EMERALD NECKLACE PARK SYSTEM

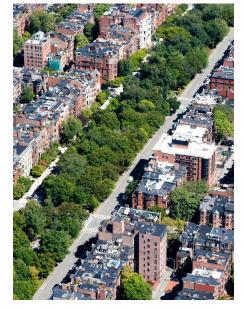
Parks are an essential part of traditional neighborhoods, providing residents with access to nature, recreation, and a chance to meet their neighbors and build community. Well-designed parks concentrate activity, which allows neighbors meet each other more easily and contributes to a more energetic atmosphere that enhances the experience of visiting the park. These effects are diminished when parks are enlarged. Parks that are needlessly large spread people out and dissipate this energy so that someone passing by might question if anyone ever uses the park as opposed to being excited to visit themselves.

Parks are traditionally closely linked to the other land uses in a neighborhood. Houses with their porches and front doors or shops with their sidewalk dining not only bring people closer to parks so that they are encouraged to use them, but they also bring the passive surveillance of residents and passersby, which makes the park feel looked-after and safe to use. Parks which are removed from the neighborhood risk seeming neglected and will not foster community as effectively. This problem is potentially exacerbated where a park is predominantly used for passive recreation, such as trails, and does not attract a great enough concentration to provide this sense of activity and safety. Thus parks that are closely integrated with a neighborhood not only provide a greater amenity for residents of that neighborhood, but they provide a better experience for everyone who uses the park.

Park systems such as the Emerald Necklace in Boston provide a model for how to integrate naturalistic parks into a neighborhood (or a whole city). The Emerald Necklace consists of a series of parks accommodating a wide variety of recreational activities, gathering for events, and the like, which are connected by a system of narrow trail corridors. Other cities such as South Bend, Indiana, provide modern examples of similar park systems that concentrate investment in a few improved parks that provide amenities to the community, with thinner trail connections that provide a continuous park-like experience for pedestrians and cyclists. This model provides consistent natural corridors that separate development from waterways, while also ensuring that each component of the park system is appropriately scaled to best facilitate community at the scale of the neighborhood and the greater region.











Emerald Necklace Boston, Mass. Howard Park South Bend, Ind.

 $The \ design \ is \ subject \ to \ change. \ \ Not \ for \ construction.$



West Weber Property

PROPOSED OPEN SPACE SCENARIO



Open Space	Area (ac.)
Along River	29 ac
At Slough & Other Wetlands	33 ac
Total Open Space	62 ac

River Setback	Distance (ft.)
Closest Distance to Weber River	100 ft.
Farthest Distance from Weber River	350 ft.
Average Distance from Weber River	140 ft.

Notes

- These calculations are approximate and may be adjusted slightly once precise information regarding the river's edge and the wetland boundary are provided.
- The boundary of these open spaces may be adjusted slightly and additional open spaces may be provided once the plan is drawn at a higher level of precision and detail.



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