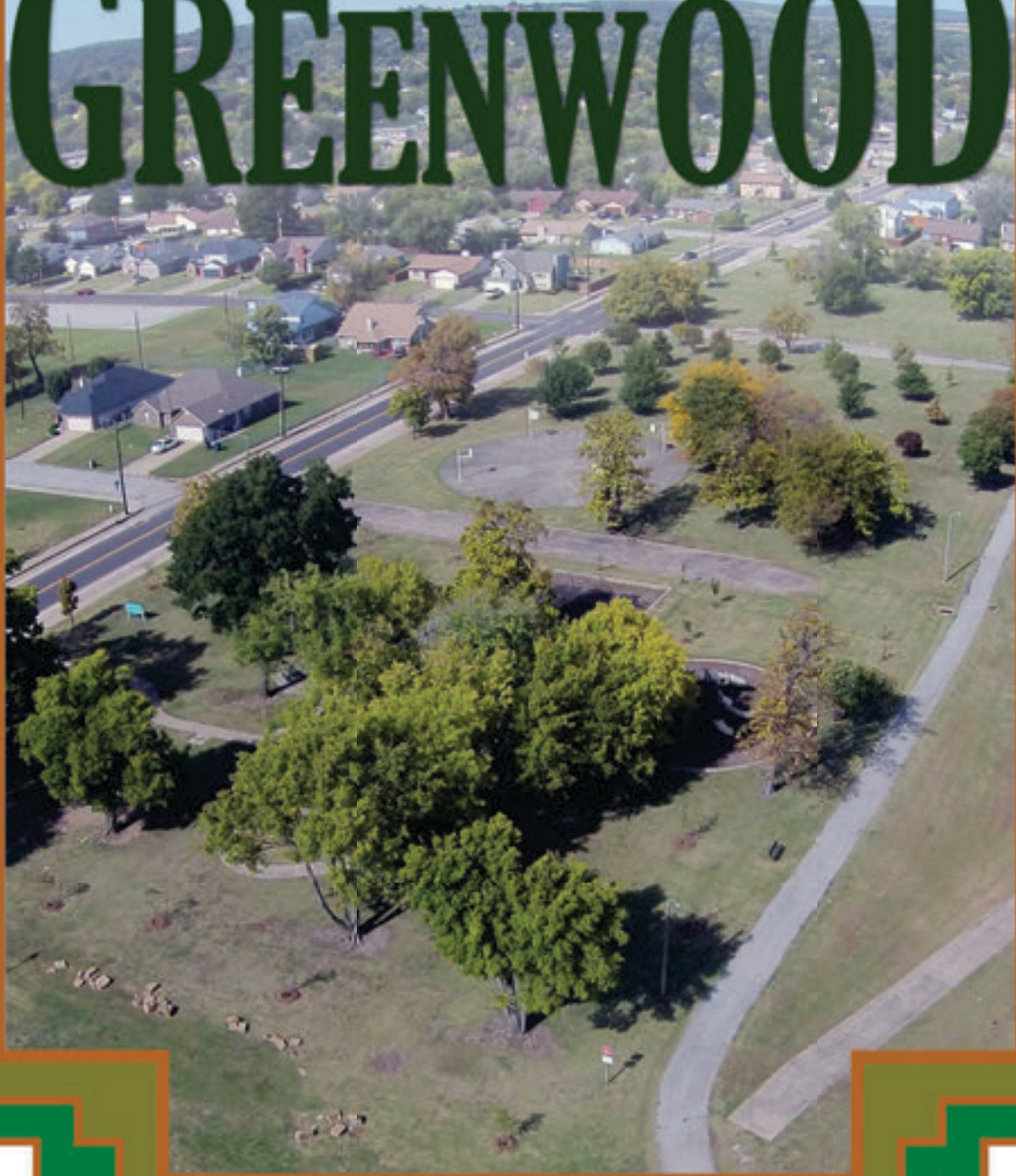


# GROWING GREENWOOD





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# GROWING GREENWOOD

## INTRODUCTION

### WHO WE ARE

Growing Greenwood is a graduate level service-learning project aiming to redesign B.S Roberts Park in the Historic Greenwood District of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The team is made of students from the Urban Design Studio at OU-Tulsa (OUUDS), which trains future professionals in urban design techniques to benefit Northeast Oklahoma.



FROM L TO R: JESSI STRINGER, JAMIE PIERSON, CLAY HARRIS, CHRIS PAULSEN, TRISTAN FOX

### ABSTRACT

Working with community leaders, the team established a network of stakeholders to coordinate with throughout the project. Using data and design collection tools, feedback was also sought from the general public at multiple stages to ensure that the park remained first and foremost a neighborhood resource. Finally, the team employed design thinking to define, ideate, and prototype its ideas and refine the interventions recommended for B.S. Roberts Park.

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## THE PROJECT'S ORIGINS

In the summer of 2018, Bill White, a local entrepreneur, approached the Urban Design Studio regarding B.S. Roberts Park. Bill is the founder of the Greenwood Experience, the Greenwood Farmers and Artisans Market and president of the neighborhood association for the nearby Dunbar neighborhood. His wife, Kandy Whitley-White, no stranger to community development, has been involved in the Eugene Field revitalization efforts and the Tulsa Health Department's move to create healthier living and working environments. Together, they could see the dormant potential in the park, and introduced two big ideas.

First, they wanted to make the park's basketball court into a world-class streetball destination. This would serve as a source of community pride, encourage people to get outside and exercise, and provide a stage for state and national teams to engage in charity fundraising. Second, they wanted to create an economic engine within the park that recalled the architectural stylings of Greenwood's golden age. 'Little Black Wall Street', as it was proposed, would provide commercial space for entrepreneurs and allow for the education of Greenwood's next generation of business professionals. With civic momentum building around the upcoming centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre, both Bill and Kandy agreed the time was right to bring B.S. Roberts Park into the forefront of Greenwood's development.



BILL WHITE SPEAKS  
TO STAKEHOLDERS AT  
GREENWOOD CULTURAL  
CENTER



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## ABOUT THE PARK

### HISTORY

The history of B.S Roberts Park begins with the land it is built upon. The majority of the land was originally surveyed and deeded to the city of Tulsa in 1914 as the Washington Addition (Tulsa County Clerk Real Estate Services Division, n.d.-a). Bordering this piece of property was the Greenwood Addition to the North, the Gurley-Hill addition to the West, a railroad easement to the East, and the city's own Tulsa Pressed Brick Company just to the South(Sanborn Map Company, 1925, p.33). Settled during the height of Jim Crow segregation, the entire ethnically Black Greenwood District nonetheless became a thriving center of African-American culture and economics (Schaefer, 2018). "Known as Black Wall Street it was home to scores of successful businessman, as well as prominent doctors, lawyers, ministers, and educators"(Schaefer, 2018, p. 4).

All of this progress would be violently stalled on May 31st of 1921,



GREENWOOD BURNS IN 1921

when white Tulsans crossed into Greenwood, destroying hundreds of structures and killing an untold number of African-Americans in what would become known as the Tulsa Race Massacre. The community would receive little help in rebuilding, even from insurance brokers who labelled the tragedy a riot so as to avoid payment of claims. Nevertheless, Greenwood rebuilt itself, and the Washington addition alone boasted two churches, a grocery store, and various other small businesses(Sanborn map Company, 1925, p. 33). The area was left in relative peace for several decades, until the city of Tulsa began to buy up run down and available properties in the 1950s (Tulsa County Clerk Real Estate Services Division, n.d.-b). The Tulsa Urban Renewal Authority continued this trend after its creation in 1959. Over the following decades, the entire Washington addition and many other

# GROWING GREENWOOD

parts of North Tulsa were essentially erased.

Much of the land cleared by Urban renewal was deeded to four public universities in 1988 to form the University Center of Tulsa (UCT)(Schaefer, 2018). This included the entire former Washington Addition. Due to flooding throughout the city of Tulsa, stormwater ponds were placed throughout the city (City of Tulsa, 2017a). One of these large stormwater detention ponds was carved out along N Greenwood Avenue, and the area bordering it to the street was repurposed as a park. In the early 1990s, this park was rededicated in honor of Tulsa's first black City Councilor and a local civil rights hero, the Reverend B.S. Roberts (Parrish, 1997).

## PHYSICAL SPACE

**B.S. Roberts Park** is a 16.4 acre park located between E Jasper Street and E Latimer Place on N Greenwood Avenue. The areas north and west of the park are residential,



LOOKING NORTH THROUGH B.S. ROBERTS PARK

the OSU-Tulsa campus is to the south, Langston University to the immediate west. To the east is a wooded area, with a decommissioned train track running through it that often holds storage cars for the butane processing facility nearby. Forty five



DRONE IMAGE OF B.S. ROBERTS PARK

percent of the park's area is taken up by a stormwater detention basin. The basin is ringed by walking trails, which connect to the Osage Trail, which begins a few blocks south



# GROWING GREENWOOD



ROUND BASKETBALL COURT AT B.S. ROBERTS PARK

and runs north to Skiatook. The park also boasts a playground with a swing set, as well as a picnic structure, tables, and grills. By far the most unique feature of B.S. Roberts

Park is it's round basketball court, currently outfitted with four goals. Another striking element of the park are the strips of paving that extend the dead end streets of E Latimer Street and E King Street, remnants of the area's former life. The park also houses a great many trees, both young and mature, and a parking lot with 69 spaces.



AN ABANDONED SECTION OF E LATIMER STREET



LOOKING SOUTH ON GREENWOOD AT B.S. ROBERTS PARK

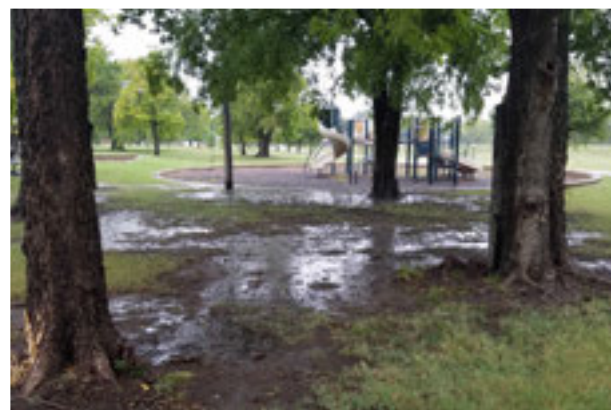
# GROWING GREENWOOD

## USAGE

The primary users of the park are adult neighborhood residents who use the trails around the basin for regular exercise. The trails are by far the most heavily utilized feature of the park. Secondary users are families using the swings and picnic areas. The playground is seldom used as both the surrounding ground



A WOMAN WALKS ON THE TRAIL WITH BUTANE STORAGE CARS IN THE BACKGROUND



STANDING WATER NEAR THE PLAYGROUND

and the equipment itself drains poorly, leading to bugs and standing water. The amenities are also sometimes used by homeless individuals, who often camp in the wooded area to the east. The parking lot is often used by Langston University students, who attend classes across the street.

## STORMWATER DETENTION BASINS

The stormwater detention basin can hold up to 42 acre feet of water, with a footprint of 7.3 acres (Poe and associates, inc., 1988). This basin is part of a string of stormwater detention and retention basins in the area. There are several to the south, in and around the OSU campus. There are two more, with nearly twice the capacity of the B.S. Roberts Park basin, one block north (Poe and associates, inc., 1988). All this storage is even more surprising since the area is not in a floodplain, with the outer edge of the nearest floodplain a full mile to



THE NORTH EAST CORNER OF THE  
DETENTION BASIN

# GROWING GREENWOOD

the north (City of Tulsa, 2017b, panel 28). There have been no reports of flooding in the area (City of Tulsa, 2017a).

The basin has five inlets and one outlet. The inlet on the northwest corner drains water from the surrounding neighborhood. Two inlets on the western side serve as area drains for the park. The inlet to the south drains the detention and retention facilities in that direction. The inlet on the east side serves the Lansing Industrial Park and parts of the Crutchfield neighborhood. This inlet carries the highest capacity. The water then flows out of the northeastern corner of the basin, into the basins a block to the north.

MAP OF AREA  
STORMWATER FLOW



## SURROUNDING AREA DATA

The residential area surrounding B.S. Roberts Park is primarily single family homes. Though roughly one in seven homes are vacant, the average home value increased 11% between 2000 and (Tulsa Development Authority, 2016, p. 13). The median income is \$17k annually, and the population is 83% black (Tulsa Development Authority, 2016). A traffic count done by the Indian Nation Council of Governments (INCOG) in 2013 tracked 2200 vehicles passing the park along Greenwood Ave in the span of a day (Indian Nation Council of Governments, 2018).

The park is adjacent to a great many significant community resources, commercial developments and educational institutions. See the map on next page for details.



# GROWING GREENWOOD



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## UPCOMING DEVELOPMENTS

There are many projects being built and planned near B.S. Roberts Park. Directly across the street, Langston University is preparing to construct a new building to house their nursing school. The city is in negotiations to relocate the BMX national headquarters in the former Evans-Fintube industrial area, to the south east of the



DRONE IMAGE EVANS-FINTUBE INDUSTRIAL AREA

park. Though this is across the train tracks, it would bring a great deal of traffic to the area, and may impact everything from the street grid to the tax base, to the train tracks themselves. The

Greenwood District has also received a Bloomberg Public Art grant, to be administered by noted artist and community activist Rick Lowe. All these developments are unfolding against the backdrop of the upcoming centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre. City and community Leaders anticipate the centennial bringing an increased interest in Greenwood, from both a local and international audience. It is likely to also bring a persistent increase in cultural tourism, as black Americans mark this tragic event in their history.





# GROWING GREENWOOD

## COMMUNITY DESIGN OUTREACH

### STAKEHOLDERS

The best research tool any urban design team can have is the people who are already on the ground. With that in mind, along with Mr. White we formed a stakeholder committee. We met monthly from September 2018 through April 2019. Many individuals and groups involved in the area came to our meetings and gave us valuable information and feedback.



STAKEHOLDERS MEET AT THE GREENWOOD CULTURAL CENTER

Langston University was a vital partner in our research and community outreach process. Dr. Lisa Weis, Associate Vice-President of Academic Affairs, helped us sort through the tangles of who was responsible for the park's upkeep, and kept us informed of developments in the ownership status of the land. Langston also served as a source of insight into park use, situated as they are directly across the street. The school also allowed us to use their facilities for events.

The Center for Health, Art, and Measurable Progress (CHAMP), led by University of Tulsa professors, Jeff Van Hanken and Mark Brewin, an organization that tracks the impact of art on communities, brought us information about the Public Art Challenge from the Bloomberg Foundation. CHAMP also provided their experience with bringing new

# GROWING GREENWOOD

energy to communities, in giving advice and feedback on our strategies and designs.

Joy McGill, Associate State Director of Outreach for AARP, brought us key ideas to fill gaps in our plans, as well as material support for a Fit Lot in the park, grant opportunities, and more. Staff and interns from the Ronnie K. Irani Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth (I-CCEW) gave guidance and assistance with marketing and social media. Jamaal Dyer of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission kept us informed of the developments in the larger Greenwood community and lent valuable support. O.C. Walker, Executive Director of the Tulsa Development Authority, provided details of land ownership in the area and practical advice. Dr. Robert Turner, senior pastor at Vernon African Methodist Episcopal Church, the only remaining pre-massacre structure and a pillar of the black community, brought his insight and vision to the project and Sherry Smith-Gamble, President and CEO of the Black Wall Street Chamber of Commerce, provided encouragement and energy. And finally, Tulsa Historic Society Hall of Fame member, Julius Pegues gave us the kind of historical background information we could have never found on our own.



STAKEHOLDERS AND STUDENTS EXAMINE A MAP

## FARMER'S MARKET



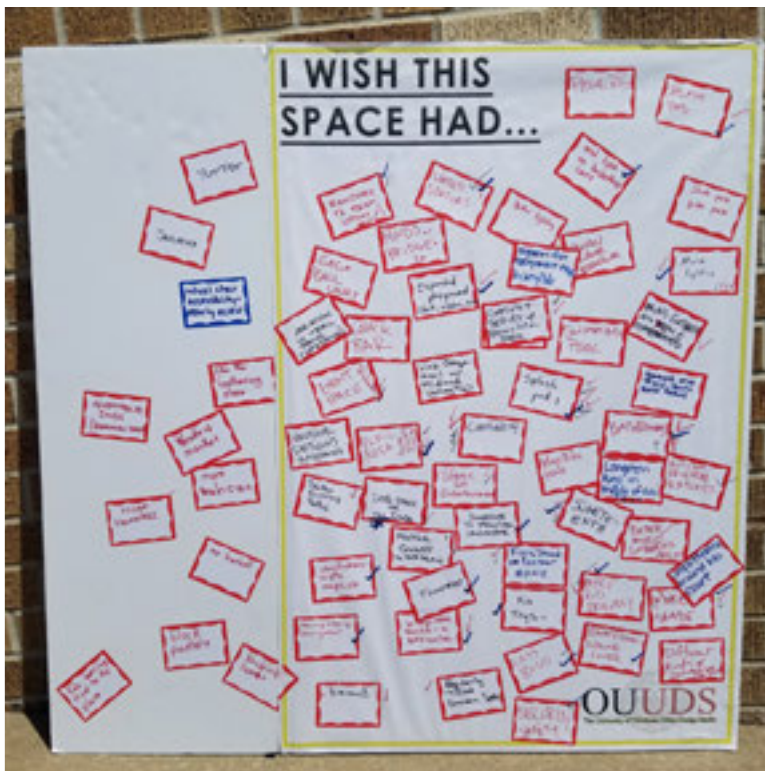
VISITORS WRITE DOWN IDEAS AT THE FARMER'S MARKET and visitors to the area.

Bill White invited us to set up a booth at the Farmer's Market held at Greenwood Cultural Center a mile south of the park, to seek input and ideas from the community. On September 8th, 15th, and 22nd of 2018, we spent the morning gathering information from residents

# GROWING GREENWOOD

We used the method pioneered by artist Candy Chang for collecting input, using large boards with the caption, “I wish this space had . . .” and “I love this space because . . .” and encouraging shoppers and vendors to finish the sentence on a name tag and post it on the board. We collected information about where participants lived. Roughly one third lived nearby, one third lived in the Midtown Tulsa area, and the final third lived in the Greater Metro area, with a few out of town visitors.

We had an excellent response, with a variety of ideas and discussions. We noted that the “I love this space because . . .” board got much less attention than the “I wish this space had . . .” board, with most of the positives tending towards, “I love this space because it’s a blank canvas.” Many participants, even some who lived nearby, were unaware of the park entirely, or had only considered it as part of the landscape. Our interactions with them helped to draw attention to the area, to reframe it as a space of possibilities.



INPUT COLLECTED FROM FARMER'S MARKET SHOPPERS



# GROWING GREENWOOD



GRAPH DISPLAYING DATA CAPTURED AT FARMER'S MARKET

## COMMUNITY DESIGN TOOLS

Based on input from our stakeholders and public feedback, we narrowed our interventions into five general areas. We gathered visuals representing a variety of potential improvements in those areas, and organized those visuals into concept boards.



CONCEPT BOARDS AND MAPS IN USE WITH STAKEHOLDERS

We also created large mounted maps of the park on which participants could arrange models, stickers and other representations of the key features they would like in their ideal park.

We took these tools to stakeholder meetings, neighborhood association meetings, student groups and more throughout the months of October, November and December of 2018, seeking input from the community. After each interaction, we reframed our approach based on the new information, continuing to refine what the park could and should be.



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## COMMUNITY DESIGN WORKSHOP AT LANGSTON UNIVERSITY

**On December 8, 2018, we convened a Community Design Workshop in the lobby of Langston University. We advertised this event via social media, physical flyers and through an article in the Tulsa World. Our hope was that this would serve as a final culmination of our initial research phase.**



STUDENTS AND PARTICIPANTS DISCUSS PLANS FOR THE PARK

**All our tools were deployed—maps, models, concept boards, an informational slideshow, and open ended idea walls for people to write on. We also served pancakes and coffee to attendees. At the end of the day, many of the ideas and concepts the team presented were met with approval by participants in the design workshop. Many repeat participants who had previously given feedback were pleased to see their desires reflected in the framework we presented. We felt confident moving into the design phase of the Growing Greenwood project.**



## CASE STUDIES

As we began to develop our design concepts, we learned from several existing parks and developments.

### HOLCOMBE RUCKER PARK



PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS AT HOLCOMBE RUCKER

Holcombe Rucker Park was one of the first things Bill White referenced to the team, when describing his vision for B.S. Roberts Park. Holcombe Rucker Park, located in Harlem, New York City, NY is a park known best not for the basketball court itself, but for the community that the basketball court has helped to build. The founder

of the park, Holcombe Rucker, was a playground director for the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (“Rucker Park,” 2019). In 1950 he founded a basketball tournament to help at-risk youth maintain healthy behaviors and aim for college careers (“Rucker Park,” 2019). Many famous players got their start here, including Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Wilt Chamberlain.

### PROJECT BACKBOARD

The basketball court angle of our design also led us to the work of Project Backboard, a non-profit organization that renovates basketball courts in low-income communities. Not content to simply hang new nets or resurface the court, they hire local artists to paint vibrant murals reflective of the spirit of the neighborhood. They also often help plan programming after the work is done, to keep the excitement going.



PROJECT BACKBOARD'S REDESIGNED BASKETBALL COURT AT KINLOCH PARK IN ST. LOUIS, MO

### THE WAVE PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SPACE

We also looked to the designs of The Scarcity and Creativity Studio and their work on The Wave Public Performance Space in

# GROWING GREENWOOD



THE WAVE VIEWED FROM ABOVE IN VALPARAISO, CHILE

Valparaiso, Chile, especially with regard to seating near our unusual basketball court. The Wave is an all wood structure designed to make use of abandoned urban spaces. It can be altered to various types of uses, and provides shelters beneath for vendors, classes, storage, even gardens.

## SOULARD MARKET

The commercial aspect of the Little Black Wall Street concept found precedent in the Soulard Market in St. Louis, MO. The Soulard Market is considered the oldest Farmers Market west of the Mississippi River, dating back to 1780. More than 280 stalls operate in the market with many regular vendors including bakeries, butchers, florists, and many others (Eckstein & Plattner, 1978). Stalls are leased by vendors and are often passed down from generation to generation. The market, which is open six days per week year round, attracts nearly 400 workers during the peak months (Eckstein & Plattner, 1978). There is also a playground, a park, and a plaza adjacent to the market for visitors to enjoy.



SHOPPERS BROWSE THE STALLS AT THE SOULARD MARKET IN ST. LOUIS, MO

## BRYANT PARK



BRYANT PARK HOLIDAY PARK BY NIGHT

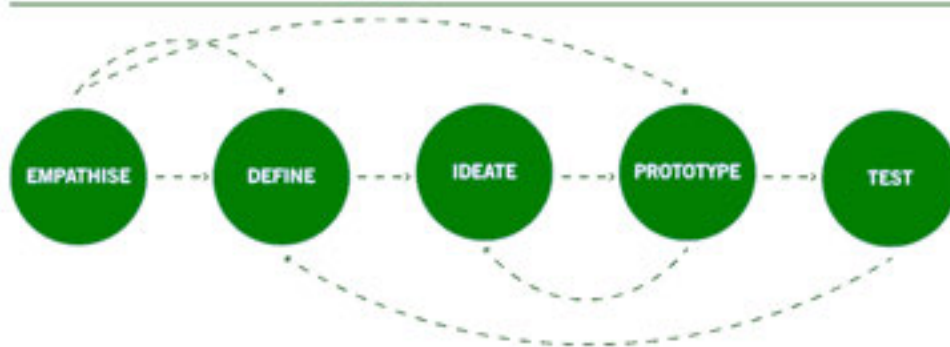
Finally, we drew visual inspiration from the Bryant Park Holiday Shops. The open air market in Manhattan, New York City, NY uses jewel-box style structures to house vendors along the park's terraces, allowing for an all-weather pop-up shop experience.

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## DESIGN THINKING

The problem of reinventing a space to better serve its community like B.S. Roberts Park, with its more than sixteen acres, its multilevel uses and roles, with so many stakeholders and parts of the community involved, is a complex one. We needed a tool that would help us understand the human needs involved and reframe the problem in human-centric ways, while keeping us hands-on. We turned to the five step Design Thinking model developed by the Hasso-Plattner Institute of Design at Stanford (d.school; n.d.).

### 5 STAGES OF DESIGN THINKING



### EMPATHISE

Design thinking starts with empathising—engaging with the people, immersing oneself in the environment in a non-judgemental way so one can collect the largest amount of information possible (d.school, n.d.). We did this through Farmer’s Market visits, stakeholder meetings, and other community design outreach events.

### DEFINE

During the define stage, we analyzed our observations and determined what the big challenges and goals would be. Early definitions helped us realize that the detention basins would be something we’d have to engage. Other early definitions had us focusing on problems that turned out to be unimportant. One of the key aspects of Design Thinking is that you return to the define stage as you test out your ideas and learn more (d.school, n.d.).

### IDEATE

The ideate stage involves generating solutions to the problems you’ve defined—brainstorming. Our ideate stage involved pencil sketches, digital 3D models, watercolor hand renderings, quickly scrawled diagrams, and even play doh.



# GROWING GREENWOOD

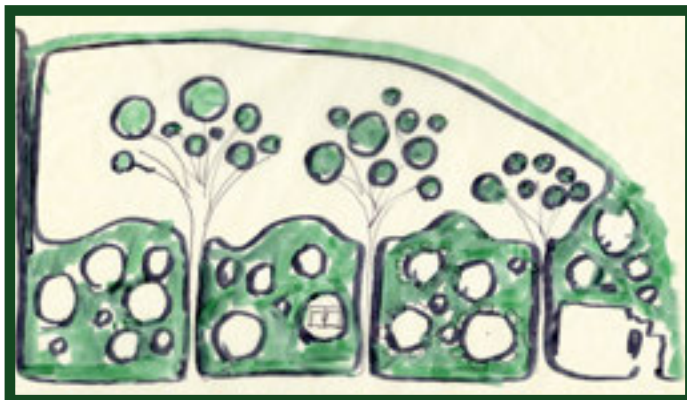
## IMAGES FROM IDEATE PHASE



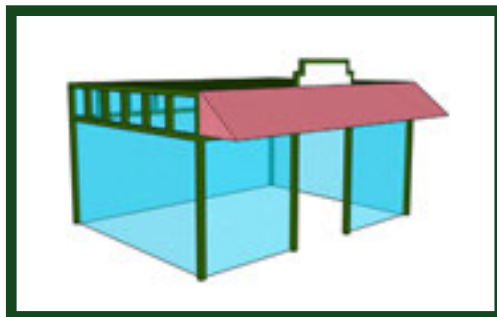
CLAY RENDERING OF DETENTION BASIN LANDSCAPING



ROUGH DRAFT OF A SITE PLAN



MARKER SKETCH OF LANDSCAPING OPTIONS



SKETCHUP RENDERING OF POP-UP SHOPS



WATERCOLOR SKETCHES OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT



# GROWING GREENWOOD



## PROTOTYPE

Our prototype phase was presenting our final designs to our stakeholders. Prototyping is an experimental phase, giving users a chance to interact with the design in a limited way. We presented Bill White and the others our design solutions, and they put them, and us, through a rigorous examination. Those they rejected, we took back to the ideate stage. Those they embraced, moved forward to the final stage.

## TEST

And finally, the test stage. The designs in the prototype to follow need to be tested by the community.

The Design Thinking process is not linear; it doubles back and repeats (d.school, n.d.). If these designs are not what they should be, if we have not fully understood what this park needs to be, we hope that our framework can be a jumping off point for the next round of great ideas.



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## DESIGN CONCEPTS

In our final round of definitions, we boiled down the main things the community and the stakeholders wanted. For the community, they want a new play area that would not only be usable, but unique. They want an event space well equipped to host block parties, concerts, Juneteenth events, quinceaneras, and more. They want athletic facilities, especially for the adults who are already the biggest park users. And finally, they want a calm space—a space to reflect and breath.



The stakeholders, Bill and the other leaders of organizations and institutions nearby, had a similar wishlist. They wanted to see that round piece of concrete become a world-class streetball court. They wanted pop-up shops where local entrepreneurs could build their businesses. They wanted space for food trucks and more permanent eating and drinking establishments—“a place to get a cup of coffee.” And finally, they wanted everything to be respectful of the history of the land. From the name “Little Black Wall Street” to the designs, to keeping the old dead end streets in a neighborhood that has already lost so much.

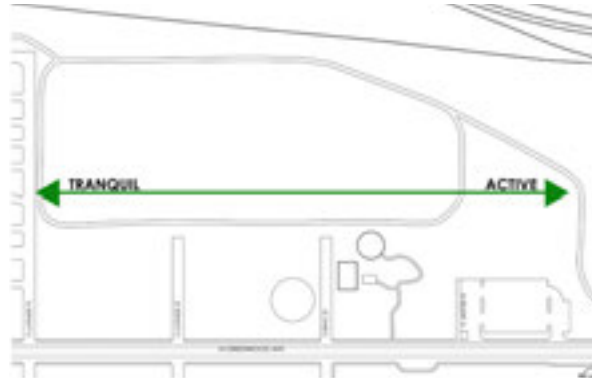


We took these eight priorities and grouped them into three areas of focus in a design concept: Commercial for the shops, restaurants, and event space; Play, for the playground, basketball court, and a new Fit Lot; and Relax, for that space to breath. All of it would preserve and celebrate the the history of Greenwood.

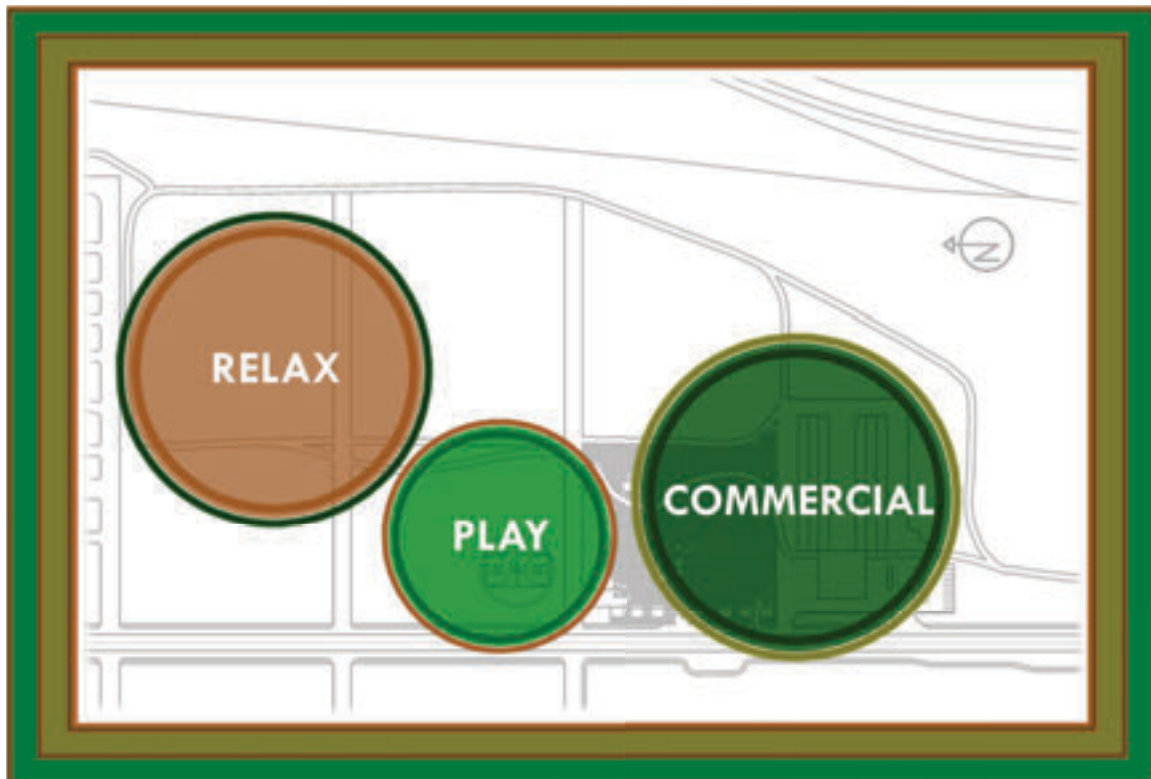


# GROWING GREENWOOD

We observed from the way design workshop participants arranged the models, and from the existing flow of traffic through the park, that there is a tranquil to active axis running north to south through the park.



Using that as a guide, as well as taking into account environmental and technical factors, we laid out our design concepts on the map.



## PHASING

We propose that our designs be implemented in three phases. This plan is influenced by the the concept of Tactical Urbanism; a city, organizational, and/or citizen-led approach to neighborhood building using short-term, low-cost, and scalable interventions to catalyze long-term change. In this case, Bill and Kandy White's organization, the Greenwood Experience, will be leading the efforts to implement this plan.



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE

### GOALS

- Create distinct areas for shopping, relaxing and play
- Increase familiarity with and activity in park
- Ensure Greenwood Experience is financially stable



SITE PLAN OF OUR PROPOSED PHASE ONE OF B.S. ROBERTS PARK

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## **PHASE ONE** **COMMERCIAL**

**We propose this area to be full of classic market-style tents set up on the existing parking lot. We believe this is a quick and decently inexpensive method for creating a market. The tents will be occupied by local vendors, yielding them the opportunity to set up their business and sell their goods to the Greenwood community and many others who will visit.**

**If financially possible, we also suggest the implementation of Little Black Wall Street begin promptly. We propose “retro jewel box” shops along the edge of Greenwood Avenue to begin the growth of Little Black Wall Street. We suggest this “retro jewel box” due to its eye-catching design, which is modern and fresh, but also pays tribute to the structures that once stood along Greenwood Ave. prior to the massacre of 1921.**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE COMMERCIAL



CLASSIC MARKET STYLE TENTS IN THE EXISTING PARKING LOT, WITH  
LITTLE BLACK WALL STREET LINING GREENWOOD AVENUE

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE COMMERCIAL



THE RETRO JEWEL BOX STYLE POP UP SHOPS REMAIN MODERN WHILE  
HONORING THE ORIGINAL BLACK WALL STREET



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE COMMERCIAL



**LITTLE BLACK WALL STREET BEGINS, CREATING A PLAZA AND GATHERING PLACE FOR THE COMMUNITY**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## **PHASE ONE** **PLAY**

**We propose simply cleaning up the existing playground equipment and utilizing what is already safely constructed. The surrounding natural environment will need to be rehabilitated by local landscape professionals, for it is in too poor condition to be enjoyable. This will be an inexpensive solution while the economic aspect of the Greenwood Experience is in its infancy stage.**

**We also suggest allowing local artists to express themselves using a temporary medium by creating a mural on the basketball court. The design would be made permanent in Phase Two.**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE PLAY



A VIBRANT MURAL BY LOCAL ARTISTS BRINGS NEW ENERGY TO THE ROUND BASKETBALL COURT

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE

### RELAX

We propose a series of pathways leading to and throughout the once desolate detention pond. The physical construct of the paths in this early phase would simply be wild flowers and/or natural grasses lining the edges of where a future paved path will go. The paths, once outlined with plantings of the community's choice, will reflect that of a tree, very similar to the tree seen on the Greenwood neighborhood logo. We believe this artistic approach to creating a tranquil space within the pond will yield visitors and locals the chance to find peace and tranquility within the "branches" of the Tree of New Beginnings.



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE ONE

RELAX



FLOWERS AND GRASSES FRAME THE EDGES OF THE TREE OF NEW BEGINNINGS

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO

### GOALS

- Expand and define market area
- Begin work on plaza infrastructure
- Begin remodel and reconstruction of play areas
- Create permanent pathways between and within sections



SITE PLAN OF OUR PROPOSED PHASE TWO OF B.S. ROBERTS PARK

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## **PHASE TWO COMMERCIAL**

**The market will evolve to possess many more tents for local vendors, and a semi-permanent pavilion will be constructed in the center of the existing parking lot, separating two rows of market tents. The pavilion will provide a weather protected structure for entertainment and events, as well as serve to divide the space. This division will permit comfortable circulation through the space as visitors shop and mingle, and will also define an area for food trucks to park.**

**The plaza space, just north of the Greenwood Market, will begin to expand during Phase Two. More “jewel box” structures can be added, making Little Black Wall Street denser with local businesses. We suggest all electrical, mechanical, and plumbing construction/repair be completed during Phase Two. Soon after infrastructure installation, the concrete and sidewalks for the plaza space can be poured.**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO COMMERCIAL



**A SEMI-PERMANENT PAVILION CREATES A COVERED SPACE FOR PERFORMERS, AND DIVIDES THE EXPANDED MARKET INTO LANES**



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO COMMERCIAL



**LITTLE BLACK WALL STREET EXPANDS, AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE PLAZA BEGINS TO EMERGE**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO PLAY

**The adult fitness playground generously donated by AARP will be installed, near the existing basketball court. Demolition of the existing playground will begin and preparation for the custom designed Greenwood children's playground will begin, including slabs and other necessary concrete work. Sidewalks will be poured connecting the Greenwood Market and Little Black Wall Street to the play area. With the help of Project Backboard, the existing basketball court will undergo a full remodel, including making the mural from Phase One a permanent feature of the court.**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO PLAY



**PROJECT BACKBOARD RESURFACES THE BASKETBALL COURT AND MAKES THE MURAL PERMANENT, THE AARP FIT LOT IS CONSTRUCTED, AND NEW PAVING IS INSTALLED**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO PLAY



THE AARP FIT LOT BRINGS RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES TO THE PLAY AREA

# GROWING GREENWOOD

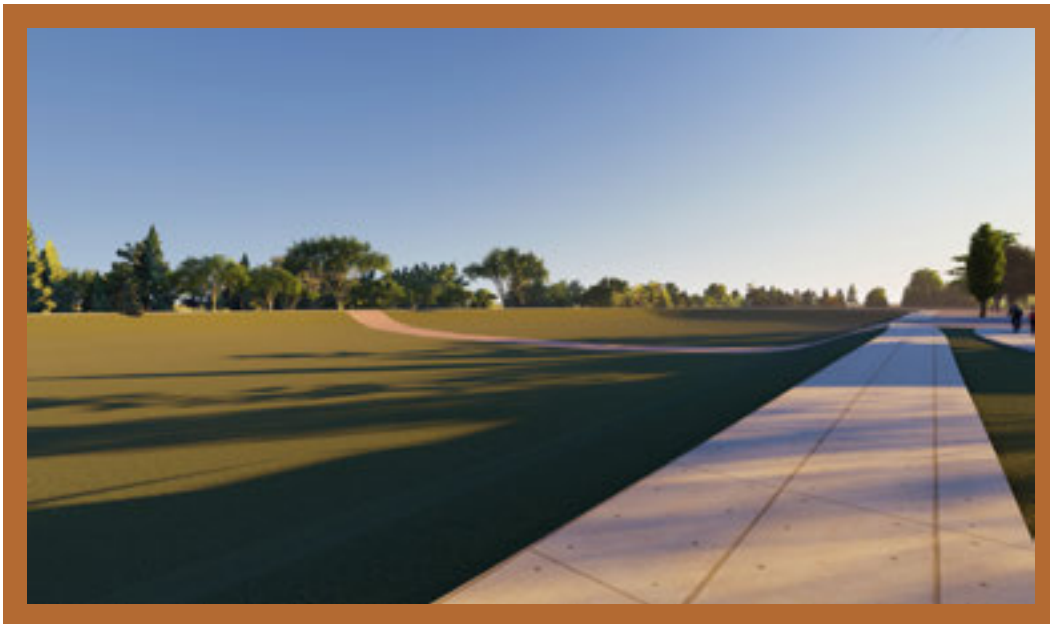
## **PHASE TWO** **RELAX**

**We propose the retention basin be reshaped along the west edge. We suggest that parts of the retention basin become shallower in incline to increase accessibility. After the earth-related work is complete the pathways that were once defined by native plants will now become concrete sidewalks.**



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE TWO RELAX



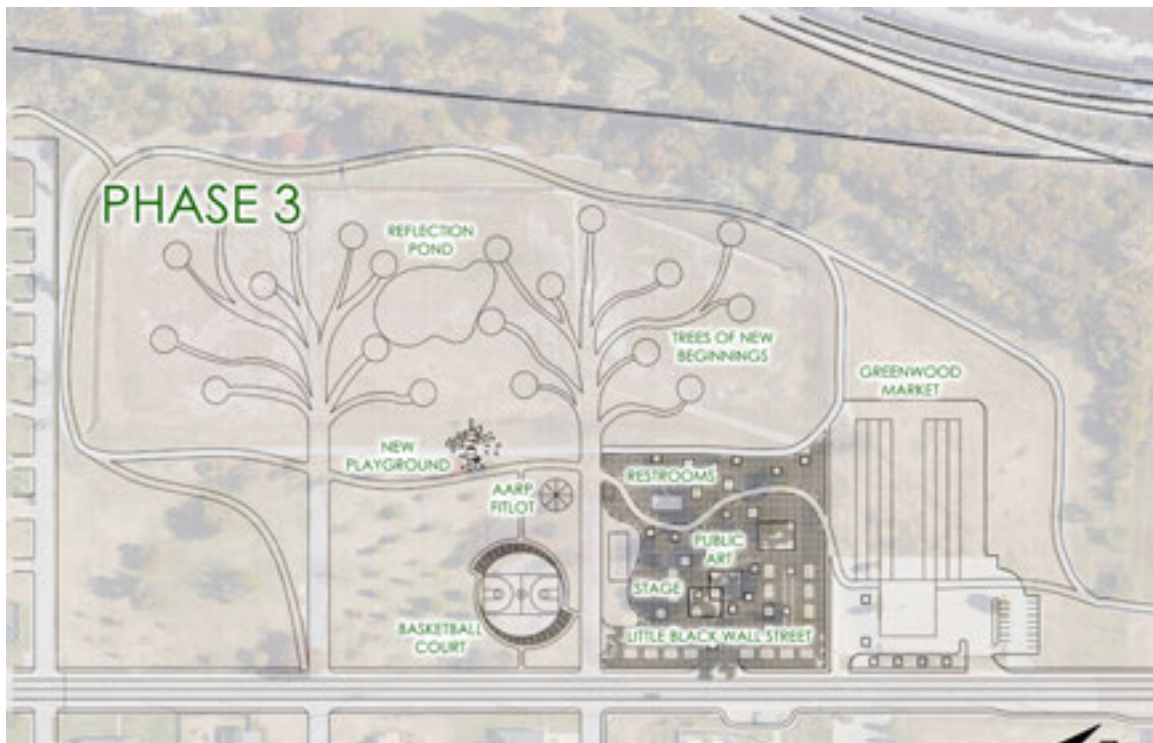
CONCRETE PATHWAYS ARE ADDED TO THE DETENTION BASIN

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE

### GOALS

- Make final transitions from temporary to permanent
- Build out remaining infrastructure
- Increase density of commercial area
- Complete custom playground
- Create permanent seating for basketball court
- Finalize earthwork and hardscapes to form the Tree of New Beginnings



SITE PLAN OF OUR PROPOSED PHASE THREE OF B.S. ROBERTS PARK

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE

### COMMERCIAL

This will be the largest transition the space makes regarding money and physical presence. We propose a permanent building that aesthetically pays tribute to the buildings that once stood along Greenwood Avenue. This structure, inspired by the Soulard Market, will serve as a home for local vendors from various backgrounds, allowing them to sell their goods in a spacious facility. While construction for the permanent Greenwood Market is underway, we believe it would be best for Greenwood Market vendor tents, which were previously used in the parking lot, to be relocated to the plaza area, near Little Black Wall Street. This will help keep the commercial momentum going for the vendors and also increase density in the plaza area while the Greenwood Market goes through its final growing stage. The pavilion will not be of use to the community any longer at the parking lot location, and could be sold, scrapped, or possibly relocated to a different area of the park, per the community's wishes.

Phase Three of the commercial space will also bring the final and necessary elements to the park, including, but not limited to, restrooms, fountains, outdoor stage/concert structure, lighting, etc.

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF PHASE THREE OF B.S. ROBERTS PARK

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE COMMERCIAL



A PERMANENT MARKET STRUCTURE TO THE SOUTH AND THE LITTLE  
BLACK WALL STREET PLAZA TO THE NORTH



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE COMMERCIAL



THE GREENWOOD MARKET PAYS AESTHETIC TRIBUTE TO THE BUILDINGS  
OF THE PAST

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE COMMERCIAL



LITTLE BLACK WALL STREET SHOPS ALONG GREENWOOD AVENUE

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE COMMERCIAL



THE INTERIOR OF THE LITTLE BLACK WALL STREET PLAZA

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE PLAY

A custom playground inspired by the houses of Greenwood will be completed, utilizing the slope of the basin and creating opportunities for open-ended play. Along with the AARP Fit Lot, it will create a multigenerational recreation area.

We propose permanent seating to be added around the basketball court in a spiraling formation inspired by The Wave Public Performance Space, which compliments the artistic elements that have been incorporated throughout the park in the previous phases. The seating will be backed by berms of earth, making the raised seats safer, more playful, and incorporated into the environment.

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE PLAY



CUSTOM PLAY STRUCTURES INVITE OPEN-ENDED PLAY



# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE PLAY



THE SPIRAL SEATING DESIGN ADDS TO THE ARTISTIC ELEMENTS OF THE  
PLAY AREA

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE PLAY



**BERMS BACK THE UNIQUE SEATING STRUCTURE FOR SAFETY AND FUN**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE RELAX

**Additional earthwork will be done in and around the basins. Large mounds and valleys will be created at the ends of the “branches” of the tree. The activities associated with these mounds and valleys will vary. We suggest, for example, educational activities such as a mound covered in native plants with signage explaining the anatomy. Also a valley that could be a quiet space meant for relaxing or meditating. The “trunk” of the tree, which is also the main pathway connecting the sidewalk along Greenwood Avenue to the detention basin along the once dead-end streets of Latimer and King, will also be connected to the other running trails in the park. Any additional concrete work to make these connections possible will be completed in Phase Three.**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE

### RELAX



**MOUNDS AND VALLEYS FORM QUIET SPACES AND EDUCATIONAL AREAS  
WITHIN THE DETENTION BASIN**

# GROWING GREENWOOD

## PHASE THREE

### RELAX



ONCE DEAD-END STREETS NOW FORM THE TRUNK OF A TREE OF NEW BEGINNINGS





# GROWING GREENWOOD

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# GROWING GREENWOOD

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