

# Willard Park Master Plan



# 2001

City of Indianapolis, Bart Peterson, Mayor

## Willard Park Master Plan, 2001

### Mayor

Bart Peterson

### City-County Council

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Joseph Wynns, Director

#### *Project Coordination*

Don Colvin, Principal Planner  
 Michael Krosschell, Senior Planner  
 Christina Jones, Senior Planner

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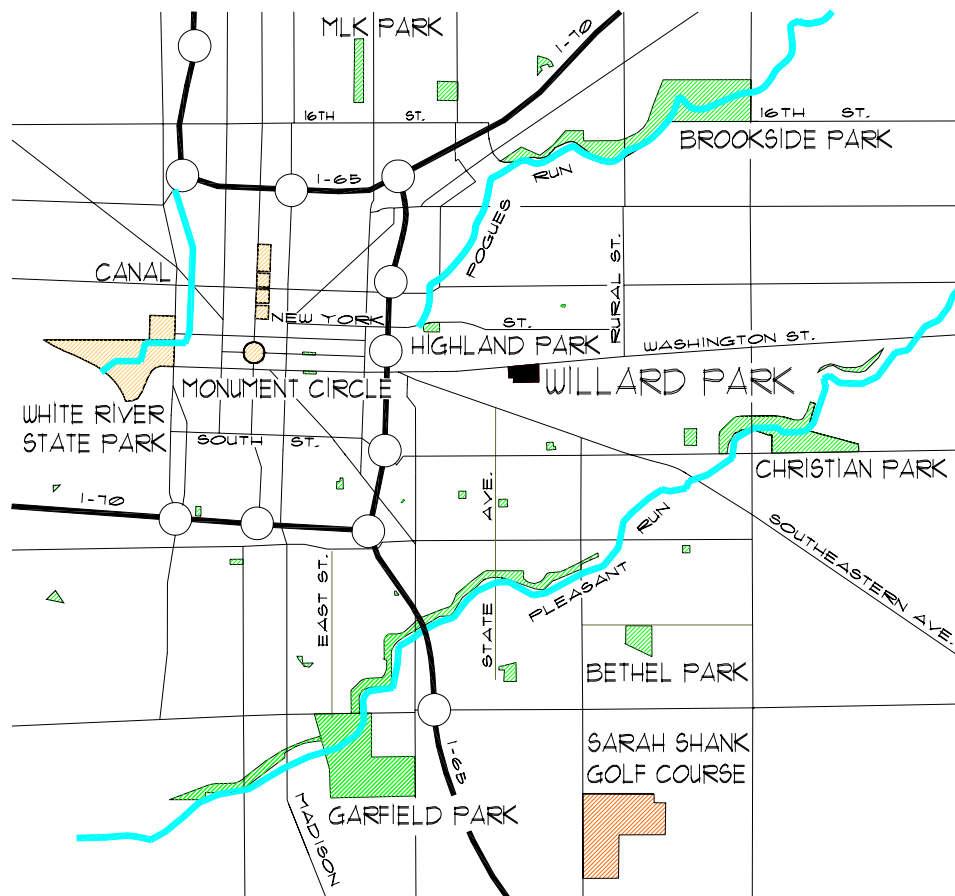
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## Introduction

In 1909, Landscape Architect George Kessler prepared a master plan for the City of Indianapolis. Willard Park was a major component of this plan for Indianapolis' park and greenway system. Over many years Willard Park has served a variety of different users. This master plan was initiated at the request of the neighborhood, to consider possible improvements to revitalize the park and, in turn, the neighborhood.

Willard Park, on Indianapolis' Near-East side, is classified as a Neighborhood Park. Willard Park lies one mile east of downtown on Washington Street, also known as the Old National Road. The Old National Road Association feels that the success of the road's businesses today is tied in part to the continued success of the park.

Neighborhood Parks are designed to serve the needs of the immediate neighbors within a ¼ to ½ mile radius. Neighborhood Parks should be developed for both active and passive recreation activities, and for a wide variety of age and user groups including children, adults, senior citizens, and special populations. These parks should be within walking distance of their primary user group, and provide only enough parking spaces as necessary to match facilities offered. Neighborhood Parks are the backbone of the city parks system and should serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood.



Location Map

## History

Willard Park, located at 1901 E. Washington Street, was established in 1907. Washington Street is also known as US 40 or the Old National Road. The Old National Road, America's first interstate highway, was conceived by President George Washington and was established by an act of Congress in 1806. The Indiana portion was built between 1829 and 1834, linking the eastern seashore with western Illinois. In 1996 the Old National Road was designated as a state scenic route.

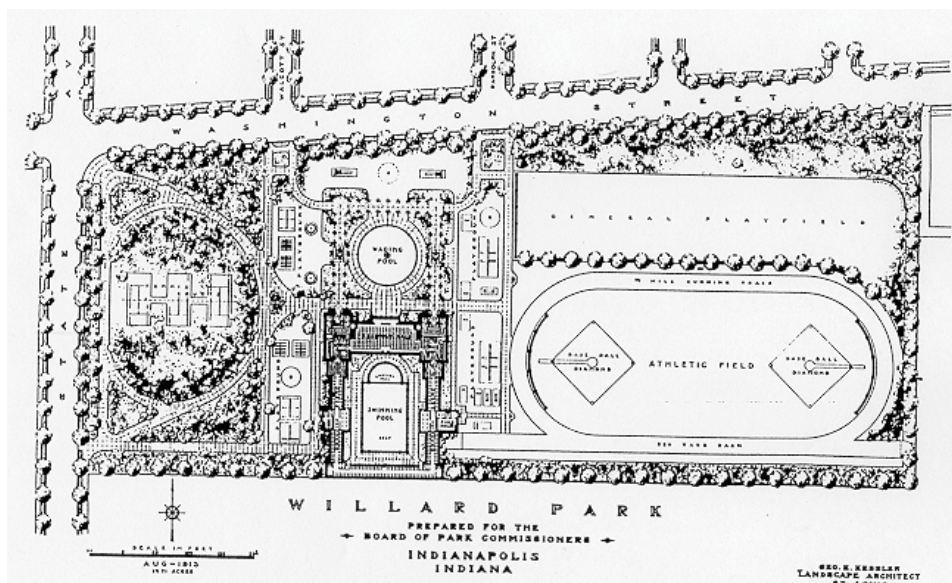
Originally 14.71 acres, the land was purchased from the State of Indiana for \$45,000. Willard Park is named for William Willard who founded the Indiana School for the Deaf on the spot in 1850. In the park today there is an Indiana Historical Marker, which reads as follows:

Named for William Willard; site of Indiana School for the Deaf, 1850~1911. School founded by Willard, a deaf person, 1843; state~supported since 1844. School now at 1200 East 42nd Street. Willard, principal and teacher, was dedicated educator of deaf people.



In 1909, Landscape Architect George Kessler completed his Park and Boulevard System for Indianapolis. This plan, largely implemented in the 1930s, provided us with opportunities for our greenways system of today. Willard Park was a key piece of this plan. Kessler prepared a design for Willard Park in 1913 and implementation began soon afterward.(see below) In 1916 a 2000-foot crushed stone walk was installed as well as 3 tennis courts, a baseball diamond and football field. In 1982 a new bathhouse was constructed which remains today.

In 1990 The Department of Public Safety acquired 3.7 acres of the West End of the park for the construction of a fire station and the city's MECA facility.





## Existing Conditions

The park presently totals 11.01 acres and contains a picnic shelter and grill, playground, pool, parking lot and basketball courts. The picnic shelter is forty feet by eighty feet, a large one by today's standards, and is in good repair. The playground was installed in 1996 and meets today's safety and ADA accessibility standards, and is located on a fibar safety surface. In addition the playground contains 8 belt swings, 8 toddler swings and a dome climber. The two basketball courts are undersized and located in the southwest corner of the park. This location has proven problematic for monitoring by rangers and police. The parking lot, on the north side of the park, is in poor condition. The parking lot, with more than 71 parking spaces, has proven to be too large, and is rarely even half full.





There are many mature trees in the park, especially along Washington Street and near the playground. Species represented include oak, maple, ash and sycamore. In addition there are numerous younger trees throughout the park. Several earth berms or mounds are located near the pool. Another was removed in the spring of 2000 by Parks Department personnel at the request of neighborhood residents who felt that it obstructed the view into the park from Washington Street.





Located to the west are a fire station and the city's MECA (911) Center with its radio towers. Adjacent to the east end of the park is an open lot, which has become rather grown over. To the east, west and north, along Washington Street are businesses of many types, including auto sales and service, restaurants, insurance agents, gas stations and convenience stores. Along the southern boundary of the park are several industrial buildings and active railroad tracks.



**Fire Station to West**



**MECA Facility**



**MECA Towers**



**Washington Street to East**



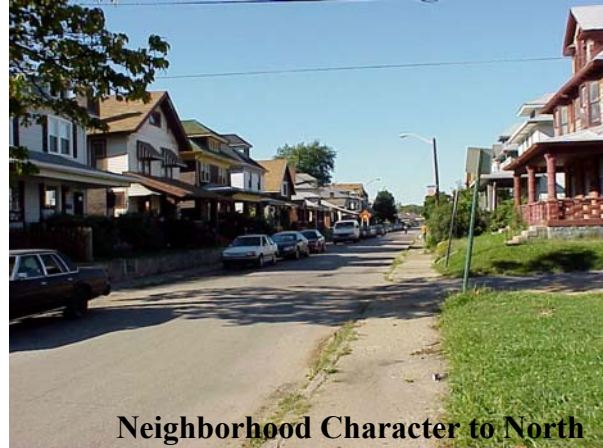
**Vacant Field to East**



The neighborhoods to the north and south of the park have dense populations including many children.(see chart on page 12) The majority of the park’s users walk to the park. Pedestrian access has been recently improved from the north with the installation of a pedestrian refuge island in the middle of Washington Street. However, this is a busy street, and care must still be taken in crossing. The primary residential neighborhood to the south is across the tracks, which serve as a psychological barrier as much as a physical one. The park is fenced on the west, south and east sides, so park visitors must walk around to the north side to enter the park.



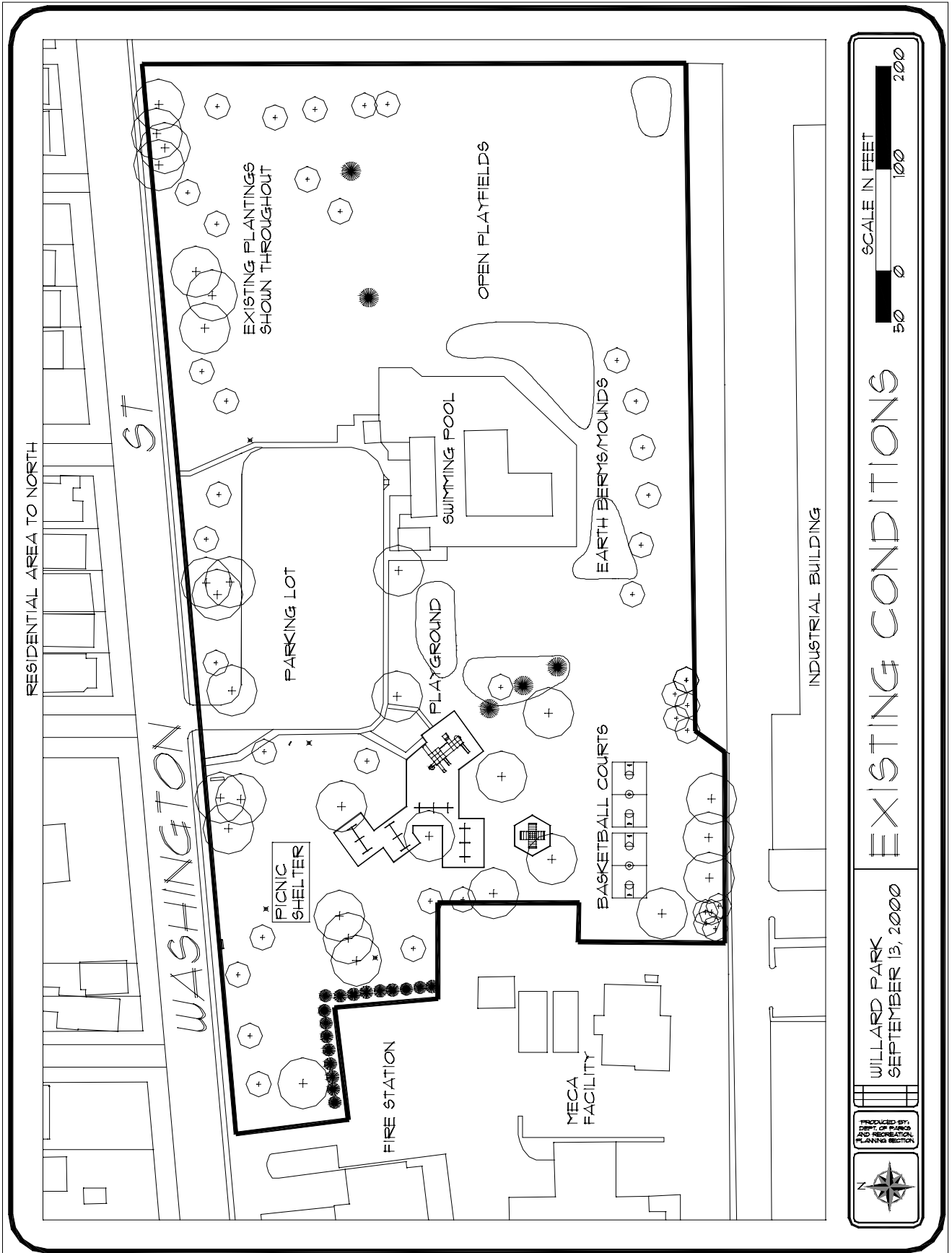
**North Side of Washington Street**



**Neighborhood Character to North**



**Washington Street Pedestrian Island**



## Demographics



For statistical purposes, Willard Park's service area was determined to include 6 1990 census tracts. These are 354400, 354500, 354700, 354800, 355000 and 355700. Due to the limitations of census tract information, this area includes a radius varying from 0.6 to 1.0 miles from the park.

When 2000 census figures become available, these figures should be re-visited and recommendations modified if appropriate.

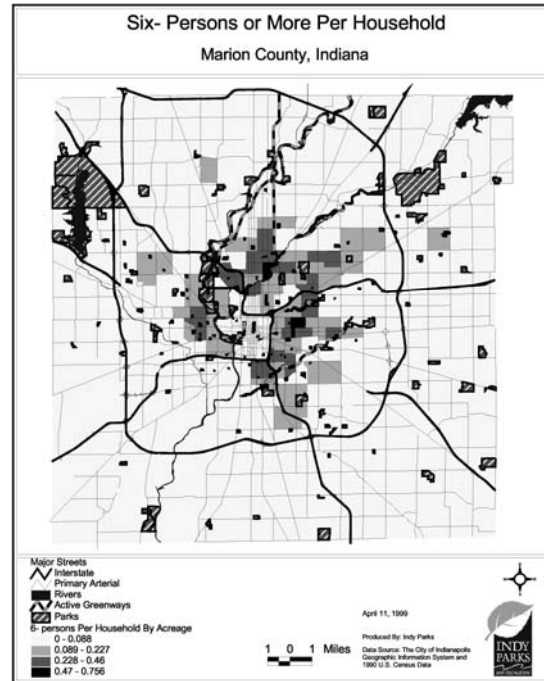
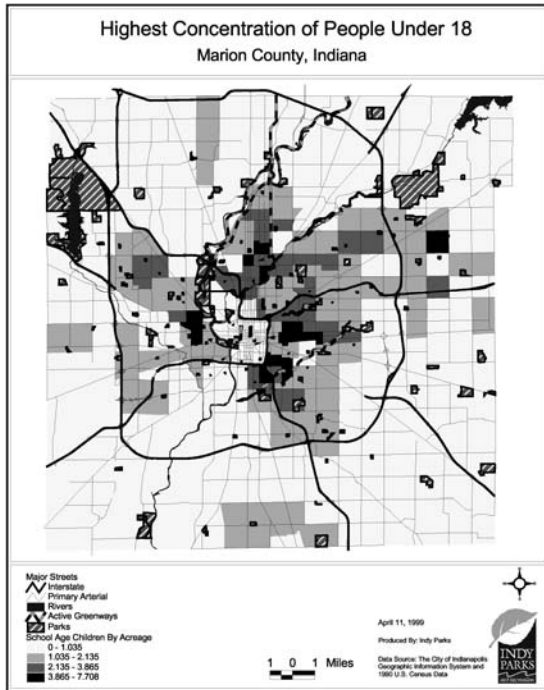


There are a number of ways the population of Willard Park's service area differs from the county as a whole. Some of the larger differences are denoted in the following table by bold figures in the table.

| 1990 Census Data    |                             | 6 Tracts | County    | 6 Tracts         | County    |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| Race                | Total                       | 17477    | 797159    | 100%             | 100%      |
|                     | White                       | 14802    | 615825    | <b>84.7%</b>     | 77.3%     |
|                     | Black                       | 2125     | 168899    | <b>12.2%</b>     | 21.2%     |
|                     | Amer. Indians               | 159      | 1912      | 0.9%             | 0.2%      |
|                     | Asian Pac. Is.              | 17       | 7418      | 0.1%             | 0.9%      |
|                     | Other                       | 374      | 3105      | 2.1%             | 0.4%      |
| Age                 | Total                       | 17477    | 797159    | 100%             | 100%      |
|                     | Under Age 5                 | 1814     | 62973     | <b>10.4%</b>     | 7.9%      |
|                     | Age 5 - 19                  | 4214     | 161639    | <b>24.1%</b>     | 20.3%     |
|                     | Age 20 - 59                 | 9439     | 446434    | 54.0%            | 56.0%     |
|                     | Age 60 - 64                 | 492      | 33306     | 2.8%             | 4.2%      |
|                     | Age 65 - 84                 | 1419     | 83911     | 8.1%             | 10.5%     |
|                     | Age 85 and Above            | 99       | 8896      | 0.6%             | 1.1%      |
| Gender              | Total                       | 17477    | 797159    | 100%             | 100%      |
|                     | Males                       | 8274     | 378294    | 47.3%            | 47.5%     |
|                     | Females                     | 9203     | 418865    | 52.7%            | 52.5%     |
|                     | Single Males                | 2041     | 86266     | 11.7%            | 10.8%     |
|                     | Single Females              | 1755     | 83059     | 10.0%            | 10.4%     |
| Marital Status      | Total                       | 7512     | 400156    | 100%             | 100%      |
|                     | Married Males               | 2615     | 161819    | 34.8%            | 40.4%     |
|                     | Married Females             | 2651     | 162295    | 35.3%            | 40.6%     |
|                     | Divorced Males              | 987      | 30332     | 13.1%            | 7.6%      |
|                     | Divorced Females            | 1259     | 45710     | 16.8%            | 11.4%     |
| Housing Units       | Total                       | 7604     | 349403    | 100%             | 100%      |
|                     | Occupied                    | 6285     | 319471    | 82.7%            | 91.4%     |
|                     | Vacant                      | 1320     | 29932     | <b>17.4%</b>     | 8.6%      |
|                     | Owner Occupied              | 2674     | 182040    | 35.2%            | 52.1%     |
|                     | Renter Occupied             | 3611     | 137431    | <b>47.5%</b>     | 39.3%     |
| Income              | Median Family Income        | 18,382   | \$ 35,054 | <b>\$ 18,382</b> | \$ 35,054 |
|                     | % Below Poverty Level       | 29.4%    | 11.8%     | <b>29.4%</b>     | 11.8%     |
| Households          | Persons per HH              | 2.81     | 2.45      | 2.81             | 2.45      |
|                     | Total HH                    | 6224     | 319821    |                  |           |
|                     | Single Parents              | 921      | 30614     | 14.8%            | 9.6%      |
|                     | % of HH with Single Parents | 14.8%    | 9.6%      | <b>14.8%</b>     | 9.6%      |
| Education Completed | Total                       | 10088    | 509309    | 100%             | 100%      |
|                     | 0-11 Years                  | 4785     | 118600    | <b>47.4%</b>     | 23.29%    |
|                     | High School                 | 2998     | 158958    | 29.7%            | 31.21%    |
|                     | 1-3 Years College           | 1572     | 124134    | <b>15.6%</b>     | 24.37%    |
|                     | Bachelor's Degree+          | 733      | 107617    | <b>7.3%</b>      | 21.13%    |

These statistics reveal a neighborhood that has somewhat fewer minorities than the county as a whole. In addition these residents are younger than those of Marion County. Fully 34.5% of the service areas' population is under the age of 19.

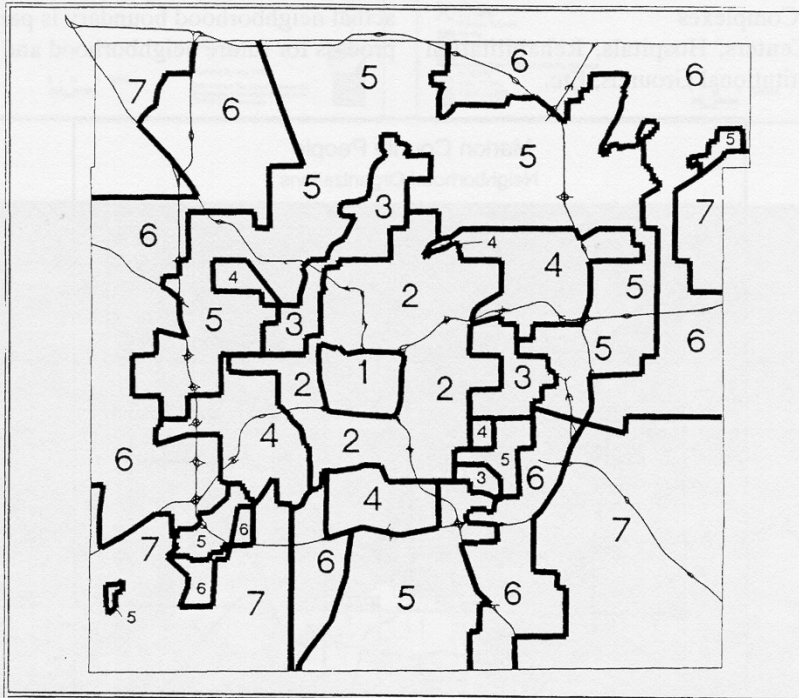
Data from the 1999 Parks Comprehensive Plan shows the census tracts adjacent to the north boundary of the park contain some of the county's highest concentrations of people under 18, as well as some of the most densely populated neighborhoods in Marion County. This data also points out several tracts with concentrations of households of 6 or more persons.



Willard Park's service area contains a disproportionately high percentage of people living below the poverty level. The neighborhood's median family income, \$18,382, is only slightly more than half of the countywide median of \$35,054. The percentage of households with single parents is higher than the Marion County average as well. The potential for earning substantially more income may also be hampered by a lower level of education among the neighborhood's residents.

These facts all point to the importance of providing low cost recreational opportunities for neighborhood families that are close to home. Willard Park is well located between several residential concentrations and already provides a variety of these low cost activities. Further enhancements should take into consideration the described factors in the service area and be designed to meet resident's needs.

## Seven Stage Development Marion County, Indiana



1. Regional Center Area
2. Center City Revitalization Area
3. Established Center City Area
4. Suburban Revitalization Area
5. Established Suburban Area
6. Developing Suburban Area
7. Rural Area

Produced By: IndyParks

Data Source: Comprehensive Land Use Plan,  
Marion County, Indiana 1991



To look at the neighborhood from an economic planning perspective, this neighborhood falls into Stage 2, the Center City Revitalization Area, as defined by The Department of Metropolitan Development in its 1991 Comprehensive Plan.

*Stage 2 - Center City Revitalization Area. A majority of the land is completely developed; but due to urban blight, unsafe structures have been demolished, leaving vacant lots.*

This designation supports the perception that this is a neighborhood in need. It is the responsibility of the Park's Department to assist revitalization efforts by enhancing Willard Park as a focal point for residents and as amenity to the neighborhood.



## Public Participation

With any planning document, public input is of paramount importance. In developing this plan the Department of Parks and Recreation held two public meetings to solicit input from neighborhood residents and community leaders. These meetings were held just a few blocks from the park at the Fraternal Order of Police Hall.

At the first meeting, intended as an information gathering meeting, the approximately 18 people in attendance were asked to list what they liked about the park, followed by what they disliked about the park. Another list was then made of what improvements they would like to see made in the park. These lists are printed in their entirety in Appendices I and II.

Several voiced their desire to keep the green, open spaces within the park. Others said they liked the low fees at the pool, the easy access to the park, the park's mature trees and the good level of maintenance in the park.

One of the primary concerns about the park was the presence of loiterers in the picnic shelter. Those loiterers intimidate many park users from using the shelter. The location of the basketball courts in the back of the park was also of significant concern and it was agreed that a more visible location for the courts would be appropriate. Other concerns named were the unsightly nature of the Fire Station/MECA Facilities to the east, the lack of a walking trail and the yearly carnival event.

At the second, and final, public meeting a draft master plan drawing was presented for discussion. From the attendees' positive response, it appeared that the plan addressed their concerns. The approximately 20 people in attendance also listed several additional issues not raised in the first meeting. These included a desire for more picnic tables and benches, a bike rack, an informational kiosk and the preservation of views into the park from Washington Street.

On large board were listed all of the suggested improvements for the park. Each person in attendance was then asked to select several that ranked as his or her highest preferences among those listed. Those preferences are listed in the below table.

|    |   |   |  |
|----|---|---|--|
| 13 | Family Activity Centers & Hard Court Play Area including hopscotch, 4-square, croquet, badminton, horseshoes etc. | 4 | Install concrete pad & anchor Port-o-let |
| 12 | Replace Basketball Court both Full & Half   | 4 | Eliminate Carnival Use of Park           |
| 11 | Walking Trail-Gravel or Paved   | 3 | Small softball & soccer fields           |
| 7  | Decrease Size of Parking Lot  | 3 | Kiosk and Additional Picnic Tables       |
| 6  | Enhanced Tree Plantings along Washington Street and soften views  | 2 | Additional Smaller Shelter               |
| 5  | Shade areas by Pool, Funbrellas   | 2 | Renovate Aquatic Center                  |
| 5  | Concerns about safety of crossing Washington Street   | 0 | Partnership Flower Beds                  |

## Master Plan Recommendations

From the public meeting input, as well as staff input and experience, these recommendations were compiled. The following list, in alphabetical order, corresponds to the Master Plan Drawing on page 18.

### BASKETBALL COURTS

There are presently two basketball courts in the southwest corner of Willard Park. These are undersized in addition to being in a poor location. Park rangers as well as park users complain of the poor visibility of this location. They are a long distance from the parking lot, with the playground and several mounds in between. These courts should be removed and replaced with a regulation sized basketball court to the east of the parking lot. This will service players by locating it close to the parking lot and away from the playground users, and help others to monitor activity more easily from the front of the park. For information on an additional half court, see PARKING LOT description below.

### FAMILY ACTIVITY CENTER

This feature is a grouping of several activities that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. Typically these centers include shuffleboard courts, horseshoe pits, a croquet court, a bocce court, a badminton court and several checker tables. Several of the mounds west of the pool would be removed in order to install these components. Several small trees would also be impacted, requiring either transplanting or replacement. Equipment such as shuffleboard cues and horseshoes would need to be available to park users. Details about their distribution should be worked out prior to installation.

### PARKING LOT

Both residents and parks staff agree, the parking lot is too large for the park. It is rarely more than a third to a half full. In addition, the striping has worn away and the asphalt is in need of resurfacing. This parking lot should be cut down in size to allow for a planting island in the center. This will break up the expanse of asphalt, provide shade for more parking spaces and as well as better define parking areas. The southwest corner of the lot should be reclaimed and used for hardcourt games, such as 4-square, hopscotch and half-court basketball. Presently, children are paying to enter the pool facility just to play 4-square. In many parks, including Willard, adults playing full-court basketball often displace children. A half-court would be less appealing to adult players, allowing these children to have a place to play.

### PICNIC SHELTER

A second picnic shelter should be installed between the Family Activity Center and the existing playground. A park of this size can justify more than one shelter, and this location could serve as a focal point for groups or individuals using nearby facilities. A hexagonal shape was suggested by the public, and would fit well in to the park.

## PLANTINGS

At the first public meeting, there was a call for tree plantings along Washington Street to fill in gaps in the historic line of street trees. At the second meeting, there was a request to maintain views into the park and not to plant too dense a line of trees. There are presently several trees in these gaps that will fill in over time. There is also room for additional plantings in a couple of the gaps, while still maintaining views into the park.

A greater need for plantings was expressed along the west and south sides of the park to screen out unsightly views. This would also make the park feel much more intimate, with its edges clearly defined. These planting projects should be addressed in the near future, due to the need for trees to grow into maturity over many years.

A third planting issue raised was for flowerbeds in the park. This should be addressed through a partnership with a local group for maintenance of these beds.

## POOL

The pool at Willard Park is of the traditional style, as opposed to the newer aquatic center concept. Use at the pool is low, rarely reaching capacity, despite its low fees. The pool, while being rather old, is in good working order. Neighboring residents expressed their wishes to keep the existing pool, rather than install a new one, if this meant that fees would remain low.

Some minor improvements were suggested that would make the pool a better facility. There is a lack of shade on the pool deck. While tree plantings are inappropriate, some sort of umbrella or tent structure should be considered. In addition, there is a grassy berm to the southeast of the pool enclosure that should be included inside the pool fence to provide a seating area.

## SITE FURNISHINGS

Several small improvements were suggested to make the park a better place. An informational kiosk to allow posting of community events can be built, possibly in conjunction with a picnic shelter. Additional picnic tables were also requested. Residents emphasized the importance of bathroom facilities, so a port-o-let should be maintained in the park.

## SPORTS FIELDS

The open field at the east end of the park should be improved to serve as sports fields. The space in the park is too small for full size, regulation fields, but there is room for a little league sized baseball or softball field, and a soccer field using the same area.

## SPRAY AREA

A spray area would be a great amenity to the park. Located near to the existing pool, this would be a good low cost recreational facility. A spray area is a concrete pad, flush with the ground, with water jets imbedded in it. When a child walks past the electronic eye, the water comes on and cycles through various events for approximately 10 minutes. This provides a great, low cost, opportunity for cooling off on hot summer days. Consideration should be given to locating the spray area within the pool enclosure. Concern was expressed at the public meeting about neighborhood residents using the facility for bathing.

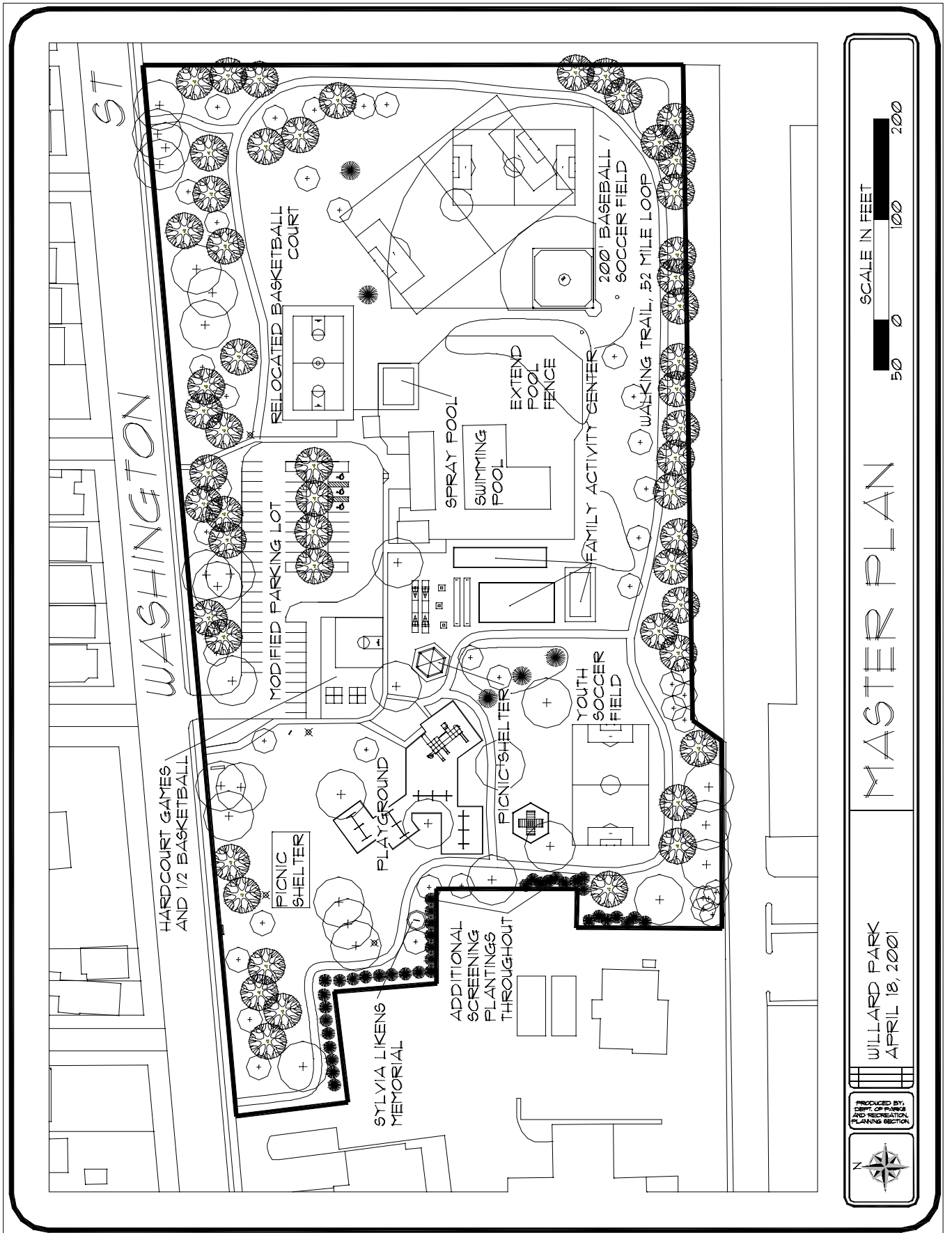


## SYLVIA LIKENS MEMORIAL

On April 12, 2001, the Indianapolis Police Department presented to the Parks Board the idea for locating a memorial to child abuse victim Sylvia Likens in Willard Park. The proposed 6-foot tall memorial pictures Sylvia Likens and honors the victims of child abuse everywhere. It is intended to revitalize community awareness and interest. The memorial will be accessible from the park trail and located within a small plaza area to allow for quiet reflection, away from the activity of the park.

## WALKING TRAIL

This improvement ranked highly in public meetings. A trail, whether gravel or paved, would serve many segments of the population. A trail loop of .52 miles could be constructed around the park, with several other short trails to tie amenities together. If constructed of gravel initially, this trail should be 8 feet wide to allow for easy paving when future funds become available.



# MASTER PLAN

WILLARD PARK  
APRIL 18, 2001

PRODUCED BY:  
DEPT. OF PARKS  
AND RECREATION  
PLANNING SECTION

## Action Plan

The action plan is written to serve as a guideline for improvements in the park. It is not meant as a strict schedule, but should help guide the Parks Department in developing its Capital Improvements Program. The timeline portion of the Action Plan is meant to help prioritize actions.

For each element of this plan to be successful it must first meet administrative approval within the Parks Department. It must also prove feasible in terms of site constraints and availability of funds. For this reason, the proposed timeline and estimated cost of each Action Plan element is subject to change.

| #  | Action   | Estimated Cost | 1st - 3rd Year | 3rd - 5th Year | 5th - 10th Year |
|----|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Family Activity Centers  | \$ 20,000      | 1st - 3rd yr   |                |                 |
| 2  | Replace Basketball Court (Full)                                  | \$ 40,000      | 1st - 3rd yr   |                |                 |
| 3  | Walking Trail-Gravel <b>or</b>                                   | \$ 21,096      | 1st - 3rd yr   |                |                 |
| 4  | Walking Trail-Paved  | \$ 36,918      | 1st - 3rd yr   |                |                 |
| 5  | Enhanced Tree Plantings Along Washington Street And Soften Views | \$ 10,000      | 1st - 3rd yr   |                |                 |
| 6  | Shade Areas By Pool, Funbrellas                                  | \$ 6,000       | 1st - 3rd yr   |                |                 |
| 7  | Spray Pool   | \$60k-\$80k    |                | 3rd - 5th yr   |                 |
| 8  | Parking Lot - Hard Court Play Area                               | \$ 75,000      |                | 3rd - 5th yr   |                 |
| 9  | Small Softball & Soccer Fields                                   | \$ 6,000       |                | 3rd - 5th yr   |                 |
| 10 | Kiosk and Additional Picnic Tables                               | \$ 8,000       |                | 3rd - 5th yr   |                 |
| 11 | Additional Smaller Picnic Shelter                                | \$ 25,000      |                | 3rd - 5th yr   |                 |
| 12 | Partnership Flower Beds  | \$ 5,000       |                | 3rd - 5th yr   |                 |
| 13 | Renovate Aquatic Center  | \$ 1,800,000   |                |                | 5th - 10th yr   |



In addition to these actions, several requests were identified as addressable in the short term. These are listed below.

| <b>Maintenance Work Orders</b>           |                      |   |  |  |  |
|--|----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <b>#</b>                                 | <b>Action</b>        | <b>Description</b>                        |  |  |  |
| 1  | Trash cans           | Install & anchor more in park             |  |  |  |
| 2  | Holes in turf areas  | Fill in holes from sunken tree stumps     |  |  |  |
| 3  | Fence repair         | Fix holes in fence on east side           |  |  |  |
| 4  | Port-o-let           | Install concrete pad & anchor port-o-let  |  |  |  |
| 5  | Pool                 | Extend fence to enclose turf areas        |  |  |  |
| <b>Internal Recreation Staff Actions</b> |                      |   |  |  |  |
| <b>#</b>                                 | <b>Action</b>        | <b>Description</b>                        |  |  |  |
| 1  | Family activity area | Develop distribution system for equipment |  |  |  |
| 2  | Carnival             | Eliminate carnival use                    |  |  |  |

## Conclusion

The process undertaken to develop this master plan involved a variety of people with a variety of interests and concerns. Their involvement in the process has helped to insure that the recreational needs of the neighborhood are satisfied.

This master plan should be frequently reviewed and periodically updated, so that the Department of Parks and Recreation can continue to be responsive to the needs of Willard Park's users.



*Meeting Minutes*  
*Willard Park Master Plan, 1<sup>st</sup> Public Meeting*  
 July 11, 2000 6:30 PM  
 Fraternal Order of Police Meeting Hall, 1427 E. Washington

The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm by Mr. Don Colvin, Principal Parks Planner. Mr. Colvin introduced the Indy Park Staff members and asked others in attendance to introduce themselves. Parks staff in attendance included Mr. Colvin, Tina Jones and Michael Krosschell, both Senior Parks Planners, Major Jeff Ward of the Park Rangers, Leslie Clark, Recreation Supervisor, Aquatics Manager Elaine Dillahunt and pool staff Jennifer Coffin. Also introduced were representatives from IPD South District, Bettye Dobkins, and IPD East District, Chester Price. Mr. Colvin then explained the purpose of a master plan and the process of developing one. (see attached sheet)

Mr. Colvin reviewed for those present the existing condition of Willard Park. The existing features noted are the pool, shelter, parking lot, playground, basketball court and open play field. Also noted were neighboring elements effecting the park, such as the MECA towers and Fire Station, open land to the east of the park and Washington Street. Mr. Colvin then opened the discussion for input about what people like about the park, what is disliked about the park, and what neighbors would like to see improved about the park. The findings and comments were listed by Ms. Jones on a large display board, and are summarized below:

| Likes   | Dislikes  | Wishes   |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Green open space</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Low fees at the pool</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Well-maintained park</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Large Trees</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Easy access</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Flat, open playfields</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proximity of shelter to playground</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pool pass partnership w/ library</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Nearness of fire station (safe place)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Loitering in the shelter</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Location of basketball courts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Traffic dangers on Washington</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous tree stump holes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Carnival events</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shortage of trash cans</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient lighting in the park</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lack of walking trail</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fire station expansion</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lack of small gathering areas</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Public presentation of fire station (dead trees, barbed wire, lack of vegetation screening along State &amp; Washington Streets)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Holes in fence on east side of park</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Better pool visibility from Washington Street</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> More trees along Washington Street</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Walking trail</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activities for seniors &amp; families</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Open playfield in SE corner for tee ball or soccer field</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Softer view toward MECA</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Partnership flower beds</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Port-o-let</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Additional, smaller shelter</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Basketball court location with high visibility</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease parking lot size</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate carnival presence at park</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shade by pool</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Future renovation of aquatic center</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Indoor basketball courts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hard surface play area</li> </ul> |

Other issues also discussed:

- The Old National Road Assoc. feels that the success of the road's businesses is tied in part to the success of the park.
- The negative effects of the carnival on surrounding neighborhoods.
- Kids are paying to enter the pool just to play 4-square.
- It was agreed that maintaining a low fee at the pool is more important than any features that may be considered in the future.
- Many were pleased that the mounds had been removed, opening views into the park.

Mr. Colvin then closed the meeting, thanking everyone for participating and the hosts at the FOP for their hospitality. 16-18 people were in attendance including representatives from IPD, NESCO, the Shepherd Community Center, YMCA, East Washington Library, and 911 Communications.



*Meeting Minutes*  
*Willard Park Master Plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting*  
 August 8, 2000 6:30 PM  
 Fraternal Order of Police Meeting Hall, 1427 E. Washington

The meeting was opened by Don Colvin, Principal Planner for the Park's Department. He in turn introduced other Park's staff in attendance. These included Mr. Colvin, Tina Jones, Senior Parks Planner, Major Jeff Ward of the Park Rangers, Amanda Craft, Public Information, Sheryl Richardson, Indy Parks Recreation, Aquatics Manager Elaine Dillahunt and pool staff Jennifer Coffin.

Mr. Colvin began with an explanation of what a Master Plan is. He then reviewed for those present the existing condition of Willard Park. The existing features noted are the pool, shelter, parking lot, playground, basketball court and open play field. Also noted were neighboring elements effecting the park, such as the MECA towers and Fire Station, open land to the east of the park and Washington Street. Mr. Colvin then discussed the lists made at the first meeting of the Likes, Dislikes and Wishes that residents have related to Willard Park. The discussion was opened for additions to or discussions of these topics. Additional findings and comments were added by Ms. Jones on large display boards, and are summarized below:

| <b>Additional Issues Raised</b> |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | More picnic tables and benches   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | ADA accessibility on all trails  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Some were still uneasy about the safety within the park, including the perceived danger from some users of the picnic shelter. |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Additional lighting was requested in the park.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Adding an informational kiosk and a bike rack were mentioned.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | A request was made for no indoor basketball/building   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Use plastic instead of treated wood so they last longer  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Consider relocating the baseball diamond to the front of the park.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Views in to the park should not be hidden by trees, purchase larger trees for installation along Washington St.                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>        | Eliminate blind spots and blocked views to the back of the park.   |

Also discussed was the proposed action plan for improvements in the park. After these items were presented and discussed, those present were asked to select those items that are their highest priority. These preferences are listed in the below table.

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 13 Family activity centers & hard court play area including hopscotch, 4-square, croquet, badminton, horseshoes etc. | 4 | Install concrete pad & anchor port-o-let |
| 12 Replace basketball court both full & half   | 4 | Eliminate carnival use of park           |
| 11 Walking trail-gravel or paved   | 3 | Small softball & soccer fields           |
| 7 Decrease size of parking lot   | 3 | Kiosk and additional picnic tables       |
| 6 Enhanced tree plantings along Washington Street and soften views   | 2 | Additional smaller shelter               |
| 5 Shade areas by pool, funbrellas  | 2 | Renovate aquatic center                  |
| 5 Concerns about safety of crossing Washington Street  | 0 | Partnership flower beds                  |

Mr. Colvin then closed the meeting, thanking everyone for participating and the hosts at the FOP for their hospitality. A draft copy of the Master Plan, when completed, was promised to everyone for their review, before presentation to the Park's Board. 20-24 people were in attendance including representatives from IPD, SECO, NESCO, Holy Cross-Westminster Neighborhood, the Shepherd Community Center, YMCA, East Washington Library, and 911 Communications.

**General Resolution No. 34, 2001**

**Board of Parks and Recreation  
Consolidated City of Indianapolis, Indiana**

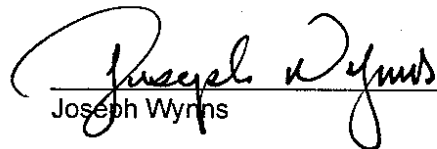
**Be It Resolved That The Board Hereby Approves:**

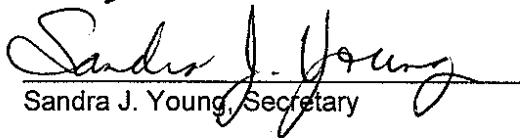
**the adoption of the 2001 Master Plan for Willard Park, 1901 East Washington Street.**

FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation is hereby authorized and directed to implement such amendment for and in behalf of the Department.

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
CONSOLIDATED CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

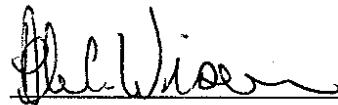
  
Assistant Corporation Counsel

  
Joseph Wynns

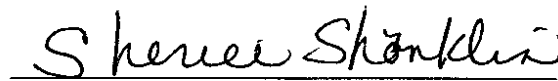
  
Sandra J. Young, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diana Wilson Hall

5-24-01  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan C. Wiseman

\_\_\_\_\_  
William H. Stinson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriee Shanklin

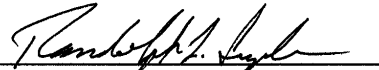
METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA  
RESOLUTION NO. 02-CPS-R-006

RESOLUTION 02-CPS-R-006, amending the Comprehensive or Master Plan of Marion County, Indiana.

Be it resolved that, pursuant to I.C. 36-7-4, the Metropolitan Development Commission of Marion County, Indiana, hereby amends the Comprehensive or Master Plan for Marion County, Indiana, by the adoption of the Willard Park Master Plan, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as an amendment to the Comprehensive or Master Plan of Marion County, Indiana.

Be it further resolved that the Secretary of the Metropolitan Development Commission is directed to certify copies of this Resolution 02-CPS-R-006, amending the Comprehensive or Master Plan of Marion County, Indiana.

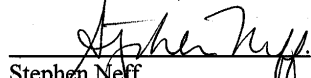
Be it further resolved that the Director of the Department of Metropolitan Development is directed to mail or deliver certified copies of this Resolution 02-CPS-R-006, to the Mayor of the City of Indianapolis, the City-County Council of Indianapolis and Marion County, and the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Indiana and to the legislative authorities of the incorporated cities and towns of Marion County, Indiana that are directly affected by this plan. The Director shall also file one (1) copy of the Resolution and one (1) summary of the plan in the office of the Recorder of Marion County.



Randolph Snyder, Presiding Officer  
Metropolitan Development Commission

Date: MAY 01 2002

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM  
AND ADEQUACY THIS 24<sup>th</sup>  
DAY OF APRIL, 2002.



Stephen Neff  
Assistant Corporation Counsel