$126,000
13 Add pedestrian trail south along Gill Creek	LONG TERM	\$94,000
14 Open utility bridge for pedestrian use	LONG TERM	\$20,000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$851,317</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Large Park  
**Size:** 20.7 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood of Cayuga Island

## Park Description

Jayne Park is located on the Little River Channel of the Niagara River, at the confluence of the River and Cayuga Creek. The park includes open green space, a sledding hill at western end of the park, active recreation areas towards the east and a large vegetated area at the far eastern end. A memorial garden located in the center of the park contains a flagpole and planter.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Selectively clear views to water
- 3 Manage invasive species
- 4 Add pedestrian circulation path with fitness circuit
- 5 Add trash receptacles
- 6 Resurface basketball court
- 7 Replace playground
- 8 Naturalize former baseball field with wildflower meadow
- 9 Modernize comfort station
- 10 Small plaza with seating and ornamental plantings

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Proposed improvements at Jayne Park include managing invasive species, selectively clearing views to the water, and adding a pedestrian circulation path with fitness circuit through the park. Improvements to existing park amenities include resurfacing of the basketball court, replacement of the existing playground, and restoration of the comfort station. In an effort to reduce maintenance costs and increase biodiversity, it is recommended that the former baseball fields are naturalized with a wildflower meadow, including educational signage.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$10,000
2 Selectively clear views to water	SHORT TERM	\$2,686
3 Manage invasive species	ONGOING	--
4 Add pedestrian circulation path with fitness circuit	SHORT TERM	\$212,000
5 Add trash receptacles	SHORT TERM	\$2,800
6 Resurface basketball court	SHORT TERM	\$24,400
7 Replace playground	SHORT TERM	\$199,750
8 Naturalize former baseball field with wildflower meadow	SHORT TERM	\$144,500
9 Modernize comfort station	LONG TERM	\$60,000
10 Small plaza with seating and ornamental plantings	LONG TERM	\$52,500
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$708,636</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

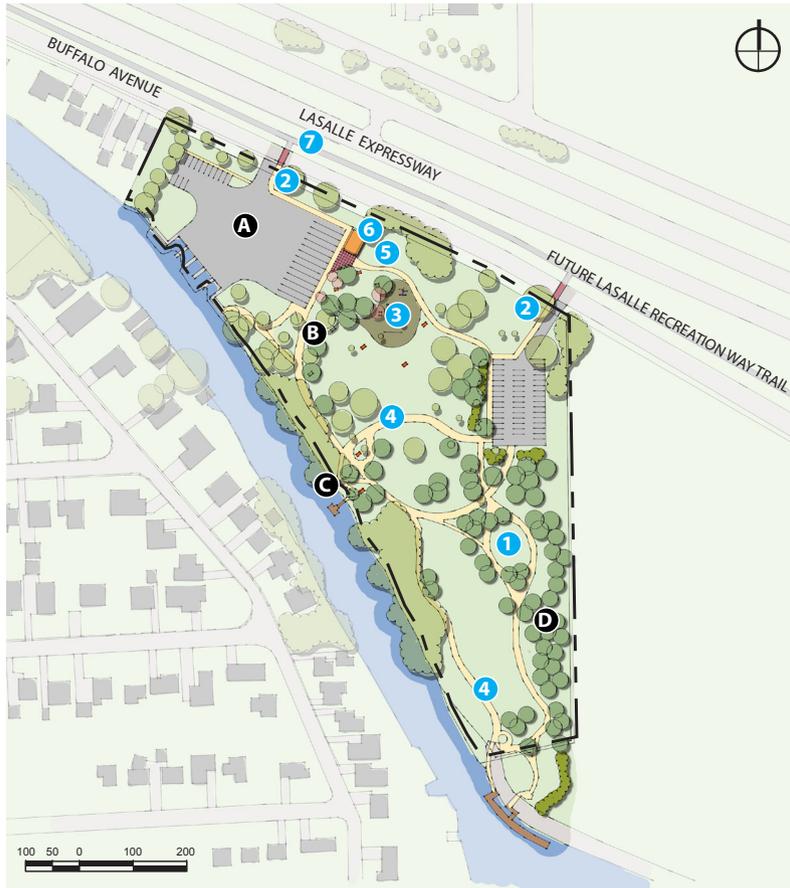
**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Large Park  
**Size:** 20 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood and Landfill

## Park Description

Griffon Park is a large park with waterfront access and playground facilities located in a residential neighborhood and adjacent to a landfill. The waterfront park is located at the confluence of Little River and Niagara River. The park is bordered by Buffalo Avenue to the north and the Little River to the south. The west edge of the park is bordered by residential property, while the east edge is bordered by the 102nd Street Landfill. The park is primarily open green space with large canopy trees along the river bank and scattered throughout the park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Remove tot lot
- 2 Enhance park identification
- 3 Retain existing playground
- 4 Reconfigure pedestrian walkways
- 5 Add security camera
- 6 Construct comfort station
- 7 Construct future connection to the LaSalle Recreation Way Trail

### Current Projects Underway

- A Resurface parking lot
- B Install new lighting
- C Construct small boat dock
- D Plant vegetation

## Proposed Capital Improvements

The recommendations at Griffon Park will build upon improvement projects underway which include: tree plantings, resurfacing the parking lot, installation of new lighting, and construction of a small kayak launch. Proposed improvements will enhance the park user experience through the improvement of park identification, reconfiguring the park path system to improve circulation, and construction of a new comfort station (with drinking fountains). In the future, it is recommended that pedestrian crossings be added to connect to the future LaSalle Recreationway Trail.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Remove tot lot	SHORT TERM	\$7,500
2 Enhance park identification	SHORT TERM	\$4,500
3 Retain existing playground	ONGOING	--
4 Reconfigure pedestrian walkways	MID TERM	\$263,600
5 Add security camera	MID TERM	\$10,000
6 Construct comfort station	LONG TERM	\$100,000
7 Construct future connection to the LaSalle Recreation Way Trail	LONG TERM	\$9,000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$394,600</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Playground Park  
**Size:** .5 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

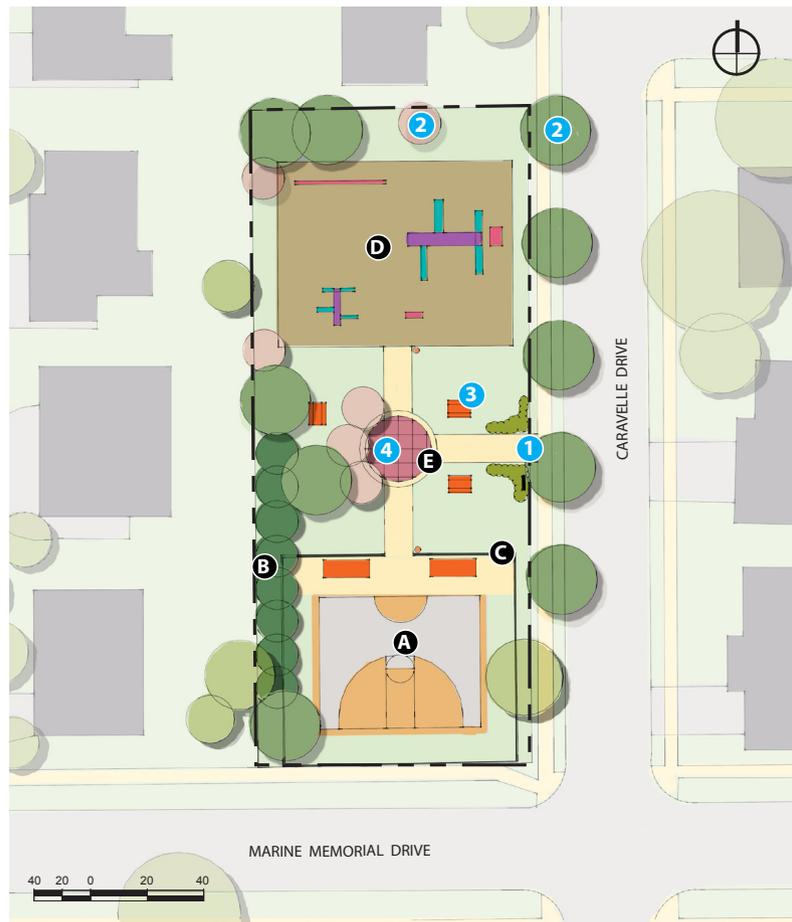
# Caravelle Drive Park

Park 29

## Park Description

Caravelle Drive Park contains playgrounds and a basketball court and is located in a residential neighborhood. The south and east sides are bordered by residential streets and the north and west sides are adjacent to the backyards of residential homes. The park is fenced in on all sides by a chain link fence that is in moderate condition. There is a double gate entry on the south side and a single gate entry on the east side.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Plant shade and ornamental trees
- 3 Add picnic tables
- 4 Add small plaza with seating

### Current Projects Underway

- A Improve basketball court
- B Install buffer between basketball court and adjacent residential properties.
- C Add perimeter fence at court
- D Replace traditional play area
- E Add drinking fountains

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Because Caravelle Drive Park is a neighborhood park which provides the only walkable recreational opportunities in a dense residential neighborhood, it is recommended that improvements include the replacement of both the existing basketball court and play equipment. Additionally, the park should have an identification sign and park rules sign installed. This signage will inform visitors of the hours of operation and rules of play with respect to the adjacent residential properties. Other improvements recommended for this park include seating adjacent to both the basketball court and playground and a drinking fountain.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Short-Term Investment Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities that would result in improved recreational opportunities in the short term (0-4 years). Parks in this category may contain amenities that are in disrepair and/or are highly utilized. Additionally, funding sources have typically already been identified to assist in the implementation of many of the recommended improvements.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Plant shade and ornamental trees	SHORT TERM	\$16,100
3 Add picnic tables	SHORT TERM	\$10,500
4 Add small plaza with seating	LONG TERM	\$53,400
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$83,000</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

## mid-term investment parks





**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 3.1 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood  
**Date Constructed:** Early 1980's

## Park Description

D'Amelio Park is situated within a residential neighborhood. The park is surrounded by a recently completed housing development on the north, south, and east. The park is divided into two primary sections, separated by a parking lot. The northern 1/3 of the park is composed of a retention basin and the southern 2/3 of the park contains sports courts, two pools and play structures that sit within scattered trees.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain a) pool facilities, b) parking lot, c) basketball court and d) ball wall
- 3 Naturalize with wildflowers
- 4 Add security camera
- 5 Add new lighting
- 6 Add 12' security fence around pool
- 7 Replace traditional playground
- 8 Plant shade trees along park boundary
- 9 Improve pedestrian connections to the Centre Ave and Calumet Ave community centers
- 10 Add picnicking area
- 11 Add natural play environment

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Proposed improvements at D'Amelio Park will address safety concerns, improve amenities in disrepair, and provided new amenities in the park. Park improvements include the addition of park identification, replacement of the existing traditional playground, the addition of a natural play environment, new picnicking areas and shade trees. Pedestrian connections will be improved between D'Amelio Park and the community center on Calumet Avenue and the newly re-opened community center on Centre Avenue.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Mid-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to improve recreational opportunities and reduced maintenance in the next five to eight years. However, the parks in this category are generally less utilized and the park condition may be acceptable for the next five years.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,500
2 Retain a)pool facilities, b)parking lot, c) basketball court and d)ball wall	ONGOING	--
3 Naturalize with wildflowers	SHORT TERM	\$60,080
4 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$20,000
5 Add new lighting	SHORT TERM	\$42,000
6 Add 12' security fence around pool	MID TERM	\$112,500
7 Replace traditional playground	MID TERM	\$282,000
8 Plant shade trees along park boundary	MID TERM	\$20,400
9 Improve pedestrian connections to the Centre Ave and Calumet Ave community centers	LONG TERM	\$500
10 Add picnicking area	LONG TERM	\$17,500
11 Add natural play environment	LONG TERM	\$297,600
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$856,800</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 5.4 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

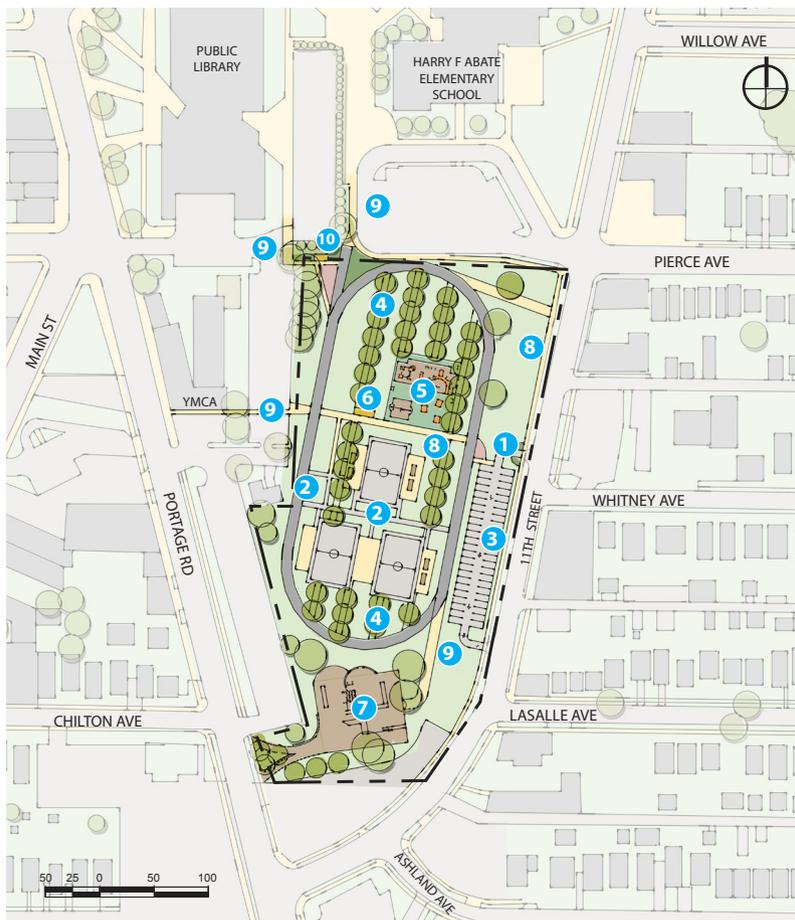
# Legends Basketball Court

Park **7**

## Park Description

Legends Basketball Court is a former high school track and field center that is surrounded by commercial and residential properties with a range of uses, including the City Library, Niagara Falls Transportation Authority bus station, office buildings and the YMCA. The track is bordered on the west and north by asphalt parking lots servicing the neighboring uses. The designated parking lot for the park is located along the east side of the track and is gravel.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Enhance park identification
- 2 Retain existing basketball courts, track, exercise equipment and drinking fountains
- 3 Pave and stripe parking lot
- 4 Plant shade trees
- 5 Add playground
- 6 Add picnic pavilion
- 7 Add skate park
- 8 Add interpretive stations with signage throughout park
- 9 Improve pedestrian circulation to adjacent facilities
- 10 Add comfort station

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Legends Basketball Court is envisioned as an athletic campus because of its recreational amenities and adjacency to the public library, an elementary school, and the YMCA. The existing facilities, including the basketball courts, newly paved track, and drinking fountain should be maintained. Proposed park improvements include a formalized parking lot, the addition of a comfort station, a new playground, and a new skate park. These improvements will be enhanced with internal park circulation providing connectivity, shade tree plantings, improved pedestrian circulation between the park and adjacent facilities, and directional signage within the park. Due to the rich history of the site, it is also recommended that interpretive signage and landscaping be installed to share the former rail history with park users.

# Legends Basketball Court

Park 7

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Mid-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to improve recreational opportunities and reduced maintenance in the next five to eight years. However, the parks in this category are generally less utilized and the park condition may be acceptable for the next five years.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Enhance park identification	SHORT TERM	\$500
2 Retain existing basketball courts, track, exercise equipment and drinking fountains	ONGOING	--
3 Pave and stripe parking lot	SHORT TERM	\$127,840
4 Plant shade trees	SHORT TERM	\$28,200
5 Add playground	MID TERM	\$220,900
6 Add picnic pavilion	LONG TERM	\$75,000
7 Add skate park	LONG TERM	\$360,000
8 Add interpretive stations with signage throughout park	LONG TERM	\$13,200
9 Improve pedestrian circulation to adjacent facilities	LONG TERM	\$75,500
10 Add comfort station	LONG TERM	\$106,000

**Total Cost: \$1,007,140**

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Ornamental Square

**Size:** .5 Acres

**Location Description:** High Traffic Business and Tourist Area

# Statue of Liberty Park

Park 9

## Park Description

Statue of Liberty Park is an ornamental square flanked by roadways which experience high volumes of vehicular traffic near the international Rainbow Bridge. The east side is bordered by a concrete sidewalk. Within the park are large canopy trees, small planting areas and turf grass. The park includes a statue of liberty replica, lions club monument, flagpoles and benches of varied materials.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Enhance access to Statue of Liberty with public plaza and additional seating
- 3 Add paths connecting to plaza with access to existing monuments
- 4 Add additional landscape
- 5 Add signage and digital interpretive opportunities throughout park

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Improvements proposed for Statue of Liberty Park will enhance its function as an ornamental pocket park and gateway. Recommendations include the addition of park identification signage, circulation paths, and new seating to allow visitors to interact with the existing monuments. New interpretive signage (physical and digital) can explore the history of the City as an international gateway.

# Statue of Liberty Park

Park 9

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Mid-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to improve recreational opportunities and reduced maintenance in the next five to eight years. However, the parks in this category are generally less utilized and the park condition may be acceptable for the next five years.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Enhance access to Statue of Liberty with public plaza and additional seating	SHORT TERM	\$34,700
3 Add paths connecting to plaza with access to existing monuments	MID TERM	\$8,000
4 Add additional landscape	MID TERM	\$8,000
5 Add signage and digital interpretive opportunities throughout park	MID TERM	\$1,6000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$55,300</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 5.8 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

# 91st Street Park

Park 25

## Park Description

91st Street Park contains athletic facilities and is located in a residential neighborhood. Residential streets are located on all four sides of the park and the LaSalle Expressway travels along the south edge of the park. The park is organized linearly with baseball fields at the northern 2/3 of the park and a pool area at the southern end. Vehicular access and the parking are located in the center of the park and accessed from the west side of the park. Public sidewalks provide access at the north and south edges of the park.

## Park Master Plan

Short - Mid Term Master Plan



Long Term Master Plan (Recreate Historic Plan)



- 1 Install park identification
  - 2 Retain existing ball fields and pool
  - 3 Plant shade trees
  - 4 Re-stripe existing parking lot
  - 5 Add natural play area
  - 6 Restore concession stand (includes drinking fountain and restrooms)
  - 7 Add security camera
  - 8 Reintroduce historic path system
- Long-Term Plan Improvements**
- 9 Plant shade trees
  - 10 Relocate parking lot
  - 11 Expand historic path system, including central plaza

## Proposed Capital Improvements

The improvements recommended for 91st Street Park will enhance the park user experience. The baseball fields and swimming pool are the primary amenities at the park. It is recommended that the baseball fields and pool should be maintained. Additional recommendations include restoration of the existing concession stand, installation of a drinking fountain, restrooms, a new playground, as well as increased shade with the planting of shade trees throughout the park. The existing parking lot should be restriped to clearly identify vehicular circulation, pedestrian routes, and parking spaces, which will help to alleviate congestion during baseball games. Because there is rich history associated with this park, it is recommended that historic elements of the park are reintroduced, as the park is developed. Historic improvements to the park include the reintroduction of the historic path system, new plantings, and interpretive signage.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Mid-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to improve recreational opportunities and reduced maintenance in the next five to eight years. However, the parks in this category are generally less utilized and the park condition may be acceptable for the next five years.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Install park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Retain existing ball fields and pool	ONGOING	--
3 Plant shade trees	SHORT TERM	\$13,800
4 Re-stripe existing parking lot	SHORT TERM	\$2,200
5 Add natural play area	MID TERM	\$133,920
6 Restore concession stand (includes drinking fountain and restrooms)	MID TERM	\$65,900
7 Add security camera	MID TERM	\$10,000
8 Reintroduce historic path system	LONG TERM	\$101,000
<b>Long-Term Plan Improvements</b>		
9 Plant shade trees	LONG TERM	\$2,400
10 Relocate parking lot	LONG TERM	\$118,600
11 Expand historic path system, including central plaza	LONG TERM	\$253,000

**Total Cost: \$702,920**

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 1 Acres  
**Location Description:** Site Is Adjacent to Senior Center

# Black Creek Park

Park 28

## Park Description

Black Creek Park is a neighborhood park with playground facility, walking loop, picnic pavilion, and informal nature trail located south of a residential development. Vehicular access to the site is located at the north on Colvin Boulevard and at the west on 95th Street. The park is immediately adjacent to a senior center and a parking lot to the west. The park is densely wooded and many of the trees are tagged with numbers.

## Park Master Plan



## Proposed Capital Improvements

The amenities in Black Creek Park should be enhanced to respond to the needs of the adjacent Senior Center. Recommendations for the park include maintaining the existing park pavilion and walking loop and enhancing the park with new features catering to the parks targeted user group. Enhancements include the addition of a small plaza, game tables, and fitness stations. Additional park improvements include repairing the existing playground and nature trail. The park currently has identification signage located along Colvin Boulevard; it is recommended that this sign is maintained until sign replacement is required.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Mid-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category provide opportunities to improve recreational opportunities and reduced maintenance in the next five to eight years. However, the parks in this category are generally less utilized and the park condition may be acceptable for the next five years.

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Upgrade park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Connect to senior center	SHORT TERM	\$4,500
3 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$10,000
4 Upgrade playground surface	SHORT TERM	\$120,000
5 Add plaza with seating and game tables	LONG TERM	\$96,200
6 Improve nature trail	LONG TERM	\$45,500
7 Add bocce courts	LONG TERM	\$36,000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$315,200</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

# long-term investment parks





**Park Type:** Ornamental Square  
**Size:** .35 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

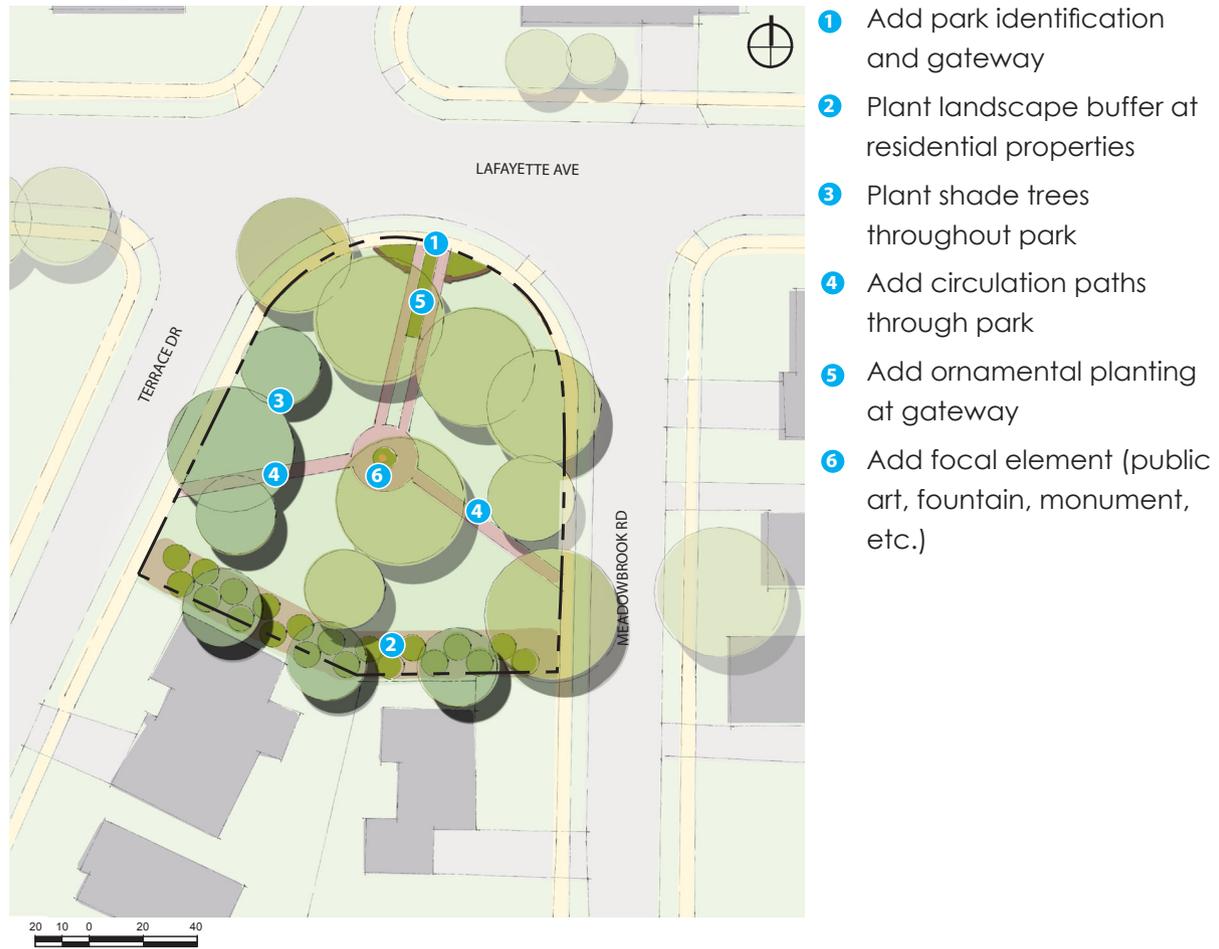
# Lafayette Park

Park 1

## Park Description

Lafayette Park is an open green space with mature maple and spruce trees located in a residential neighborhood. The park is bordered by sidewalks and residential streets at the north, west and east. The south side of the park is bordered by two residential properties.

## Park Master Plan



## Proposed Capital Improvements

Proposed improvements at Lafayette Park seek to enhance a community green space for the surrounding neighborhood. Improvements include the addition of monumental style park identification sign which will strengthen the character of the park as an ornamental square. The reintroduction of historic park features, such as circulation paths and a central focal element will also enhance the ornamental character of the park. A planted buffer on the south side of the park will provide privacy to the neighboring properties and help to differentiate the park as public space.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification and gateway	SHORT TERM	\$20,000
2 Plant landscape buffer at residential properties	SHORT TERM	\$15,000
3 Plant shade trees throughout park	SHORT TERM	\$4,200
4 Add circulation paths through park	LONG TERM	\$20,400
5 Add ornamental planting at gateway	LONG TERM	\$1,200
6 Add focal element (public art, fountain, monument, etc.)	LONG TERM	\$30,000

**Total Cost: \$90,800**

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Playground Park  
**Size:** 1.9 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood with Rail Corridor

# North and Lockport

Park 5

## Park Description

North and Lockport is located adjacent to a residential neighborhood at the corner of North Avenue and Lockport Street. The park is bordered by residences to the west and south, Lockport Street to the east and a railroad corridor to the north. The park contains three accessible play areas for varying age groups, a picnic pavilion, picnic tables and grills.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain existing playground facilities, pavilion, and sidewalks
- 3 Plant shade trees throughout park
- 4 Add drinking fountain
- 5 Add new lighting
- 6 Add security camera
- 7 Add pedestrian circulation in park
- 8 Enhance crosswalks at North and Lockport intersection
- 9 Acquire property for additional park access from North Ave
- 10 Add access drive, sidewalks, parking lot and signage from North Ave
- 11 Add Multi-Use Game Area (MUGA)
- 12 Add formal connection to future 'Rails with Trails' to north

## Proposed Capital Improvements

The existing playgrounds and picnic shelter at North and Lockport Park are utilized and should be maintained. Recommendations for the park include the addition of park identification signage, improved pedestrian circulation within the park, and improved park access for increased safety. The addition of drinking fountains and lighting at the picnic shelters would greatly benefit park users. A new path along the north side of the park could provide access to a future 'Rails with Trails' project. Additionally, through acquisition of property along North Avenue, additional access (physical and visual) will be provided. This improvement could allow for the addition of a parking lot and athletic field as well as improved park safety.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$9,000
2 Retain existing playground facilities, pavilion, and sidewalks	ONGOING	--
3 Plant shade trees throughout park	SHORT TERM	\$23,400
4 Add drinking fountain	MID TERM	\$15,000
5 Add new lighting	MID TERM	\$77,000
6 Add security camera	MID TERM	\$10,000
7 Add pedestrian circulation in park	LONG TERM	\$26,000
8 Enhance crosswalks at North and Lockport intersection	LONG TERM	\$900
9 Acquire property for additional park access from North Ave	LONG TERM	\$50,000
10 Add access drive, sidewalks, parking lot and signage from North Ave	LONG TERM	\$94,550
11 Add Multi-Use Game Area (MUGA)	LONG TERM	\$77,550
12 Add formal connection to future 'Rails with Trails' to north	LONG TERM	\$12,600
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$396,000</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

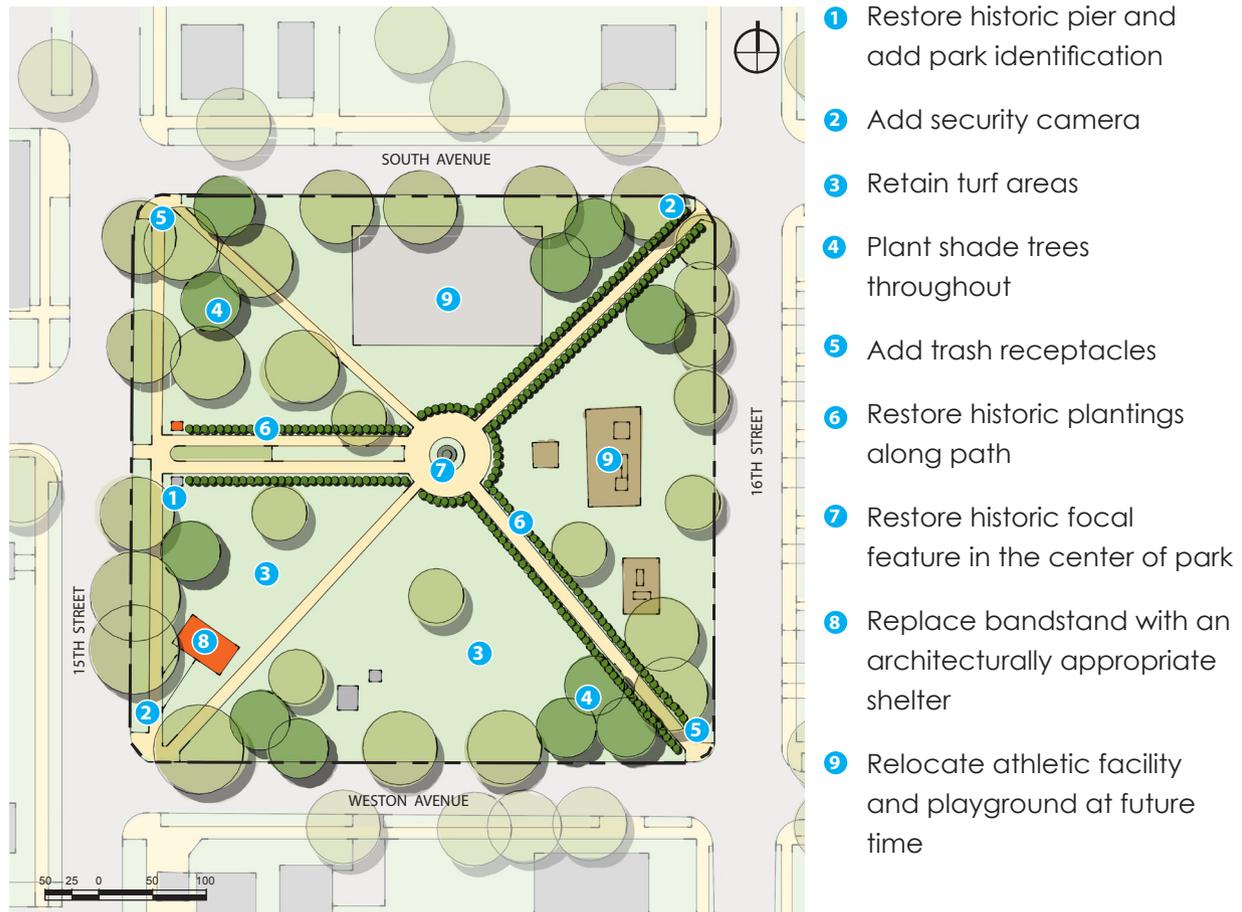
**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Ornamental Square  
**Size:** 1.3 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood  
**Landscape Architect / Designer:** Charles Aigner

## Park Description

Gluck Park is an ornamental square park with both active and passive recreation opportunities. The park has classical organization with central entry feature and plantings at the western edge, a central monument feature and bisecting concrete walks. Each quadrant contains one active element; entry gateway, basketball court, playgrounds and band stand.

## Park Master Plan



## Proposed Capital Improvements

To maintain the historic integrity of Gluck Park, recommended improvements focus on the rehabilitation and preservation of the park features. Proposed improvements include the restoration of historic plantings along the path system, replacement of a missing entry column, and introduction of a focal feature in the center of the park. The existing bandstand is not an original feature of the park and is in poor condition. This feature is utilized by adjacent resident and community groups, and it is recommended that a historically appropriate structure be installed as a replacement. Additionally, the existing playground and basketball court are not original to the historic design of the park but are also regularly utilized. These features should be maintained in order to serve the needs of the local community.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Restore historic pier and add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$5,000
2 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$10,000
3 Retain turf areas	ONGOING	--
4 Plant shade trees throughout	SHORT TERM	\$6,600
5 Add trash receptacles	MID TERM	\$2,800
6 Restore historic plantings along path	LONG TERM	\$258,000
7 Restore historic focal feature in the center of park	LONG TERM	\$50,000
8 Replace bandstand with an architecturally appropriate shelter	LONG TERM	\$15,000
9 Relocate athletic facility and playground at future time	LONG TERM	--

**Total Cost: \$347,400**

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park

**Size:** 1.8 Acres

**Location Description:** Intersection of Main Street and Robert Moses

## DiFranco Park

Park 8

### Park Description

DiFranco Park is currently used as a storage site for the City Parks and Recreation Department. DiFranco Park is located in the central downtown area and is bordered to the south and west by Robert Moses Parkway and by commercial properties to the east. The site sits high on a plateau above Robert Moses Parkway. Vehicular access is located along Main Street.

### Park Master Plan



- 1 Land bank – no maintenance. Park to remain undeveloped until larger Regional Master Plan planning study is completed.

#### Recommended Improvements to be Considered when Further Studied

- A Improve identification and public amenity presence on Main Street
- B Add recreation welcome center (public/private partnership), including public restrooms, bike repair stations, and concessions
- C Connect to future Robert Moses multi-use trail (coordinate with NYS)
- D Add shade trees, picnic tables, and pedestrian connection to Whirlpool Street (and nearby pedestrian bridge)
- E Add skate park

### Proposed Capital Improvements

Due to the potential future development of the Robert Moses Parkway as a pedestrian oriented trailway, it is recommended that DiFranco Park be land banked in the short term. When the larger Robert Moses Parkway planning study is completed, it is recommended that coordination occur between NYS Parks and the City to determine the best development for the parkland. It is recommended that the following improvements be considered at that time: park identification signage, a recreational focused welcome center, connection to the future Robert Moses multi-uses trail, a skatepark, and additional tree plantings. These improvements have the potential to make DiFranco Park a gateway to Niagara Falls and to create a major trailhead for the Robert Moses multi-use trail.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Land bank – no maintenance. Park to remain undeveloped until larger Regional Master Plan planning study is completed.	SHORT TERM	
<b>Recommended Improvements to be Considered when Further Studied</b>	<b>LONG TERM</b>	\$60,000 (Design) \$234,000 (Construction)
A Improve identification and public amenity presence on Main Street		
B Add recreation welcome center (public/private partnership), including public restrooms, bike repair stations, and concessions		
C Connect to future Robert Moses multi-use trail (coordinate with NYS)		
D Add shade trees, picnic tables, and pedestrian connection to Whirlpool Street (and nearby pedestrian bridge)		
E Add skate Park		

**Total Cost: \$294,000**

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Playground Park  
**Size:** 4.3 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential Neighborhood

# South Junior Playground

Park 10

## Park Description

South Junior Playground is a neighborhood playground/park located on a former school site surrounded by residential development. The former school and parking areas occupy the northern half of the site. The southern portion of the site is triangular in shape with a play structure located near the intersection of Portage Road and Ferry Avenue. *This park is located on City School District property and is maintained by the City of Niagara Falls.*

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain existing playground
- 3 Plant shade trees
- 4 Add security camera
- 5 Add picnic tables
- 6 Add picnic pavilion
- 7 Add pedestrian circulation paths with seating
- 8 Add natural play environment
- 9 Add interpretive elements along Portage and connect to Legends Basketball Court to the north

## Proposed Capital Improvements

The existing playground at the South Junior Playground is in good condition and is well utilized. It is recommended that a park identification sign be added to improve the park presence. Seating should be added adjacent to the playground for adults who are supervising children. If redevelopment of the vacant former school building occurs, this park could become an asset to that development and benefit from new pedestrian paths to connect the park to the adjacent public sidewalks. Other improvements include adding a natural play environment to provide alternative play options for youth and interpretive signage along Portage Road (a future heritage trail).

# South Junior Playground

Park 10

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Retain existing playground	ONGOING	--
3 Plant shade trees	SHORT TERM	\$18,000
4 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$10,000
5 Add picnic tables	SHORT TERM	\$10,500
6 Add picnic pavilion	MID TERM	\$75,000
7 Add pedestrian circulation paths with seating	LONG TERM	\$22,000
8 Add natural play environment	LONG TERM	\$90,900
9 Add interpretive elements along Portage and connect to Legends Basketball Court to the north	LONG TERM	\$800
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$230,200</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park

**Size:** .8 Acres

**Location Description:** Located between industrial and residential areas

# Perry Park

Park 19

## Park Description

Perry Park is a local park with a playground and athletic court located in a residential neighborhood. An office building is located at the south end of the park, multifamily residential properties are located to the north and single family residential properties are located to the east and west. Public sidewalks provide access from the west, north and east sides of the park. This park is located on City School District property and is maintained by the City of Niagara Falls.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain field for informal baseball / kickball
- 3 Plant shade and ornamental trees
- 4 Revegetate south east corner of park
- 5 Add picnic tables throughout park
- 6 Add natural play environment
- 7 Add drinking fountain
- 8 Add entry plaza
- 9 Add pedestrian circulation paths within park
- 10 Enhance pedestrian crossings

## Proposed Capital Improvements

As a large fairly underutilized open space in the City, Perry Park will benefit from additional plantings and reforestation of much of the site. The existing athletic court and playground equipment are in poor condition and should be removed. However, because the park is in a residential neighborhood, it is recommended that an athletic field and play environment be added to the park when redeveloped. Other recommended improvements to enhance the park include the addition of park identification signage, picnic tables, a pedestrian circulation path system through the park, and striped pedestrian crossings at adjacent intersections to create a safer crossing environment for children and pedestrians.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Retain field for informal baseball / kickball	ONGOING	--
3 Plant shade and ornamental trees	SHORT TERM	\$24,000
4 Revegetate south east corner of park	SHORT TERM	\$207,000
5 Add picnic tables throughout park	SHORT TERM	\$31,500
6 Add natural play environment	MID TERM	\$130,200
7 Add drinking fountain	MID TERM	\$15,000
8 Add entry plaza	LONG TERM	\$42,000
9 Add pedestrian circulation paths within park	LONG TERM	\$86,000
10 Enhance pedestrian crossings	LONG TERM	\$240
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$538,940</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park

**Size:** .65 Acres

**Location Description:** Located between industrial and residential areas

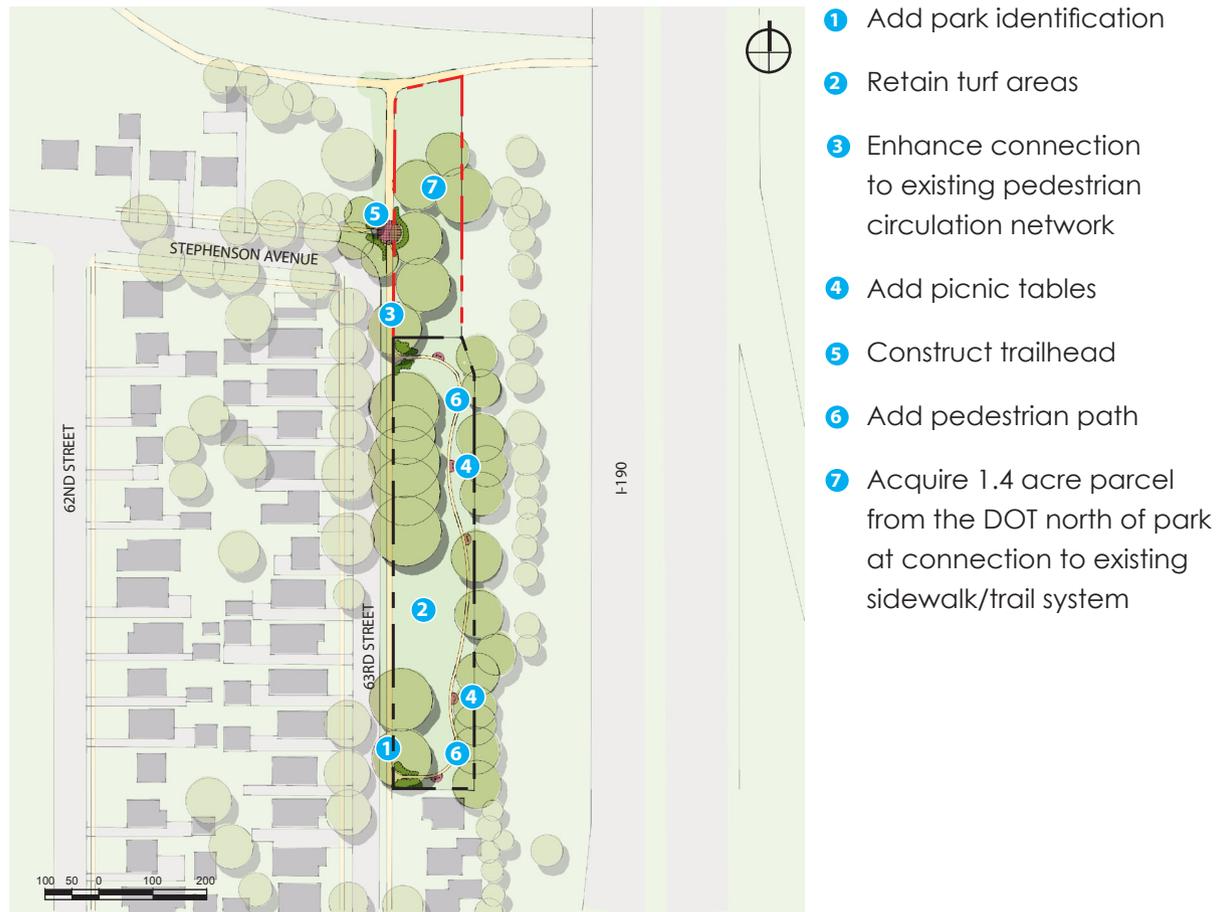
## 63rd Street Park

Park 20

### Park Description

63rd Street Park is located adjacent to residential development to the north, south and west, and I-190 to the east. The park is a narrow linear site composed of open lawn area and large shade trees. The site is accessed from a public sidewalk located along the west side of the park. There is access to an adjacent trail system north of the park.

### Park Master Plan



### Proposed Capital Improvements

63rd Street Park is a neighborhood park which offers unprogrammed open space for residents. Improvements to the park should remain minimal to allow for informal athletics to occur in the open turf area. In an effort to retain the current character of the park, recommendations are limited to the installations of park identification signage and an informal loop trail around the park. The signage will enhance the park identification, while the loop trail will increase accessibility and recreational opportunities in the park. A future improvement to the park could include the acquisition of the NYS DOT owned parcel to the north creating a formalized trailhead and connection to the existing sidewalk network and future citywide trail network.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$1,500
2 Retain turf areas	ONGOING	--
3 Enhance connection to existing pedestrian circulation network	MID TERM	\$18,000
4 Add picnic tables	MID TERM	\$17,500
5 Construct trailhead	LONG TERM	\$10,000
6 Add pedestrian path	LONG TERM	\$22,100
7 Acquire 1.4 acre parcel from the DOT north of park at connection to existing sidewalk/trail system	LONG TERM	\$100,000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$169,100</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park

**Size:** 2 Acres

**Location Description:** Located between industrial and residential areas

# LaSalle Waterfront Park

Park 21

## Park Description

LaSalle Waterfront Park is located along the Niagara River. The park is bordered by the river on the south, Robert Moses State Parkway on the west, Buffalo Avenue to the north and residential development on the east. The park entry is located at the north side of the park from Buffalo Avenue. Public sidewalks connect pedestrians to the park's internal asphalt paths and also to the Riverview Trail located at the west edge of the park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Retain existing park features (Shelters, comfort station, fishing docks, etc.)
- 2 Add security camera
- 3 Enhance natural play environment
- 4 Painted crosswalk
- 5 Enhance connection to future LaSalle Recreation Way Trail

## Proposed Capital Improvements

The LaSalle Waterfront Park was constructed in 2012 and does not require any immediate improvements. Future improvements that should be considered include enhancing an expanded natural play environment and improved crosswalks connecting to the future LaSalle Recreation Way Trail.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Retain existing park features(Shelters, comfort station, fishing docks, etc.)	ONGOING	--
2 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$20,000
3 Enhance natural play environment	LONG TERM	\$98,580
4 Painted crosswalk	LONG TERM	\$400
5 Enhance connection to future LaSalle Recreation Way Trail	LONG TERM	\$19,000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$137,980</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Local Park  
**Size:** 1.4 Acres  
**Location Description:** Primarily Residential

# Stephenson Park

Park 23

## Park Description

Stephenson Park is a local park with playground and athletic facilities, located in a residential neighborhood. The park is directly south of the LaSalle Expressway and is surrounded by residential properties on all other sides. The site is accessible from the public sidewalk located along the south edge of the park property. The park has a six inch curb located along the southern edge and there are no accessible ramps to enter the park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Retain existing park features (sport courts, playground, etc.)
- 3 Provide pedestrian connections with addition of curb ramps, sidewalks, and crosswalks
- 4 Add security camera
- 5 Connect to future LaSalle Recreation Way Trail

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Stephenson Park is a well utilized park with a variety of recreational amenities in good condition. The only immediate improvements recommended for this park focus on the need to improve access and safety with the addition of curb ramps, sidewalks, and a striped crosswalk. Access to the future LaSalle Recreation Way Trail should be provided once the trail is developed.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Retain existing park features (sport courts, playground, etc.)	ONGOING	--
3 Provide pedestrian connections with addition of curb ramps, sidewalks, and crosswalks	SHORT TERM	\$50,360
4 Add security camera	SHORT TERM	\$10,000
5 Connect to future LaSalle Recreation Way Trail	LONG TERM	\$36,000
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$99,360</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

**LONG TERM:** Improvements that are not likely to take place until 8 or more years from now. These improvements typically have high costs associated with them or are dependent on future development or community need.

**Park Type:** Ornamental Square  
**Size:** .2 Acres  
**Location Description:** Residential / Commercial Neighborhood

## Park Description

Wright Park is a small park located along a commercial corridor and adjacent to a historic residential neighborhood. The park contains a stone obelisk, memorial cannon, a flagpole and several military monuments and memorials scattered throughout the park. The park had several former names, including Cenotaph Park and Veterans Park.

## Park Master Plan



- 1 Add park identification
- 2 Add small plaza
- 3 Add ornamental planting beds
- 4 Re-arrange monuments
- 5 Plant ornamental trees

## Proposed Capital Improvements

Wright Park is a small triangular shaped parcel with several military monuments and memorials. It is recommended that the monuments be reoriented to and arranged around a new small plaza area with a few seating elements. The formalization of this park will give it greater presence and provide a more meaningful memorial of the individuals and groups being honored.

## Implementation Strategy

The individual City in a Park Plan master plans incorporate a two-tiered approach to implementation, first prioritizing the parks within the overall system and then prioritizing the recommended improvements within each park.

This park is categorized as a 'Long-Term Improvement Park.' It is expected that parks in this category include recommendations that would result in improved or new recreational opportunities in the long-term (8 years or more). Parks in this category are either new or in relatively good condition and not in need of immediate improvements. It is recommended that, although these parks are not recommended for immediate attention, they continue to

Park Improvement	Priority	Estimated Cost
1 Add park identification	SHORT TERM	\$3,000
2 Add small plaza	LONG TERM	\$29,600
3 Add ornamental planting beds	LONG TERM	\$3,600
4 Re-arrange monuments	LONG TERM	\$12,000
5 Plant ornamental trees	LONG TERM	\$1,200
<b>Total Cost:</b>		<b>\$49,400</b>

**SHORT TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 4 years. These improvements are a high priority because they will achieve one or all of the following: increased safety, reduces maintenance costs, fulfill a community need, or funding is available.

**MID TERM:** Improvements that should take place in the next 5-8 years. These improvements are a lower priority because of one or all of the following: improvement is dependent on short-term improvements, they require significant investment, or funding sources have not been identified.

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