







LOVE Park is being redesigned and we want to hear from you!

Draw or write your ideas on this postcard. Then, take a photo of your postcard and share it using **#newlovepark**, email it to **praxis@design.upenn.edu**, or **drop it off** in the Fairmount Park Welcome Center, right in LOVE Park

Instead of park bench, put chairs, built then So they can't be moved or taken away. Hose them down every so often, to clean them



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PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION









Schuylkill Busway

The Schuylkill Busway is a proposal for a new rapid transit facility in one of Philadelphia's most congested transportation corridors. The busway would run approximately 5 ½ miles from City Hall to City Avenue providing a traffic-free route into Center City for bus lines 9, 27, 38, 44, 48, 124, and 125, as well as a number of potential new lines.

Description – The Schuylkill Busway would operate in tunnel, open cut, on a dedicated surface ROW, and on public streets. It would begin near Love Park in Center City Philadelphia where connections are available for the Broad Street Subway, Market Street Elevated, all Regional Rail lines, and many bus lines. From there it would run underground to Logan Circle, where it would turn north under 19th Street. A station could be located under Logan Circle. From 19th Street the busway would turn west at the City Branch and continue through the cut and tunnel to 27th Street. Stations could be located near PCCC and the Art Museum. After leaving the tunnel the busway would rise, cross the CSX tracks and then descend to track level again on the other side. The busway would continue on the west side of the CSX tracks through Fairmount Park and across Columbia Bridge where the busway would again rise to an overpass over the freight line from Zoo Junction. Stations could be located at Girard and Kelly Drive. The busway would continue on the west side of the CSX right-of-way to City Avenue where it would end with exclusive ramps to the Schuylkill Expressway and City Avenue. Stations could be located here. (See map on next page)

Given the sometimes narrow width of the right-of-way, the use of an existing tunnel, and the location adjacent to an urban park, a guided busway with a planted center strip could be considered. Hybrid buses that operate on battery power alone for short distances, as in Seattle's downtown bus tunnel, would be used to eliminate emissions in the underground sections.

Purpose - The busway would serve several key purposes: to greatly reduce travel time for the many bus passengers currently using on-street bus routes that parallel the busway route, to increase the attractiveness of public transit to existing auto drivers in this highly-congested transportation corridor, and to encourage TOD in less accessible locations such as City Avenue, Brewerytown, and Strawberry Mansion.

Need - The busway corridor is highly congested resulting in poor performance and long travel times for all modes. This results in additional cost of operations for both transit and auto modes, environmental issues, and reduced mobility for people without cars. Several major travel destinations in the busway corridor including the Philadelphia Art Museum, Fairmount Park, and the Philadelphia Zoo, are currently poorly connected to the region's rapid transit system.

Benefits – The benefits of the busway for riders and SEPTA are significant. Assuming a 30 mph average speed (analogous to other busways of similar design), travel time savings for routes using the busway would be between 5 and 15 minutes, representing travel time savings of up to 50%. This would result in user benefits for existing riders, an increase in ridership due to improved service quality, travel time savings, and direct connections to currently underserved locations, and reduction in SEPTA operating costs. Reliability for bus lines in the corridor would be improved, leading to additional cost savings and ridership gains.









sm/med

tree

large tree

(sunken a little from JFK)



Other possbilities

> Hide a stormwater tank under the raised cafe outdoor seating (but it removes trees providing shade). Can possibly move trees to edge while hiding tank. > People are obsessed with Food trucks. Have a food truck park every now and then on the sand open area or in the cafe patio area.

> Sand open area can host events, movies, concerts, street performers, Christmas village sheds.

> Childrens play area can be changed into a jumping fountain (but we already have those at Sister Cities and Dilworth).

Of course trashcans and benches everywere. Welcome center NEEDs to be moved. A circle building is the worst use of space in a city.

*** Copyright Kyle Mathews*** Use only with permission







JFK BOULEVARD

LOVE Park is being redesigned and y

Draw or write your ideas on this image. Then, take #newlovepark or email your ideal to You can also join us in the park on Wedness Saturday, September 20th to share your thou

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PennPraxis



JFK BOULEVARD

EXPAND THE BORDERS OF LOVE PARK, HOSTILE TO PEDESTRIANS ON THE NORTH AND EAST SIDES. ACTIVATE THE SPACE BY PROVIDING REFRESHMENT ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER, ONE AREA ALCOHOL-FREE. REMOVE THE LARGE FOUNTAIN AND MAKE IT INTERACTIVE BY CREATING A HIGH PRESSURE ARCHED WATER JET TUNNEL THAT "JUMPS" LEADING ONES EYE TO THE PARKWAY. USE TWO HALF MOON STEPPED AMPHITHEATRES TO FOCUS THIS EFFECT. JETS CAN START ON THE HOUR ALLOWING PERFORMANCE (WHILE NOT ON) IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SPACE SIMILAR TO WASHINGTON SQ IN NEW YORK. PASSIVE GREEN SPACE ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER. BIKE SHARE & FOOD TRUCK SPACE INCLUDED. COBBLESTONE TO TRAFFIC CALM THE GARAGE ENTRANCE. PARK EXPANDED SIDEWALK GARDEN (PLANTS) GRASS / LAWN STEPPED AMPHITHEATRE SPRAY TUNNEL ARCH "/JETS BEER GARDEN CAFE **BIKE SHARE STATION** FOOD TRUCK AREA TRAFFIC CALMING TREE

ТНЕ





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Original artwork taken from the Internet w/o permission.

(1960s-era catalog showing conceptualization Of the visitor's center).

http://hiddencityphila.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Progress-.jpg





New "Love Park" Structure.

This rectangle represents a parking garage. It rests on pillars that are an adaptation of Frank Lloyd Wright's "dendriform" pillars from the Johnson Wax building. What those pillars are, however, is the "void space" [filled with concrete] that would exist, if a set of "parabolic" domes were to be constructed, side-by-side, that would serve as "piers" that would support a flat roof/floor.



The glass cylinder pictured, above, in the center of the painting, is a 3- or 4-story-high adaptation of the existing "visitor's center", at Love Park. It holds a spiral ramp that allows cars to drive from the underground parking area to the above-ground parking garage, and keeps fumes from collecting In the open space between the pillars.

MOVE THE MONUMENT!



General George Meade stands alone in Fairmount Park on a remote road behind Memorial Hall - staring at the trees.

Let's bring him back to the public!

Call The Philadelphia Department of Parks & Recreation at 215-683-3666 and ask them to move Gen. Meade to a position of prominence in Fairmount Park



Love Park Yards If you build it, many will come...

A Development Proposal for Love Park



As a resident of the Philadelphia since 1994, and an employee of the City since 1997, I am passionate about where I live and love being a resident of this great place. As a proud Philadelphian, Love Park has always been central to my experience. Having spent years walking through Love Park on my way to and from work, I have a desire to see something wonderful and unique incorporated into an already fantastic and exciting space. Since learning that community input would be welcomed for redevelopment, I would like to share an idea for the spot that would attempt to marry sport, whimsy, and the economic interests of the City. Essentially, my plan would hope to infuse the location with public space that would welcome even greater community use and a magnet for tourists.

To this end, I envision a five foot high elevated patio horseshoeing around the corner of JFK Boulevard and 15th Street. The two main entrances to the patio would be adjacent to either corner, with unobstructed community access. The patio itself would be replete with tables and a seating bar for eating lunches from the nearby lunch trucks and restaurants. The bar would serve a very specific function as explained in the following.

Obviously, Love Park already has such appeal on a nice afternoon; however, the development would have a very distinctive feature in its common/public backyard. Specifically, off of the back of the patio would be an artificial turf wiffleball playing field, which I have denoted as "Love Park Yards," on which parents might watch their children play as they sit upon the patio overlooking the action. That is, of course, unless the parents themselves are playing in the adult wiffleball league that is also envisioned. As noted, the bar would follow the horseshoe patio, immediately overlooking the playing field and acting as a backstop (see attached drawing).

Dimensionally, the field would be 80' down the line in left, 85' feet to left center, 100' to deep left center, 99' to center field and deep right center field, 96' to right center, and 77' down the line in right. Other unique features to the field would be a 13' high homerun seating deck in right field, an 8' homerun yard tent for game viewing in right center field, a 6' high raised vegetable garden homerun in center field (perhaps run by Greensgrow), and a 20'08" (reference to 2008 Phillies World Series Championship) high wall in left field that would limit the number of balls from leaving the yard into the area of lunch trucks and the Visitor's Center. The high wall in left field would also serve another exceptional purpose in that it would act as a movie/television screen on summer nights, allowing families to watch from the patio while enjoying a picnic, or a blanket on the turf, and watch films together. This concept has been used successfully at the Piazza at Schmidt's in Northern Liberties. Also, the field itself might be used for music concerts with the patio serving yet again as a place for viewing.

A number of privately owned ventures around the country have picked up on the theme of building wiffle ball fields in connection with their properties. To name a few, these range from "Rookie's Pub" in Mazomanie, WI, to Little Ebbetts Field in Amesbury, MA, Not only do these sites host leagues and to Little Fenway Park in Essex, VT. opportunities for families to watch their children play ball, they act as generators of Rookie's Pub attracts people from all over the Midwestern United States revenue. because of its wiffle ball field, which has proven to be a boon for the business. Likewise, people go to Essex, VT from all over the Northeastern United States to play a game that allows them to relive their childhoods. Additionally, charitable organizations have benefited from Little Fenway Park and other such sites from hosting tournaments. In 2012 alone, Little Fenway raised nearly \$500 K for multiple charities. Clearly, offering people the opportunity to play wiffleball on quality fields in interesting surroundings makes such places destinations. Given that the closest such wiffleball facility to Philadelphia is in Potomac, MD, including this idea into the developmental design would be economically advantageous. What's more, it would be a one of a kind development within an urban context.

Beyond pragmatic economic reasons, my proposal would also demonstrate that the development was sensitive to the creative impulses and sensibilities of the this city. I have found Philadelphia to be a place of community oriented and friendly families who, although aren't opposed to progress, like to have a say in what goes on to that end. It is, at times, an unconventional community. That said, it is a city that likes to play in, watch our children in, and commune in quirky places. Implementing this plan would generate significant revenue from tourism, create an interesting recreational and commercial space, and it would greatly add to the wellbeing of our civic life.

If you build it, many will come.

Respectfully Submitted,







JFK Plaza / "LOVE Park" Redesign "Street-Scape" / "Edges"

Meridian Hill Park / "Malcom X" Park Washington, DC

NOTE: Elements of this kind of concept exist, in Philadelphia, in places like McPherson Square. Please note the experience of the Boy Scouts of America Headquarters building, however; dog-watering fountains can dry up, with budget cuts and lack of financial support.

WRT's Civic Engagement Comments for Love Park

October 10, 2014

- 1) One smooth sloping grade with mounds and terrain.
- 2) Don't forget to accommodate the Christmas Village.
- 3) Visitors Center patio spillout at grade.
- 4) No dyed water!!!
- 5) Visitors Center blocks visibility in.
- 6) Re-label fountain to say "no bathing". Encourage dipping your toes. How can you have shallow water conducive to use by office workers in dry clean only?
- 7) Remove walls, Put in lawn.
- Make Love Park a horticultural gem. Partner with Morris Arboretum. Collaborate with surrounding businesses. Highlight architectural history surrounding the park. Reveal the City of Brotherly & Sisterly Love.
- 9) Yes! Partner with PHS for rotating flower show style exhibits.
- 10) Lose one lane of traffic around the park!
- 11) Remove walls and make the borders more permeable.
- 12) More street access on 15th St.
- 13) Flat fountain landing no pool.
- 14) Allow people to access the water.
- 15) Make it the opposite of Dilworth.
- 16) Connect to Suburban Station.
- 17) Less hardscape more informal than Dilworth more about terrain.
- 18) Double the fountain height!
- 19) LUSH! Lots of textured plantings.
- 20) Frame view of Art Museum instead of blocking it with giant fountain.
- 21) MORE TREES! BIG TREES (50'-60'). Shade Yes!
- 22) More Visibility.
- 23) Design a permanent stage platform area.
- 24) Flatten the park to make it more flexible.
- 25) Step #1 Slow Traffic
 Step #2 is a "Destination Space"
 Step #3 Shield public from traffic
 Step #4 Views matter
 Step #5 active and passive zones are a plus!
- 26) No parking Lanes.
- 27) "Mr. Nutter tear down this wall!" (15th St.)
- 28) (arrow point to Dilworth) To the newest stone-clad park in Philly! They are saving the trees for Love Park.
- 29) Bring back the skate park or some kind of designated skating area.
- 30) Design the park so when the skateboarders use it (because they will) the park continues to look nice.
- 31) Love Park = Love Path. There is no "there" there.
- 32) Eyes on the Street.
- 33) People need a soft refuge from the hard city landscapes. There aren't enough for people who work nearby.
- 34) Embrace the food trucks but design a space that can actually accommodate it.
- 35) Keep It Simple Stupid (KISS).
- 36) Love Park has always been something I walk around to get where I want to go. Invite me to walk through this spectacle so I can get a taste of Philly.
- 37) Make connection to adjacent parks and rest of City.

Blog Posts on JFK Plaza/ LOVE Park from William West

http://westwordsphilly.blogspot.com/search/label/Love%20Park