

Hooffs Run Park & Greenway

Improvement Recommendations

Draft (Spring 2015)

1 Install bike share station

The parking lot is located in an ideal location for a bike share station because it is 1/2 mile from other bike share stations and a short distance from commercial areas. (This station would need to be re-located upon implementation of recommendation #2).

2 Convert half of the parking lot to expand the unfenced dog area and add shrubs and natural barrier along street

The existing parking lot is, for the most part, not used for park users, despite it being within an area zoned for recreational purposes. There is community support for a fenced dog area in Hooffs Run Park & Greenway, however, there are no appropriate locations as the Dog Park Master Plan stipulates that fenced dog areas must be 1/2 acre and 50 ft. from a residential property.

The existing unfenced dog area could be expanded into the parking lot. Shrubs and other plantings can be planted along Commonwealth Ave and Oak street to define the edges of the unfenced dog area and create a natural barrier to stop unleashed dogs from going into the street.

3 Install backboard at the tennis court for solo play

There is community support to add a backboard to this already popular tennis court to allow for solo practice.

4 Add park furniture

The park entrance at Walnut and Marsteller Streets is very shaded from three large and well established trees. The shade provides a great location to place benches for park users to enjoy a cup of coffee or socialize. A trash can and small park information board can also be placed at this site.

5 Paint or cover the concrete area with public art

The concrete surface currently serves no above ground purpose other than to cover a culvert. This plan recommends that the Office of the Arts conduct a "call to artists," per the 2014 Public Art Master Plan implementation strategy, to find an enlivening and interactive design for the surface.

6 Consider access easement to connect trail

The parcel at Maple Street that seems to connect the trail is private property. An access easement along the site would complete a public path from the Metro through Rosemont.

7 Renovate trail between Maple and Linden Streets

While used by many commuters to and from the Metro, the existing trail has hidden entrances and feels unsafe. The adjacent fence has deteriorated with overgrown vines and brush within it. A new fence, marked entrances, and new pervious surfacing would make this path a safer route and community asset.

8 Renovate the parking lot to define the space

The existing gravel parking lot appears informal and non-standard. This plan recommends replacing the parking lot surface with a pervious asphalt surface to allow water to flow through. The lot should also be stripped and marked with standard signs to indicate that it is parking for park use. Bike racks can also be added to the lot.

9 Install wayfinding signage

Signs with a map of the park will help identify the park and orient trail users.

**Note: This plan does not recommend further improvements south of Rosemont Avenue at this time because the area was recently updated as part of the playground renovation.*

