

Sutter's Landing Area Master Plan

Background Report

Appendix A - Overview of Other Urban Parks & Zoos

The intent of this chapter is to provide an overview of other major urban parks, including zoos, ecoparks, and reclaimed landfills. This chapter also addresses the potential for integrating zoos into an overall park development plan – including revenue-generating uses such as hotels, restaurants and theme parks.

A recurring theme is that the vision for the parks is dynamic, responding to changing public expectations and funding. Most of the parks have taken many years to “complete” – with completion being a moving target. The first tangible step in creating these urban parks is to assemble land sufficient to accommodate future needs.

Development of the park and environs could emulate models of existing developments, including the following:

- Parks with Zoos
 - Sacramento Zoo
 - Balboa Park (San Diego)
 - White River State Park / Zoo (Indianapolis)
 - Woodland Park Zoo (Seattle)
 - Nashville Zoo
 - Albuquerque – Rio Grande Zoo
 - Miami MetroZoo
- Parks on Former Landfills
 - Byxbee Park (Palo Alto)
 - Dyer Boulevard Park (West Palm Beach)
 - Flushing Meadows, New York
 - Cesar Chavez Park (Berkeley)
 - Stoney Run Park (Newport News)
 - Fresh Kills, New York
 - Shoreline Park (Mountain View)
- Other Urban Parks
 - Golden Gate Park (San Francisco)
 - Monterey Bay Cannery -urban/private
 - Millennium Park (Chicago)

Many of the parks & zoos developed recently incorporate revenue-generating land uses within the boundaries of the park. For example, a preliminary concept for a zoo at Sutter's Landing Park could incorporate restaurants, lodging, amphitheatre, and other revenue generating uses. The subsequent efforts: Zoo Feasibility Study and Sutter's Landing Master Plan should explore these revenue-generating uses in greater detail.

PARKS WITH ZOOS

SACRAMENTO ZOO

The Sacramento Zoo opened June 2, 1927. At that time it occupied 4.2 acres, which remained the case until the early 1960s when the zoo expanded to its current 14.3 acres. Today, the Sacramento Zoo is home to over 140 native, rare and endangered species and is one of over 200 accredited institutions of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The Zoo is wholly managed by the nonprofit Sacramento Zoological Society and inspires conservation awareness through education and recreation. The Zoo is accredited (last inspection March 2008 through March 2013) by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

The non-profit [501(c)3] Sacramento Zoological Society, formed in 1957, assumed financial and daily management of the Zoo (from the City of Sacramento) in July 1997. Since its inception, the society has served as the fundraising organization for the Zoo, providing funds for animal care, education and conservation programs. More than 10,500 local and regional households are members of the Sacramento Zoological Society.

There are several city attractions located within the 166.5 developed acres of William Land Park including:

- The Sacramento Zoo
- Fairytale Town, a park which has play equipment designed to represent articles from various fairy tales and nursery rhymes
- The William Land Golf Course
- Funderland, a small park with several carnival like rides primarily for very young children.
- Picnic Areas for small events and large events,
- Wading Pool,
- Basketball Court,
- 6 Softball Field,
- Soccer Fields,
- Adventure Play Area,
- Lakes,
- Amphitheatre,
- Rock Garden,
- Jogging Path,
- Village Green.

Proposed Sacramento Zoo Space Needs

May 2, 2005

Attendance Goal – 1 million

	Estimated Acres
Parking – 2000 visitor spaces + 100 staff spaces	21
Support Space	
Horticulture	2
Maintenance	0.5
Hospital / Quarantine	0.33
Development / Visitor Services Includes shops, playground, food service	4.5
Administration	0.5
Education – includes classrooms	0.66
Service Roads / Guest Paths	5.0
Subtotal	34.5 acres
Exhibits	15.0
Total – exclusive of major support retail	60 acres

SAN DIEGO ZOO – BALBOA PARK

The San Diego Zoo is located at 2920 Zoo Drive in Balboa Park, just north of downtown San Diego. Mailing address is P.O. Box 120551, San Diego, CA 92112-0551. For general information call (619) 234-3153. It is privately operated by the nonprofit Zoological Society of San Diego

The San Diego Zoo is easily accessible by public transportation. The Zoo is on the #7 bus line, which runs between downtown San Diego and East San Diego and La Mesa. From areas in the central, east, and south counties, the fastest way to get to the Zoo is to take any of the trolley lines (orange, blue, or green) into downtown San Diego. Get off at the City College stop (12th Ave. and C St.) Transfer to the outbound #7 bus just around the corner at 11th and C. It will take you to the Zoo stop at Zoo Place. Your trolley ticket will cover your bus fare.

In the middle of the bustling seaport metropolis of San Diego is its crown jewel, the 1,200-acre (480-hectare) green swath known as Balboa Park. Today's Park is a cultural and horticultural oasis in the heart of a paved city containing museums, gardens, clubs, theaters, sports facilities, restaurants, fountains, hundred-year-old trees, and, the San Diego Zoo.

Nestled in the northeast corner of Balboa Park, the Zoo's 100 lushly planted acres (40 hectares) have been delighting and amazing visitors ever since its founding in 1916. Not only a home for one of the finest animal collections in the world, the Zoo is also a world-class botanical garden. The approximately 700,000 plants that grace the Zoo grounds create the peaceful landscape for which it is known. Today the Zoo is home to more than 4,000 rare and endangered animals representing more than 800 species and subspecies-a world famous conservation organization where visitors view exotic animals in habitat environments.

Balboa Park is a 1,200 acre urban cultural park in San Diego, California. Besides open areas and natural vegetation, it contains a variety of cultural attractions including museums, theaters, gardens, shops and restaurants as well as the world-renowned San Diego Zoo. Balboa Park was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1977. The park is managed and maintained by the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department.

Many of the park's attractions are along El Prado, a long, wide promenade running through the center of the park. Most of the buildings lining this street are in the Spanish Revival style, a richly ornamented eclectic mixture of Spanish and Latin American architecture. Along this boulevard are many of the park's museums, including the San Diego Museum of Man, the San Diego Museum of Art, the Museum of Photographic Arts, the San Diego Model Railroad Museum, the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center and Timken Museum of Art.

There are a number of gardens located in the park. These include Alcazar Garden, Botanical Building, Cactus Garden, Casa del Rey Moro Garden, Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden, Japanese Friendship Garden, Marston House Garden, Palm Canyon and Zoro Garden.

Other attractions include the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, which includes the world's largest outdoor pipe organ; The Old Globe Theatre, a replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre; a collection of "international cottages"; the Botanical Building with its accompanying reflecting pool; the Starlight Bowl; and the largest tenant of the park, the Balboa Park Golf Complex with an 18-hole golf course and a 9-hole executive golf course.

Among the institutions within the park's borders not administered by the city's parks department are San Diego High School, Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCSD), and the San Diego Zoo.

Balboa Park is adjacent to many of San Diego's neighborhoods including Downtown San Diego, Bankers Hill, Hillcrest, North Park, South Park, and Golden Hill.

Park History

In 1868, civic leaders set aside a 1,400 acre parcel of land on a scrub-filled mesa overlooking the "New Town" (the current San Diego downtown area), which became known as "City Park." The park remained undeveloped for some 20 years. (Today the Park's total land parcel has been reduced to 1,200 acres.)

In 1903 the first master plan was prepared for Park improvements and beautification and in 1905 a City tax was levied to support the plan. The name of "City Park" was changed to "Balboa Park" in 1910, the result of a citywide naming contest - the name was chosen because the Park offered a wide view of the Pacific Ocean and explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa was the first European to sight the Pacific Ocean (from the coast of Panama).

The 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition commemorated the opening of the Panama Canal and provided a major impetus for the creation of the Park as it appears today—the first of two Expositions that created many of the cultural institutions as well as the stunning architecture in the Park. Most of the arts organizations along Balboa Park's famous El Prado pedestrian walkway are housed in Spanish-Renaissance style buildings constructed for the 1915 Exposition.

The 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition, held to boost the local economy during the depression, added other cultural organizations, structures and landscaping. Many of the buildings around the Pan American Plaza at the southern end of the Park were created for the 1935 Exposition and present a fascinating architectural history of the Southwest, from earlier Aztec influences through Mexican pueblo style to art deco and arte moderne.

In 2003 Balboa Park was ranked as one of the Best Parks in the World by the Project for Public Spaces (rank of 13 out of 24 international parks). Also in 2003, The World Federation of Rose Societies (WFRS) voted the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden as one of the top 12 rose gardens in the world-

The Park includes the following facilities:

- Marston House museum (3525 Seventh Ave.) is a classic 1905 Arts and Crafts style home (5 acres)
- Capital Tower & Dome (1915) houses:
 - San Diego Museum of Man – established as a museum of anthropology
 - Cabrillo Bridge (historic 1,500-foot-long bridge)
 - Spreckels Organ Pavilion (one of the world's largest outdoor pipe organs)
- Food & Beverage Building (today's Casa de Balboa) (1915) houses:
 - Balboa Art Conservation Center,
 - Museum of Photographic Arts (1983),
 - Museum of San Diego History & Archives
 - San Diego Model Railroad Museum (1982)
- Casa del Prado (1915) houses:
 - San Diego Botanical Foundation,
 - San Diego Civic Youth Ballet,
 - San Diego Floral Association
 - San Diego Junior Theater (established 1948)
- House of Hospitality Building (1915) houses:
 - The award-winning reconstruction of the National Historic Landmark House of Hospitality was completed and the building opened in October 1997.
 - remodeled to add the inner courtyard for the 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition.
- House of Charm (originally 1915) houses:
 - Mingei International Museum (1996)
 - San Diego Art Institute: Museum of the Living Artist (1996)
- San Diego Museum of Art, the region's oldest and largest art museum (1926).
- San Diego Natural History Museum (originally 1933; expanded 2001)
- The Palisades Building (southern end of Balboa Park) – 1935 houses:
 - Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater,
 - Recital hall and offices,
 - Municipal Gymnasium
 - House of Pacific Relations
- California State Building (1935) houses:
 - San Diego Automotive Museum (1988)
- Ford Building (1935) houses:
 - San Diego Aerospace Museum (originally located in the Electric Building on the Prado, moved in 1978)
- Federal Building (1935) houses:
 - San Diego Hall of Champions Sports Museum (1999)
- Starlight Bowl (formerly Ford Bowl) houses:
 - Starlight Theatre (San Diego Civic Light Opera Association)
- Old Globe (The internationally acclaimed, Tony Award-winning Old Globe, one of the most esteemed regional theaters in the country) –originally built in 1935, destroyed by fire in 1978, and rebuilt in houses:
 - Old Globe Theatre
 - Cassius Carter Centre Stage
 - Lowell Davies Festival Theatre (outdoor).
- Zoro Gardens (1935) originally a nudist colony - now a butterfly garden

- Alcazar Garden, patterned after the gardens of Alcazar Castle in Seville, Spain - reconstructed to replicate the 1935 design.
- California Tower carillon (1946)
- Timken Museum of Art 1965
- Centro Cultural de la Raza 1970.
- Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, - featuring the world's first and San Diego's only IMAX® Dome Theater - 1973.
- Japanese Friendship Garden relocated in 1990.
- WorldBeat Center opened in a colorfully painted former water tower (1996).

<http://balboapark.org/info/history.php>

<http://www.sandiegozoo.org/zoo/index.html>

INDIANAPOLIS ZOO AT WHITE RIVER STATE PARK

Located in the heart of downtown, Indiana's only urban state park offers an awesome array of attractions and entertainment. At White River State Park includes:

- ❖ Indianapolis Zoo,
- ❖ White River Gardens,
- ❖ Indiana State Museum,
- ❖ IMAX® Theater,
- ❖ Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art,
- ❖ NCAA Hall of Champions,
- ❖ Victory Field (Indians AAA baseball home since 1996)
- ❖ Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial.

Since opening in 1964, the Indianapolis Zoo has grown into a world-class facility hosting a million visitors each year and playing a major role in worldwide conservation and research, including accomplishing the world's first successful artificial insemination of an African elephant. The Indianapolis Zoo is located in White River State Park downtown and is the only attraction accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) and the American Association of Museums as a zoo, an aquarium and a botanic garden.

The Indianapolis Zoological Society was founded in October 24, 1944. Over the next few months, the founder members elected directors, outlined goals, approved bylaws, and discussed possible sites for the facility. As the effects of World War II were felt, momentum for the Zoo slowed, but the Society continued to meet. The collection of animals and planning of exhibits went on, a site was determined, and fundraising goals were met. As happens with many plans, however, the Society met with some resistance. Neighbors of George Washington Park, the future site of the Zoo, did not want a zoo in their backyards. They sued the city and the Zoo, hoping to have the site lease voided. The court upheld the lease and dismissed the case, and on August 6, 1962, construction began. The Indianapolis Zoo opened on April 18, 1964.

In 1982, the Zoo held a first ever-symposium of international zoo, aquarium and wildlife authorities. Together, they established goals for developing a new world-class zoo. The founders knew it was important to preserve natural habitats, showcase diversity in species, and observe natural behaviors in order to save endangered species in the wild. The cageless concept of biomes and simulated natural environments would play a major role. Since the Indianapolis Zoo's 1964 opening, zoos have become more than a place to see animals; they are institutions of conservation and education.

In June 1982, a letter of intent was signed declaring White River State Park the site of the new Zoo. Officials realized that the Zoo needed to be located in a more visible and accessible site, and a location in the heart of downtown Indianapolis would draw more visitors. Families visiting the Zoo could also spend part of the day downtown shopping or visiting other cultural institutions. The relationship would boost the city's economy and transform the still new White River State Park from a dream into a reality.

The groundbreaking celebration took place in September 1985 at the new downtown location. The Indianapolis Zoo was to be the first attraction of the White River State Park. On November 1, 1987, the old Zoo closed its gates after the last of the five and a half million visitors departed and began preparation for the opening of the new Zoo. With the arrival of new animals, the Zoo grew to five times its former size. On June 11, 1988, a new era of the Indianapolis Zoo began. It is a place where animals, plants, and people connect; a place where research and conservation efforts are on-going and Zoo staff have been named to key positions in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA); and, a place where students from all over the state can tour important behind-the-scenes facilities without leaving the classroom. These things didn't happen all at once, but today each function plays an important role in the Zoo's mission of fostering a sense of stewardship for the Earth's plants and animals.

Since the Zoo's opening in June of 1988, many exhibits have been added. With the construction of the Waters Building, and later the Dolphin Pavilion, the Zoo earned accreditation from AZA as a zoo and an aquarium. Then in 1996, the Indianapolis Zoo became the first institution in the nation to be accredited as a zoo, aquarium and botanical garden, the latter honor coming from the American Association of Museums (AAM) in recognition of the outstanding and very extensive botanical work done throughout the Zoo grounds by its in-house horticultural staff.

<http://www.indianapoliszoo.com/>

<http://www.in.gov/whiteriver/>

WOODLAND PARK ZOO, SEATTLE

Woodland Park Zoo encompasses 92 acres and features more than 1,090 individual animals representing nearly 300 species. The grounds are divided into what are known as bioclimatic zones, the unique habitats around the world, from tropical rain forests to the frigid climes of the Far North. The zoo provides a home for 35 endangered and five threatened animal species. The zoo's botanical collection includes 7,000 trees and more than 50,000 shrubs and herbs representing more than 1,000 species. Attendance in 2007: 1.07 million visitors (peak months are May through September).

With a mission of education and conservation, the zoo is a platform for educational purposes and participation in global efforts to understand and protect the world's animals and their habitats. As a vital resource, the zoo serves tens of thousands of students and teachers across the state each year. In 2006, more than 250,000 visitors participated in the zoo's public programs and nearly 65,000 students, teachers and chaperones visited the zoo in school groups.

Woodland Park Zoo and The Moyer Foundation have launched ZOOM: Zoo Opportunities Open to More, a program designed to help children visit the zoo, free of charge. The zoo has already made thousands of ZOOM passes available to children through The Moyer Foundation. Through the partnership, the Foundation makes zoo passes available to the organizations that have been funded by the Foundation.

Woodland Park Zoo has also created a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of King County. The program is an extension of the zoo's Community Access Program, providing tickets to underserved populations throughout King County. Woodland Park Zoo annually provides thousands of complimentary tickets to various social service organizations for individuals that may be limited in their ability to pay admission fees.

Guy Phinney was English by birth and invested \$40,000 in his estate to develop a traditional English park on his acreage on the shores of Seattle's Greenlake. He built a large house and laid out a formal rose garden, constructed a pump house to bring water from Greenlake to his gardens, erected an impressive stone entrance on 50th Avenue, and installed an electric trolley line along Fremont Avenue for his private street car. The aristocratic tradition also demanded a deer park and by 1893, when Phinney died, a small herd had been established in the park.

The first zoo in Seattle was a small collection of animals owned by the Lake Washington Cable Railway and maintained at Leschi Park. Their animals were given to the City soon after they purchased Woodland Park, and it is interesting to note that Carkeek Park's first use was as a vegetable garden for the zoo animals.

The City fathers engaged the famous Massachusetts landscape architectural firm of the Olmsted Brothers to create a public park out of Guy Phinney's estate. They retained the formal gardens of the Phinney estate, laid out new pathways, and created several great spaces with animal quarters on the periphery, after the fashion of the day. Lower Woodland was left as an informal woods, but in 1930 City Engineer W.B. Barkuff developed a plan to bisect Woodland Park with a six-lane highway. Aurora Avenue was constructed and the park was divided.

Since that time Woodland Park Zoo has remained in “Upper” Woodland Park. During the Depression several WPA projects were built, including a commissary, beaver ponds and monkey island. In 1949, under the direction of Zoo Director Ed Johnson, the bear and feline grottos were designed. He also proposed a children’s zoo at that time, but not until 20 years and five unsuccessful Park Bonds later, plus a controversy over theme design, was the first unit of the children’s zoo opened in 1967.

The 1968 Forward Thrust Bond Issue provided \$4.5 million for a list of specific zoo improvements. The 1976 Long-Range Plan was the zoo’s first master plan. It established new circulation, landscaping and land use criteria organized around an ecological approach to zoo design. Forward Thrust development was at last ready to begin. First on-site work started in the summer of 1976 with a schedule calling for completion by the end of 1979. During that time the African Savanna, Gorilla Exhibit, Primate Islands, and North American Marsh and Swamp exhibits were created.

The 1985 Zoo Bond Issue provided \$31.5 million and private donations in response to the “Save Our Elephants” campaign and the efforts of the Woodland Park Zoological Society raised an additional \$10 million from private donations to match the bond and to build additional elements of the 1976 Long-Range Plan. The Asian Elephant Forest exhibit, Tropical Rain Forest exhibit, Education Center, ZooStore, Animal Health Complex, Northern Trail exhibit and Trail of Vines exhibit were constructed between 1987 and 1996.

On March 1, 2002, the City of Seattle, acting through its Department of Parks and Recreation, entered into an Operations and Management Agreement for the zoo with Woodland Park Zoological Society. In addition to assuming the responsibility for operations and management, Woodland Park Zoological Society raised private donations to fund the African Village opened in 2001, African Wild Dog exhibit opened in 2002, Jaguar Cove exhibit opened in 2003, the historic carousel and Zoomazium in 2006.

Excerpted from Woodland Park Zoo’s 2004 Long-Range Physical Development Plan

<http://www.zoo.org/>

NASHVILLE ZOO

In 1964, sisters Margaret and Elise Croft donated the Grassmere property to the Children's Museum of Nashville (Adventure Science Center). After the last sister's death in 1985, the Children's Museum began to develop about 40 of the property's 200 acres, which in 1990, became Grassmere Wildlife Park. That same year, Nashville Zoo opened its doors in Joelton, Tennessee. Seven short years later, Grassmere Wildlife Park closed its doors because of low attendance, and Nashville Zoo was given the option by Mayor Phil Bredesen to develop a "new" zoo for Nashville on the Grassmere property.

Although Nashville Zoo was successful in Joelton, seeing approximately 300,000 visitors per year and exhibiting about 300 animals from around the globe, the relocation to Grassmere would provide over 100 acres more exhibit space. The unique opportunity of building a new zoo, which would also be more convenient to the community, was another driving force behind the relocation.

In 1996, Nashville Zoo was offered a chance to move from a 100-acre site in Cheatham County (northwest of Nashville) to a 183-acre site called Grassmere just six miles south of downtown Nashville. In addition to exhibits, Nashville Zoo added a new entry bridge that guides guests to the new Entry Village complete with restrooms, our Zoofari Cafe, Zoofari Market, Zoofari Outpost, and Shamba Market.

Nashville Zoo's Master Plan will expand the park into the remaining acreage of Grassmere. When complete, Nashville Zoo will be one of the largest Zoos in the country. Future exhibits will be designed and built to immerse our guests into the many environments of our world. Visitors to Nashville Zoo will wander into regions designed to reflect the plains of Africa, the rain forest of South America and the exotic landscape of Asia as well as other intriguing destinations.

Since the move to Grassmere in 1996, Nashville Zoo has created many new exhibits, hosted exciting community events and designed a variety of children's programs. Our Jungle Gym playground is the largest community-built playground in the United States and includes over 66,000 square feet for sliding, swinging, climbing, crawling and exploring. The Grassmere Historic House and Farm still stand, providing a glimpse into farm life during the 1880s.

<http://www.nashvillezoo.org/>

Albuquerque – Rio Grande Zoo

Founded in 1927, the 64-acre Rio Grande Zoo offers visitors close encounters with more than 250 species of exotic and native animals. Popular species include seals and sea lions, chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, elephants, polar bears, giraffes, hippos, camels, tamarins, koalas, Mexican wolves, mountain lions, monkeys, jaguars, zebras and rhinoceros. State-of-the-art exhibit design and eye-pleasing landscaping enhance zoo animal husbandry by creating naturalistic habitats with trees, grasses, water features and rockwork. Walking distance through the zoo is about 2.25 miles. The Rio Grande Zoo is a facility of the Albuquerque Biological Park. The Albuquerque Biological Park is accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA).

The Albuquerque Biological Park includes:

- Albuquerque Aquarium which takes visitors on a journey down the Rio Grande from Albuquerque to its mouth in the Gulf of Mexico, and includes the Shark Reef Café
- Rio Grande Botanic Garden, which currently encompasses 36 developed acres, including a 10,000 square foot glass conservatory housing native and exotic plants from desert and Mediterranean climate zones, the whimsical Children's Fantasy Garden, the award-winning Rio Grande Heritage Farm, the all new Sasebo Japanese Garden and the seasonal PNM Butterfly Pavilion
- Rio Grande Zoo which includes the Cottonwood Café
- Tingley Beach featuring three fishing lakes, a model boating pond and a train station with gift shop and food service.

903 Tenth Street SW, south of Lead and Coal and north of Bridge Blvd.

<http://www.cabq.gov/biopark/zoo/>

Miami Metrozoo

Metrozoo Quick Facts (May 22, 2006)

- 81 Exhibits
- 3 Miles around if walked
- 740 Acres total Entertainment District
- 300 Acres developed
- 1,306 Specimens (total on site)
- 392 Inverts
- 428 Fishes
- 10,000-15,000 Italian honey bees

Miami Metrozoo together with the Zoological Society of Florida have teamed up to market the Miami Metrozoo Entertainment District as a family destination. The plan proposes several developments:

- Miami Metrozoo: A master plan for the zoo, which opened in the 1980s, plans to increase the animal and geographic interactive exhibits such as Africa's Tropical Forest, Caribbean Islands and Australia exhibits. Construction is estimated at \$377 million with an annual operating impact of \$31 million and 2,054 permanent jobs.
- The Adventure theme park would include Florida and Caribbean themes, rides, a central volcano island and lake. Construction costs are estimated at \$200 million with an annual operating budget of \$66 million and 3,883 new permanent jobs.
- A resort hotel with 300 first-class rooms next to the theme park. Construction costs are projected at \$60 million with an annual budget of \$8 million and 540 new permanent jobs.
- A vacation hotel with 200 rooms on zoo grounds. Construction costs are estimated at \$26 million with an annual budget of \$5.4 million, creating 160 permanent jobs.
- A 20-acre water park with a wave pool, a water slide, a tidal pool, arcade areas, a retail component and food service. Construction cost is estimated at \$22 million with annual operating impact at \$28.6 million, creating 1,654 permanent jobs.
- Family Entertainment center with golf, skating, go-carts and fun rides for children.

Key Economic Indicators:

- A 2002 economic impact study by LEDO International estimated that 74% of park revenues would come from local patrons. The study indicated that park attendance would increase five-fold to 2.5 million annual visitors
- The project will create in excess of 9,000 construction jobs and 1,654 permanent jobs.
- The county expects attendance at the park of 2.5 million people a year, five times the average 500,000 who have attended the zoo annually.
- The development of housing in the area surrounding the zoo expands the local market for the park. The South Florida climate will allow the park to stay open throughout the year, giving it a competitive advantage over parks in other parts of the county.

Miami-Dade County must win federal approval before it can seek a developer to create a \$1 billion-plus entertainment district at MetroZoo. The federal government gave Miami-Dade 1,000 acres in the south part of the county in the mid-1970s, said W. Howard Gregg, assistant director of planning and development for the county's parks department. "The land is under a federal covenant, which allows the land's use for only recreation and open space. This is a standard covenant in accordance to the federal government.

Locally, we are working with the federal government to transfer this covenant to another parks space land located near Tamiami Airport," said Mr. Gregg. "The county is looking to remove the public open space covenants on 42.8 acres of the 740 acres at MetroZoo for the water park development." Net revenues from the complex would go directly to the zoo's expansion.

Miami Zoo

The origin of Metrozoo was the predecessor Crandon Park Zoo located on Key Biscayne begun in 1948. The Crandon Park Zoo was significantly damaged by Hurricane Betsy in 1965.

In 1970 the Zoological Society Board became aware of the availability of the Richmond Naval Air Station property. On December 11, 1970, Dade County officially applied for 600 acres of this land for a new zoo. In August of 1972, Dade County Manager Ray Goode announced his proposed Decade of Progress bond issues which included \$10 million for a new zoo as part of the park bond issue.

The initial phase of the zoo (the Preview Center with 12 exhibits) opened on July 4, 1980. The grand opening for the first major exhibit section, the Asian lobe, was on December 12, 1981. With the opening of this section, a total of 38 exhibits, covering 200 acres, were available to the public.

On December 4, 1982, an additional 25 acre exhibit area opened featuring six new exhibits of African hoofed stock. This brought the total exhibit area to 225 acres featuring 44 exhibits. The monorail opened to the public in 1982.

On December 28, 1984, the Wings of Asia exhibit, a 1.6 acre, free-flight aviary, opened. On December 18, 1985, three new exhibits of African hoofed stock opened, extending the African lobe. This new section brought the total area to approximately 280 acres. In the fall and winter of 1986, two new exhibits were opened in the African savanna section. Animals were then on display on all paddocks up to Monorail Station 4 and adding approximately 10 acres to the total.

PAWS, the children's petting zoo, opened in 1989, replacing the original area called Sulawasi. On August 1990, the Asian River Life Experience was opened to the public.

On August 24, 1992, Metrozoo had quite a set back when Hurricane Andrew hit. Over 5,000 trees were lost, and the 1.5 acre free-flight aviary, Wings of Asia, which was built to withstand winds of up to 120 mph, was reduced to a pile of rubbish and twisted netting. The 300 exotic birds, which represented the finest collection of Asian birds anywhere, were lost. Although the zoo looked considerably different, it reopened on December 18, 1992.

Other exhibits that opened thereafter included: the Andean Condor (1999), the Meerkats (2000), the Cuban Crocodiles (2001), Squirrel Monkeys (2001) and an indoor facility, Dr. Wilde's World, in which traveling zoological exhibits are to be housed. American Bankers Family Aviary, Wings of Asia opened May 03, 2003. A giraffe feeding station is schedule to open in late 2006 in the reticulated giraffe, ostrich and gazelle exhibit. For a small fee, visitors will be able to feed the giraffes their favorite treats and get really close to them. Amazon and Beyond, an exhibit dedicated to the flora and fauna of tropical America, is scheduled to open in November 2008. At 27 acres and with keystone species like the anaconda, giant river otters and harpy eagles, this new exhibit will be larger than the average American zoo.

The Zoological Society of Florida's Education Department has developed a curriculum that dovetails with the Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDPS) science curriculum. Student groups can take advantage of our education programs in a variety of ways. Options include overnight behind-the-scenes adventures, daily presentations in the Ecology Theater, and weekend programs. MDPS teachers can also reserve a free classroom presentation for their next school field trip to the Zoo; choose from among our standard programs or call the Education Department to develop a course that meets your group's specific needs.

For detailed information on educational programs offered at the Zoo (305) 255-5551, education@zsf.org

Location: 12400 SW 152nd Street, Miami, Florida, 33177 (305) 251-0400
<http://www.miamimetrozoo.com/>

PARKS ON FORMER LANDFILL SITES

Byxbee Park, Palo Alto

Byxbee Park – 150 acres – was constructed 1988-1992 atop a reclaimed landfill at the edge of the San Francisco Bay. On two feet of soil, over a one-foot-thick impenetrable clay cap, the park rests over as much as sixty feet of garbage. Hargreaves Associates, in collaboration with artists Peter Richards and Michael Oppenheimer designed the park to not only provide the people of Palo Alto with opportunities for recreation and contemplation of the bay marshes, birds and wildlife; but to also respond to the conditions of landfill below within the context of the surrounding confluence of complex ecosystems.

In 1980, the master plan for Byxbee Park was adopted. There are many retired landfills around the Bay that have been turned into parks, but Byxbee Park is unique. It is not a traditional park. *There are no playing fields, irrigated lawns, trees, picnic grounds, or playgrounds.* It is more like an outdoor sculpture garden. It is unique in the way it incorporates art into the park design. It balances the needs of capping and reclaiming a landfill with artistic expression. Its original intent was to create "a work of art which would enhance the beauty of the site and express the dichotomy of the man-made and the natural elements within and surrounding the park."

In 1988, the Palo Alto Public Arts Commission started a national search to select an artist and landscape architect to design a public park from a converted landfill. The chosen design team consisted of artists Peter Richards and Michael Oppenheimer and Hargreaves Landscape Architects and Planners. The park has several earthworks and land art pieces including a series of mounds, a series of poles, and other berms and concrete zigzags. Though like most works of art, there has been controversy over some of Byxbee Park's artistic features, the park was recognized with an Honor Award for excellence from the American Society of Landscape Architects in 1993 and an Outstanding Achievement, City Livability Award, from the US Conference of Mayors in 1994.

<http://www.abag.ca.gov/bayarea/baytrail/vtour/map3/access/Btpalto/Byxbee.htm>

Dyer Boulevard Park, West Palm Beach, Florida

This former 540 acre landfill has been developed into a county park where a paved asphalt loop (approximately ten feet wide) goes around one of the filled cells; in addition, some true off-road singletrack of perhaps a two-mile loop will be constructed in partnership with the West Palm Beach Bicycle Club. The property was given to the Department of Palm Beach County Parks and Recreation by the Solid Waste Authority. a BMX track and horse trails are also in the works for this east coast urban park.

Almost 6 million dollars were spent turning Dyer Park from a 400 acre dump into a park. 12,000 native trees were relocated there. (It is not known what measures were taken to

ensure the survival of the trees, nor how many of these trees survived the landfill gases and soil compaction.)

Flushing Meadows Corona Park

This 1,255-acre park has historical, recreational, and environmental significance. The former dumping ground labeled a "valley of ashes" by F. Scott Fitzgerald in "The Great Gatsby" has become Queens' largest park, and one of New York City's flagship parks.

In the 1930s, in the period's largest reclamation project in the United States, Robert Moses converted the swampy area into a 1,200-acre fairground for the 1939 World's Fair.

The fairground-turned-park hosted its second World's Fair in 1964. The structures that remained from the two fairs became the foundation for the growing park, and the Unisphere--left from the 1964 Fair and recently designated as a city landmark--has become the park's well-known symbol.

For the five-year span between 1946 and 1950, the first United Nations assembled within the park. Two professional sports facilities are located within Flushing Meadows Corona Park: Shea Stadium, home to the New York Mets, and the USTA National Tennis Center, available for public play and tournaments. Both are historically significant. Two World Series championships, the Mets 1969 and 1986 victories, took place at Shea Stadium. Since 1978, the United States Open tennis tournament has been held at the USTA National Tennis Center.

The current shape of Flushing Meadows Corona Park is an oval stretching from Flushing Bay to Union Turnpike. Within the park, there are many places for relaxation and recreation. Among the 124 acres of natural areas are Flushing Creek and Bay, Willow Lake, and expanses of meadow and marshland. Meadow Lake--the 84-acre manmade, freshwater lake--is New York City's largest lake.

Cultural institutions in the park are plentiful, appealing to a wide variety of interests. Today, the New York Hall of Science, a relic from the 1964 World's Fair, houses a hands-on science and technology museum. Fine arts exhibitions, performances, and films are presented at the Queens Museum of Art. The visual arts center also displays the world's largest architectural model of an urban area. Those who are theatrically inclined can attend a variety of professional and local performances at the World's Fair Theaterama in the Queens Theater in the Park. Animal lovers can enjoy the exhibits of North American animals in natural settings at the Queens Wildlife Center. The adjacent Children's Farm features domestic animals. The 39-acre Queens Botanical Garden is filled with garden displays and tree and flower collections.

Cesar Chavez Park, Berkeley

Cesar Chavez Park, a 90 acre park built on the site of a former landfill, offers a wide range of recreational opportunities in a marina setting with spectacular views of the three bay bridges, Alcatraz, and Angel Island. The park features:

- Large multi-purpose turf areas
- Picnic areas with BBQ
- Hiking on trails throughout the park; the 1.25 mile Dorothy Stegmann trail around the park's perimeter is fully wheelchair accessible
- Shoreline and wetland areas
- Off-leash dog area (17-acre designated area)
- Kite flying (site of annual Kite Festival in July)
- Wildlife sanctuary at undeveloped northern end of park

Originally known as North Waterfront Park, this open space was built on a former landfill that dated back to 1957, when dikes were constructed for the purpose of containing municipal waste. In 1969, a Marina Master Plan was adopted setting aside the landfill area for unstructured recreation. The landfill was completely sealed in 1991 and the park opened soon thereafter. It was renamed after Cesar E. Chavez in 1996. The off-leash dog area was approved by the City Council in 1998.

A complex network of more than 16,500 feet of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) piping exists underground to collect landfill gas generated by decomposing refuse and control gas migration. Currently, gas is extracted from 42 vertical extraction wells, ranging from 14 feet to 54 feet deep, which are located throughout the landfill.

http://wasteage.com/mag/waste_miles_pipe_underground/

Stoney Run Park, Newport News, Virginia

When Newport News, Va., closed its last municipal landfill in 1996, the city set out to fulfill a 1992 recommendation that the site be transformed into a park. With extensive public input, officials finalized a multi-phase plan to provide recreational facilities and green space for the area's 184,000 residents. Today, the city is realizing its plan, preparing to break ground on the \$8.7 million Stoney Run Park.

The 228-acre site for the park is centrally located at the northern end of Newport News, and it is bounded on the south and north by townhomes, mobile homes and condominiums.

The Bowie, Md.-based design firm Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan produced three conceptual plans for Stoney Run Park. Using citizen feedback in its work, the firm produced a final draft that incorporated the best features of each of the plans. The final plan capitalizes on the landfill site's unique landscape. For example, the hill created by three filled cells will accommodate hiking, cycling, kite flying and sledding; one of two

unfilled cells will be turned into a lake for paddle-boating and catch-and-release fishing; and basketball courts will be built on an out-parcel that now holds the scale house.

In addition to adding those elements, the city will move the existing yard waste composting/mulching operation to the north end of the site, next to the leachate lagoon, the methane gas burn unit and the wastewater dewatering area. (The public will have limited access to that area, but visitors will be able to take a ranger-led tour of the park and will have a clear view of the environmental operations from a hill.) When possible, the city will purchase benches and amenities made from recycled materials to be placed throughout the park.

Construction for the project is divided into three phases.

- Phase I: The composting facility will be moved and enclosed for security purposes. Park amenities, including a lighted, five-field softball complex; two multi-purpose fields for youth football and soccer; paved and unpaved trails; picnic facilities and a ranger station, will be constructed.
- Phase II: The city will extend the trails and add lighted basketball courts; a lake; a performance area; and an "observation mound" to the park.
- Phase III: Additional basketball courts, a basketball tournament court, volleyball courts and a lakeside beach will be built.

Source: http://americancityandcounty.com/mag/government_recycled_landfill_yield/

Fresh Kills, New York City

The Fresh Kills Landfill on the New York City borough of Staten Island was formerly the largest landfill in the world, at 2,200 acres and was New York City's principal landfill in the second half of the 20th century. The name "Fresh Kills" refers to its location along the banks of the Fresh Kills estuary in western Staten Island.

While nearly forty-five percent of the site was once used for landfilling operations, the remainder of the site is currently composed of wetlands, open waterways, and unfilled lowland areas. The tops of the landfill mounds themselves offer spectacular vistas of the expansive site, as well as views of downtown Manhattan.

Under local pressure and with support of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the landfill site was closed on March 22, 2001. However, after the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, the landfill was temporarily reopened in order to receive and process much of the debris from the destruction. The debris was later removed into various locations, including museums and steel mills. The site is now planned to hold the site of a city park.

Starting in 2003, the site is planned to be transformed into reclaimed wetlands, recreational facilities and landscaped public parkland. Construction on the actual park is expected to start after the completion of environmental and land use reviews at the end of 2007. The three-phased development of the park, which will include a September 11th

memorial, is expected to last 30 years. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be ready for public review in Spring 2008.

Fresh Kills Park will be three times the size of Central Park. It will consist of a variety of public spaces and facilities for a multitude of activity types. The site is large enough to support many sports and programs including, nature trails, horseback riding, mountain biking, community events, outdoor dining, sports fields and canoeing.

In 2001, the City of New York, led by the Department of City Planning, conducted a master planning process for Fresh Kills that resulted in an illustrative park plan, also known as the Draft Master Plan. The City conducted a two-stage International Design Competition to foster the development of a master plan for Fresh Kills. A multi-disciplinary expert consultant team led by landscape architecture firm Field Operations was chosen through the design competition to produce the Draft Master Plan.

The Department of Parks & Recreation has now taken over responsibility for the implementation phase of the project, using the Draft Master Plan as a conceptual guide. The basic framework of the plan takes three separate systems - programming, wildlife, and circulation - and integrates them into one cohesive and dynamic unit.

Fresh Kills Park will be a world-class park with an incredible variety of public spaces and facilities for social, cultural and physical activity, for learning and play. The site is large enough to support many sports and programs that are unusual in the city, possibilities of which include horseback riding, mountain biking, nature trails and large-scale public art.

http://www.nycgovparks.org/sub_your_park/fresh_kills_park/html/fresh_kills_park.html

Shoreline Park at Mountain View, California

Shoreline at Mountain View Park is a beautiful 700-acre park with a saltwater lake, golf course, rolling grassy hills, and bay trails. It's hard to believe it was built on mountains of trash. For 13 years, starting in 1968, 500 acres of the land near the bay was used here as a landfill for trash from the city of San Francisco. In 1983, Mountain View closed the dump and began turning it into a park. Here is a history of the park. Next to Shoreline Park are the towering tent peaks, the largest in the world, of the Shoreline Amphitheatre. The park's 50-acre lake is popular with wind surfers and small boaters. The strong bay winds make the park a favorite place for stunt kite flying. The park has 10 miles of trails, some paved, some dirt. Paved trails lead past the golf course, around the lake, and along the tidal marshes and salt ponds. Some trails lead northwest to Palo Alto's Baylands Nature Preserve.

Mountain View city leaders began to draw up plans for a grand shoreline park along its bay front. Shoreline Park as envisioned in 1958 was much different from the park we have today. City leaders wanted to build a more urban park along the bay. Plans included a zoo, small amusement park, marina, aerial tram, hotel, conference center, sailing lake, golf course, and shopping area.

But in order to build such a park, the land needed to be made safe from tidal flow and flooding. It would have been too costly to just truck in the dirt to raise the land, so the city made a deal with San Francisco. For 13 years, starting in 1968, 500 acres of land were used as landfill. The city charged San Francisco for the right to dump garbage in Mountain View, and saved the money for a construction of a park on top of the landfill. In the 1980s, Mountain View began the process of closing the dumps and began to turn the area into Shoreline Park.

By the 1980s, people were much more concerned with the preservation of natural habitats and bayside marshland. Plans for the shopping center, hotel, zoo, conference center, and marina were eventually discarded. Although plans for the conference center and hotel were taken out of Shoreline, they were not completely discarded. The city decided to shift the conference center/hotel location to the adjacent North Bayshore area. Plans are currently underway to build a four star hotel just outside of Shoreline Park's borders.

However, other things, such as the golf course, and sailing lake remained in the plans for the park. Two restaurants were built in the park, one in a boat house along the lake, and the other in the golf club house. The city decided to lease part of the Shoreline Park area to Bill Graham Presents, who put up the tents of one of Mountain View's most prominent landmarks, Shoreline Amphitheater. In 1980, the city moved Mountain View's oldest home, The Rengstorff Mansion, into the park. The house had been damaged greatly over the years, but by 1990 it was completely restored and opened to the public. It is now one of Shoreline Park's most charming attractions.

Future plans for Shoreline Park include the expansion of the park's trail system, including a connector trail between Shoreline and the Sunnyvale Baylands. Plans are currently being developed to return the Cargil Salt Ponds back to their natural condition. This would totally change the look and feel of Shoreline Park. Hundreds of acres of restored marshland would return the Shoreline Park area to conditions that haven't been seen since the area was first settled in the 1840s. But full restoration of the salt ponds will be a long way off. Meanwhile, marshland restoration continues within the park's 3 marshland habitats. Efforts by the city also include enhancement of other natural and man made areas of the park.

While not featured in the web-site promotional materials, personal observation has identified problems with trees dying and uneven settling of roads, golf course maintenance issues, etc. associated with construction on a former landfill.

OTHER URBAN PARKS

GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN FRANCISCO

Golden Gate Park, located in San Francisco, California, is a large urban park consisting of 1,017 acres of public grounds. Configured as a rectangle, it is similar in shape but 174 acres larger than Central Park in New York, to which it is often compared. With 13 million visitors annually, Golden Gate is the third most visited city park in the United States (after Central Park and Lincoln Park in Chicago). With the evolving times of society and whatever Mother Nature decided to throw at Golden Gate Park, a variety of features or buildings have changed since its start. Over the years, earthquakes and severe storms have weakened some of the structures scattered throughout the park, causing a wave of renovations.

Major features

- Japanese Tea Garden – 5 acres; originally built as part of the California Midwinter International Exposition of 1894.
- The Music Concourse Area – an open area with three water fountains surrounded with maple trees positioned uniformly. There is also a stage on the east side. In 2003, the Music Concourse was modified to include an underground 800-car parking garage, narrowing of the roadways in the Music Concourse, the addition of bike lanes, and the elimination of existing surface parking.
- De Young Museum: opened January 1921. Its original building had been part of The California Midwinter International Exposition of 1894. The de Young has been completely rebuilt and re-opened in 2005.
- Academy of Sciences: one of the largest natural history museums in the world, also houses the Steinhart Aquarium and the Morrison Planetarium. In September 12, 2005, Academy of Sciences started a complete reconstruction, with completion scheduled for 2008.
- San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum: laid out in the 1890s, but funding was insufficient until Helene Strybing willed funds in 1926. Planting was begun in 1937 with WPA funds supplemented by local donations. This 55 acre arboretum contains more than 7,500 plant species. The arboretum also houses the Helen Crocker Russell Library; northern California's largest horticultural library.
- AIDS Memorial Grove has been in progress since 1988 and is still the only national AIDS memorial in the U.S.
- Stow Lake surrounds the prominent Strawberry Hill, now an island with an electrically pumped waterfall. Rowboats, pedalboats, and electrically powered boats can be rented at the boathouse.
- Spreckels Lake - located on the northern side of the park near 36th Avenue; home waters of the San Francisco Model Yacht Club.
- Conservatory of Flowers – Open in 1879, it is one of the world's largest conservatories built of traditional wood and glass panes. It has been damaged and subsequently restored several times (fires, wind damage, structural problems).

- Kezar Stadium: built between 1922 and 1925 in the southeast corner of the park. The old 59,000-seat stadium was demolished in 1989 and replaced with a modern 9,044-seat stadium.

Parking is free in some sections of the park, and up to \$3/hour on weekends at the Music Concourse Garage. Muni provides frequent and convenient bus service to the park. A free Golden Gate Park shuttle is available on weekends and holidays, with 15 stops scattered about the park.

The **San Francisco Zoological Gardens** (formerly Fleishhacker Zoo) originated in the 1930's as a Works Progress Administration project. The zoo now houses more than 250 different animal species on 125 acres. The San Francisco Zoo is not located within Golden Gate Park. It is located in the southwestern corner of the city, between the Great Highway and Lake Merced. The western terminus of the L Taraval Muni Metro line is one block to the north of the zoo.

Established in 1954, the Zoological Society took over the operation of Zoo concessions in 1958. The Zoological Society took over management and operations of the Zoo in 1993 from the City of San Francisco in a unique public/private Lease Partnership Agreement. The Society also funded the development of several new exhibits and the renovation of facilities. In June 1997, San Francisco voters approved the Proposition C \$48 million Zoo Bond to rejuvenate the Zoo, and complement an additional \$25 million that was raised privately. The Bond Plan called for a complete overhaul of the entire western portion of the Zoo, and included the restructuring of the entire entrance sequence, spacious new animal exhibits and badly needed public facilities.

Working with zoo consultant Becca Hanson of Studio Hanson/Roberts on the Master Plan update, the Zoo underwent a planning process that reached out to every level of its organization, Members, stakeholders and the broader community to plan the next round of improvements. A number of ideas were incorporated into the plan to improve access to the Zoo for pedestrians, provide guests with transportation to the center of the Zoo, expand the living collection, and develop zoogeographic regions that share the Zoo's conservation efforts in North and South America, Eastern Asia, Africa and Australia. The updated plan also considers repurposing the heritage buildings, such as the Pachyderm Building, to offer indoor viewing of reptiles and amphibians. The plan also includes obtaining botanical garden status. Trends in the Zoo industry and the field of wildlife conservation were examined to develop priorities for transforming the physical landscape of the Zoo while integrating its mission to connect people with wildlife, inspire caring for nature and advance conservation action.

MONTEREY BAY

Cannery Row is the waterfront street in the New Monterey section of Monterey, California, the site of a number of now-defunct sardine canning factories. The street name, formerly a nickname for Ocean View Avenue, is now official. Cannery Row was the setting of John Steinbeck's novels *Cannery Row* (1945) and *Sweet Thursday* (1954).

The canneries failed after the collapse of the fishing industry in Monterey Bay in the mid-1950s. Before the collapse, the fishery was one of the most productive in the world due to the upwelling of cold, yet nutrient-rich water from the bottom of the Pacific Ocean that is funneled to the surface via the vast underwater Monterey Canyon.

Today the area around Cannery Row is a marine sanctuary and is home to a large resurgent population of California sea lions. The street is now a tourist attraction with many restaurants and hotels, and a few historical attractions. A few privately owned and operated fishing companies still exist on Cannery Row, housed on piers located a short distance from the historic district frequented by tourists. In recent years, Cannery Row has become increasingly popular among sport fishermen due to extensive public fishing facilities (sinks, countertops, ice, docking).

Cannery Row features at least 25 restaurants, numerous hotels, shopping opportunities, and a bicycle/pedestrian trail system along the waterfront and historic areas.

The Monterey Bay Aquarium, which is located on the north end of a former sardine cannery on Cannery Row, is one of the largest aquariums in the world. It has an annual attendance of 1.8 million and holds 35,000 plants and animals representing 623 species. Opened on October 20, 1984, it is accredited by the American Zoological Association.

Millennium Park, Chicago

Millennium Park is a portion of the larger Grant Park, the "front lawn" of downtown Chicago. Grant Park (originally named Lake Park) is 319 acres. The park's most notable features are Buckingham Fountain and the Art Institute of Chicago. The city officially designated the land as a park in 1844, naming it Lake Park. When the Illinois Central Railroad was built into Chicago in 1852, it was permitted to enter along the lakefront on a causeway built just offshore. The resulting lagoon became stagnant, and was largely filled in 1871 with debris from the Great Chicago Fire. In 1896 the city began extending Grant Park into the lake with landfill.

At the end of the 19th century, plans were made to develop the park and construct large buildings and commercial property in the park. But a Chicagoan citizen, A. Montgomery Ward, wanted the park to remain open space as had already been decided in 1836, and brought the plans to court. After almost 20 years of battle in court, he won the case in 1911. As a result, the park remains open space, offering a great view on the cliff of

buildings on Michigan Avenue. In 1901, Lake Park was renamed Grant Park in honor of Illinois resident, United States President Ulysses S. Grant.

From 1852 until 1997 the Illinois Central Railroad, owned the right of way that they used for railroad tracks that separated the downtown Chicago from Lake Michigan. Grant Park was planned around it by Daniel Burnham in his 1909 Plan of Chicago. In 1997, the city gained control of the land in the form of airspace rights.

Millennium Park - opened on July 16th, 2004 - is a northern extension of Grant Park located in the Chicago Loop. The park was originally just an open expanse with railroads and parking and an unsightly eyesore in Chicago's great front lawn that is Grant Park, and is now one of Chicago's most enjoyed public spaces. New restaurants, condominiums, hotels and various amenities have cropped up around the park.

It is a prominent civic center of the City of Chicago's Lake Michigan lakefront. A redeveloped section of Grant Park, the 24.5-acre park is bounded by Michigan Avenue and its Chicago Landmark Historic Michigan Boulevard District, East Randolph Street, Columbus Drive and East Monroe Drive. It was Mayor of Chicago Richard M. Daley's ambitious idea to realize that which was originally designed as part of Daniel Burnham's Plan of Chicago, a plan for the future of Chicago created in 1909. It is historically the site of the Chicago Cubs' (then known as the White Stockings) first home field in 1871: the Union Base-Ball Grounds.

Millennium Park is often considered the largest roof garden in the world, having been constructed on top of a railroad yard and large parking garages. The park's design and construction won awards ranging from accessibility to green design. Since then, Millennium Park has become a major tourist destination for Chicago. The park features the Cloud Gate, Crown Fountain, Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Lurie Garden and other attractions. The park is connected by bridges to other parts of Grant Park (BP Pedestrian Bridge, Nichols Bridgeway).

Millennium Park itself is one of the larger public parks in metropolitan Chicago, and is a showcase for postmodern architecture. It features the McCormick Tribune Ice Skating Rink, Peristyle at Wrigley Square, Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music and Dance, AT&T Plaza, Chase Promenade and Trees in Millennium Park. There are four major artistic highlights: Cloud Gate, Crown Fountain, Lurie Garden and the Jay Pritzker Pavilion.

The principal signature of Millennium Park is the Jay Pritzker Pavilion, a bandshell designed by world-renowned architect Frank Gehry with 4,000 fixed seats plus additional lawn seating for 7,000.

AT&T Plaza is home to Cloud Gate, a three-story, 110-ton steel sculpture that has been dubbed by residents as "The Bean". The sculpture is the work of world-renowned artist Anish Kapoor and is the first of his public art in the United States. The piece was privately funded and the total cost was \$23 million. Cloud Gate is a highly-polished reflective steel sculpture that is meant to resemble a drop of mercury hovering at the point of landing on a plaza of the park. The curved, mirror-like surface of the sculpture provides striking reflections of visitors, the city skyline (particularly the historic Michigan Avenue "Streetwall") and the sky. Since its installation, Cloud Gate has probably become the most popular sculpture in the city.

Crown Fountain, named in honor of Chicago's Crown family, was designed by Catalan conceptual artist Jaume Plensa, and is the first of its kind in the world. Transparent glass block bricks are used to build two 50-foot towers standing at either end of a long, black granite plaza submerged under an eighth of an inch layer of water. Behind the glass bricks are high-tech LED video screens. When the screens are illuminated they show the faces of nearly a thousand individual Chicagoans, which showcases the vast diversity of the city.

Lurie Garden is a 2.5-acre public garden located at the southern end of Millennium Park. The garden is a combination of perennials, bulbs, grasses, shrubs and trees. It is the featured nature component of the world's largest green roof. The garden cost \$13.2 million and has a \$10 million endowment for maintenance and upkeep.

BP Pedestrian Bridge crosses Columbus Drive connecting Millennium Park to Daley Bicentennial Plaza in Grant Park. The 925' long girder bridge was designed by Frank Gehry, and was named for British Petroleum who donated \$5 million to the construction of the Park. The bridge is referred to as snakelike or serpentine in character due to its curving form.

McCormick Tribune Plaza & Ice Rink is a multi-purpose venue located along the western edge of Millennium Park in the Historic Michigan Boulevard District. For four months a year, it operates as McCormick Tribune Ice Rink, a free public outdoor ice skating rink - known as one of Chicago's better outdoor people watching locations during the winter months. For the rest of the year, it serves as Plaza at Park Grill or Park Grill Plaza, Chicago's largest outdoor dining facility.

Harris Theater is a 1525-seat theater for the performing arts located along the northern edge of Millennium Park. It is the city's premier performance venue for small and medium sized performance groups. It is the first new performing arts venue built in the city's theater district or downtown since 1929.

The community surrounding Millennium Park has become one of the most fashionable residential addresses in the city. More recently, 60602 was named by Forbes as the hottest zip code in the country in terms of price appreciation with upscale buildings such as The Heritage at Millennium Park (130 N. Garland) leading the way for other buildings such as Waterview Tower, The Legacy and Momo. The median sale price for residential real estate was \$710,000 in 2005 according to Forbes, ranking it on the list of most expensive zip codes.