



IRVING PARK

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TEAM AVONDALE SAFEGROWTH PROJECT

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a. Neighbourhood profile

Avondale Neighborhood is one of 52 neighborhoods within the City of Cincinnati. It is home to the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens. During the 19th century it was a rural area, home to settlers from Germany and England. Named after the Avon River in England, Avondale became incorporated in 1864 and annexed to the City of Cincinnati in 1896.

During the 20th century, African American families began relocating to Avondale, which was then split into two increasingly distinct and separate "North" and "South" neighborhoods. North Avondale had large single-family homes that were able to sustain values over time. South Avondale's homes were split into multifamily complexes and low rent housing.

Avondale's residents today are 92% African American. More than 40% of those residents are living at or below the poverty level. More than 77 percent rent housing. Avondale today, like many urban neighborhoods, suffers from gun violence, drug trafficking, public nuisance issues, and areas of deplorable housing. However, the community is full of character and faith.

b. Project site profile

We have chosen to revitalize the park that sits on the corner 69 Forest Avenue and Irving St. This park is inactive, yet we feel it's a perfect place to activate- for the safety and improvement of the community. The Cincinnati Recreation Commission owns this park. This park sits at the edge of a housing complex called Colonial Village in Avondale, which is in the late renovation and move in stages.

Background on "Irving Park" Name

- **Dedicated & Accepted per Ord. 125-1875** passed May 1, 1875, by the Council of the Village of Avondale, as part of the Tallant Subdivision. See Figure Y below, which is a copy of the subdivision plat on the Recorder's Office website. As we can see on the plat, two of the other streets listed were Elizabeth Street and William Street, then owned by and named after Elizabeth and William Tallant. The streets have now since been renamed as Purdue Street and Dick Street. From this information, we can assume the other original street names were also Tallant family members, including Irving. I suggest researching the Tallant family
- **Annexed by City of Cincinnati in 1896**
- **Street improvement in 1909 - 30' wide, brick pavement with limestone curb and gutters**
- **Extension (last ~330') dedicated & accepted per Ord. 96-1953, passed March 25, 1953**



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Figure x: Project site

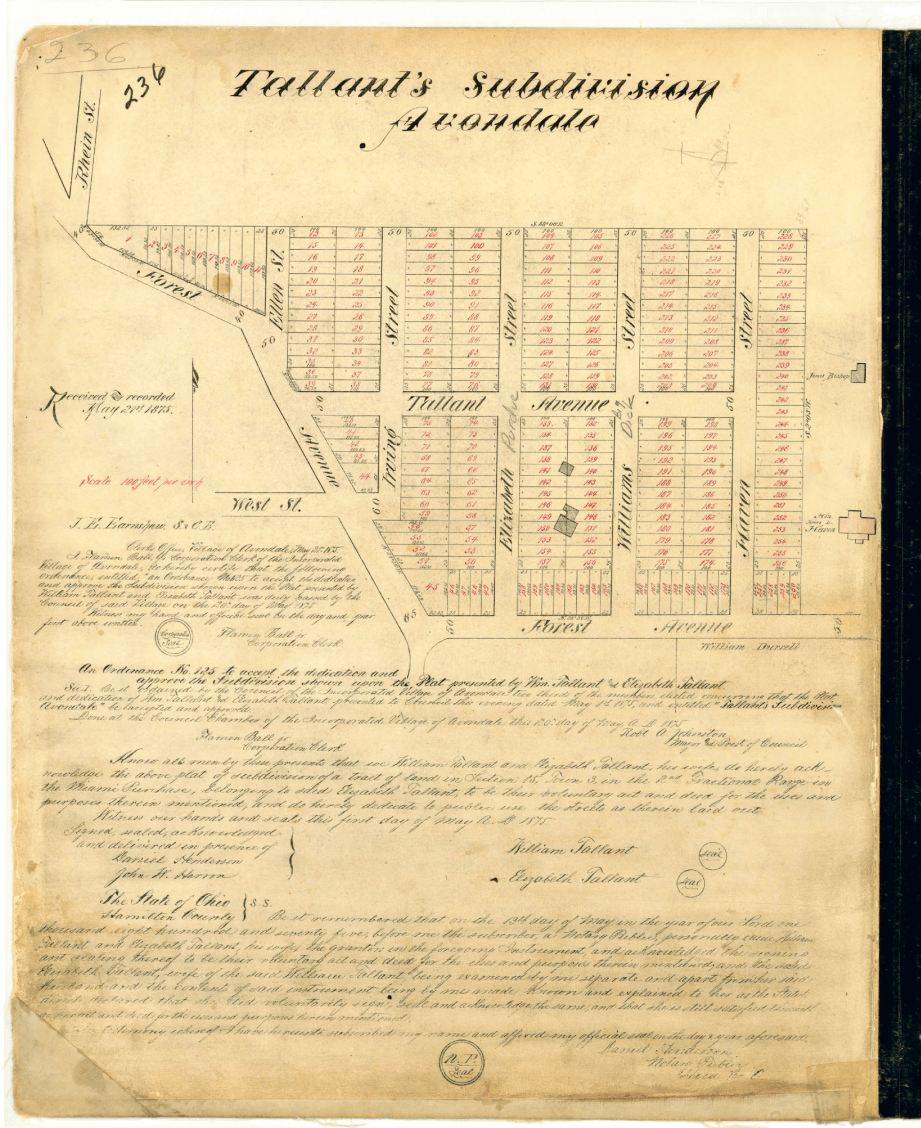


Figure Y: Street History

c. Rationale for selecting this project

We have chosen to revitalize this park for the modern-day lifestyle and families of Avondale. A lot of the community are interested in music, gardening, recreational sports, and more. This park can be the hub for all community affairs. This will give community members a safe green space to gather and create long-lasting memories.

1.1 Vision statement

We are envisioning a park filled with life- the greenest of green grass, a lot of bright and “happy” colors, and clean play areas for the youth. The park will be a community “hub” and will encourage cultural appreciation and strength in the community.

1.2 Objectives

- Activate the space with a message board that shares daily affirmations
- Reduce drug activity in the space
- Install a Memorial Fountain in the space as a place to honour fallen community residents and members
- Install more lighting in the space
- Install an interactive fence in the space



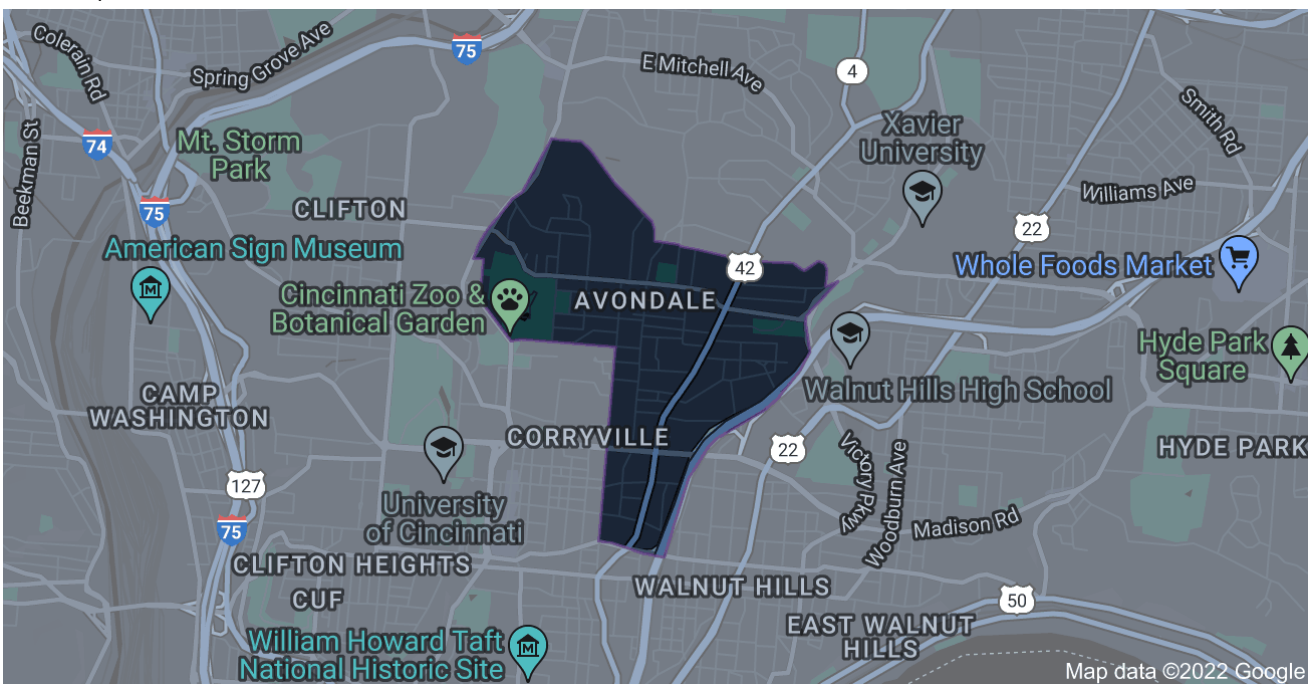
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1.3 Neighbourhood assets and vision-based asset map

Our assets include the following:

- Related Affordable Housing: Related Affordable is currently in charge of renovating Colonial Village, the apartments that sit above the park. They are an asset to bridging the gap between the living community and the park.
- Cincinnati Recreation Commission: CRC Owns Irving Park. They can help us with legal issues, as well as funding and responsibility for power-washing the slide, and installing a new playground set.
- Cincinnati Zoo: The zoo is less than a minute from our project site. They have programs that assist with activating green spaces for gardening, and other small construction projects.
- Avondale Development Corporation: This CDC can help us with logistics, and connection to other community organizations.

Asset map



2.1 Identified problems

- Inadequate lighting
- Un-kept greenery/bushes obstructing site
- High Traffic area with one way in and one away out of street, leading to high drug activity

2.2 Hypotheses & Methodology

| Question | Hypothesis | Activity to test the hypothesis |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Why is this area high crime? | Drug Activity | test of sight lines |
| Why don't people use this area? | run down and not family friendly | police safety audits |
| | | |

3.1 Site visits & CPTED review

We conducted two site visits; one around 11 in the morning and the second around 5 in the morning.

During these visits, one of the main issues we noted was the lack of adequate lighting and signage. "Park Rules" and park hours are only posted in one spot, and it's easy to miss.

(*MORE ASSISTANCE NEEDED HERE)

First Generation CPTED

| CPTED principle | Indicators (description of CPTED principle) | Findings from site visit | |
|------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | Daytime | Night-time |
| Territoriality | {E.g. clear ownership, clear purpose of space, signage...} | {It is clear that this neighborhood/organization owns and manages this public space; location map offers clear sense of direction; signage is up to date/current.} B C | {Space used by unintended groups, signage not clearly visible, difficult to orientate...} |
| Access control | Abc | Abc | A B C |
| | | | |
| | | | |

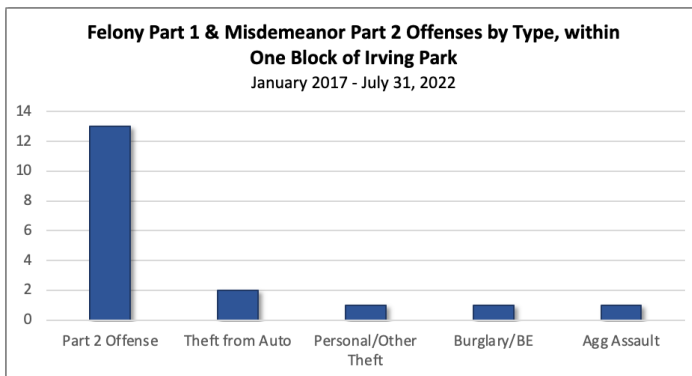
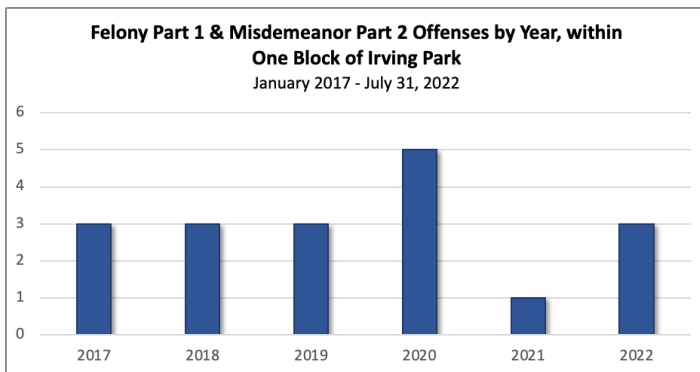
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Second Generation CPTED

| CPTED principle | Indicators (description of CPTED principle) | Findings from site visit |
|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Social cohesion | {E.g. opportunities for social interaction are generated; opportunities are provided for various demographic and cultural groups...} | {Abc} B C |
| Culture | Abc | Abc A B C |
| Capacity | Abc | Abc A B C |
| Connectivity | | |

3.2 Perception of safety

CAPS Reports



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3.3 Crime analysis

The data above was collected by CPD District 4, Sergeant Jeffrey Meister.

3.4 Other data

We are in the process of reviewing more extensive data from CPD, the Uptown Safety Committee, and hospital data.




4.1 Recommendations

We are envisioning a park filled with life- the greenest of green grass, a lot of bright and “happy” colors, and clean play areas for the youth. The park will be a community “hub” and will encourage cultural appreciation and strength in the community.

Objectives

- Activate the space with a message board that shares daily affirmations
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We recommend making the park family friendly by installing animal waste bags. This allows pets to be brought along family trips, and ensures safety because dogs pick up on a lot of things. We also recommend Related Affordable cut down the un-kept trees and bushes at the border of Colonial Village, allowing for a clear sight line for police patrol. This entire project is on a medium scale.

| | SCALE | PROFESSIONS | TERMINOLOGY | IMPLEMENTATION TIME | TACTICS |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| RED Micro ≤ 50 meters (165 feet) | SMALL SCALE Within the building or architecture Doors, Hallways, Entrances, Product design, Walkways | Engineering, security and police, industrial design, locksmiths, CCTV installers, lighting and structural engineers | * 1 st Generation CPTED * Situational Crime Prevention (SCP) * Design Out Crime (DOC) * Secured By Design (SBD) | 1 day for simple fixes 1 – 3 days for more complicated IMMEDIATE IMPACT – MIGHT NOT LAST, HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT |  CCTV, Access Control, Security monitoring, Surveillance drones, Property management |
| YELLOW Meso 50 - 1500 meters (165 feet - 5000 feet) | MEDIUM SCALE Entire building, Urban park, School or school campus, Small neighbourhood | Facility managers, architects, security managers, civic engineers, security and police, social program providers, community developers, urban planners and designers, landscape architects | * 1 st Generation CPTED * 2 nd Generation CPTED * Design Out Crime (DOC) * Routine Activity Theory * Broken Windows Theory * Defensible Space | 3 days – 3 months INTERMEDIATE IMPACT – MOSTLY SUSTAINABLE WITH MANAGEMENT |  Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Pathway design, Activity generation, Community engagement |
| GREEN Macro ≥ 1500 meters (5000 feet) | LARGE SCALE Neighbourhood, Downtown development, University campus | Urban planners, city managers, police, urban designers, traffic and civic engineers, architects, community developers, social program providers | * 2 nd Generation CPTED * 3 rd Generation CPTED * SafeScapes * Tactical Urbanism * Safe Cities * SafeGrowth | 3 months to a few years LONG TERM IMPACT – SELF-MANAGES OR NO MANAGEMENT NEEDED |  Neighborhood hubs, Roadway design, Movement patterns, Compatible land uses, Social and cultural programming |

4.2 Implementation plan

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We have already started researching and creating an implementation schedule. Though we aren't sure of an exact timeline for this project, we have set a few deliverables for the next few months. Our first step was reaching out to our assets and informing them of the project. Education is always the first step to building a great team. Next, we explained to our assets what we believed they could bring to the table, and got their thoughts on it. We are currently still in this stage.



{Purpose: to evaluate the success of your strategy – indicators of (un)successful project. Consider how you could measure whether you have realised your vision and address the problems – consider the indicators identified in Chapter 2 and your analysis. Include some preliminary ideas here if time permits, otherwise skip this section for now.}

We have not reached ideas for this section yet.

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{You may wish to attach additional photos, maps, graphs, full safety audit summary here if you wish. If not, skip this section.}