



Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership

# Warren City Parks Action Plan

# Table of Contents

---

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>3</b>
----------	---------------------	----------

---

<b>2</b>	<b>WARREN, OHIO DEMOGRAPHICS</b>	<b>6</b>
----------	--------------------------------------	----------

---

<b>3</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL PARKS PLANS</b>	<b>13</b>
----------	-------------------------------	-----------

---

	AmVets Park	<b>14</b>
--	-------------	-----------

---

	Burbank Park	<b>18</b>
--	--------------	-----------

---

	Circle Park	<b>24</b>
--	-------------	-----------

---

	Deemer Park	<b>28</b>
--	-------------	-----------

---

	North End Park	<b>34</b>
--	----------------	-----------

---

	Packard Park	<b>38</b>
--	--------------	-----------

---

	Perkins Park	<b>44</b>
--	--------------	-----------

---

	Quinby Park	<b>50</b>
--	-------------	-----------

---

	Southwest Park	<b>64</b>
--	----------------	-----------

---

<b>4</b>	<b>BEST PRACTICES &amp; POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>62</b>
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## Introduction

Parks are among the greatest assets a municipality must provide to its residents. Public places where everyone can be physically active, appreciate nature, and spend time with family, friends, and neighbors are critical to a community's overall health and well-being. Warren's public park system includes over two dozen spaces historically and/or currently used for public recreation, nine of which have some degree of recreation infrastructure. Those nine parks are the focus of this plan. Readers should note that Interfaith Park, an important recreational space on the southeast side, is privately owned and was excluded from this project for that reason.

As Warren's economy and municipal capacity has been continually strained over multiple decades, the challenge to maintain city parks has reflected those obstacles. Efforts to plan and manage Warren's parks have emerged and faded over the years, with the most recent organized effort being the release of a report by an ad hoc committee of Warren City Council, the Warren City Parks Citizens Advisory Committee created by Ordinance 11667/03; March 12, 2003.<sup>1</sup> This well researched series of recommendations was presented to Warren City Council in 2004, but was seemingly de-prioritized after being overshadowed by the housing market crash and foreclosure crisis a few short years later. The findings and recommendations of the Advisory Committee have served to inform this plan, particularly recommendations to develop one coherent governance structure specific to Warren's park system, improve and streamline maintenance, and to deploy government funding more equitably across the system. Specific park recommendations were also influenced by the Advisory Committee's work. The park histories were also derived in large part from the Committee's Report.

Nearly a decade after the neighborhood devastation resulting from the foreclosure crisis and subsequent economic crisis, Warren residents began to envision a different future for the city. In 2012, Warren City and Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership were awarded a HUD Community Challenge grant, allowing for the development of data-driven and resident informed strategic neighborhood improvement plans. These plans combined extensive community outreach and a comprehensive residential parcel survey to create specific priorities for recovery and development in neighborhoods. These plans were subsequently leveraged by the Trumbull County Land Bank to help the community secure over thirteen million dollars in demolition funding to clear the worst of the worst derelict, abandoned properties, and over two million dollars in funding for affordable homeownership opportunities and green space development on residential parcels.

As momentum for revitalization began to grow in the neighborhoods, the public imagination began to expand to include additional improvements not addressed directly by new housing resources; high quality safe places for children to play and families and friends to gather chief among them. Parks are natural focal points of neighborhoods and recent national initiatives have emphasized the vital role parks play in decreasing stark health disparities in neighborhoods with higher rates of poverty, higher concentrations of minority populations, and in neighborhoods without safe opportunities for activities. This growing movement, along with institutional support from local stakeholders, has resulted in the identification of the need for a renewed review of the City of Warren parks system.

In 2018, the work of the Healthy Community Partnership's Parks and Green Spaces Action Team led to

1. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/13nNxRrQHfZp-S3MOC0aiNptiwBiluc4/view?usp=sharing>

the development of a proposal that would support research, outreach, and ultimately the creation of a Parks Plan. With the support of the Trumbull Memorial Health Foundation and the William Swanston Charitable Fund, project partners including Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership (TNP), Warren City, the Trumbull County Combined Health District, the Trumbull County Planning Commission, and the Mahoning Valley Healthy Community Partnership have taken on this challenge.

Project partners sought to develop a series of strategic action plans for the city parks overall, and specific recommendations for the previously identified nine public parks in Warren: AmVets, Burbank, Circle, Deemer, North End, Packard, Perkins, Quinby, and Southwest.

In the absence of a comprehensive inventory or strategic plan for its public park system, project partners set out to combine comprehensive data collection and extensive resident outreach to develop recommendations for the parks system overall, and site-specific action plans for each park. These action plans are intended to serve as a guide for public, private, and social investment in the park system overall, and each park individually.

In 2019, project partners inventoried each park and assessed existing physical infrastructure and condition of equipment and signage. The Community Park Audit Tool-User Guidebook (CPAT)<sup>2</sup> provided a framework and helpful information in developing the Warren Parks Audit and Inventory 2019 document that is useful for community stakeholders, residents and professionals alike. Denise Rising, TNP Community Outreach Coordinator, crafted the (WPAI) to best capture the unique character of Warren city parks. Additionally, partners conducted a resource inventory, and reviewed any existing or previous shepherding agreements, organized group usage (formal and informal), programming partnerships, maintenance schedules and volunteer interventions, available public resources for improvements, and any other contextually relevant information. This effort included interviews of residents, neighborhood associations, government officials, programming partners, and civic leaders. TNP follows the playground safety standards outlined by the National Recreation and Park Association when making recommendations on playground equipment and other park affectations.<sup>3</sup>

In the spring of 2019, project partners trained community leaders to conduct a paid door-to-door canvassing effort led by an experienced community organizer. The door knocking campaign utilized the guidelines of the national 10 Minute Walk<sup>4</sup> campaign measure, which emphasizes that, ideally, all community members should live within a ten-minute walk to a safe, accessible park. Residents were asked to offer feedback on park usage, infrastructure, programming needs, and other information based upon the previous survey used in Youngstown. A copy of this survey can be found in the appendix.

Project partners, with the help of trained volunteers, also conducted Safe Routes to Parks Audits<sup>5</sup> at all nine parks. The audits utilized a seven item check list to make notes along the 10 Minute Walk to the park route: Sidewalks, Street Crossings and Intersections, Safety, Comfort, Park Appearance and Park Features. In the summer of 2019, information was compiled from every phase of the effort into action items to guide investment, maintenance, and usage of each park, and developed public policy and practice recommendations, all of which are included in this plan.

*2. The Community Park Audit Tool(CPAT) was developed and tested in Kansas City, Missouri in 2010 supported by a grant from Active Living Research, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.*

*<https://activelivingresearch.org/community-park-audit-tool-cpat>*

*3. <https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/playground-safety/>*

*4. <https://www.10minutewalk.org/#Home>*

The following park plans were crafted from the results of the aforementioned data collection process and was compiled for each park to create a park description, history, inventory, park conditions, neighborhood accessibility, usage, public outreach, natural resources, and priorities for park maintenance and development. The park description and history sections provide a brief overview of location and context of the park within the City of Warren. The park inventory, conditions, and natural resources provide descriptions of the current recreation infrastructure as well as natural assets located in each park and an overall review of the condition of those assets. Neighborhood accessibility takes a step outside of the park to review overall access to the park from the neighborhood including signage, transportation options, and barriers/assets to those reaching the park by car, walking, or bicycle. Park usage identifies regular users or user groups such as organized leagues or informal recreation groups and/or the potential of usage by density of population in the surrounding neighborhood. Public outreach provides a summary and key highlights of the responses by residents surveyed regarding each of the parks. Each park plan concludes with a discussion on immediate priority, High priority, and long term recommendations specific to that individual park.

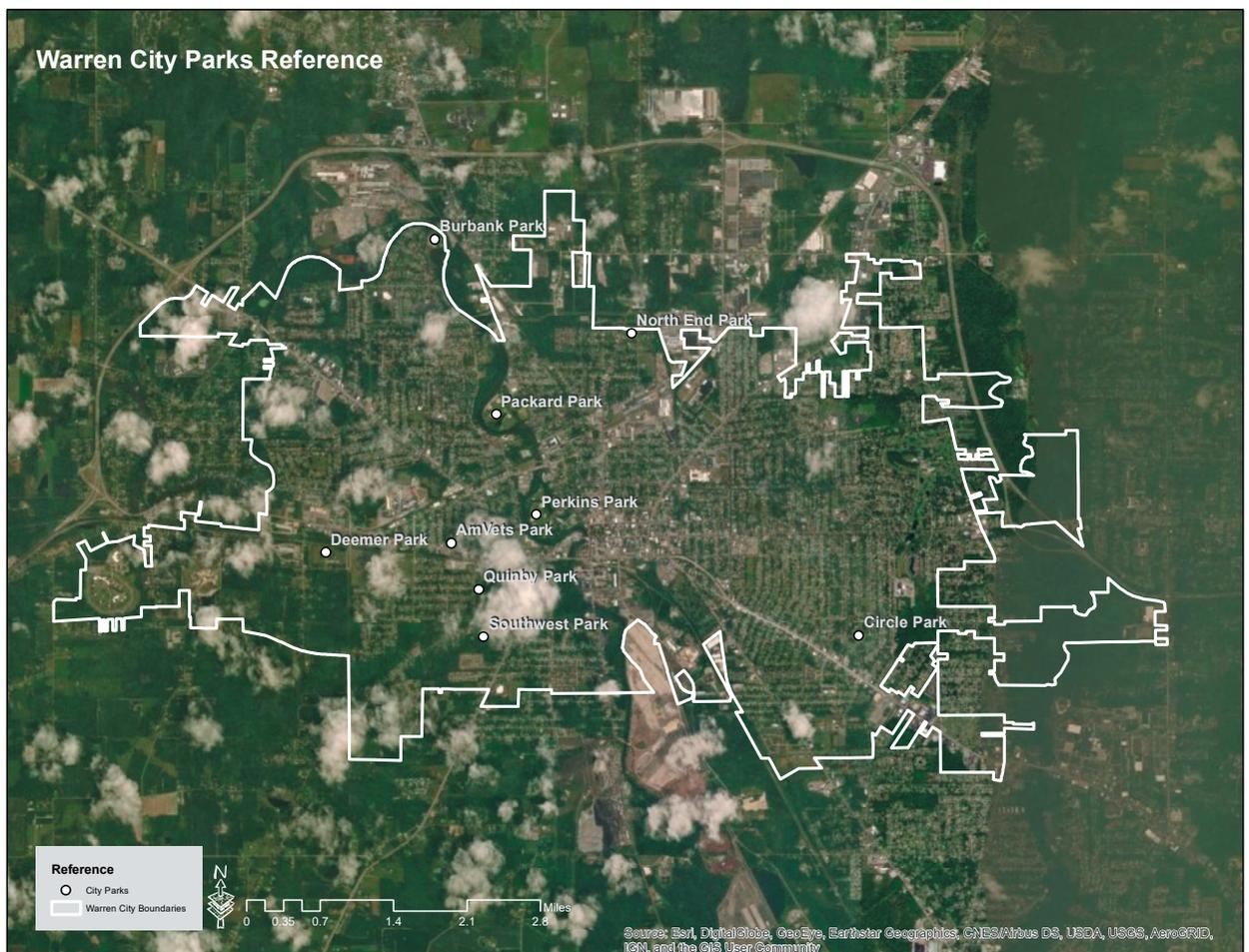


5. [https://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/resource\\_files/safe\\_routes\\_to\\_parks\\_walk\\_audit\\_toolkit.pdf](https://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/resource_files/safe_routes_to_parks_walk_audit_toolkit.pdf)

## Warren, Ohio Demographics

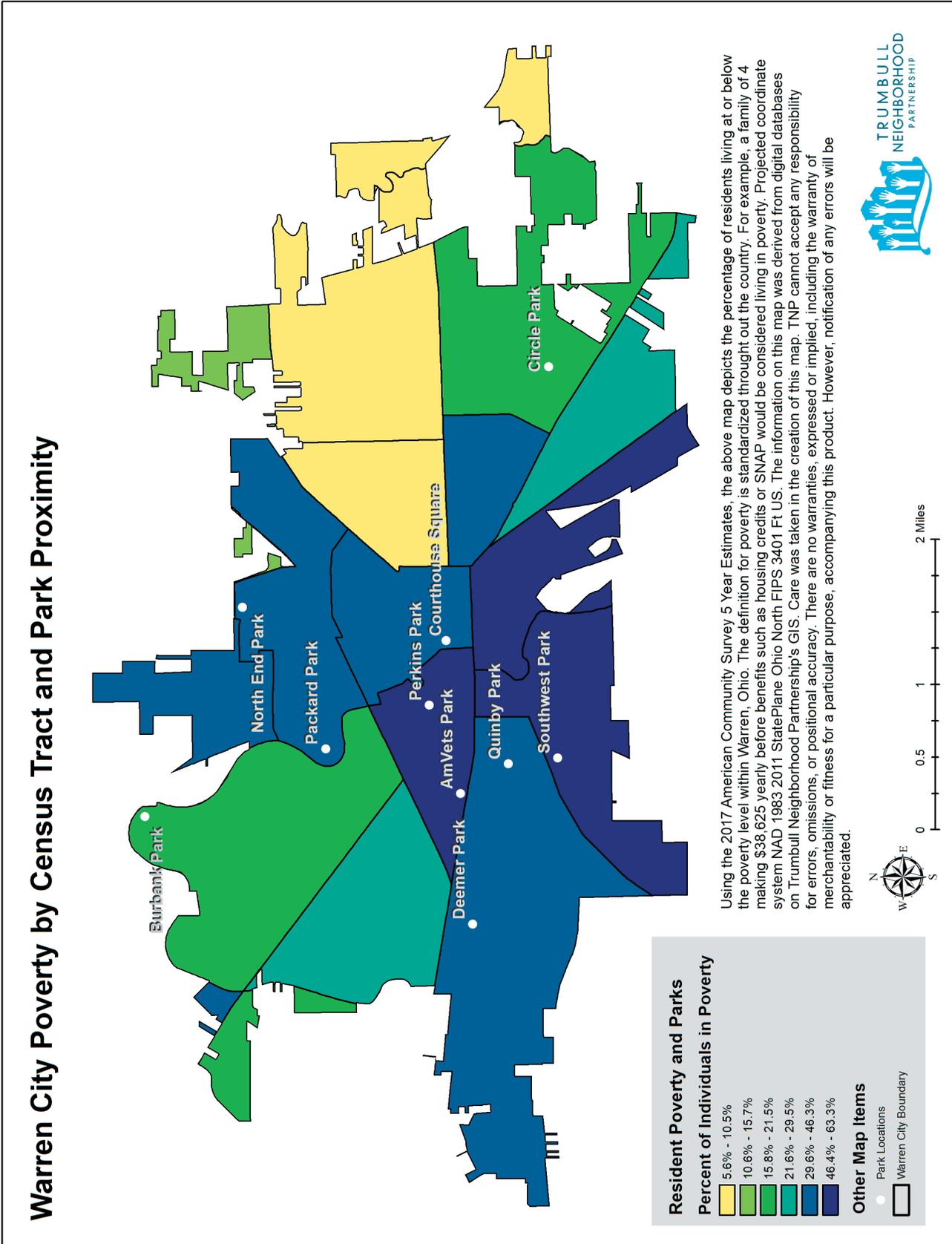
Warren is a small post-industrial city in the heart of the Rust Belt, located in northeast Ohio between Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Like so many other cities in the region, Warren has struggled with the fallout from the loss of the steel industry and other manufacturing in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The high rates of poverty and correlated health issues are common across similarly distressed cities across the region. Warren's population has dropped off dramatically from its peak of over 60,000 in the 1970's.

The following maps illustrate the current socioeconomic position of Warren's neighborhoods and includes the location of each of the 9 parks included in this planning document.

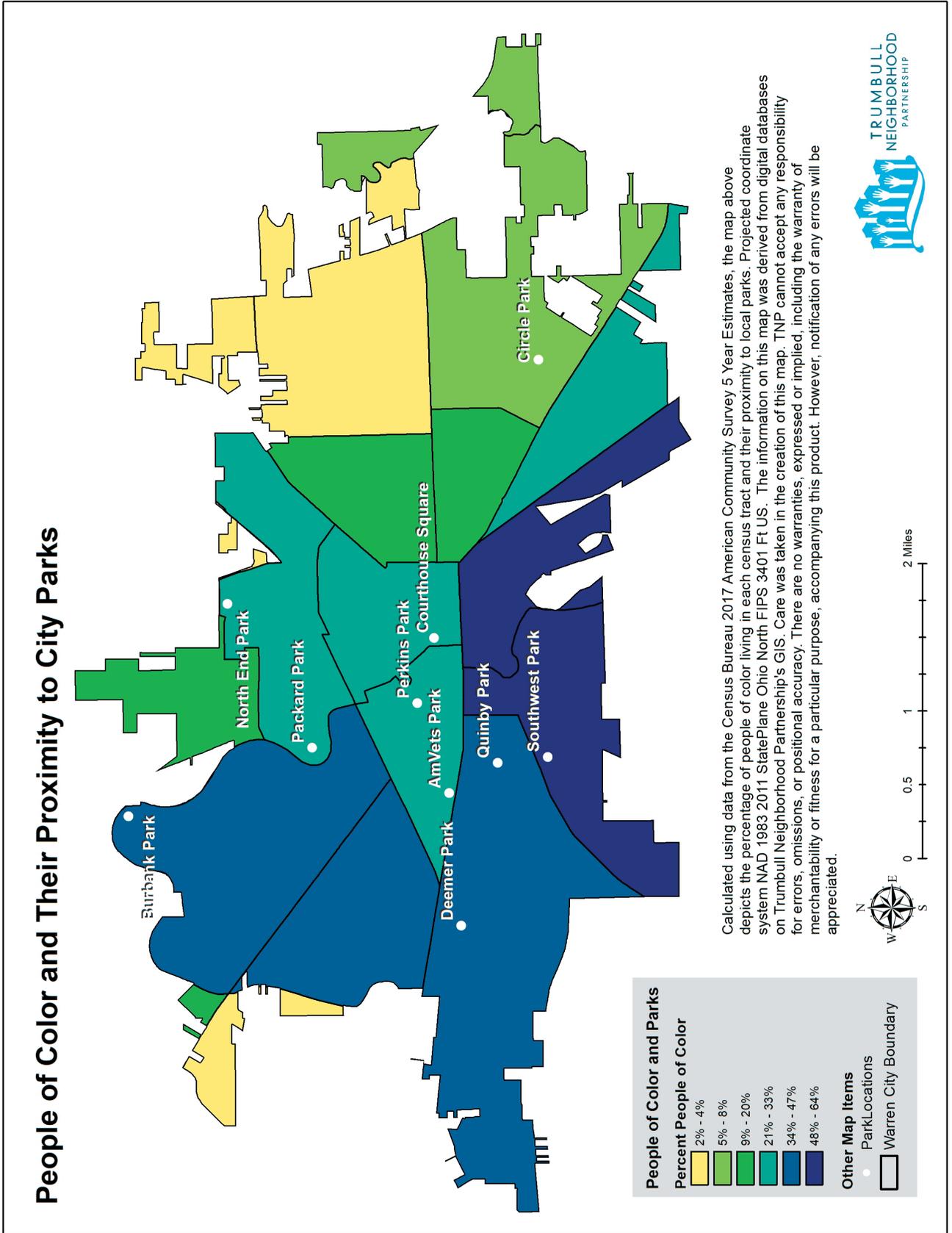


**Map 2.1 Warren City Park Reference Map**

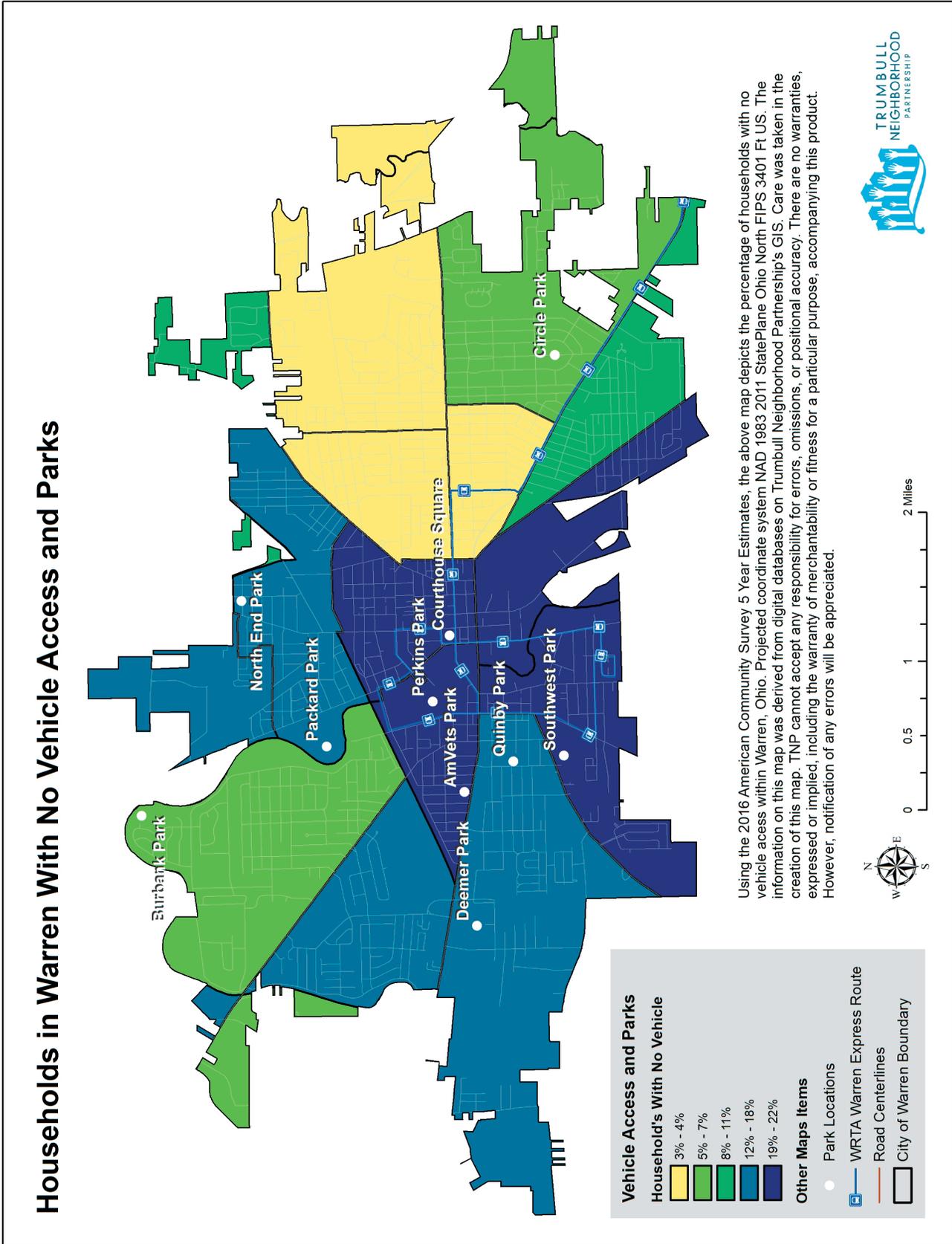
Map 2.2 Warren City Poverty by Census Tract and Park Proximity



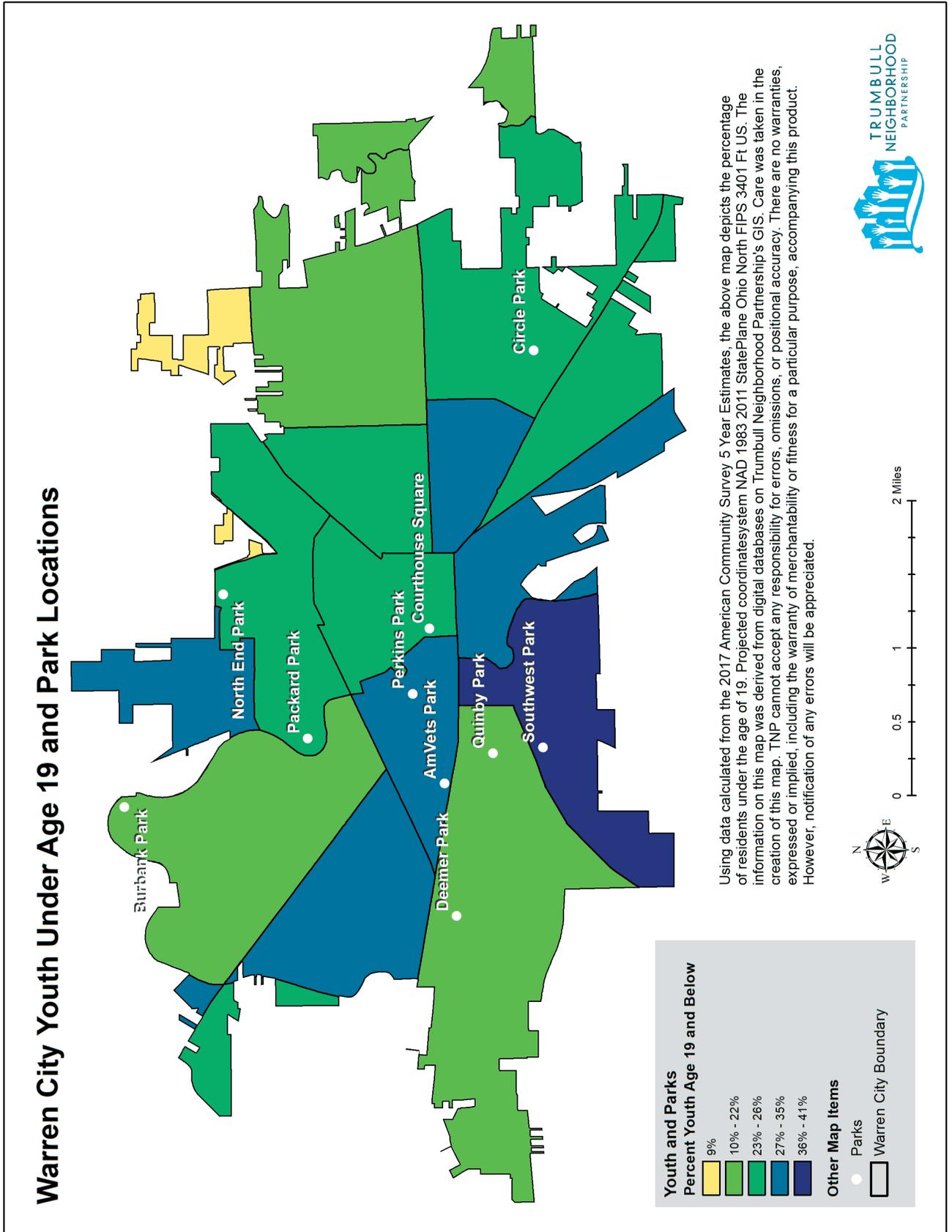
Map 2.3 People of Color and Their Proximity to City Parks



Map 2.4 Households in Warren with No Vehicle

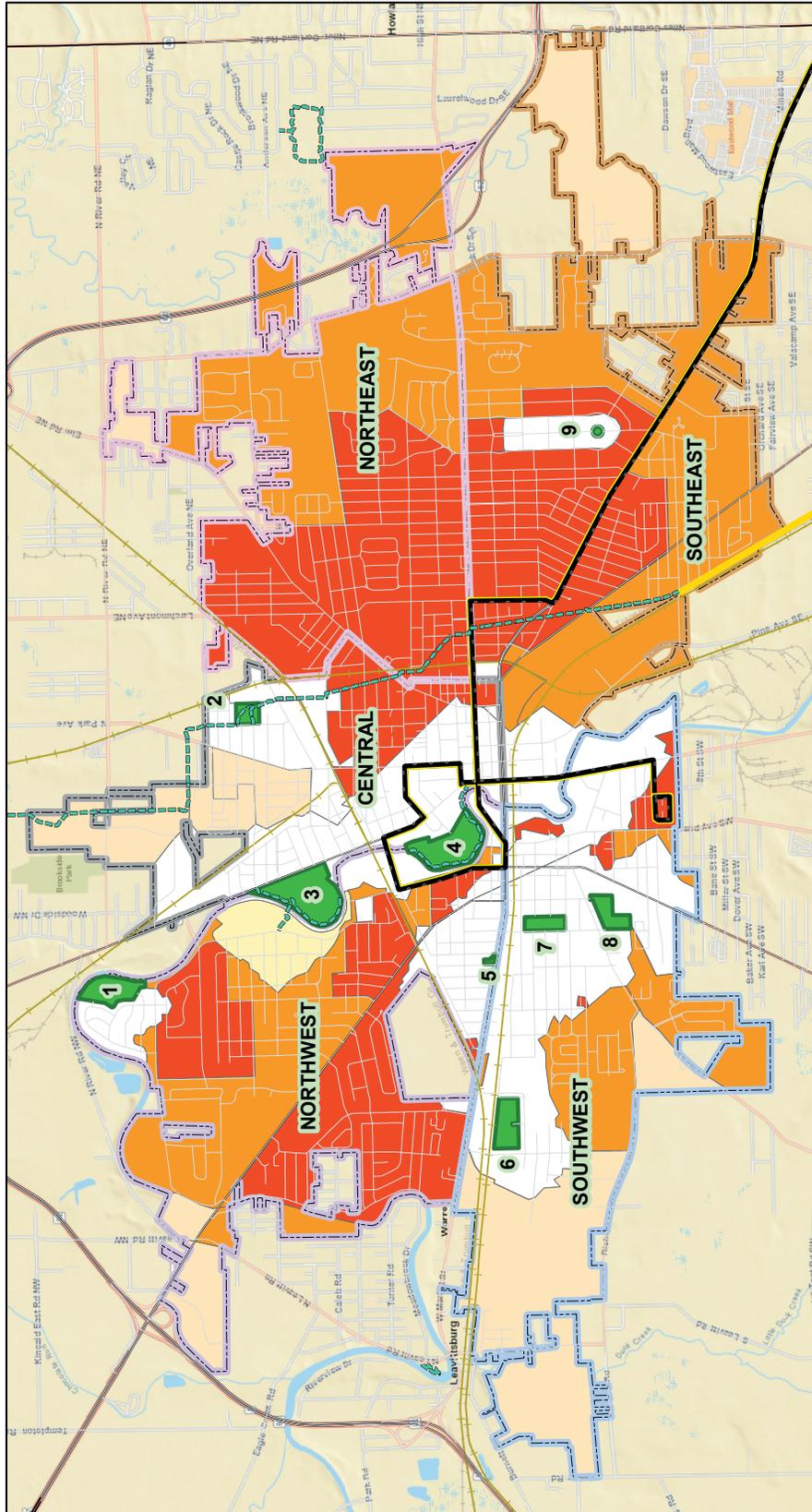


Map 2.5 Warren City Youth Under Age 19 and Park Locations



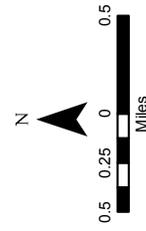
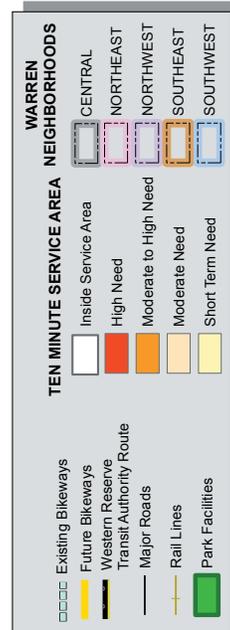
Map 2.6 Warren Park Facilities with Ten Minute Walk Service Area

WARREN PARK FACILITIES WITH TEN MINUTE WALK SERVICE AREA



**PARK FACILITIES**

- 1 - BURBANK PARK
- 2 - NORTH END PARK
- 3 - PACKARD PARK
- 4 - PERKINS PARK
- 5 - AMVETS PARK
- 6 - DEEMER PARK
- 7 - QUINBY PARK
- 8 - SOUTHWEST PARK
- 9 - CIRCLE PARK



This map is created using publicly available data that is subject to change. Please verify from the agency prior to making land use decisions.

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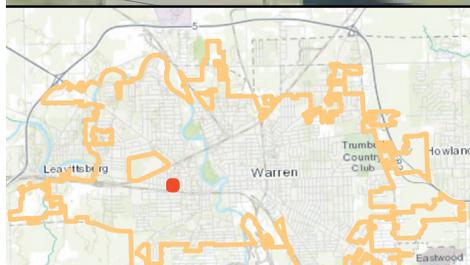


***Image 2.7 Bicycle Repair Station North End Park***  
***Located along the Great Ohio Lake To River Greenway bike trail at North End Park is a bicycle station where residents can pump up their tires or use some tools to perform minor bicycle repairs.***



# Individual Park Recommendations

# AmVets Park Background and Inventory



**W. Market St, Warren, OH 44481**

**1.35 Acres**

The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit



### Map 3.1 AmVets Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts the location and general topography of AmVets Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** The park is located in northwest Warren on West Market Street between York and Ohio streets, within a residential neighborhood and is in close proximity to industrial sites. The park area is 1.35 acres.

**History:** The park, formerly known as the West Side Park, was dedicated as AmVets in January 1982. AmVets Post 1977 cleared shrubbery and installed a flag and flagpole. The pavilion was donated to the City of Warren by the Optimist Club in June 1983.

**Inventory:** The park has swings sets, climbing play equipment, a pavilion, basketball courts, and a fence along West Market. There is a small parking lot at the east end.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance.

**Park Conditions:** Most of the equipment at the park is in need of repair or replaced. There is no signage along the walk to the park and it lacks a designated entrance.

Park Accessibility	Yes	Activity Areas #	1
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	0
Park Name	Yes	Useable	-
Park Hours	No	Good Condition	-
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	-
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	-
Park Map	No	Trail #	0
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	-
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	-
Entry Points to the Park	Several	Connected to other activity areas	-
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	-
Parking Availability	Yes	Seating Along the Trail	-
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	-
Trail or Path Connectivity	No	Trail Surface	-
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	No	Open Green Space #	0
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	Residential	Useable	-
Number of Playgrounds	1	Good Condition	-
Useable	No	Lake/Pond #	0
Good Condition	No	Useable	-
Distinct areas for different ages	No	Good Condition	-
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	No	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	Yes	Useable	-
Seating	No	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	No	Public Restrooms	No
Located Close to a Road	Yes	Useable Good	-
Sports Fields	2	Good Condition	-
Football/Soccer #	0	Family Restroom	-
Useable	-	Baby Changing Station	-
Good Condition	-	Picnic Tables	No
Basketball Courts #	2	Useable	-
Useable	-	Good Condition	-
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #	0	Grill or Fire Pit #	No
Useable	-	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	-	Food Vending	No
Tennis Courts #	0	Landscaping	No
Useable	-	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition	-	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	No
Useable	-	Graffiti	No
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	Yes
Drinking Fountains	No	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	Yes
Park Lighting	No	Excessive Animal Waste	No
Seating	No		

**Figure 3.2 AmVets Park Critical Infrastructure Inventory**

In April of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at AmVets Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** (*Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience*)

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks are broken cracked or have trip hazards.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** There is no crosswalk for the park. The park is located on West Market Street, a busy four lane highway. There is a stop light at Austin and West Market SW a few blocks away.

**Safety:** There is a high volume of traffic adding to an unsafe condition along the walk to the park. There are vacant houses and lots and abandoned commercial buildings along the walk, with little pedestrian traffic.

**Comfort:** There are no benches or places to rest. There is a well shaded tree canopy throughout the park

**Park Appearance:** Excessive litter, vandalism and poorly maintained properties border the park.

**Park Features:** The park lacks water fountains, restrooms, and bike parking.

**Usage:** Usage is minimal despite significant foot traffic with the Community Volunteer Council, Warren Family Mission Food Pantry, Trumbull Metropolitan Housing Authority housing, two churches, and the Dairy Queen in the nearest two blocks.

**Public Outreach:** More than half of the respondents or their family do not visit AmVets Park. A greater number have not heard of the park, or did not know where the park was located. Physical improvements suggested are playground and basketball court improvements as well as restroom installation. Although the park was part of Summer Programming in the early 1980s, there have not been organized activities in recent years.



**Image 3.3 AmVets Park Photo**  
AmVets Park pavilion and park infrastructure.

## AmVets Park Recommendations

### Immediate Priority

- List the park on the City of Warren website

### High Priority

- Repair the fence along West Market
- Replace the 2 degraded benches in the pavilion
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

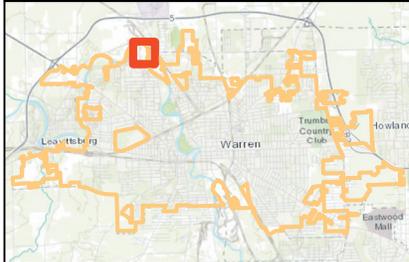
### Long Term

- Repair and maintain the basketball courts and basketball hoops
- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



**Image 3.4 AmVets Park Photo**  
AmVets Park pavilion and park infrastructure.

# Burbank Park Background and Inventory



3252 Elm Hill Drive, Warren, OH 44485

23.75 Acres



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PARTNERSHIP**

The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit to make any inference other than the intended purpose.

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### Map 3.5 Burbank Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts the location and general topography of Burbank Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** The park is located in northwest Warren off Elm Hill Drive; walking distance to McGuffey PK-8 and in a densely populated residential neighborhood bordered by the Mahoning River on the east and north side. The park is 23.75 acres.

**History:** William C. Burbank was the Mayor of Warren from 1952-1959. The Burbank Park renovation project was completed from 2008 - 2010 with over \$140,000 in goods and services from the Warren Athletic League, the Mahoning Valley Scrappers and Trumbull 100 to make updates to the concession stand and other organized sports infrastructure.

**Inventory:** The park has four baseball/softball fields with dugouts and bleacher seating, a play area with six swings and two toddler swings, concessions with picnic table seating and restrooms, a storage shed at the southeast corner of the fields, and a parking lot at the park entrance.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance. The park is bordered on the north and east by the Mahoning River and features a fishing pond. Walking trails are located along the river used by residents.

**Burbank Park**

Park Infrastructure Inventory - Date Inventory Completed 4/4/2019

Park Accessibility	Yes	Activity Areas #	3
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	0
Park Name	Yes	Useable	-
Park Hours	Yes	Good Condition	-
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	-
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	-
Park Map	No	Trail #	1
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	Yes
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	Yes
Entry Points to the Park	1	Connected to other activity areas	Yes
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	No
Parking Availability	Yes	Seating Along the Trail	No
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	No
Trail or Path Connectivity	Yes	Trail Surface	No
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	No	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	Residential	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds	1	Good Condition	Yes
Useable	Yes	Lake/Pond #	1
Good Condition	Yes	Useable	Yes
Distinct areas for different ages	No	Good Condition	Yes
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	No	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	No	Useable	-
Seating	Yes	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	No	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road	No	Useable Good	Yes/seasonal
Sports Fields	4	Good Condition	Yes
Football/Soccer #	0	Family Restroom	No
Useable	-	Baby Changing Station	No
Good Condition	-	Picnic Tables	Yes
Basketball Courts #	0	Useable	Yes
Useable	-	Good Condition	Yes
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #	4	Grill or Fire Pit #	No
Useable	Yes	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	Yes	Food Vending	Concession
Tennis Courts #	0	Landscaping	No
Useable	-	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition	-	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	No
Useable	-	Graffiti	No
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	No
Drinking Fountains	Yes	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	No
Park Lighting	Yes	Excessive Animal Waste	Yes/Geese
Seating	Yes		

**Figure 3.6 Burbank Park Critical Infrastructure Inventory**

*In March of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Burbank Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.*

**Park Conditions:** Wayfinding signage exists on Tod Ave NW and Elm Hill Drive. There is one entrance/exit to the park with signs identifying video monitoring at the park, though overall the park lacks adequate signage. The bleachers and dugouts are in fair to poor condition. The play equipment is located about 100 yards from the parking lot within the greenspace close to the pond. The majority of the park lies in the floodway of the Mahoning River, and as such causes regular flooding of the park.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** *(Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience)*

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks are broken cracked or have trip hazards.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** There is no crosswalk at the park entrance. There are Children Playing signs on every street leading to the park.

**Safety:** The park is setback from the main road, in a neighborhood with minimal housing vacancy.

**Comfort:** There is little shade or tree canopies on the walk to the park, and the street lacks benches and places to rest.

**Park Appearance:** There are parts of the park that are isolated and hidden from view. Many of the park signs are broken. The concession area needs to be repainted. The walk along the Mahoning River access isn't marked with any signage and there are several trees blocking the walking path.

**Park Features:** There are no walking or bike paths that connect the park entrance, and no bike parking. There are no water fountains at the park. The gate entrances are locked at night. The park significantly lacks play equipment for the high volume of visitors.

**Usage:** The park is used during the baseball and softball season by Warren Athletic League and Warren G. Harding Ladies softball team's home field, although the WGH Ladies new field is currently being built at the WGH school site. Warren Athletic League maintains the playing fields and concession area through an informal shepherding agreement. The park is visited by folks walking the trail along the river and fishermen at the pond. The nearest Warren City School is McGuffey Elementary School K-8 building which is 0.4 miles and within a 10 Minute Walk.

**Public Outreach:** Over 66% of individuals or families that have visited Burbank Park live within a 10 minute walk to the park. Almost 90% stated that they participate in physical activities at Burbank Park such as baseball, softball, fishing, walking, and blackberry picking. The 6-12 age group visit the park the most, however the 13-18 student age group is the second largest due to the use of the baseball/softball fields. Respondents would like to see physical improvements made to the park such as updating the restrooms, seating and improving the playground area with new equipment.

## Burbank Park Recommendations

### Immediate Priority

- Repair as needed and open the restrooms for use during park hours (or otherwise decommission the restrooms)
- List the park on the City of Warren website
- Evaluate current geese population and seek best practices on reducing waste

### High Priority

- Review and update shepherding agreements
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

### Long Term

- Organized sports leagues
- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace, or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



**Image 3.7 Burbank Park Photo**

Panoramic view of organized sport infrastructure at Burbank Park.



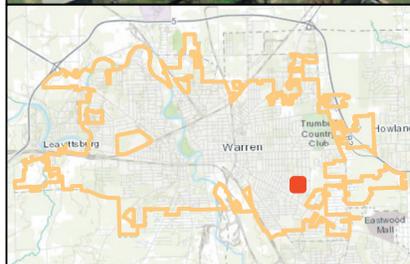
**Image 3.8 Burbank Park Photo**

*Pictured is more of the infrastructure for organized sport leagues at Burbank Park.*



**Image 3.9 Burbank Park Photo**  
*Pictured is the pond located at Burbank Park as well as the parking lot.*

# Circle Park Background and Inventory



**Central Parkway SE  
Warren, OH 44484**

**1.6 Acres**



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PARTNERSHIP**

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11/14/20

### **Map 3.10 Circle Park Aerial Map**

*The map above depicts the location and general topography of Circle Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.*

**Description:** Circle Park is located in southeast Warren on Central Parkway, between Sussex and Perkinswood. The park is 1.6 acres.

**History:** The park, originally named Park Circle, was created for residents of the new Perkinswood development to increase appeal to the new neighborhood in the 1940s.

**Inventory:** New playground equipment was installed in 2016. There is older climbing equipment, toddler swings, full-size swings and a turnstile swing set. A baseball backstop exists, but no formal playing field is present. The park has picnic seating, a grill and several benches. There is signed parking.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance.

**Park Conditions:** Most of the equipment at the park is in good condition. There is no park signage at the park or surrounding streets.

Circle Park		Park Infrastructure Inventory - Date Inventory Completed 1/18/19	
Park Accessibility	Accessible/Not Locked	Activity Areas #	1
Park Signage	No	Fitness Equipment Stations #	0
Park Name	-	Useable	-
Park Hours	-	Good Condition	-
Park Contact Info	-	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	-	Useable	-
Park Rules	-	Good Condition	-
Park Map	-	Trail #	0
Rental Equipment Info	-	Useable	-
Event/Program Info	-	Good Condition	-
Entry Points to the Park	Several	Connected to other activity areas	-
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	-
Parking Availability	Yes	Seating Along the Trail	-
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	-
Trail or Path Connectivity	No	Trail Surface	-
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	No	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	Residential	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds	2	Good Condition	Yes
Useable	Yes/Yes	Lake/Pond #	0
Good Condition	Yes/Yes	Useable	-
Distinct areas for different ages	Yes/No	Good Condition	-
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	Yes/Yes	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	Yes/Yes	Useable	-
Seating	No/No	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	No/No	Public Restrooms	No
Located Close to a Road	No/No	Useable Good	-
Sports Fields	1	Good Condition	-
Football/Soccer #	0	Family Restroom	-
Useable	-	Baby Changing Station	-
Good Condition	-	Picnic Tables	Yes
Basketball Courts #	0	Useable	Yes
Useable	-	Good Condition	Yes
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #	1	Grill or Fire Pit #	1
Useable	yes	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	yes	Food Vending	No
Tennis Courts #	0	Landscaping	Yes
Useable	-	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition	-	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	No
Useable	-	Graffiti	No
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	No
Drinking Fountains	No	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	No
Park Lighting	No	Excessive Animal Waste	Yes/Dog
Seating	Yes		

### Figure 3.11 Circle Park Critical Infrastructure

In March of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Circle Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** (*Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience*)

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks are broken or cracked in some areas. The sidewalk is on the residential side of the circle, not next to the park.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** There are no painted crosswalks to the park. There are stop signs at the intersections of the circle.

**Safety:** The park is located at the center of a round-about, which slows traffic. There is minimal housing vacancy.

**Comfort:** There is a well shaded tree canopy around the park. There are benches and places to rest.

**Park Appearance:** Regular litter maintenance is lacking.

**Park Features:** The park lacks signage for direction or physical activity programming, bike or walking paths to or within the park, and bike parking. The climbing equipment needs repaired and painted.

**Usage:** The park is used by residents, participating in football, kickball, playing on the playground equipment and gathering in the picnic area. The Loop Group-Circle Park has hosted movie nights and other events over the last 3 years.

**Public Outreach:** Over 50% of the park goers are between the ages of 6-12 years. Approximately 86% of all respondents enjoy physical activities such as sports, walking, jogging and the playground. In the questionnaire, respondents listed transportation as a barrier. The Western Reserve Transit Authority Warren (WRTA) Express #28 route passes by Central Parkway SE and Youngstown Rd SE intersection once an hour, Monday through Saturday.



*Image 3.12 Circle Park Both photos to the right on pages 26 and 27 depict Circle Park and its play equipment and seating.*

## Circle Park Recommendations

### Immediate Priority

- List the park on the City of Warren website

### High Priority

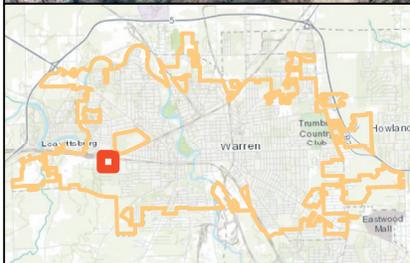
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

### Long Term

- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



# Deemer Park Background and Inventory



2668 Front St. SW, Warren, OH 44485

22.42 Acres



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PARTNERSHIP**

The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit to make any inference other than the intended purpose.

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### Map 3.13 Deemer Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts aerial view of Deemer Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** Deemer Park is located in southwest Warren on Front St. between Martin Luther and Western Reserve. Deemer Park is adjacent to the Reserve Ave SW bridge. The park is 22.42 acres.

**History:** The land for Deemer Park was purchased in 1976 from William Deemer, for whom the park is named. The park was officially opened in September 1978 as a joint venture between the city and the Warren City Schools. The 21 acres were initially financed with a \$185,000 HUD grant and local monies.

**Inventory:** Deemer has a track and center football field. There is a concession stand, bathrooms, fitness station area, 4 basketball courts, 4 tennis courts, a pavilion, drinking fountains, a parking lot, and ample greenspace.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance.

**Park Conditions:** The basketball and tennis courts are in fair condition. However, there are no basketball or tennis nets on site. The pavilion, concession stand, and parking lot all need significant maintenance and updates. High weeds are present at the entrance to the park and around the sign. The two drinking fountains are not operating. There are no operational bathrooms on site.

Park Accessibility	Unlocked/Accessible	Activity Areas #	
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	1
Park Name	Yes	Useable	Yes
Park Hours	No	Good Condition	No
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	-
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	-
Park Map	No	Trail #	0
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	-
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	-
Entry Points to the Park	2	Connected to other activity areas	-
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	-
Parking Availability	Yes	Seating Along the Trail	-
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	No	Fencing	-
Trail or Path Connectivity	No	Trail Surface	-
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	No	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	R, C, Ind*	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds	0	Good Condition	Yes
Useable	-	Lake/Pond #	0
Good Condition	-	Useable	-
Distinct areas for different ages	-	Good Condition	-
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	-	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	-	Useable	-
Seating	-	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	-	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road	-	Useable Good	No
Sports Fields	9	Good Condition	-
Football/Soccer #	1	Family Restroom	-
Useable	Yes	Baby Changing Station	-
Good Condition	No	Picnic Tables	No
Basketball Courts #	4	Useable	-
Useable	No	Good Condition	-
Good Condition	No	Picnic Shelter	-
Baseball/Softball Field #	0	Grill or Fire Pit #	-
Useable	-	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	-	Food Vending	Yes
Tennis Courts #	4	Landscaping	No
Useable	No	Trees and Vegetation	No
Good Condition	No	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	No
Useable	-	Graffiti	Yes
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	Yes
Drinking Fountains	No	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	Yes
Park Lighting	No	Excessive Animal Waste	No
Seating	No		

\*residential, commercial, and industrial

**Figure 3.14 Deemer Park Critical Infrastructure**  
In January of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Deemer Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** *(Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience)*

**Sidewalks:** It is in a remote location accessible by car. There are no sidewalks or public transportation leading into the park.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** There are no crosswalks or intersections.

**Safety:** There is no neighborhood close to the park, although there are several houses in the vicinity. There is a footpath to the woods that has excessive litter and there were over a dozen wild turkeys counted.

**Comfort:** There is no tree canopy or shade at the park. No benches or places to rest.

**Park Appearance:** The park has a lot of vandalism, abandoned and poorly maintained buildings. The entire park area is isolated with little activity on a daily basis. The football field is maintained but the rest of the park tends to lack maintenance.

**Park Features:** The football field and track around the field are well maintained and in good condition. There is no bike rack and no working drinking fountain. Concession and bathrooms are usually locked. The parking lot is in poor condition.

**Usage:** Originally constructed as a sports complex for Warren city schools, Deemer is now used exclusively by the Warren Little Raiders football team and maintained by the City of Warren. Warren City Schools no longer maintains the park and there is minimal usage outside of the football league.

**Public Outreach:** Over 56% of respondents do not visit Deemer Park. The majority of responders who did not visit the park cited safety, security, high crime area and nothing to do. Only 2% of overall respondents live within a 10 Minute Walk Initiatives.



*Image 3.15 Deemer Park  
Pictured to the right are the  
bleachers, track, and football  
field located at Deemer Park.*

***Considering the isolated location and low usage of Deemer Park for residents overall, before adopting any other initiatives the city should work directly with residents and stakeholders, specifically the Warren Little Raiders, to evaluate all land use options for the site including disposition or alternative usage.***

The following initiatives should be implemented if the park is to be restored:

## Deemer Park Recommendations

### Immediate Priority

- Repair as needed and open the restrooms for use during park hours (or otherwise decommission the restrooms)
- List the park on the City of Warren website

### High Priority

- Evaluate and identify the need or interest for continued usage of the park
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

### Long Term

- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations
- Organized sports leagues
- Repairs and/or update dugouts and bleachers
- Repair and maintain the basketball courts and basketball hoops
- The fitness circuit equipment is in need of upgrade and ag slag for the foundation; or should be removed due to safety
- Perform maintenance on tennis court area



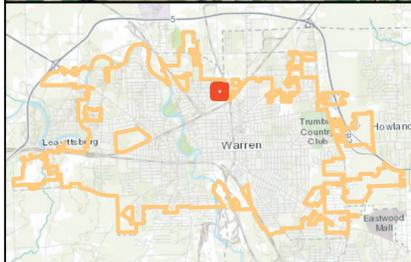
**Image 3.16 Deemer Park Photograph**  
*Pictured is the concession stand at Deemer Park.*



**Image 3.17 Deemer Park Photograph**

*Pictured is fitness equipment available at Deemer Park. Please note that the garage has been removed since this photo was captured.*

# North End Park Background and Inventory



**Fremont Ave NE, Warren OH 44483**

**10.59 Acres**

The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit to make any inference other than the intended purpose.



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
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## Map 3.18 North End Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts aerial view of North End Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** Located in north central Warren at the intersection of Comstock and Fremont Streets at the Garrett Wonders Bike Trailhead on the Warren Bikeway portion of the Great Ohio Lake to River Greenway. The park is 10.59 acres.

**History:** North End Park was closed in 2004 when the Warren City Parks Citizens Advisory Committee completed the last assessment. The city of Warren re-opened the park as a 'passive' green space in 2010, having received several grants for the park as a bike path trailhead.

**Inventory:** The park has a large pavilion, air pump and bike fix it station, maps for bike trail, restrooms, parking lot, gate for parking lot, and park name signage.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and over 100 young trees planted with the opening of the trail head.

**Park Conditions:** The park is in overall good condition. Standing water is an ongoing issue. The park experiences limited vandalism.

Park Accessibility	Locked Sometimes	Activity Areas #	1
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	0
Park Name	Yes	Useable	-
Park Hours	No	Good Condition	-
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	-
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	-
Park Map	No	Trail #	1 - Bike
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	Yes
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	Yes
Entry Points to the Park	2 to 5	Connected to other activity areas	Yes
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	No
Parking Availability	Cars, Bicycles	Seating Along the Trail	No
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	No
Trail or Path Connectivity	Yes	Trail Surface	Paved
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	Yes	Open Green Space #	0
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	R, C, and Ind*	Useable	-
Number of Playgrounds	0	Good Condition	-
Useable	-	Lake/Pond #	0
Good Condition	-	Useable	-
Distinct areas for different ages	-	Good Condition	-
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	-	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	-	Useable	-
Seating	-	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	-	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road	-	Useable Good	Yes
Sports Fields	0	Good Condition	Yes
Football/Soccer #	0	Family Restroom	No
Useable	-	Baby Changing Station	No
Good Condition	-	Picnic Tables	Yes
Basketball Courts #	0	Useable	Yes
Useable	-	Good Condition	Yes
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #	0	Grill or Fire Pit #	No
Useable	-	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	-	Food Vending	No
Tennis Courts #	0	Landscaping	No
Useable	-	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition	-	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	No
Useable	-	Graffiti	No
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	No
Drinking Fountains	Yes	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	No
Park Lighting	No	Excessive Animal Waste	No
Seating	No		

*\*residential, commercial, and industrial*

**Figure 3.19 North End Park Critical Infrastructure**

*In January of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at North End Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.*

**Neighborhood Accessibility** (*Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience*)

**Sidewalks:** There are no sidewalks on the streets bordering the park. Some of the streets connecting to the park have sidewalks but they are broken, cracked and have overgrown weeds and plants.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** The crosswalks and intersections on the route to the park are not clearly marked.

**Safety:** There are many derelict, vacant houses and lots adjacent to the park.

**Comfort:** There are no benches or places to rest. There is little shade provided by the canopy of younger trees.

**Park Appearance:** There are parts of the park that are hidden from view. Irregular maintenance and trash removal contribute to an often poor appearance.

**Park Features:** There are no playgrounds, ball fields, sport courts, beautification, or other park features. The park exists as a trailhead, but the restrooms are often locked and thusly unavailable to users of the bike path.

**Usage:** North End Park is used as a picnic area, and a Great Ohio Lake to River Greenway stop where cyclists can fill tires at the kiosk air station and refill water bottles at a water filling station near the restrooms.

**Public Outreach:** 42% of city respondents visit the park, and 34% live within a 10 Minute Walk. Over 80% of respondents would like to see more playground equipment with accessibility for all abilities, organized sports leagues and programming for all ages.



**Photo 3.20 North End Park**  
*Pictured is the parking lot from the pavilion located at North End Park.*

## North End Park Recommendations

### Immediate Priority

- Repair as needed and open the restrooms for use during park hours (or otherwise decommission the restrooms)
- List the park on the City of Warren website and reference that this park is a rest stop on the Great Ohio Lake-to-River Greenway with bike amenities

### High Priority

- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

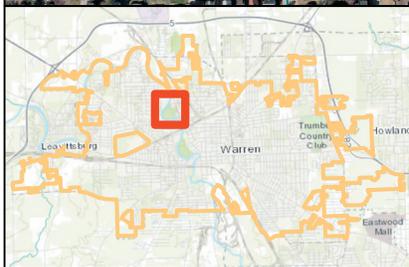
### Long Term

- Develop a stormwater management plan to alleviate flooding in the park
- Continue outreach and engagement with bike community for active use and promotion of the trailhead and bike path
- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



**Photo 3.21 North End Park Photograph**  
Pictured is the pavilion located at North End Park.

# Packard Park Background and Inventory



Mahoning Ave NW, Warren, OH 44485

66.53 Acres



The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit to make any inference other than the intended purpose.

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## Map 3.22 Packard Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts aerial view of Packard Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** Packard Park is located behind the Packard Music Hall on Mahoning Ave. NW, and is being utilized as one of the principal parks for the city. The park is 66.53 acres. It has a lower level where the majority of sports activity takes place and an upper level playground and splash pad with ample parking.

This park serves a wide demographic due to its central location within the city and has a value to city residents due to its condition, history, and potential.

**History:** The land now known as Packard Park was originally 42 acres and was donated to the city by W.D. Packard in 1911 to be used as a public park. In 1980, the City of Warren acquired 18.7 acres bordered by the west bank of the Mahoning River and Tod Avenue which is referred to as Packard Park Annex West. A pedestrian bridge over the river connects this new section to the original park just below the Japanese Tea Garden.

Packard Park		Park Infrastructure Inventory - Date Inventory Completed 4/18/19	
Park Accessibility	Accessible/Not Locked	Activity Areas #	6
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	1
Park Name	Yes	Useable	Yes
Park Hours	No	Good Condition	No
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	1
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	Yes
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	Yes
Park Map	No	Trail #	1
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	Yes
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	No
Entry Points to the Park	2	Connected to other activity areas	Yes
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	No
Parking Availability	Yes	Seating Along the Trail	No
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	Yes
Trail or Path Connectivity	Yes	Trail Surface	Paved
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	No	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	R	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds	1	Good Condition	Yes
Useable	Yes	Lake/Pond #	2
Good Condition	Yes	Useable	Yes
Distinct areas for different ages	Yes	Good Condition	Yes
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	Yes	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	Yes	Useable	-
Seating	Yes	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	No	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road	No	Useable Good	Yes
Sports Fields	9	Good Condition	No
Football/Soccer #	0	Family Restroom	No
Useable	-	Baby Changing Station	No
Good Condition	-	Picnic Tables	Yes
Basketball Courts #	0	Useable	Yes
Useable	-	Good Condition	Yes
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #	3	Grill or Fire Pit #	Yes
Useable	Yes	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	Yes	Food Vending	No
Tennis Courts #	6	Landscaping	Yes
Useable	Yes	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition	Yes	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	Yes
Useable	-	Graffiti	No
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	Yes
Drinking Fountains	Yes	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	Yes
Park Lighting	Yes	Excessive Animal Waste	Yes/geese
Seating	Yes		

### Figure 3.23 Packard Park Critical Infrastructure

In April of 2019 a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Packard Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.

In 2009, the former Warren City School Turner Junior High School property was transferred to the City of Warren in order to construct a skate park near the entrance of Packard Park diagonal from the greenhouse. The City of Warren's Community Development department was able to fund the \$76,500 construction.

In 2019, the W.D. Packard Foundation completed renovations of the 104 year old tea garden restoring it to its previous condition and offering an attractive therapeutic space for the community. The W.D. Packard Foundation was founded in 2008 and supports and promotes educational, historical and artistic programming for the Packard Music Hall and Packard Park.

**Inventory:** On the 'lower level' (located downhill from the entrance to the park), Packard Park has four baseball fields with dugouts and bleachers in poor to fair condition that allow for viewing of ball games. There are six tennis courts, a stone shelter and a stand alone sliding board. Four restrooms are located throughout the park in fair condition.

On the 'upper level' is a playground built by a Kaboom project behind Packard Music Hall along with a splash pad in the shape of a 1902 Packard Model G car which opened in fall 2019. A skate park designed for intermediate skill level and is located in a gated enclosure. The historic Tea Garden has been restored as of fall 2019. A large shelter house, along with an attached greenhouse, exists at the top of the park and is available for rent from the City of Warren. A small one story house is adjacent to the shelter house with a small fenced in greenspace; it remains vacant.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance. The Park is adjacent to the Mahoning River and a pond is located within the park boundaries.

**Park Conditions:** The park is in fair condition. It is easily accessible by automobile from two main entrances on Mahoning Ave. There is ample parking is available within the park, and is also accessible by foot from neighborhoods to the west and east of the park.

The Warren City Parks Advisory Committee cites easy accessibility, "This park also provides a valuable access point by foot from neighborhoods to the west via the Mahoning Crest park area," ... across the closed Mahoning River foot bridge. The Packard Park Bridge over the Mahoning River is in poor condition (it is slated to be replaced by the city of Warren in late 2020 through federally sourced funding). The park lighting is arranged to accommodate night baseball/softball games. There is one roadway through the park to be shared by cars, pedestrians and cyclists. The hill between the upper park and lower park, used informally in winter for sledding, has several obstacles near and at the bottom that make this activity precarious. The pond at the southwest end of the park has a historic outdoor fireplace. Geese are abundant in this area of the park. The majority of the park is located within the floodway of the Mahoning River and as such is prone to frequent floods.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** *(Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience)*

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks are narrow and close to the road. Sidewalks are broken, cracked and have overgrown weeds and plants.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** The surrounding areas have limited crosswalks to access the

park.

**Safety:** There is a modest amount of housing vacancy along the park route

**Comfort:** Parts of the park are isolated and hidden from view. There are broken benches and picnic tables at the pavilions.

**Park Appearance:** There is excessive litter along the north end of the park.

**Park Features:** The park lacks bike parking, drinking fountains are not in working order. Restrooms lack regular maintenance. Playground equipment requires maintenance and the foundation fabric is loose. The park lacks directional signage or information on how to reach the leagues that utilize the park. Protecting the safety of all types of road usage should be reflected in design decisions.

**Usage:** Organized baseball and softball teams utilize the fields for league play. The lighted fields are used for special night games and events. The tennis courts are regularly used for play.

**Public Outreach:** 42% of city-wide respondents live within the boundaries of the 10 Minute Walk, and over 86% of respondents have visited Packard Park. 63% of children ages 6-12 visit the park; 90% of all users participated in physical activities (soccer, walking and baseball) and over 56% participated in social activities (parties and amphitheater events) at the park.

## Packard Park Recommendations



**Image 3.24 Packard Park Photograph**

*Pictured is play infrastructure and the pavilion located at Packard Park*

### **Immediate**

- Repair as needed and open the restrooms for use during park hours (or otherwise decommission the restrooms)

### **High Priority**

- Evaluate current geese population and seek best practices on reducing waste
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity -- including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

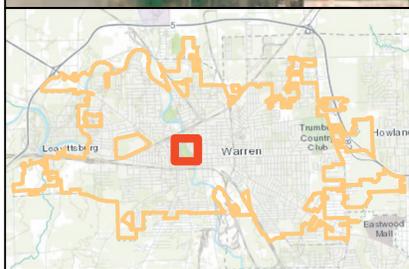
### **Long Term**

- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Organized sports leagues
- The fitness circuit equipment is in need of upgrade and aggregate for the foundation; or should be removed due to safety.
- Preserve and promote the historical buildings and monuments
- Develop a nature based plan to reduce invasive species vegetation, foster streambank stabilization and the growth of native plants, and to emphasize our fresh water assets such as ponds, lakes, and rivers
- Connect trail network along the river with Packard and Perkins Park
- Repairs and/or update dugouts and bleachers
- Develop a stormwater management plan to alleviate flooding in the park
- Plan and implement pedestrian lanes and non-motorized transportation lanes for the park roadway
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



**Image 3.25 Packard Park Photograph**  
*Pictured is the pond located at Packard Park.*

# Perkins Park Background and Inventory



**750 Mahoning Ave & Perkins Dr. NW  
Warren, OH 44481**

**42.33 Acres**



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PARTNERSHIP**

The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit to make any inference other than the intended purpose.

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1/14/20

## Map 3.26 Perkins Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts aerial view of Perkins Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** Perkins Park is located in the Historic Perkins neighborhood, behind City Hall and below the Historic Perkins Rose Garden just off Mahoning Avenue. The park is also easily accessible by foot or bicycle via the Veterans Riverwalk near the Log Cabin. “Perkins Park is being maintained as one of the principal parks for the city, serving a cross section of the city’s population” reported by the Warren City Parks Citizen Advisory Committee. Perkins Park is 42.33 acres.

**History:** In August of 1931, the City of Warren purchased the land for Perkins Park for \$10.00. The Park, first known as the Perkins Flats, also included the Perkins House (which now serves as City Hall). The estate consisted of the Perkins House, 7.5 acres of beautiful grounds and 32 acres of field previously known as Perkins Flats, situated between the homestead and the Mahoning River. The first baseball games were played the following May of 1932, on five brand-new diamonds. The park’s development continues to the present day, with a volleyball court added in 2013. An ADA compliant playground is located near the south side of the park, along with restrooms.

Park Accessibility	Accessible/Not Locked	Activity Areas #	4
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	1
Park Name	Yes	Useable	Yes
Park Hours	Yes	Good Condition	No
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	-
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	-
Park Map	No	Trail	1 - Riverwalk
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	Yes
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	Yes
Entry Points to the Park	2	Connected to other activity areas	Yes
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	No
Parking Availability	Yes	Seating Along the Trail	No
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	Yes
Trail or Path Connectivity	Yes	Trail Surface	Paved
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	No	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	Residential	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds	2	Good Condition	Yes
Useable	Yes	Lake/Pond #	0
Good Condition	Yes	Useable	-
Distinct areas for different ages	Yes	Good Condition	-
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	Yes	Other # 1	1- River
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	Yes	Useable	Yes
Seating	Yes	Good Condition	Yes
Fenced In Perimeter	No	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road	No	Useable Good	Yes
Sports Fields	14	Good Condition	Yes
Football/Soccer #	4	Family Restroom	No
Useable	yes	Baby Changing Station	No
Good Condition	yes	Picnic Tables	Yes
Basketball Courts #	0	Useable	Yes
Useable	-	Good Condition	Yes
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #	7	Grill or Fire Pit #	Yes
Useable	Yes	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition	Yes	Food Vending	Concession
Tennis Courts #	0	Landscaping	Yes
Useable	-	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition	-	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	3	Historical Landmark	Yes
Useable	Yes	Graffiti	No
Good Condition	Yes	Vandalism	Yes
Drinking Fountains	Yes	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	Yes
Park Lighting	Yes	Excessive Animal Waste	Yes/dog and geese
Seating	Yes		

**Figure 3.27 Perkins Park Critical Infrastructure**  
In April of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Perkins Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.

**Inventory:** Perkins Park is a multi-use park. There are pavilions available to rent, picnic areas, baseball fields with dugouts and bleachers, soccer fields, restrooms, a playground on the south end, and a swing set on the north end. The Warren Community Amphitheater and grounds are adjacent to the parking and playground area.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance. The park includes a riverwalk along the Mahoning River.

**Park Conditions:** The playground equipment and built infrastructure is in good to poor condition depending upon age. The inside dugout areas lack slag to prevent excessive mud after flooding. The park lacks signage or lined parking. The park lacks signage information on how to contact the leagues that utilize the park. The majority of the park lies within the floodway of the Mahoning River and as such is prone to frequent and extensive flooding. Lighting for the ballfields and playground areas are in various states of condition and the scoreboard no longer works. The hill leading up to Pioneer Cemetery is eroding and not stable.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** *(Safe Routes to Parks Audit were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience)*

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks are in good condition.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** Park lacks adequately lined crosswalk at Perkins Dr. and Mahoning NW. Trees along Perkins Dr. obstruct visibility.

**Comfort:** There is an abundance of shade but an absence of benches for a place to rest.

**Park Appearance:** The Historic Perkins Rose Garden, a private project installed and maintained by the Historic Perkins Homestead Neighborhood Association, serves as a beautiful de-facto entrance to the park. The park lacks wayfinding or programming signage on Perkins Dr. The flagpole at the Children's Memorial entrance lacks a flag.

**Park Features:** Park lacks designated pedestrian/ bicycle lane for shared road through the park, presenting a continual conflict between automobile and non-automobile use. Protecting the safety of all types of road usage should be reflected in design decisions. The park lacks adequate functioning water fountains, bike parking, and benches along the park drive. The park lacks signage at the fenced volleyball courts. The Veteran's Trail, along the river through the park, lacks adequate maintenance and is in need of severe intervention.

**Usage:** In a survey of citizens that reside within a 10 Minute Walk of Perkins Park, over 86% of respondents enjoy visiting the park. The pavilions are regularly rented for events, and the park is frequented by walkers and bikers who utilize the Veterans Riverwalk on the paved perimeter drive. Respondents note baseball and softball fields are used less than in prior years, while soccer play has expanded. The volleyball courts were installed through an agreement with Warren City Schools for the girl's volleyball team, which includes maintenance by Warren City Schools. Usage includes seasonal practice and games by the Warren G. Harding Girl's Volleyball team and local church youth groups. Cornhole installed near the South end of the park and fitness stations next to the concession stand have minimal use.

**Public Outreach:** Residents and non-residents participate in various activities at Perkins Park. Survey respondents cite sports, the amphitheater, attending parties and dog walking as top interests. 35% of city wide respondents live within a 10 Minute Walk. Restroom improvements were cited by 70% of respondents as highly important.

## Perkins Park Recommendations

### Immediate Priority

- Repair as needed and open the restrooms for use during park hours (or otherwise decommission the restrooms)
- Stabilize the hill behind Pioneer Cemetery due to severe erosion
- List the park on the City of Warren website
- Evaluate current geese population and seek best practices on reducing waste

### High Priority

- Remove scoreboard and light poles that are within playing fields
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activities, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards.

### Long Term

- Organized sports leagues
- Preserve and promote the historical buildings and monuments
- The fitness circuit equipment is in need of upgrade and ag slag for the foundation; or should be removed due to safety.
- Develop a nature based plan to reduce invasive species vegetation, foster streambank stabilization and the growth of native plants, and to emphasize our fresh water assets such as ponds, lakes, and rivers
- Connect trail network along the river with Packard and Perkins Park
- Plan and implement pedestrian lanes and non-motorized transportation lanes for the park roadway
- Repairs and/or update dugouts and bleachers
- Develop a stormwater management plan to alleviate flooding in the park
- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park



**Image 3.28 Perkins Park**  
*Pictured above are picnic shelters and part of the walking trail at Perkins Park. In the background you can see the various soccer and baseball fields at the park.*



**Image 3.29 Perkins Park**  
*Pictured above is the play equipment at the park.*



**Image 3.30 Perkins Park**

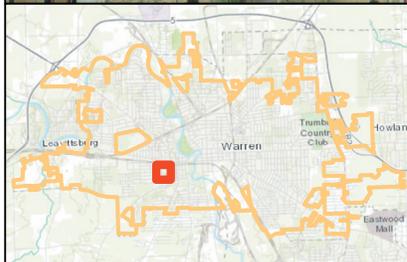
*Pictured above are picnic shelters and part of the walking trail at Perkins Park. In the background you can see the various baseball fields at the park as well as the road that loops around the park that is used by cyclists, walkers, and motorized vehicles.*



**Image 3.31 Perkins Park**

*From the play equipment, the walking trail extends to the Riverwalk and the Ampitheater.*

# Quinby Park Background and Inventory



**525 Austin Ave SW  
Warren, OH 44485**

**10.7 Acres**



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
PARTNERSHIP**

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## Map 3.32 Quinby Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts aerial view of Quinby Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** Quinby Park is located in southwest Warren on Austin Avenue between Front Street and Oak Street. It is situated on 10.7 acres.

**History:** Named in honor of Warren's co-founder, Ephraim Quinby, this became a park in 1929. The park's use and condition has degraded over time as the neighborhood around it has experienced population loss, disinvestment, blight, and property vacancy.

**Inventory:** The park has a shelter house with restrooms and kitchen, pond, picnic table areas, benches, new playground equipment, basketball courts, grills, a flag and flagpole, public art installations (metal bird bath and metal planter), a large hill used informally for sledding, paved parking lot with designated handicapped parking, and a Blessings Box and Little Free Library near the entrance. "With the improvement of the grounds, the committee suggests the addition of picnic tables and standing grills to take advantage of the grounds as a good place to picnic or host an outdoor activity." A point stated by the Warren Parks Citizen Advisory Committee that is relevant today- these items currently exist at the park and are maintained by the Community Concerned Citizens (CCCII) non-profit organization, but they are in need of replacement.

Park Accessibility		Accessible/Not Locked	Activity Areas #	
Park Signage		Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	0
Park Name		Yes	Useable	-
Park Hours		No	Good Condition	-
Park Contact Info		No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info		No	Useable	-
Park Rules		No	Good Condition	-
Park Map		No	Trail #	0
Rental Equipment Info		Yes	Useable	-
Event/Program Info		No	Good Condition	-
Entry Points to the Park		Several	Connected to other activity areas	-
Public Transit Access		No	Distance Markers and Signage	-
Parking Availability		Yes	Seating Along the Trail	-
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets		Yes	Fencing	-
Trail or Path Connectivity		Yes	Trail Surface	-
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity		No	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park		Residential	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds		1	Good Condition	Yes
Useable		Yes	Lake/Pond #	1
Good Condition		Yes	Useable	Yes
Distinct areas for different ages		Yes	Good Condition	Yes
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)		Yes	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%		Yes	Useable	-
Seating		No	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter		No	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road		No	Useable Good	Yes
Sports Fields		1	Good Condition	Yes
Football/Soccer #		0	Family Restroom	No
Useable		-	Baby Changing Station	No
Good Condition		-	Picnic Tables	Yes
Basketball Courts #		1	Useable	Yes
Useable		Yes	Good Condition	Yes
Good Condition		Yes	Picnic Shelter	Yes
Baseball/Softball Field #		0	Grill or Fire Pit #	Yes
Useable		-	Trash Cans	Yes
Good Condition		-	Food Vending	No
Tennis Courts #		0	Landscaping	Yes
Useable		-	Trees and Vegetation	Yes
Good Condition		-	Public Art Installation	Yes
Volleyball Court #		0	Historical Landmark	Yes
Useable		-	Graffiti	No
Good Condition		-	Vandalism	No
Drinking Fountains		No	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	No
Park Lighting		Yes	Excessive Animal Waste	Yes/geese
Seating		Yes		

### Figure 3.32 Quinby Park Critical Infrastructure

In April of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Quinby Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and an older stock of trees in need of maintenance. The park also features a pond.

**Park Conditions:** The park is within a residential neighborhood and has been maintained in large part through a series of shepherding agreement held by the city and CCCII. Recent physical improvements made by the TNP, Trumbull County Combined Health District, CCCII and other partners have helped begin the restoration of Quinby Park to its rightful prominence as a fully functional multi-use park on Warren's Southwest side. The first annual "A Day at the Park" event was held at the Quinby Park by CCCII with support from TNP, Trumbull Art Gallery, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the Warren City Schools, helping to promote overall use as well as re-establishing Quinby Park as a site for arts and culture. Both the shelter house and the greenspace have also been recently improved by significant by the city of Warren. Playground equipment improvements funded through the William Swanston Charitable Foundation and a Creating Healthy Communities grant were installed in October of 2018 and September 2019, with a second A Day at the Park event for the ribbon cutting. Shelter house historical grant improvements are to occur in 2020.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** *(Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience)*

**Sidewalks:** Sidewalks are broken or cracked, and are obstructed by low hanging limbs.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** There are no crosswalks in the surrounding area, and there are no parking signs on the streets leading to the park.

**Safety:** There are only a few operating street lights along the park's perimeter and within the park itself. The park is between two main roads; the lack of crosswalks presents a safety concern for pedestrians. The neighborhood around the park has a high rate of housing and land vacancy.

**Comfort:** A mature tree inventory creates a number of shaded areas throughout the park.

**Park Appearance:** Much improved by recent efforts, the park has an overall positive appearance. Adequate signage exists at the western entrance but is lacking elsewhere.

**Park Features:** The park lacks bike parking. Recently updated restrooms are located in the shelter house, only accessible when the shelter is in use. The park has some benches but lacks enough for its size, and has no benches or picnic tables close to the playground. There is ample greenspace for organized physical activity and programming.

**Usage:** CCCII currently has a shepherding agreement with the City of Warren. The group meets monthly on the second Monday of the month. The City of Warren lists the shelter house as a rental on the city website and the City of Warren Operations department maintains the property and shelter house.

**Public Outreach:** 64% of respondents visit the park, and about 46% live within a 10 Minute Walk. Approximately 80% visited the park for physical activities such as sports, walking, jogging or fishing (survey was conducted prior to playground equipment installation- the respondents reported children ages 6-12 as a majority of the visitors, and public meetings held by TNP before the improvements informed the specific additions made for that age group. Respondents noted an interest in youth and adult programming and organized sports leagues. Respondents noted concerns about safety, lighting and the physical condition of the neighborhood.

## Quinby Park Recommendations

### Immediate

- List the park on the City of Warren website

### High Priority

- Evaluate current geese population and seek best practices on reducing waste
- Review and update shepherding agreements
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activity, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

### Long Term

- Continue updates to the park's shelter house
- Develop a nature based plan to reduce invasive species vegetation, foster streambank stabilization and the growth of native plants, and to emphasize our fresh water assets such as ponds, lakes, and rivers
- Repairs and/or update bleachers
- Update existing parking areas
- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



**Image 3.33 Quinby Park Playground**

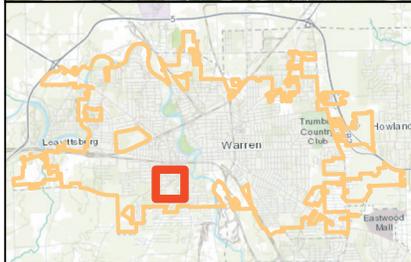
*New playground equipment installed in late Summer 2019 funded by the William Swanston Charitable Foundation and Trumbull County Creating Healthy Communities.*



**Image 3.34 Quinby Park**

*Basketball hoops at Quinby park as well as the water tower located near the park in the background.*

# Southwest Memorial Park



**Palmyra Rd and Parkman Rd  
Warren, OH 44481**

**15.29 Acres**

The purpose of this map is to depict the general park boundary as currently being used. It is not a survey and may not represent the total area owned by the City of Warren. Please do not use this exhibit to make any inference other than the intended purpose.



**TRUMBULL  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
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1/14/20

### Map 3.35 Southwest Memorial Park Aerial Map

The map above depicts aerial view of Southwest Memorial Park located in Warren, Ohio and provides information on its location. The above map was provided to Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership by the Trumbull County Planning Commission.

**Description:** Southwest Warren off Palmyra Rd between Parkman and Austin Ave, 15.29 acres

**History:** There was no recorded history in the Warren City Parks Citizen Advisory Committee document. The park was reopened with a ribbon cutting on Saturday, September 15, 2012 after being idle for 15 years. The park remodel was led by the Southwest Neighborhood Association with YouthBuild, Local 935, Miller-Yount Paving and many volunteers.<sup>6</sup>

**Inventory:** In 2004, the Warren Parks Citizen Advisory Committee stated that “this park has deteriorated,” in 2019 this plan notes that all built inventory is in poor condition; this suggests the park was in poor condition in 2004 has degraded since, despite resident efforts to restore it. There is signage and a gate at the southeast end where a path exists to Tod Avenue SW; some very old playground equipment exists but is significantly degraded.

**Natural Resources:** The park has open greenspace and is bordered by wooded area.

Southwest Park			
Park Infrastructure Inventory - Date Inventory Completed 1/18/19			
Park Accessibility	Locked	Activity Areas #	1
Park Signage	Yes	Fitness Equipment Stations #	0
Park Name	Yes	Useable	-
Park Hours	No	Good Condition	-
Park Contact Info	No	Skate Park #	0
Park Rental Info	No	Useable	-
Park Rules	No	Good Condition	-
Park Map	No	Trail #	0
Rental Equipment Info	No	Useable	-
Event/Program Info	No	Good Condition	-
Entry Points to the Park	Several	Connected to other activity areas	-
Public Transit Access	No	Distance Markers and Signage	-
Parking Availability	None	Seating Along the Trail	-
Adjacent Sidewalks and Streets	Yes	Fencing	-
Trail or Path Connectivity	No	Trail Surface	-
Bicycle Path/Trail Connectivity	Yes - Christ Our King	Open Green Space #	1
Primarily Land Use Bordering Park	R, Ins*	Useable	Yes
Number of Playgrounds	1	Good Condition	Yes
Useable	No	Lake/Pond #	0
Good Condition	No	Useable	-
Distinct areas for different ages	No	Good Condition	-
Colorful Equipment (3+ Colors)	No	Other #	0
Shade tree coverage at least 25%	No	Useable	-
Seating	No	Good Condition	-
Fenced In Perimeter	No	Public Restrooms	Yes
Located Close to a Road	No	Useable Good	No
Sports Fields	0	Good Condition	No
Football/Soccer #	0	Family Restroom	No
Useable	-	Baby Changing Station	No
Good Condition	-	Picnic Tables	No
Basketball Courts #	0	Useable	-
Useable	-	Good Condition	-
Good Condition	-	Picnic Shelter	-
Baseball/Softball Field #	0	Grill or Fire Pit #	-
Useable	-	Trash Cans	No
Good Condition	-	Food Vending	No
Tennis Courts #	0	Landscaping	No
Useable	-	Trees and Vegetation	No
Good Condition	-	Public Art Installation	No
Volleyball Court #	0	Historical Landmark	No
Useable	-	Graffiti	Yes
Good Condition	-	Vandalism	Yes
Drinking Fountains	No	Excessive Litter/Broken Glass	Yes
Park Lighting	Minimal	Excessive Animal Waste	No
Seating	No		

**Figure 3.36 Southwest Park Critical Infrastructure**  
*In January of 2019, a full infrastructure inventory was completed at Southwest Park. The above figure is a summarization of that full inventory. A larger version of this figure can be located in the appendix.*

6. [bcoupland@tribtoday.com 4A State and Local Saturday, September 15, 2012 Tribune Chronicle]

**Park Conditions:** Overgrown weeds and broken glass present a safety hazard as it is still accessible to pedestrians and used as a cut through. Asphalt parking is still evident. The greenspace value is low because of the current state of disrepair, partial asphalt surface, unsafe conditions and little to no maintenance or outdoor recreational program activity.

**Neighborhood Accessibility** *(Safe Routes to Parks Audits were collected by trained neighborhood volunteers and they are a reflection of that individual's park experience)*

**Sidewalks:** The sidewalks are far from the park.

**Street Crossings and Intersections:** There are no marked crosswalks at the park entrances.

**Safety:** The park is isolated and largely out of view. Trumbull County Action Program (TCAP) is nearby and has steady car and pedestrian traffic.

**Comfort:** A mature tree inventory creates a number of shaded areas throughout the park. There are no benches or places to rest along the walk.

**Park Appearance:** Most of the park is isolated and hidden from street view. The park has not had regular use for many years. The park has litter, tall grass and broken playground equipment.

**Park Features:** There is a locked gate at the entrance to the park.

**Usage:** The city signed a shepherding agreement with the Southwest Neighborhood Association (SWNA) in 2012. The term for agreement was 10 years, however the association no longer meets. The park was informally shuttered in 2014/2015.

**Public Outreach:** Neighbors to the park shared that people congregate there day and night. A written response from a resident, "I live in front of the park. There are people always in the park drinking/drugs. I'm afraid to let my kid play in our backyard due to this. I suggest taking down trees so everything is open."

***Considering the isolated location and low usage of Southwest Park for residents overall, before adopting any other initiatives the city should work directly with residents and stakeholders, especially those residents involved in previous SWNA efforts to restore it, to evaluate all land use options for the site including disposition or alternative usage.***

The following initiatives should be implemented if the park is to be restored:

## **Southwest Park Recommendations**

### **Immediate Priority**

- Review and update shepherding agreements
- List the park on the City of Warren website

### **High Priority**

- Evaluate and identify the need or interest for continued usage of the park
- Tree maintenance as needed for public safety in high use areas of the park to be guided in part by the Tree Inventory Summary Report, located in the appendix
- Develop a maintenance plan for park
- Improve wayfinding signage to the parks
- Install ADA compliant crosswalks to access the park
- Continue to engage with the groups or organizations who use the park for organized physical activities, including them on any future infrastructure improvement planning
- Evaluate and improve existing playground areas in accordance with National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) safe surface standards

### **Long Term**

- Update existing parking areas
- Improve and repair sidewalk access to the park for pedestrian safety
- Repair, replace or remove drinking fountains
- Replace, repair, and add additional lighting to all recreational areas
- Update and/or install bike racks
- Greening and beautification of entrances and intersections near park
- Incorporate recycling stations
- Replace, repair, or remove grills, picnic tables, and benches throughout the park
- Install, replace, or repair seating at recreational areas
- Install pet waste stations



**Image3.37 Southwest Park**  
*Gate that is kept locked and blocks access to the park.*



**Image 3.38 Southwest Park**  
*View of Southwest Park from the area that would be designated for parking.*

# Best Practices and Policy Recommendations

## City-Wide Recommendations for the Parks System

### Immediate Priority

- Development of a formal and active park management system. The highest priority recommendations to improve Warren's parks would be the development of a formal and active park management system. Recommended in 2004 as well, this recommended change would adjust the management strategy of the parks from a reactive, as needed basis from the Operations Department, City Hall, and Community Development to an assigned department to oversee the maintenance, improvements and programming at the parks. Such a change could manifest in a variety of ways, but the ideal outcome should include the creation of a permanent Board of Park Commissioners or a Park Recreation Board and the employment of a Park Superintendent. The Ohio Revised Code Chapter 755 details the process through which these actions can be conducted. With the establishment of a formal management system, the Park Superintendent can develop a maintenance plan for the parks ongoing maintenance needs, establish a park budget, pursue funding and partnership opportunities, develop programming, oversee facilities rental, and serve as the point person for the parks with the public.

### High Priority

- Development of an annual park budget that makes considerations for annual maintenance needs, park improvements, and programming
- Development of maintenance standards for park infrastructure, to include a schedule for regular inspection of playground equipment
- Development of best practices for decommissioning a city park which include recommendations from a park infrastructure audit and inventory, community input by door to door canvassing, and end use of space
- Development of a park security plan in partnership with the Warren City Police Department and policy guidance through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).<sup>7</sup>
- Evaluate stormwater and flooding concerns, particularly in parks located in floodplains, using that information to adjust infrastructure as needed and to inform future improvements in the parks. National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) launched the Great Urban Parks Campaign, promoting the use of Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) to reduce flooding and promote other benefits. They also created the Green Infrastructure Evaluation Framework, an on-line resource with tools for short- and long-term planning.<sup>8</sup>

7. *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is defined as a multi-disciplinary approach for reducing crime through urban and environmental design and the management and use of built environments. CPTED strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense of community among inhabitants so they can gain territorial control of areas and reduce opportunities for crime and fear of crime. CPTED is pronounced 'sep-ted' and it is known around the world as Designing Out Crime, defensible space, and other similar terms.*

8. <https://www.nrpa.org/parks-recreation-magazine/2019/december/nrpas-green-infrastructure-evaluation-framework/>  
<https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/partnerships/initiatives/water-conservation/green-infrastructure-framework/>

## Long Term

- Create brochure for the parks to be placed at Trumbull County Tourism Bureau
- Promote the parks as destinations to increase physical activity, improve mental health, reduce chronic disease and obesity, and foster community by partnering with local health organizations to create a culture of improving social determinants of health.
- Develop a standard shepherding agreement with the City Law Department to guide park shepherding partnerships between the city and community groups.
- Working in partnership with organizations like the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, assess and develop a plan to address issues of concern<sup>9</sup> in the natural landscape of each park – such as invasive species identification and removal.



**Image 3.39** *Quinby Park Playground Ribbon Cutting*

9. [The City of Warren partnered with the Nature Conservancy to begin work in Spring 2020-pdf of grant ]; climate change [The Trust For Public Land, Climate-Smart Cities<sup>TM</sup> [tpl.org/our-work](http://tpl.org/our-work)] and responsible use of land [providing leadership and technical assistance for communities Urban Land Institute-Cleveland, [cleveland.uli.org](http://cleveland.uli.org)]