



# 6

**The Infrastructure Chapter** is focused on understanding all the non-transportation systems that nourish and maintain a neighborhood or district including how stormwater is handled, the open spaces needs of the users of the planning area, the energy system that serves all buildings, and how waste is reduced. They are grouped together in this chapter due to the many opportunity for these projects to meet multiple objectives.



**INFRASTRUCTURE**



INFRASTRUCTURE



# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

# OVERVIEW



The environmental sustainability chapter recognizes that each neighborhood plays a role in climate change. As leaders in the community we seek to foster a healthy, safe, progressive and resilient community by caring for the air, energy, water, land, people and biodiversity of Manchester-Chateau and ultimately enhance our region.

As a community, we value the following:

1. Clean air
2. Clean energy
3. Sustainable, energy efficient buildings
4. Clean water
5. Trees and green space
6. A walkable, connected community
7. Biodiversity

The public engagement process, existing conditions analysis and review of best practices in this Chapter helped lead to the creation of specific goals and recommended action steps. A full summary of the plan goals, action steps, and relevant details are available in the Implementation Chapter.

# IN THIS SECTION



## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- » There is a group of neighborhood residents that are highly motivated to implement sustainable practices.
- » An action team of local residents was dedicated to exploring neighborhood strategies around sustainability. The action team will continue to engage around education and partnerships and advocacy as implementation of the plan occurs.



## EXISTING CONDITIONS & TRENDS

- » Combined Sewer Systems in the neighborhood discharge approximately 14 million gallons of untreated water into the Ohio River annually.
- » Heightened air pollution levels due to valley location, industrial emissions, State Route 65, and idling trains along the railroad.
- » The Releaf Manchester and Chateau Plan was developed by Tree Pittsburgh and residents and serves as a guide for planting trees throughout the neighborhood.
- » City-wide sustainability initiatives should be coordinated with the Manchester-Chateau neighborhood.



## PRIORITY IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- » Incorporate green infrastructure where appropriate in development review and in public infrastructure investments.
- » Continue to grow the tree canopy in the neighborhood through the implementation of the ReLeaf Manchester and Chateau Plan.
- » Pursue obtaining a blanket permission from the HRC for solar panels on historic designated structures.
- » Protect the neighborhood from elements that may threaten it.

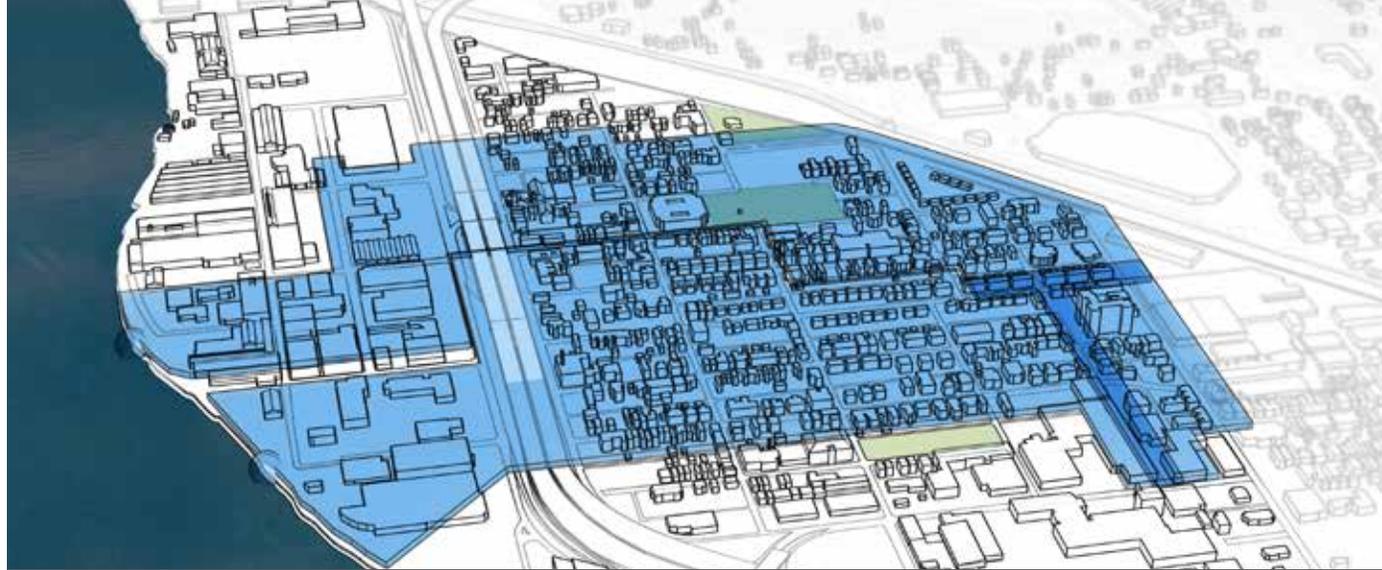
# WATER

## STORMWATER & GREEN

## INFRASTRUCTURE

The proximity of Manchester-Chateau to the Ohio River makes the neighborhood a key player in reducing combined sewer overflow events that the river. Approximately fourteen million gallons of untreated water reach the Ohio River each year from the two sewersheds illustrated to the right. Green infrastructure projects can minimize this impact.

The neighborhood has approximately 1.7 miles of shoreline that must be nurtured and restored. Redevelopments in Chateau have the potential to lead to significant repair of the riparian buffer that protects the neighborhood from flooding and provides habitat for many species of birds and other animals. With the passing of the Riverfront Zoning guidelines, Chateau has the opportunity to set a standard for a healthy riverfront.



14 million gallons of untreated water pollute the Ohio River each year from the two sewersheds highlighted above. Green infrastructure projects can help remediate this non-point source pollution.



N. Franklin St. and Columbus Ave. (pictured above) are ideal candidates for "Green Corridors." See Mobility Chapter for further context. *(Blue boxes indicate conceptual infill development).*

*Combined Sewer Map modified from ReLeaf Manchester.*

# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

As the Manchester-Chateau neighborhood performs regular streetscape improvements, there is an opportunity to green infrastructure elements that provide both environmental and safety benefits. Some of those strategies can include, but are not limited to, the following:

## STREET MEDIANS

A primary benefit of street medians is to give pedestrians a stopping point when crossing from one side of the street to the other. Street medians are also ideal locations to integrate green infrastructure through pervious surfaces and other stormwater control techniques.

### RECOMMENDED LOCATIONS:

- » Areas that need pedestrian crossings to narrow the width of the street while reducing traffic speeds.
- » Between crosswalks separated by long distances.
- » Where larger right of way exists, road diets including street medians are appropriate.



*In addition to functioning as green infrastructure locations, street medians can help improve pedestrian safety.*

## BIOSWALES & RAIN GARDENS

Rainwater that currently overburdens the combined sanitary and storm systems can be diverted into bioswales and rain gardens, which reduces the quantity of water entering the storm system while beautifying the neighborhood's streets.

### RECOMMENDED LOCATIONS:

- » Curb bump-outs, medians, and integrated throughout other sidewalk areas.
- » Parking lots and on-street parking.
- » Community gardens.



*Basins are typically designed for water to percolate into the soil over a 24-48 hour period, thereby limiting long periods of standing water and mosquito breeding.*

## PERMEABLE PAVERS

As sidewalks and other impervious surfaces need to be replaced in the neighborhood, permeable pavers can be an environmentally sustainable option. Permeable pavers allow stormwater to flow through pavers and infiltrate the ground, rather than running off into the stormwater system.

### RECOMMENDED LOCATIONS:

- » Existing parking lots.
- » Existing brick sidewalks can be replaced or repaired as needed to improve pervious filtration.



*Permeable pavers can provide a nice element of visual interest to the built environment, while allowing opportunities to reduce the quantity of stormwater entering the system.*

# AIR

## AIR QUALITY & SURFACE TEMPERATURE

Poor air quality is a public health issue for residents of Pittsburgh. The presence of manufacturing along the river, coupled with the topography of the city, with its many river valleys, contributes to poor air quality throughout the region and specifically in Manchester-Chateau. Additionally, the close proximity of the Norfolk Southern railroad to Manchester is raising concerns about idling practices as train locomotives are a huge source of black carbon diesel air pollution, which is known to cause a multitude of health problems.

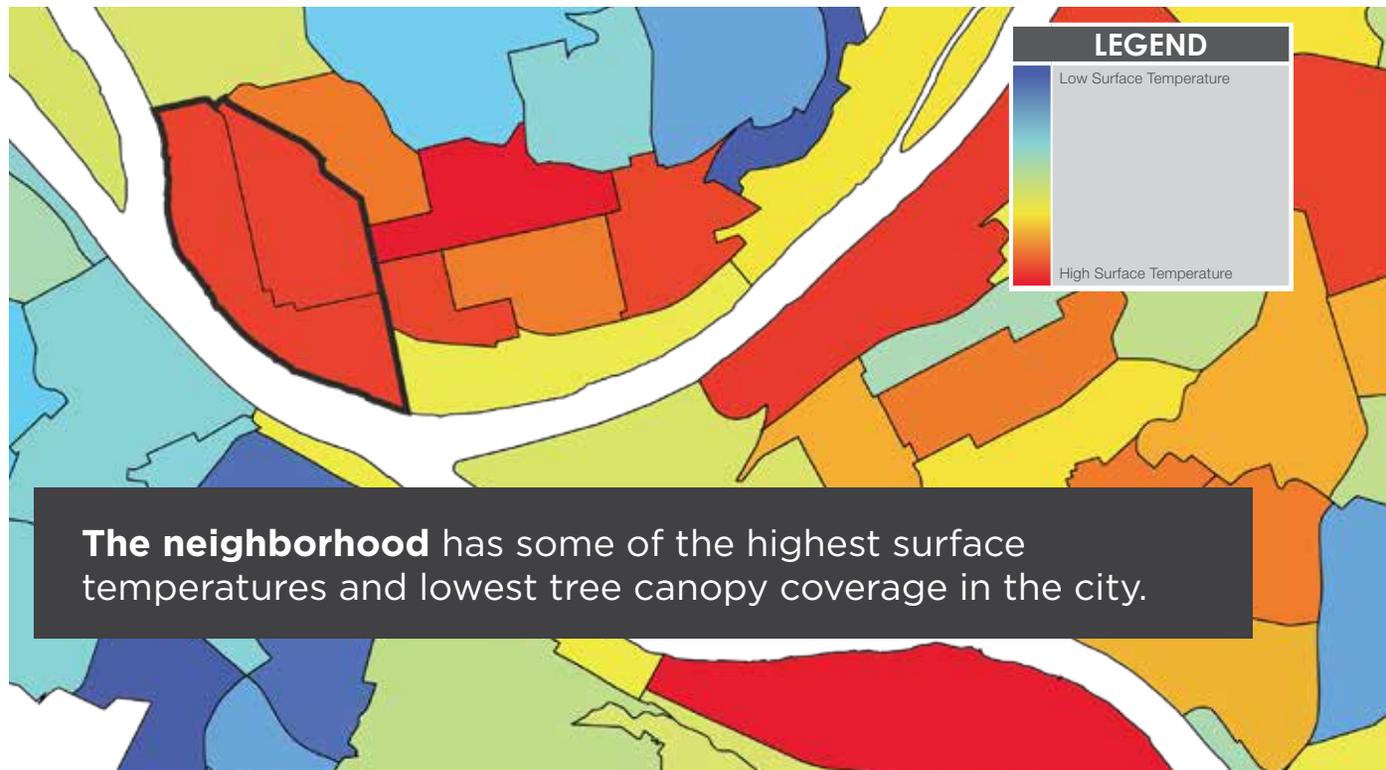
The lighter colors in the top image to the right reflect higher levels of nitrogen dioxide. This elevated level of NO<sub>2</sub> can lead to such adverse health outcomes like lower resistance to respiratory infections.

In addition to the elevated levels of pollutants, Manchester-Chateau is one of the hottest neighborhoods in Pittsburgh, as measured by surface temperature. The neighborhood should increase data collection on particulates, VOCs and surface temperature.

In conversations with residents, many expressed an interest in improving the tree canopy in an effort to combat some of these challenges. The ReLeaf Manchester and Chateau Plan, highlighted on the following page, is an existing framework to help achieve this goal.

*Air pollution and surface temperature maps sourced from the ReLeaf Manchester Plan.*

**High levels** of nitrogen dioxide are present throughout Manchester-Chateau neighborhoods.



**The neighborhood** has some of the highest surface temperatures and lowest tree canopy coverage in the city.



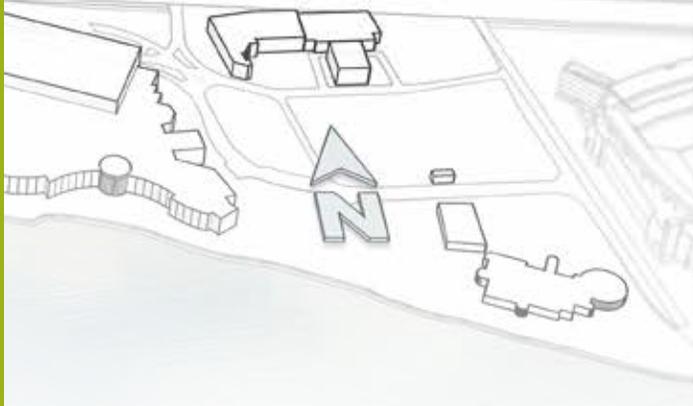
## RELEAF MANCHESTER AND CHATEAU PLAN

Residents have expressed a desire to improve the tree canopy and coverage throughout the neighborhood to lower the surface temperature, mitigate stormwater runoff and provide habitat for mammals, birds and insects. Existing street tree coverage in the neighborhood is shown above.

Many of the residential streets in the neighborhood have consistent tree canopy and coverage. Gaps across the Manchester-Chateau neighborhood include the edges of Manchester (Western Avenue and Chateau Street) and throughout most of Chateau, including the riverfront trail.

The plan outlined a strategy framework designed to promote and sustain a healthy and vibrant street tree canopy, including the following:

- » Address sidewalk damage caused by tree roots
- » Educate homeowners about planting the right tree in the right place
- » Manage current conditions of street trees throughout Manchester
- » Plant and maintain trees at neighborhood gateways



*Existing Street Tree Coverage: Manchester-Chateau.  
Data Source: City of Pittsburgh GIS, March, 2018.*

# LAND

## WASTE

Waste is largely a municipal issue, but the Pittsburgh Climate Action Plan offers neighborhood intervention strategies to help address waste throughout the City. These include strategies to improve recycling and composting, while reducing waste going toward the landfill.

- » Recycling: Currently, Pittsburgh Department of Public Works only provides recycling services for residences less than 4 units.
- » Composting: Approximately 30% of Pittsburgh's waste is yard trimmings and food. Is there an opportunity for Manchester-Chateau residents to add/improve composting in the neighborhood?
- » Public Trash: Trash on the street and sidewalks sends the wrong first impression to residents and employees and visitors of the community. How do we address hard-to-recycle items, such as televisions and unused paint and batteries, that often become public trash?



## EXISTING BUILDINGS AND SYSTEMS

With an aging building stock, Manchester-Chateau has an opportunity to make significant improvements in existing buildings, while promoting energy efficiency and green energy.

As highlighted on the previous page, Manchester-Chateau is one of Pittsburgh's hottest neighborhoods (based on surface temperature). The higher than average heat in the neighborhood means that existing residences and office buildings have to spend increased energy and money on air conditioning and other energy uses.

There are a number of strategies that can help improve energy efficiency of existing buildings, including using and generating solar and wind energy and implementing green and white roofs.

## DISTRICT ENERGY

District energy is an approach of applying technologies to coordinate the production and supply of domestic hot water to optimize energy efficiency and local resource use. Chateau should be considered for district energy due to a number of large redevelopment sites throughout the districts.

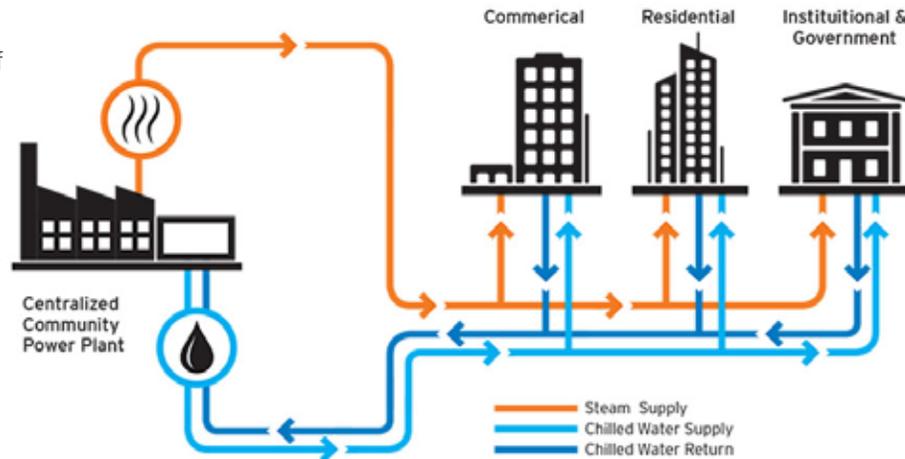


Image Source: Corix.com

## FUTURE BUILDINGS AND SYSTEMS

As Chateau continues to be a focal point for large-scale redevelopment, there remains an opportunity to promote new energy efficiency standards and ideas. On a building level, adopting LEED guidelines or standards for new building construction is one possibility.

Additionally, the City of Pittsburgh, in partnership with the Department of Energy, the National Energy Technology Lab, Duquesne Light, and the University of Pittsburgh Center for Energy, is developing strategies to establish neighborhood and district scale energy systems.

Micro-grids are one such system that delivers energy to a local neighborhood in a more efficient manner, and can also be designed to incorporate renewable energy sources.

## RENEWABLES

It will not be possible to reach aggressive greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals set by many governments (such as Pittsburgh's goal to reduce GHG emissions 50% by 2030) without implementing renewable energy technologies such as solar panels, wind turbines and food digesters. Solar panels can be installed in unused air space such as:

- » Building rooftops
- » Between buildings
- » Over parking lots and garages
- » Over public spaces providing shade and partial shelter from rain

# ECOSYSTEM

## BIODIVERSITY

The urban ecosystem encompasses both man-made and natural elements. Humans cannot survive in places where other living things fail. To that end, we must make space for birds, animals, fish, insects and plants to coexist with humans. We must not let our eagerness to develop property overshadow the value of habitat. There is a value to protecting the creatures that inhabit the city. There is also a value and opportunity to educate the public about ways in which we are supporting the local ecosystem.

In order to protect the ecosystem, residents have suggested the following:

- » Minimize spraying insecticides to the extent possible as these products disrupt the beneficial insect population and can be detrimental to residents with breathing issues.
- » Create nesting spaces for birds and bats that feed on mosquitoes.
- » Develop an ecosystem focused educational program.



*The public engagement process, existing conditions analysis and review of best practices in this Chapter helped lead to the creation of specific goals and recommended action steps. A full summary of the plan goals, action steps, and relevant details are available in the Implementation Chapter.*

## GOAL 19: INCORPORATE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

Manchester-Chateau should continue to integrate green infrastructure in both public and private redevelopment projects. The neighborhood contributes 14 million gallons of untreated runoff from rain events into local rivers each year. Roadway improvement projects, specifically the green corridors outlined in this Plan, should incorporate green infrastructure that both benefits the environment while serving as an amenity within public spaces.

Private development projects can also incorporate green infrastructure as well. Community policies and design guidelines should encourage green infrastructure where necessary and appropriate in all future developments.

### Recommended Action Steps Include:

- » Develop environmental guidelines and a template for the community to use when reviewing proposed development.
- » Incorporate green infrastructure where appropriate in development review and in Community Benefits Agreements.
- » Incorporate green infrastructure, including stormwater, in public infrastructure investments.
- » Develop a program to educate and assist residents to build rain barrels for their property.



## GOAL 20: IMPROVE NEIGHBORHOOD AIR AND WATER QUALITY.

Manchester-Chateau sits in an industrial valley, and elevated pollution levels are contributing to poorer health outcomes in the neighborhood.

The neighborhood should take a two-pronged approach in improving air and water quality. The first is to bolster data collection of existing pollutants in the neighborhood. This will likely require continued grassroots efforts by local residents to do their own air monitoring through coordinated programs. Furthermore, Manchester-Chateau should continue to implement the ReLeaf Plan (highlighted in this section).

### Recommended Action Steps Include:

- » Increase lead testing of drinking water
- » Increase air quality monitoring throughout neighborhood to improve data/obtain new baseline data, including VOC's.
  - » Sign up to be a cohort with ROCIS and recruit residents to participate (requires residents logging activities and measuring pollutants).
  - » Educate others and advocate through GASP, ACCAN, AIRNOW.GOV, and others.
- » Continue to grow the tree canopy in the Manchester-Chateau neighborhood through the implementation of the ReLeaf Manchester and Chateau Plan.



## GOAL 21: PURSUE RESPONSIBLE WASTE PRACTICES THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

In addition to water pollution and air quality concerns, Manchester-Chateau should continue to collaborate with other existing city-wide environmental initiatives (some of which are highlighted in this Chapter). These initiatives cover a number of environmental themes.

### Recommended Action Steps Include:

- » Enforce recycling mandate. Recycling is required in the City of Pittsburgh and regular discussion at community meetings and local enforcement can help.
- » Provide public trash and recycling receptacles where needed.
- » Establish a district composting program with an educational component.
- » Establish a glass recycling program.
- » Coordinate neighborhood clean-up with an awareness of hard to recycle items.
- » Strive to become a zero-waste community:
  - » Raise awareness about waste by planning for all future community events to be zero waste events where all waste is recycled or composted.
  - » Create a roadmap to zero-waste by working with local advocates.
  - » Coordinate with the City to acquire data regarding the amount of trash and recycling collected in Manchester and Chateau.



## GOAL 22: IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

In addition to water pollution and air quality concerns, Manchester-Chateau should continue to collaborate with other existing city-wide environmental initiatives (some of which are highlighted in this Chapter). These initiatives cover a number of environmental themes.

### Recommended Action Steps Include:

- » Develop incentives to incorporate renewable energy in new construction.
  - » Develop incentives to encourage electric car charging stations.
  - » Educate residents on the following existing programs:
    - » Ongoing education of residents about PA Power Switch
    - » DL's Watt Choice Program (energy audit, system of rebates, and weatherization).
  - » Pursue obtaining a blanket permission from the HRC for solar panels on historic designated structures.
  - » Research and develop a neighborhood fund for renewable energy infrastructure installations.
- » Recruit residents to form a co-op to seek group rates from solar companies.
  - » Conduct a study of the neighborhood for existing and future sites for renewable energy opportunities such as wind, solar, and geothermal sites.
  - » Maintain contact with existing EcoDistricts to learn best practices.
  - » Partner with the following existing programs:
    - » Grassroots Green Homes to get Manchester to become 2nd pilot neighborhood (weatherization of old buildings)
    - » Conservation Consultants Inc. to audit homes and address energy issues.
    - » URA's Pittsburgh Home Rehabilitation Program (PHRP) Energy Efficiency Grant and Loan Program.



## GOAL 23: PROTECT THE LOCAL ECOSYSTEM.

Manchester-Chateau's proximity to the Ohio River, redevelopment opportunities in Chateau, and the Releaf Plan all provide ways in which the local ecosystem can be enhanced to protect and promote biodiversity.

Continue to implement the ReLeaf Manchester Plan.

### Recommended Action Steps Include:

- » Develop a local Urban Ecostewards Program by partnering with Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy.
- » Create a green library.
- » Develop an educational program on gardening.
- » Investigate ways to reduce costs of urban agriculture projects on private property.
- » Advocate for habitat and protection of species necessary to provide a healthy ecosystem.
- » Continue to grow the tree canopy in the Manchester-Chateau neighborhood through the implementation of the ReLeaf Manchester and Chateau Plan.





INFRASTRUCTURE



**PARKS AND PUBLIC  
SPACE**

# OVERVIEW

Manchester-Chateau has few public gathering or recreation spaces. The parks here serve both of those vital functions and must be positioned to serve the needs of the residents. To preserve the character and heritage of the neighborhood while accommodating more housing growth, a refreshed approach to these parks is needed.



# IN THIS SECTION



## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- » The most preferred park needs in each of the existing parks were identified during a voting exercise at the second public meeting.
- » Priorities and uses for each park were established.



## EXISTING CONDITIONS & TRENDS

- » Manchester Park: Located in the northeast section of the neighborhood, adjacent to the rail lines. This park has an abandoned pool, along with aging park equipment and amenities.
- » Manchester Field Park: Located in close proximity to two elementary schools, the park serves primarily serves as an athletic complex to local and citywide residents and students.
- » McKnight Park: Located closer to Western Ave., The park has aging play facilities and an open, underutilized athletic field.



## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- » Identify opportunities for public art and amenities along riverfront trail.
- » Construct green corridors to connect Manchester-Chateau to the river.
- » Strengthen the quality of existing neighborhood parks by emphasizing a defined program for each park.

# PARKS OVERVIEW

There are three existing neighborhood parks in Manchester: Manchester Park, Manchester Field Park, and McKnight Park. Each park plays a slightly different role in the quality of life in the neighborhood. The purpose of this Chapter is to present ideas for the function, role, and improvements to each of these existing parks. (Parks and open space recommendations for Chateau are covered in the Mobility and Sustainability sections).

## PARK ACCESSIBILITY

The entire Manchester-Chateau neighborhood is within a ten minute walk to parks, the threshold identified in Open Space PGH. As shown above, all three parks are actually within a three-to-five minute walk-time of most of the Manchester neighborhood. Furthermore, Manchester Field Park and McKnight Park are adjacent to educational buildings, strengthening their ability to function as community anchors.



## OPEN SPACE PGH: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MANCHESTER

As part of Pittsburgh's Comprehensive Plan, Open Space PGH, an open space plan, was created to evaluate different elements of parks across the City. The strategies and policies in Open Space PGH are meant to help transition parks to better meet the needs of current and future needs of the neighborhoods and residents. Many of these strategies will impact the three major parks in the neighborhood: Manchester Park, Manchester Field Park, and McKnight Park.

The following pages have an overview of each of the three parks, with options based on the community feedback received throughout this process. In addition, the Open Space PGH's recommendations for each of the parks is included, and a cost range for what it would take to improve each of these parks.

	MANCHESTER PARK	MANCHESTER FIELD PARK	McKnight Park
Park Acreage	2.3	3.9	1.6
Basketball Courts		•	
Tennis Courts	•		
Multipurpose Field		•	•
Baseball field		•	
Swing Sets		•	•
Play Structures	•	•	•
Picnic Tables	•	•	
Benches	•	•	•

# MANCHESTER PARK

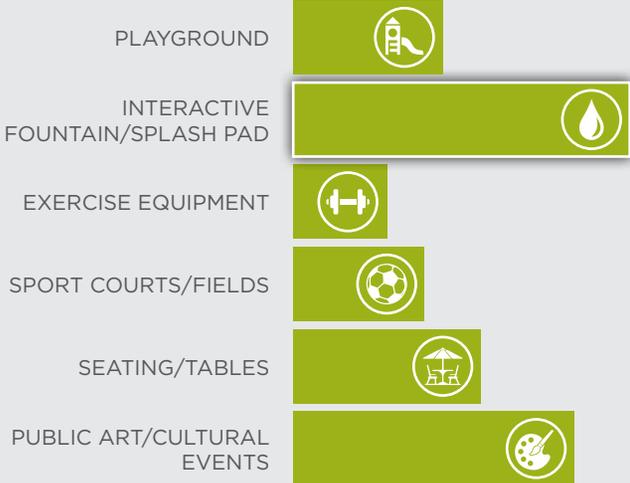
Located in the northeast portion of Manchester, Manchester Park sits directly adjacent to the railroad tracks. The park is the site of the former community pool. Currently, the park has play equipment, tennis courts, park benches, and tables, and a strong stand of mature trees.

**NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNIFICANCE**  
*Manchester Field Park is home to the now-closed swimming pool, a space that many neighborhood residents remember fondly.*



## WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS

The public input showed a very strong desire to install an interactive fountain or splash pad. Public art and cultural events were also highly desired. Additional seating and play equipment received relatively high votes as well.



## WHAT OPEN SPACE PGH

### RECOMMENDS

**PARK QUALITY:**  
FAIR

**INVESTMENT LEVEL:**  
\$2-8 MILLION  
*(MANCHESTER PARK AND MANCHESTER FIELD PARK COSTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE COMBINED)*

**OPEN SPACE PGH** recommends removing the community pool, tennis courts, and playground in order to create a ball field.



**Splash pads** are an increasingly popular approach to providing a low-maintenance, safe water feature for children.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

As the Manchester-Chateau neighborhood continues to evolve, Manchester Park should continue to be a primary community gathering space for the neighborhood, with an emphasis on upgrading existing facilities. Upgraded facilities should include:

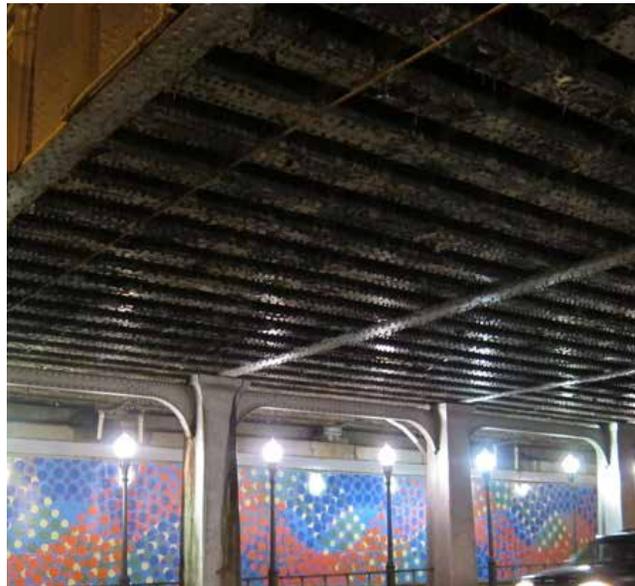
**Splash Pads.** Splash pads have become increasingly popular in parks throughout the region. They provide an interactive water feature that is relatively affordable to install and maintain. Furthermore, splash pads can be easily winterized, further reducing impacts on park budgets. Finally, incorporating an interactive water feature would help address many of the memories residents shared about the pool in Manchester Park.

**Upgraded playground equipment, seating, tables, and flexible event space.** Manchester lacks a designated cultural event space. Manchester Park can help serve as this event space.

**Park access.** Upgrading the railroad underpass to be well-lit and inviting will provide another safe access route to the park.



**Activating the railroad underpass** at the southeast entrance with lights and public art will improve safety and access to the Park.

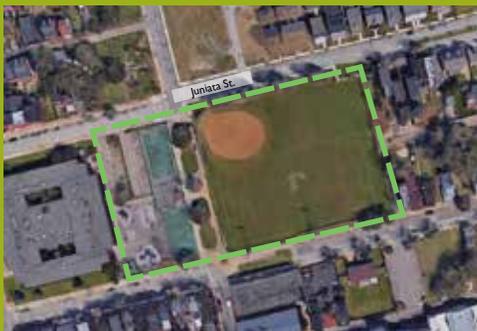


# MANCHESTER FIELD PARK

Manchester Field Park is the largest (3.9 acres) and most centrally located park in the neighborhood and sits next to Manchester Elementary School. It has a large multi-purpose field for baseball and other sports. There are two basketball courts and a large playground. Fulton Street is closed to automobiles, increasing the functional area of the park.

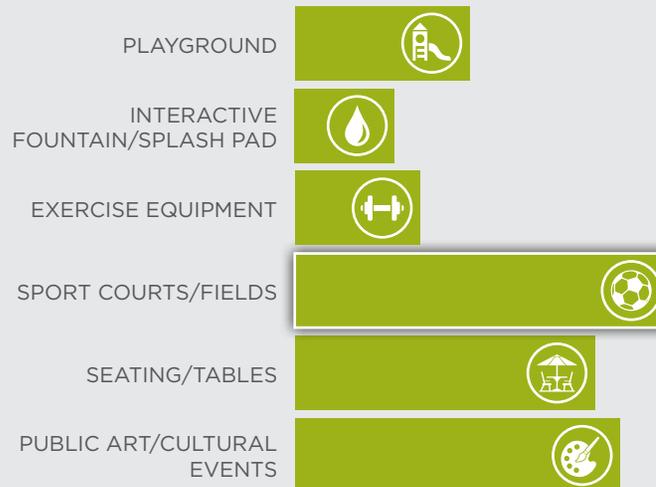
## SIGNIFICANCE OF MANCHESTER FIELD PARK

*Adjacent to Manchester Elementary School, Manchester Field Park hosts athletic facilities, and basketball courts, supporting school and recreational activities.*



## WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS

Sport courts and fields were the most desired for this park followed by public art and cultural events and additional seating.



## WHAT OPEN SPACE PGH

### RECOMMENDS

**PARK QUALITY:**  
GOOD

**INVESTMENT LEVEL:**  
\$2-8 MILLION

*(MANCHESTER PARK AND MANCHESTER FIELD PARK COSTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WERE COMBINED)*

**OPEN SPACE PGH** recommends Manchester Field Park be redeveloped as the primary neighborhood park. This would include developing a master plan (that includes Manchester Park) that better orients the parks to the neighborhood. Adding additional trees, providing a larger play area, an open lawn, and a spray park are also recommended. Residents in this process preferred the splash pad in Manchester Park with emphasis on play fields and event space in Manchester Field Park.



**A flexible plaza space** can double as a space to host community festivals and events.



**Upgrading athletic facilities** is an important community investment.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Manchester Field Park should serve as the primary athletic focused park. In addition, the park can be used as a larger space for formal community gatherings, such as festivals. Upgraded facilities should include:

**Athletic Fields:** Residents requested enhancements to the athletic facilities, including the multi-purpose athletic field.

**Sports Courts:** Residents requested enhancements to the athletic facilities, including the basketball courts.

**Plaza/Event Gathering Space:** The flexible plaza space can be upgraded and designed to host community festivals and movies in the park.

# MCKNIGHT PLAYGROUND

Located the farthest south, McKnight Park is the smallest park at 1.6 acres. It offers playground equipment and a basketball court as well as an open multi-purpose field. There is moderate tree-cover surrounding the playground, but trees still need time to mature to provide adequate shade.

### SIGNIFICANCE OF MCKNIGHT PARK

*The only open space on the southern end of the neighborhood, the McKnight Park also supports any uses from the Conroy Education Center, along with neighborhood recreational uses.*



### WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS

Residents felt that this should be a primary space for programming and cultural events in the neighborhood.

- PLAYGROUND 
- INTERACTIVE FOUNTAIN/SPLASH PAD 
- EXERCISE EQUIPMENT 
- SPORT COURTS/FIELDS 
- SEATING/TABLES 
- PUBLIC ART/CULTURAL EVENTS 

### WHAT OPEN SPACE PGH RECOMMENDS

**PARK QUALITY:**  
AVERAGE

**INVESTMENT LEVEL:**  
UNDER \$2 MILLION

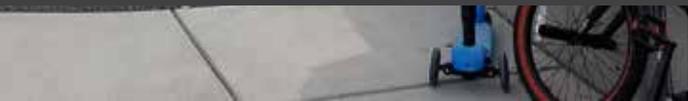
**OPEN SPACE PGH** recommended creating a master plan for the site. Recommendations also include improving curb appeal by removing sections of fencing, adding trees to the site, and improving sidewalks around the perimeter. The basketball courts would remain but resurfaced with additional seating.



**Defining the edge of McKnight Park (left)** can help brand the park to residents throughout the neighborhood.



**Playgrounds should incorporate** a variety of features and styles as well as public art elements.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

McKnight Park represents an opportunity to integrate a variety of playground equipment and cultural spaces in the neighborhood. Upgrades may include:

**Playground:** A new playground is needed, including updated equipment. This may include neighborhood themes, naturalized elements, and rubberized surfaces.

**Public Art and Cultural Events:** Spaces should be provided to facilitate art and cultural programming to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the neighborhood.

**Sports Courts:** Existing facilities should remain and be updated.

# RIVERFRONT TRAIL

The riverfront trail connects Manchester-Chateau to neighborhoods along the North Shore of Pittsburgh. Although the trail is well maintained outside the study area, particularly around the stadiums, there are opportunities to improve the conditions of the trail within Chateau.

Trail improvement should continue to be a priority for the neighborhood, particularly as Chateau continues to redevelop. A safe, well-maintained, and well-lit trail along the riverfront will be critical to leveraging the types of private development uses, such as restaurants and retail, that the public desires to see along the trail.

The following page has three key focus areas in order to make improvements.



**The lack of lighting and visibility** along the trail presents safety concerns to potential users.

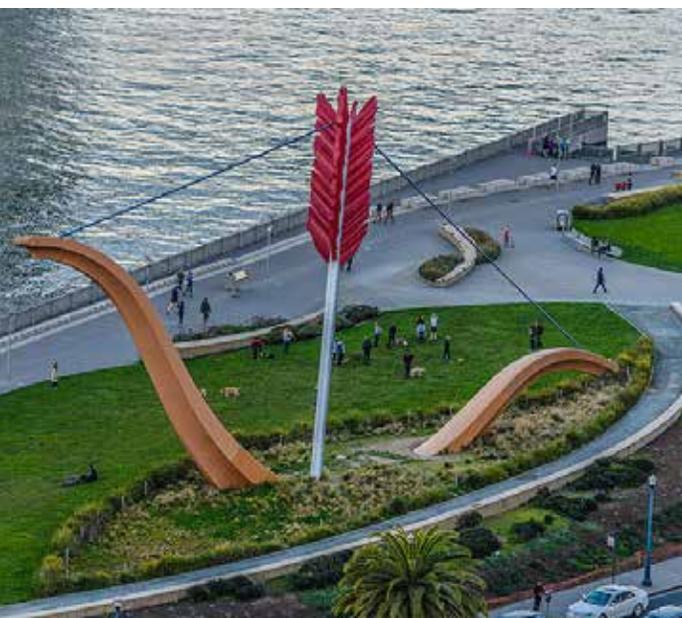
**There is a lack of landscaping maintenance** along the trail.



**The existing marina** is both uninviting and challenging to access.



**Incorporating large-scale public art along the trail can attract users into the neighborhood while establishing a brand for an up and coming residential neighborhood.**



## RECOMMENDATIONS

**A Enhance the design around the planned green corridors:** The green corridors planned for N. Franklin Avenue and Columbus Avenue will ultimately strengthen the connection between Manchester and Chateau while serving as signature public spaces. (See the Mobility and Environmental Sustainability sections for further detail). The design of the public space along the trail should flow seamlessly into the green corridors at these locations.

**B Existing Marina:** The existing marina, which sits alongside one of the most used recreational sections of the trail, lacks the necessary lighting and visibility to make it a safe public space. These elements should be added at this and other highly visible locations.

**C Mixed-Use Development Project:** The new Esplanade project in Pittsburgh will serve as the first new mixed-use redevelopment project in Chateau. As redevelopment occurs in Chateau, ensuring connectivity between the trail and future development should be a high priority.

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## **GOAL 24: STRENGTHEN THE QUALITY OF EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS.**

Each of the three existing neighborhood parks in Manchester serve an important yet unique function throughout the neighborhood. By defining a program for each park, neighborhood stakeholders can ensure that each of the parks complement each other while serving specific neighborhood functions.

### **Recommended Action Steps Include:**

- » **Manchester Park:**
  - » Emphasize role as a community gathering space with updated event and activity spaces.
- » **Manchester Field Park:**
  - » Emphasize role as community athletic center and festival grounds with updated fields and activity spaces.
  - » Increase recreational leagues and opportunities using Manchester Fields (football, cheerleading, rugby, baseball)
- » **McKnight Park:**
  - » Emphasize role as community playground with updated equipment, activities, and signage.



## GOAL 25: IMPROVE ACCESS TO OPEN AND GREEN SPACE IN CHATEAU AND ALONG THE RIVERFRONT.

As Chateau continues to develop, the riverfront trail will increasingly become a vital multi-modal connection for existing Manchester residents and new Chateau residents to connect to other neighborhoods while enjoying an important recreational asset.

### Recommended Action Steps Include:

- » Identify opportunities for public art and amenities along riverfront trail.
- » Construct green corridors to connect Manchester-Chateau to the river. (See Goal 18).





