

Recommendations

When it comes to assessing the gaps of Twin Parks, East Twin Park calls for a chance to revisit the aesthetic qualities of the skatepark to create a more welcoming skatepark facility for youth, along with a new use for the old dirt track located next to it. West Twin park can become an anchor for programs and activities and serve as a place for arts and cultural education experiences.

East Twin Park already has various features encouraging active play like playground equipment, basketball court, and a skatepark. Based upon public input from the community, the planning team learned that 31% of survey respondents felt parks can be improved with physical features and renovations. This plan suggests ideas to refresh what is already there and to incorporate new features.

The city must focus on skatepark beautification. To make this feature more appealing to residents, the planning team suggests removal of the top portion of the wired fencing. Public art can also be incorporated into the skatepark. This could involve a public art project that engages a younger population and may be done through art installation partnership agreements between local schools and Webster City. The city can engage in projects with the city’s younger population to decorate the fences and paint the outer sides of the pavement. This project can be done seasonally or yearly and opens the door for creative expression of the community.

Updating playground equipment is suggested for East Twin Park. Currently, there are only 2 sets of swings, a four-way teeter totter, and a set of monkey bars. Adding a new fully equipped playground can attract many young families to this centrally located park. For East Twin Park, the planning team suggest a modern and innovative take on a playground with obstacle course features for enhanced fitness and agility play or a therapeutic fitness playground for seniors to enhance active ageing (Hart n.d.).

The next recommendation for East Twin Park is to replace the basketball court backboards. Through our survey, the planning team heard the need of fixing up the old court. For the long term, there is an opportunity to engage in sustainable practices by upgrading the basketball pavement to porous concrete. Philadelphia Parks and Recreation and the Philadelphia Water Department collaborated to retrofit the former basketball court at Herron Playground to a basketball court with porous asphalt to manage stormwater runoff that enters into the combined sewer system, leading to healthier waters (Herron Playground 2018).

Currently there is only one small shelter serving East Twin Park. Replacing and upgrading it with a bigger shelter would help create an opportunity for more users to enjoy the park.

The final recommendation is to repurpose the old dirt track to incorporate a splash pad or adding a splash pad on the southeastern portion of East Twin Park. When surveying the public, this is something the planning team consistently heard about and that the city can consider in the future.

Table 16 - East Twin Park Recommendations

Recommendations – East Twin Park
• Skatepark beautification
• Updated playground equipment: obstacle/agility course or therapeutic fitness for seniors
• New basketball court backboards, porous pavement down the line
• Upgrade to East shelter
• Splash pad



Figure 148 - Painted Skatepark – Bentonville AR



Figure 149 - New Basketball Backboards



Figure 150 - Obstacle/Agility Playground



Figure 151 - Therapeutic Fitness Park for Ageing Seniors