

RECOMMENDATIONS

A NEW PARK FOR EDGEHILL

Nashville Civic Design Center park proposal (above)
 Filled-in culvert and right-of-way area (below)

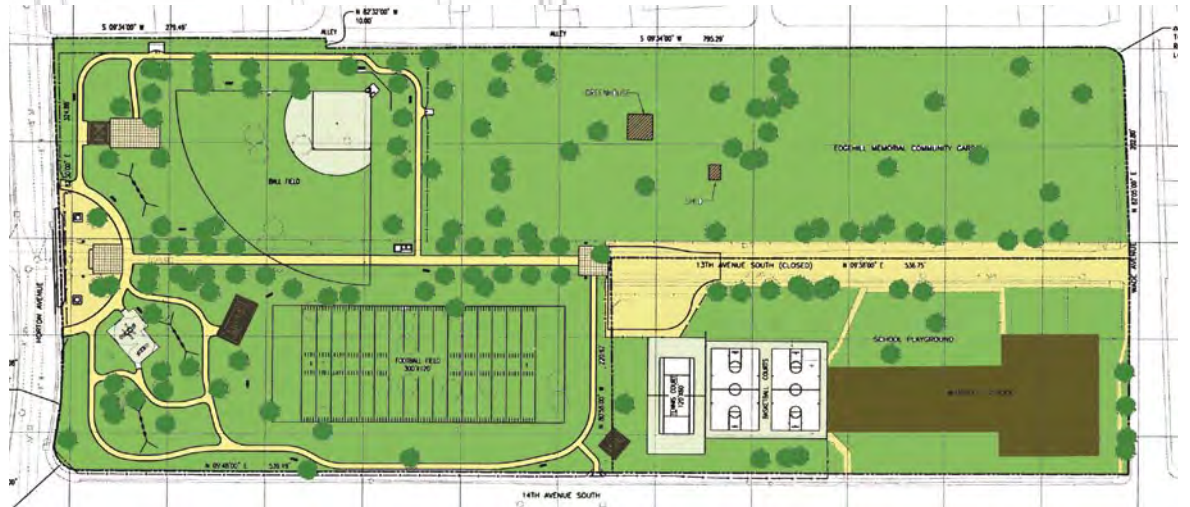
Final design for the park (below)



The Edgehill neighborhood received a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through the Metropolitan Development & Housing Agency to build a park on the vacant lot next to Murrell School (along Horton Avenue and 14th Avenue South). Working closely with community leaders and MDHA, the Civic Design Center suggested several design improvements for the proposed park. The completed design incorporates a central tree-lined pedestrian path and entrance gateways. The plan also includes a multi-use playing field, baseball field, tennis court, playground equipment, picnic pavilions, and a walking path.

The following are potential elements to be considered for future development:

- Extension of park space across Wade Avenue into an abandoned right-of-way, with formalized access to Wedgewood Avenue.
- Extension of the library into the park with an area for reading activities.



RECOMMENDATIONS

POLAR BEARS

Polar Bears at 1408 Edgehill Avenue



The two concrete polar bears were located at 1408 Edgehill for more than 60 years. Each bear weighs 600 pounds and is 5 1/2 feet tall. They were molded around 1930 at G. Mattei Plaster Relief Ornamental Company, which was once located downtown at the corner of Fourth and Elm Streets. They were constructed as advertising gimmicks for the Polar Bear Frozen Custard shops, formally on Gallatin Road and West End Avenue. After WW II, soft ice cream took the place of frozen custard and the store closed, leaving the bears homeless. They were sold to Zema Hill, who lived at 1408 Edgehill Avenue, in the early 1940s. He placed two in front of his house and two in front of what is now Patton Brothers Funeral Home, also in the neighborhood. The funeral home bears were sold to a North Nashville homeowner in 1952 and have now found their way to Germantown.* Currently the Edgehill bears have been purchased by the neighborhood with the assistance of MDHA and plans are underway to design a space specifically devoted to their display.

Proposed polar bear location at corner of Edgehill Avenue and 12th Avenue South in front of I.W. Gernert Homes



The corner of 12th Avenue South and Edgehill Avenue was identified as a possible new home for the Polar Bears. This site is considered important by residents because of its central location within the neighborhood. The land is owned and maintained by MDHA. Currently the neighborhood is considering holding a design competition which would focus on this site. While the site is prominent in the neighborhood, the current scale of 12th Avenue is too large and fast moving for the Polar Bears to be noticed. The Civic Design Center recommends a design scheme that elevates or in some other way draws attention to the bears located on this corner.



Proposed polar bear location at entrance to the new park on Horton Avenue

Locating the polar bears on Edgehill Avenue next to the tree behind Carter Lawrence school is another possible location for the bears. An added benefit to this site is that it could also serve as a new entrance to Rose Park (below left). The incorporation of a promenade and landscaping would improve pedestrian access to the park space. The view of the bears is on axis with Edgehill Avenue from the west, enabling both pedestrian and vehicular traffic to appreciate the bears. Most important is the creation of a unique place for the polar bears located near the heart of the neighborhood.



The new Edgehill Community Park, located adjacent to Murrell School (see page 38) is designed with formalized entrance gates along Horton Avenue. The Polar Bears could serve as entrance markers to this park. By placing the bears on pedestals, the risk of people climbing on them is reduced. This site is similar to their previous Edgehill Avenue home, because it is located on a residentially oriented street. In this atmosphere they would serve as neighborhood monuments. If city-wide recognition is a desired element for the display of the bears, the 12th Avenue site is a better choice.

(*Source): "Bidding War Over Bears" by Craig Boerner, The Nashville City Paper

RECOMMENDATIONS

AESTHETIC ISSUES

*12th Avenue South at Wedgewood-existing (above)
Proposed median with neighborhood entrance marker (below)*



*Dumpster at I.W. Gernert Homes-existing (above)
Painted dumpster-proposed (below)*



*Substation at 13th and Horton-existing (above)
Substation art project in Seattle, WA (below)*



GATEWAYS

An opportunity exists for creating markers denoting the entrances to Edgehill. These could be located at several different locations throughout the neighborhood, with the most prominent ones at Wedgewood Avenue in the south and South Street in the north. The diagram below illustrates this idea. A competition could be held for the design of the markers.



DUMPSTERS

In the future, relocate dumpsters to less prominent areas and incorporate their placement into the overall design concept. Existing conditions can be remedied with minimal expenditures (such as painting) which would significantly improve the presence of these objects in the neighborhood.



SUBSTATION

The electrical substation, on the corner of 14th Ave. S. and Horton Ave. is an eyesore, and also one of the most dangerous locations in the neighborhood. Though it should eventually be relocated, a short term solution could involve the neighborhood working with the Metro Arts Commission in transforming the look of the station with the use of public arts funds.



APPENDIX A

IMPLEMENTATION

	0-5 Years	5-15 Years	15+ Years
Infrastructure	<p>Addition of planted median with street trees to 12th Ave. S. between Edgehill Ave. and Horton Ave.</p> <p>Adoption of standard light poles and street furniture.</p> <p>Introduction of on-street parking and bicycle lanes to 12th Ave.</p> <p>Reopen Grand Ave. at 16th Ave. S.</p>	<p>Extension of boulevard along 12th Ave. S. to the blocks between Edgehill and Hawkins.</p> <p>Construction of pedestrian bridge from Archer St. to Ft. Negley Boulevard.</p>	<p>Street grid is repaired when Urban Renewal housing types are replaced with single family homes.</p>
Housing	<p>Landscape and street lighting improvements.</p> <p>Implement neighborhood watch programs.</p> <p>Community education classes focusing on home ownership offered to community.</p>	<p>Corner buildings are modified to create better defined intersections.</p> <p>Infill housing built on empty lots with quality housing that fits with the character of the neighborhood.</p>	<p>Edgehill homes replaced with mixed-use buildings, town houses, and single family houses.</p> <p>Replace urban renewal housing typology with traditional neighborhood housing that has a defined front and back oriented towards the street.</p>
Park	<p>Community Garden improvements.</p> <p>Edgehill Community Park built.</p> <p>Construct "Rose Park Lane", a low volume, one way vehicular path through the park, which allows for better access.</p> <p>Construct greenway on the north and east edges of the neighborhood along I-40 / I-65.</p> <p>Landscaping improvements in all neighborhood parks.</p>	<p>Construct belvederes at high points in Rose Park to take advantages of views of downtown.</p> <p>Reservoir Park improvements include new playground equipment and "movies in the park" during summer months.</p> <p>Construct new outdoor gathering space on the hillside landscape of Reservoir Park.</p> <p>Expand library to address Edgehill Community Park.</p>	<p>A new park is created east of the reservoir, bordered by an affordable housing.</p>
School	<p>Carter Lawrence is rebuilt with improved facilities.</p> <p>W.O. Smith School of Music moves to new location at corner of 8th Ave. S. and Edgehill Ave.</p>	<p>Expand child care center located in Reservoir Park to offer better facilities to the neighborhood.</p> <p>Outdoor performance space / amphitheater is built in empty lot across from Rose School.</p>	<p>Performing arts school built in proximity to the W.O. Smith School of Music and the outdoor performance center.</p>
Civic	<p>Emphasize Edgehill Ave. as a cultural throughfare, especially along Rose Park.</p>	<p>Expand the Edgehill Branch Library.</p> <p>Expand E.S. Rose Community Center.</p>	<p>New civic building constructed in front of Rose School.</p>
Commercial	<p>12th Ave. S. emphasized as the neighborhood "main street".</p>	<p>Intersection of 12th Ave. S. and Edgehill built as "neighborhood center".</p>	
Transportation	<p>Bike lanes added to 12th Ave.</p> <p>New covered bus shelters added to most traveled routes.</p>		<p>Light rail developed along 12th Ave S. and 8th Ave. S.</p>

APPENDIX B

SURVEY RESULTS

Residents prioritized the issues in each category rating them 1 - 5 with 1 being of highest importance and 5 being of lowest importance. They were instructed to not respond to issues they felt were not important to the community. The bold numbers represent the 20 most important issues identified in the survey.

SURVEY RESULTS - EDGEHILL COMMUNITY DECEMBER 2002	1	2	3	4	5		
CIVIC/PUBLIC SPACES							
Improvement of schools	21	7	4	0	2		
Entrance markers for the neighborhood	2	2	8	6	6		
Maintenance and improvement of Pedestrian Walk (10 th Avenue)	3	3	7	4	7		
Library expansion with study rooms and tutoring program	16	8	3	1	2		
Renovation of Ft.Negley into a public park	3	6	6	1	7		
Formal entrance to community garden	3	4	4	3	9		
Revitalization of Parks through landscaping, illumination, equipment	5	4	4	4	5		
Landscaping/beautification of public areas	4	2	3	4	7		
HOUSING							
House numbers	7	2	2	1	7		
Central a/c in housing—general upgrades to existing public housing	17	7	1	4	4		
More affordable, owner-occupied housing	12	8	4	1	4		
More housing for elderly/disabled	11	6	7	4	3		
Property tax break for older residents in the event of gentrification and significant property tax increases.	8	5	6	5	2		
Marketing Campaign for home improvement grants for TurnKey3 housing	2	4	7	2	6		
Make land available for purchase at an affordable price so that O.N.E. can build new homes.	6	5	9	4	4		

APPENDIX B

SURVEY RESULTS

INFRASTRUCTURE	1	2	3	4	5		
New sidewalks and bike paths	9	7	2	5	6		
Crosswalk across Edgehill Avenue in front of E.S.Rose	14	4	7	1	4		
Street access to the middle of the public housing blocks	4	10	3	4	3		
Signalization timing at certain intersections	5	9	4	2	5		
Lighting and landscaping of streets off 12 th Avenue	19	3	6	2	3		
Substation beautification, improved lighting	10	7	4	5	1		
Creating a visual connection the length of 12 th Avenue from Sevier park, through Edgehill, and to the Gulch.	7	4	2	4	6		
RETAIL/COMMERCIAL							
Pharmacy	14	4	5	3	4		
Banks	10	9	2	2	7		
Produce market (Food Secure Neighborhood Program)	11	7	9	0	3		
Restaurants other than fast food	5	5	8	6	5		
Beauty/Barber shop	5	4	4	4	4		
Laundry facility	4	4	9	2	7		
WhiteWay Development—How and What will it become?	7	3	1	5	5		

APPENDIX B

SURVEY RESULTS

	1	2	3	4	5		
COMMUNITY RELATIONS/DEVELOPMENT							
Social services representation at the Alert Center	14	1	8	4	3		
Full year/ indoor recreation/fitness facilities—YMCA	4	15	5	3	3		
After school program for ages 11-15 (YMCA? Boys Club?)	15	7	9	1	0		
Transformation of Polar Bear house into a Community Center	4	6	3	9	3		
TRANSPORTATION ISSUES							
Dangerous intersections	13	5	4	5	3		
Signage Improvements / Signalization Improvements	8	4	10	5	3		
Opening "Closed" Streets	4	3	3	5	5		
PEDESTRIAN Walk improvement	7	8	9	2	4		
Bicycle Paths	4	7	8	1	7		
Traffic Calming design for 12 th Avenue	16	7	1	2	4		
SAFETY ISSUES							
Drug Activity	23	4	4	0	1		
Street Crossings	6	6	3	5	11		
Insufficient Lighting	11	6	6	7	1		
Parking Issues—Residential parking permits	8	3	6	7	6		
Increased Police Presence	14	11	7	1	1		

APPENDIX C

CPTED PRINCIPLES

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a branch of situational crime prevention which has as its basic premise that the physical environment can be changed or managed to produce behavioural effects that will reduce the incidence and fear of crime, thereby improving in the quality of life, and enhancing profitability for business.

CPTED is a multi-professional approach to reducing crime and the fear of crime by having planners, designers, architects, landscapers, and law enforcement professionals working together to create a safe climate within a built environment.

The proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the incidence and fear of crime and thus increase the quality of life.

Key CPTED Principles

1. Natural Surveillance: CPTED focuses on the placement of physical features, activities, and people in such way as to maximize visibility. This includes the lighting of public spaces and walkways at night.

2. Natural Access Control: CPTED features the physical guidance of people coming and going from a space by the judicious placement of entrances, exits, fencing, landscaping, and lighting.

3. Territorial Reinforcement: CPTED encourages the use of physical attributes that express ownership, such as fences pavement treatment, art signage, and landscaping.

4. Maintenance: CPTED allows for the continued use of space for its intended purpose and serves as an additional expression of ownership. It prevents any reduction of visibility from landscaping overgrowth and obstructed or inoperative lighting.

While traditional law enforcement and crime prevention has focused on target hardening (locks and lights), many neighborhoods have gone a step past this old style of thinking and adopted the CPTED concepts of crime prevention.

Crime and the fear of crime can be greatly reduced by having neighborhoods, schools, and businesses implement the CPTED principles in the early planning stages of community design.

Source: <http://www.cpted.com.au/>