

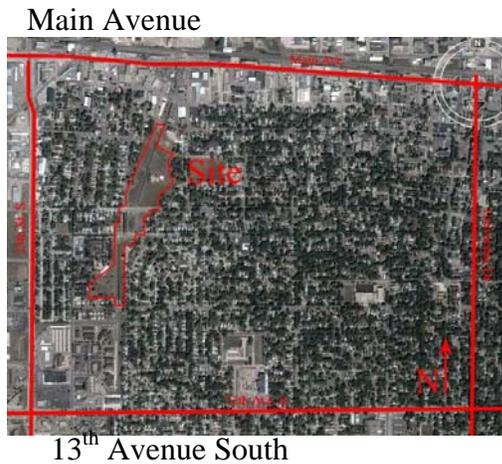
Jefferson Park West Concept Plan



City of Fargo
Fargo Park District
Jefferson Neighborhood Association

Site Location Map:

Jefferson Park West is located between 2nd Ave S. and 9th Ave S, from 18th St S to 21st St S. It serves as a neighborhood park that links two sides of Jefferson neighborhood together. The park has large amounts of open space as well as a playground for people to enjoy. The southern portions of the site have basketball courts and baseball fields within them, and the trail within the park connects to the city bike trail system.



Current Features:

This park has a few amenities that set it apart from other parks in Fargo. Apart from its large open spaces, Jefferson Park West has a pedestrian foot bridge to span the channel of water. The open space is well suited for outdoor sports such as soccer, football, disc golf, and many other games.

Jefferson Neighborhood Association:

The Jefferson Neighborhood Association approached the City of Fargo Planning Department and the Fargo Park District staff about the development of a project within their neighborhood. It was decided that a park improvement project would be worthwhile. The park improvement project could be phased in over the course of a few years. We identified a few areas that could be improved upon, which are described below.

Park Planting Plan:

- Discussions between the Fargo Park District, the City of Fargo, and the Jefferson Neighborhood Association led to a concept plan for the park. The incorporation of trees to accentuate views was the focus of the concept plan.
- Trees would be planted in such a way as to provide shade in and around the playground area, to focus views into and out of the park
- The open space will be utilized for active uses such as, football, soccer, and disc golf. The open space is designed to accommodate storm water run-off during flood events. The water is allowed to pool within this area and then slowly drain back into the storm water sewer system. Efforts to incorporate plantings within the large open space area adjacent to the drain should focus on plant materials that are able to withstand periodic flood events.
- An entrance feature is also incorporated along 5th Ave S in the form of a planting bed of perennials, a seat (bench), and park identification sign.
- There are two entrances along 18th St that face the elementary school. Care should be taken to create welcoming transitions to and from the park. A minimal amount of trimming and pruning can make these entrances a very nice feature for the park.

Infrastructure:

- Crosswalks – Due to the parks proximity to the elementary school and the bike trail, crosswalks are necessary in the intersections to provide safety for everyone using this space. New crosswalks will be implemented and old ones enhanced as recommended.
- Bike Trails – The transition of the bike trail along 6th Ave s should be widened to make the connection with the rest of the bike trail system in that area.
- Pedestrian Bridge – This bridge is a great feature for the park, it unites the two sides into one. However, by adding vegetation and highlighting attributes of this bridge, we can make it a prominent feature for this park.

Next Steps:

This tree planting project would be a great fit for the Community Development Block Grant. Schedule a fall meeting with the City of Fargo Forester and the Park District Forester.

Montages:

These pictures show what the park might look like if this plan is implemented. The montages show the new bike path, the new corridor area by the pedestrian bridge, and what entrance features could look like.

Possible Plant List:

Many types of trees could be appropriate for a setting like this. Working with the foresters from the Park District and the City, the neighborhood association will be able to establish trees that will bring color and provide a nice place to relax and enjoy the outdoor environment. Trees such as Lindens, oaks, maples, and willows make for good park trees and are easily grown in this area. Other good trees include Aspen, Crabapples, Dutch Elm Disease resistant elms, and evergreen pines and spruces. A combination of some or all of these trees stimulates the senses and makes for a successful park environment.



Pine



Linden



Spruce



Crabapple



Maple



Elm



Willow



Aspen



Site Entrance Montage



Bike Path Montage – Sidewalk between trail sections.



Playground Montage – Ornamental trees around playground



Bridge View Montage – Ornamental trees along path.