



SOUTHSIDE TERRACE-INDIAN HILL
CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING GRANT

BIKE/WALK/PARK CLEAN-UP REPORT

HOSTED ON AUGUST 15, 2020.

PREPARED BY SOUTHSIDE REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PARK CLEANLINESS, LANDSCAPING AND A DIVERSIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES WERE PRIMARY REQUESTS.



THE EVENT

In partnership with Heartland Workers Center, Heartland B-cycle, Metro Area Planning Agency, and Keep Omaha Beautiful, Inc., Southside Redevelopment Corporation hosted a neighborhood walk, bike, and clean-up event at Upland Park on Saturday, August 15th, 2020.

Participants had the option to bike a predetermined route through the neighborhood or walk around the park, all while discussing strengths and opportunities for improvement throughout the area. Free helmets were provided to participants courtesy of MAPA.

After the ride and walk, food was provided and individual households utilized “social distancing circles” drawn in chalk paint on the grass; a way to enjoy community while adhering to public health directives. Finally, park clean-up equipment was distributed to all participants, including event staff, which resulted in about 10 large bags of litter and debris removed from the park. Overall, 15 neighborhood residents, community leaders, and volunteers were in attendance.

WHAT WE HEARD

After the bike/walk activities, event attendees were offered the option to share their opinions regarding the park or biking through the neighborhood by filling out a short questionnaire.

UPLAND PARK

ASSETS

- Size and scale of the park - large and open with plenty of greenspace
- Location - close and within walking distance
- Shade and existing trees

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- Park cleanliness
- More lighting
- Additional parking
- More landscaping, gardens, art, water fountains, and seating
- Adding public restrooms
- More spaces for children to play

NEIGHBORHOOD BIKABILITY

ASSETS

- Plenty of places to bike to nearby
- Strong desire to bike more regularly, if improvements are made

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Street cleanliness
- Need safe bike routes through the neighborhood
- More information about bike-share and rental stations

MAIN TAKEAWAY

Between biking through the neighborhood and spending time at the park, there was a strong emphasis on cleanliness, safety, and the beautification of the area. Residents reported enjoying many aspects of the park and surrounding neighborhood, while commenting on the need for more activities, amenities, and trail connections.